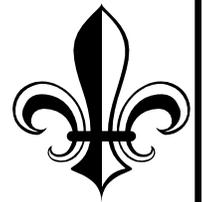




# Tower Tribune



Volume 208

Fordson High School

October 2014



Mark your calendars:

Homecoming - Oct 18th

Halloween - Oct 31st

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## Courtyard Celebration

By Salwa Bahreddine & Alaa Abouhashim

Three years of hard work paid off in a remarkable creation by, and for, the staff and students of Fordson High School. A flawless team effort, with Rajai Musleh of Picasso Design, produced Fordson's beautiful courtyard classroom. The opening of the courtyard was celebrated on Thursday, August 28th. Past alumni and staff attended as did current students and staff. There were addresses by Mr. Chadi Farhat and Mr. Musleh. While enjoying refreshments, and walking through the courtyard, guests admired the engraved pavers commemorating the legacies of individuals and groups associated with Fordson.

The concept of an outside classroom is unique and designed to incorporate a curriculum in an outdoor setting. As Mr. Musleh proudly informed us, "Fordson is one of only four schools in the nation to boast such a facility." With its beauty, design, and hard work, this courtyard embodies Fordson's Pride, Tradition, and Legacy.



# Clubs & Events

## Key Club - A Way of Life

By Marwa Hachem

Hey you! Yeah you! Are you always bored at home? Do you know what the remedy is? Join a club! But not just any club...Key Club!

Key Club stands for Kiwanis Education Youth Club. Club meetings take place every Thursday after school in the cafeteria at 2:30 and ends at 3pm. Activities run until 3:30. Anyone can join Key Club. It doesn't matter if your GPA is low or high, all that matters is that you are an active member and leader. What you will need is an application. The application along with a \$15 fee is required to be an official Key Clubber. The application is located on the blog ([iblog.dearbornschools.org/fhskc](http://iblog.dearbornschools.org/fhskc)).

Out of all the clubs in the state of Michigan, Fordson's Key Club is number one and is recognized with many awards. During the summer, Key Club held many fundraisers. Three fundraisers raised money for the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund (PCRF). The fundraisers were held at Midway, Yogurtopia,

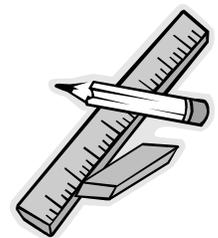
and Rams Horn. Key Club raised over \$2000 dollars for children in Palestine. "That's probably the best fundraiser we've done and it's so rewarding!" says Key Club Co-advisor, Mrs. Zriek. Other fundraisers include a book drive and Gleaners food bank.



"...This club is one that encourages character, building responsibility, caring for others in need, and building leadership skills to better enhance the community and themselves [The Key Clubbers]. I would definitely encourage anyone to join not only because you will become great leaders, but you will also help shape your community."



Fordson  
Open House &  
Family Festival



## Clubs & Events

### Dancing in Jaffa—Film Forward Event

**By Diane Habhab**

How many schools get an opportunity to meet a film director in person? What about viewing a film that made students realize that the world can be at peace?

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, a group of Fordson students screened *Dancing in Jaffa*, a film directed by Hilla Medalia. Due to a grant obtained by the University of Michigan from Film Forward, part of the Sundance Institute, the director and film were brought to the school for a screening and discussion session with the director. The film played in the afternoon at Fordson High School and in the evening at a reception at the Arab American Museum.

As they watched the documentary, students and staff were astonished that in just ten weeks one man, professional ballroom dancer Pierre Dulaine, taught 150 11 year old Jewish and Palestinian students to dance together. What seems impossible becomes a triumph, helping to break through cultural and political differences.

After the 90 minute film, the audience was able to ask Hilla Medalia questions about herself and her work. Questions ranged from the communication difficulties to the process of making the documentary to whether or not the dance program has continued. Here are some samples of Ms. Medalia's answers.

"I was born in Israel, and after the years of getting my career together, I decided to go back to my country. I was very surprised that there was a massive gap between the communities.

This issue made it [the dance project] very difficult. It took the schools six years for them to participate together because they each had different beliefs. Some people didn't want to participate in this so they stayed away. On the other hand, some parents viewed the dancing program as an opportunity for their children.

When you touch someone with respect, something changes. Pierre Dulaine working with the children didn't just teach them to respect others. This program involved communication, body language, etiquette, self-esteem, and self-respect. I took a small crew to help me film, and each crew member spoke different languages

which made it easy to communicate with the children.

The dancing competition is now grown to thirteen schools and will still keep developing. We shot for four months in Jaffa, but the full process took two and a half years to complete the documentary.

I'm amazed how this turned out successfully and that some of the parents have become friends. This film has been viewed around 50 countries, and now it's available on I-tunes."



The students and staff of Fordson who attended were very impressed with having this opportunity of watching a film with a message and meeting its director.

**Calling all FHS students to Room A 109! Come HELP us SAVE species WORLDWIDE!**

**ESA**

**Endangered Species Advocacy**



**"We stand for biodiversity, conservation, and the protection of species WORLDWIDE!"**  
**Organizations we support: WWF, Sierra Club, The Nature Conservancy, Humane Society**

**Meetings are EVERY other Tuesday at 2:30pm in Room A 109.**

# Sports

## Cross Country

By Ali Fakh

Coach Bruce and Coach Berry work hard to achieve the best for their runners. They are more than just trainers to their athletes; they are family as well. These two great coaches always make it fun for their hard working runners. Coach Bruce and Coach Berry are very positive and are always thinking of a great way to make an impact on the team.

*tations due to the athletes' constant work ethic day in and day out. Coach Berry and I are excited about the future of the Boys and Girls Cross Country program."*

### Is coaching cross country rewarding?

*"We have some talented athletes who are willing to dedicate themselves to becoming the best they can be. We both feel that coaching long distance runners is enjoyable and rewarding because of the athletes willingness to be coached."*

### What are your goals for the team?

*"Coach Berry and I have the athletes practice together every day. We enjoy working as a large group; it seems to bring our team closer together. Our expectations for the year are to compete for the league title and improve upon individual times each meet," says Bruce.*



### Have the runners met your expectations so far?

*"We have a very young team that has exceeded expect-*



## Athlete of the Month

By: Israa Ali

Mohammed Charara is a Fordson athlete, DCMST student, and this month's student athlete. His passion for running started when he was conditioning for basketball. Eventually, he grew to love distance running and being able to endure its rigor. Charara is coached by Coach Berry and Coach Bruce. His best time for the 5000 meter run this year is 18:10. He plans to possibly run marathons in the future. Charara says, "If people aren't laughing at your goals then they're not big enough. Failure is not an option."



### Fordson Football Starts Off Strong

The Fordson Football Team is currently 4-0 overall after defeating rival Dearborn High 35-0 on Friday, September 26th. They are 3-0 in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

**Teacher Spotlight!**

**By: Mohamed Ahmed**

There are many teachers and staff members here at Fordson High that work effortlessly. They all work hard and deserve the time to be recognized for everything they have done. With that said, one notable teacher who deserves the recognition is Ms. Memminger. Ms. Memminger teaches AP US Government here at Fordson and is one of its most respected individuals. Her enthusiasm and concern for her students has earned her the spotlight for this month.

**Alma Matter?**

*I have a BA in English from Wayne State University. I have a MA from Wayne State in Education and a MA in ESL from University of Michigan-Dearborn.*

**How long have you taught at Fordson?**

*I have been teaching in the district for 10 years, but only six at Fordson.*

**What’s your favorite part of being a teacher at Fordson?**

*The kids of course!*

**If you weren’t a teacher, what would you be?**

*No limits? I always wanted to work with Doctors without Borders, but I cannot stand blood. Otherwise, I would like to go back to being a staff writer at a magazine. I really liked having deadlines and pushing my writing further.*

**Any special skills/talents?**

*I am a master with a light saber. I recently found out I cannot shoot arrows well, but I can still stand on my head.*

**Quote you live by?**

*“It’s not who I am underneath, but what I do that defines me”- Batman*



**DID YOU KNOW FACTS**

**By: Mohamed Ahmed**

What is the only continent with no active Volcanoes?

- A. North America
- B. Australia
- C. Europe
- D. Africa

Where is the longest street in the world located?

- A. Russia
- B. China
- C. Canada

D. Mexico

All the blinking in one day equates to having your eyes closed for:

- A. 30 minutes
- B. 15 minutes
- C. 10 minutes
- D. 8 ½ minutes

What is the fastest healing part of the human body?

- A. Finger
- B. Tongue
- C. Ear
- D. Nose

What is the only King in a deck of cards that does not have a mustache?

- A. King of Diamonds
- B. King of Spades
- C. King of Clubs
- D. King of Hearts

Answers can be found in the showcase located where lower A and B halls meet.

# Reviews

## Where to Eat

**By Lara Nassar**

In the mood for sushi? Come and eat at Xushi Ko located on 16351 Ford Road in Dearborn.

The first time going into the restaurant I was hesitant about what to order, but I decided on spicy tuna crunch, Mexican, Lakers ball, hibachi vegetable rice, and some shrimp crunch Rolls.

The spicy tuna crunch was an appetizer, with jalapeños on top.

The Mexican was a spicy tuna, jalapeno, cilantro, avocado rolled and fried then topped with a spicy crab

mix, and spicy mayo.

Lakers ball had spicy tuna, jalapeno, cream cheese, shrimp tempura rolled, and topped with BBQ eel avocado.

Hibachi vegetable rice was grilled vegetables with eggs, rice, and shrimp.

The shrimp crunch roll had shrimp tempura, crab, avocado, cucumber topped with crunch bits, and aoli sauce.

The place was spotless with dub-step music playing in the background while you eat. The décor was nicely placed with glowing

lanterns hanging from the ceiling.

We had good service seeing as the waitresses would come to check up on us every once in a while to make sure we had everything we needed.

The best part? The rolls were cheaper AND tastier than the other high-priced sushi restaurants around the corner, so I highly suggest you come and dine at Xushi Ko!



## What to Read: "Tell Me Your Dreams"

**By Aya Beydoun**

Halloween is just around the corner, and people are pulling out the horror films and candy corn. Another way to get into the Halloween spirit is sit down with good old fashion horror novel. What book could get chills running down your spine?

None other than the rollercoaster mystery novel "Tell Me Your Dreams" by Sidney



Sheldon.

"Ashley, elegant yet haunted.

Toni, sultry as well as vivacious. Allette, lovely and totally without conceit. 3 Beautiful young women suspected of committing a series of horrifying murders." That is only the beginning. This book is a three part adventure following these women during a suspected murder, a trial, and intense rehab. Chapter after chapter is a new surprise, a new twist, and a new story. This gruesome novel will take you on a thrill ride unlike any other.

Part one of this haunting novel follows Ashley, Toni and Alette as they live out their lives and somehow, everywhere they go; there is a ghastly murder nearby. Part two is the epic court case attempting to bring justice to those murdered, and this case is the first of its kind. Part three is emotional turmoil in a mental hospital, attempting to cure the wrongs of the past.

Sheldon's story is captivating beyond words. People magazine calls him "The master of the storytelling game." The Associated Press agrees stating "When it comes to concocting plots full of twists, Sheldon has no peers."

This unforgettable story will have you on the edge of your seat on every page. The ending will leave you speechless. And the truth will disturb and haunt you for the rest of your life. So this October, if you're ready to be terrified, pick up "Tell Me Your Dreams".

## Original Work



### The Fall Of Autumn

By Alex Zapien

The rustling of leaf piles drowns the susurrus of changing colors.

Zippered coats, last minute rain boots, and questioned umbrellas under every arm.

The trees relishing in satisfaction as they start incidental conversations.

The once bygone days of early nights will soon emerge.

They shall not grow old, for whispers of the heart echo in the streets.

Reds, browns, yellows, all out on the shelves.

Costs exceeding revenue, advertisers have them on the run.

Casting polls into a water so sinister.

Caught at times without light the body shivers.

Somber shadows do not share in their silhouettes' exalted return.

### I'm From...

By Mirvat Chammout

I'm from brown wavy hair to rosy red cheeks

I'm from white dresses to flower petals

From red carpets to candle-lit tables

To crystal shoes and diamond tiaras

I'm from sunflower dresses to silver wraps

I'm from wishing on stars to blowing out candles

I'm from a royal past, to a normal present

I'm from shedding tears to broken hearts

From sad good-byes to new hellos

I'm from counting the days to dreading the years

I'm from gaining a new blessing to losing another

I'm from a regrettable past to an unforeseen future

From dreams unfulfilled to hopes unanswered



**Class of 2016 Election Results**

Congratulations to the following Juniors!

President: Diana Bazzi  
Vice President: Kassem Elsaghir  
Secretary: Mohammed Hammoud  
Treasurer: Hussein Mackie  
Senators: Billal Asoufy, Ahmed Tiguert, Zeinab Al-saady, and Celine Bazzi

**Class of 2018 Election Results**

Congratulations to the following Freshmen!

President: Rana Chouaib  
Vice President: Zainab Kadouh  
Treasurer: Amani Berry  
Secretary: Laila Hammoud  
Senators: Mohammad Majed, Hala Arkoub, Dunya Alhajar, Deanna Leila, Leena Alhawati, and Jamilah Zaban

**Class of 2017 Election Results**

Congratulations to the following Sophomores

President: Nour Saleh  
Vice President: Fatima Jomaa  
Secretary: Ali Al-zayadi  
Treasurer: Marwa Hachen  
Senator: Janine Thompson

Comic



Bald is Beautiful

Can you match each photo to the Fordson staff member listed on the right? Answers can be found in the showcase where lower A and B hall meet.

- Mr. Wyka
- Mr. Berry
- Mr. Farhat
- Mr. Harmon
- Mr. Elserly
- Mr. Delgiudice

