

H A I G L I N E

June 2023



EARL HAIG SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Antonia Katsinos

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Weidong Pei

416-395-8787

School Council

Co-Chairs

Liesha Earle

Susan Lee



Principal's Message

Ricky Goldenberg

As our school year winds down...

To our students, congratulations and thank you for another wonderful and productive school year. I am grateful for your joy, astute insights and amazing talents.

To our graduating students, a fond farewell and success as you move on to explore academic possibilities or other opportunities in your post secondary endeavours.

To all teaching and support staff, our office and caretaking staff and our vice principals, you work tirelessly to connect to students and families and to do it with passion, flexibility and grace which shows me how deeply invested you are in teaching and nurturing our students. I can't thank everyone enough for your endless hours of volunteering, chaperoning, reading, organizing, donating time and doing whatever was necessary to support students—both at home and at school.

I would also like to acknowledge staff who will be leaving us at the end of the school year: Aaron Gotfryd, Christine Scholler, Hardy Pohani, John Mullaley, Jonathan Martin, Lisa Doerksen, Michael Canzi and Sasha Kardish. I wish you best of luck and thank you for the lasting impact you've had on the staff and students at Earl Haig. Thank you to our amazing school council, its executive and co-chairs, Susan Lee and Liesha Earle, for all the advice and the commitment towards our wonderful students and staff. This group of parents has done a tremendous amount of work on behalf of all parents, staff and students.

To our parents and guardians, you are truly our partners in learning and students are most successful when families and school staff work together to achieve high academic and



School Council by Susan Lee and Liesha Earle

Our Council’s purpose is to represent the school’s parents, caregivers and guardians at the Toronto District School Board, the Ministry of Education and the Earl Haig Safe and Caring Schools Committee and to act as an advisor to the Earl Haig School Administration.

Our Executive Council of 24 was formed at the beginning of the school year. The council then commenced monthly meetings, usually the 2nd Tuesday of each month with adjustments for holidays and special events, to discuss important issues related to our school student population. In addition to the executive meetings, we also hosted general meetings immediately after, that were open to all parents and guardians of Earl Haig Secondary School.

During the general meetings we invite our staff and students to speak to our parents on topics we feel are relevant and important for our student’s success. Over this past year, the topics included: Back to School orientation, University and College Applications, Jack Talk where youth talk about youth mental health and Understanding Academic and Elective course selection. Parent Council also prepared gifts and treats to encourage our staff and show our appreciation for their hard work and perseverance during this year, supporting our students even with ongoing Covid fallout.

All meetings were conducted via Zoom with very good participation from students, staff and parents.

We met with newly elected Trustee Weidong Pei of Ward 12 and invited him to Dance Night.

We also continued to advocate issues arising from the Student Interest Policy, school safety and the board’s duty to consult when implementing changes to school schedule such as semesters vs. terms.

In December, we thanked staff with snacks and treats. We also hosted our annual Staff Appreciation Breakfast on May 31st.



We would like to extend a warm thank you to the wonderful and supportive administration team, office staff, the guidance department, teachers, caretaking staff and parents and guardians for allowing us to serve our students this past year. We wish the graduating class of 2023 every success in their future endeavours, whatever they may be. We look forward to seeing our returning students

Student Nutrition Program by S. Hantzakos

Many thanks to the **Toronto Foundation for Student Success, 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.



English Department by M. Webster

2022/2023 was a rich year of building on departmental traditions, all of which celebrate student voices.

Congratulations to **Michelle Jeon** our 2023 *Poetry-in-Voice* champion. She became Earl Haig's recitation queen on April 13th when poetic champs from twelve different English classes duked it out in our ninth-annual recital competition.

On May 11th, the English Department celebrated its best writers at the 39th annual *Pierre Berton Writing Contest*. Sara Waisglass, actress, screenwriter and former EHSS student, acted as our outside adjudicator crowning Erlisa Muharremi as the Senior Writer of the Year, and Sienna Wiitasalo as the Junior Writer of the Year. The ceremony lauded the efforts of thirty other winners and finalists, all of whom received a beautiful **Pearl Song** anthology.

Radiohaig served the entire school community with a top-notch crew of student-voice announcers and morning-show producers. Thanks to Monday's Julie Mesha, Tuesday and Wednesday's grade-ten team of Malou Chan, Nailah Padilla, and Willow Carman; Thursday's Eno Ma, and Friday's "Top-Five Director", Hannah Park. These voices made our mornings smoother and enriched our school environment.

Finally, best wishes to all our graduating grade 12 English students who are going to college and university prepared and confident: carpe diem!



Congratulations to - Michelle Jeon 2023 Poetry-in-Voice champion, Amy Sarjeant and Eva Stoitchkova

English Department continued.....



Congratulations to—Erlisa Muharremi and Sienna Witasalo alongside with Sara Waisglass, actress screenwriter



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.

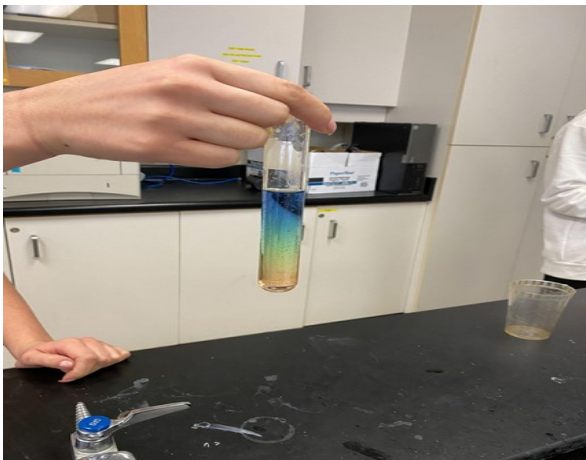
Grade 9 students went on a field trip to the zoo in first and second semester. The event was part of their Sustainable Ecosystems Unit of study. As well, Steven Lang from the Canadian Space Resource Centre (CSRC) presented to the grade 9s as part of their Astronomy Unit. He even brought in a mobile planetarium in which students got to participate.



The grade 12 Biology students conducted an analysis of their own DNA using biotechnology equipment such as micropipettes, PCR and electrophoresis, during a full-day workshop at the Ontario Science Centre.



The Chemistry department continues to conduct hands-on experiments to improve laboratory skills they may not have received during the pandemic.



Science Department continued.....

357 participants with a score of 89.3%.

About 30 students wrote the UW Chemistry contest in May, results are:

1st Place at Earl Haig Angie Wang

2nd Place at Earl Haig Shannon Marden

3rd Place at Earl Haig Benson Jiang/Sophia Lin

The rest also placed in the top 25th percentile in the world and top 10th percentile in Canada

JunCheng Guo

Wendy Han

Nicholas Chen

Alexander Ren

Seojun Lee

Emily Cai

Christopher Mong

Ling Lin

Aria Abdi

The following students scored in the top 10th percentile in Canada.

Justin Qiu

Saidy Kim

Marcell Berenyi

Yuan Ling Xia

Finally on May 30 we had our awards assembly and the Grade 12 winners of science awards were as follows:

Course	Grade 12
Biology (University)	Ada Selcuk
Chemistry (University)	Steve Nguyen
Chemistry (College)	Curl Jessu Llarves
Physics (University)	Daniel Smadja
Earth and Space Science (University)	Yuchong Zhang
Overall Science Proficiency (University Biology, Chemistry and Physics)	Steven Luo

Congratulations to all the winners.

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

Technological Studies and Computer Science by M. Parisella

The Technological Studies and Computer Science Departments were at it again this year teaching and showing students *hands-on, practical* transferrable skills in Tech Design, Culinary, Communications Technology (Digital Media Art), Computer Sciences and Hair Styling. The skills taught in the Technological Studies and Computers Science courses, keep-on building towards current and relevant curriculum that can help students towards post-secondary and workplace programs. This year's highlights – TDSB SKILLS and SKILLS ONTARIO winners! A big congratulations to Levi Riczker and Linc Guo (Grade 10 Film Arts Majors), who won Gold in Video Production (team of two) at TDSB SKILLS while Milos Zderic (photography) and Peggy Zhang (graphic design) competed at SKILLS ONTARIO, where Peggy won Bronze!

On behalf of the entire Technological Studies and Computer Sciences teachers: Mr. Carayanis, Ms. Coughlan, Ms. Cruceanu, Mr. Davis, Mr. Melendez, Mr. Parisella, Mr. Pesa, Mr. Saleem, Ms. Salvatore, Mr. Williams and Ms. Wun, we wish you all the best for a safe and restful summer and look forward to an exciting new school year come September!



Students in action, Grade 10 TXJ201

Technological Studies and Computer Science by M. Parisella



Levi and Linc GOLD MEDALIST



Peggy on her way to a BRONZE at SKILLS ONTARIO

Dance Department by T. Lee-Blight

Greetings from the Dance Department.

The dance and music department collaborated on a new performance event called "Music and Dance Revue". The evening featured student choreography by our performance dance class and contemporary dance pieces by our senior dance elective class. It was a full house of creative energy, sound and movement.

DANCE NIGHT 2023 Our students worked hard to bring an eclectic mix of dances to our stage; classical chinese dance, ballet, jazz, hip hop, modern and contemporary dance. Thank you to our dance teachers and guest artists for inspiring our dancers to create dances that are entertaining, meaningful and emotional. A special thank you to our artist in-residence Adrianna Yanuziello. She shared her love, history and knowledge of Brazilian Samba with our students and together they created an explosive piece to close our show.

DANCE COLLECTIVE NIGHT 2023 - Dreams

Thank you to our student producers Eleny Xia and Laylie Wiesenfeld, our student choreographers and our grade 9 dance elective class. Congratulations on a successful evening!

Thank you to our Dance Council Co-presidents; Abigail Dunbar and Sophie Eisberg-Marshall for organizing and leading exciting events throughout the year with their executive team and general members.

We would like to congratulate our Grade 12 Award winners: Abigail Dunbar, Hannah Park, Shannon Lee and Theodora Vulpe.

Best Wishes to all of our dance graduates and their next exciting adventures into future studies, pathways and explorations in the years ahead.



Grade 9 Majors

Dance Department continued...



Grade 10 Majors



Grade 12 Majors

Dance Department continued...



Grade 11 Majors



Dance Elective Performance

Athletics Department by J. Brown

This picture was taken at the start of the EHAC x SAC Basketball Buyout Student vs Teachers game. In four quarters, we were able to watch many shots, layups, free throws, and of course, the Carp as a coach for the student's team. The students fought hard, but in the end, the teachers were able to edge out the students in the final seconds with the game ending 35-32. The students had athletic ability but could not top the teacher's experience and game intelligence. This event set up the way of a rivalry between the two groups, which ended up with them playing off against each other in the Floor Hockey student vs teachers game.



Film Arts Department by M. Parisella

The 2022-23 school year for the Film Arts Program concluded on May 31st where we held our **Film Arts Gala** to a packed auditorium! The audience members were moved by the various film productions from all grades with a special emphasis and send-off to our graduating class of 2023! On October 27, 2022, we showcased the **SUSPENSE Film Festival** to a full house. Students showed their creative abilities to build suspense and thrilling anticipation through technical and storytelling abilities. Key films of the event were "*Slusher*", "*The Callow*" and "*The Silence Between Us*." On February 21, 2023, we showcased the **Short & Sweet Film Festival**. The audience experienced 'laugh-out-loud' films that were light-hearted, comical and heart-warming. On April 27, 2022 marked the "**27th Anniversary of The Zoom International Student Film Festival.**" Film submissions representing over 30 countries worldwide were submitted and five Film/TV industry guest judges deliberated over the films to select nine winners! Congratulations to the Film Arts students for the following winning films: "Slusher" for "Best Junior Filmmakers", "Marry It" for "Audience Choice Award" and "Flavours" for "Best Director."

A big shout-out to the **Film Arts Council** who have continued to work together to bring forward all these festivals to the EHSS community and beyond. Through their hard work and integrity, The Film Arts Council have helped create a natural bridge between the junior and senior students within the program. Thank-you to Amber Stuffers and Mindy Yan, Co-Presidents, for leading such an amazing group!

To the **Graduating Film Arts Class of 2023**, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors! It was a real pleasure having your creativity in film touch us all these past four years! Your work will continue to inspire future Film Arts filmmakers for years to come! All the best for an amazing future!

On behalf of the Film Arts teachers: Mr. Harkness, Mr. Singer and myself, we wish you all a safe and wonderful summer and we can't wait to see you all in September to kick off some new, student-driven stories! Keep in touch: YouTube: Film Arts @ Earl Haig and INSTAGRAM: @EHSSFILM



Grade 9 Film Arts Students at work



Grade 10 Film Arts Students at work



Grade 11 Film Arts Students at work



Grade 12 Film Arts Students Final Bow

Music Department by D. Pady

In our first full year of in-person learning since 2019, our music department had a fantastic year of performances, workshops and exposure to music-making within the Toronto community.

We began our year by taking 145 students to see a production of Bizet's *Carmen* by the Canadian Opera Company. This experience led to many meaningful classes and workshops about social messaging through music, political controversy outlined in the storyline as well as workshops with guests as our Gr. 11/12 Claude Watson class, Symphony Orchestra, and Earl Haig Singers prepared excerpts from the opera which they performed at Music Showcase. Year-long projects like this provide such a fantastic opportunity to explore music and its connection to the world around us.

Workshops and guest opportunities throughout the year included a series of lessons with Labyrinth Ontario on Makam music from the Ottoman region, performance workshops with Cree composer Andrew Balfour, workshops on African American spirituals with choral conductor Brainerd Blyden-Taylor, Javanese Gamelan workshops with David Powell courtesy of the TDSB Arts Department, lessons on writing raps with Solitair, Mariachi workshops with Mariachi Viva Mexico, collaboration with the TD Toronto Downtown Jazz Festival, in addition to numerous guests supporting our classes and ensembles with instrumental and vocal technique. Our Gr. 11 and 12 Claude Watson classes continued with their opportunity to write music for professional and community ensembles, which this year included The Bedford Trio, the Oriana Women's Choir and the Thin Edge New Music Collective. Some of our student compositions will be premiered by these ensembles in upcoming concerts.

Our concert season was a full one this year. Each concert received sold-out audiences. In January, we featured our semester one classes in music and dance at our inaugural Music & Dance Revue. It was a wonderful show that allowed for some fantastic collaboration between our musicians and dancers. In February we enjoyed an intimate concert setting for Piano Night in the Ruth Watson Theatre. In March, the Music Council led our first in-person Café Carpe, which featured a festival-style format of multiple stages with various styles of music for the audience to wander around and enjoy while eating food and perusing a silent auction. This event was in support of the Toronto Arts Foundation. Music Showcase consisted of two back-to-back concerts of completely different music. This show highlighted amazing musical moments from our semester two classes as well as our numerous extra-curricular ensembles.

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 Musicians of the Year: Anne-Shirley Chao & Emmett Schimpl

Claude Watson Musicians of the Year: William Aliferis and Daniel Smadja

Leadership Award Winners: Alison Back & Jackson Lee

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 Department by D. Pady



Students practicing Javanese Gamelan



Canadian Opera Company Workshop



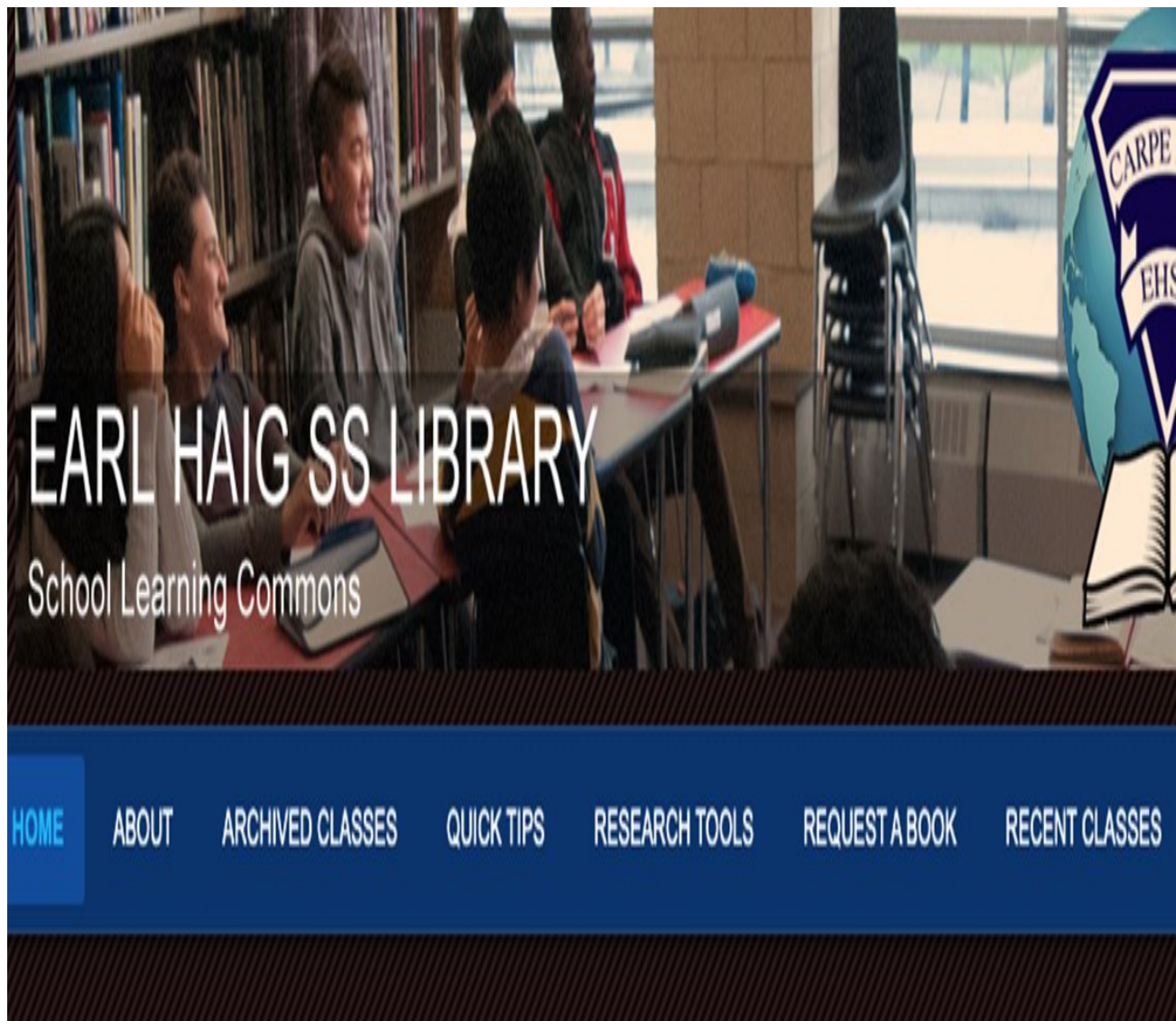
Mariachi Viva Mexico Workshop

Library Commons by M. Kopyto

The Earl Haig Library Commons would like to thank all staff and students who have helped keep the library program up and running. The school teacher/librarians, Ms. Figliano-Craig and Mr. Kopyto, continue to work collaboratively with classroom teachers to develop rich inquiry projects and lessons which emphasize critical thinking and research related skills. We continued to integrate the latest technological pedagogy to support student literacy, research and inquiry and higher order thinking for all students.

Throughout the summer, students continue to have access to their TDSB Google Drive and our school digital subscription resources. Students can access quality, reliable information from our growing list of subscriptions. To access these resources visit our school library website: www.earlhaig.ca/library and through the [TDSB Virtual Library](#).

Lastly, we would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of our dedicated student volunteers, especially our group of library executives--without their dedication and hard work maintaining the Earl Haig Library Commons as a center of learning and research would not be possible. Have a safe and enjoyable summer. Carpe Diem!



EARL HAIG SS LIBRARY
School Learning Commons

[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [ARCHIVED CLASSES](#) [QUICK TIPS](#) [RESEARCH TOOLS](#) [REQUEST A BOOK](#) [RECENT CLASSES](#)

Student Activity Clubs and Councils by Elly Peng and Emily Shoval

Earl Haig clubs and councils filled the 2022/23 school year with vibrance and spirit. The successes of this school year exemplify the capabilities of the student body working together post-pandemic; it represents a year of resilience and revival.

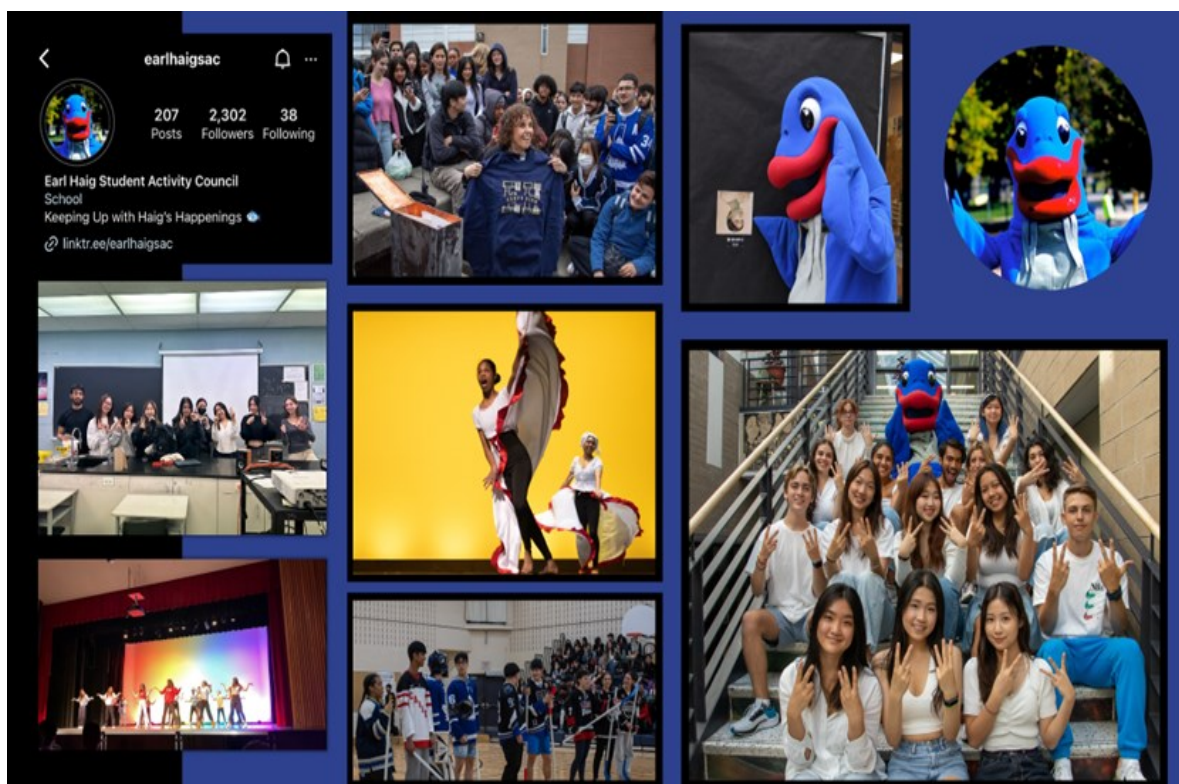
To start the year, we had a successful Orange Shirt Day campaign, where the Legacy of Hope Foundation featured Earl Haig in a press release. SAC brought back Outreach Week, filled with buyouts, hallway concert and Carnival Day, where we made over \$10 000 to donate to charity—in addition to Outreach Week, SAC and family councils hosted multiple weeks full of events, including SAC Week, SOPSS Spirit Weeks, ECO Week, Junior Week, Multicultural Week, and Arts Week. In our annual Safe Space Survey, we reached over 900 students, more than five times more than last year.

This year, SAC Family Councils came back more vital than ever. SOPSS held three incredible Spirit Assemblies and Spirit Weeks, Arts Council brought back Coffee House and SAC worked with EHAC to organize two Student-Teacher Sports buyouts. Multicultural Council held a great multicultural assembly, Social Committee pulled together an incredible semiformal dance and Junior Council hosted a well-loved event with a twist - the Beaster Egg Hunt.

Earl Haig had more than 80 registered clubs and councils in 2023. Each month was filled with fan favourite events from over the years to funky and fresh events new to this one. Some favorites from both categories were Masked Singer by SOPSS, Black Student Arts Association's Black History Month Assembly and JC x Cooking Club's vegan pasta event. Clubs Council held two club fairs to showcase the vibrant extracurriculars at the school and the Clubs Banquet to celebrate our collective efforts. Congratulations to ECO Council for winning Club of the Year.

Thank you to all the SAC staff supervisors—Ms. Koutroubis, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Morin and Mr. Cameron for the time you've put in and out of school hours to ensure our success. Thank you to Principal Ms. Goldenberg, the vice principals, and the main office for supporting our events. Thank you to all the students for celebrating each other and participating in our events. 2022/23 was a great year;

I'm elated for the next.



Guidance Department by C. Zaghikian

What a wonderful year we had, back to doing what we do best. Earl Haig staff and students were back in full force. A big thank you to our Administration, Office Staff, our Guidance Office Assistant, all our guidance counsellors and support workers and our classroom teachers who worked tirelessly to support our students throughout this challenging year. A big thank you also to our Caretaking team who worked around the clock to keep our school clean and safe for all of us.

Grads:

It was with great joy that we were able to celebrate and honour our graduates with a Graduate Awards Ceremony, Prom as well as Commencement. We congratulate all our graduates, recognizing the individuality of each student, and wishing them every success in their future endeavors as they follow their own unique pathways to success. Managing to finish high school in the middle of a pandemic was a far from ideal scenario for our students, but it taught them resilience, perseverance and flexibility, qualities which will strengthen their resolve and prepare them well for the next step in their journey.

Mental Health and Wellness:

At Earl Haig, we continue to place great importance on mental wellness, as we strive to promote self-care, balance and reflection in all aspects of school life. We want to thank our wonderful COPE group for continuing to promote mental wellness. They worked hard on encouraging their peers, as well as creating opportunities for students to learn how to manage stress and balance their needs. They accomplished all this through many fun and informative events, even with the challenges of online learning and social distancing.

Peer Tutoring:

A big thank you to Ms. Leo and her group of dedicated Peer Tutors who were able to offer their peers academic support, despite the challenges of online schooling and social distancing. Their efforts have become a big asset to EHSS and we look forward to next year when we can expand the program and reach out to even more students!

LC Connect:

We also want to thank Mr. Low and Mr. Panagopoulos for the LC Connect Program. We look forward to making more connections within the school next year.

Summer School:

For TDSB summer school information, please go to www.creditprograms.ca. Students completing TDSB summer school courses will have their transcripts automatically updated. Students taking courses with all other boards/ programs outside of TDSB (i.e. TCDSB, YRDSB, private schools, overseas programs) must bring in report cards in late August so transcripts can be updated.

Timetable Changes:

Guidance counsellors will be available in late August to make any necessary timetable changes. Students are asked to follow the Earl Haig Guidance Department Instagram page [@earlhaigguidance](https://www.instagram.com/earlhaigguidance) for information on timetable change forms and dates. A link to the timetable change request google form will be posted in late August. **Please note that timetable changes will be made at this point only if a change is warranted.**

Post-Secondary Information for Class of 2024:

Graduating students moving on to post-secondary pathways will be getting all the information they need for their next steps, beginning in September. We will be hosting two Post-Secondary Pathways Fairs for our graduating students: the GTA Post-Secondary Pathways Fair in October and the non-GTA Post-Secondary Pathways Fair in November. A lot more information is to come on the application processes, but if students want to look ahead, they can visit www.electronicinfo.ca for university programs and scholarships, www.ouac.on.ca for university applications and www.ontariocolleges.ca for college applications.

Guidance Department continued.....

Guidance Information:

Guidance News posted weekly on the Guidance Page at www.earlhaig.ca/guidance
EHSS Guidance Account on Instagram @earlhaigguidance

Summer Well-Being Guide:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MCqzBUf3azVOYt8K0YJ_IDSrfZGzEWIsW4KKBH_SeA0/edit

Happy Summer:

We would like to wish all our students and their families a safe and enjoyable summer holiday. It has been a long year and we urge everyone to take some time to decompress and re-energize. Make sure you get out there, enjoy the outdoors, stay active and try something new. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Best Regards: Ms. Leo, Ms. Leung, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Low, Mr. Panagopoulos and Ms. Zaghikian!

Business Department by M. Canzi

The Business and Cooperative Learning Department has had another successful year providing our students with opportunities to learn about business and to develop career-related skills both within the classroom as well as through experiential activities outside of the school.

In keeping with providing varied learning opportunities, we offered our students (depending on the course taken) occasions this year to apply and expand their knowledge in enriched activities, including:

A group of our female Business students attended the ***JA World of Choices: Empowering Young Women*** conference in Toronto in March, an event that “celebrates and champions women in the workplace...[and] inspires young women to consider exciting careers in a range of industries”. While there, our students were motivated about future career path options from inspirational industry expert speakers who shared their real-world stories of their careers - from skilled trades to finance and everywhere in between

Our Grade 11 Accounting students had presentations on the accounting profession, accounting careers and pursuing accounting studies at the post-secondary level from the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario.

“Provided enhanced content for Grade 11 Marketing classes through integration of You Tube video content from the University of Illinois.”

Grade 12 Sports Marketing students completed projects investigating the use of Indigenous team names in professional and university sports, learning about their impact on Indigenous cultures and coming up with solutions and designs to rebrand those teams to something more inclusive.

Students had the opportunity to compete in the ***Financial Literacy Competition*** sponsored by the University of Waterloo.

The DECA Business Club had another successful year. Over 60 students competed in various case study or business plan presentation categories. Our team competed strongly at both the GTA competition as well as the Provincial championship. Two of our competitors, Owen Fang and Mark Wang, qualified to go the International DECA competition in Orlando, Florida and performed very strongly. This was an amazing experience for our DECA Club leaders and members as they applied their business knowledge, perfected their presentation skills and built their self-confidence.

In our Cooperative Learning program, we worked diligently in providing experiential work opportunities in numerous industries within the community for approximately 100 students this year. Our students worked at community businesses varying from schools, hospitals and construction to retail, restaurants, law offices and more. Students gained valuable work experience, learned new, or enhanced current skills and appreciated the guidance and feedback provided to them by their workplace mentors. We celebrate the success of our student-community relationships and thank our workplace professionals for their time and their continued support of our students’ academic and personal growth and achievement.

Lastly, we would like to congratulate our Grade 12 Department Award winners:

Grade 12 Business – Michelle Li and Nicholas Ng

Grade 12 Co-op – Felix Huang

The department would like to applaud all of our students on another uniquely memorable year.

Best of luck to our 2023 graduates, and we look forward to seeing our returning students in class again next year!

Drama Department by L. Kurtz

The grade 9 drama majors have been put through their paces this year. Semester one was all about foundations and fundamentals. Ms. Kurtz guided them and prepared them for their second semester focus on production. In February, Ms. Krekeler took up the reins and whipped the students into shape for their very successful production of *The Burial at Thebes* - an annual event that the school has not seen since April of 2018, thanks to the pandemic. On May 30th, 4:00 and 7:00 audiences were treated to a spectacular return of this adaptation of Antigone. Well done class of 2027!

This year, our Grade 10 Drama Majors focused on a variety of workshops tackling different forms of Physical Theatre and acting techniques with Ms. Nienhuis and Ms. Kurtz. Students had the pleasure of working with guest Artists Noam Markus in Masque Work, Ryan Kelly for Viewpoints and Improvisation with Meisner Technique, Dean Gabourie, Approaches to Shakespeare and Leo Dragonieri Masque and Commedia Dell'arte. All of these workshops culminated in a staged presentation of Shakespearean scenes. In class, students discovered new layers for approaching the text, utilizing metaphors, rhetoric, imagery, punctuation, literary devices and voice technique to bring their work to life marrying it with their physical theatre work. Students are now well prepared to move on to their next year of study where they will be diving into a variety of performances for a public audience through different genres of theatre study.

The grade 11 drama majors spent their first semester with Ms. Krekeler as they prepared a lunchtime theatre production of melodrama. Two different productions were produced - each with student directors. The class took care of the whole production - acting, directing, set, costumes, lights, sound, everything and our first semester audiences got to have some great belly laughs as they sat through two very silly melodrama plays - *General Horsepital* and *The Lost Samantha Treasure*. Mr. Singer took over in semester two, and they have done not one, not two, but THREE different lunchtime theatre presentations. They started with *Waiting For Godot*, then moved into scenes from plays in the style of realism and naturalism and finished off the year with theatre of the absurd. They are now well equipped to launch into their final year of their Claude Watson journey.

The Grade 12 Drama Majors began the year in collaboration on a project with the Grade 12 Film Arts Majors, auditioning for and acting in films that students wrote and directed. We then began working on our final production, two abridged plays from William Shakespeare, *Macbeth* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Presenting this work on May 17th left little time to prepare for our upcoming contribution to the Claude Watson Showcase, which we are currently creating and rehearsing. In the first semester the grade 12's worked on acting technique, audition monologues, theatre history and verbatim theatre with Mrs. Nienhuis. Congratulations to the class for their hard work and dedication over the past 4 years! On behalf of the whole drama department we wish you luck in your future adventures. Please come visit!!!



Grade 12's, Drama Majors Claude Watson

Visual Arts Department by N. Sakhavarz

Another fabulous year of art viewing, making and celebrating in the visual arts department! This past year, we saw the much anticipated return of our exciting in-person exhibits, initiative and collaborations. Our grade 11 majors collaborated with Downsview's grades 3-5 classes for a workshop. The Visual Arts council ran 2023's Fashion event, "What on Earth"; what a great opening. We also transformed our studios into spectacular gallery spaces, hosting our first ever in-house departmental exhibit, "Epilogue 2023".

As always, we bid farewell to our graduating class who worked tirelessly in creating amazing works of art, despite the challenges of the past four years.

We are so proud of the works and ideas generated in our department this year; bravo everyone!



Fashion Event 2023—What on Earth

Visual Arts Department...continued



Epilogue 2023



Lots of eye candy at Epilogue 2023!

Holidays

Sept. 5/23	First Day of School
Oct. 6/23	PA Day
Oct. 9/23	Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 17/23	PA Day
Dec. 25- Jan. 8	Holiday Break
Feb. 1/24	PA Day
Feb. 2/24	Semester 2 Courses Begin
Feb. 16/24	PA Day
Feb. 19/23	Family Day
Mar. 11-15/24	March Break
Mar. 29/24	Good Friday
Apr. 1/24	Easter Monday
May 20/24	Victoria Day
June 26/24	End of Academic Year
June 27/24	Professional Activity Days
June 28/24	Professional Activity Days

Exam Dates:

Jan. 25-31
June 21-27, 2023

Report Card Distribution Week:

Nov. 20/23
Feb. 12/24
Apr. 26/24
June 28/24

Parent Teacher Interviews:

Nov. 02/23 10am-12pm, 1-4pm, 6-8pm
Apr. 03/24 10am-12pm, 1-4pm, 6-8pm

School Council:

Sep. 21/23 Parent Info Evening
5:30-6:30 pm Social
6:30 pm - Curriculum
7:00 -8:00 pm ESL Parents

Oct. 10/23 6:00 pm - Executives/Elections

Student Activity Council 2023-2024

President: Elly Peng
Vice President: Pearl Song
Clubs and Councils: Joanna Wang
Arts: Stella Cobb
Athletic Rep: Nafas Izadpour
Community Rep: Matthew Sawaya
ECO: Rojin Khansari-Abyaneh
SOPSS: Olivia Buckspan
Junior Mayor: Koshin Bathmax
Social Promoter: Riley Woo
Student Advocate: Sahar Ahmad
Media Masters Senior: Giota Chalkiotis
Media Masters Senior: Kira Shteiman
Media Masters Junior: To be Selected in Sep/23
Multicultural Rep: Eleny Xia
Stage Crew Rep: Rachel Abramovich

Leaders Collective 2023-2024

Director: Rana Mohammed
Assistant Director: Zariya Shaikh
Administrative Coordinator: Phoenix Hsuen
Administrative Coordinator: Michael Pasyechnyk
Administrative Assistant: Ethan Liu
Administrative Assistant: Miriam Mohammed
Events Coordinator: Sophia Liu
Events Assistants: Brianna Alberto/Nika Jahadi
Opportunities Coordinator: Sarah Pan
Opportunities Assistants: Carissa Ho/Irina Poenaru
Promotions Coordinator: Eno Ma/Hoon Dao
Promotions Assistants: Emma Liu/Tessa Norenus
Programs Coordinator: Fay Wang
Programs Assistant: Zoobiya Shaikh
Programs Assistant: Sienna Wiitasalo
Special Projects Coordinator: Nidhi Benoy
Special Projects Coordinator: Mia Xuan
Special Projects Assistant: Grace Fan

