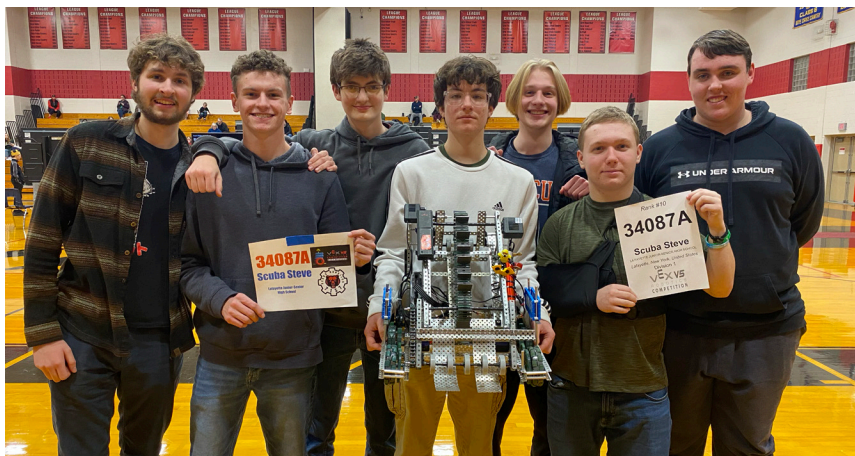


Robotics Team Success

The LaFayette Jr/Sr High School Robotics team had a short season this year with only two competitions; however, the students brought home the 2nd best finish ever in LaFayette Robotics history!

The team participated in the VEX V5 "High Stakes" Robotics Competition. This year's game challenged students to design, build, and program a robot that could pick up rings and place them onto mobile stakes. The team was led by senior and captain Paul Wells. Thomas Somerlot created a reliable and stable drivetrain, while Hudson Borchert and Sye Stanton worked on the mechanisms to pick up and unload the rings. Darren Benjamin took it upon himself to learn how pneumatic systems work and used that knowledge to build a device to pick up and hold the mobile stakes. Cameron White was the lead programmer and wrote code that allowed the robot to complete tasks autonomously. Cosmo Fanizzi proved indispensable as a driver for the robot and as team representative, while Landon Kendall came in clutch on tournament days with clever and quick repairs in the pit.

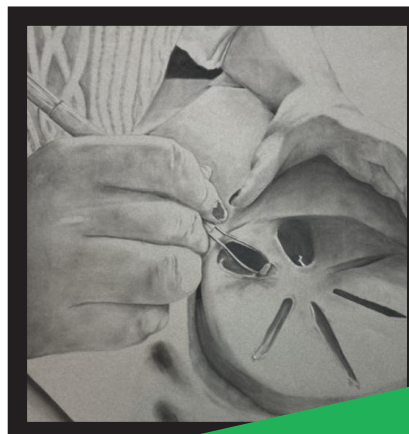
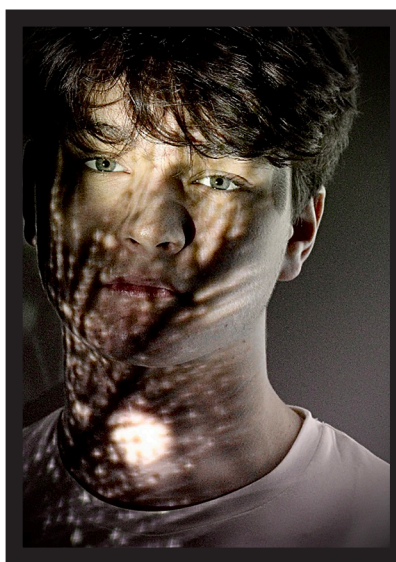


Scholastic Art Awards

The Art Department wishes to announce the 2025 Scholastic Art award winning recipients. Of the over 4,500 individual entries submitted for the Central New York Region, students at the Lafayette JSHS and Onondaga Nation School received a total of 33 awards. Their artworks will be displayed at Onondaga Community College from January 14th through February 28th. An Awards Ceremony will be held on January 21st at the OCC SRC Arena.

Gold Key Winners: Michael Bestul, grade 12, Photography, *Pine*. Evelyn Borchert grade 8, Mixed Media, *Meadow*. Marissa Bridgette grade 9, Printmaking, *Flower*. Jacob Meyer grade 8, Painting, *The Forest*. Aubrey Reynolds grade 12, Photography, *Metamorphosis*. Hailey Schrader grade 9, Photography, *Hunting Trip with Dad*. Taylor Thorpe grade 9, Photography, *Cow*.

Silver Key Winners: Ian Coakley, grade 8, Ceramics & Glass, *Pine Trees*. Cosmo Fanizzi IV, grade 11, Photography, *Stripes*. Josie Ingraham, grade 8, Mixed Media, *Cranial*. Landon Kendall, grade 11, Photography, *El Leaf* and *Fog on the Water*. Maddox Lazore, grade 12, Photography, *Hue*. Lily McElhannon, grade 12, Photography, *Fear is an Illusion*.
(continued inside, page 2)



Save the Date: Rockfest, March 28, 2025

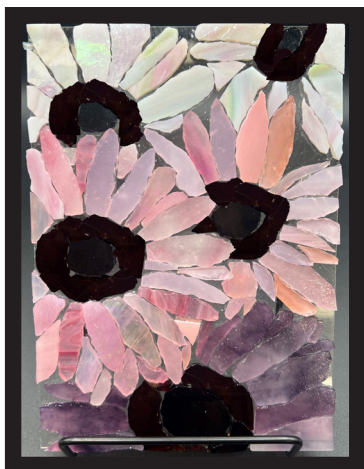
♦ Junior/Senior High School News ♦

Scholastic Art Awards *(continued from cover)*

Hailey Schrader, grade 9, Photography, *Lakeside Sunny Day*. Madison Shute, grade 9, Mixed Media, *A Fondness for Flowers*.

Honorable Mention Winners: Jacob Meyer, grade 8, Ceramics & Glass, *Twisted Steel*. Avis Lewis, grade 10, Printmaking, *Squid*. Leah Haas, grade 11, Painting, *Neon Reflections*. Logan Hazeltine, grade 11, Drawing & Illustration, *Handmade*. Jalese Lambertson, grade 10, Fashion, *ahdahgwa, Āōvzē, Ācweh*. Cambria Stanton, grade 10, Ceramics & Glass, *Blue*. Kaya Tillinghast, grade 12, Jewelry, *Cherry Bomb*. Caitlin Somerlot, grade 11, Sculpture, *Springtime Melodies*. Kennedy Harmatuk, grade 9, Mixed Media, *Dawn on the Horizon* and Ceramics & Glass, *Pink Bowl*. Caitlin Somerlot, grade 11, Ceramics & Glass, *Daisies*. Austin Johnson, grade 8, Mixed Media, *Maple*. Landon Kendall, grade 11, Photography, *Cosmo-dots*. Rose Kendall, grade 8, Digital Art, *Dog in Nature*. Caden McClary, grade 10, Photography, *Deep in the Blue* and *Patriotic Memorial*. Dehaenhyanehken Powless, grade 8, Mixed Media, *Tree & Eel*.

Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Capella and Mrs. Mercurio wish to congratulate all participants!



LaFAYETTE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

• www.townoflafayette.com • PO Box 98 Lafayette, NY 13078 • 315-677-7272 •

WINTER YOUTH PROGRAMS

WRESTLING season is wrapping up for PreK-6th with over 60 registrants and **BASKETBALL** season is wrapping up for 3rd-6th with over 80 registrants. Thank you to our Winter season coaches/volunteers for making this season a great success, one of our largest participation basketball seasons ever and a great home wrestling tournament!

SKI CLUB is underway as well - thank you to all the parent volunteers and chaperones helping out.

Instructional **BASKETBALL** for 1st and 2nd grade will begin Saturday mornings, starting March 1 for six weeks. Stay tuned for specific times.

VOLLEYBALL for 3rd-6th grade will begin early March. Stay tuned for finalized date and times - registration is open through mid February!

SPRING YOUTH PROGRAMS

Spring is coming soon!! Watch for **BASEBALL, SOFTBALL** and **TEE BALL** Registration (K-6th) to go live February 1 and Lacrosse Registration (K-6th) on March 1!

Looking for a new way to help the Spring Sport season? 14 or older? Become an **UMPIRE**! Each session represents a different class - the applicant must attend each training session for their designated class. **DISTRICT 8 TRAINING** will include classroom rule reviews and on field training taking place on April 26th and 27th - details to come. Please contact Jack Kaplan directly, he will need the name, phone number and email of every candidate who plans to attend umpire training. New umpires are welcome to join at the age of 14. Baseball players, coaches and retired umpires are always highly recommended

to become umpires; it is easy for you to umpire if you are already involved in the sport. This is a very easy way to make money while doing what you love. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to D8. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Jack Kaplan, Umpire in Chief, District 8 Little League, Syracuse, NY: (315) 225-0582 (Call, Text).

ADULT PROGRAMS

Adult **BASKETBALL** (Monday nights from 7:30-9pm) and **VOLLEYBALL** (Friday nights from 7-9pm) programs are hosted at Grimshaw. Reminder to participants to register every week for insurance purposes.

If you are able to help with any of the LCC programs – please contact LCC at 315-677-7272 or via email: playlccny@gmail.com. We cannot offer these programs without volunteers. Thank you.

◆ Onondaga Nation School News ◆

The Onondaga Nation School Has Been Busy

Seventh and eighth graders are learning about the Arctic by participating in Float Your Boat. Mr. Amidon applied for boats which will be designed here at ONS and then returned to the Arctic where they will be released onto ice. The boat will follow the currents and hopefully be found and registered. For more information you can go to www.floatboat.org/. Students will learn about the Arctic and currents, plot distance on maps, design and decorate the boats, and learn the impact of pollution through this project.



3D printed planters are being passed out to classrooms. A very generous donation from Ponto's Greenhouse has provided plants for the classrooms. Mr. Capella and Mrs. Mercurio have been working with Plant Club to design and create 3D printed planters using the MakerBot machines in the Technology Room.

Fourth and fifth grade students are working on their first project, a drawstring bag. Some are pinning pieces together, some are sewing, and some are cutting out the pattern.



◆ LaFayette Community News ◆

JOIN US! 2025 Umpire Training Academy

Do you have what it takes
to be behind the mask?

**Must be
14 years old
to attend training.**

Training information:

Applicants must attend all dates. For accommodations contact our Umpire-in-Chief, **Jack Kaplan** at 315-225-0582 or Jkaplan3@twcny.rr.com.

\$70 Fee

Fee pays for: Umpire shirt, hat, ball bag, brush, indicator, training material and exam. Cash or checks made out to: **District 8 Little League**.

SESSION:

3/4/25 6-9pm
3/5/25 6-9pm
3/7/25 6-9pm
3/8/25 11am-4pm

LOCATION:

Pastime Athletic Club, 1314
N. Salina St., Syr NY 13208

SESSION:

3/10/25 to 3/14/25
all sessions 6-9pm

3/14/25 includes first aid,
CPR, AED training

LOCATION:

Donald McFee Memorial
Ambulance, 52 Watson Ave.,
Mexico NY 13114

SESSION:

4/7/25 5:30-8:30pm
4/9/25 5:30-8:30pm
4/11/25 5:30-8:30pm
4/12/25 11am-4pm

LOCATION:

TBD
Syracuse, NY

LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

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LaFayette, NY 13084

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Jeremy Belfield, Title IX Compliance Officer, LaFayette Central School, 5955 Route 20, West, LaFayette, New York 13084

The LaFayette Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, national origin, race, sex, or handicapping conditions in its employment practices or educational programs.

Feb/March

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

26 ONS Family Night, 5pm

MARCH

3 GAPS Meeting, 6pm

12 BOE Meeting, 5:30pm

14 JSHS Musical, 7pm

15 JSHS Musical, 7pm

24 USAF Band Performance,
6pm

26 BOE Meeting, 5:30pm

28 Rockfest, 6pm

31 Superintendent
Conference Day
No School

Don't forget
to like us on
Facebook.

