

A Look Into The Mind: VHS Artist Highlight

By: Jennifer Gray

Kylie Kruse is an artist at VHS who specializes in disturbing art that is not meant for the faint of heart. Her art doesn't shy away from taboo things such as gore and horror. "I do a lot of art on mental disorders and mental health, and I use myself for that," Kylie said about her art.

Kylie has done a lot for the community. She's a part of the Public Art of Vermilion, Art Club, and she even started the National Art Honors Society (NAHS). "My mom found it on an email and I was like this is a really cool thing. We never had anything like it and I thought it would be cool" Kylie said on why she decided to create it.

"It's literally a National Honors Society for artists; our goal is to bring exposure to the talented artists of Vermilion High School." Kylie said about NAHS. The future plans for the group include doing "community service that's art-based and some fundraising," stated Mrs. Schneid, the teacher advisor. Currently, the NAHS is hoping for a group painting/carving pumpkin event.

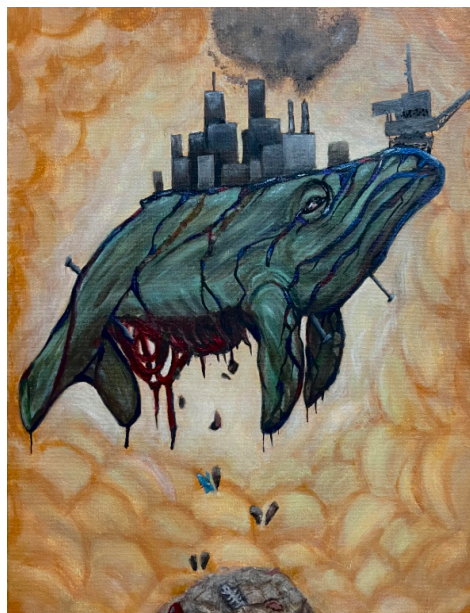
Along with Kylie, Rey Birdwell is co-president of NAHS. This isn't the first time the two have collaborated on something big for the community, as the two previously worked together on the tiny art gallery as well, a small art exchange, where people are free to take or leave art.

"Her mind is interesting, the things she likes and doesn't like are different than the norm." Rey said about Kylie. Her peculiar imagination is the thing that draws people to her art, she isn't afraid to create things that others might stay away from. Mrs. Schneid, who's had her in class for three years now, seems to agree with this, saying "I really like her creativity; I like how it's different from everyone else's."

Kylie has been doing art for as long as she can remember and has received many praises throughout the years. She has won many awards such as "3 silver keys, forty first place wins for Lorain Country Fair, and multiple different art show awards." That is no easy feat to achieve.

Her art has even gotten her a letter to her dream college. "I got

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accepted into Kent State!" Kylie reported. She plans on attending for a full 4 years, with a major in animation and game design with a minor in illustration.

Kylie plans on furthering her art career. At the moment she's working on a Cedar Point world in the game Minecraft, a game where you can build anything you can dream of, which is something she's been working on for four years.

Student Council Creates Jungle Themed Homecoming Celebration

by: Alivia Berrios

This year's homecoming, held on September 28, was organized by Student Council, which is advised by Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Higley. Planning any dance always starts with selecting a theme. "We set it up for leadership (student council) to brainstorm ideas. It was 100% student picked [Welcome To The Jungle.]" Mrs. Webb also shared that she believes students will like the new things they've added, "I think they will like the Dj and the photo-booth. Also the personal touches from the decorating committee."

Planning an event doesn't come without its challenges. Mrs. Higley who co-lead, said the hardest part was "narrowing down ideas and sticking to a timeline." She elaborated that with all these tasks, its overwhelming but with the help of students and staff they were able to get it done in a timely manner.

One of the priorities for Student Council at any event is always student safety. "We had VPD and the fire department here the night prior [for the bonfire] and at the dance. We also track who buys the tickets," Mrs. Higley explained.

Nick Freeman, the head of the student council, reported that "HOCO went very well. This was Mrs. Higley and Madame's first time in charge, and they were amazing advisors and helped everything run smoothly. I think there will be some changes to make the process a little easier next year but other than that it was a very well run homecoming."

Wait, False Alarm

by: Delilah Poole

On Tuesday, September 24th, there was an evacuation at Vermilion High School due to a false intruder alarm being accidentally set off. Assistant Principal Jay Lukasko stated that even though the situation was stressful, a lot of learning happened that day.

Students and staff had very similar reactions, get out of the building to safety, but it was the staff's top priority to ensure the students were safe and accounted for. "Staff reacted well...they remained calm and knew it was important to get them and the students to the evacuation site," Lukasko stated. It is comforting to know that staff will always have the best interest of the student body in mind when making crucial decisions.

While the evacuation was stressful, a lot of learning came from it on both students' and staff's parts—An anonymous senior had this to say. "I feel like they should have shown us where the church was the first week of school." The church this student is referring to is Open Door church, the location where students and staff are supposed to regroup in the event of an emergency. A trip to Open Door to practice emergency procedures had been scheduled since the start of the school year, taking place on Friday, October 4.

It can be said that students, staff, and teachers faced many emotions during and after the evacuation. "I felt like "oh crap where going to die," I guess I was

nervous" is what another anonymous student had to say about the situation.

Even in times of peril teachers knew what they were doing and ensured the safety of the students. While everyone handled the situation well, some stepped up to leadership roles quicker than others. Social Studies teacher Mr. Griffin had this to say "Mrs Z. took the bull by the horns" to get everyone at Open Door organized quickly. He added that "most of the students did an amazing job evacuating." Many students also stepped up and acted as leaders when they saw that their classmates were confused or upset.

Vermilion High Schools Diversity Union Builds A Safe Place For All

by: Mariah Mills

At Vermilion High School, the newly established 2021 Diversity Union is making significant progress in creating a supportive community for all students. Under the guidance of Allison Scullin, who is a guidance counselor at Vermilion High, and student leader Alivia Berrios, a senior at Vermilion High, the club aims to promote inclusivity and address the challenges faced by students from diverse backgrounds, giving students a space to feel safe and heard by others.

Berrios who first joined the Diversity Union when two seniors invited her during her freshman year, describes it as a space where students can come together to discuss the challenges within the school. "At first, It was like a support group to talk about the trouble of our school and how we can improve them," she explains. The need for the group is clear to Berrios, who believes that "Vermilion lacks diversity" and that the Diversity Union can serve as a safe space for students who might feel degraded. "It's a good way to reach out to people who aren't currently involved," she adds. Though the Diversity Union is still in its early stages, its members are eager to make an impact. While Berrios acknowledges that they've primarily focused on school-related issues so far, she is hopeful for future initiatives. "We could get the Diversity Union more involved with other schools

in our community and volunteer at different places to help get our name out there," she suggests.

Scullin emphasizes the importance of creating a welcoming community. "Diversity Union is a place where we hope students can feel comfortable coming, sharing their personal experiences, and working towards making our community safer and stronger," she says. The union strives to maintain a respectful atmosphere. "Everyone is pretty cool with each other," Berrios states, also saying that any conflicts, if any, are usually resolved quickly. Scullin adds that there has been a large amount of support from teachers and allies within the school community.

"The school has been supportive of every initiative that the Diversity Union has wanted to start," she confirms. To help promote the Diversity Union, Berrios emphasizes the need for better communication and to reach out. "We should put information on SNN, make posters, and schedule meeting times when kids are in school," she stated. These steps could help new students feel welcomed and encouraged to join. As the Diversity Union keeps growing, it shows how strong a community we are and can be when everyone accepts each other. With help from teachers and students, Vermilion High School is a friendlier and more welcoming place for everyone.



TAKE OUR
POLL AND
TELL US
WHAT YOUR
FAVRTOITE
FOODS ARE!

VHS Athletic Director: A Look Inside

by: Stephen Stetz

The position of being the athletic director at Vermilion High School, as in any high school or college, is one of the most important and vital part of the athletics department.

Now, have you ever wondered what having the job is really like and what it takes to be one? "A large part of my job includes a lot of paperwork duties and stuff like that. I still help make the schedules, determine eligibility, and district participation. I keep that stuff in line and make sure I'm doing it right," VHS's athletic director Mr. Stillman explained. "The most important part about my job is to create a vision and set a course for the department," stated Stillman.

Now what exactly does one need, and what does it take to be a high school athletic director? "You can be one from a variety of backgrounds," he replied, "I myself came from an athletic background, and enjoying athletics is a big part of it. People come from teaching, coaching, and business and come into this. There are a lot of ways to be one." This just goes to prove that you can from anywhere just as long as you have a soft spot for athletics like he does.

As for what it takes, Stillman had this to say, "Be professional, don't be afraid to pick a direction and lead people, be clear in communication and be consistent. When developing a culture you have to

reiterate yourself over and over again. Always keep room to learn, which is an important part in any part of life."

Another thing that would be notable to bring up would be this question, "What were you before you came here?" "I started here in January of 2015, I was not looking to be an AD at first. I was still a college coach at Marietta College. Then my sister-in-law told me that the position at Vermilion was open and knowing my brother is an AD too, I completed the hiring process and ultimately got hired here."

Mr. Stillman says that there are several teams that Sailor fans should keep their eyes on this fall season. He recommends that you check out football, who have two big games coming up with against Huron and Edison, boys' soccer, which is finishing up their regular season, and cross country, whose runners are also placing very well. this season.

Blaze your Own Trail

By: Sevie Kretchmar

The Lorain County Metro Parks are a fun place for all ages to explore nature. Many of these parks offer a variety of things for visitors to do, including playgrounds, hiking trails, fishing, and much more. VHS students spoke very highly of the Metro Parks, saying how they are a safe place to adventure with your family and friends.

One of the areas most popular metro parks is Mill Hollow, which features the Vermilion River that runs right through the middle of it which adds lots of fun scenery. Many people like kayaking, canoeing and fishing on the river.

In addition Mill Hollow features over three miles of trails that are good for walking, running, and hiking. My dad introduced it to me at a young age and would always take me with him." Frisbee golf is just

VHS student Caleb German said one of the many things kids and their families can participate in at the Lorain County Metro Parks. "I just really like nature and all things outside...Also I grew up fishing there with my dad." Caleb gave

us a lot of insight on the attachment and memories that he has, as do lots of people who visit there.

Another very enjoyable thing to do at many of the metro parks is frisbee golf. Many of the Metro Parks have a frisbee golf course which attracts many people in the area. Anthony Ozmun states, "I've always loved frisbee golf.

The Lorain county Metro Parks offer adults and kids many opportunities to have fun and adventure. Many people go there either for nature or recreation like hiking, frisbee golf and seeing the pretty views. Many kids and their parents have very fond memories and moments with family.

Vermilion Seniors Change Up The Lot With Creativity

by: Mason Plas

This past Sunday, October 6th, VHS seniors gathered together to claim their parking spots and bring them to life, turning every front row spot in the parking lot into a canvas of vibrant colors and creative expressions. The event had a bonding moment with the students there, and how they were able to mark the beginning of their final year.

At Vermilion High School, Senior parking spot painting has become an important event, students get to claim a parking spot for the year and paint and decorate them with their own personal designs. The tradition here at Vermilion gives the students a chance to express themselves in a creative and colorful way.

Many students were excited to make their spots. Myles Schloesser planned to create a “Spider-Man” Themed spot, while Anthony Ozmun wanted “Batman Logo.” Lucas Tassone didn’t want to give away his plans, saying only that it would be a “very cool but secret spot.” No matter what design they chose, the seniors’ paintings added a vibrant and interesting look to the school parking lot.

Adults at VHS enjoy the creative paintings just as much as the students do. Mrs. Barker, administrative assistant in the main office, found Meagan Rini’s design last year to be her favorite.

In addition to the fun of painting their spot, seniors appreciate having a permanent spot and how no one can take. But if you want a front row spot, you gotta tussle for it. As Lucas Tassone said, “100% I’m going to fight for it,” as everyone wants those great parking places to be theirs for the school year.



Many students chose to do a wide variety of colors while some kept it more monotone and moody



Students drew inspiration from many different aspects of their lives, illustrating how diverse the Vermilion High School student body is