

Tower Tribune

Volume 223 **Fordson High School**

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Students Shine at Annual Fordson Talent Show

By: Reem Aburukba

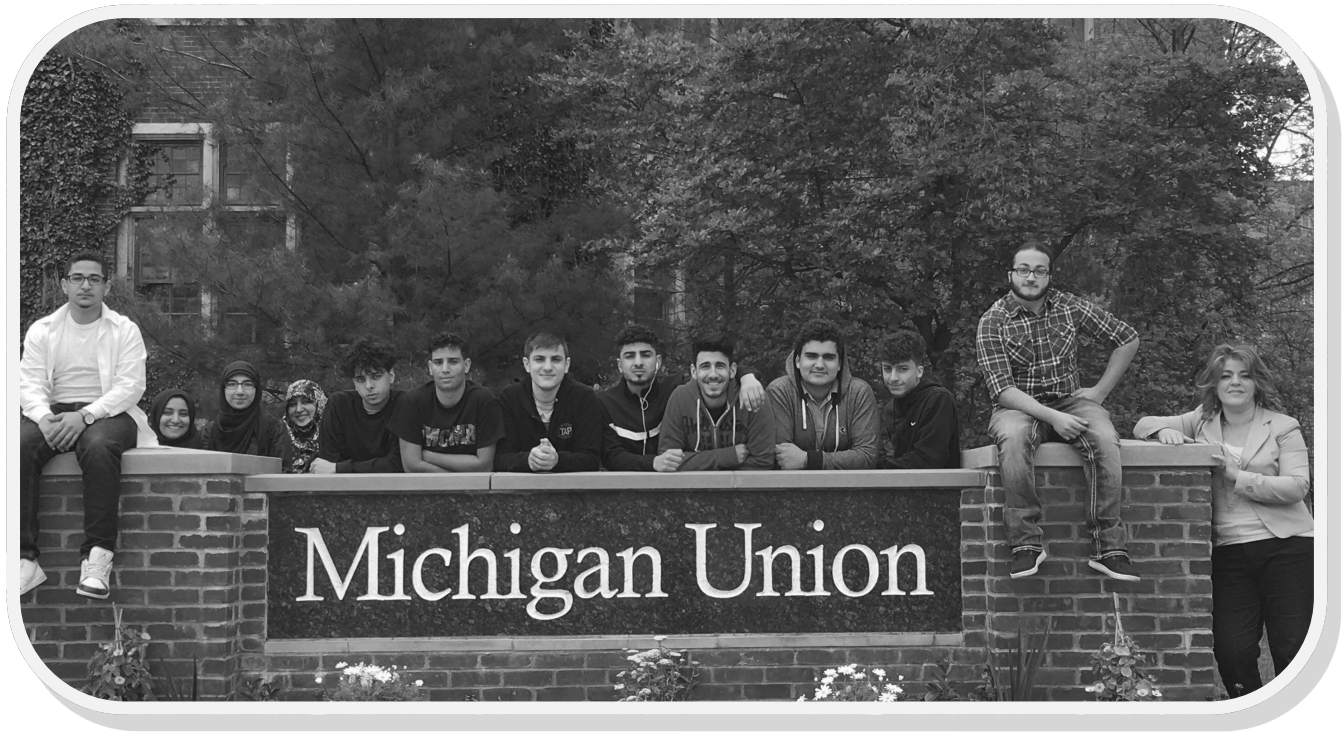
Fordson sure does have talent from singers and dancers to pianists, a poet, and an impressionist. We showcased its true talent on Friday, May 13th. The evening was filled with throwback hits and gone viral dance moves which never failed to hype up the audience. The show was also overflowing with comedic banter by the three hosts: Omar Carcora, Mohammed Hammoud, and Ali Jomaa. From their witty Arab skits, a roast session, and a surprise "promposal" by Omar, they succeeded in making us laugh every step of the way. The show opened up with a powerful and poetic per-



formance by Wafa Berry and her poem about the hardships of being a person of Arab heritage and Muslim faith in today's day and age. However, the show began to lighten up after that with performances by Ameer the Impressionist (second place), DJ the Dancer who can do the splits better than any Fordson student ever could (first place) and Fatima Al-rebaie who sang a beautiful rendition of Adele's

'Hello' (third place). The show was brimming to the top with modern songs played on the piano by Ali Zbib, a Justin Bieber hit sung by Ali Sareini, and mind-blowing dance moves by Wael and his many female companions. The finale was also absolutely spectacular with Safwan Nasser dancing to the many hits of this decade. This article hasn't even come close to describing the excitement and talent that was involved in making the show happen, you just had to be there to experience it.

11th Graders Get Taste of Michigan Campus Life



On Wednesday, May 10th several 11th grade Fordson students spent the day touring the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor. The tour introduced the students to many of the university's academic programs and what life on campus is like during the school year.

Sports--Did You Know?

By:Fatima Elmoukahal

- 1.The game of volleyball was invented in 1895 by William G. Morgan.
- 2.Most volleyball players jump about 300 times a match.
- 3.The maximum salary in the WNBA is \$101,500; the NBA is over \$20 Million.
- 4.The New York Yankees have won 26 World Series Title which is more than any other team.
5. In women's golf Patty Berg won the first U.S. Women's Open in 1946.
- 6.The Dallas Cowboys hired the NFL's first professional cheerleading squad in 1972.
7. The silhouette on the Major League Baseball logo is Harmon Killebrew.
- 8.Boxing became a legal sport in 1901.
- 9.Australian Rules football was originally designed to give cricketers something to play during the off season.
- 10.Soccer is the most attended or watched sport in the world.

Fordson Softball

Coach James Carter of the Fordson Softball Team is very much impressed so far with the girls season. The team's success lies in, "Playing together as a unit is the key to our success. Also, we try and make the best use of our practice time, where everyone is engaged."

"The top teams in our league this year are Romulus and Crestwood which both moved into our division, and are very good teams with fine coaching. We need to focus on the fundamentals like pitching, hitting and fielding. We have a very good group of girls this season who have great chemistry." Top Batting averages so far this season include:

Ayah Massiri .550 scored 10 runs, 8 RBIs Captain

Diala Elhallak .448, scored 16 runs, Captain

Niveen Dabaja .406, scored 12 runs, 5 RBIs Captain

Layla Sabrah .545, Scored 10 Runs, 2 RBIs Sophomore

Zihan Sayed (Junior) is our primary pitcher this season and has showed continued growth in that position. Niveen Dabaja is also our pitcher that excels at the plate. Diala Elhallak is our 4 year varsity player who is a true leader on the field. Good Luck Lady Tractors in Districts.

Senior Quotes

Advice to Incoming Freshmen:

"Don't be taken in by temptation, think only of your priorities." ~Sophia Nazal

"Always stay on top of your game! Colleges will always look at your freshmen year."

~ Hassan Bazzi

"As freshmen we all struggled coming to a new school with so many students. I would like to tell all you incoming freshmen that if you don't get the grade you want, it doesn't mean you don't have a chance to fix it!" ~Somaia Ali

"Never give up because freshmen year is the core pillar of success for any student."

~Kathem Bazzi

"Make good friends, create positive habits, focus on your studies, and prepare yourself for whatever comes your way." ~Hadeel Akhdar

Most memorable experiences:

"My favorite memory in Fordson is when Mr. Dicks dressed up as Santa Claus for Christmas."

~Anonymous

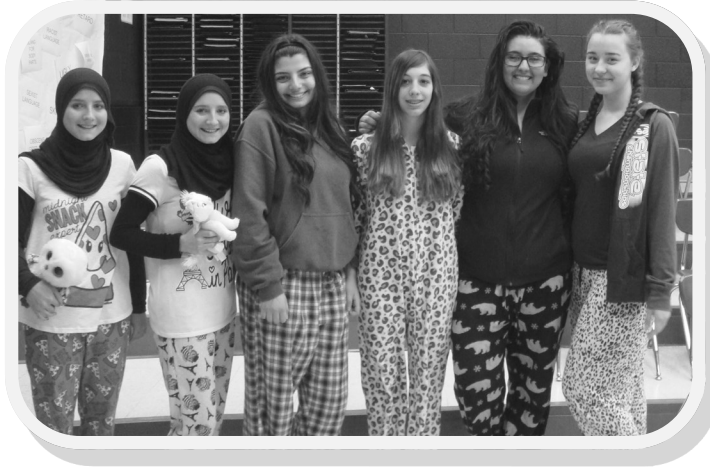
"What I'll never forget is that my teachers threw a surprise party for me on my birthday this year."

~Mirvat Chammout

"My favorite memory at Fordson was when we were sent home for the day, which was proceeded by 2 days off...though many students had their stuff stuck inside."

~Anonymous

"When I was a junior and on the football team, we went undefeated for the first time in 5 years and we almost beat Cass Tech. That says a lot." ~Mohamed Hamka



Fordson Embraces Pride, Tradition, and Legacy Through Spirit Week

During the week of May 9th Fordson showed its colors through spirit week. The week was broken up into 5 themes based on the day of the week: pajama, mix and match, Batman v. Superman, fan, and jersey days. Student and staff participation was at an all time high and the event concluded with some outstanding performances at the annual Talent Show on Friday, May 13th.





Fordson Key Club Travels to Costa Rica

Ali Tarhini

During Spring Break, the Fordson Key Club partnered up with Rustic Pathways in a service trip to Costa Rica, where students who are Key Clubbers participated in a variety of projects that included the improvement of school property, planting trees, revamping a nursery garden and green house at UNED (National State University at Distance), and even teaching English to school aged students. Key Club advisor Ms. Zriek describes how the members on the trip were constantly motivated, compassionate, caring, and hard working. Secretary Safa Khalil says, “I learned many things about culture in Costa Rica at the same time being open about my own”. Performing all of these projects introduced the students to the Tico culture and the true meaning of service.

Key clubbers were involved in two major projects. The first was the Green Initiatives, a project sponsored by UNED, that involved help in the nursery garden and greenhouse project. Costa Ricans were devoted to the research and production of different plants used by different institutions such as schools, colleges, community associations, etc. This project’s purpose was to beautify the community, produce new agriculture, and create products that could be used commercially. The roles of Key Clubbers included the collection of seeds, research, inventory of greenhouse plants, fertilization, reforestation, recycling, and learning of medicinal plants.

The second major project included joining forces with students of the San Francisco School in an effort to learn the English language. Key Clubbers also discussed school life with other students.

This trip wouldn’t be a trip without some kind of reward. Outside of Key Club services, students had the chance to visit natural hot springs, zip line, and hike through the jungle to the glamorous waterfalls.

The communities of Costa Rica have encouraged students to take initiative into caring for the environment and helping one other. This trip definitely impacted students in a way where they can now be able to apply their academics into “real-world context”. Vice President of Key Club Ali Fakih says, “teaching students English taught me to never waste a minute of education”.

If you see any Key Club members who attended the trip, congratulate them as they have done a remarkable job of showcasing their pride, tradition, and legacy.

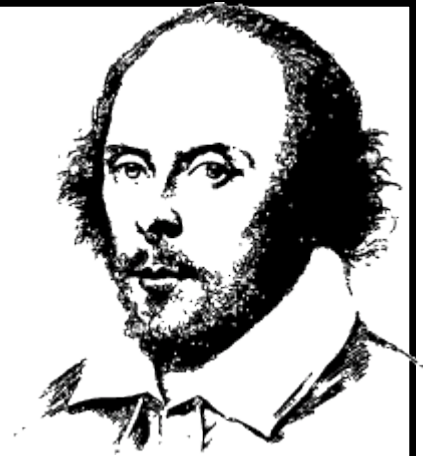


Come to the
Spring POPS!
Concert Presented
By the
Fordson Choir
Tuesday, May 24th
At
7 p.m.

The Bard Returns to Fordson

On Friday, May 20, the Michigan Shakespeare Company performed in Fordson's auditorium. They put on *Romeo and Juliet* for a select group of students. The performance was an exciting one as the audience watched the classic characters come to life. Swords rang in the auditorium as the Capulets and Montagues played out their roles in the tragedy.

This is the second time that the Michigan Shakespeare Company has performed at Fordson. Last year, they entertained the audience with *Macbeth*. If you missed this event and if you are interested in Shakespeare, you might want to check out the Michigan Shakespeare Festival this summer in Jackson, Michigan.



National Honor Society Updates

By: Nesreen Saad

The National Honor Society is a club where selected members serve their community by helping out with multiple forms of community service. Each year the seniors are required to complete a senior project. NHS has done a lot this year with the help of their new advisor, Mrs. Mouhanna. From helping tutor elementary kids daily to helping Syrian refugees, NHS has really helped the community. Recently, NHS elected a new board for next year and applications went out to induct new members to the club. The last meeting on April 25th the club members voted for their board and are now anticipating a new year with new opportunities to serve. Good luck to those who turned in an application and we can't wait to see what NHS members do next!



Girls' Tennis Spotlight with Mr. Nack

By: Mohammed Hamid



Spring has come around the corner again, and with it, Girls' Tennis has returned. I recently got a chance to speak with Mr. Nack, coach of the Varsity Girls' Tennis Team, to receive his analysis on the season.

Mr. Nack, what do you enjoy the most about coaching tennis at Fordson?

I really enjoy getting to know the players better and being able to have fun and joke around with them outside of the classroom. I enjoy being a part of my players' lives, watching them become better people and players.

How would you say this team compares to teams that you have coached in the past?

We have a pretty experienced team this year, with most positions filled by seniors, and are pretty competitive. We are a little more skilled in our doubles this year which is a strength we have relied on.

What would you say are your team's biggest strengths?

Our biggest strengths are our doubles teams. I can usually expect them to win a majority of our doubles matches. Also, we have been pretty successful at 2 and 3 singles in our league.

What would you say are the biggest weaknesses of the team and how do you plan on strengthening them?

We run into trouble with teams that have a lot of depth in their singles. We have improved-in singles this year, and that is what it is. We just need to play matches and practice hard. When we do that then we will start to overcome our weakness.

What do you believe was the best match or moment of the year?

We beat DHS 5-3 a few weeks ago. I consider that our best win of the season. It is the first time we have defeated them in 3 years. It was a really good win for us. I was very happy and proud of the team.

What was the funniest moment of the year?

Usually practices are pretty fun. The girls are always talking about something, or doing something that makes me laugh. We try to make tennis somewhat relaxed and a fun place to be.

What advice do you have for tennis players during the off-season?

Practice, Practice, and Practice. Tennis is a reflex sport and the only way to improve in it is to play. I recommend for all tennis players to get a friend and just go out and play. If they can't find a friend to play with, then go hit a ball against a wall. It will make them better players.

Thank you so much for your time Mr. Nack. Good luck with the rest of your season.

Senior Scholarship Opportunities

To all seniors that are PTSA members ONLY don't forget to apply for the Fordson PTSA Scholarship. The deadline to submit the application is May 26th, you can pick up the application in the counseling office or see Mrs. Zeidan.

Ali Hachem Memorial Scholarship applications are now available in the counseling office. Application deadline is May 26th and should be submitted to Mrs. Allie in A98.

Stefan Wanczyk Foundation Scholarship Application is available in the counseling office. Deadline is May 31, 2016.

Ghassan Kanafani Scholarship available to Palestinian-American youth. Information and to apply online at <http://us12.campaign-archive1.com/?u=2cd9b0d17516e9604ebd07478&id=c1f80e17e4&e=1b851b0745> Deadline is June 1, 2016

Aspiring Fashion and Animation Scholarship. This particular scholarship is intended if you are going to pursue a career in animation or fashion. Deadline June 1, 2016. Information available online and in the counseling office.



The 2016 Fordson graduation ceremony will be held on Thursday, June 16th at 6:00 on the Fordson Football Field.

“Take On Hate” Campaign

Ali Tarhini

Fordson students ranging from grades 9-12 traveled to Washington D.C to participate in a campaign that encourages the uniting of all races and ethnicities. The trip was meant to show that students could partake in a campaign and voice their views on political issues. The theme of this campaign was based upon immigration issues that affect Mexican immigrants. This whole trip was sponsored by the National Network for Arab American Communities and headed by Rachid Elabed, an advocacy and civic engagement specialist, who is committed to giving youth the opportunity to voice their opinions across the country. Students had the honor of meeting United States Senator Gary Peters and United States Representative Debbie Dingell to discuss issues within society that effect high school students. Minorities were able to gather and fight for the same cause, even though immigration criticism is not directed toward other races and ethnicities. Participants of this campaign, Ali Fakhri and Safa Khalil, agree that this trip taught them that one voice can change the world and that it is our responsibility as citizens of the U.S to speak up about racism whether it is targeted against you or anybody else. Fakhri describes that his experience seeing other minority groups unite together was, “definitely an eye opening experience”. Mrs. Zriek, Key Club advisor and campaign participant agrees that, “Our students represented their home, school, and community in the best of ways” by participating in such a campaign.

