

Contest 14: Yearbook Copy/Caption – Clubs

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Write your yearbook story, headline and captions using any word processing program you choose.
- Specifically, write the following items: a primary headline, secondary headline/deck head, a copy block of no more than 200 words and two captions.
- Convert your file to a PDF for submission.
- Entries must be uploaded by 6 p.m. CDT Oct. 18, 2021.
- Additional facts and quotes are included with the captions. You may intermix the information to make the best copy and captions.
- You may add description to liven up your story (as if you were an eyewitness) but you may NOT make up facts or quotes.
- All these items would appear on a single DPS.
- DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME OR SCHOOL NAME ON YOUR ENTRY.

HINTS:

- Leads should be well written with original angle and focus.
- Use colorful details, quotes, descriptions and transitions.
- Be sure to use proper grammar and spelling.
- Use consistent journalistic style.
- Headlines should be intriguing and reflect the story content.
- Captions should state more than the obvious, be varied in beginnings and add to the body of reader knowledge.

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Central High School
1700 W. Olney Ave.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19141
Gold and Black
Yearbook: The Bell, Vol. 24
Theme: Not A Moment Too Soon

INFORMATION: DRAMA CLUB

- More than 200 Central High School students were involved in the Drama Club during the 2021-2022 school year
- The Central High Auditorium, built in 2001, served not only the high school, but also as the community's largest auditorium and was used by several community organizations for performances, meetings and recitals as well.
- CHS drama teacher and director Diane Rodriguez oversees three major productions a year, including a musical, produced with the school's music department, and two full-length plays — one in the fall and one in the winter.
- Each show included a student director and tech director as well as several student crews including lights/sound, make-up/costume, set/prop and house/promotions.
- Tickets for performances were \$5 for students and \$8 for adults/\$4 for those 12 and under.
- Seating capacity was 818 in the orchestra, including ADA seating, and 550 in the balcony for a total of 1,368 seats.
- Ticket sales for "Falling" were 1,932 tickets sold; "Noises Off" was 3,010; and "Footloose" was 4,012 including sold out houses the first and last nights.
- Each play required up to 10 hours of rehearsal a week for five weeks, and the musical required 15 hours of rehearsal a week for eight weeks including an additional full week just for music and choreography.
- The productions included:
 - Oct. 15-16 "Falling" by Deanna Jent
 - Feb. 3-5 "Noises Off" by Michael Frayn
 - May 11-14 "Footloose" by Dean Pitchford, Walter Bobbie
- "Falling": The story of a mother struggling to cope with her son's severe autism. A visit by his grandmother upsets the routine of 18-year-old Josh, prompting erratic behavior that impacts three generations of the household.
- "Noises Off": This play-within-a-play captures a touring theater group's production of "Nothing On" in three stages: dress rehearsal, the opening performance, and a performance toward the end of a debilitating run. It is filled with slapstick comedy, farce, huge egos and surprises.
- "Footloose": Ren McCormack, a Chicago teen, and his mother move to the small town of Bomont. Ren finds himself at odds with most of the town, including Rev. Shaw Moore who has outlawed dancing. With the help of Ariel (the Reverend's daughter) and Willard (a country kid who becomes his best friend), Ren convinces the Reverend to let the teens dance and helps the town to heal from a tragedy.

Contest 14: Yearbook Copy/Caption Writing – Clubs

QUOTES:

- “In “Noises Off,” there was one part that was probably the strangest experience I have ever had in theater. There was a certain point when my pants were supposed to drop. The thought of being in my boxers on stage was a little nerve-wracking, but a lot of the stage fright goes away when you’re thinking about the technical process. The rest of the actors are supposed to be shocked, but since they all knew when it would happen, I decided to try to get that same effect by wearing a different pair of funny boxers for every show to catch them off guard. I bought a pair with bananas on them, one with big red hearts and for closing night I had a special pair made that had my face all over them.” — Adam Trankle, senior
- “A lot of what happened during the performances of “Noises Off” was not intentional. Things move so fast that stuff just happened sometimes like things falling over or people not making entrances exactly on time, but we all just had to go with the flow.” — Shannon Stulce, senior
- “For many of the actors, “Noises Off” was one of the most challenging productions they had been part of due to the lack of vocal communication in Act 2. They really had to learn how to perform in a big way with just their movement and faces. But they were amazing, and it is truly one of the funniest shows we have ever performed.” — director Diane Rodriguez
- “I have been on sound crew for the musical every year. For “Footloose,” I was the sound designer, sound crew head, and I operated the sound console for the production. My experience with this kind of work started with my church. I was thrown into running a sound console for a children’s ministry show. From there, I gained knowledge in lighting and cameras.” — Matt Jones, senior
- “When I first found out I got the role of Willard in “Footloose,” I was equally excited and shocked since I had never even tried out for a cast at Central before. I love to sing, and I have a big personality, so my friends encouraged me to try out. I thought, ‘It’s senior year, why not just go for it?’” Even though I was a complete newbie to the whole drama scene, I knew if I worked hard and listened to my director, I would be OK. I wanted to show everyone they didn’t make a mistake taking a chance on me.” — Cole Doherty, senior
- “For “Footloose” we had a huge cast and crew. There were 41 cast members, 32 crew members and 18 musicians in the pit orchestra. It was a lot to manage and keep track of, so we actually had two student directors. We also had a separate choreographer come in to work with the cast since the numbers were so large and involved so many people.” — Diane Rodriguez, director
- “Because the subject of “Falling” was so sensitive, we wanted to be as accurate as possible, so some of the cast and crew decided to take the extra step in understanding what it takes to deal with Autism. We spent some time talking to our special education teachers and got permission to observe some of their classes and speak with some of the parents. We wanted to make sure we were really honoring the people we were portraying.” — Dharma Reddy, senior
- “In preparing for the show “Falling,” I had learned so much that I organized a large group from the Drama Club to participate in the Autism Speaks Walk at Citizens Bank Park on the day of the last show, Oct. 16. Even though we had to get up really early after a performance the night before, the walk was a wonderful place to be. There was so much positive energy. Plus the cause itself was really awesome. We donated all of the ticket sales from Friday night which was over \$2,400.” — Abby Mirikitani, junior
- “Because I was portraying the grandmother in “Falling,” I had to wear a lot of stage makeup. I got an allergic reaction when they sprayed gray hairspray on me at dress rehearsal, so the gray in my hair was actually baby powder.” — Catarina Kalamoukas, sophomore

Contest 14: Yearbook Copy/Caption – Clubs

DIRECTIONS:

- Write a caption for the picture and include a photo credit.
- Captions may be any length and may include any of the information provided in this prompt.
- You may NOT make up additional information; use only the facts given.

PHOTO INFORMATION:

Who: seniors Craig Renfro (Bickle), Jason Stein (Garvin), Cole Doherty (Willard) and Mac Rhodes (Jeter)

What: at end of the “Mama Says” musical number in Act 2 of “Footloose”

Where: Central High Auditorium

When: May 14, 2022

Additional Info: The show included 18 musical numbers and required a rock combo style pit orchestra

Quote: “The biggest challenge was mastering a country accent for my role as Willard. It took a few weeks, but I eventually got it down and could stay in it for the whole show without going in and out if it.” — Cole Doherty

Photo by: Terence Cooper



Contest 14: Yearbook Copy/Caption – Clubs

DIRECTIONS:

- Write a caption for the picture and include a photo credit.
- Captions may be any length and may include any of the information provided in this prompt.
- You may NOT make up additional information; use only the facts given.

PHOTO INFORMATION:

Who: senior Antonia Stoddard

What: adding director notes to the “Falling” Google Doc

Where: Central High Auditorium

When: Oct. 2, 2021

Additional Info: One of Stoddard’s jobs was to go through the director’s book at the end of each rehearsal and add the notes onto a Google Doc that was shared each night with the cast and crew to review before the next day’s practice

Quote: “The notes include mostly details about changes or reminders for blocking. She also makes notes about tech cues and sometimes things about how lines are delivered. She is also really good about giving lots of positive feedback.” — Antonia Stoddard

Photo by: Shoshana Ruell

