



Herik Hernandez '16

"Spanish is a blast! Backlin really knows how to teach and get us excited to come to spanish everyday. Those bacon jellybeans though..."
Herik Hernandez '16



"Making beautiful art gives me such a rush. I couldn't imagine life without Ceramics and Mrs. Ahrens." While working on one of her numerous pieces in ceramics, Regan Sharp '14 adds clay designs and accents so that her piece may become the piece she had envisioned.



"I look forward to spanish everyday because we always have a great time, even if I have no clue what we are talking about."

Jump Right In!

Although it can be tricky, Braden Furness '16 works diligently during his favorite class while enjoying time with his classmates. Mr. Backlin allows collaboration during worktime in order for his students to compare and assist one another on assignments.

Art & Spanish



¿Como se dice?

(ABOVE:) Each day, Mr. Backlin walks around his room listening and chiming in on his students "charlas." Bailey Cline '16 gets the honor of being his first victim and shows him her superior Spanish speaking skills.

Arts and Crafts

(RIGHT:) During ceramics, Jocelyn Rupe '15 is very precise about using slip in order to complete her idea of a lighthouse made entirely of clay.



Uno, Dos, Tres Small but mighty can describe the Spanish department at GHS. With Spanish being the only foreign language offered at the high school, many students take the class and build strong relationships with the teachers. Mrs. McDonough and Mr. Backlin get to know each and every one of their students and are more than happy to help when they don't understand. The first two years of Spanish, students learn the basics but by year three and four they learn to speak more fluently in the language and are able to understand it on their own.

Ideas Into Reality Some see art as being something they like to do in their free time but others see it as a way to express themselves without words. Whether they take an introductory class such as Introduction to Painting and Drawing or they take college credit classes like Ceramics, they get to express their artistic abilities. Students take the ideas in their head and finally put them on paper. Then you get to use those sketches to guide you in the final product. It is a great feeling to see what you can create! Although the painting might not be the same as you had planned in your head, you always feel good about what you have created.
-Alyssa Hulsing '14

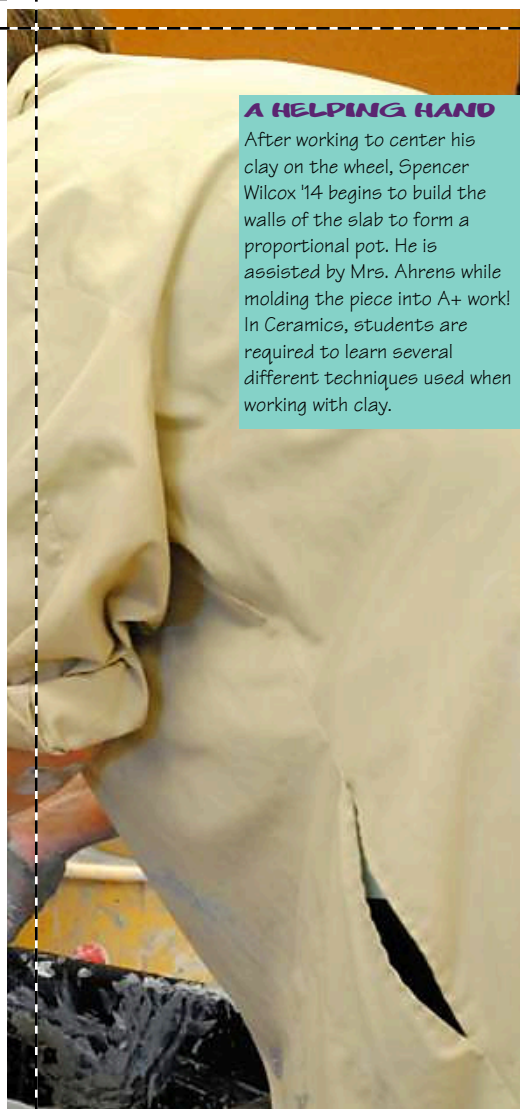
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TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE

A HELPING HAND

After working to center his clay on the wheel, Spencer Wilcox '14 begins to build the walls of the slab to form a proportional pot. He is assisted by Mrs. Ahrens while molding the piece into A+ work! In Ceramics, students are required to learn several different techniques used when working with clay.



Masterpiece in Disguise (ABOVE:) Rebekah Stokes '14 drapes a slab of clay around a plastic tube creating a cylinder-shaped vase. She uses newspaper to support the structure as she carefully carves an aztec pattern into the sidewalls.

Creativity (LEFT TOP:) Caitlin Nekola '14 paints over her flower design to create a background that is different than any other picture she has had before. Once it is finished she will have a vibrant looking background for her flower themed picture.



Group Work (LEFT BOTTOM:) Adam Van Ervelde '16, Avery Brennan '16, and Philip Bagnoli '15 worked together on a big project for Spanish. The goal of the assignment was to produce a powerpoint with information about a Spanish speaking culture and present it to the class.

"Originality is the key to Success"



"I was a little lost soul until I found Mrs. Ahrens and my sketchbook. Ceramics is life."
- Josie Leshen '15



"Spanish is like a bag of cashews; they taste really good and you finish them full and satisfied."
- Ellis Mertens '16



DAVID (ABOVE:) In Señora McDonough's Spanish 1A class, students are just learning what sounds correspond with letters in the alphabet and how to pronounce them. On the first week of class, Señora McDonough sounds out different letters while the class writes what she sounds out on their white boards.

Mason Doty '14



Escucharé!
In order for Mandie Martin '16 to understand the homework assignment, she enthusiastically listens to Señor Backlin carefully for instructions.



Spreading Imagination
Haley McDaniel '14 puts paint on a canvas to use as a background for her printmaking project in Y-M's class.