

# THE REBELLION



ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2021

# *EDITOR'S NOTE*

Welcome to the first issue of *The Rebellion* in 2021! COVID-19 has disrupted our normal learning in 2020 and 2021 and forced us to turn to e-learning. There is a light at the end of this long, long tunnel with vaccines being rolled out. Once we are back in the building, you will be able to see some new faces amongst the teachers! We have interviewed them, so continue reading this issue to meet them! Come see what a few clubs have been up to and what they are planning on doing in the future. There's an inspirational quote and a few haikus as well to give you some positive vibes. Credit for the photograph on the cover goes to Jean Lee, a student at M.AD School of Ideas.

Happy reading,

Katarina Krivokapic

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# ALL OF THE WORLD IS A STAGE

Whether you're flourishing under the eyes of the audience or creating a marvelous world from your own imagination behind-the-scenes, Ridgewood High School's Drama Club is guaranteed to unlock your inner thespian to deliver a stunning performance for the stage!

Drama is an expression of life, and every life, including yours, is worth being applauded.

Join the club, and show the world your truth.

[EMAIL Mr. James Smith for the weekly Friday 3:15 pm virtual meeting link if you wish to join!](#)

“If it wasn't for drama, I would probably just have been another C-average student. But this club has taught me the importance of teamwork, confidence, and friendship with amazing people. Drama is an experience like no other



~ Julkan Mroz

"I joined the drama club for my friends, because I wanted to step up and help them with the play. I was also interested in the skills I would learn dedicating my time to the club, and the new people I would meet. Not to mention I love musicals and plays, so being a part of making that happen is truly inspiring."

~ LUCELY PEREZ

2020 has been a hard year for all of us. But that won't stop this troupe from marching forward, and it certainly shouldn't stop you. This pandemic will continue to rampage, wars across the globe will continue to wage.

And yet, through it all, We will still be singing. And dancing! We won't stop running up and down the stage, making efforts to become legends. Drama club is the resilience of the human spirit. And the show WILL go on, no matter what.

**“Performing has always been what I love and what I’m most passionate about. Stepping on that stage, whether it’s doing a monologue or singing a song, it’s just absolutely amazing.”**

**~ Tommy Velisaris**

# A Review of *The Diary of Anne Frank, Kesselman Edition*

By: Katarina Krivokapic

On November 20th, 21st, and 22nd, our Drama Club live streamed their performance of *The Diary of Anne Frank, Kesselman Edition*. It was a touching, thoughtful performance on the horrors Jewish people faced during World War II. As we battle COVID-19, members of Drama Club were able to come together and put on a performance in these trying times. It is no easy feat to put together a show, especially now with COVID-19 restrictions. Nonetheless, they were able to emulate the emotions needed to put on a great performance with face masks on.



They wisely used the fact that they were recording to their advantage, allowing them to use the set more effectively. Speaking of the set, it was clearly well put together and accurately reflected the time period. The set and the costumes complimented each other well. The final scene of the play was the most gut wrenching. Watching Anne Frank, her family, and everyone else who lived in the attic get dragged away was haunting and truly presented the horrors that Jewish people, human beings, had to suffer through.



# An Interview with Mrs. Castellano

By: Katarina Krivokapic

When and why did you want to become a teacher?

I've always loved school, I loved school, I loved the schedule of school, I loved being in school, I loved all my teachers for the most part, so when I went to college, I really didn't know what I wanted to do. So I tried all these different things, I was a political science major, and I didn't like that at all. Then I really liked to paint and draw, so I took a bunch of art classes and really loved that but my parents weren't too excited about me being an artist, so I decided it will be a hobby of mine. So then I went to the Dean of Undeclared majors and they made me take an interest inventory and then they were like you really don't know what you want to do you're all over the place. So I really reflected on what I liked, and I liked school and I liked kids. So I majored in education and minored in psychology though because that was also something I was super interested in. So I majored in elementary and I got out of school, I went to Loyola for my undergrad and I became a kindergarten teacher and I loved it. Then they asked me to teach first grade so I taught first grade for a little bit and while I was there I started to get questions from parents on how to help their kids but in ways I didn't really know how to help them which caused me to go back to school and get a counseling degree. So when I was at Northeastern for my masters I had the choice to go into private practice, or go the school route and I knew I loved being in school and being around kids so I chose to be a school counselor and that's how I ended up at Ridgewood. I was a school counselor here for 9 years and during that time I was like "Oh! I think I'm going to go back to school again!" So I got a 2nd masters degree in school leadership administration.

Did you have any idea in mind like what job you wanted to do when you were in high school?

When I was in high school, I knew I wanted to go to college and that's as far as I got. I really loved Loyola and that's where I ended up going and that's where I really started to explore, and now I wish I had the opportunities that Ridgewood offers kids because you have the opportunity to really explore and really do the things you like to do before you spend a whole lot of money in college. I wish I had that. I worked at a grocery store called Dominick's in high school and I used to draw the advertisements in the produce section or the deli section because I was really good at art so they hired me to do all the advertisements. And I worked as a cashier so I worked there throughout high school and college too.

Did you ever see yourself one day becoming an administrator?

No, I did not see it. I knew I wanted to do more. So when the Dean of Students job opened, I realized it's really a lot like counseling because you're talking to students and you're trying to direct them and figure out. My whole thing as Dean was never treat the symptom. Behavior is a symptom of something deeper going on and to figure out the root cause of what's happening and try to get that other person to understand that to change behavior. So I jumped into being Dean. I really liked that job a lot. Mr. Uhle was Principal and then Assistant Principal opened up and he said you would be really good at this and I became Assistant Principal and then Uhle left and he told me I should really go for being Principal. If you told me 22 years ago when I was a kindergarten teacher that I was going to become a high school Principal I would have said "absolutely not".

Are you a dog or a cat person?

Dog all the way! I have 3 dogs, my oldest dog, her name is Nabbi, she is 7. Larry, is a 3 legged pit bull who was hit by a car and we adopted him. My husband and I decided to foster because so many dogs get euthanized because they can't get homes. So then we fostered a dog and we failed because we adopted him so then we had 3 dogs. Then we fostered again and 4 dogs were too many so we found a really good home for her and she's so in love with her owner and she lives a really good life and we get updates about her all the time.

Who would you say is your hero?

I would have to say, I don't think it's one person. I think it's anyone who has overcome something in their lives and persevered. Perseverance is a really inspiring thing for me because it's easy to give up. It's so much harder to suck it up and press on. Anyone who has dealt with anything hard in their life, no matter what it is, just falls down and gets up and falls down and gets up and just keeps moving forward, those are my heroes.

What is your dream vacation?

I would love to go back to Italy. Just travel all around Italy and eat the food and see things. I went twice and once was with ms. Miller on the field trip and I loved it there. I would love to go back there.

What is your favorite color?

Blue!

What is your favorite pizza order?

Pizza is my favorite food, I could eat it everyday. I love pizza with grilled chicken on top. I know it's weird but it's my favorite pizza. With a thin crust, and lots of cheese.



Nabbi



Larry



Indy

# An Interview with Mr. Moore

By: Madeline Polley

Favorite color?

Cardinal (red). Go Cyclones!

Are you superstitious?

No, but I do have a number of routines. One of my routines is that I ALWAYS wear the same cuff links for every concert. They were given to me by the Director of Bands at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas after graduating.

Who is your hero?

Anyone willing to stick up for those less fortunate than them in a way that is genuine and respectful.

Favorite social media?

The Facebook. Jk – Reddit.

Favorite pizza order?

Quad City style pizza (it's a thing). Specifically Spicy BBQ from Harris Pizza.

Hamburger or hotdog? (Toppings?)

Hamburger. Bacon, jalapeño, pepper jack cheese, BBQ, crispy onions, NO KETCHUP...obvi

Favorite TV (Netflix, Youtube, Hulu, Crackle, CBSAllAccess,...) series?

Chef's Table followed by The Office, 30 Rock, and Parks & Rec.

Dog or cat?

I have a dog. Her name is Turtle.

At what percent on your cell phone do you start to panic?

I don't...I always have a charger and if it dies it dies.

Vacation in a cabin by a lake or a resort by the ocean?

Resort by the Ocean.

When and why did you become a teacher? (or Administrator)?

2011. I became a teacher because of my high school band experience. Mr. Jeff Heid (Muscatine High School) never accepts anything less than my best. This came at a time when I felt many of my teachers had given up on having high expectations for me. He continued to push me every opportunity he had. I really disliked him at times, but that said, he is a big reason why I am who I am today. We still stay in touch and visit yearly.

What is your favorite part of working with students in your subject area?

As cliché as it may sound, my true drive comes from those moments when a student realizes that they CAN do something they once thought impossible or difficult. Many musicians will get goosebumps from really excellent musical moments; I get them (legitimately) when I see or hear a student rise to the occasion and achieve their goal/s.

Where have you worked prior to your position here at Ridgewood High?

Mount Vernon High School – Mount Vernon, IA 2011-2015

University of Nevada, Las Vegas – Las Vegas, NV 2015-2017

Spring Valley High School, Las Vegas, NV 2017 – 2019

University of Illinois, Chicago College Preparatory High School, Chicago, IL 2019-2020

What's your favorite 80's movie?

Back to the Future

What's your favorite band?

The Ridgewood High School Band. Go Rebels!.....Also Van Halen (RIP Eddie)



Mr. Moore



Turtle

# An Interview with Mr. Yeates

By: Kiara Cannon

Favorite color?

My favorite color is blue.

Are you superstitious? (Elaborate if you can)

I am not very superstitious anymore, but I used to be. There are a lot of superstitions in the military, and it took me quite a few years to get over some of them.

Who is your hero?

It is difficult to name one person as my “hero”. There are so many people that I admire for different things.

Favorite social media?

Am I allowed to say Tik-Tok, or am I too old for that?

Favorite pizza order?

I believe there are two kinds of people in this world: those that like pineapple on their pizza and those that are wrong....Ham and Pineapple is the BEST!

Hamburger or hotdog?

Hamburger

Favorite TV (Netflix, Youtube, Hulu, Crackle, CBSAllAccess,....) series?

There are so many: The Mandalorian, Yellowstone, Breaking Bad, Better Call Saul....I could go on and on.

Dog or cat?

We have two cats. Gizmo and Smokey are Siberian Forest Cats. Gizmo weighs 22 pounds and Smokey weighs 16 pounds.

At what percent on your cell phone do you start to panic?

25%

Vacation in a cabin by a lake or a resort by the ocean?

Definitely in a cabin by the lake, with a boat!

When and why did you become a teacher?

This is my third year teaching full-time. I fell into education by accident. I was substitute teaching in my spare time, and was asked to fill in for a friend who went into labor early. I loved teaching so much that I decided to change careers!

What is your favorite part of working with students in your subject area?

Having worked in business for so many years, I enjoy being able to share my experiences with students. I also enjoy learning new things, as well. I don't claim to be an expert on all aspects of business, and sometimes I am learning just as much as my students!

Where have you worked prior to your position here at Ridgewood High?

I have taught in East Aurora, Mundelein, and Maine Township. Before that, I worked for a financial and real estate consulting firm in Chicago for 12 years.

Interesting fact?

My wife and I had COVID at the beginning of September. We both experienced mild symptoms, and have since fully recovered. Luckily we did not give it to either of our kids, even though they live in the same house. I continued to teach my classes (from home) and I don't think that any of my students knew that I wasn't feeling well.

# Rebel Readers

Overseen by: Mrs. Gonzalez

With the pandemic, book club is currently meeting weekly on Zoom to talk about books and life. They've got their LitWorks author series line-up, which consists of Jarrett Krosoczka, Chris Chrutcher, Mayra Cuevas, and Kiku Hughes. Virtual Author visits will be a great way to read and connect with authors! They are currently reading Jarrett Krosoczka's *Hey Kiddo*, which they'll discuss as a group.

## LitWorks Author Series: Dates & Times (All Via Zoom)

### **Friday, January 29th, 2021: Jarrett Krosoczka *Hey Kiddo* Author Visit**

Meet Jarrett J. Krosoczka, author of *Hey, Kiddo*, a graphic memoir of his father's disappearance, his mother's addiction, his life with his grandparents, and how art saved his life. *Hey, Kiddo* is a powerful book that also happens to be a National Book Award Finalist, the 2019 Harvey Awards Book of the Year, and one of Chicago Public Library's Best Books of 2018.

Middle School & High School Author Visit (Zoom)

Time: 1:45 to 3:15 pm (during asynchronous / Office Hour time)

Community Author Visit hosted by Eisenhower Public Library (Eisenhower Zoom) Time: Evening (thinking 6:00pm - 7:00pm)

### **Friday, Feb 5th, 2021: Book Discussion of *Hey Kiddo* and Author Visit Reflection**

Middle School & High School Author Visit (RHS Zoom)

Time: 1:45 to 3:15 pm (during asynchronous / Office Hour time)

Community Author Visit hosted by Eisenhower Public Library (Eisenhower Zoom) Time: Evening (thinking 6:00pm - 7:00pm)

## **Friday, March 5 2021: Chris Crutcher *King of the Mild Frontier & Loser Bracket***

Time: 1:45 to 3:15 pm (RHS Zoom)

Chris Crutcher's books are strikingly authentic and unflinchingly honest. His autobiography *King of the Mild Frontier* is the story of his life growing up in Idaho. *Losers Bracket* is the story of Annie, her foster family, and her search for her missing nephew. Chris has received a number of awards, starting with his high school designation as "Most Likely to Plagiarize." His favorites are his Intellectual Freedom awards, one from the National Council for Teachers of English and the other from the National Coalition Against Censorship.

## **Friday, April 9 2021: Mayra Cuevas *Salty, Bitter, Sweet***

Time: 1:45 to 3:15 pm

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Mayra Cuevas is a professional journalist and fiction writer who adores love stories with happy endings. Her book *Salty, Bitter, Sweet* was selected as one of the "YA Books We Can't Wait to Read in 2020" by BuzzFeed. It's a slow-burn romance in a cutthroat kitchen for 17-year old Isabella Fields who is trying to realize her dream of becoming a top chef.

## **Friday, May 7 2021: Kiku Hughes *Displacement***

Time: 1:45 to 3:15 pm

Kiku is a cartoonist known for her science fiction and fantasy stories in various anthologies, including *Avatar: The Last Airbender – Team Avatar Tales*. Her new book, *Displacement*, is her first full-length project as a writer and artist. It tells the story of a teenager pulled back in time to experience the Japanese American incarceration camps alongside her grandmother.

# Inspirational Quote of the Day

*The Paradoxical Commandments, by Kent M. Keith*

*People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered.*

*Love them anyway*

*If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.*

*Do good anyway.*

*If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies.*

*Succeed anyway*

*The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.*

*Do good anyway.*

*Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable.*

*Be honest and frank anyway.*

*The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds.*

*Think big anyway.*

*People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs.*

*Fight for a few underdogs anyway.*

*What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.*

*Build anyway.*

*People really need help but may attack you if you do help them.*

*Help people anyway.*

*Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth.*

*Give the world the best you have anyway.*

# Winter Haikus

By: Kristina Milosevic

Now that COVID's here  
I have time to snuggle near  
My loving puppy

Holidays have changed  
Group dinners are now on zoom  
But it'll be okay



Everyday the same  
Routine, walk the dog then sleep  
That's just quarantine

I speak to my friends  
It's all online through zoom  
It's odd but it's ok

# **JOIN THE REBELLION!**

**INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHY?  
PICTURES ARE ALWAYS NEEDED TO  
SUPPLEMENT ARTICLES!**

**INTERESTED IN ART?  
ART IS ALWAYS NEEDED TO SUPPLEMENT  
ARTICLES! OR A WEEKLY COMIC! OR TO  
HELP CREATE THE COVER! THE  
POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS!**

**INTERESTED IN JOURNALISM?  
A NEWSPAPER IS THE PERFECT MEDIUM  
FOR AN ASPIRING JOURNALIST! SUBMIT  
YOUR ARTICLES TO BE PUBLISHED!**

**INTERESTED IN CREATIVE WRITING?  
SUBMIT YOUR OWN SHORT STORY TO BE  
PUBLISHED!**

**INTERESTED IN POETRY?  
SUBMIT YOUR OWN POEM TO BE  
PUBLISHED!**

**ALL (APPROPRIATE) WORKS OF ART AND  
LITERATURE ARE WELCOME AT THE  
REBELLION!**

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