

H A I G L I N E

June 2025

Principal's Message

Ricky Goldenberg

Every year I am excited to be back at school with students and staff. We continue to live through challenging times seeing the world change in many ways. You have balanced passion and conviction with grace and respect. None of this is simple.

As we move to the end of another remarkable year, we pause to celebrate the achievements, growth and determination that have filled our hallways.

Along with all the classroom and homework hours, you debated, designed, coded, composed, scored, served and soared, proving that learning lives far beyond textbooks.

To grade twelves: Congratulations! Your legacy is not only the banners hanging in the gym, the food you prepared, your art, drama, music, dance and film presentations but the kindness and curiosity you leave behind. Carry that spirit forward and remember that the doors of Earl Haig will always swing wide for you.

To the rest of you, keep asking bold questions and shaping the Earl Haig culture.

To our teachers, counsellors, coaches and staff, thank you for transforming classrooms into possibilities. Your patience and passion are every success printed in these pages.

Parents and guardians, your late-night pep talks, car-pools and unwavering belief have been the safety net beneath each of your children.

Many thanks as well to our School Council led by our co-chairs Susan Lee and Tennille Jacobs. We appreciate all their leadership, assistance and commitment to our school.

Let the summer be opportunities for reflection, exploration, rest and renewal. May you return in the fall refreshed and inspired and ready to take everyone through to their next successes.

Congratulations on a year well lived and thank you for making this community shine. Have a safe, joyful summer, keep dreaming big and know we are always cheering you on.



EARL HAIG SECONDARY SCHOOL

100 Princess Ave.

Toronto, Ontario

M2N 3R7

Phone: 416-395-3210

FAX: 416-395-4203

Website: www.earlhaig.ca

Principal

Ricky Goldenberg

Vice Principals

Galen Szeto

Susan Hantzakos

Praboda Kolomba-Tantri

Superintendent

Ainsworth Morgan

416-396-9182

Trustee Ward 12

Weidong Pei

416-395-8787

School Council

Co-Chairs

Tennille Jacobs

Susan Lee



Student Activity Council & Clubs and Councils by Michelle Jeon and Czarina Reyes

The 2024/2025 school year bloomed with exciting events and planted meaningful initiatives. By helping the community and enriching student life, this year became a season of impact.

In December, SAC led another successful Outreach Week, featuring a school band performance, a bubble tea sale and Carnival Day. This year, an in-person assembly was organized along with volunteer excursions, engaging and educating hundreds more students. Over \$9000 was raised in support of the Stop Community Food Centre, helping combat food insecurity in Toronto. Notably, SAC’s renewed promo content doubled engagement on social media, reaching over 3000 accounts. Key announcements and updates reached a wider audience, including both parents, families and outside organizations.

Throughout the year, SAC family councils introduced dynamic events, bringing students together. SOPSS and EHAC’s Volleyball Pep Rally was a highlight, with students packing the gym full of spirit and energy. Multicultural and Junior Council’s bracelet making event was another student favourite. Furthermore, themed weeks were hosted by SAC councils including SAC week, SOPSS spirit weeks, ECO week, Junior week, Multicultural week, and Arts week—reflecting the various aspects of the school.

In April, SAC launched the first-ever month-long initiative in raising awareness for Autism Spectrum Disorder. From all club event proceeds being donated to the return of a second carnival—Taste of Haig, the school raised another \$8500 for Autism Ontario. Earl Haig surpassed all fundraising milestones, featuring unforgettable moments like Ms. Koutroubis and Ms. Fradkin wearing funny costumes, pieing Mr. Mantziouras and Mr. Carayanis, in the face and dying Ms. Goldenberg and Ms. Tantri’s hair purple.

Clubs Council hosted two clubs fairs, introducing students to the 90+ different clubs at Earl Haig. Student favorites included: the Kpop 520 Dance Club, Fashion Club, and Doctors Without Borders. The vast collection of clubs hosted numerous creative and fun-filled events ranging from Dubai Chocolate Strawberries to Pie in the Face. Councils collaborated on monthly sugar days to bring students together in the spirit of food—a newly introduced system to ensure all clubs had the chance to host tasty events. This year, an early clubs registration system was implemented as well, ensuring a smoother transition for the upcoming school year.

Earl Haig’s unforgettable year was made possible by the SAC staff supervisors—thank you to Ms. Koutroubis, Ms. Fradkin and Mr. Morin for your unwavering support, guidance and dedication to student success. Thank you to Ms. Goldenberg, vice principals, and all support staff for helping our events come to life. And to all Haigers, thank you for making this year one to remember.



Student Nutrition Program by S. Hantzakos

Many thanks to the **Toronto Foundation for Student Success and President's Choice Children's Charity** for their generous financial support. The Nutrition program provided a daily grab and go breakfast which was available to our entire school population, continuously reaching out to a variety of vendors to offer ethnically diverse food offerings.



Culinary Students Preparing Breakfast

English Department by E. Wry

The English department was thrilled to have the opportunity to celebrate the brilliant work of our students once more this year with our Poetry in Voice competition and Pierre Berton Writing Contest. Our thanks to Yza-Louise Palaganas and Catherine Hou for their stunning designs for each competition.

Poetry in Voice saw students recite poems for the glory of being crowned this year's school champion. Edmund Ta, Kharisma Ferdinand, Sophia Zhao, Keira Ha, Skye Steyrer, Srishti Sinha, Tal Aviv, Sarah Pan, Daniel Rayati, Elana Long, and Hou Zheng made up a strong field of competitors. Our judges were impressed by the commitment, passion, and creativity the students brought to their recitations. In the end, it was Shristi Sinha's powerful recitation of "If Our Bodies Could Rust" by Billy-Ray Belcourt that won the competition. Congratulations to Shristi and to all our competitors!

Remaining in the Poetry in Voice world, three competitors from last year were selected to represent Earl Haig in a recitation competition that included private schools, TDSB schools and TCDSB schools. Willow Carmen, Michelle Jeon, and Lucas Pham formed the Earl Haig team, reciting "Laurentian Shield," "Wolf Lake," and the positively plusive "Paper People," respectfully. Each team of three was judged as a group, with only one school to be chosen as the winner. After the judges conferred to discuss the performances, it was determined that the Earl Haig team had seized the day! Congratulations to Willow, Michelle, and Lucas on their triumph!



Poetry in Voice Earl Haig Competitors



Poetry in Voice City Championships

English Department continued.....

Once more, we were thrilled to have the opportunity to celebrate the creativity of our students through the Pierre Berton Writing Contest. Students in both junior and senior years submitted writing in the categories of Dramatic Excerpt, Essay, Short Story, Informal Writing, and Poetry. Our adjudicators were impressed by the craft, passion, and beauty on display in this years' entries—a sentiment reflected by our external adjudicator, author and Earl Haig alumnus Victoria Heatherington. After much consideration, Victoria was excited to select Keira Ha as junior writer of the year for *My Garden*, "a disarmingly poignant poetic narrative about a garden destroyed by winter's deceptive charm," and Cole Fisher as senior writer of the year for *Strange Currencies*, "an excellent reflective essay on pain and anxiety, which uses the metaphor of currency to explore suffering's value to startling effect." Congratulations to Keira, Cole, and all of the other writers whose work was selected for this years' anthology.

Finally, we wish all our best to the departing class of 2025 as they bring their high school stories to a close and begin their next chapters!



Cole Fisher and Keira Ha Pierre Berton Winners

Pierre Burton Writing Contest

Science Department by J. Chew

As the school year comes to an end, we reflect on what a busy year it has been in the Science Department. Here are some highlights.

Grade 9 students went on a field trip to the zoo in first and second semester. The event was part of their Sustainable Ecosystems Unit of study. Students got to explore the zoo, then return and work on sustainability videos after the trip.

As well, Steven Lang from the Canadian Space Resource Centre (CSRC) presented to the grade 9s as part of their Astronomy Unit. He even brought in a mobile inflatable planetarium (dome) and installed it on the stage in Cringan Hall. Students got to see the sky in detail and learn new things.



Grade 9 Zoo Trip

Grade 9 Astronomy

The Science department continues to conduct hands-on experiments to improve laboratory skills, from Physics and Chemistry labs to dissections in Biology. Our grade 10 students even found cockroaches and small crayfish in the stomach of dissected frogs.



Interdisciplinary activities are pursued by our science students. Our Robotics Club team (Shayan, Zohaib, Sina and Sean) won 3rd place on the IoT challenge at the CETA competition.



Science Department continued.....

The grade 12 biology students took a trip to TMU to truly discover how unique they are by extracting and examining their own DNA.



About 55 students wrote the UW Chemistry contest in May. The results are impressive

Avogadro Contest - Grade 11

Jason Gao ranked 1st in the world, out of 4981 participants, 1st in Canada, out of 3386 participants, and 1st in Earl Haig out of 48 participants

Parmida Ghorban Karimi and Michael He tied for 145th in the world and 2nd in Earl Haig

Chem 13 - Grade 12

Jihyun Within Park ranked in the top 500 contestants in the world, out of 1962 participants

About 40 students wrote the two Physics contests in May. The results are amazing:

OAPT Physics 11 Contest - Grade 11 division

Jason Gao ranked 14th (top 3%) out of 684 participants, of which 14 were from Earl Haig

Olivia Guo ranked in the top 5%

SIN Exam by the University of Waterloo - Physics 12

Harry Yu ranked in the top 100 and his handwritten solution was requested by the graders! We're expecting that he gets a great score and rank!

Our biology students also did a fantastic job of representing the school:

In the Canadian Biology Olympiad they achieved silver and bronze awards.

They were competitive in the National Biology Competition, Phoenix Hsuen did particularly well coming 89th in the country.

For the first time in a number of years, students rallied under the Earl Haig banner and travelled to the HOSA competition held at the Toronto Convention Centre.

Finally on May 26 we had our Grade 12 awards assembly. Congratulations to all the winners:

Course	Grade 12
Biology (University)	Phoenix Hsuen
Chemistry (University)	Phoenix Hsuen
Physics (University)	Harry Yu
Earth and Space Science (University)	Ryan Marcus
Overall Science Proficiency (University Biology, Chemistry and Physics)	Zoe Kalafatis
Science Leadership Award	Arya Shahabi

We look forward to another exciting year. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Guidance Department by S. Bhowmik

Guidance News

What a year it's been at Earl Haig! The Guidance department is incredibly grateful for a successful year filled with student engagement and activities that truly supported our amazing student body. This incredible year wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of so many. A huge thank you goes to our entire Administration team, led by Ms. Goldenberg, our tireless Office Staff, our invaluable Guidance OA, and all our guidance counsellors and support workers. To highlight this fantastic group, we even created a Support Services Board featuring fun facts about our team members, placed in multiple spots around the school. This way, anyone can get to know us better, even just by reading! We're also immensely grateful for our phenomenal classroom teachers who worked tirelessly to support our students. And let's not forget our amazing Caretaking team, who worked around the clock to keep our spaces clean and tidy!

Mental Health and Wellness

We want to extend a huge thank you to our student-led COPE group! They continue to be an incredible support for the mental wellness of our student body here at Earl Haig.

COPE has worked tirelessly to provide multiple spaces and opportunities for students to learn how to manage stress, always emphasizing community building. We've seen their impact through ongoing initiatives like Haig Let's Talk Week, Mindful Mondays, and Mental Health Awareness Month.

Beyond these, COPE has successfully introduced new and thoughtful initiatives:

The "Quiet Space": A low-sensory environment available every Thursday at lunch, offering students a calm retreat.

"Cope of Tea" events: These events provide students with a warm drink, promoting self-soothing and relaxation.

An upcoming "silent disco": This exciting event will allow students to connect in a way that supports their individual needs by offering a personalized experience where they can control their own music volume and choose from different music channels, making it a more inclusive space for those with sensory sensitivities.

COPE continues to evolve and provide Earl Haig students with events and opportunities that support student wellness needs.

Celebrating the Class of 2025!

We're absolutely thrilled to see the graduating Class of 2025 embark on their next exciting chapters! Our Graduate Awards ceremony, Prom, and Commencement truly showcase the vast skill sets, diverse interests, and unique goals that highlight each student's individuality. It's been an honour to support every one of them, especially those who may have needed extra guidance on their journey toward graduation. We're also sincerely grateful for the care and support we've received from our Parent Council, parents/guardians, and families who have truly made our jobs easier. To our graduates, we wish you continued happiness and boundless success in all your future endeavours. We can't wait to see the incredible things you'll achieve!

Post-Secondary Information for the Class of 2026

For our graduating class of 2026, you'll start receiving information on post-secondary planning and applications in September. We'll continue to host our post-secondary fairs (both for the greater Toronto area as well as outside of the GTA) in November.

If you'd like to look ahead, you can visit any of the following websites for program information. However, we highly encourage students to visit the campuses of their interested post-secondary institutions over the summer. This will give you valuable insights into providing a firsthand "gut feeling" for the atmosphere, and a realistic understanding of the environment and facilities, all of which help students visualize their future to make more informed decisions.

ouinfo.ca for program information on Ontario universities.

ontariocolleges.ca for information on Ontario colleges and programs.

OYAP.com for information on apprenticeship programs.

You can also review our course selection presentations and graduate assembly PowerPoints on our Guidance website: <https://earlhaig.ca/guidance/>.

Guidance Department continued...

Summer School

TDSB secondary summer school programs are available in various formats: remote synchronous, in-person, and asynchronous. Please visit the following sites for more information and for registration deadlines.

If you're interested in remote synchronous learning (including credit recovery) <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/conedsecondarycreditprogram/Summer-School>.

For ELearning (asynchronous) options, please visit: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/elearning/e-Summer-Program>.

As always, marks from TDSB summer school courses will be automatically updated on your transcript. If you take courses with other boards or programs outside the TDSB (e.g., TCDSB, Simcoe County, YDRSB, private schools, etc.), you **must submit a hard copy of your final report card in a sealed envelope from the issuing institution** or have it **emailed directly to us from that institution**. This ensures your transcript can be accurately updated.

Timetable Changes

Guidance counsellors will be available during the last week of August for necessary timetable changes. This includes senior students making post-secondary program or pathway changes, or those who completed a summer course that necessitates a course adjustment. Please note, we are not able to accommodate "reach ahead" courses at this time.

Follow the Earl Haig Guidance Department on Instagram @earlhaigguidance for more information, including timetable change forms and deadlines. A link to the timetable change form will be posted in late August. Please be aware that timetable changes will only be made if the change is warranted and if there is available space in the requested course.

Guidance Information

As always, we post relevant Guidance information, including volunteer opportunities, events, and updates, weekly on our Guidance website under "Guidance Weekly Bulletin." We also post important information on our EHSS Guidance Instagram page @earlhaigguidance and our "Opportunity Board" (physically located at the end of the main hallway).

We also want to thank our Peer Tutoring group. They have worked all year to provide one-on-one academic tutoring and support to our students which has impacted the success of many students.

TDSB Summer Well-Being

"As the school year comes to a close, families may feel a mix of excitement and the need for extra support. The [TDSB Summer 2025 Well-Being Guide](#) is here to help, offering **culturally responsive** and **identity-affirming** resources to support the mental well-being of both students and families throughout the summer.

From mindfulness practices and creative activities to physical movement and access to local programs, the guide includes a wide range of tools to help every family enjoy a healthy, balanced summer. To ensure accessibility and inclusion, the guide is available in the [TDSB's top 22 spoken languages](#)".

Happy Summer!

We are wishing all of our students and their families a safe and happy summer season. During this time, we hope you're able to pause, re-energize, and take time to enjoy the sun!

Sincerely:

Ms. Bhowmik,

Mr. Lawrence,

Ms. Leo,

Ms. Leung,

Mr. Low and

Mr. Panagopoulos



Dance Department by T. Lee-Blight

Greetings from the Dance Department,

The dance and music department collaborated on a beautiful event "Music and Dance Revue". The evening featured student choreography by our performance dance elective, Grade 9 Dance elective and Senior Dance elective classes. It was a beautiful night of creative energy, sound and movement.

DANCE NIGHT 2025- Our students worked hard to bring an eclectic mix of dances to our stage, fusion of classical and contemporary Chinese dance, ballet, jazz, Bollywood, Brazilian samba, old school hip hop and modern dance. Thank you to our dance teachers and guest artists for inspiring our dancers to create dances that were entertaining, meaningful and emotional.

Thank you to our grade 12 Dance Major Keri Chou for producing an outstanding Dance Collective 2025 show with our student choreographers, ballet elective and grade 10 elective dance classes. The dancers brought remarkable energy to the stage, captivating the audience from start to finish.

A heartfelt thank you to our Co-Presidents Antonia Cape and Ava Stewart for their outstanding leadership of the Dance Council.

Grade 12 Dance Major Award - Antonia Cape and Ava Stewart
Grade 12 Dance Elective Award - Cerella Pu
Grade 11 Dance Award - Karyssa Blake
Grade 10 Dance Award - Martin Liu
Grade 9 Dance Award - Sophia Qin



Grade 12 Majors

Dance Department continued...



Grade 11 Majors



Grade 9 and 10 Majors

Drama Department by L. Kurtz

This year, we are delighted to share our students' achievements beyond the classroom in a variety of productions. We started off the year with the musical, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* which won the hearts of audiences for its warmth and humour, followed by our student produced One Act Play Festival, celebrating the clever works of student playwrights and directors who led a creative cast to production with sold-out performances, followed by the award winning play *Last on Earth* written by Claude Watson student, V. Riczker had a full run at The National Theatre Drama Fest Ontario, with special thanks to Mr. Matt Currie for leading the helm. We are so proud of your achievements everyone. Thank you for all of your hard work.

Grade Nine Drama—Ms. W. Krekeler—Elective

In Grade Nine Drama, students started the year learning the essentials of staging through tableau, using this knowledge in subsequent units of Choral Voice and Movement and Scene Study. For the Final Culminating Assignment, students write and perform their own plays, using the various forms of theatre studied in the course.

The grade 9 drama majors have enjoyed three different excursions to explore dance and music as well as drama. They have spent the year working on foundation and stagecraft and used that knowledge to create a fully produced presentation of Seamus Haney's *The Burial At Thebes*. The year was wrapped up with an exciting integrated arts project working with dance and music to create performance pieces that incorporate all three disciplines while exploring our connections to the land.

Grade 10 Drama—Ms. Kurtz

Kurtz- Ms. Kurtz' Grade 10 Drama Major Class had a fruitful year exploring many different types of Physical Theatre culminating in their take on William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. They studied Neutral Mask, Character Mask, Laban Technique and Alexander Technique to help shape their physical instrument and broaden their range of performance. Grade 10 students also saw shows throughout the Toronto area at The Berkeley Street Theatre, The Tarragon Theatre, The Harold Green Jewish Theatre and The Meridian Arts Centre. Students also had the opportunity to study with acclaimed artists such as Noam Markus, Leo Dragonieri, Ryan Kelly and Sid Kroach.

Grade 11 Drama—Mr. Singer

Singer- The grade 11 drama majors started the year with "Theatre of the Absurd" with the culmination of performances of "Waiting for Godot"

Continuing with the introduction to the Foundations of Theatre from 1850 to present day students researched in groups specific to the periods of : Melodrama, Realism, Naturalism, Expressionism and Absurdism.

Continuing the tradition of over 30 years students presented in the lunchtime theater, starting with scenes from Naturalism and Realism by such playwrights as Tennessee Williams, Eugene, O'Neill and Arthur Miller. Through research, workshops and ensemble building students have a hands-on opportunity in June to present a second instalment of Lunchtime Theatre with the Theatre of the Absurd Unit.

Playwriting—Mr. Harkness

Using various writing prompts and means of inspiration, the playwriting students this year crafted monologues, scenes and one-act plays; a number of last year's one act plays premiered at the On Acts Festival this year. The focus remains on character, motivation and conflict, but we also look at various forms of theatre and styles of writing.

12 Major— Ms. Nienhuis

The Grade 12 Majors have studied a variety of styles and techniques this year such as clowning, stage combat, monologue coaching and in class workshops with Studio 180. The class has also been on many field trips to local theatres and enjoyed a variety of performances. For the last semester they have been working hard on their final play which is a production of a murder mystery based on the board game, CLUE. They have done everything from choosing the play to directing it, acting and all of the production roles. They will wrap up the year with their Artefact performance that they will share at the final Claude Watson Assembly.

Best of luck to all of our graduates and thank you for a fabulous 4 years!!! Bravo!

Drama continued...



Grade 10 Drama Majors—
Midsummer Night's Dream



Grade 9 Drama Majors—
The Burial At Thebes



You're a Good Man Charlie Brown



Drama Major Clown Workshop



Film Arts Department by M. Parisella

The Film Arts students take immense pride in their relentless pursuit of creative innovation and their fearless exploration of diverse storytelling forms. It is an artistic journey that continues to earn recognition both within our school and far beyond. With each new project, the Film Arts students affirm themselves as visionary filmmakers and creators of digital content. Their powerful visual narratives, captivate the imagination and stir the soul of those who are moved by their stories. The Film Arts Gala on June 4, 2025, brought to a conclusion this school year's Film Arts curriculum by highlighting work from every grade and was punctuated by the three Grade 12 final films, a true testament to the creativity, skill and growth fostered by the program! Congratulations everyone! On behalf of Mr. Harkness and myself, Mr. Parisella, we wish you all a safe, restful and inspiring summer!



Grade 9 at Work



Film Arts Gala



Grade 10 at Work

Technological Studies by M. Parisella

This year, Technological Studies were back at it—sparking creativity and confidence in our students through hands-on, practical learning. From Technological Design to Culinary Arts to Digital Media, Graphic Design, and Hair Styling, students dove into real-world experiences and built valuable, transferable skills that pave the way to both post-secondary success and career readiness. We're especially thrilled to announce two exciting additions to the Communications Technology curriculum for grades 11 and 12: TGI – Animation and Video Production and TGG – Graphic Design. These new courses will give students even more opportunities to explore their artistic talents, tell compelling stories, and bring their creative visions to life through cutting-edge technology. On behalf of the entire Technological Studies team - Mr. Belegrinis, Mr. Carayanis, Mr. Davis, Mr. Hossain, Mr. Pesa, Ms. Salvatore, Ms. Thomas and myself, Mr. Parisella—we wish you a safe, restful summer and can't wait to welcome you back for an inspiring new school year in September!



Large Holiday Cake— Grade 12 Class



Snoopy Pullpart Cake — Grade 10 Class



Pasta Sale — Grade 11 Class

Music Department by D. Pady

During this school year, our music department experienced numerous performances, workshops and collaborative experiences with professional musicians within the Toronto community.

Our concert season was a huge success, with sold out performances throughout the year. In January, we featured our semester one classes in our annual Music & Dance Revue. It was a wonderful show that allowed for some fantastic collaboration between our musicians and dancers. In March, the Music Council put together Café Carpe, which featured a festival-style format on multiple stages with various styles of music for the audience to wander around and enjoy while eating fantastic food courtesy of the culinary department. This event was in support of The Awesome Music Project, a charity dedicated to supporting mental health and well-being through the joy of music. Music Showcase was presented on April 30th and May 1st: two back-to-back concerts of completely different music. This year, we added a new performance through our Claude Watson Gr. 11s and 12s who teamed up with the Gr. 11/12 Culinary students to present a lunchtime of music and food pairings throughout the school. Proceeds from this event went toward assisting food insecurity within our community. This show highlighted amazing musical moments from our semester two classes as well as our numerous extra-curricular ensembles.

Workshops and guest opportunities throughout the year included opportunities for both our elective music classes and the Claude Watson music students. In the first semester, our Claude Watson students learned about supporting physical health in our music-making by guest Dr. Katarina Bulat. Numerous music field trips also took place with excursions to the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Opera Atelier and TOLive. Second semester was kicked off with an introduction to Korean Drumming for our Exploring Performance Genres classes by Earl Haig/ Claude Watson graduate Jackson Lee, as well as workshops on performing Persian Classical music by guest Kousha Nakhaei. Our choral students participated in a workshop by Venezuelan composer and choral conductor, Christian Grases, learning some of his own works along the way. The Earl Haig Symphony Orchestra travelled to Unionville School for the Arts to work with Johannes Debus, renowned conductor and artistic director of the Canadian Opera Company. Our Gr. 11 and 12 Claude Watson classes continued with the opportunity to write music for professional and community ensembles, which included The Bedford Trio, Chroma Vocal Ensemble and Thin Edge New Music Collective. Some of our student compositions have been and will continue to be premiered by these ensembles in upcoming concerts. Throughout the year, we welcomed guest clinicians into our classrooms to support our students with their performance technique in solo and ensemble settings. As you can see, it has been a packed year with lots of enrichment and musical joy.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our graduating class and our award winners for their extreme dedication and contribution to Earl Haig Music during their four years at our school:

Elective Musician of the Year: **Zoë Kalafatis**

Claude Watson Musicians of the Year: **Richard Nguyen and Fay Wang**

Leadership Award Winner: **Luca Marzura**

Congratulations to all of our music students for your hard work and so much beautiful music-making. Your teachers are so very proud of you.



Music and Culinary Collaboration

Music Department continued...



Music & Dance Revue Grade 11 & 12 Music and Dance Majors



Symphonic Band at Music Showcase



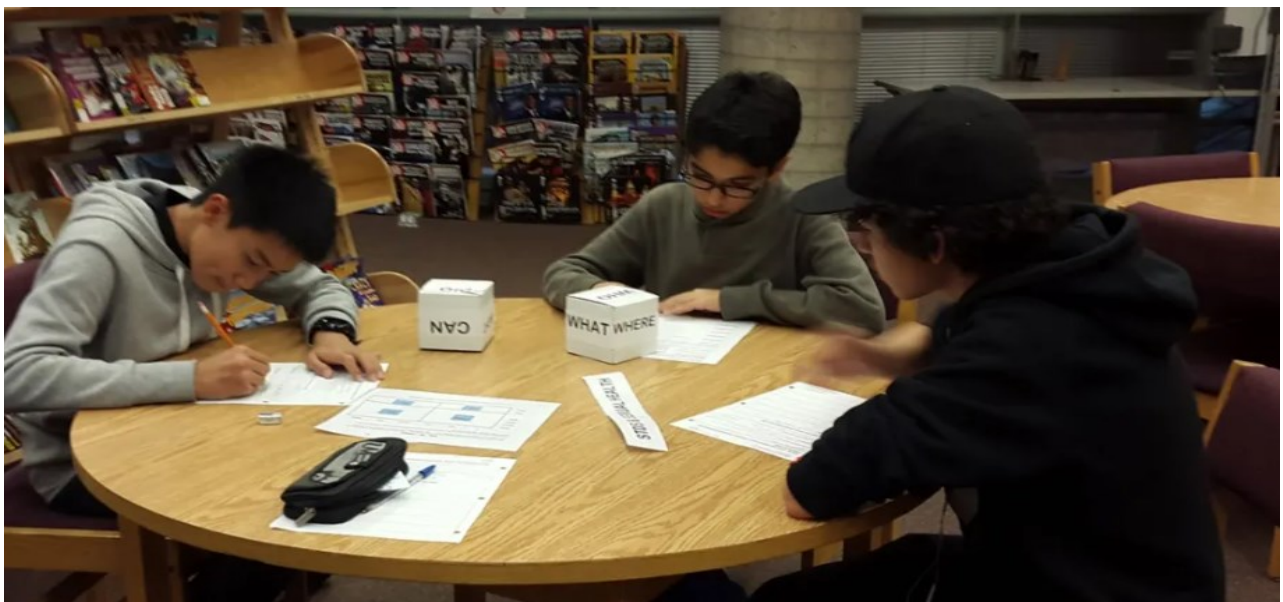
Earl Haig Symphony Orchestra with Johannes Dubus



Korean Drumming—Exploring Performance Genres Class

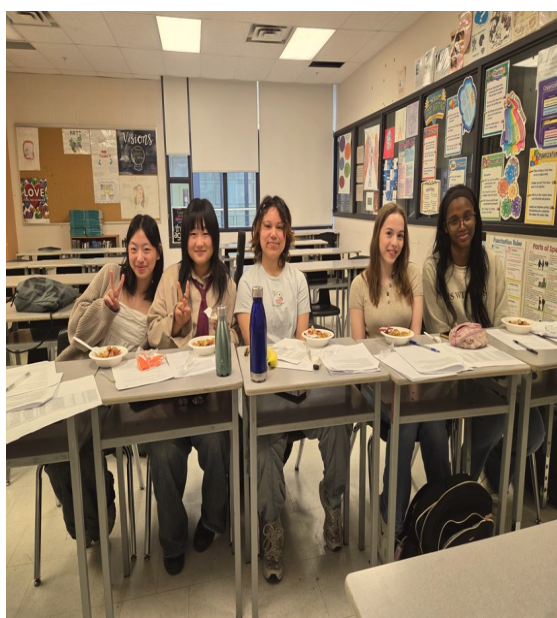
Library Commons by M. Kopyto and Ms. T. Antoniou

The Earl Haig Library Learning Commons continues to be a hub of activity. Over the past academic school year, students from every grade level and subject area have had an opportunity to work with teacher-librarians on a variety of reading, research, and digital literacy programs. We continue to work collaboratively with classroom teachers to develop meaningful assignments and activities which help students think critically, problem-solve creatively, evaluate information objectively, and communicate effectively. We continue to integrate the latest technology and pedagogy, including the ethical use of AI, to support the academic use of information and promote higher order thinking. Furthermore, the teacher-librarians would like to extend their sincere gratitude to the student library volunteers for their dedication and hard work in maintaining the library as a positive space for students. Have a safe, and relaxing summer break.



Student Engagement by Ms. F. Lue

2025 marked the second year of the Student Engagement and Equity committee. This committee and its mandate is really driven by the students. Their goal is to ensure that Earl Haig is a safe, inclusive space for all students. This year, the group decided to focus on a number of initiatives. Morning announcements now include bi-weekly reminders about the importance of mental health and the various resources available. CANVAS (an organization that specializes in equity initiatives) worked with all the Grade 9 English classes on inclusion and equity. The team also hosted a number of Equity lunches where all the affinity groups in the school came together in the spirit of connection and sharing through food. The group also hosted their first Kindness Day where students posted positive messages to uplift the school environment. Towards the end of the year, the team also went on its first Equity Walk. Using a critical eye, they looked around the building so we could examine all the spaces around the school. This will allow us to continue the mission to make the school even more accessible for every student. I want to thank the administration, teachers, but most of all the students in the Equity Committee who made all this happen.



Business Department by S. Karam

Earl Haig Students Gain Real-World Insights Through Experiential Learning In-Class and Engaging Finance and Business Trips

Toronto, ON — Earl Haig students are expanding their horizons beyond the classroom through a series of dynamic field trips, competitions, and certification programs designed to immerse them in the world of finance, business, and professional development. This semester, the school proudly facilitated several enriching experiences under the guidance of dedicated teachers Mr. Nguyen, Ms. Yoon, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Karam.



Exploring Finance Competitions and Career Pathways

Led by Mr. Nguyen, students had the opportunity to participate in the University of Toronto's prestigious Finance Competitions. These events challenged participants to apply their knowledge of financial analysis, market strategy, and teamwork in high-stakes scenarios, providing invaluable hands-on experience. In addition, Mr. Nguyen coordinated a visit to KPMG's CPA Ontario exploration event, where students gained insights into accounting careers and the evolving role of CPAs in today's business landscape.

Empowering Women in Finance and Business

Ms. Yoon spearheaded trips focusing on the role of women in the finance and business sectors. These outings offered students the chance to hear from inspiring female leaders and entrepreneurs, encouraging young women to envision themselves in powerful, influential roles. The events emphasized leadership, resilience, and the breaking of barriers in traditionally male-dominated industries.



2024-2025 was an AMAZING year for Haig DECA! We qualified 71 to Provincials. Where 23 qualified for ICDC including multiple Provincial Champions! At ICDC in Orlando, Florida we had two grade 10's represent Haig with Top 20 in the world. We had 2 teams represent us with Top 10 rankings. We also had an amazing time at Disneyworld, Disney Springs and Pin trading with students from around the world. We also increased our membership to 171 members. 2025-2026 looks to be even better as we go for glass in Atlanta, Georgia #Glassisjustpeachy

Business continued...

Pitching Vision and Innovation: Junior Achievement Triumph

A highlight of the year was the collaboration between Ms. Yoon and Mr. Allen on the Pitch Your Vision Junior Achievement competition. This entrepreneurial challenge tasks students with developing innovative business ideas and pitching them to a panel of judges. For the second year in a row, Earl Haig's 10th-grade team emerged victorious, demonstrating exceptional creativity, teamwork, and presentation skills. Their success reflects the school's strong focus on nurturing young entrepreneurs and future business leaders.



Certification and National Success: XperienceED and Canadian Championships

All participating teachers integrated XperienceED certifications into their programs, enabling students to gain tangible, industry-recognized skills. These certifications focus on practical competencies in finance, accounting and business communication, equipping students with tools essential for success beyond the classroom.

Building on these achievements, Earl Haig's teams are preparing to showcase their skills at the upcoming Canadian National Championships on June 4th. The competition will test their abilities on a national stage, affirming the value of experiential learning and professional certification in shaping the next generation of Canadian leaders.

Building on these achievements, Earl Haig's teams are preparing to showcase their skills at the upcoming Canadian National Championships on June 4th. The competition will test their abilities on a national stage, affirming the value of experiential learning and professional certification in shaping the next generation of Canadian leaders.

Professional Development at the No-Limits Conference

Under the guidance of Mr. Karam, Earl Haig students attended the CPA Ontario No-Limits Conference, a premier event promoting inclusivity and empowerment in the accounting profession. The conference provided workshops, keynote speeches, and networking opportunities designed to motivate students and prepare them for future success in the competitive financial sector.



A Step Towards Future Success

These field trips, competitions, and certifications reflect Earl Haig's commitment to preparing students for real-world challenges by bridging classroom learning with experiential opportunities. The exposure to professional environments and industry experts not only enhances students' understanding but also ignites passion and ambition for careers in finance, business, and accounting.

As Earl Haig continues to foster such enriching initiatives, its students are poised to become the next generation of leaders, equipped with both knowledge and experience to thrive in the dynamic world of finance and business.

Athletics Department by J. Brown

Wrapping Up an Incredible Year for Earl Haig Athletics

As the school year draws to a close, it's time to reflect on what has been an outstanding season for our Earl Haig athletics program. From early morning practices to our final games this year, our student-athletes have shown incredible dedication, teamwork, and school spirit.

This year, we saw some memorable highlights across all sports, including a record number of teams and athletes. Rugby, tennis, squash, Dragonboat, flag football, baseball, basketball, and table tennis were just some of the few teams we were able to field this year. Many teams, including soccer, ultimate frisbee, volleyball, swim, brought home regional championships. Both the boys and coed volleyball teams claimed city championships, showcasing the passion and drive we have here at Earl Haig. Meanwhile, our track and field, ski & snowboard, and cross country athletes shattered personal records and represented us proudly at regional meets, proving that hard work pays off.

Beyond the wins and losses, what stood out most was the way our athletes carried themselves—displaying sportsmanship, encouraging each other, and balancing their commitment to both sports and academics.

A huge shoutout goes to the coaching staff and volunteers, whose guidance and encouragement created an environment where students could thrive. Without their hard work and dedication, none of this would be possible. And of course, thank you to the families and fans whose support from the stands have meant the world to our athletes.

To everyone involved—players, coaches, parents—thank you for a fantastic year. Let's carry this momentum into next year and keep making Earl Haig proud!



Athletics continued...



Senior Coed Ultimate Frisbee North Regional Champions



Varsity Girls Regional Champions



Senior Boys Soccer Toronto Cup Champions



Coed Volleyball City Champions



Team Unbreakable 5KM Run

Social Science by S. Papoutsis

The Earl Haig Social Science Department had a very busy 2024-2025!

Pride Council once again made a big impact this year, putting together wonderful events for Pride Week, from a Queer Market to Pride Feast, and culminating in a Drag Ball! Students, staff and allies came out to support and celebrate the Earl Haig 2SLGBTQ+ community with performances by Earl Haig students and our special guest Makayla Couture, Canada's Drag Race Season 5 Runner Up! Excellent work in creating a safe space, Pride!

The **Mock Trial Competitive Team** made it to the semi-finals of the OJEN Mock Trial Competition for the first time in our school's history! Out of 32 GTA schools, Earl Haig came in 3rd place! Congratulations to all team members, club executives, lawyers, staff and students who made this possible after months of preparation. Special shout out to **Nicole Gu** who won Best Lawyer in the semi-final round!

Student Vote was a success with both the Provincial and Federal Elections. Students cast their ballots to make their voices count! A special thank you to all volunteers who made this possible!

The **Fashion Club** published four amazing digital Zeens this year filled with original articles, one of a kind fashion creations, hair and makeup stylings as well as dynamic photoshoots taken at several different Toronto locations. We are so very proud of their hard work, dedication and passion for fashion!

This year in **History Club**, students took the lead by delivering weekly presentations on a wide range of historical topics and time periods. The club provided a collaborative space for members to explore their interests and deepen their understanding of the past through peer-led discussions. Finally, the **Debate Club** hosted weekly meetings with lively debates with as many as 30 students at a time!

Social Science students also benefited from many opportunities outside of the classroom:

CHC 2D History reflected at the Toronto Holocaust Museum

CLU 3M and CLN 4U Law observed courts in action at the Ontario Court of Justice

CPW 4U Politics visited the Ontario Legislative Assembly

HRT 3M World Religions explored various religious buildings around Toronto

CHG 381 Genocide visited the Toronto Holocaust Museum and Beth Tzedec Synagogue

Finally, a big congratulations to our Grade 12 Department award winners:

Social Science Department Award Winner - **Willow Carman**

Frank E. Watson Award for History Nominee - **V Riczker**

We wish everyone a great summer, a huge congratulations to all our graduates, and we look forward to the 2025-2026 school year!



Pride Drag Ball

Social Science continued...



OJEN Mock Trial Competitive Team



History Club

Visual Arts Department by N. Sakhavarz

It has been an incredible year for the Visual Arts Department. As evidenced by our always changing main hall cabinets, we have had countless amazing works created by our grades 9-12 Earl Haig students; so much talent at this school! In March, Visual Arts Council led another amazing Fashion Event- Persephone and shortly after, plans were underway for a new partnership with The Meridian Arts Centre.

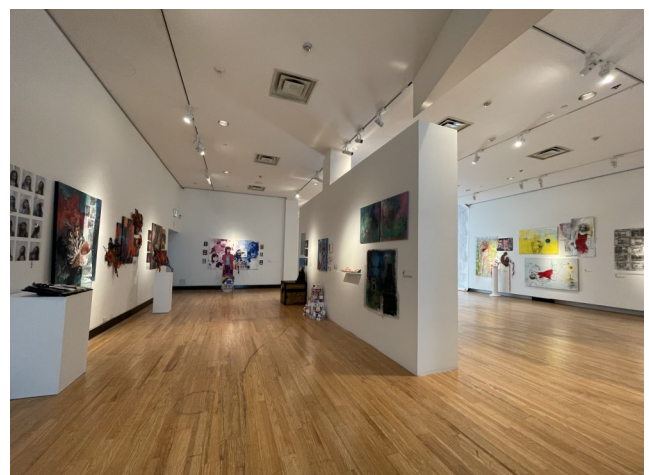
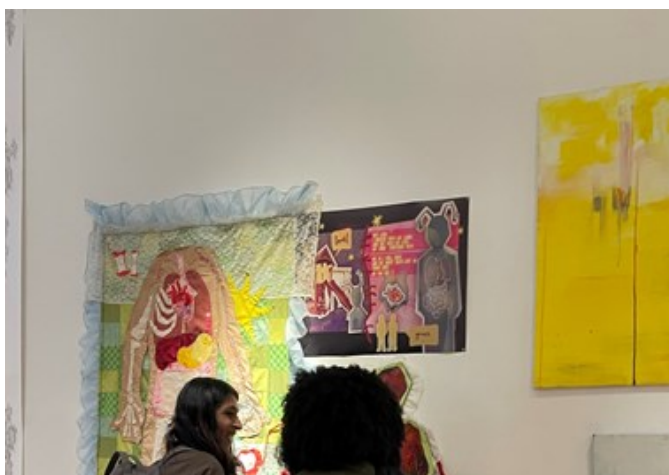
We were so excited for the opportunity to partner with The Meridian and highlight the spectacular works of our grade 12 Claude Watson visual arts majors in their main floor gallery. The exhibit drew in countless viewers from our school and the community throughout Toronto's Doors Open festival.

If one amazing opening was not enough, the department hosted yet another Earl Haig/Claude Watson visual arts opening with Epilogue 2025. Once again the art studios and the Wave Gallery were transformed and adorned with drawings, prints, photography, sculptures and paintings. Artists sold prints of their work, accessories and collectibles at our Art Market while painters worked live in the Wave Gallery.

We are so proud of the works created throughout this year and thank everyone who supports our school's artists by stopping to look :)



Grade 12 Visual Arts Majors at the Meridian Arts Centre



Visual Arts Department...continued



Grade 12 Visual Arts Majors



Grade 9—12 Fashion Event

Math Department by J. Tang

Every school year, the Math Department hosts four major math contests organized by the University of Waterloo: the **Pascal, Cayley, Fermat, and Euclid** contests. In addition, the department also runs the monthly **CNML** (Canadian National Mathematics League) contests, organized by the University of Windsor. While there were many eager participants in both contest series, several students stood out for their exceptional performance and dedication beyond the regular curriculum.

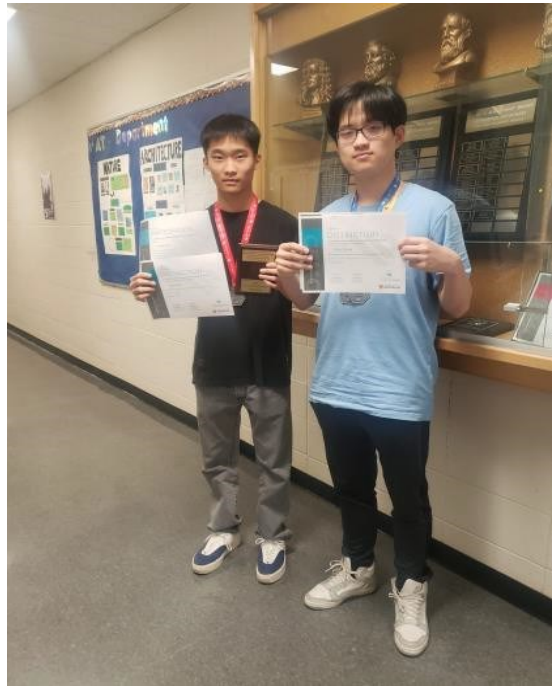
The **Euclid Contest**, written annually by students around the world—typically in their final year of high school— saw Earl Haig place 8th among all schools in Canada. A special mention goes to **Zhirui (Jeffrey) Zhang**, who scored 94/100, placing him in the top 30 students nationwide. Jeffrey received a cash prize from the University of Waterloo in recognition of his outstanding achievement.

The **Fermat Contest**, typically written by Grade 11 students, also saw remarkable performances. **Jason Gao** achieved a perfect score of 150/150, earning him a cash prize and plaque from the University of Waterloo. Special recognition also goes to **Xinyi (Olivia) Guo, Jeffrey Zhang, and Matthew Tang**, who each scored between 138- 144/150—placing them among the top 100 students in Canada.

This year, the University of Waterloo extended invitations to students to attend its prestigious mathematics camps. **Jeffrey Zhang** and **Jason Gao** participated in the **Exploring Mathematics and Computer Science Workshop**, an exclusive 30-student camp in May that focuses on problem solving techniques, computer science and mathematics lectures, and networking with other students from Coding Olympiads across Canada. They also chased geese around the campus, truly embodying the daily life of a Waterloo student. Both of them wrote challenging assessments and placed second and third respectively amongst the 30 gifted students!

Olivia Guo had the opportunity to participate in the **Lloyd Auckland Invitational Mathematics Workshop**, an exclusive 70-student camp that focused on deepening students' mathematical knowledge through lectures, puzzles and group activities. There were also social events in the nighttime for students to mingle and chat with each other, as a break for all their hard work throughout the day! The camp featured training sessions led by some of the world's top math educators and professors and offered students the opportunity to network with other gifted peers while being challenged to become the problem-solvers of tomorrow.

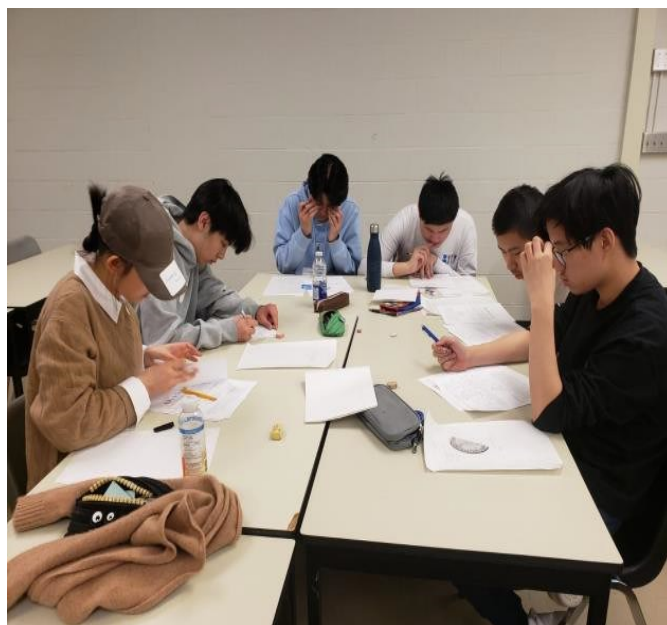
Earl Haig's Curriculum Leader of Mathematics, **Eleny Golubovici**, had the pleasure of accompanying six students to the University of Waterloo for the annual **CTMC** (Canadian Team Mathematics Contest). **Yuxin (Elizabeth) Wu, Jiale (Jerry) Zhao, Leo Zhang, Jun Kim, Zhirui (Jeffrey) Zhang, and Jacob Lu** attended the full-day competition, where schools from across the country faced off in a battle of wits. After a day filled with intense problem-solving and inquiry, Earl Haig proudly placed 8th among all participating schools in Canada.



Math Department continued...



Canadian Team Mathematics Contest



Canadian Team Mathematics Contest

March Break—France/Italy by P. Koutroubis

FRITALY 2025

This past March, 29 fortunate students embarked on a 10-day adventure through France and Italy—an unforgettable journey filled with history, culture, and connection. From the awe-inspiring grandeur of St. Peter’s Basilica, the Roman Forum, and the Colosseum, to climbing the iconic Spanish Steps and tossing coins into the Trevi Fountain, our time in Rome was nothing short of magical. In Florence, we stood in awe before Michelangelo’s masterpieces, admired Brunelleschi’s gothic Duomo, and soaked in the sweeping views from Piazzale Michelangelo. Between bites of gelato, pizza, and pasta, we explored the vibrant Florentine markets and brought home more than just souvenirs. Crossing into France, we climbed the 700 steps of the Eiffel Tower, visited the newly restored Notre Dame, strolled the Champs-Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe, and wandered through the Louvre to see the Mona Lisa and Venus de Milo. We also journeyed to the breathtaking Palace of Versailles, stepping into the opulent world of French royalty. But the most meaningful part of the trip? The bonds formed and strengthened along the way. Our students grew more independent, discovered strengths they didn’t know they had, and made memories that will last a lifetime. Now, a new group of students is preparing to follow in their footsteps on our March 2026 trip. Interested students can find the application and information in the Google Classroom code: **prmcu72z**



Colosseum, Rome Italy



Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris France



Piazzale Michelangelo, Florence Italy

March Break—France/Italy....continued



Arc de Triomphe, Paris France



Palace of Versailles, Parris France

Holidays

Sept. 2/25	First Day of School
Oct. 10/25	PA Day
Oct. 13/25	Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 14/25	PA Day
Dec. 22- Jan. 2	Holiday Break
Jan. 29/26	PA Day
Jan. 30/26	Semester 2 Courses Begin
Feb. 13/26	PA Day
Feb. 16/26	Family Day
Mar. 16-20/26	March Break
Apr. 3/26	Good Friday
Apr. 6/26	Easter Monday
May 18/26	Victoria Day
June 24/26	End of Academic Year
June 25/25	Professional Activity Days
June 26/25	Professional Activity Days

Exam Dates:

Jan. 21-27, 2026
June 17-23, 2026

Report Card Distribution Week:

Nov. 17/25
Feb. 12/26
Apr. 23/26
June 30/26

Parent Teacher Interviews:

Oct. 21, 2025 10am-12pm, 1-4pm, 6-8pm
Mar. 24, 2026 10am-12pm, 1-4pm, 6-8pm

School Council:

Sep. 30/25 Parent Info Evening
5:30-6:30 pm Social
6:30 pm - Curriculum
7:00 –8:00 pm ESL Parents

Oct. 6/25 6:00 pm - Executives/Elections

Student Activity Council 2025-2026

President: Lucas Pham
Vice President: Daran Divanbeigi
Clubs and Councils: Emily Cao
Arts Rep: Elysia Oh
Athletic Rep: Helen Gu
Community Rep: Olive Maeno-McGrath
ECO Rep: Teya Feldman
SOPSS: Renee Sharrett
Junior Mayor: Sakurako Adachi
Social Promoter: Triatha Yores
Student Advocate: Sia Shah
Media Masters Senior: Trevor Good/Rebecca Liu
Media Masters Senior: Sally Shen
Media Masters Junior: To be selected Sep/2025
Multicultural Rep: Sophia Zhao
Stage Crew Rep: Tal Mendelsohn Aviv

Leaders Collective 2025-2026

Director: Miriam Mohammed
Assistant Director: Grace Phan
Administrative Coordinator: Jacob Masters
Administrative Coordinator: Emily Ahn
Administrative Assistant: Natasha Masters
Administrative Assistant: Latifeh Zahedi
Events Coordinator: Emi Lako
Events Assistants: Hou Zeng/Grace Yamadoi
Opportunities Coordinator: Carissa Ho/Diana Ebrahimi
Opportunities Assistant: Nicole Tanney-Rivlin
Opportunities Assistant: Diana Lotfi Seisan
Promotions Coordinators: Luisa Duarte/Angie Wang
Promotions Assistants: Emmanuel Tokoli Garcia
Jake Tran
Programs Coordinator: Dahlia Zarrabian
Programs Assistant: Joseph Chan/Xinyi Wu
Special Projects Coordinator: Angus Chen/Alexis Tan
Special Projects Assistant: Jana Abdelghany

