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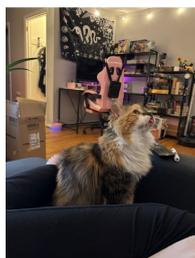
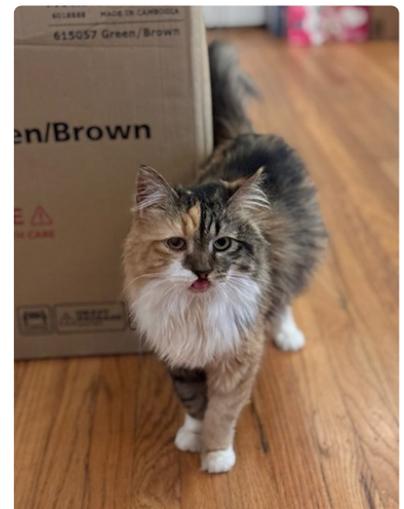


UDHS Purple & Gold

March 2025

### Trinity Reynolds

This month's cute photo(s) is of Trinity Reynolds, newly arrived rescue cat of Life Skills Teacher Madison Reynolds. This five-year-old floof comes from the Providence Animal Center, and was sponsored by our very own Eagles football team. Trinity's "blep" comes to her naturally--she's got a slight deformity which makes her a special needs animal, and all the more special to her new human.



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## Academic Arena

### UDHS Takes First in Ethics Bowl

For the first time in the history of Upper Darby High School...THE UPPER DARBY ETHICS TEAM WON THE DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL ETHICS BOWL!!!

As with last year's tournament, Upper Darby High School was in first place going into the playoffs of the Regional High School Ethics Bowl held at West Chester University. This year's team was undefeated in its first three rounds against Conestoga, Wilmington Friends, and Penn Charter, winning seven out of nine judges. In the quarter-finals, Upper Darby dominated Salesianum; in the semi-finals, Camden Catholic; and in the 6th and final round, faced off against powerhouse Cherry Hill East, winning the judges by a score of 154-147.

The UD Dream Team of Sabrina Gollotti (12), Delanie Jordan (12), Sylvia Langston (10), John Peter Quillen (12), and Chloe Thompson (10) have been preparing for the event since September and had a special chemistry and cohesiveness not seen in previous years. Words cannot adequately convey the scholarship, rigor, humility, and school spirit our students exhibited while competing against elite private and prep schools in our region. Their camaraderie, preparation, and respect for one another were second to none and their performance was nothing short of brilliant.

The annual Ethics Bowl is a competitive debate-style event that promotes ethical awareness, critical thinking, civil discourse, civic engagement, and an appreciation for multiple points of view. Although it is collaborative, the competition is rigorous and demanding. The fifteen case set included topics such as: vegan pet ownership, deciding which nations are deserving of hosting international sporting events, the ethics of tourism, social bonding with AI models, boycotting as a tool for activism, and the ethicality of voting third-party or choosing not to vote at all as a form of civil protest. Students researched the facts of the cases and studied the philosophies of Aristotle (Virtue Theory), Bentham (Utilitarianism), Kant (Deontology), and Hobbes (Rights-Based) to formulate and support their stances.

Says Coach Sue Beck, "Last year, Upper Darby finally had a seat at the table, but I stand corrected: Upper Darby High School is seated at the head of the table."



**Team A with Coaches Sue Beck and Chris Nielsen**



**Both Teams and Their Coaches**

**FULL PARTICIPATING TEAM RANKING**

1. Team 16 Upper Darby HS One	9. Team 14 William Penn Char
2. Team 1 Cherry Hill East HS	10. Team 8 Radnor HS
3. Team 4 Princeton HS One	11. Team 3 Archmere Academ
4. Team 2 Conestoga HS Grey	12. Team 7 Upper Darby HS Tw
5. Team 5 Camden Catholic HS	13. Team 11 Episcopal/Academy
6. Team 15 Conestoga HS Garnet	14. Team 13 Princeton HS Two
7. Team 10 Harrington HS	15. Team 6 Ursuline Academy
8. Team 12 Salesianum	16. Team 9 Wilmington Friends

**The Final Rankings**

## From the Classroom of Mr. Tchiong

The classroom of Mr. Trung Tchiong has been extra busy this past spring.



-Mr. Tchiong's class presented a project to the PennDOT's District 6 office in King of Prussia on Thursday, March 13 one of the finalist's in the PennDOT The team, dubbed "A Happy Belt Ways," consisted of Isha Mansaray, Jacob Fobay, Haja Bah, Jareen Freyaoj, and Camba Balmonte. They were one of six regional finalists, and they competed against Bishop Shanahan, Lower Moreland High School, Julia R. Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration School (Philadelphia County), and two teams from Penridge High School (Bucks County)

-Ninth grade architectural design and draft student Shuvomita Shuvro used the AutoDesk Revit software to recreate an existing Washington Avenue structure the One Thousand.

-Two teams from Mr. T's Energy, Power and Transportation classes did some pretty impressive projects. A manual trigger system for racing cars was designed by Samantha Grace Alizzi and Mary Reichard, while a three-student team experimented with different paper cup designs to see how much one could hold.



**Manual Trigger System**



**Building Prototype from Ninth Grader Shuvomita Shuvro**



**Paper Cup Challenge**

## UDHS 44th Annual Student Administration Day

On February 28, Upper Darby High School paired student administrators with various members of school and central administrato leadership for its 44th annual Student Administration Day. Similar

events were held at other area schools. The students' day started with a celebratory breakfast, after which participants shadowed assigned administrators to learn about their respective jobs. Capping off the day was a luncheon and a mock superintendent's cabinet meeting.



## UDHS Competes at Pennsylvania Science Olympiad

The results are in! Members of the UDHS Science National Honor Society team competed against 32 other high schools at the Southeast regional tournament of the Pennsylvania Science Olympiad on Friday, March 14, at the Abington Campus of Penn State University, and had a very respectable showing (even placing in front of neighboring Haverford School District as a team). The team's advisor is Dr. Julie Shaw.



Several students (and competition partners) placed in the top half of their events – even in some that they were asked to complete in the morning of the event.

The Science Olympiad tournament is highly competitive and requires flexibility, dedication and hard work from all the students that helped with the team.

Student participants were Abigail Gangadeen, Atta Ullah, Eva Kahlert, Faizah Abdullah, Farah Kamal, Gurjot Lalka, Jannatul Farduas, Khatib Ashraf, Md. Saminur Rahman, Mohammad Sami, Iftakhar Tarunno, Nafisa Nawar, Rajkumary Das, Reem Mamoon, Ridwan Muntasir, Samiha Hossain, Sara Elourabia, Sara Siddiqi, Think Thoung, Vy Lam, and Zayneb Ghorfa.

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## Royals Math Team Wins Final Match of the Year

Our Royal Math Team won the final match of the year with a score of 23-13 against the New Providence HS Pioneers of New Providence, NJ.

Our high scorer was senior Jacob Aaron who correctly answered 7/8 problems in 30 minutes!

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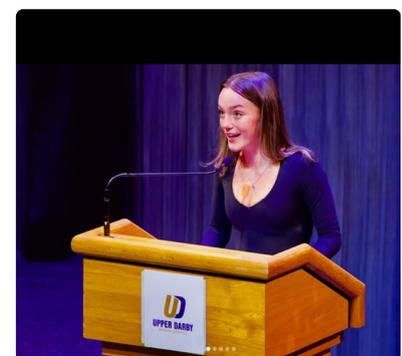
## Engineering Students Visit Boeing

This year Mr. Chris Phillips and several Upper Darby students-- Sukriti Kaur, Ryan Puth, Thomas Hong, Mohammed Rashid, Bounpan Sirirathasuk, Elwood Fahnbulleh, Ridwan Muntasir, Phillip Huynh, Ronald Crews, Nadia Eshika, Rian Osman, Jacob Aaron, and Fardin Bin Faruq--partnered with Boeing Helicopter in Ridley for a special program that allowed them to investigate many aspects of the manufacturing and aerospace industry. Boeing hosted the students from the Engineering II class for six workshops, which consisted of many tours of the Chinook and V-22 rotorcraft production lines, the composite manufacturing center, the wind tunnel, and other areas of facility, as well as workshops in assembly methods, modeling, and simulation. For the last 28 years, students enrolled in the engineering program have had the opportunity to participate in this same program, which requires them to develop their own product line and manufacturing facility. These students will present their "Factory of the Future" projects to parents, school administrators, and Boeing officials on Tuesday April 29.



## Women's History Month

March was Women's History Month, and Upper Darby High School celebrated with a special assembly featuring students speaking about the role women have played in the history of our nation! The assembly was organized by members of the Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society, and featured a number of topics, such as women's history month, women's suffrage, voter registration and modern and future activism. Student speakers were Farah Kamal, Taylor Williams, Audrey Scouten (pictured right), Cierra Brown (large picture at bottom), and Sara Siddiqi.





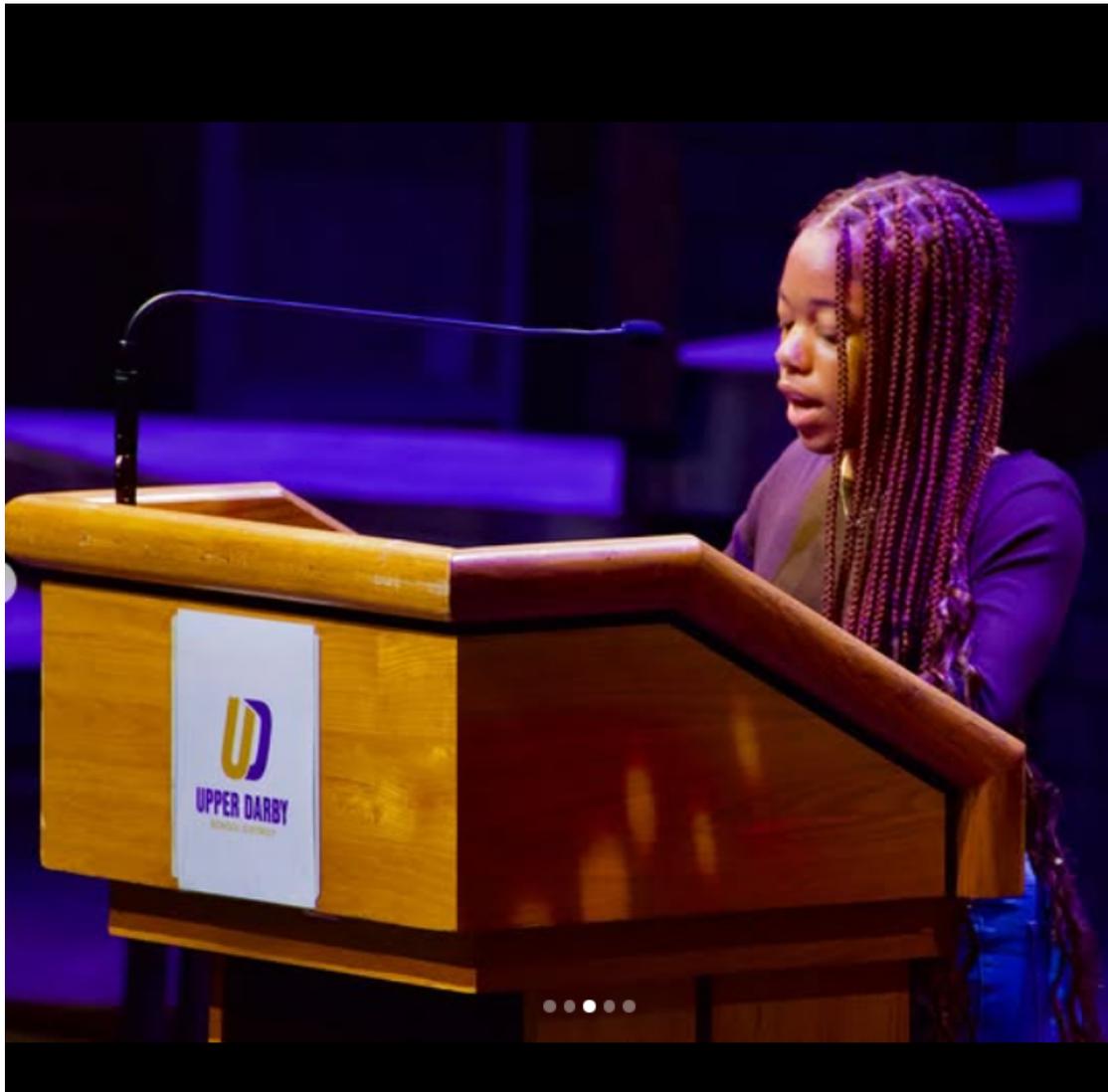
**Taylor Williams**



**Sara Siddiqi**



**Farah Kamal**



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## Artistic Achievements

### Keith Haring Mural

If walk in the hallway of the art wing, you'll see a very impressive mural. Inspired by artists Keith Haring and Mr. Doodle, it was designed and created by 9th grader Noah Kao.





**The Artist at Work**



**Working on His Masterpiece**



**A Corner View**

## National English Honor Society Awardees

Upper Darby High School Royal Oak Chapter members Khandakar Mahin and Cierra Brown were among the selectees (who include students from Rwanda, Mexico, Brazil, Puerto Rico, and Connecticut) for the National English Honor Society Convention Presentation Award this past March. Khandakar presented his paper "A Nietzschean Analysis of the Self-Overcoming of Claude Wheeler as *Übermensch*" in Willa Cather's *One of Ours*, while Cierra delivered her work "Molding the Macho: An Analysis of Strength and Vulnerability in Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe."



Opportunities for high school students to publicly showcase their talents and creativity are invaluable. The award provides prestigious recognition for students who excel in articulating their ideas and insights through engaging presentations, which are given at the [Sigma Tau Delta 2025 Convention](#) alongside high-achieving undergraduate and graduate students.

This year's Convention Presentation Award winners traveled to Pittsburgh, PA, and gave presentations on Willa Cather's [One of Ours](#) and Benjamin Alire Saenz's [Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe](#) to students and university faculty from around the world. In addition, attending students and chapter advisors met and hear from Pulitzer Prize-winning poet [Natalie Diaz](#), National Book Award-winner [Cynthia Kadohata](#), and PEN/Faulkner Award-winner [Benjamin Alire Saenz](#). They also participated in workshops led by [Diana Khoi Nguyen](#), [Cameron Barnett](#), [Sherrie Flick](#), [Billie Tadros](#), [Elias Kerr](#), and [Kassia Krone](#); enjoyed a series of social activities; and had time to explore Pittsburgh.



**Khandakar at the Podium**



**Cierra Presenting Her Paper**



**Enjoying the sights of Pittsburgh**

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## Art Honor Society Logo

Art student Shahil Rihad designed the winning entry in a contest that had students submit redesigns of the National Art Honor Society logo. Shahil redesigned the logo, submitted a beautiful design with the help of advisor critiques and student suggestions, and won the NATIONAL contest! This will be NAHS's new logo for the foreseeable future



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## Sports Corner

### Track Team Run to Victory

Congratulations to the following Upper Darby Royals track team members, who competed at the Nike Indoor Nationals meet from March 14 through March 16.

- Shuttle Hurdle Relay Championship - Daniel Chukwu, Abdoulaye Sangare, Gabriel Tsayo and Gabriel Olaniyi - 3rd!!! All-American Status!!! New School Record - 30.95
- 4x200: Daniel Chukwu, Joshua Sharp, Kareem Goode & Abdoulaye Sangare (15th) 1:31.47
- 800-meter Championship - Joshua Sharp - 7th! 1:53.71
- 4x200: Laela Middleton, Tajai Powell, Kadi Golembiewski, and Ovviah Lauderdale (14th) 1:45.84
- 4x400: Kadi Golembiewski, Laela Middleton, Tajai Powell, Alyssa Joseph (19th) 4:06.75
- 4x400: Kareem Goode, David Benda, Brayan Butler & Michael Olaniyi - all members PRd!

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## Teacher's Take

### Haley Keller Experiences Ramadan

This year I decided to try fasting for Ramadan in order to better understand the experience of my students. Leading up to my first week of fasting, I was honestly really nervous. When I thought about going a whole day (sunrise to sunset) without food or drink, I was not sure how I would be able to manage it. Truthfully, I could not manage it. My mood was down, my energy was nonexistent, and in the wake of spring sports beginning, I was the busiest I had been all year.

Needless to say, fasting did not last long for me because I found that in order to be the best possible support for my students and athletes, I would need to have a positive attitude and enough energy to continue to encourage them while they devoted themselves to their faith, which means I needed to eat. I stopped eating and drinking in front of my students and will continue this way until the end of Ramadan.

I spoke to one of my student athletes, Marian Konneh, who shared that she really loved seeing me try to fast. She said that she appreciated the intention to try and relate to students and their experience as the days during Ramadan are more difficult due to fasting and a disrupted sleep schedule. She said that the hardest part of Ramadan for her is that she has to convince herself that she is not hungry or thirsty, and it is even harder to see others eat while fasting.

I learned a lot about Ramadan from my students this year and I am so grateful for my students and athletes for answering my questions! While my fasting experience is done for this year, I might try it again next year!



**Dianne Zoccola**

Dianne is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters