

HENRY M. GUNN

THE OLYMPIAN 2024

166

Henry M. Gunn HS
Palo Alto, CA
Job #: 404152
4-Color with Matte Lamination
CLR SS over everything but black background
Emboss OUR
Walsworth Artist: Kyla Swanson



GUNN 60

The Olympian

Henry M. Gunn High School 780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto, CA 2023-2024



Fall Clubs Spring Clubs 196 220



Anthony Ho (12) introduces Hana Siddeek (9) to the Biochem Olympiad Club during the club fair event. This club prepares students for National Olympiads by demonstrating applications of biology and chemistry through lessons. Ho now serves as club president and shares his experience with joining the club: "I first joined when I was in tenth grade and it allowed me to explore biology and chemistry to a deeper level," he said. "Being able to share that with people interested as well. It made me learn how much I love teaching and mentoring younger students. There's a lot of computer science and business in this area and so this path has been super meaningful to me. I definitely advocate for people to join clubs they're interested in."



Staff Superlatives



Best Dressed English teachers Kate Weymouth and Paul Dunlap



Most Spirited Principal's Secretary Janet



Most Quotable Science teacher Mark Brassey and Living Skills teacher Jeanette Tucker



Jeopardy Stars English teacher Danielle Whichard and History teacher Chris Johnson

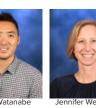
























Tracing Paths Staff Stories of Professional and Personal Exploration











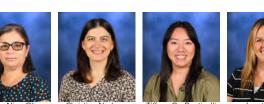




























Justin Brown

English

out their career/path?

on whatever that thing is."

What advice would you give to

forever, and that puts a lot of pressure

someone who's trying to figure







Mark Gleason Visual/Perfoming Arts

Ning Xu Science























"There's no timeline by which you need to find your thing. I think a lot of people are happy, experiencing multiple different jobs and careers. I think there's a preconception with finding one thing that you love that you're going to do

What path did you take before teaching, and what prompted you to switch to teaching?

"I was an illustrator, a graphic designer, DJ, bartender, and waiter, Then, I started getting into teaching because I wanted to have a way that gave me a steady income."

Who or what inspired you to become a teacher?

"My passion for teaching was inspired by my late mother, a dedicated high school educator whose influence on her students' lives were immeasurable. During her funeral, the heartfelt stories shared about her moved me deeply, leading to my decision to follow in her footsteps and become a high school teacher."





























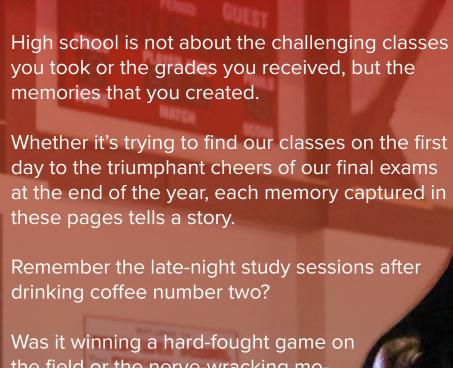








230 People



Was it winning a hard-fought game or the field or the nerve-wracking moments before stepping onto the Spangenberg stage?

How about dressing up for Homecoming before school, losing your voice cheering, and taking photos in front of the floats?

We all share collective memories of community, laughter, and friendship.

But beyond the excitement of these moments, we've all experienced setbacks. Despite the pressures and expectations, we've remained resilient and created our own definitions of success.

Finding our strengths, finding our passions, and ultimately,

Finding *our* way.

THE MEMORIES.



Theme creation explanation: courtesy of the EIC letter

Last year, the creation of Finding Our Way came about amidst my stress to come up with a theme that I could both resonate with and apply practically to the yearbook. I took a moment to really reflect on what defines Gunn. Stepping back, I tried to see it through an outsider's perspective, but I quickly realized that outside perceptions of this school don't quite do justice to what Gunn really is. It wasn't just about acing tests or stacking up AP classes, but rather about the individuals I've met. In all my interactions, I've never come across two people with the same goals or passions. Gunn is a place where everyone has their own path, their own motivations, and their own stories to tell. In a school known for its competitiveness and high expectations, the journey of finding our way takes on a special significance. We are constantly pushed to excel, to meet and exceed the standards set before us. In our pursuits for excellence, it is essential to remember that our paths are not predetermined. Each of us possesses unique, untapped potential. So, with the freedom to shape the yearbook as I saw fit (within reason!), I wanted to make sure that unconventional paths shone just brightly as the well-trodden ones. Throughout the yearbook, graphical elements complement this narrative, reinforcing the central message of "Finding Our Way." By juxtaposing the structured layout of traditional yearbook design with more bold and unconventional graphics, the yearbook becomes a testament to the students' exploration of identity.

As editor-in-chief, I've had the privilege of experiencing our school community in its entirety. From taking photos at games, homecoming, performances, clubs, and classes, I've witnessed firsthand the enthusiasm and dedication that pervades in every corner of our campus. These experiences have allowed me to truly appreciate our school. Creating this book and getting to know all the people through doing so has made such a huge difference in my life, and I am so grateful to the three staffs I have known and Ms. Blackburn, a truly amazing adviser who has helped me all along the way. I recollect all the moments spent stressing about whether this would come together or not and although it was not easy to make it happen, I am so proud to have been able to capture memorable moments throughout the school year and document it in this publication.

Lucy Shark
 Your 60th Editor-in-Chief of The Olympian