

Opportunity to 'Rise From Here' at Stage Show

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After the end of the dance competition season, dance teams displayed the work they practiced throughout the year at the annual Stage Show. This year, Stage Show was presented on May 1 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. The performers consisted of All-Female, All-Male, Co-ed, Drill and Orchesis, along with additional solo performers who were not in dance teams and some alumni. On the day of Stage Show, highlights of the show were displayed at an assembly during school hours as a teaser for the actual show in the evening.

"Stage Show is a day [when] the dance teams [have the opportunity] to shine and show off what we have worked so hard [on] this whole year. It is a time [when] we receive recognition for all our hard work from friends [and] family," Orchesis captain Sophia Lu said.

As a four-year member, Lu has learned to manage time, organize events and learn the responsibilities of a coach. Senior Drill captain Alexyss Hernandez also saw the leadership position as a learning experience. In the future, she plans to join



DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY On May 1, Orchesis senior leader Sophia Lu (center) takes her last bow with other dance team leaders during AHS' annual Stage Show on May 1.

MOOR photo by SHANNON KHA

a dance team at Southeastern University, which she will be attending in the fall.

"I'm truly proud of how far we've come as a team this year," Hernandez said. "Being captain was like being their mom. I

did my best to take care of them, protect them, teach them, motivate them, and sometimes they fought but in the end that's what families do."

The dance teams practiced for 16 hours each week in preparation for competitions. This year, All-Female won first place in their most crucial competition, Miss Drill USA. As they only have three minutes to perform at competitions, they enjoy having the opportunity to display more of their talents at Stage Show.

"Stage Show is a showcase of a year's worth of growth, bond and progress. When we go to competition, we perform to win. When we perform at Stage Show, we dance our hearts out," Torres said.

Despite having over 15 new team members, All-Male also accomplished several achievements this year. The All-Male team became defending champions at Streetdance for the third year in a row and at the Golden Cup competition for the second year in a row.

"Marching onto the floor at Miss Drill USA [was such an amazing feeling]. [I] really [felt] like [I was] performing at a concert or 'America's Got Talent.' Lights shining bright, two big cameras recording you, hundreds of people cheering - it's such an amazing feeling," All-Male captain Arturo Reyes said.



Speech and Debate Captains' Last Speeches

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1. What did you enjoy the most about Speech and Debate that made you go back to it every year?

Eddie Chang (EC): I enjoy the competitors and the time spent with all the members at both practice and tournaments.

Julie Yu (JY): I enjoy the Speech and Debate community and the feeling of doing something productive. I'm also very competitive.

2. What have you taken from Speech and Debate that makes you who you are today?

EC: Being a part of Speech and Debate made me more open and comfortable with interacting with others.

Annie Tran (AT): SENIOR CAPTAINS Eddie Chang, Felice Gonzales, Julie Yu and Annie Tran.

learn that I am not always going to be the smartest or the best and it has helped me become more humble and deal better with rejection.

3. What was your greatest accomplishment throughout your time in Speech and Debate?

Felice Gonzales (FG): My greatest accomplishment

would be learning so much from the people in Speech and Debate in terms of academics and improving myself as a person; because of this I was able to teach others and hopefully the younger students for their years to come.

JY: My greatest accomplishment would be learning how to handle a bunch of responsibilities while also being able to communicate with people better.

4. What is the thing you will miss the most about Speech and Debate?

FG: I'm definitely going to miss the competitors, the long Saturdays of competition, the bonds that were built, representing my team, teaching others, learning from others, getting dressed and seeing the reactions of others after [I performed]. I'll miss my friends

and I'll miss hearing the phrase "from Alhambra High School" after one of us has won.

AT: I'm going to miss my teammates the most. I'm not going to miss getting up early on Saturday, but I will miss having an excuse to dress up and being with my closest friends.



MOOR photo by SARA HERNANDEZ

Students in Government Seek Civic Engagement

CAROLINE REN
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Shadowing positions ranging from City Attorney to Director of Environmental Resources, 24 AHS students participated in Students in Government Day on April 27. Alhambra City Managers worked with Assistant Principal of Business and Activities Phuong Nguyen and social science teacher and department chair Javier Gutierrez to organize the event.

Participants were first introduced to Mayor Gary Yamauchi before eating lunch with their mentors and learning about the various components of the city government. They also discussed how to best solve real-world issues that could happen in Alhambra, which they later presented at a council meeting.

"This experience has given me a new look on jobs available at the government level," senior David Hernandez, who shadowed the Assistant Director of Finance, said. "It also reminded me of childhood dreams to one day hold a high office position such as mayor or perhaps even President."

Other students enjoyed the broad scope of the event.

"I learned that no matter what career path I choose, I can always relate it to the work that our leaders do in the city," senior Michelle Yan said. "After talking to Carmen Hernandez, the Library Director, and hearing of the steps she had to take to achieve where she is now, I realize it is crucial to work hard and let life fall into place, no matter how unsure I am of my own future."



FUTURE POLITICIANS AHS juniors and seniors participate in the first Students in Government Day on April 27.

PHOTO courtesy of JAVIER GUTIERREZ

Environmental Resources Awareness Society Seniors Contribute to Annual Eco Fair

REBECCA ZENG
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On Earth Day, April 22, AHS' Environmental Resources Awareness Society (ERAS) presented the annual Eco Fair at the Quad. Two tables featured games based on an environmental theme, such as trash basketball, boat racing and bottle bowling. As rewards, ERAS passed out around 100 Dum-Dums lollipops, which had environmental facts attached to them.

In addition, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District's External Affairs

specialist, Evelyn Reyes, managed a third table at the event and contributed to the event by passing out items related to water conservation, including shower timers and informational leaflets.

The seniors in ERAS who contributed to the event included former president Janeesah Holmes and general members Madoka Tsuchihara, Stephanie Wong Su and Matthew Chan.

"Eco Fair and ERAS have definitely impacted my life by making me more environmentally aware and ERAS has turned me into an advocate for better

[preservation] of the planet and its resources. I'll definitely treasure the memories I've made with my friends at Eco Fair. And even though I'll be off to college, I'll be sure to make the extra effort to try and come back to this wonderful event," Chan said.

Changes from last year's fair included the Water District's participation and it being located at the Quad instead of Third Street.

"This year, Eco Fair brought a majority of the seniors out to help, [which] in a way united ERAS seniors and the club

as a whole," ERAS president Amy Leung said.

Overall, students enjoyed the creative games and learned a lot of environmental facts at the fair.

"AHS' Eco Fair allows students to become environmentally aware of their surroundings. Our main goal [was] for students to realize how we are hurting our planet and how little it takes to reduce our environmental footprint. We just have to take the first step!" Holmes said.

MOOR graphic by LESLIE HWANG