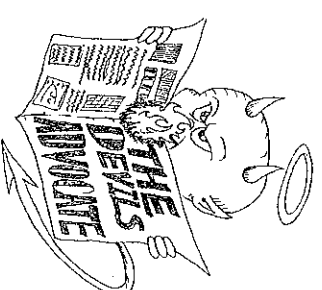




Check out the Enrichmond article on page 6!

Volume 14, Issue 6
March 31, 2017

The BLUE DEVILS



Advocate Richmond
High School

35320 Division Road

CCS Workshop Takes Students' Skills To New Levels

By: Alyssa Call
News Co-editor

Art was spilling through the door – figuratively and literally. Mamequins draped in various fabrics lined the hallway.

Posters, projects and presentations covered the walls leaving nothing blank.

Rows of sewing machines sat waiting for use, while students diligently drew their designs.

Shoe lasts, leather, paint, paper – you name it - filled stock rooms.

The building was filled from the first floor to the 10th floor with student's innovative ideas.

It's where thoughts become a reality and no idea is a bad idea.

It's the College of Creative Studies.

On March 3, Ms. Belf and her AP Art class along with a few Drawing 1, 2 and 3 students went and participated in a few workshops at the College of Creative Studies in Detroit.

Students had the opportunity to attend one of the six workshop options, such as Communication, Transportation, Fashion Accessory Design, Product Design, Photography, and Interior Design. Each workshop allowed students to go into further depth in the area of their choice.

Ms. Belf said, "I like to do this field trip because it's a sampling of what will help at a college level if they take an art class. It gives you real life art jobs to work with."

From lamp building to peanut butter and jelly comic strips, students explored their inner creativity and put their art skills to the test.

Product design built lamps from miscellaneous scraps provided.

Communication took action shots of

peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and made a comic strip with them.

Photography mastered basic photography skills, such as taking a picture of someone and editing it.

Transportation sketched out vehicles of their choice or ones they made up. Interior design made a color scheme and poster board based on current fashion. Students in interior design along with transportation and fashion were able to walk away with not only more knowledge on their workshop choice, but also their own sketches.

However, senior Brianna Maloney took away more than sketches of shoes from her fashion accessory workshop. Maloney, who went on this field trip her sophomore year and was put in Advertising Design, wanted to be in the Fashion Accessory Workshop.

"I want to go into the fashion merchandise business end, but it still helps to know the creative side," said Maloney. While in the fashion workshop, students were shown different styles of shoes made by a successful Finnish fashion designer and worked with shoe lasts – silicone molds that have the shape of a foot to make and repair shoes around – used in order to understand how shoes are made and produced.

Following this, students were given the opportunity to make their own unique shoe. Maloney said, "We got two cards. Each card had a different type of shoe and we had to quickly sketch a shoe that combined the two shoes." Maloney was given a mountain boot and a shower sandal and then five minutes to morph into a one of a kind shoe.

Once her shoe was built, she drew multiple sketches before drawing her final draft, which she painted with water colors and was able to take home.

This Is Robotics—The Road To Worlds

By: Jarret Gil
Opinion Co-editor

In the stands, there might actually be more going on than there is in the arena. People are all packed in, and the game is three vs three – but with a twist.

This is Robotics. At Richmond, the Robotics team often flies under the radar, but they are far from ordinary. Each member of the 23 person team is responsible to do their part.

Members like Andrew Caporuscio. He said, "I am the electrical lead, and one of the drivers for the robot. I oversee the electrical on the practice robot and the actual one."

With Caporuscio's expertise, he is responsible for the whole of the robot's electrical work, and overall performance as the electrical lead.

Likewise, Richmond junior Nick Mathes works as the team's mechanical lead, insuring that the robot's parts move and work efficiently. "I am the leader of the fabrication and design in putting the robot together," said Mathes. "It is a lot of work," said Caporuscio.

Ms. Belf said, "I

liked the fashion workshop because it was a challenge to mix the shoes and the kids also walked away with their own sketches."

While students worked in their workshops, Ms. Belf and Ms. Denapole, one of Richmond's

paraprofessionals, admired artwork and observed students in their workshop. Ms. Belf said,

"Because it is 10 floors, we started on the 10th floor and watched each group. I took some photos and watched what was being presented."

On top of going to the CCS workshop, the class stopped at the Scholastics art gallery. Students looked at and enjoyed the artwork from all over Macomb. Maloney said, "It made me see how creative everyone is. Everyone is creative and talented even from a small town."

Adding on to this, Ms. Denapole said, "I've never been there before. It's always exciting and cool to see students' work – it amazes me."

Ms. Belf, who has taught art for 26 years, plans to continue taking kids to CCS for many years to come as long as they are invited. Richmond was first invited to come to the CCS workshop three years ago – thanks to the students' success in Scholastics.

climb with the robot."

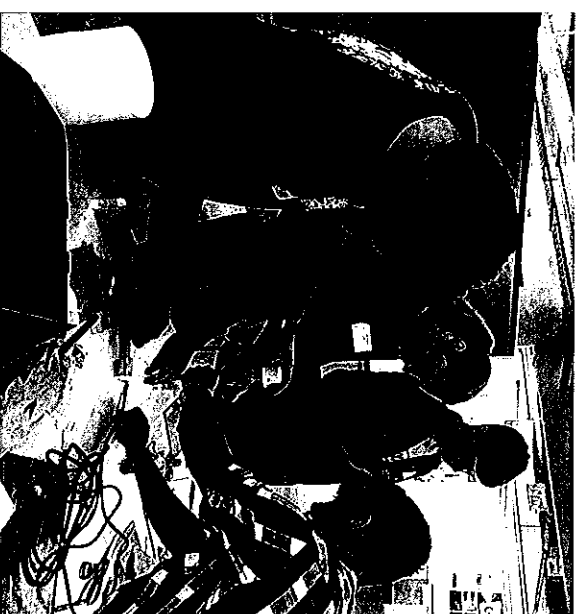
But as it turns out, building a robot is just as complex as it sounds, if not more so. And when the team showed up to the first round of Districts at Waterford Mott High School, Richmond's robot was evidence of that.

Their first match, one of the wires got mixed up, and the robot drove uncontrollably. While this was a quick fix heading into the other matches, the next error was not.

Just after they fixed the wires, the team came to the realization that they had mixed up two of the robot's gear boxes in their climber – meaning that in the final seconds of the match, the robot would stall as it climbed.

Despite this, the team still managed to place in the Quarter Finals of the first round of Districts.

With 16 members returning on the team, the Richmond Robotics team is young and "hopefully confident". And while they went out in the Quarter Finals, they did receive the Judges' Award – which is an acknowledgement of the team's robot being the best overall. With their performance the team's overall point tally puts them in a good posi-



Junior Jessica Weaver helps build a lamp out of miscellaneous supplies in the product design class.

And all of this – the CCS workshop, success in Scholastics, tours of art galleries – wouldn't be possible without the drive and dedication of Ms. Belf.

Ms. Denapole said, "I think that she's amazing and has brought our students to a different level and opened them up to new experiences." And Maloney proves this.

"From the first day she saw me, she knew I had a talent. I just didn't push myself. So she pushes me to work hard and is always supportive of what I do," said Maloney.

Whether it be helping students realize their full potential or taking students to art workshops, Ms. Belf works hard to further student's education and love for art – and the CCS field trip prove this.

tion for the next round.

"The District last weekend was one of the hardest to compete at," said Mathes, "so with our experience, going into an easier District at Marysville puts us in a good position."

This was the first year that they competed in the Waterford Mott High School Districts. This District was one of the hardest as it featured all three of the Michigan State Championship teams, two of which were Hall of Fame teams. Mathes said, "Most of those teams are high caliber teams. None of them are bad."

And going into Marysville's Districts the team has picked up some great experience, and important points. But the team is doing their best to stay composed. "Last year, we were in a better position than we are this year," said Mathes. "But we had something go wrong with our robot, and we couldn't recover. With the experience we have under our belt and understanding how we can do different things, I think that will help us be successful."



Today's Forecast
Rainy
High: 46
Low: 36

School News1-3
Editorials.....7
Question of the week.....7
Local Features.....8,9,10

Sports Updates.....4, 5
Star Athlete.....5
Opinion.....6,7

Star Student.....11
Bread Recipe.....11
Word Search10
Art of The Month.....10

New Legislation Impacts Class of 2029

By: Jenna Stafford
Features Co-editor

In third grade, what are your focuses? Legos, recess, and what's for dinner that night may be common answers.

However, third grade is about to get a lot more serious very soon.

This year's kindergartners, the Class of 2029, is going to be the first class under the effect of new state legislation that requires third grade students to pass a standardized test on reading.

And if they don't pass? They don't continue to fourth grade.

The test itself is a variation of the MSTEP, which students in grades 3rd through 8th are already required to take by Michigan state law. The third grader's score on the reading portion of the test, however, is what will be counted.

It is said that third grade must be the cut-off point for when students are proficient in reading because after third grade, they are no longer learning to read. Rather, they are reading to learn.

Preparation for the test will be a challenge for not just the students, but for the teachers, parents, and administrators involved as well.

Superintendent Mr. Brian Walmsley said, "The teachers are trying to build stamina and [teach them to] stay focused."

The test is taken on the students' laptops, which presents another array of challenges. Mr. Walmsley said, "The biggest challenge we have is in the typing. If they are slow, they think faster than they type and they get frustrated."

Michigan isn't the first state to introduce this policy. As www.mlive.com says, "Fourteen other states and the District of Co-

lumbia have instituted some sort of read-or-flunk policy for third graders."

It was brought about in Michigan when a representative on the west side of the state introduced legislation because she thought the amount of non-proficient students in the third grade needed to be addressed.

Many are opposed to the test, saying that the test or the retention policy won't truly create higher proficiency rates. Susan Neuman, a professor of educational studies at the University of Michigan and an expert on early literacy, said in an interview for www.mlive.com,

"More and more of our governors are turning to this. They like the get-tough policy. But it's a terrible strategy. It's blaming children when you should be blaming the system."

There are some alternative options for children who don't pass. They have the opportunity to re-take the assessment or the superintendent can override the test score and pass them to fourth grade.

Mr. Walmsley said, "I don't believe in retention. That decision is between the teacher and the parent. You have to look at the social perspective. If I was in this situation with my son and daughter, I would have to evaluate other variables in their life. I strongly disagree with the fact that I have to make the decision. The teachers and parents are the ones who see them [every day]."

Conversations with the kindergartners' parents have just begun. With so many small factors still in the works, Mr. Walmsley said, "We don't want to create anxiety where there shouldn't be anxiety."

Rigole Is Financing Her Way Into Business

By: Ally Oddo
Staff Writer

Do you like business? What about competition? Rachel Rigole, Richmond High School senior, is on her way to be doing both all the way across the country in California.

Rigole is in a club called DECA, which focuses on strictly business aspects of general everyday things. DECA is an acronym for Distributive Education Clubs of America, and is a program designed for students interested in business to prepare young entrepreneurs and leaders for future careers and help educate students in marketing, finance, management and other business areas.

"I was shocked when they called me up on stage at States. Considering this was my first time I wasn't expecting it at all," said Rigole.

Rigole did her presentation in front of judges about financial consulting, specifically about leasing and buying cars. Although there are many different categories to choose from, financial consulting stood out to her the most.

Considering this was her first time, a person can think Rigole was pretty nervous. "I was a little apprehensive and wasn't sure how it was going to go. I was also clueless of the process which made me nervous," said Rigole.

An evaluation with a judge cannot go over approximately 15 minutes. Each student has had a different presentation of a category. Rigole's presentation was 20 slides and took 15 minutes to present to the judges.

"It took me a long time to get all my information together. I stressed about it for a long time making sure it was perfect and it only took 15 minutes to evaluate it," said Rigole.

As states came around, things were a little different. Rigole's presentation was longer and judging was



Rachel Rigole, who is not only talented business wise, but is also a skilled flautist..

more critical and precise. "States was a little intimidating because there was about a thousand people there and we were sectioned off in a big room," said Rigole.

As the year progressed, Rigole did more and more research about her category. "I began with research of DECA and decided what the best option to explain during the presentation was. Then, I started calculating numbers of leasing and buying a car to put into a Power Point presentation," said Rigole.

DECA meets every other week and sometimes more if it's the week of a competition. Rigole would present in front of Mr. Wagner (Marketing and Personal Finance teacher) and Mrs. Smallwood (business owner) to prepare for her major upcoming event.

For each competition, Rigole must present her Power Point on financial advising of buying versus leasing a car in front of judges. Each of these events had different judges, each judge looks closer and reviews the information more than the one before.

As Rigole stamped her way

through Districts, States was just around the corner. The competition begins with Districts, then moves onto States and ends with the International competition. This year, districts were held at Lake Orion High School, and States were held at Cobo Center in Detroit. Internationals is going to be held all the way in Anaheim, California.

"I am really excited. I think it's going to be a great learning experience and I'm interested to see how I do," said Rigole.

After Rigole graduates, she plans to attend The University of Michigan for Biochemistry and continue her stellar reputation in academics and band. "It has – DECA – has definitely taught me presentation skills and being overall confident in front of a person I don't know," said Rigole.

This young (business) woman is on her way to California to represent the DECA Internationals on April 25-30. DECA has not only taught valuable lessons to Rigole. It has also prepared her for the future of being a college student.

Marketing Dresses Maloney For Success

By: Haley Fortuna
Coordinating Editor

Brianna Maloney dreams of becoming a fashion buyer after majoring in fashion business or fashion marketing in college.

Her dreams are becoming reality, because of RHS's Marketing class. Maloney said, "This career is something I have wanted to do for a very long time and I knew taking marketing would only help me accomplish my goals at hand."

The marketing class teaches students what it takes to sell products. Through various projects, the class allows students the one-on-one experience needed to gain valuable marketing skills.

"One of the projects the class takes part in is working our school store. I've done that a few times. It is definitely a cool experience to be on the other side of retail," said Maloney. "With fashion buying I'd be deciding which products go into the retail market for whichever company I'm employed with so it is interesting to be first hand in retail."

Taking marketing only allows Maloney to get a head start in the buying/selling portion of the fashion world she hopes to dive into.

"The most important things I've learned while taking marketing is how to sell a product to a specific customer, why a customer would want to purchase a project and how to market in general. Knowing why a customer may buy a particular product is crucial in my future career," said Maloney, a senior.

Through specific projects, students experience what it is like to market products in a realistic situation.

"Currently, our class is doing a project where we have to invent a product and create a sales pitch for it. My product I came up with is a huge, heated beanbag with a massage feature," she said.

Having these specific skills up her sleeve makes this motivated young woman an asset to several colleges.

She has applied to Northwood University, Central Michigan University and The Fashion Institute of Technology.

With the skills she has acquired in marketing class, Maloney will have no problems moving full-speed ahead into her fashion career.