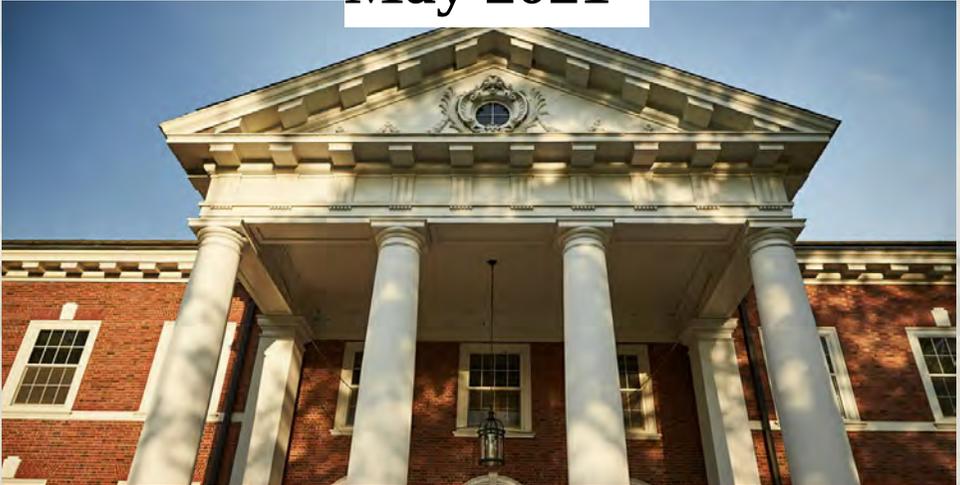


# Issue #5 of *the Voice*

*Vaccinated & Ready For Vacation*

**May 2021**



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**Trevon Bobo '21**



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**\* Articles written by guest contributors from Mr. Doherty's ALT-Journalism Class! Special thanks to everyone who was willing to share their work!**

# Bonnie's Farewell Note



*Before I graduate, I want to thank everyone who has read The Voice during my two-year time as Editor-in-Chief. You all breathe life into our team, and you are the reason that we are expanding with more and more people who have an interest or a perspective that they want to share through the newspaper. Thank you for being the audience for this. As Cate Cody takes over as Editor-in-Chief, please continue to be a loyal reader, consider joining in on the production side, and most importantly, enjoy the issues to come! Thank you so very much for a wonderful two years (of leading) and for four years of working with The Voice! Our team could not have done this without you.*

*- Bonnie Sneider '21*

# What's the Scoop? Meeting the MICDS Dining Team!

By Bonnie Sneider



Photos courtesy of <https://www.micds.org/news/article/fliks-fabulous-to-go-lunch-service/>

Recently, I had the opportunity to interview our Executive Chef, Mr. Ryan Luke! It was great hearing from a member of our community who plays such an important behind-the-scenes role that definitely deserves more attention. I hope you enjoy reading through these responses and getting to know how the MICDS Dining team operates as a whole, especially during COVID-19. Their work has truly been incredible.

## **1. What is your favorite part of feeding students here at MICDS?**

“The kids are really great and are pretty expansive on their palettes, so they don’t mind trying new things. We try to push the envelope a little bit – some of it is well received, and sometimes they want the same things they’ve been having for a while. The kids all say thank you when they come through, and it’s always fun to see them.”

## **2. How can you tell if a meal was successful?**

“It’s a number thing. We can really see the difference - the workload for the cold side really goes up if the kids are not eating the hot food. It’s beneficial to us to make sure that there is [hot food] that they want to eat because it evens out the workflow for the whole team.”

## **3. How do you and your team choose daily food combinations? What process do you go through?**

“We have some guidelines that we have to stick to from Flik, which is the company that I work for. On Cinco de Mayo, it was encouraged that we do some kind of Mexican

or Hispanic food for the day. Some of this is company led, but some of this is talking to Scott from the Middle School and Lou (long-time chef here) about what the kids like. On a general basis, I try to do some seasonal things and more springy and fresh salads, using what's local and available now."

#### **4. What is the hardest food item to prepare?**

"Making the chicken tenders from scratch and hand breading them. Last time we did 220 lbs of chicken tenders, and it takes someone all day to do the breading. And that was barely enough! We know that all of the kids are going to come through and want chicken tenders, if not two boxes. Making sure things are crispy is difficult because things are sitting in a box because of COVID-19."

#### **5. What has been the greatest challenge that COVID-19 has posed on dining?**

"The amount of packaging and labeling – you are touching everything two or three times to label it (with clean hands, of course) instead of finishing it and



putting on a tray. It is almost one person's job to come in first thing in the morning and label all of the boxes. When we did tacos, we did about 470 tacos boxed up, so we had to print out stickers and go through each box. There's a huge amount of labor taken out of daily production just to get boxes and bags ready. Once it's all ready, lunch service is so much smoother. We do two waves of kids and about 300 a wave, and it only takes 15-20 minutes for them to come through [per wave]. Making sure it's all hot and ready to go to be grabbed quickly is probably the biggest challenge. The amount of waste that we are creating is not ideal, but it's kind of what has to happen now."



## **6. What are the roles in the kitchen?**

“Usually, it’s kind of like a French system – that’s what most kitchens go as. There’s the executive chef, and then the sous chef who is second in command. I (the executive chef) delegate to, and then he watches over the lead cook, and there are chefs and cooks after that. We have what we call a garde manager, which is mainly our cold food production (salads and sandwiches).”

## **7. How do you make the S’more bars and Flik chips so good?**

“We fry the chips every morning and season them! We heat heavy cream up to make a ganache and then fold in chocolate chips to make the chocolate on the S’more bars. Lou does a lot of packaging – almost 450 desserts every day. That’s a lot of putting things in bags, but he’s gotten pretty good at it! It’s almost a job itself to prevent the bags from sticking to your gloves.”

“The s’mores bars are pretty tasty, especially in late Fall. The gluten free chocolate chip cookies (which are also dairy free) and the key lime pie are also very good.”

## **9. What is one fun fact about MICDS dining?**

“It’s been quite the introduction to the new job! I’ve only been here for 6 months and it’s a great school. I really like the community feel that they’ve developed here and how nice and interactive everyone is and how willing they are to talk.”

## **10. How does the labeling work?**

“We print 30 at a time. We have to hand type all of them, copy and paste, and then print out whatever we will need that day. It’s almost my job in the mornings to make signs and labels for everything that we’ll need that day. We go through about 3,000 labels every 2-3 days, so almost 1,000 labels a day. It’s a lot of stickering, which is something that hasn’t been a part of kitchen life until now!”

***A big thank you to Mr. Luke and his team for a delicious school year!!***

# The Mystery of the MICDS Athletics Announcer

By Ava Mandoli



At the beginning of each and every game on MICDS's O'Hara Field, a distinctive voice echoes across the stadium, announcing each player's name and number with unmatched enthusiasm. Despite the important role this announcer plays in boosting team spirit and supporting MICDS players, his identity remains unknown by almost everyone. This influential yet largely anonymous figure is a man named Marshall Newman, the Assistant Athletics Director of the Athletics Department. "He loves announcing starting lineups, so I appreciate you asking the question!", said MICDS's

Athletics Director, Mr. Smith. Marshall Newman has been working as the Assistant Athletics Director at MICDS for 6 years, and previously he coached college basketball for 11 years. After the national anthem at the start of games, Newman introduces the members of the guest team one by one. Then, dramatic music begins to fade in from speakers surrounding Ron Holtman Stadium. "And now, please welcome... *your* MICDS

RAMS!" His enthusiasm is felt by players and fans alike, and waves of applause come from the stands as he announces each MICDS player by name, number, and grade. Varsity Girls' Soccer captain Estephania Estrada says "I know (the announcer's voice) so well I can mimic it... Having an announcer at our stadium makes our home games that much more special." Not only does Newman announce team players, he also enthusiastically informs the crowd when a goal has been scored, who scored it, and what the current score is. He does this work from

the James A. Baur press box, which is above the stands of Ron Holtman Stadium.

Newman's announcing career began when he was 23 years old, when he was hired for a summer job as an emcee for a sports marketing firm. In his undergraduate education, he pursued a degree in communications with an emphasis on media. During this job, Newman described how "every week during the summer, we would go to a different town and put on basketball this job, Newman described how "every week during the summer, we would go to a different town and put on basketball tournaments outside on streets and in parking lots." The company was in need of someone to take over the microphone in order to direct traffic and announce scores, and, as Newman describes it, "I was like, 'Well, I've got a degree in communications.' And they said, 'Alright, here's the mic, go for it!'" Now, Newman announces for MICDS's soccer, lacrosse, and

and volleyball teams.

"I like to play music behind [my announcements] and try to get everybody fired up." Annalisa Goot, a senior, recently attended an athletic event in the stadium and described how "the announcer makes [the games] so wonderful" and emphasized that it was "one of my favorite parts of the experience." Newman's mentality is that "If I'm gonna do it, let's get the kids and everybody fired up and have some fun!"

Besides being the announcer at games, Mr. Newman is also responsible for much more work within the Athletics Department. When he's not busy being the Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach, his responsibilities include scheduling all the home games and tournaments for every team on campus, informing security about games, and handling the coordination of facilities. Ultimately, it is this behind-the-scenes work that enables MICDS's athletic events to run smoothly every day.

**“Out there somewhere,  
someone’s gonna love ya!” -  
Behind the Scenes of *Honk! Jr***



Photo Courtesy of Aanya and Allison

*Honk Jr.*, a musical version of The Ugly Duckling fairytale, is the only MICDS theater production to be performed outside due to the pandemic. Understandably, the rehearsals came with a lot of challenges and new experiences. In the beginning weeks, the focus was on vocals and choreography. For an hour long show, almost every scene had a dance number; the most complicated song was upwards of ten pages. Running through choreography eventually became rigorous as we ran numbers endlessly, all to make sure everything was clean.

By Aanya Tiwari and Allison Pfefferkorn



While masks weren’t much of an issue, it took a lot to get used to performing outside. Without mics, it was easy to miss cues. We also couldn’t account for weather complications like wind that would cause pieces of the set to fly away or muddy soil that would stain the costumes.

The latter was a major issue, as costumes are integral to the show, with a lot of them being at least partially white. Since all-- or most-- of the cast were birds, one can imagine the number of loose feathers that ended up on the



hoto Courtesy of Aanya ad Allison

ground. Rather than going for the literal “bird” route, the costume designers instead assigned various outfit elements to specific birds. For example, a lot of the girls wore big puffy skirts to resemble plumage. Jackson Chou, being a mallard, wore a green jumpsuit while our cat, Kate Slone, wore a leather jacket. Most actors played multiple characters, so there were several quick changes with varying levels of success. Of course, with practice came improvement, and we couldn’t have done it without our tech crew.

Regardless of the numerous challenges we faced, the memories we made will last a lifetime. *HONK!* brought together a diverse and inclusive community of individuals of different ages and backgrounds, forming great friendships. Perhaps



hoto Courtesy of Aanya ad Allison

the BTS chaos, including missing props, broken set pieces, costume changes, and mess ups, was definitely the most fun set of memories for all of us.

It goes without saying that Ms. Hood created this fun loving and interactive environment in all our practices with her undying energy and zest for performance and creativity. We are convinced Ms. Hood can effortlessly pull off a “one-woman HONK!”. Monday evenings aren’t the same when you’re not told to, “STOP FLIRTING!” by Ms. Hood. *And on that note, here are some of our cast’s reflections:*

“The show was so well casted and everyone was so supportive! Definitely the highlight of my year.” - **Jada Greer.**

“Our show was without a doubt the best outdoor high school production of Honk Jr. done during a pandemic in recent history.” - **Jackson Chou.**

“I got to make some new friends and get closer to some old ones. This was definitely chaotic, but a lot of fun! I’m going to miss the cast.” -

**Gracie Rollo**

“*Honk* has been a wonderful experience!! I will admit, I did feel a bit like a freshman—I got to meet so many new people, and the whole outdoor-theatre process was very new to me. I’ve loved learning alongside this cast and crew, and I’m so excited to see all the things they do in the future!! They are truly the best of the best. My experience with MICDS theatre as a whole has been so much fun, and moving on is bittersweet. I’ve had so many wonderful opportunities here, and I am so incredibly grateful for everything Ms. Hood, Mr. Huber, and Mr. Purlee have taught me.” -

**Mimi Brown**



photos courtesy of Aanya and Allison

# Upper School Diversity Conference

By **Cate Cody**



On Friday, April 16th, the MICDS iDentity club, co-headed by Lauren Douglas '22 and Amani Hendricks '22, hosted this year's upper school diversity conference. While in years past the conference has been held in person and in conjunction with other schools across the St. Louis area, the 2021 conference moved to a new platform in order to accommodate for Covid-19 regulations: Zoom! This year's conference, titled "Putting the Pieces Back Together: Unifying the Community," focused on addressing important social issues while bringing the community together.

The conference ran for three hours, from 10:00am to 1:00pm, and began with an introduction from student facilitators, before splitting up into breakout rooms for small group discussions. Each breakout room had two presentations, covering topics

such as disproportionate effects of Covid 19, polarization surrounding the election, and social media's effect on social justice.



In an interview with *The Voice*, iDentity Club co-head Lauren Douglas shared that the diversity conference took on additional significance this year due to recent events. "With all the things that have happened over the summer,



social justice is a topic that I am becoming a lot more interested in. I was glad that everyone could hear different ideas and also share their own ideas because I think that sometimes we are a little afraid to speak our minds,” she explained.

At the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, Lauren and Amani weren’t completely sure how the event would look due to the pandemic. However, by November 2020, they began planning for the virtual event and coordinating with facilitators, eventually finishing preparations over spring break.

A member of the iDentity club since her freshman year, Lauren explained that being able to host the conference despite the immediate obstacles was no easy task, but getting to have meaningful conversations that aren’t always addressed in classroom settings made it worth it. “For me

made it worth it. “For me personally, it meant a lot,” she said.

**Amelia Markwell ‘22**, who served as a breakout room facilitator, shared that “When Lauren and Amani asked me to present at the beginning of the school year I was thrilled. Being a part of so many protests over the summer helped me tremendously when sharing my experience and knowledge to those who came to the conference.” Amelia led a presentation on combating political polarization in the tense social climates lingering after the recent election. One of the things she focused on in her presentation was differentiating between a protest and a riot. “I think that with both the 2016 and 2020 election being so split-ended, it’s important to educate our youth both politically, and historically,” she explained.

**Ima Ekpelu ‘22** presented on the disproportionate effects of Covid-19 on people of color. She shared how she enjoyed “being able to hear different opinions and being part of the conversation” as a facilitator. “I liked teaching them

what is going on in the world,” she added.

**Selina Balci '22** found the presentation on social media and media bias especially impactful, saying “We looked at headlines from news sources reporting on Black Lives Matter protests, and analyzed ways in which its portrayal of the protests could influence readers' perceptions. It was very eye-opening to hear from different perspectives, all adding to the fact that every word has significance, and caters to a specific political agenda.” The presentation highlighted the importance of social media in current events and public opinion. While social media is often seen as something negative by older generations, it plays an integral role in social justice issues. “There is definitely skepticism from older people towards high schoolers who use social media a lot, so it was refreshing to hear how students of our age group view social media,” Selina explained.

After the small group discussions, breakout rooms closed and

participants returned to the main session for a larger discussion with Head of Upper School Mr. Small and Dean George about finding ways to continue a dialogue about important social issues, as well as finding ways to communicate with the lower school.

Dean George shared his experience with *The Voice*, saying “It was extremely enjoyable to participate in the diversity leadership conference last week. What was most enjoyable, was to see our amazing students be open and emotionally vulnerable when discussing the impact and solutions to the challenges that St. Louis, Missouri and the US face when combating prejudice and bias. I know the road is long and challenging, but I am heartened to see young adult change makers step up and make their voices heard. Our MICDS community will be better when we listen and act upon their advice.”

Next year, pandemic allowing, Lauren and Amani hope to host the event in person and resume collaboration with students from other schools. “We are really excited for next year,” Lauren concludes. Going forward, they hope to continue having meaningful conversations while bringing the community together within MICDS and the St. Louis area as a whole.

# Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Hood!

**By Shivani  
Devrapally**



Ms. Carolyn Hood has been teaching Upper School acting students and directing MICDS plays and musicals for 29 years now since she first came to the school in 1990 and began directing the Orthwein Theatre Company. Her favorite food is fondue and her biggest pet peeve is people who don't return their shopping carts to the cart drop off. Her favorite thing about teaching is the moment of realization when her students have "an acting epiphany" and understand their character. "There's a moment every actor has when they slip into their role and really become the person they are playing." Ms. Hood recently directed the Upper School musical *Honk* which took place outdoors at the bonfire field (see Aanya and Allison's piece on this!) and her most memorable acting experience was when she was directed by

Steven Spielberg in *Harry and the Hendersons*.

**Q: *What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?***

A: "I love gardening, opera, my koi pond, and interfering in my son's life as much as possible."

**Q: *What was the best place you ever vacationed?***

A: "Prague."

**Q: *What's something on your bucket list that you haven't had a chance to finish yet?***

A: “Playing Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*.”

**Q: What was your second career choice if you hadn’t been an actress or a teacher?**

A: “A veterinarian.”

**Q: Favorite quote?**

A: “‘Try again. Fail Again. Fail Better’ by Samuel Beckett. Not only does it apply to all life, I find it super directed to making acting choices.”

**Q: What would you say is an interesting fact about yourself that not many people know?**

A: “I studied ancient Greek for four years.”

Ms. Hood is a remarkable teacher that brings an excellent energy to her class and is always excited about whatever she is teaching. She contributes greatly to the school community and is a fabulously extra person who is driven by her need to succeed and to teach her students what acting is all about.

**Thank you, Ms. Hood!**

# The Diamond Dynasty of MICDS Lacrosse

By **Trevon Bobo**



The Diamond Dynasty, MICDS Men's lacrosse team looks to capture their 7th consecutive Missouri state championship title this spring.

Led by senior captains Crawford Bundy, Joe Nicpon and Will Kacmarek the MICDS Men's team is off to a magnificent 5-0 record with an out of state win against Memphis University School.

Most recently the Rams defeated the CBC Cadets, defending home turf with an impressive 19-8 victory remaining the top unbeaten team in the state of Missouri.

The Rams, who once beat the CBC Cadets in a 2014 State Championship overtime thriller have won 7 straight state championships since, making them the top dogs in Missouri and making them a top ranked team in the Midwest. Throughout the years MICDS has been home to some of the nation's top lacrosse players with three All-Americans

in 2019 and one this year with senior captain Crawford Bundy. Bundy has recently announced this fall his commitment to play at Georgetown University where he will follow in the footsteps of his older brother Graham Bundy Jr.



With last year's season cut short due to the restrictions of play from COVID-19 the Rams are picking up right where they left off, steam rolling competition in their first five contests with their closest game being by a five goal margin.

Legendary Coach Andy Kay has added many new faces around

the program in the 2021 spring season. Most recently with the addition of Coach Fred Bouchard who took over in his first season as the Rams head football coach this fall. Coach Bouchard comes from a long history of winning in football with five Missouri State championship victories. Coach Bouchard, no stranger to winning, says that, "The culture of excellence in MICDS Lacrosse is outstanding and it's not a surprise that success surrounds that program because of the daily work of the individuals in the program, both players and coaches."

With the perfect combination of hard working players and excellent coaches the MICDS Lacrosse program has been able to be one of the states most dominant teams across all sports.

Senior defenseman Bobby Byrne added that "a big reason for our success this year has been the offseason commitment that everyone on the team has made to get into the weight room. On top of that we have excellent coaches that prepare us for everything and

drive us to have incredibly competitive practices that help us get closer to achieving our goals".

The MICDS men's lacrosse team is currently the third ranked team in the Midwest region.

# Chasing History

## MICDS Men's Track and Field Go for their First State Title

By Nate Smith .



This spring, the MICDS men's track and field team, led by Coach Lohr, is in pursuit of their first Missouri state championship in school history.

One newcomer senior of the men's track and field team, Deshawn Sutton, explains "We are in it for the long haul, I think we are leading and will finish on top as we conclude our season." This is Deshawn's first year running on the team and has been learning and improving in events such as the 100m, 4x100m, along with throwing the javelin.

Even though this is one of Deshawn's first years on the team; he has already stepped up, leading many of his teammates by example with his hard work each practice. He believes "we are looking determined, fast, and confident as we progress through the season."

The Head Coach of the track and field program, Coach Jim Lohr, has led the men's and women's team to many successful seasons; recently winning a state title on the women's side in 2018. Coach Lohr feels "this may be the best group of sprinters we have ever had in my 26 years."

Coach Lohr has also been impressed with Jalen Pace, a first year senior on the track team that has been showing great improvement. Lohr explains "everyday I see him at practice getting better, I wish he had started earlier in our sport with us."

Lastly, Coach Lohr knows "it takes absolute perfection in performance along with a little luck." Winning the state title is a tough task; however, the men's track and field team contains depth in categories such as sprinting and distance.

It usually takes around 60 points to take home the hardware, and many athletes and coaches have faith that this will be the year the men's track and field team will make history.

# Eight Netflix Shows to Watch this Summer

By Caitlin Paine

Hello everyone! As you may recall, I sent out a poll asking you all what the top shows watched on Netflix by the Upper School were. So, I watched a handful of the Upper School's favorites and I'd like to recommend to you some of the Netflix shows that I enjoyed the most! There were so many aspects of these shows that got me hooked, made me smile, kept me in suspense, and overall made my experience throughout S2 better. There's such a wide variety here that I know that there can be something here for everyone to enjoy! Thank you all so much for letting me share my opinions and ideas with you this year! I've loved writing for *The Voice* and getting to tell my stories and be part of this community with you. I know that *The Voice* will continue to produce fantastic work and I will miss being a part of this community with you. I hope you all enjoy these Netflix shows as much as I did and have a fantastic summer!



## 1. Stranger Things

This was the most recommended show in the poll, so of course I had to watch it. I've got to say, I love it! Although there are only 4 seasons of the series, there's more than enough content throughout to make up for it. The wholesome childhood friendships, the sci-fi element, the conspiracy theories, the romance - there was so much happening to enjoy! The plot was complex and detailed, and the show has something available for everyone, no matter what your favorite genre is. Each character is so complex and detailed, even if they seem like minor characters, that the show feels almost real. Watching all of these different people in town come together to solve the mystery of

come together to solve the mystery of what happened to Will Byers is amazing, and I found myself getting sucked into the story so much that I didn't want to turn off my phone! Each episode reveals more about the characters and we receive more clues about the origins of Jane's supernatural powers, the Demogorgon, and the workings of the mysterious dimension known as The Upside Down. I loved how there was always a character for someone to relate to and how the tension, mystery, and pace increased with every episode, leaving me on the edge of my seat waiting for more! If you're looking for wholesome adventures, romance, sci-fi, and mystery, then you'll love Stranger Things!

## 2. Criminal Minds



Criminal Minds was not only the first show I watched on Netflix,

but the show that made me want to get an account. I got hooked on it so quickly that I ended up watching all 12 available seasons three times! Although there are an additional 3 seasons to the show not on Netflix, so I would strongly recommend you keep watching through the very end. Keeping this in mind, I was not at all surprised to find out that it was one of the most popular shows watched by Upper Schoolers, second only to Stranger Things. Watching the agents of the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit travel across the country to solve cases and save lives is exhilarating, and every episode leaves twists and turns to keep you interested. Also, no episode has the same plot, so you know you're getting something new and interesting every time you watch. The characters all have complex personalities so every audience member has someone they can relate to - my personal favorite is Dr. Spencer Reid, played by Matthew Gray Gubler - but it's so easy to build a connection to the cast that makes you feel like you're taking

the adventure with them. There are some gory and dark themes in some of the episodes, so it is not for the faint of heart, but if you love thrillers, mysteries, or true crime, this is the show for you!

### 3. New Girl



While I typically don't watch a lot of comedies, this show feels different. It was highly recommended in the poll, and after watching several episodes I can understand why. Getting to watch the three bachelors help Jess recover from her recent heartbreak, come out of her shell, and encourage her to be herself is adorable! The characters are realistic with varying personalities and their interactions are fun and engaging. You can see them all grow as people in every episode while facing real life struggles and you can get real life lessons from

every episode. I'm looking forward to finishing the series, as there are 7 seasons available for fans to enjoy and I've only made it through about half of Season 1. There's so much to enjoy about this show and you get to learn so much about these characters with each episode and there is so much lighthearted fun throughout that it keeps viewers engaged and excited for every episode! This is a great show for anyone who likes wholesome content about friendship, love, life, and some excellent comedy throughout!

### 4. Umbrella Academy



This show is incredibly popular on Netflix and in the poll, and once I started watching it was easy to see why. Although there are only 2 seasons, there is plenty of fast paced action, complex characters, interesting and deep backstories, mystery, and suspense to keep viewers on the edge of their seats! I found

myself loving how deep each character was, and especially relating to Number Five. I've only made it through a few episodes so far, but it's so easy to get sucked in that I just can't seem to put it down for long. The plot is intricate, detailed, and clearly well-thought out by the writers, where the role every character plays in each situation is crucial to their character development and to the overall story. It can be so deep and complex, but still lighthearted and fun at the same time, and their interactions feel so real even with their superpowers. I absolutely love this show, and I think anyone looking for a fun adventure with a dysfunctional family and some sci-fi superpowers will absolutely adore it too!

## 5. Grey's Anatomy



Although I was worried this was going to be one of those

stereotypical overly-dramatic doctor shows, I was very happy to be proven wrong. I learned a lot about how a residency works and it's very easy to become attached to the characters, with their varying personalities and different ways of viewing the world around them. There is some of the drama common with this genre, but it is portrayed in a much more realistic fashion and it's a lot easier to understand and enjoy it. There are 17 seasons of the show total, with 16 available on Netflix and new episodes continuing to air for fans to enjoy. Although I have only made it part of the way through Season 2, I am finding myself more connected to each character as the episodes continue and I'm really looking forward to finishing it. I completely understand why this show is so highly recommended and, although there is some blood and it might not be for the faint of heart, this is an excellent show for anyone who enjoys this genre, with all of its comedy,

friendship, romance, and drama!

## 6. BoJack Horseman



I am an absolute sucker for a good, animated show, so you can understand why I was excited when this show was recommended by the Upper School. The show is filled with complex and flawed characters that every member of the audience can learn from and see a little bit of themselves in at times, which means that everyone can find someone they can enjoy. I've seen clips of various episodes on YouTube before I got a Netflix account, and I still haven't finished all 6 seasons, but now that I can actually watch the full episodes I find myself enjoying its content even more than I did before! The animation is detailed and fluid, the plot complex but still enjoyable, each character

given various detailed backstories, motivations, and personalities, and complex interactions between each character that continue to evolve as the show progresses. Although it can be raunchy at times, as it is an adult cartoon, it's not so over the top that it is no longer enjoyable and there is still plenty of content in each episode to leave viewers wanting more! I really do love this show and I've been enjoying the characters for a long time, and I think that you all will enjoy it too!

## 7. Lucifer



I hadn't heard too much about this show before it was recommended, so I didn't know what to expect going into the first episode. Needless to say, I was very pleasantly surprised! I love stories that involve the supernatural, so getting to

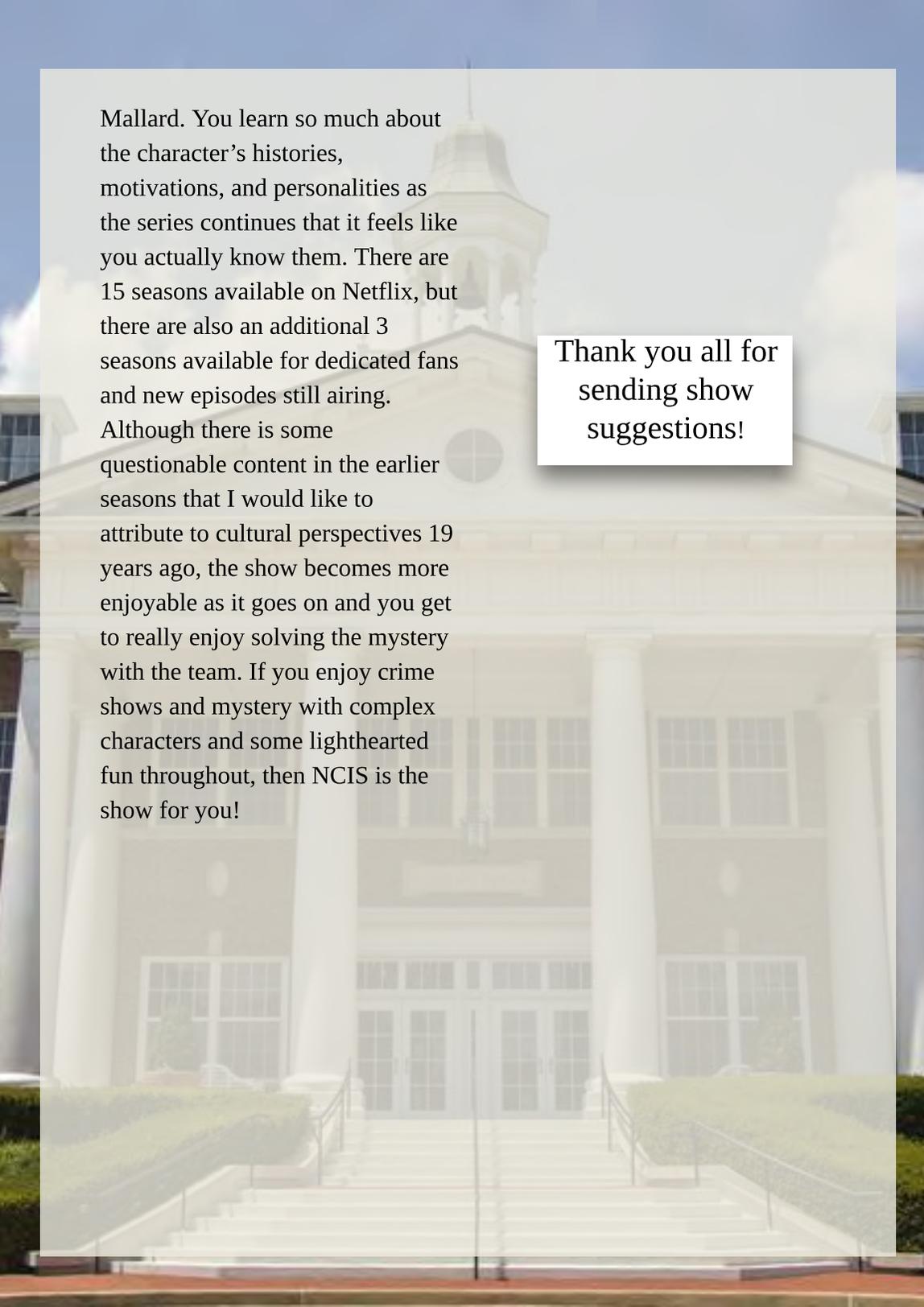
experience the modern world with Lucifer, the Devil, while he tries to retire and witnessing how he influences people around him is fascinating. It also keeps the mystery and crime elements I like so much, as he befriends a detective and begins to lose his powers as he spends more time in the human world. The plot is complex and detailed, with more about each character being discovered with every episode. One of my favorite aspects of the show is how incredibly obvious Lucifer is about being who he is, even confessing it, and no one believing him or taking him seriously. He brings a great element of comedy to a show that might have been more subtle otherwise and I find myself really enjoying it more and more as I see more episodes. Though I'm still in Season 1, there are 5 seasons on Netflix with more episodes still being produced, so I know I'll get to keep enjoying this series unfold. This show has dark undertones, comedy, mystery, and plenty of supernatural fun. If you enjoy

fun. If you enjoy these types of themes, you'll love Lucifer!

## 8. NCIS



While this one wasn't voted on, it was recommended after I finished Criminal Minds and I decided to give it a watch. Although the show originally aired its pilot episode in 2003, they are still airing new episodes today! If you enjoyed Criminal Minds, you will also probably enjoy watching the Naval Criminal Investigated Service team travel across the country to solve crimes related to the U.S. Naval and Marine forces. I learned a lot about how our country's military system and rankings worked for this show and found myself seriously relating to peppy-goth forensic scientist Abby Sciuto and the sweet and talkative medical examiner Dr. Ronald "Ducky"



Mallard. You learn so much about the character's histories, motivations, and personalities as the series continues that it feels like you actually know them. There are 15 seasons available on Netflix, but there are also an additional 3 seasons available for dedicated fans and new episodes still airing. Although there is some questionable content in the earlier seasons that I would like to attribute to cultural perspectives 19 years ago, the show becomes more enjoyable as it goes on and you get to really enjoy solving the mystery with the team. If you enjoy crime shows and mystery with complex characters and some lighthearted fun throughout, then NCIS is the show for you!

Thank you all for  
sending show  
suggestions!