

# DHS Press

Vol. 3

Spring Edition 2024

## MLK Day

Ava Johnny  
*Staff Writer*

Every year on the third Monday of January (around Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, January 15th), people gather to participate in or observe rallies, marches, and speeches. MLK Day is a holiday designed to encourage people to reflect on racial equality and nonviolent actions. This holiday was the first federal holiday in the United States to respect and give credit to an African American who laid principles of racial justice and social change. Each year, a parade is held in St. Petersburg for everyone to attend and celebrate an icon of civil rights. The parade lasts from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and travels East to West on 1st Avenue South in the Downtown area. Afterward, there is another event called the MLK Family Fun Day, held at Tropicana Field Lot 4 198 17th St, also in St. Petersburg. The MLK Family Fun Day event is committed to honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and developing warm fellowship and joy. This event has multiple activities and entertainment for families to participate in and enjoy, such as kid-friendly carnival rides, live performances, quick health checkups, and appetizing food, including some of the best local vendors. Go and check out these local events next year!

## DHS Library

Brinleigh Brittain  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

For centuries, libraries have been a source of information and a fountain for communities. Even with the advent of social media and the conceptualization of the search engine, it seems as if libraries are obsolete, but they are not. In fact, libraries are more useful than ever.

The Dunedin High Media Center is not just the testing area. It is home to a large variety of young adult books. Everything you could want, mysteries, romances, adventure, including a new order of Remixed Classics, are all stored on the shelves ripe for the picking.

The Media Center does not just host physical copies. With the introduction of Sora, anyone can access all the reading materials of Pinellas County. Just go onto Clever and click on the blue icon labeled Sora: By Overdrive. This will be especially useful for people looking to enter Battle of the Books or Guys Read, school initiatives to boost students' reading. "The Sora app is a full library right out our fingertip. And e-books and audiobooks are a great way to use new technology," says Ms. Aliak, Media Specialist.

So, stop by the Dunedin High School Media Center and check out one of the new books on display, or look up Sora on Clever.

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## SGA Valentine's Week

Samantha Baird  
*Head Technical Advisor and Staff  
Writer*

This year at DHS, Valentine's Day is becoming a big deal! The Student Government here at Dunedin High is putting together a fun-filled week for this holiday filled with love, joy, and friendship. However, the fun started two whole weeks before Valentine's Day with the start of sales on Wednesday, January 31st, and lasting through the following Tuesday, February 6th. The items being sold were red carnations for \$1.50, key chain teddy bears for \$3, teddy bears for \$10, bags of Hershey Kisses for \$5, and Crush sodas for \$2. These cute items were sold on the DHS website and were delivered to the recipients on the 14th, whether it be your partner or your friend. Also, for this fantastic holiday, there are three days of school-wide dress-up events. This includes wearing pajamas on Monday, dressing up as iconic couples on Tuesday, and wearing pink, red, or white on Wednesday. With all the fun centered around Valentine's Day this year, I'm sure everyone hopes that we can do more fun events like this next year!

## Valentines Stats

Samantha Baird  
*Head Technical Advisor and Staff Writer*

### Top Ten Candies:

- 1) Conversation Hearts
- 2) Heart Shaped Box of Chocolates
- 3) M&M's
- 4) Hershey Kisses
- 5) Chocolate Roses
- 6) Chocolate Hearts
- 7) Cupid Corn
- 8) Candy Necklaces
- 9) Ghirardelli Gift Box
- 10) Cinnamon Bears



83% of consumers  
who buy Valentine's  
Day flowers  
purchase roses.

35% of consumers  
will shop online for  
their gifts.

Around 224 million  
roses are grown  
specifically for  
Valentine's Day



Conversation Hearts are one of the most  
popular Valentines tradition.

*Photo by: National Geographic Kids*

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## The History of Valentine's Day

Sellylynn Albert  
*Staff Writer*

Every year, Valentine's Day, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, occurs on February the 14th. This day is all about love and romance, but it also honors a martyr named Saint Valentine. The Roman Empire during the 3rd century passed a law preventing Christian soldiers from getting married, but St. Valentine, a priest, decided to have secret wedding ceremonies for these soldiers anyway. Since St. Valentine disregarded the Roman Emperor's orders, they arrested him and sent him to prison. While in prison, Valentine cared for his fellow prisoners and his jailor's blind daughter. Legend says that Valentine cured the jailor's blind daughter before he was executed. His final act before dying was to write her a love message signed "from your Valentine". St. Valentine was executed on February 14th in the year 270. Many other countries besides the U.S. also celebrate Valentine's Day, including South Korea, Brazil, and France. There are 5 different types of love languages: words of affirmation, physical touch, gifting gifts, acts of service, and quality time. Valentine's Day consists of friends and couples sharing their love for each other, whether it's giving each other gifts, spending time with one another, or any other type of love language they prefer.



## Palentines

Anonymous  
*Staff Writer*

The season of love is upon us, but let's remember that love isn't just romantic, though that's the most prominent on the saint's holiday. I believe Valentine's Day should also be a celebration of platonic love, friendship, and your inner circle. On the matter of Palentines and Galentines, Campbell Hudson said: "I love the idea of Palentines and Galentines because it's a lot less pressure, and it's a good way to appreciate your friends and show them how much you love them. Plus, it's way less stress!". I know Valentine's is definitely a stressful holiday for those who have a partner- all the gifts, flowers, chocolates, and of course, the plus grosse affaire de tous les temps (the biggest affair), a date. And while yes, I'll admit, it's nice to have a lover, focusing this corporate holiday on your friends is ultimately less stressful and more fun for you and your friends. In addition, it's more fun shopping for friends' presents, anyway. Don't be bitter if you don't have a significant other this season, but do send a Valentine's gram to all your best friends (or even your ex... although we'd advise you not to). Wishing you all a happy Valentine's/Palentine's Day!

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## Track & Field

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Track and Field has officially begun at Dunedin High School, with a promising outlook for the rest of the season.

Track conditioning lasted from early December to late January, with practice officially starting on January 29th. This year, about 25 students have chosen to run for the team, with over half participating in at least one field event. Home meets will be on March 21st, 27th, and April 4th, and one of the biggest meets of the year, Districts, will be held in late April.

DHS has also introduced a new field sport this year. Javelin (which was highly requested by many runners) was added to the criteria of events students can participate in. The javelin throw is an event where a spear is thrown to the furthest length possible, and whoever throws it the furthest, with the best accuracy, wins.

Leading the team this year are coaches Mrs. Morrison and Mr. Jones. Morrison has been coaching track and field for four years, and this is Jones' first year both teaching and coaching for Dunedin. Both coaches also teach biology at DHS and trained the Cross-Country team for the past fall season.

"My favorite thing about being a track coach is seeing the kids improve, try new things, and step out of their comfort zone," said Mrs. Morrison. "Our biggest strength as a team is the athlete's willingness to step up for others. I'm really looking forward to seeing how this year goes."



Mia Lemmons races the 400m hurdles at a Track & Field meet against Clearwater High.

*Photo by: Maria Morrison*

## Athlete's Corner

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Mia Lemmons is a senior at Dunedin High School, and this is her fourth year as part of the Girl's Track and Field team. Lemmons is a head captain on the team and primarily runs the 100-meter hurdles, 400-meter hurdles, and 400-meter run. Lemmons currently holds the school record for the 400 hurdles, with a time of 1:35. Besides running, Lemmons also competed for the DHS Swim and Dive team in the fall and works as a year-round lifeguard and swim coach. Lemmons stated that her favorite thing about participating in track is the environment and the bond she shares with her teammates. Lemmons also said that her goals for her senior season are to have fun, be a good captain, and drop time in all of her events. Finally, when asked if she had any advice for her teammates, Lemmons said: "Always keep going!"



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Junior Samantha Rey prepares for a down at a home Flag Football game.

*Photo by: Sailor Beach*

## Baseball

Andres Martinez  
*Staff Writer*

It is a new year and another season for Dunedin baseball. Last year they had a tough loss getting to States, but this year, they are bouncing back with a great season!

During the start of practices, we had 42 kids try out for the baseball team, and it was a great tryout for all in attendance. This year the players and coaches are taking inspiration from the Wake Forest University baseball team. Wake Forest is a very loud and energetic team that ended up going to the College Championship last year. The coaches are also building the group up to be a family, not just a team. They want to grow as an organization this year since their starting line-up all graduated in 2023. Furthermore, players want to prove to everyone that they are going to perform well this year despite losing a lot of players.

Dunedin baseball has also been putting a lot of work in over the fall to have a triumphant season. Their first game is February 19th against Venice High School, and all are welcome to attend to support the athletes. We are looking for a win to start off a successful season. Go falcons!!!

## Flag Football

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

The Girl's Flag Football team is on the cusp of their 2024 season, with new additions and a positive view for the rest of the year.

Try-outs for the flag football team were after school starting January 29th. Girls in attendance were committed to figuring out what they were good at within the sport, as well as participating in scrimmages, drills, stretches, and workouts. Official practices began the following week, with games taking place throughout the entire spring sports season.

Training the team this year is Coach Kifer, a social studies teacher at DHS. This is Kifer's first year coaching for the team, replacing Mr. Lewis from last year. Quickly approaching is the annual Buccaneer's Preseason Tournament, where the girls will face off against other high schools in the area. The event is hosted at the Raymond James Stadium, and for each game the girls win, they advance to the next round. Despite the familiar pressures each season brings, the athletes are confident in their ability to succeed.

"I decided to join the team because of what my friends told me about it, and I've always loved playing football with my family," says student Aubrynn Utiz. Utiz is a sophomore, and this will be her first year playing for the team. "I thought it would be a good thing to try out, and I'm looking forward to the rest of this season!"

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## Rebekah Harkness

Ameyali Martinez-Peña  
*Staff Writer*

Rebekah Harkness was born on April 17, 1915, and was an American socialite. However, what makes her so special is the reputation she left behind in a Rhode Island home. Harkness was known for wanting to do everything *bad*. Growing up, she was very wealthy and was recognized for creating outbursts along society events with her friends. After finishing school, Harkness went on to marry three men in her lifetime before ending up as a widower left with a Rhode Island estate. Her late husband's passing only fueled Harkness as she went on to open up a ballet workshop, steal a neighbor's cat, etc. Sadly, Rebekah Harkness would go on to die of cancer on June 17, 1962. Despite this, what makes her life story so compelling is how her legacy is told in a Taylor Swift song. The singer lays out Harkness life in a 2020 song in which she writes from Harkness's Rhode Island home, comparing the relation between Harkness' public life and hers. Taylor conveys the message by retelling Harkness' life to show her audience how a woman can be hurt by the public eye simply because they don't meet society's standards. However, both Rebekah Harkness and Taylor Swift are two women who, despite other's criticism against them, managed to accomplish so much more than anyone could have believed they could, making them truly notable.



Rebekah Harkness poses for a photo in 1966.

*Photo by: Jack Mitchell (cosmopolitan.com)*

## Romance Books List

Brinleigh Brittain  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

1. *The One True Me and You* by Remi K. England
2. *Jackpot* by Nic Stone
3. *Now That I've Found You* by Kristina Forest
4. *I Think I Love You* by Auraine Desombre
5. *The Quantum Weirdness of the Almost Kiss* by Amy Noelle Parker
6. *Love is a Revolution* by Renée Watson
7. *Hani and Ishu's Guide to Fake Dating* by Adiba Jaigirdar
8. *All Signs Point to Yes* edited by Adriene White, Cam Montgomery, and G. Haron Davis
9. *The Davenport* by Krystal Marquis
10. *Most Ardently: A Pride and Prejudice Remix* by Gabe Cole Novoa

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## Valentine's Movies

Will Rettmann  
Staff Writer

**Warning: some of these films contain scenes, subjects, or language that are not suitable for certain viewers.**

1. La La Land (PG-13; directed by Damien Chazelle)
2. (500) Days of Summer (PG-13; directed by Marc Webb)
3. Imagine Me and You (R; directed by Ol Parker)
4. Juno (PG-13; directed by Jason Reitman)
5. The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13; directed by Stephen Chbosky)

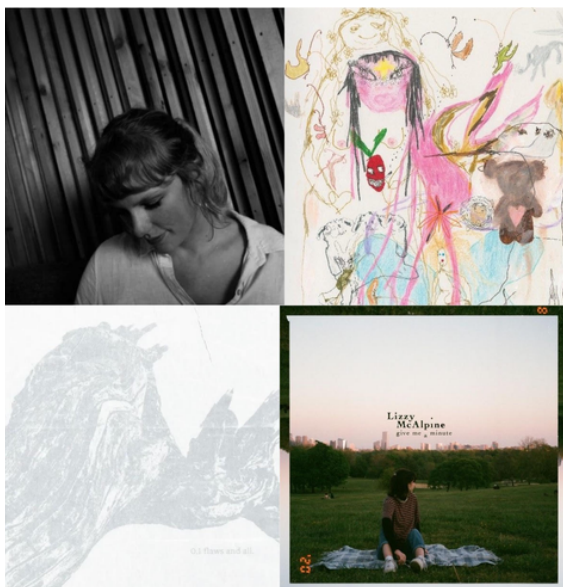
Seniors, don't forget to pay your graduation fees! All payments (Cap/Gown and Walk fees) are due in March.



## Songs about Love

Ameyali Martinez-Peña  
Staff Writer

1. *Can't Help Falling in Love* by Elvis Presley
2. *Invisible String (The Long Pond Studio Sessions)* by Taylor Swift
3. *Sunny Days* by Wave to Earth
4. *Must Be Love* by Laufey
5. *Try Again* by D.ear & JAEHYUH
6. *Lovesong* by Beabadoobee
7. *Friday I'm In Love* by Phoebe Bridgers
8. *Time Traveling* by Anthony Lazaro & Sarah Kang
9. *Apple Pie* by Lizzy McAlpine
10. *Fall In Love with You* by Montell Fish



“All along  
There was some  
Invisible string  
Tying you to me”  
- Taylor Swift

Photo by: Ameyali Martinez Pena

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## NHS

Brinleigh Brittain and Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editors-in-Chief*

For the past seven decades, the National Honor Society has remained the most prestigious organization for students across the country. Now, Dunedin High School has welcomed new members into the program.

The National Honor Society recognizes students with high academic achievements and promotes leadership, service, character, and scholarship. These students were chosen based on their leadership qualities and unparalleled intellect. Individuals inducted into NHS must be upperclassmen and meet the requirements of a 3.0 unweighted and 3.5 weighted GPA. These upstanding students are chosen by a five-member faculty committee and are led by Mrs. Murphy of the English department. Students must meet mandatory community service hours each semester and maintain their current grades. Inductions were held on November 14th and college scholarships are offered each year to select students.

"I became a leader of NHS because I felt it's a great group of kids, and they needed someone who understood them," stated Mrs. Murphy. "There are quite a few new members this year, which is good because it shows the GPA of the school is increasing."

"Being inducted into NHS is a huge honor," stated member Sophia Presby. Presby is a Senior and currently serves as Historian on the officer board. "I'm looking forward to working with all the new members this year!"



The Color Guard rehearses after school for a performance.

*Photo by:*  
Cyla Regalado

## Color Guard

Brinleigh Brittain  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Color Guard is a team of dancers performing intricate choreography accompanied by music and colorful flags. The United States Air Force has one, and of course, Dunedin High School's NJORTC does as well. These fine students participate in everything from sporting events, parades, and community events leading up to the end of the year. "I think it's good because it's a very underrated section," says Renée McNeil, a member of the Color Guard. She talks about how wonderful it is to be a part of the group: "Everyone is super helpful and supportive to each other. It's a healthy and loving environment where everyone can be themselves." On Color Guard's achievements, McNeil adds: "We got an excellent MPA, and we were so close to superior." When asked what she thinks makes Color Guard so special, Renée remarked that "our Highland Dance is also super fun and interesting, and a unique thing only we can do." Finally, McNeil, when asked about how she feels about being a member of the team, said she's "proud to represent our band and color guard."



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# Drafting and School Remodel

Serenity McRory  
*Staff Writer*

Dunedin High School is currently undergoing a highly anticipated transformation for the auditorium! Not only is the outside area being extended to better suit the auditorium and create a safer environment, but it's also getting a nice touch-up on the inside as well. The school board is taking an interesting approach to this redesign by involving the DHS Drafting students, who are joining forces to create a new, updated layout for the school. These students will be competing in groups, and the students with the best design will be given the honor of having their names on a plaque in the auditorium. This reconstruction will take place over the summer, and hopefully will be ready by the new school year!



## Corvo Bianco

Wood fire cookery  
Neapolitan Pizza  
727-281-2004

901 Curlew Rd, Dunedin FI 34698

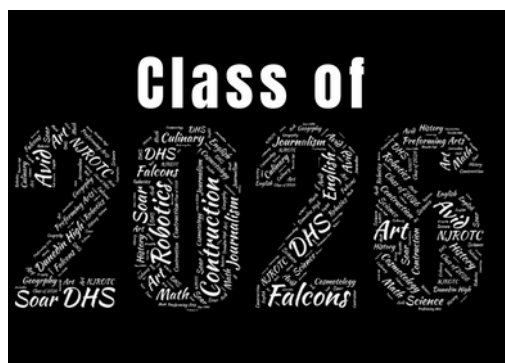
Wed-Thurs: 11am-9pm | Fri-Sat: 11am-10pm

Sunday: 11am-9pm | Monday: 4pm-9pm

Closed Tuesday

www.corvobianco.pizza

The sophomore class  
SGA is making T-Shirts  
and Hoodies!



### Order on the DHS website