

Opening of School Weekend Welcomes New and Returning Students

PRISHA SHIVANI &
BAILEY XU

New students arrived on campus last Wednesday, bombarded by throngs of cheering Seniors, ready to take on a weekend packed with Opening of School Orientation activities and a variety of community meetings.

Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, celebrated how a general love for the Andover community propelled a smooth transition for new students. Specifically, Esty emphasized the amount of people and diversity of groups who embraced orientation.

“I love that students are so involved in orientation and welcoming and supporting new students. We have a really large number of students involved and so I like that we involve student leaders from across campus not from anyone particular. It’s not just Blue Keys who raise their hands to be orientation leaders but it’s everybody. It’s the Proctors and Prefects, it’s the team Captains, it’s Communi-

ty and Multicultural Department leaders. There’s just so many people involved and I think that’s one of the beauties of this school, and one of the things that’s probably most appealing to new students,” said Esty.

David Porto ’26, a Prefect in Rockwell House, spoke on his experience of being a part of Orientation for the first time. He commented on his responsibilities as Prefect and appreciated the ability to meet incoming students from a different standpoint on campus.

“I was at registration on the day that the new international students were coming in, and it felt really nice to get to talk to new students, ask where they’re living, what they are doing for sports and things like that. It just felt nice to meet people... It’s a totally different perspective, because I know what they’ve been through, and now I get to see what the Prefects went

Continued on A5, Column 1



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Blue Key Heads and Blue Keys prepare to welcome new students.

Rain Showers Bring Andover Together at Cluster Olympics



Andover’s student body flooded the center of Phelps Stadium field in crowds, spurned on by unexpected rain.

WILLIAM GE &
CHRISTIAN ESTRADA

Accompanied by pouring rain, students charged into the center of Phelps Stadium in the middle of Andover’s first-ever Cluster Olympics. Crowded around the soaked cluster flags, students started impromptu waves of chants, dances, and singing, capping off the night’s festivities with a demonstration of cluster pride.

The Olympics are a part of the Dean’s Office’s effort to bolster a sense of belonging on campus for all members of the Andover community. Aya Murata, Assistant Dean of Students and Residential Life, spearheaded the planning process with Tasha Bohorad ’26, crowdsourcing ideas from over 150 student leaders.

“My goal was to build community, especially for the closed weekend when we traditionally haven’t had much going on Saturday. In the past, it was up to clusters to organize activities, which were mostly student-driven and didn’t involve advisors, House Counselors, or other adults. I thought that since we have this captive audience on campus during the first weekend, we should have a way to kick off the energy and foster

relationship building, which is the foundation of a strong school year,” said Murata.

After students gathered in Phelps Stadium, events proceeded normally for several hours before rain suddenly broke out. Some students left the stadium, seeking shelter in the Snyder Center, while students already on the field began dancing. Marcela Hernandez ’25, a Blue Key Head, talked about how the phenomenon spread.

“I started dancing in the rain with my [Abbot] Co-Prefects, Migyu [Kim] ’25 and Charles [Vest] ’25, and with Jaylen [Dayley] ’25, another Blue Key Head... and I noticed that a lot of my friends in Abbot also started dancing and singing, and when you’re singing in the rain, no one really cares, because you can’t really hear anything. So it just became a really fun environment. We all kind of invited everyone onto the field to just dance in the rain. And I haven’t felt that much school spirit, maybe ever, in such a concentrated area, and so it was just so much fun, and it was surreal... and then joining into that big mosh in the middle of the field in the rain was just such a fun experience, probably one of my highlights at Andover,” said Hernandez.

Russell McLaren ’27, a new Lower, commented on his takeaways from the Olympics. McLaren highlighted how the night acted as a fitting way to introduce students to Andover.

“It was a great way to start my time here at Andover. It’s definitely going to be one of the memories I look back on... Everyone had a lot of energy, everyone was hyped up. Like I said, it’s definitely a memorable event. Myself and everyone else will look back on it as a great way to start the year,” said McLaren.

Thomas Campbell ’28 competed for Abbot Cluster in the Rock-Paper-Scissors event of the Olympics, taking second. He spoke to how his perspective toward the Olympics shifted as the night went on.

“First, it seemed more annoying than fun because it was such a long walk to get to the initial place, but it was hyped up by all my dormmates because it seemed kind of cool. And once we finished the initial part, like with our cluster, I didn’t realize we were gonna have to meet up with everybody

Continued on A5, Column 4

Andover Welcomes 24 New Teachers for the 2024-2025 School Year

ADEN HWANG &
NIKI TAVAKOLI

24 new faculty have joined Andover for the 2024-2025 school year. From coaching Varsity teams to living in the dorms with students, the new community members shared their excitement for the upcoming year as well as the unique benefits of working at Andover.

Many of these newcomers are a part of Andover’s Teaching Fellowship program, a program for those with little or no teaching experience. For one to two years, Teaching Fellows teach two classes a term and serve as House Counselors and coaches. They are also paired with an academic mentor, attend seminars, and meet with other teaching fellows to improve their pedagogical skills. Rachel Conley, Teaching Fellow in Chemistry, elaborated on the benefits of teaching fellows learning together as a cohort.

“I have learned a tremendous amount about [the other teaching fellows], their teaching styles, and their leadership. It’s really nice to be a part of the Fellowship program because I have other fellows who are going through the exact same thing as me, despite [the fact that] they might be in Theater or English or different disciplines than I am. There is a commonality that we are all able to share and work together as one team, and that then transcends into how I teach,” said Conley.

For many teachers, the arrival of new faculty brings new perspectives to their department. Marcelle Doheny, Instructor in History, noted how new faculty members’ diverse backgrounds often lead to novel develop-



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

New faculty gather outside of Draper Hall before the school year.

ments in departmental teaching.

“Some new faculty come here with a lot of teaching experience, and some people come new as teaching fellows, and they are both good because they refresh everything we know and they help us with new ideas because you can get stuck in your ways. What happens inside departments is we’re discussing courses and we’re discussing ideas. We certainly do [discuss] in the history department, so when we have new teachers come in... they come up with new ideas and new activities,” said Doheny.

When asked about their favorite parts of Andover, new teachers highlighted Andover’s small class sizes and school spirit. Lorena Corbelli, Teaching Fellow in Biology, pointed out how teaching at Andover is a mutually beneficial experience.

“Something I really love about Andover is that it’s an intentionally diverse community. I come from a background that is very diverse, and I feel like I can

learn a lot from students from all around the world. I think in the classroom, it’s not just me teaching students. The students are also teaching me. I am looking forward to learning a lot from them, especially on how to be a good teacher to them and how to adjust in the classroom to help students,” said Corbelli.

Merrilee Mardon, Deputy Head of School and Dean of Faculty, spoke on how the hiring process aims to mirror the intersectionality of working at Andover. With the triple threat system, where most faculty teach, coach a sport, and are House Counselors or Compliments, the school searches for candidates who can contribute to the community in a multitude of ways.

“When we hire, we are looking for people who love kids. They have to want to work with teenagers. That is number one

Continued on A5, Column 4

Lowers Placed in Upper and Senior Dorms, Reverts to Old Housing System

CHRISTIAN ESTRADA

For the first time since 2019, Lowers at Andover are now sharing dorms with Uppers and Seniors. This shift stems from an unexpected overcrowding issue, where the number of incoming ninth and tenth grade boarding students exceeded the available beds in dedicated lowerclassmen dorms. As a result, many new Lowers have been placed in traditionally upperclassmen-only dorms — Stimson House and Stevens House — sparking a unique dorm dynamic and blending experiences across grade levels.

Troy Turik, House Counselor in Stimson, emphasized the advantages of the recent dorm changes for new Lowers. He noted that Stimson’s current environment, which includes many students new to the dorm, fosters a supportive transition into Andover’s community.

“The mentoring that the upper class students do for the tenth graders really benefits them. So I see a lot of benefit to our tenth graders. Stimson this year has all new tenth graders, so they’re not only tenth graders, but they’re new to the school as well. It’s been really neat the way the Seniors and PGs especially have looked out for these students already,” said Turik.

Turik continued, “We had ten new tenth graders in the dorm out of 39 total. We have 12 returning Seniors, two of them are new. We have four PGs, and then the rest are returning eleventh graders... We’ve made our Proctors very

well aware of the makeup of Stimson, so that they know who to check in on, who’s new, who’s been returning. We’re also unique in that only two students who lived in Stimson last year are with us, so it’s almost like everybody’s new. We have a new adult staff as well, so there’s a lot of newness in Stimson.”

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, Andover had dorms that contained a blend of Lowers, Uppers, and Seniors. Last year’s housing system — where dorms were categorized as Junior/Lower and Upper/Senior — is the result of a pilot program from 2019.

Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, explained how this pilot aimed to ease the transition from Junior to Lower year by providing predictability to residential life. It allowed students to transition work-life balance skills from Lower year into Upper and Senior year.

“[Lowers] are still exploring clubs, activities, and friendship groups. In terms of cognitive ability, there’s a turning point at the end of Lower year, typically. The school work shifts in Upper year to being more abstract, with bigger and longer-term projects. That’s when we allow more freedoms. For the Uppers, we trust students more to manage their own sleep, nutrition, exercise, and health in general. By Upper year, they manage it better than they would when they first arrive and their parents just dropped them off,” said

Continued on A5, Column 1

Commentary, A2

Home Away From Home

Grace Kim ’27 shares her three essential tips to make Andover a home away from home.

Eighth Page, A8

Infinite Money Hack

Chase the Bank and you’ll be drowning in glitches.

Sports, B1

Andover at the Olympics

The journey of ten Andover alumnae who competed in the last 28 Olympic Games.

Arts, B6

Dorm Tour

Andover students moved in last week. Take a peek into a few students’ rooms and learn about their decoration process.

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Editorial

Chasing the Rain

Hair soaked with rain, eyes wild underneath the stadium lights, and spirits emboldened by an evening of good-natured rivalry, students let out thrilling cheers as the five cluster flags bounced wildly in the crowd from person to person. Moments before, Andover's first ever Cluster Olympics had students gathered in pensive rows in the bleachers, chanting and clapping loudly for their teammates fiercely competing for victory. And suddenly, just as quickly as the clouds had unleashed their first torrents of rain, hundreds of students rushed onto the Phelps Stadium field with their hands in the air and their hearts filled with the exhilarating rush. A thousand of your peers in a spontaneous celebration under the pouring sky, how beautiful.

Andover is filled with these moments. Whether it be in class, walking back to the dorm, at sports practice, or attending mandatory school-wide events like the Cluster Olympics, our lives here are abundant with opportunities to reach out and latch onto something special. And while they might not be as obvious or as striking as sprinting onto a wet field with your friends while screaming your lungs out, they are ever present, if only we seek them out, if only we ask ourselves why not, if only we are willing to take the first step despite the fear that may initially plague our consciences.

Finding these moments begins first and foremost with giving yourself and the people around you the space to do so. Perhaps contrary to what you have convinced yourself or what your college counselor or parents or anybody else might tell you, the "Andover experience" is not one set pathway. There is no perfect series of courses you should take, nor are there certain clubs that are guaranteed to lead you to success (What does "success" even look like, anyway?). There are no guidelines as to which activities and achievements to tack onto the bottom of your resume to get you into that college you've dreamed of attending since middle school. And perhaps most crucially, there is no singular you that you must become.

Instead, the "Andover experience" is a journey of becoming. It is vulnerability, not

resistance, that fosters growth. It is flexibility, not rigidity, that allows for the discovery of oneself. Remember, Andover is a community that we have chosen to be a part of. From the moment you accepted your offer to this school, to the first time you heard the melodious chimes of the bell tower at five o'clock in the evening, to the routine of walking up the worn marble steps of the Paresky stairs you have now become familiar with, Andover has instilled itself into you. Its humility, or perhaps its arrogance; its two-century-old history, and the narrative it continues to write; its 700-acre campus, and its reverence of the people that give it life. You are now one of those people. You are now one of us. Bare your heart on your sleeve and let yourself be everything and anything that you wish; take advantage of the wondrous people you will meet, the once-in-a-lifetime recklessness of youth where the world is at your mercy. The future is made up of endless universes of possibility, but so is the present; do not let daydreams of a time not yet arrived blind you from seeing the blossoming colors of what is right in front of you.

To those of you who are taking their first steps onto Andover's campus this Fall, this is an opportunity to take risks, to let go, to embrace spontaneity — perhaps coming to Andover was that first step. To those who are returning to Andover, just because you've been here for previous years doesn't mean things have to be the way they were before. They can be new and they can be better — the Cluster Olympics are an exhibition of that. When we approach Andover enthusiastically and unabashedly, even the evening rain can turn into a dance party.

Whether it's your first year at Andover, your last, or somewhere in between, this is your time and your place to buy in. This is the moment. In every passing day, make space for the voice that urges you to dance those first steps onto a football field. Make room for the you that strains to break free.

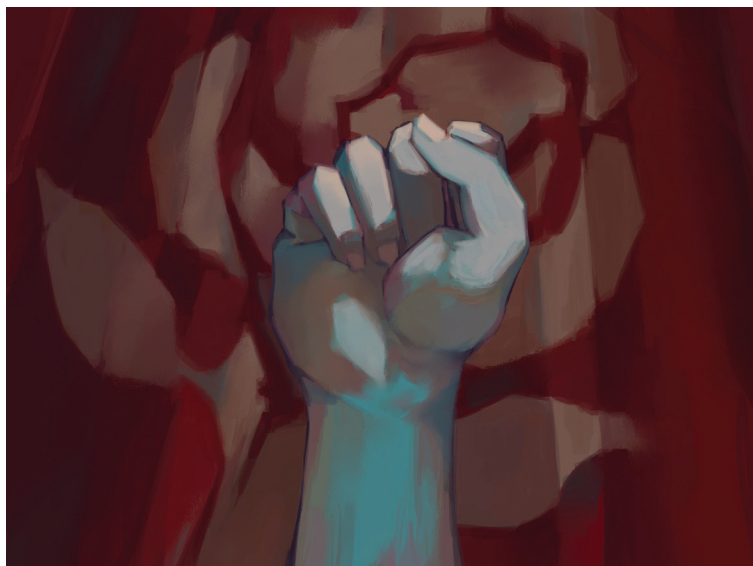
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Labor Needs Reform

SHLOAK SHAH



A. TSAO / THE PHILLIPIAN



ANGELA GUO / THE PHILLIPIAN

Two months ago, the Labour Party won a decisive victory in a historic United Kingdom general election. Sir Keir Starmer, Labour's leader and newly elected the U.K.'s Prime Minister, has over 63 percent of Parliament behind him — while Labour's foremost rival, the Conservative Party, now holds just 19 percent of seats, a dramatic decrease from their previous 56 percent in the party's worst-ever performance. Between this election result, last month's unexpected triumph of left-wing and centrist parties over the far-right in France, and strong showings by the center-left in Korea, Taiwan, and India, it's tempting to assume the political left wing is in a strong position worldwide. However, Labour's election results are not as strong as they seem. Moreover, the party's recent ideological trajectory should raise concerns, and Labour is suffering from a serious lack of voter engagement. If Labour and similar parties elsewhere want to hold on to their recent gains by their next elections, they must confront their shortcomings and face the necessity for reform.

Firstly, the performance of the Labour Party — a center-left political party roughly analogous to the Democratic Party in the U.S. — in this election was much weaker than it seems at first glance. Though Labour's 63 percent of seats in Parliament is nominally

impressive, it's far from indicative of how people actually voted. In fact, Labour's 34 percent of the popular vote to 63 percent of seats and 100 percent effective control of Parliament make 2024 the least representative election result in the U.K.'s history — so referring to seat share alone paints a deceptively rosy picture of Labour's performance. In 2019, the Conservatives won fewer seats than Labour did in 2024, but the 44 percent of the popular vote and raw vote count they achieved then surpasses Labour's recent performance. Furthermore, Labour has not made significant gains among the electorate since their 2019 defeat, improving their share of the popular vote by under two percentage points while their raw vote total fell. Rather, Labour's performance appears more the result of third-party growth and low turnout — signs of dissatisfaction with the Conservatives and Labour — than the party's own merit. Specifically, Reform U.K. (a new anti-immigration and ideologically conservative political party initially founded as the Brexit Party) split the typically Conservative vote in many constituencies, allowing Labour to win without making any inroads themselves. Combined, Reform U.K. and the Conservatives won 38 percent of the vote, a figure notably higher than La-

bour's. Labour had a perfect storm for this election, but fell short of predictions nonetheless. By the time of the next election — when Reform U.K. and the Conservatives will have consolidated some support, when Labour (rather than the incumbent Conservatives of the last election cycle) will face the blame for any economic faltering or healthcare failures, and after Labour's policies will have been subject to additional scrutiny — Labour will not be able to rely on the same issues and playbook.

The late conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is quoted as having described her greatest achievement as "Tony Blair and New Labour. [The Conservative Party] forced [their] opponents to change their minds." Thatcher was referring to a 1990s realignment towards centrist economic policies within the traditionally leftist Labour Party. From Labour's embrace of economic austerity measures to a pronounced reduction in working-class Labour candidates for Parliament, Starmer admitted that Labour has "lost the trust of working people," along with several winnable elections. Many voters feel the Labour Party has left behind their base of support in favor of more superficial social liberalism. In abandoning Jeremy Corbyn's more left-wing vision for

the party for Starmer's economically moderate positions in 2020, Labour continues to chase moderate support over their working-class roots. This strategic decision played a role in Labour's 2024 result — and in its loss of millions of voters over the last few years.

Perhaps more concerning is the shift towards transphobic policies throughout much of the historically pro-LGBTQIA+ rights party. In a decidedly less progressive vein than the party's previous stance, Labour's recently appointed health secretary withdrew comments he made that affirmed trans identities and defended a ban on puberty blockers. Labour has also supported barring transwomen from women-only spaces and endorsed the Cass Review, a report whose findings have been criticized as biased, transphobic, and methodologically flawed. Labour's pivot away from their most reliable voters and toward the political center isn't gaining them any support. If Labour wants to grow their support — as the party must if they hope to maintain control against a unified right-wing alternative — reversing course to shore up their base of support is the most important step.

Lastly, the Labour Party is failing to engage potential voters, especially in the long term. Labour's electoral victory relied on the prospect that widespread dissatisfaction with the U.K.'s political and day-to-day reality split against the incumbent party — and after fourteen years of Conservative rule in the aftermath of one major recession and presiding over another one, it worked. But despite representing the most realistic alternative to a deeply unpopular government, Labour's raw vote numbers fell, along with turnout nationwide, which reached its lowest level in decades. Further evidence of widespread political dissatisfaction is the record 43 percent voters casting their votes for third parties, a figure that stood at 18 percent when Corbyn led the party in 2017. Party

membership and donations from their working-class roots have fallen over the past few elections. Labour has seen a 25 percent decrease in voters — from nearly 13 million votes to under 10 — since their 2017 defeat. This support certainly isn't all going to the Conservatives or Reform U.K., and it can't be going to the center-left Liberal Democratic Party, which saw a popular vote increase of under one percent since 2019 and has flipped zero Labour seats over the last decade. Labour is failing to motivate not only new voters, but many of those who voted for them in the past; to improve their prospects, Labour must find a way to engage and energize their base to hold on in the next election, when Labour will not be able to ride the same perfect storm to victory.

Labour won a landslide victory and their strongest election result in over a quarter century, an accomplishment they should be proud of. However, Labour's performance does not reflect the party's merits as much as it might seem to. Between Labour's own unremarkable election performance, the party's concerning and thus far damaging political shifts, and the recent inability of centrist Labour to motivate voters, the Labour Party finds a difficult fight ahead to maintain government control. Labour must come to terms with these issues sooner rather than later, but it's not too late for them to change course. Labour has time to resolve their underlying weaknesses before the next election, as well as one thing they haven't had for fourteen years: a national stage on which to transform their policies and ideas by returning to their roots. If Labour recognizes where they need reform and acts accordingly, Labour's performance in this election can be less of a last hurrah for the party, and more of a new start.

Shloak Shah is an Upper from San Francisco, Calif. Contact the author at sshah26@andover.edu.

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CORRECTIONS:

Community, Friendships, and Home

GRACE KIM



In the blink of an eye, the summer was over, and I was back in Nathan Hale, my room packed to the brim

with my luggage. There were a few changes. For starters, I was in a three-room double (an upgrade from the one-room double I had last year) and now had my own bedroom. I was also donning new headphones and a cool bag that I bought over the summer. But the biggest difference was how at home I felt standing in my room, staring at the green mattress and wooden drawers occupying the space. It was a considerable transformation from the year before when I was crying in that same building about how homesick I felt. At the time, it seemed as if that loneliness would never leave

me. I thought that this year, it would be no different. But things were different. As soon as I saw my friends' faces and laid eyes on the familiar trees of Pine Knoll, I realized that instead of emptiness, I felt a sense of belonging and community. I felt like I was back home. So, to help you make Andover your second home, I have compiled a few tips from my previous experiences: be yourself, be open-minded, and be relaxed.

Tip 1: Be Yourself. It's no secret that there is a tendency for teenagers to want to appear "cool" when interacting with their peers. However, part of constructing this fa-

cade means hiding certain parts of themselves that they think do not fit with the reputation they hope to create. Genuine relationships are formed through an emotional intimacy that can only be developed through a deep understanding of one another, a feat that cannot be accomplished if either party is pretending to be someone they are not. Additionally, being yourself can help foster confidence and self-assurance. By constantly presenting your "true self" to others, you will be able to meet people who like and accept you despite the qualities you think you should hide. As terrifying as it might sound as you get to know more and more people throughout the year, be yourself.

Tip 2: Be open-minded. One of Andover's greatest qualities is the diverse community that it exposes its students to. While it may seem intimidating at first, this diversity is what nurtures the thriving community at Andover. From differences also come new perspectives, and by meeting people with novel experiences, one can open their eyes to parts of the world they wouldn't have been able to otherwise. Additionally, amidst the differences, one might be able to find commonalities. As much as culture and background play an important role in shaping who someone is, relationships are fostered through shared hobbies and interests. Thus, by opening yourself up to more types of people, you will have a great-

er chance of meeting people who you actually "click" with. So, instead of focusing on the superficial elements, try to be open to everyone and you might be pleasantly surprised how many meaningful friendships you will make.

Tip 3: Be relaxed. When trying to make friends, there will always be a hint of anxiety that comes with ambiguity. It is normal to obsess over how a conversation or interaction might turn out; will this become a friendship? Is this conversation a one-time thing? However, by being preoccupied with labeling your relationship before even knowing the person, you might be unintentionally causing unfruitful results. So, instead of approaching people with the intent to make them your friend, try to just let the interaction flow. If it doesn't work out, then try again with another person. Friendships at their core are just connections and are also inevitably not entirely in our control, so just relax and enjoy the process!

Even after reading this, you may still feel lost. It took me a whole year to get comfortable with practicing these tips myself. However, go at it one step at a time and I promise that one day, you will find yourself surrounded by a community that loves and supports you — I know I did.

Grace Kim is a Lower from Seoul, South Korea. Contact the author at gkim27@andover.edu.



GEMMA PARK / THE PHILLIPIAN

OPENING OF SCHOOL TAKES



K. MA / THE PHILLIPIAN

KANORI KOTO '26

Do you think there are any ways Andover can improve their opening of school?

There were many emails and calendar events on the Andover guide and I was a little confused about which events were for me. Perhaps, one big email with all events that applied to new Uppers would have been nice.

What is your current impression of the Andover community?

Everyone who I have met so far has been very welcoming. Teachers are also very organized and clear with their instructions.

ANDRES CLARIOND '27

What was your favorite event so far?

The Cluster Olympics were very entertaining, and the end was amazing. Go, Abbot!

What is your current impression of the Andover community?

The community is very welcoming and warm. People are also very close with each other, and it overall feels like a great, kind, and fun community to be a part of.

SOPHIA ZHAN '28

What did you like about the Opening of School programming?

I think all the events were very well coordinated, and it was pretty easy for me to figure things out and have some fun. At first I thought it would be really difficult to make really good friends but I feel like I already have a community and am having a good time so far!

What is your current impression of the Andover community?

My first impression was that everybody was really chill. Nobody was trying to be better than you or anything like that. Everyone is really polite and willing to talk to you. Sometimes you think people are judging you but they're not and if you go up to them, you can become really good friends.

DENZIL PIERRE '25

What was your favorite event so far?

My favorite event so far was definitely the Cluster Olympics, where we got to compete against other clusters.

What is your current impression of the Andover community?

My opinion of Andover's community is that it's very connected and family-oriented. The community pushes us to be as close as family in a sense.

CAMILA YOUNG '27

Do you think there are any ways that Andover can improve their opening of school?

Maybe a little more guidance. Sometimes there'd be an event that you had to get to but there'd be no Prefect to take you and for new families, it's really confusing to find where some buildings are. Especially when [the meeting place] is inside other buildings.

What is your current impression of the Andover community?

I think people put a lot of value into their academics and their sports which is cool to see but they're also really nice and helpful all the time. Especially when you're lost and [you're told], "You just go that way." When you're super confused about something, someone will always help you.

10 Questions With Sherita D. Gaskins-Tillett '90

REPORTING BY ADEN HWANG & ANDREW CAI

Dr. Sherita D. Gaskins-Tillett '90 is a board-certified OB/GYN physician and women's health advocate from Baltimore Maryland. She is also the founder of her company "Boss Lady Dream Builders" and hosts a show titled "She Built It, Boss Lady Chronicles." Dedicated to her field of OB/GYN, she works to support women in both health complications and wellness.

How did your time at Andover impact your career?

My time at Andover inspired my career. I came here as a 13 year old not knowing at all what I wanted to do with my life.

And it began with psychology, I took a psychology class in Graham House, [which now] houses Office of Alumni Engagement. Back in those days it was for mental health services. There was a counselor by the name of Carol Israel, and she taught a psychology class which was my introduction to sciences. So I took psychology and I enjoyed studying about the brain, how it worked, and the cause and effect of life. Then I went on to take chemistry and biology. Biology was especially impactful because we did a unit where we dissected a cat, because we did not have the technology to see inside that you do now. But that was really inspirational, just to see the inside of the body and how things worked and the function and all of that. And so I think that just gave me this love of science that never went away.

What made you want to pursue OB/GYN?

I'm a woman. I'm a women's health advocate. And what I really liked about obstetrics gynecology in particular, was that the continuity of care that I could take care of a woman throughout her lifespan, from the time that she was a teenager all the way to old age. I liked that we can take care of them temporarily. And they would leave me [and] got to have developed relationships, and I would, you know, see them in the grocery store and see the kids that I delivered, they'd send Christmas cards, those kinds of things. And the other big thing is this a mostly happy field that you know, despite the fact that I am a physician and went to medical school, I figured out pretty early on I did not like sickness and taking care of people I couldn't fix and with OB most of the time is happy.

What inspired you to found Boss Lady Dream Builders?

The Boss Lady Dream Builders is an organization that I found to help other women, and the inspiration was my [own experiences]. I found myself in a place where I was burned out but also not satisfied with my life on the outside, my life was everything that I had wanted it to be, but on the inside, I was not happy. I was living the life of a single OB/GYN. But I had gotten married and had a child and I wasn't getting to spend time with my family. I was not getting to see my baby and I needed to give myself permission to modify, to pivot, to change my life to be more reflective of my current priorities versus the priorities I had when I designed that life. That's where Boss Lady Dream Builders comes from: I want women to understand that they have the agency to redefine themselves and redefine their lives as many times as they see fit. Just because you choose a particular career path, or you choose a particular job, it doesn't mean that you have to stay there,



COURTESY OF JENNIFER SAVINO

you don't have to be married to it. Honestly, what I encourage people to do is to create a professional life that augments your personal life. One that fits in and not you trying to fit your personal life into your professional life. I think it's better for them to be complimentary.

We noticed that Boss Lady Dream Builders offers "weekend for me" trips. So how did you design the programming for these excursions?

About ten years ago, I found myself in a place where I was a new wife and a new mother. And, you know, pretty unhappy on the inside, because my priorities had shifted, but my life had not. And I was actually on vacation with my husband and I found myself on a beach. And as I was sitting on the beach, I realized for the first time in a really long time, I could hear my own voice and my own thoughts. And I knew in that moment that I was not well, that the way that I was living was not sustainable. I was living on autopilot, just go, go, go, go, go. I wasn't enjoying anything. And nothing in my life was getting all of me, getting the best of me. So not my career, not my family, nothing was getting my best. And in that moment, I realized that things needed to change. And so a weekend for me is because serendipitously, I had a weekend for me, which opened my eyes. And so we can, for me is intended to open the eyes of other women, to give them the time and the space away that they need to reflect and to reassess. And maybe reframe and refocus. And you know, figure out what's going well in my life. What would I do differently. If you know, I often tell them to imagine life with all green lights,

no red lights, life can be anything that you want it to be, what would it look like? And then how do we get from where you are to where you want to be? So you know that's the weekend for me. I call it the premier wellness experience for professional women because it's an opportunity to think about what you really want and then it gives you the tools that you need to start moving in those directions where we actually sit and make strategic plans for our lives. So they leave [and] I always tell them they leave with a roadmap to their dream life.

Can you tell us more about Level Up Lady Doc?

Actually I started with Level Up Lady Doc, so that was the first iteration of Boss Lady Dream Builders. Level Up Lady Doc was specifically for physician women, same concept as Boss Lady dream builders, but it was specifically for physician women. And I had people approach me to ask why my events were only for physicians and other professional women. And as I thought about the programming and the curriculum, I realized that there was no specific reason that it had to be just doctors. And so, Boss Lady Dream Builders was started to broaden it. But it's basically the same thing.

We notice a common theme within your work of giving back to your community. What inspired you to do that?

That all started with Andover. I did community service here from Junior to Senior year. So I did community service all four years. The whole concept of non sibi has stayed with me my whole life. And so, when you think about my epiphany on the beach,

once I discovered a new way for my life, I wanted that for other women too. I didn't want other people to suffer the way that I'd been suffering. If I know a better way, or if I have something that can make your life better, I want to share that with you.

Your special interests include lowering maternal mortality, ending health disparities, cultivating wellness, through your mind, body and spiritual health. So what work is necessary to achieve these goals?

A lot. Lots of work. I take them one at a time. Maternal mortality is actually among the highest in the United States of America in terms of industrialized countries. I think a lot of that has to do with policy, and things that are way above my paygrade. But things have to change at a system level in order to make women's health a priority. We're actually moving in the wrong direction, in this country, in my humble opinion. Health disparities in my opinion is a matter of awareness. I think COVID-19 uncovered a lot of disparities and showed us there are many people living on the edge that will fall through the cracks if just a little bit goes wrong. I think with that, it's more of an awareness and policy. We have a responsibility to take care of each other. I'm suggesting an awareness of how I enjoy what I have but others don't have the same things. If you can't eat, how can I enjoy an abundance of food? If you don't have health care, how can I exist knowing there's an easy medical fix? There's something inherently wrong with that for me. For everyone, in order to become the best version of yourself, you have to be well in the mind,

body, and spirit. It's hard to focus when you're so busy worrying about your physical or mental health.

I think that we should strive for the best well-being at all times. We're living breathing creatures, you're supposed to be constantly evolving: we were never meant to stay the same. Fortifying yourself in terms of mind, body, spirit and health gives you what you need to maintain that growth.

You're a busy person, what advice do you have for time management and self discipline?

Time management is about organization and schedule, and looking at your priorities. You can't do everything all at the same time, and there needs to be a method to your madness. What I do is I sketch out my week, then my month, I actually set yearly goals as well. That allows me to be able to look and see where I am. If I had a goal of saving X amount of dollars, and I haven't saved half that amount by June, I know I'm off track. I create smart goals, which are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time based. You actually need to have some form of data to tell you if you're moving in the right direction. And it's not so much about being rigid, I never stick to my plans 100 percent of the time. But they serve as a frame of reference and guidance, so that I don't get too far off track.

Is there a certain message that you would like to share, especially to women?

For women, we struggle with our sense of self and our self worth because of the way that our society is structured. We get the messages in the media, print, TV, and social media, that we are not enough. The message I want to give to women is that you are enough and you were born enough. The world needs a you. If the world didn't need you, you wouldn't be here. This idea became very obvious to me in my work as an obstetrician gynecologist. Learning the development process showed me there's so many things that can go wrong. Anybody who gets to be born is a living, breathing miracle. I also believe that each of us was born with a unique superpower. When we tap into that superpower, we become our highest self. The superpower is actually not for you but for the rest of the world. When you don't learn what it is and you don't share it with the world, you don't become everything that you were created to be, and as a result, the world actually suffers too.

What do you do in your free time?

I love to travel. I love to read. Lately, I've been reading mostly personal development books. I actually just wrote a blog last week about the benefits of reading. It lowers your stress levels and increases your longevity. I also love spending time with friends and family. I like to laugh. I think laughter is really good for the soul.

New Housing System Seeks to Foster More Connections Between 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders

Continued from A1, Column 5

Esty.

Edward Cha '27, a new Lower from South Korea who lives in Stimson, shared his positive experience with the dorm's mentorship. He added that there are plenty of resources outside of the dorm for new students.

"In dorm meetings, older kids give useful advice. We just had a meeting where they talked about how to call home and gave school advice... In a ninth and tenth grade dorm, we probably wouldn't get advice like that since everyone would be new... [Also], dorm meetings aren't focused on new student advice. That's

what orientation is for... [so] I don't think it's a big issue since there are other programs to help new students," said Cha.

Esty also spoke about how Andover's approach to housing is evolving. She emphasized the importance of staying in the same dorm and pointed out Andover's goal of fostering deeper connections between new students.

"We're thinking about what residential life should look like at Andover now and in the future, especially for boarding students... What does it mean to be an Andover student? Are we supporting them the best way we can? These are the questions we're discussing," said Esty.

She continued, "We won't

force students to move dorms, especially if they want to stay as Uppers. Continuity matters. But I don't know if we'll have new Lower in those dorms next year. We'll fill the [Junior/Lower] beds and see. I'm curious to hear from the Lower about their experiences."

Students and Faculty Reflect on First Days of School Year

Continued from A1, Column 2

through," said Porto.

Annie Zhao '26 described her impressions of Andover throughout the Opening of School as a new Upper. She reflected on the positive feelings brought forth by the community and amazement towards the many resources the school offers.

"The first few days at Andover were very fruitful. I met a lot of new friends and phenomenal teachers. This is not my first time in Andover because I came here in January but Andover has never ceased to impress me everyday with all its facilities, its hospitality, and I love every aspect of it. Generally, I felt very welcomed and my heart was very full because of all the warmth everyone gave," said Zhao.

Lucas Achecar '28 reflected on his first days on campus, recalling the excitement of the Matriculation Ceremony and noting how he enjoyed being able to take in the size of the grade.

"[Matriculation] was really fun. The ceremony was great. Getting to see everyone in my

grade, and when we got to see everyone in our cluster was also really fun. We all got to get our matriculation awards together. We could be with our friends and we could meet other people from our cluster so that was nice... I [also] liked the team building stuff that we did on Sunday. They gave us random groups instead of groups that we were friends with so I was able to step out of my comfort zone," said Achecar.

Esty discussed the enormity of Opening of School, mentioning that she didn't have a favorite orientation event since they were all realized through a myriad of moving parts behind the scenes.

"Everything, from meeting your advisor to dorm meetings to Blue Keys inviting you to dinner. There are so many layers to what happens to you in those first couple of days... It's a huge undertaking every year. The Opening of School is full of these signature events like orientation that involves everyone. I wouldn't want to comment on one event over the other, it takes a whole village," said Esty.

As a returner, Andrew Liu '27, spoke about orientation

with a lens of familiarity with campus. Liu expressed admiration for the Juniors, as he appreciated their courage to step outside of their comfort zone in asking questions and interacting with their peers.

"I felt like Freshman year was a lot of just figuring out who was even in my grade, but Lower year it was like I know the faces of more people now and I know who my friends are. It felt more stable than freshman year... I was really impressed by the freshmen because a lot of them were asking the right questions and trying to situate themselves, and I felt like it was great to see all the Freshmen trying to find new friends. I look at them and I think maybe I should be doing that too," said Liu.

Cluster Olympics Organizers Encourage Students to Keep Community Spirit Going

Continued from A1, Column 5

else, and I kind of got hyped up for that... I saw how, not competitive in a bad way, but a good competitive Andover is, and it gave me such a bigger view on how Andover, with community, is really strong and tight," said Campbell.

Ivy Randall '25, Cluster Co-President of West Quad South, noted how students' initial skepticism toward the Olympics turned into genuine pride. She pointed out how students could reframe mandatory events as opportunities to strengthen Andover's community.

"I don't think people were looking forward to it too much. None of us really knew how it was going to go... [but] the biggest thing is to show up as optimistic as you can be, because you don't really know how it's going to go. As a first weekend activity, it was amazing because it showed younger students that we can make fun if we want, if we're all committed to it, and if we all want to make it a good event, it'll happen. The rain kind of added a fun, spontaneous twist on the night. I

honestly felt like it was a movie in the end, everybody dancing in the rain, but it was a really great way to kick off the year, and definitely had a strong sense of community and love for one another," said Randall.

Murata extended her philosophy regarding the Olympics to the rest of Andover, emphasizing the need to be deliberate when communicating with others. She encouraged students to bring the energy of the Olympics to all corners of the campus community.

"We're at an amazing school, so let's have fun together. Let's put our phones down, talk to each other, and get to know other people. I hoped it would be an inspiring event that would carry over into other activities, like class events the next day. It's about leaning in, stepping out of our comfort zones, and building relationships with people we might not otherwise meet. Community doesn't just happen; we have to be intentional about it. I hope students remember the fun they had and continue to seek out opportunities to connect with others, whether it's in their dorms, advisory groups, or teams," said Murata.

Dean of Faculty Describes Potential Future Plan for New Faculty

Continued from A1, Column 3

in addition to expertise. When somebody comes to interview, they are meeting with the Dean of Students team, the Dean of Studies team, Linda Carter Griffith [Associate Head of School for Equity, Inclusion, and Wellness], and a variety of other department members. So we are also trying to understand how somebody will love and contribute to our diverse community and being with kids outside of the classroom is part of what we are looking at," said Mardon.

Mardon noted that Head of School Raynard Kington and other administrators are looking for ways to optimize all aspects of students' experiences at Andover. With the increase of high-level sports and highly

specialized classes, hiring in the coming years may look different.

"In the 1980s, 1990s, and even the early 2000s, the complex of club sports and professionalization of youth sports did not exist as it does today. So the demands on high-level coaching, so our varsity-level coaching, are very different than they were... Looking forward to the future we are looking at changing our model. We do not have any answers right now because it is complicated, but Dr. Kington has acknowledged that the triple threat is not sustainable for the future. I expect that in the coming year or two we will have some different approaches to hiring," said Mardon.

Learning in the World Programs: Summer 2024

BAILEY XU & JONATHAN OH

This summer, Andover's Learning in the World (LITW) programs took students and faculty all over the globe, including through the U.S., Japan, Alaska, Greece, and Switzerland. With seven programs offered this summer, LITW seeks to expose students to diverse cultures and cultivate global citizenship.

Since its founding in 2014, LITW has reached five continents with its in-person programs. Reflecting on the importance of LITW at Andover, Mark Cutler, Director of LITW and Instructor in Spanish, recalled his own exposure to experiential education growing up.

"I'm a product of an experiential education. [I took] my first international trip when I was just 13 and exchanged with a boy [in Spain]... In eighth grade, I also lived on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and [went] to a Lakota Sioux school called the Crazy Horse School," said Cutler.

He continued, "I had opportunities to explore culture, language, and histories outside of my own bubble, which I think was really important for me at a young age, to see the world through different eyes. What being director of learning the world means is that I can help other young people discover those perspectives and develop a passion for intercultural living."

Eric Roland, Interim Director of the Tang Institute, and Andy Wall, Instructor in Chemistry, brought students to Switzerland for the program "Systems, Sustainability, and Social Impact." By conversing with other youth activists and international, national, and local organizations, Roland hopes to encourage students to tackle

systemic issues through collaboration.

"One of our main areas of focus was when we visited these organizations, we wanted for there to be conversation and engagement. Not just [someone] delivering messages and information, but for there to be a back and forth, for there to be dialog... It's what our world needs, a community of people who are committed to bringing about meaningful change to these systemic issues that face the world, to turn those systemic challenges into systemic opportunities," said Roland.

Ashiq Kibria '26 traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland with his Theatre & Dance 915 class as part of the "Performing in the World" program. Throughout the previous Spring Term, students in THD915 collaborated to craft a theater performance that they performed four times this summer, including at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, one of the largest theater and arts festivals in the world. Kibria connected this trip to his own passion for theater.

"I'm interested in theater and [the trip featured] a devised piece that we all constructed ourselves. It was amazing to be able to go together as a group to perform a piece in a different country. Overall, it was a great experience. We performed our show, called 'Pathways,' four different times, while also watching other American high school theater shows... I was able to learn a lot through my peers and also my Seniors, along with being able to connect well with teachers," said Kibria.

Allen Grimm, Instructor in Theatre and Dance, coled both "Performing in the World" and "Civil Rights: The American Story," a program guiding students through a historical tour of the Civil Rights Movement in America.



PHOTOGRAPHER/THE PHILLIPIAN

A group of students travelled to Athens, Greece, through the 'A Greek Life' LITW program this Summer.

Grimm highlighted experiential learning as crucial to the student experience at Andover.

"These kinds of experiential learning programs are some of the most important things that can happen at [Andover]. It doesn't have to be Performance in the World. It can be lots of different things... Now you're actually in a different nation, and there are different customs, different foods, different ways of behaving, and we all have to work together to make it happen," said Grimm.

A participant in the LITW program to Japan, Yumi Lai '27 reflected on the opportunity to cultivate new relationships and explore parts of Japan she had never visited before. Lai especially enjoyed sharing and experiencing Japanese culture alongside other Andover students.

"What was super meaningful was just being with that

small group of friends who I honestly did not know before the trip and being able to spend that full two weeks with them... Some of us experienced things for the first time. I have been on subways [in Japan] before, but some of them have never been and they sometimes asked me, 'What is respectful in this country?' That made an impact on me because I was really appreciative that I had that [cultural knowledge] and I was able to help or teach other people and share that," said Lai.

Marcela Hernandez '25 also formed deeper connections with students and teachers as they explored museums, historical sites, and natural landscapes in Athens, Greece. She shared some takeaways from exploring the local culture and history.

"Whether we were near a beach or in a museum, or just on a walk, it was just amaz-

ing to be in such a beautiful place with all these people I was getting really close with. The Ancient Greeks were really taught about balance and lifestyle, and know how to balance physical and mental health... A key point I took away was this balance and meditative reflection and self reflection... I would highly recommend going on a LITW trip," said Hernandez.

Applications for all LITW programs in the upcoming year are due on November 15. Invitations and waitlists will be sent out in early December.

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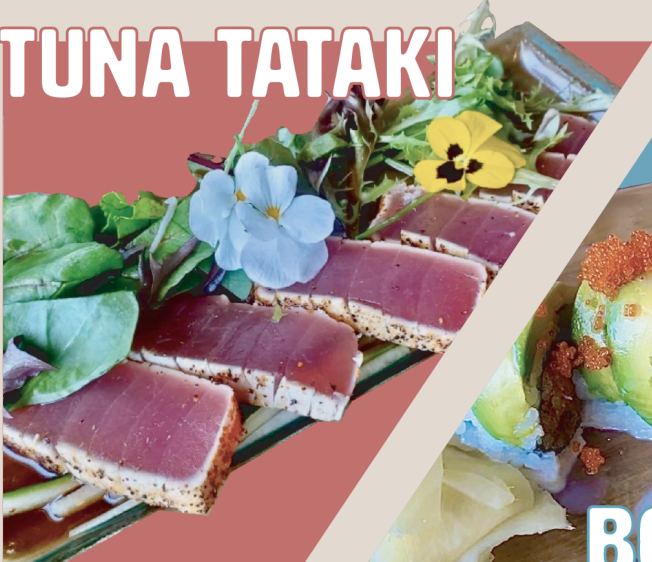
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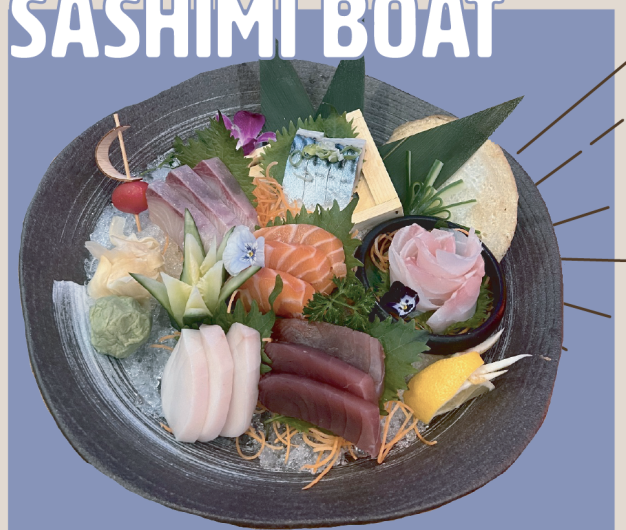
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Community Advice for New Students

PHILIP JEONG

Noureddine El Alam Instructor in Math and Statistics

“Do your assignments the day you have the class. And you might say, ‘But I have stuff for tomorrow.’ That should have been done the day you had that class. Oftentimes, students do the assignments for the next class on the day. It shouldn’t work that way. So if you have a class on a Monday and a class on a Tuesday, do the assignments on Monday nights for the class [you just had]. Not for Tuesday. Tuesday’s would have already been done. And use the weekend to recalibrate and rebalance and start over again. Pace yourself. If you have a major assessment, it could be a big paper, [or] a project, work a little at a time, don’t cram. Definitely don’t spend the night before studying and not sleep. Sleep is more important than actually studying. So in fact, on the last night before a big assessment, you shouldn’t be studying at all. You should be just reviewing for 10, 15 minutes just to make sure you’re in the right place.”

Jay Wei '27

“Clubs are a really good way to bond, as well as to learn from each other. Since clubs are mainly stuff outside of academics, [they are] a way that you can find people who have the same interests as you, and not focus on just academics, something that’s outside school. That’s why you can also meet new people at clubs. Also, clubs are a way to open up to other types of things that you might want to try that you may have not tried before. It helps you both open up to new things, as well as find people who share the same interests as you, which I think is awesome... It’s important to have fun at Andover, and although times may be hard, you might have peaks and valleys, you have to climb out of those valleys and have the time of your life. This is what Andover’s about.”

Scott Hoenig Instructor in Math and Statistics

“A lot of students here tend to stay up late, tend to use the weekends also for staying up late, and then kind of sleeping in late, and then Monday rolls around, and it’s pretty tough to get out of bed if you’ve slept in kind of late on the weekends. It’s a hard thing, because it’s a lot of fun to stay up with friends, and there’s a lot of great stuff going on on weekends. So, it can be really challenging to establish consistent and healthy sleep habits, and when students don’t do that, it really takes a pretty heavy toll on them. So, one piece of advice that I give to students in general, but particularly new students, is to try the best that you can to really put an end to your day. Even if you’re not all done with your work, just try to end your day, and go to sleep. If you need to get up a little bit earlier, I think that’s better than staying up later.”

Sami Tokat '26

“One tip that I would give is to really get to know your teachers. And I don’t mean this [as] “play towards your teacher’s preferences.” No, and I say this specifically about Andover, I’m sure it’s true about other schools too, but specifically about Andover, the teachers here are really, really, really... brilliant. You may think that they don’t play as big of a role in the class environment here because you’re learning from your classmates, but... you have to take advantage of really how smart they really are, and this is super underappreciated. That’s why I think conference time is such an important time. It’s not just to ask, it’s not just to show your teacher that you’re trying, it’s really to get to know the people around you [and to ask] the teachers questions you’re interested [in].”

Maggie Fulop '26

“Preparation strategies vary by class for me, but I recommend having a strong playlist of music you like for each subject. Once I associate certain music with certain subjects, playing said music helps me get in the right mindset to focus on the work. [Also,] Quizlet is great, and I recommend typing out study guides or documents compiling all the information you need to know for a test. Try new things. Life is short and high school is shorter, and it only gets harder to start new things as you get older... Attend whatever clubs interest you, even if it’s only for a few meetings.”

Nupper and Snupper Supper Kick-Off

SAKETH LINGISETTY

Uppers and Seniors gathered in Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center for the “Nupper and Snupper Supper,” an orientation tradition that allows new Uppers to have dinner with Seniors who were new Uppers the year prior. Featuring icebreaker activities and human bingo games, the dinner held on September 8 offered a unique opportunity for new Uppers to connect with each other and familiarize themselves with the Andover community.

Lela Paultre, Assistant Director of Diversity Equity and Inclusion Outreach & Assistant Director of Admission, organized the event with Sara Parker, Assistant Director of Admission, as a way to help incoming Uppers feel comfortable with the campus culture around them. Paultre described the origin of the custom to help new Uppers transition to the Andover community.

“The ‘Nupper Snupper,’

originally just the Nupper program, was a brainchild of Latasha Boyd and Sue Kinney of the College Counseling Office. So they decided to submit a proposal through the Abbot Grant in order to support the new Uppers that were coming into Andover, realizing that the Post Graduates (PGs) and the Seniors had a program already instituted and they wanted to make sure that they were able to support students who were coming to Andover midway through their high school year, helping them with academics, the culture and community of our space,” said Paultre.

Paultre continued, “The new Uppers have a very short runway here. By doing this program, we want to make sure that we have the tools and the resources available to them. So maybe the coordinating of the new Uppers and the [Snappers] might’ve been something that would have been great to do a little bit earlier, but I think the timing that it happened [was] at the appropriate time. We were able to give those students

that opportunity, the first meeting to meet with their mentors. So hopefully they’ve established that communication and that connection so that throughout the year that they have that sort of cohort to work through and to work with at Andover.”

Kanori Koto '26, a new Upper in attendance, appreciated how the event enabled her to talk with more people who had similar experiences to her at Andover. She noted that it was especially enjoyable to become acquainted with more people outside of the tight community of new Uppers.

“It was definitely nice getting to know other people who went through the same experience as me last year. I was able to talk with my mentor and hear about his experience settling in. I think the Nupper, or new Upper community is quite tight, since there’s only a few of us. And it was nice to get to know everyone,” said Koto.

Edouard Lord '26, another new Upper who attended the event, reflected on his mixed feelings for the Supper, but

expressed his gratitude for the special moments he encountered during the event.

“At first, I was kind of indifferent about [the supper]. We had a lot of activities over the first few days. At first, I thought it was just going to be one amongst many, but it ended up being pretty fun. One of the funniest moments of the night was when we did introductions, and we each said our name, where we’re from, where we live on campus, and then a fun fact about us. We went around [for] everyone. And one of the funniest moments was when it was Zachary Fidele [’26], who’s a new Upper and he plays hockey. He told [us] that his fun fact was that both of his older brothers went to [Phillips] Exeter [Academy]. And the reaction was super funny. Everyone was flabbergasted,” said Lord.

The program’s cohort of new Uppers during this year’s supper was much larger than last year, allowing for a much livelier atmosphere. Nurul Khairunnisa '25, a previous new Upper and mentor for

the new Upper orientation program, appreciated the improvement over last year’s supper, allowing a more comfortable bonding experience with her mentees.

“I would say that this year’s cohort for new Uppers is much larger than last year’s. There’s around 29 new Uppers this year, compared to last year’s 18, if I’m not mistaken. So it’s a much bigger group, whereas last year we [were] all in a room, sitting in a circle, silently, [and] now it’s an actual big event. I think this year’s cohort is a lot more comfortable with each other, maybe because it is such a big one. In terms of all the bonding events, or even just ones where us mentors talk to the mentees, everything [went] a lot more naturally, whereas last year, I remember there were a lot of awkward silences in terms of what kind of questions I should ask because I don’t even know. This year, it was all just really just casual conversation,” said Khairunnisa.

Consent Culture Training Implemented for New Lower and New Upperclassmen

JENNA LIANG

Andover orientation for new Lower, Upper, Seniors, and Post-Graduates (PGs) included mandatory Consent Culture Training for the first time this year. Hosted on September 7 in the Freedom Room of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library, this event gave the new members of the community insight into the importance of consent at Phillips Academy.

David Gardner, Assistant Dean of Students and Instructor in English, explained how the Consent Culture Talk was organized and what the intent of the event was. Additionally, he outlined the activities done by the students and noted the importance of the selected exercises.

Gardner wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*, “Ryan Miligan, the Academy’s conduct

response specialist, created and facilitated the Consent Culture Training for new Lower, Uppers, Seniors, and PGs. The training was designed to provide students with an opportunity to spend some time here at the beginning of their Andover career thinking about PA’s commitment to building a safe, healthy, and inclusive community for all.”

Gardner continued, “Students were introduced to our affirmative consent standard (found on pages 11 and 12 of the Blue Book), and at the end of the session students engaged in a writing exercise to affirm their commitment to our school’s values and principles regarding respect, agency, boundaries, and consent. The reasoning behind having students engage in this writing exercise is provided on the form: ‘Studies have shown that communities where everyone acknowleg-

es their understanding of the affirmative consent standard in a simple writing exercise experience a decrease in sexual violence on their campuses,’”

Sean Kim '26, a new Upper, expressed his initial uncertainty about the reasoning behind including the event in the Orientation program. However, by the end, he stressed that the event and speaker should continue to be included in future new student Orientation.

“Going to the talk, I was quite clueless on what was going on. I didn’t know what [the consent program] was about. However, after it was much more clear why we need this [event] and how it is important to have these conversations. Although it might be boring and last an hour, it is an important topic that we all should go over... Everyone should have [the consent culture training talk] and we should continue it for

the years to come for the new students that come to Phillips Academy,” said Kim.

Karla Safarikova '27, a new Lower, also noted that she was slightly confused as to what the event would be about before attending. Echoing a takeaway from the meeting, she noted the importance of having this discussion with the new students at Andover.

“I was not sure what [it] would be about, but it’s a helpful thing to have here to talk about [consent] and make sure it’s very clear. It’s very helpful that the school is openly talking about it... Make sure that when you give consent, it’s a clear ‘yes’ and not a ‘sure’ or ‘maybe.’ You should also look for subtle signs. If someone says ‘yes,’ make sure [they are] very enthusiastic,” said Safarikova.

David Fridia '25, a new PG, expressed his appreciation for the increase in attention on consent. Fridia voiced

that making the connection between consent and respect was his biggest takeaway.

“It was a great talk about a lot of specific things that need to be addressed in general... I feel like [consent] needs to be discussed [more] in the world today. My opinion [before and after] didn’t change but I [gained] knowledge on what exactly to feel or to think about [consent]... I would say [my biggest takeaway is] just respect in general. Respect people, respect how people feel, basically knowing how certain people are and understanding or comprehending exactly what they want or what they don’t want, or how they feel or how they don’t feel,” said Fridia.

**WRITE FOR NEWZZZZ:
email cma25 and wge25 today!**

PHIRST ISSUE!

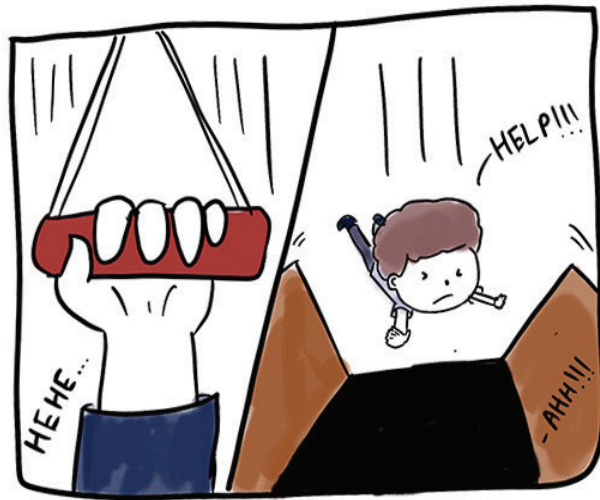
Dear Dr. Kington,

You betrayed me. Where is the life of freedom, academic excellence, and fellow peers of equal intelligence I was promised when I chose to attend this school?! Back before when I was naive to your antics, I was ecstatic to take Japanese 100, the language of the land of anime. I was disgusted to find that my class was not filled with fellow otakus but, instead, PGs and athletic Chads who have no appreciation for the beautiful language. The fools call me by my "real name" Cornelius instead of my true title: Takashi-San. As a new Senior, I expected a certain number of kawaii waifus to be bequeathed to me and was NOT pleased to find ZERO members. Despite being a true gentlesir, the femoids continuously shun me and tell me to wash away my natural musk! The plebs in my dormitory violated my precious bunny girl, tearing all the stuffing out of her figure. Dattebayo!

Sayonara Kington,
Takashi

Week's Top Headlines

- **"Room Tour" Strat Patched With Andover's Decision of Closed Weekend for Opening of School.**
- **R-Block (Rockwell) Makes West Quad North the Most Dangerous Cluster on Campus.**
- **Paresky Commons Goes 0/7 in Opening Week; Highlights Include Freeze-Dried Meatloaf and Freshly-Sliced Chalk.**
- **Certain CVS "Toys" See a Drastic Decrease in Sales Following Free Laundry Machine Access.**
- **Brat Summer Over; College App Season to Begin**
- **@phillipsacademy Instagram DMs Filled With Seniors Mad They Captured Their "Bad Angles"**



KIRA STEPANOVA/THE PHILLIPIAN

• "Is it weird to be attracted to my younger self?"

"I'm always two steps ahead... of PAPS."

• "She on my cockroach till I undergo metamorphosis." - Frank Kafka

• "I have concepts of a plan to save my GPA."

OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

• "Shut up! My manifesto isn't that bad!"

"My feelings towards that PG aren't very PG..."

• "Last night I listened to three Radiohead albums back-to-back alone in the dark. Is it over for me?"

Nine Ways Andover Trustees Cashed In on the "Chase Bank Glitch"

In recent events, genius individuals have discovered that by cashing fraudulent checks at a Chase Bank ATM, they can spawn free money. Our resourceful trustees have managed to take advantage of this "glitch" and withdrew a total of 500,000 dollars.

- -New seven dollar smoothie machines
- -How do you think we have free laundry?
- -Reinvesting in fossil fuels
- -Replacing broken squash rackets from instructional rage
- -Diving board off Dr. Kington's Roof
- -Bad food trucks
- -Converting the Borden pool to Andover theological seminary
- -A clay shooting simulator in the basement of Borden
- -Cutting the cost of Dorito bags in the den to 99 cents



The Phillippian SPORTS

rah rah like a dungeon
dragon

Volume CXLVII | Number 14

September 13, 2024

Girls Volleyball Sweeps in Home Opener Against Dana Hall

ETHAN LY

SATURDAY

Andover 3

Dana Hall 0

Girls Volleyball started its season off strong at home last Saturday, securing the victory against Dana Hall. The team was able to work well with each other on the court and keep the energy up, taking all three sets.

Going into the game the team mostly worked on its

connection together on the court. While it did work on some serve-receives, Selene Xu '27 described how the majority of time was spent strengthening the team dynamic.

"It's the beginning of the season, so we didn't focus on one thing. We were just working together as a team and figuring out how we can work better together. Skill-wise, probably just serve receives. I do think we had great serve receives. To be clear, we didn't focus on a lot of stuff. We just wanted to build our teamwork together," said Xu.

Additionally, Xu mentioned how the team got off to a slow

start, but further along in the match, powerful hits and more consistent play brought the squad's enthusiasm up.

"I feel like the first set wasn't that great. And then, going into the second half of the first set, it wasn't a specific point, but it might have been a few kills. Also, in the second set, there were a few back-row hits that were really amazing. It brought our whole team's spirit and energy up," Xu said.

Gracie Aziabor '26 commended Co-Captain Sophie Holten '25 for her ability to perform under pressure. Noting how as a leader, Holten was able to motivate the team through her energy and passion.

"She's the captain of our team, our Co-Captain, and I think in this game, and I've seen it in the past couple of scrimmages, it was really awesome to see how well she functioned under pressure in live game, and how well she commanded her teammates, brought the energy, and played really well under pressure," said Aziabor.

Xu also applauded Aziabor for her versatility on the court. Despite this being her first year on the team, Aziabor used her enthusiasm to boost her teammates.

"I thought Gracie did really well. Last year, she was on JV, and this year was her first year on Varsity. I feel like she really brought the energy up and played a lot of positions that she wasn't familiar with, like right side. I think she did really well overall," said Xu.

Manager Malcolm Tolbert '26 first noted the impact of the home court advantage on the energy of the game. Both the crowd and the energy on the bench contributed to a lively environment.

"I was super impressed with the crowd that came. Volleyball doesn't always attract the biggest crowd, but the [spirit] was really good



L.RUSTUM/THE PHILLIPIAN

Sophie Holten '25 powerfully spikes the ball.

and the bench energy was also really good. Everyone was yelling their heads off for their team and it was a really great experience because everyone was super happy, super excited to be playing at their first home opener this season," Tolbert said.

Despite the makeup of the team consisting of a significant number of new players, Aziabor noted her teammates' shared love for volleyball and how that translates into a strong team bond. In addition to that, she noted the team's ability to adapt to the play of different competitors.

"One of the strengths was energy. It's a fairly new team; a decent amount of the people who are team members weren't on the team last year. So we're definitely still trying to find team chemistry. I think we're working really well to keep the energy and keep the hype up. We all really love playing volleyball; the energy's really infectious

the court. Another thing is adaptability. I think we're doing a great job of adjusting to how our opponents are playing and reading them better," said Aziabor.

Looking ahead, Tolbert believes the team will work on setter positioning and offense in preparation for its game against Hotchkiss.

"Something that we want to continue working on is our out-of-system plays. Those are plays when it's not necessarily the setter setting the ball or the setter isn't setting the ball from the setter's spot. A lot of times, when that happens, it results in a free ball, which is a really easy ball for the opponent. I think something that will be worked on is trying to find offense from those unlikely positions," said Tolbert.

Girls Volleyball will face Hotchkiss at home in its upcoming match this Saturday.



L.RUSTUM/THE PHILLIPIAN

Saraya Angbazo '25 is serving.

Field Hockey Finally Gels as a Team in Final Pre-Season Scrimmage

ALEX DIMNAKU

WEDNESDAY

Andover 7

St. Mark's 0

After playing more like a group of individuals than a cohesive unit in its scrimmage against Rivers and Moses Brown, Field Hockey came together and put forth a full team effort in its scrimmage against St. Mark's. The team dominated the game and secured a big win. Now, the team looks ahead to the season with hopes of capturing the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) title.

Lucy Parker '26 highlighted the team's cohesion and the improvement in Andover's ability to work together.

"It was honestly a full team effort. Everyone did their own individual thing in the previous scrimmage against Rivers. So going into this scrimmage, everyone knew their job and did their job, instead of shouting at one person. As a whole, every individual played pretty equally and it was more of a team effort than anything else," said Parker.

Meg Stineman '25 noted how some of the skills the team has been working on in practice such as identifying spaces to pass to, translated to the St. Mark's scrimmage.

"In the second half, we were really pushing the ball and seeing the spaces to pass into and running onto the ball, which is something we've been working on. I also think that something that we could still work on is finishing in front of the net. We had a harder time doing that in the first half, but we started to get it by the second half.

That just comes with chemistry and time. But continuing to do that work in practice is really important," said Stineman.

Parker also mentioned that leading up to the team's season opener on Saturday she anticipates the team will work on positioning effectively.

"Our structure, our counter structure, and also our structure to break the ball out can have some improvements. We have really good sequences of being able to pass the ball and see the inside-outside pass. But as we move forward in the season, making sure that we have someone on the sideline and we have someone in the pocket and being able to use those different passes effectively will definitely be something that we'll continue to work on," said Parker.

Josie Sarno '26 emphasized that she hopes to see a good group effort and full focus from the team in the first game of the season to set the

tone for the season ahead.

"The team effort and staying 100 percent locked in for the game for all 60 minutes, [will set] us up for having a good season," said Sarno.

When asked what is the team's goal for the upcoming season, Parker wasted no time expressing her and the rest of the team's aspiration to win NEPSAC after falling just short the past two years.

"Our goal is that we want to win NEPSAC. We've come up short two years in a row, so the team is really excited to go after it this year. We know we have a long season ahead, and while we want to be the best team in New England, it's important for us to stay focused in the moment, be aware of where we are, and stay present each day in practice. But I think everyone, including me, is eager to push for a championship this year," said Parker.

Field Hockey will play

away at Thayer on Saturday in its season opener.



L.RUSTUM/THE PHILLIPIAN

Kimee Duplessis '27 keeps the ball steady under her stick.



L.RUSTUM/THE PHILLIPIAN

Sarah Lackley '26 hits the ball across the field.

Andover Girls Soccer Kicks Off Season With Thrilling 3-2 Victory Over Groton

ETHAN LY

WEDNESDAY	
Andover	3
Groton	2

On Wednesday, Girls Soccer (1-0-0) won its inaugural game against Groton. With the addition of a few new players and a productive preseason to build team chemistry, the team is confident that this first game will be a springboard for a successful season.

Murathime Daisley '26 described the thrilling exchange of goals during the game. Groton set the pace early with the first goal, but Andover quickly responded, leveling the score at 1-1. As the clock wound down with just 20 minutes remaining, both teams traded

goals again, leaving the score locked at 2-2.

"Groton scored and was able to tie it up to 2-2, and we had 20 more minutes left in the game. And so, we were all kind of frantic," said Daisley.

Wylie Roossien '26 mentioned her dissatisfaction with the shots to goal ratio. Although the team had success with setting up each goal, they fell short in execution in the final stages. Eventually, in the 78th minute of the match, Roossien, Hayden Fischer '25, and Sarah Powers '26 made a play that resulted in Powers scoring the game-winner.

"We generated three goals; we probably had around twenty-five shots on frame, but they just didn't drop. I hit the post a couple of times, actually, which is frustrating. I would say that [a special moment] that comes to mind and sticks out to me was when Sarah Powers scored our game winner in the 78th minute... That was pretty amazing. She has a tendency to

come up big in very important moments for us," said Roossien.

Daisley expressed the team's excitement about competing in its season opener following their preseason training in Maine this past August. With their high energy carrying over from those intense sessions, the team felt ready to showcase all they had worked on in their first game.

"Coming into the game, we were really hype. It was our season opener... We were really excited to come out and show [Groton] what we'd been working on. And on the bench, [the] people, you could hear them from the field, the energy was really high," said Daisley.

Roossien commended the team's resilience, recalling Head Coach Lisa Joel's talk. With the squad still learning how to best work together, Roossien believes their focus and mutual encouragement played a crucial role.

"[The] first game is always important, and even though

I would say there are things we're hoping to improve upon, our ability to stick with each other when things didn't go our way and when we were down was huge in our response. Our mentality as a group and ability to pick each other up was something that our coach, Lisa, was talking about at halftime," said Roossien.

Roossien credited Jackie Dill '27, who debuted as goalkeeper in the game against Groton, for delivering an impressive performance with a key save. Dill's determination and strong presence on the field made her a standout player.

"She is only a Lower this year... but she was working super hard on Varsity as a [Junior], which was very impressive but didn't get many minutes behind our one-year Senior. And she came out today in her first start in her [Girls Varsity Soccer] career and had an incredible save from point-blank range that probably would have changed the direc-

tion of the game and given the momentum to Groton... Also, she was incredibly vocal, and I think that shows a lot of leadership, especially from someone so young," said Roossien.

Leading up to their next game, Adele Russell '27 says the team will focus on transitions between moving the ball, rebounding, and new plays.

"We worked a lot on getting forward, getting into the box, and being able to score off rebounds, like we did. And also, crosses into the box, which really worked well for us... For the next game, we're going to work on our counter transitions and being able to get back and transition smoothly between plays," said Russell.

Girls Soccer will face off against Rivers this Saturday.

Football Gallery

PHOTOS BY ALBERT TSAO



Andover Football team chases the ball.



Andover Football team lines up against Brooks Football.

Crossword Corner

BY MAX LANGHORST

	1	2	3	4
5				
6				
7				
8				

ACROSS

- 1 Backtalk or lip
- 5 Caveman diet
- 6 Mathematician with a constant named after him
- 7 Do well on a test
- 8 Alternative to buys

DOWN

- 1 Hollandaise or Big Mac, ex.
- 2 Barry ____, speedster
- 3 You have to ____ to believe it
- 4 Separates into categories
- 5 Awkwardly shaped green fruit

	1	2	3		
4					5
6					
7					
8					

ACROSS

- 1 "I beg", in a text
- 4 Puzzle part
- 6 Halo owners
- 7 Reeked
- 8 You can change them in your sneakers

DOWN

- 1 Brown bean
- 2 Within the bounds of the law
- 3 Section of a movie
- 4 Alternative to a run, in football
- 5 Deer-like state animal of Utah

1	2	3	4		
5					6
7					
8					
9					

ACROSS

- 1 They can be cross country or downhill
- 5 Wood chips alternative
- 7 Snow structure
- 8 Toys for future architects
- 9 Street corn

DOWN

- 1 Happy expression
- 2 Jewish potato casserole
- 3 "Any volunteers?" reply
- 4 "Move over!"
- 6 Fireman's tool

1	2	3	4		
5					6
7					
8					
9					

ACROSS

- 1 Nation that fell in 1989
- 5 God's enemy
- 7 Lament for the dead
- 8 Jobs for an actor
- 9 Capture, as a deer

DOWN

- 1 Account owners
- 2 Haircut spot
- 3 Commemorative inscribed stone
- 4 Big party
- 6 Abbreviation for a wall street bro

Boys Soccer Has a Strong Showing in Their Last Pre-Season Scrimmage Against Nobles

ALEX DIMNAKU

SATURDAY	
Andover	1
Nobles	1

Under the guidance of its new Head Coach Joe Donnelly, Boys Soccer had a strong defensive showing against Noble and Greenough (Nobles) in its last scrimmage of the season. While the scrimmage resulted in a draw, Boys Soccer dominated the game both on offense and on defense, improving its performance from the last scrimmage.

Co-Captain Spencer Madge '25 highlighted Kai Myles '27, who dominated on the offensive side despite having a goal uncounted. In the mid-field, Louis-Thomas Vincent '25 partnered with Madge to make tactical advances with Co-Captain Sebastian Meija-Rivera '25, keeping the defense stable and powerful.

"Kai had two goals, and he is always a presence in front of goal, someone up top that we can always rely on. He was a huge part of the performance today. L. T. [Louis-Vincent] Thomas was really good today in the middle as well. I think me and him [have] a good partnership. And it's only going to get stronger throughout the season. Sebastian in the back was defen-



COURTESY OF THE ACADEMY

Spencer Madge '25 adeptly dribbles the ball across the field.

sively pretty strong today, so that's another thing he's good at is leading the back line," said Madge.

Despite the recent expansion of the team, players are settling in well together and moving the ball, noted Edrian Vargas '27. The last three scrimmages showed areas of improvement, especially in passing, and allowed the team to continue honing their skills in adjusting throughout the game.

"Even though we're still a relatively new team, now that we've finalized the roster and are getting to know each other better, we're able to move the ball around and communicate

effectively. Also, when we do make mistakes, we've learned to fix them quickly, and it's been easier thanks to our great coach, who really helps guide us through those moments. As for what the team did poorly, I think we made a few individual mistakes, with passing and stuff like that. But overall, we moved the ball well, and it was a good game," said Vargas.

Madge commented on the areas the team hopes to improve on for its first game. Primarily focusing on the defensive line, Madge noted how the team will keep its defensive formation more firmly.

"We've been talking [about] tactics such as pressing or defensive shape, and I think that definitely showed in the game today. We were definitely defensively more solid: we had less gaps in the back, and our shape as a team was a lot better collectively. So I think one thing will be the shape when we have the ball, positioning for certain players."

Although Andover gave up a goal early on in the game, the defensive line held control of the game otherwise and strategized offensive plays, commented Aaron Huang '25.

"We controlled possession pretty well, and their only major opportunity came from

the goal they scored. Defensively, we were solid overall, and we also created some good chances from set pieces and crosses," said Huang.

Looking forward to the season, Madge shares that the goal for the team is to make it to the playoffs while also building and fostering chemistry and morale amongst the team.

"Our overall goal is to make the playoffs, and I definitely think we're capable of securing the seventh or eighth seed this year. Another important goal for us is building a tight-knit team with good chemistry, which we already have. As the season progresses, I think that chemistry and camaraderie will only get stronger. Our focus is on taking things one game at a time, and I think that's the only way to do it," said Madge.

Boys Soccer will compete in its first official game and its home opener against Belmont Hill this Saturday.

The Phillipian SmugMug

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- Sophia Lazar '26

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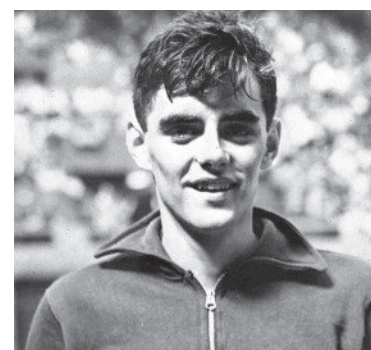
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ANDOVER IN THE OLYMPICS

Jim McLane '49 | 1948 | Swimming | Two-Time Gold and Silver Medalist

Swimmer Jim McLane '49 arrived at Andover in Fall of 1945, where he was already a National Champion and an International medalist. Over his time at Andover, McLane set national high school records in the 200-Yard freestyle, 220-Yard freestyle, and 440-Yard freestyle. McLane also represented the United States of America at the 1948 Olympic Games as a Senior enrolled at Andover and in the 1952 Olympic Games. There, he medaled in three events: gold in the 1500-Meter freestyle and 4x200-Meter freestyle relay, where he and his teammates set a world record of 8:46.0, and silver in the 400-Meter freestyle. After Andover, McLane attended Yale University, majoring in English, and helped the Yale Bulldogs swimming and diving team win two National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championships. After graduating from Yale, he became a part of the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Corps, and at 24 years old in 1955, McLane entered the Pan American Games and earned three gold medals. Later in 1970, McLane was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Julia Trotman Brady '85 | 1992 | Sailing | Bronze Medalist

Julia Trotman Brady '85 sailed for the United States of America, winning bronze at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. At the Games, she competed in the Women's One Person Dinghy sailing event. After Andover, Trotman Brady attended Harvard University and was involved in two varsity sports: Women's Ice Hockey and Sailing, both of which she was appointed captain in 1989. At Harvard, she was named Collegiate Women's Single-handed Champion in 1989 and 1992, as well as the Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year in 1992. She was also a three-time ICYRA Outstanding Woman Sailor and was twice chosen by her peers as New England Women's Intercollegiate Sailing Association Outstanding Sailor. Her sailing accomplishments include winning the New England Women's Single-Handed Championships twice.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Andrew Wilson '12 | 2020 | Gold Medalist

Andrew Wilson '12 competed at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, placing sixth in the 100-Meter breaststroke and 17th in the 200-Meter breaststroke. Wilson earned gold in the 4x100-Meter medley relay for his contribution in the breaststroke leg in the preliminary despite not competing in the finals. At Andover, Wilson swam and played water polo. Soon after, he walked on Emory University's swim team and became the first Division III athlete to swim on an Olympic team.

Caroline Lind '02 | 2008 | 2012 | 2x Gold Medalist

Born in Greensboro, North Carolina, Caroline Lind '02 won gold in the Women's eight rowing event for the US at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing and at the 2012 Olympics in London. After finishing the 2000-Meter race in 6:05:34 in the Beijing Olympics, Lind helped lead the U.S. women's team to its first gold in the event in 24 years. Lind was a Captain of the Girls Water Polo team and a player on the Varsity Girls Basketball team. She also won the New England Championships in 2000. After graduating from Andover, Lind continued rowing at Princeton University. After her win in Beijing, she and her teammates were inducted into the U.S. Rowing Hall of Fame. Lind also competed in many World Championships, in which she won six gold medals.

Hee-Jin Chang '05 | 2000 | 2008 | Swimming

In the 2000 Olympics, Hee-Jin Chang '05 swam for South Korea, taking part in the 100-Meter freestyle, 50-Meter freestyle, and 4x100-Meter medley relay as the youngest swimmer on her team. In Beijing in the summer of 2008, she competed in both freestyle events except the medley relay. She was a three-time All-American swimmer in the 50-Meter, 100-Meter, and 200-Meter. At Andover, Chang was a part of the Varsity Swim team for all four years. After graduating from Andover, she enrolled at the University of Texas at Austin. There, she earned a degree in political science and swam competitively for the university's team.



COURTESY OF PAUL MURPHY

David Silk '76 | 1980 | Hockey | Gold Medalist

Silk won a gold medal in Ice Hockey as a part of the legendary "Miracle on Ice" team that defeated the Soviet Union at the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid. After attending Andover, Silk played collegiate hockey at Boston University, where he won a National Championship in 1978. Following his Olympic gold, Silk was drafted 59th overall by the New York Rangers and went on to play 249 games in the NHL. After his time in the NHL was up Silk further pursued professional hockey overseas in Germany. After retiring from professional hockey in 1991, he became an assistant coach at Boston University and was inducted into both the United States Hockey Hall of Fame and the United States Olympic Hall of Fame, and the Boston University Hall of Fame.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Olivia Coffey '07 | 2024 | Rowing

This past summer, during the 2024 Olympic Games, Olivia Coffey '07 rowed for the United States of America. After Andover, Coffey attended Harvard University, rowing competitively for their Women's team until she graduated in 2011. She rowed at the 2016 rowing Championship, taking sixth place and qualifying for the 2016 Olympics United States rowing squad as an alternate. Coffey competed on the U.S.'s rowing team in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Coffey has also competed in over ten World Rowing Cups and Championships. In addition, she earned a gold medal at both the 2013 and 2015 World Championships.

Tim Wynter '14 | 2016 | Swimming

At the 2016 Caribbean Islands Swimming Championships, Tim Wynter '14 was the only male swimmer to go on to compete in Rio. During the Games, he established a new Jamaican National record in the 100-Meter backstroke with a time of 56.15. In the same year, his times in the 50-Meter and 100-Meter backstroke both broke their previous respective Jamaican national records. During his time at Andover, Wynter captained Andover Boys Swimming and Diving and was an NISCA (National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association) All-American, winning the 100-Yard Backstroke at both the 2012 and 2014 New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) Championships. Upon graduating from Andover, Wynter committed to the University of Southern California to swim and major in psychology.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

A Guide to Andover Theatre & Dance

ADELE CIOCIOLA

Home to state-of-the-art dance facilities and a vibrant theater community, Andover offers countless ways to get involved with theater and dance on campus. The first major performance opportunity available is Grasshopper, an annual variety show featuring dance, music, acting, magic, sword-fighting, and any other talent students are interested in performing. With auditions coming up on September 22, there's still time to participate. This particular show is put on by the Andover Theatre Dance department, but each of these sectors has its array of opportunities. To Ivy Randall '25, a former Producer and a participant in the department, Grasshopper stands out as a memorable favorite.

"I might be biased because I produced it, but I think [Grasshopper] is one of the most incredible shows to see and to be a part of, just because it really brings together people from all over the community. We have so much talent on campus, and it's so inspiring to see everybody," said Randall.

There are three main ways to participate in a Grasshopper dance: dance courses, dance as a sport, and dance clubs. Dance as a sport meets during sports time, and allows students to take daily classes in the techniques of ballet and modern. Open to both beginners and lifelong dancers, the classes are broken into three levels, determined during a placement class. Through Dance as a sport, students can participate in the tri-annual department shows. For the 2024-2025 school year, the Fall Term show will be with a resident company, the Repertory Dance Theatre. The



Asian Performing Arts Club (APAC) performed at Dance Festival in the Spring Term. A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Winter Term show will be a compilation of student-directed performances, and the Spring Term show will be the faculty-choreographed Spring Dance Concert.

For students interested in commercial styles, student-run clubs are the way to go. On campus, there are clubs in the styles of jazz (Blue Strut), hip-hop (Hypnotiq), Afro-Caribbean (Fusion), tap (Footnotes), Asian performing arts (APAC), K-Pop (JVNE), and Bollywood (BDC). These auditions will likely be held the weekend of September 13. More information can be found by going to the clubs' Instagram accounts. These clubs participate in the Andover Dance Festivals, happening in the Winter and Spring terms, as well as Grasshopper and the pep rallies.

The final way to get in-

involved with the dance program is through dance courses that meet during class time and are associated with a 1-6 grade. Students who are interested in learning about techniques, cultural influence, and the basics of composition may partake in introductory classes such as Theatre & Dance 251. For those interested in choreography, Theatre & Dance 525 is the prerequisite for an Advanced Studies in Dance Performance, or Theatre & Dance 902, an independent project where a student produces an eight to ten-minute piece directed, choreographed, and taught by them. Fellow students can also enroll to be a performer in one of these pieces.

The Theatre section of the department also houses countless opportunities for performances, most of which

are accessed through enrollment in a course. This Fall, there are three shows/courses open for students to enroll in: "Identity" intersects writing and acting with societal issues; "Devised Performance: Why We Vote" unites acting and activism; and "Numa in Fairyland," a Theatre & Dance 901 play directed and produced by Wendi Ying '25 and Melinda Wu '25. Similar to dance, the "Advanced Practical Theatre Performance," the course provides the opportunity for students to have complete creative control. Randall, who performed in Jack Swales's '24 901 musical, "Fun Home," spotlights the 901 and 902 courses as opportunities to both lead their own productions and participate in student-run classes.

"Second to [Grasshopper], the student-choreographed

901s and 902s are my favorite. I think Andover is really unique in that it allows students to lead their own productions entirely. They direct it, they work backstage, they do the tech. I think this is an amazing opportunity that you can't find anywhere else, and it's one of my favorite things about Andover... It was just an amazing experience to be a part of," said Randall.

In the Winter and Spring Terms, there will be four more 901 performances in addition to a musical in the Spring (to be announced) and a play production of Rossum's Universal Robots. Beginning in the Fall Term, the Theatre & Dance Producers (student leaders selected by the department) will bring back Drama Labs, short informal performances directed by students. Whether a devoted actor or dancer, or simply interested in trying something new, Andover offers many avenues to pursue. For the most updated information on the Theatre & Dance department, join the THD Canvas page through the Theatre & Dance "space" on PAnet. Randall imparts her advice to new students looking to try theater or dance, encouraging everyone to get involved.

"[My advice] is to start as early as possible, and get involved as much as possible, because one opportunity just kind of leads to another... Really any experience level is welcome... Everybody should get involved with theater and dance at Andover, even if you don't know if you're 100 percent interested yet, or even if you've never done theater before. The community is really amazing, and theater brings people together in a way unlike anything else I've ever been a part of," said Randall.

Brat: The Album That Colored Summer 2024

HLUMA MANGCU

This summer, British pop star Charli XCX made a major comeback into the spotlight with her sixth studio album, "brat." The album was released on June 7, with 15 tracks, and in just three days, the deluxe version — aptly titled "brat and it's the same but there's three more songs so not." According to Billboard, "brat" debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's Top Dance/Electronic Albums and entered the Billboard 200 at No. 3, marking her highest all-genre rank to date. Notably, "360" reached a peak of No. 3, and "von Dutch" climbed to No. 7, highlighting a significant boost in her chart presence.

The last time Charli XCX reached a similar level of popularity was in 2014, after the release of her album "sucker." For this reason, Charli XCX's recent success came somewhat unexpectedly. It is safe to say, however, that "brat" has ignited a summer sensation, capturing the attention of Gen Z and beyond.

The release of the album sparked a cultural phenomenon known as "brat summer." Charli XCX describes the essence of "brat" as embodying a character who is "a little messy and likes to party and maybe says some dumb things sometimes," but also remains "very honest, very blunt and unapologetically herself." Many young people resonated with "brat" this summer as it provided an unfiltered and raw portrayal of self-expression. As a whole, the concept contrasts sharply with the polished "clean girl" aesthet-

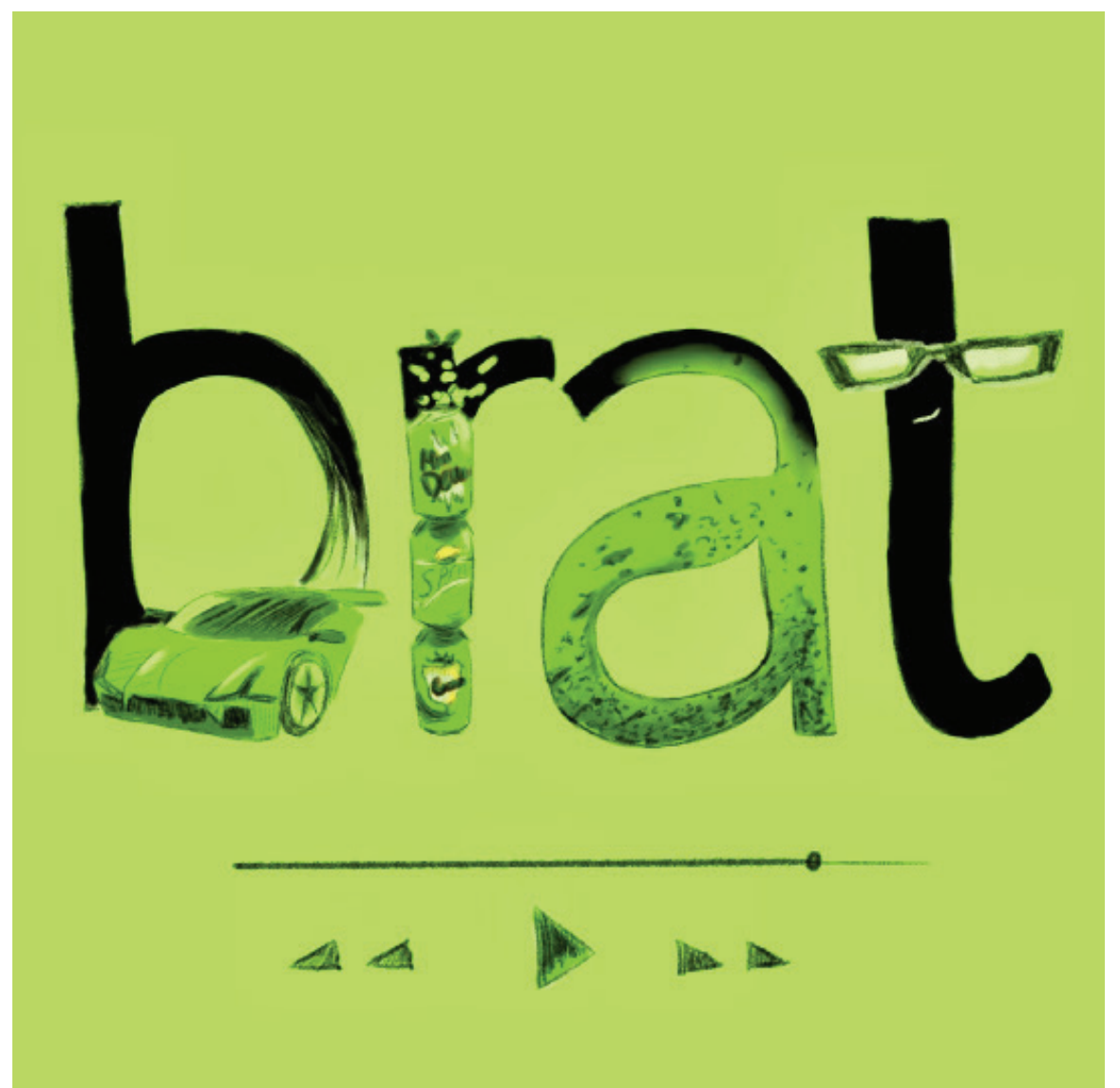
ic and other high-expectation trends that have dominated the social media landscape in recent years.

TikTok has played a crucial role in the success of "brat," with the track "Apple" becoming particularly famous due to a viral dance. This dance, which has now been featured in nearly two million posts, has ensured that even those unfamiliar with the album are somewhat familiar with its catchy beats and vibrant energy.

Similarly, opening track "360" and closing track "365" have blown up on social media. The two tracks are strikingly similar, as "365" is essentially a remixed version of "360" featuring slightly more intense and vulgar lyrics. There has been quite some discourse, especially on TikTok about which song is "better" but in my personal opinion, the energetic "365" is one of the best songs on the album. This just shows how "brat" creates space for people with all different interests to enjoy her music. Francesca Dizon '26 shared how "brat" has empowered her personally, elaborating on the album's honest depiction of womanhood.

"My favorite song is 'Girl, so confusing' because I feel like I really resonate with the experience of being a girl because it truly is just so confusing," said Dizon.

In a surprising turn of events, presidential candidate Kamala Harris has embraced the "brat" mindset in her campaign. Following President Joe Biden's announcement of his withdrawal from the presidential race, Charli XCX tweeted "kamala IS brat," which quickly went



viral. In response, Harris's campaign rebranded her social media presence with the "brat" trends the rest of us enjoyed all summer long.

"Brat" has long dominated the summer of 2024, with its distinctive lime green background and Arial font becoming cultural markers of the season. Its impact on internet culture will like-

ly last much longer than the season.

"Whenever my friends and I saw something neon green after the album was released, we'd exclaim 'brat!' It had such a profound impact and truly took the world by storm," said Dizon.

The album's influence extends beyond music, shaping fashion, social media trends,

SOPHIE STAII/THE PHILLIPIAN and even political branding, demonstrating its significant impact on contemporary culture. Overall, Charli XCX's intentional mirroring highlights the duality of womanhood and the emotional highs and lows explored in "brat." Hence, the album receives 5/5



Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

Album Review: Sabrina Carpenter's "Short n' Sweet"

JENNA LIANG

Rising American singer and actress Sabrina Carpenter released her sixth studio album titled "Short n' Sweet" on August 23. While the full album was released at the end of summer, Carpenter released two singles, "Espresso," and "Please Please Please," in April and June respectively. As of this week, Carpenter's singles "Espresso," "Please Please Please," and "Taste" — all from Short n' Sweet — have topped Billboard's Hot 100 charts, placing them in the top three slots. Carpenter's newest album features a variety of styles: pop, country, rock, disco, and R&B. Along with her album, Carpenter also dropped her very own Short n' Sweet Smoothie at the internet viral Erewhon market in Los Angeles, California.

Shifting away from her previous album messages, "Short n' Sweet" generally boasts a confident and assertive tone. The album draws upon Carpenter's personal love life and displays a carefree message of approaching modern dating. The lyrics in the album are provocative and cleverly explicit, something that has become a trademark of Carpenter's style ever since she started experimenting with the outros to her song "Nonsense" at all of her concerts. Despite this overall tone, Carpenter also reached far out into genres such as country

and R&B, shaking up the album just enough to make it a fun listen. With undeniable hit songs such as "Espresso," which has largely been regarded as 2024's Song of the Summer, and experimental country songs such as "Lie to Girls," the album is all but boring.

Although the general theme of the album has been repetitive throughout pop music, Carpenter's success is arguably deserved. One of the biggest highlights in this album has been the music video for her third single "Taste," featuring Jenna Ortega — the actress who played Wednesday Addams in the Netflix hit TV series "Wednesday." Colin Druz and Aiden Magarian, producers of the "Taste" music video, tied the lyrics and message of the song cleanly with the plot of the music video. Starring Carpenter as the ex-girlfriend and Ortega as the current girlfriend, the music video tackles many humorous yet grim turns as Carpenter and Ortega fight each other over their shared beloved boyfriend. One scene from the music video was especially shocking. As Ortega is seen sharing an intimate kiss with the "boyfriend," the camera shifts angles and reveals the huge buildup: Ortega and Carpenter kissing. This scene reflected exactly what Carpenter's lyrics were: "You'll just have to taste me when he's kissing you."

The rest of the album showed similar instrumentals



and ideas, which consequently made the tracklist relatively repetitive and boring. However, there were tracks such as "Bed Chem" that blew up all over the internet for the cheeky lyrics and catchy tunes. Additionally, Short n' Sweet held some of Carpenter's biggest hits, such as "Espresso." "Short n' Sweet" has an adequate amount of style differences, from slow ballads to energetic pop songs, justifying Carpenter's

musical skill and versatility.

Overall, "Short n' Sweet" has undoubtedly been a hit for Sabrina Carpenter, cementing her status as one of the rising music artists in the pop industry. Despite releasing music for many years now, Carpenter is now a contender for some Best New Artist awards. The album played into Carpenter's strengths, allowing new fans to see her unique style: clever wordplay, confidence in sexuality,

SOPHIE STALL/THE PHILLIPIAN and trendy pop melodies. It's definitely not easy to make a pop album that feels innovative and non-redundant, and although "Short n' Sweet" isn't going to change the future of the music industry, it does show Carpenter's knack for mastering pop. The album gets a 4/5 stars for not only a solid set of songs, but also for helping shape the music and culture of the Summer of 2024.



What Chappell Roan's Career Tells Us About Fame and Stardom

ELIZA FRANCIS

Chappell Roan: she's your favorite artists' favorite artist and a prolific figure not only in the music industry but in determining what it means to be a celebrity. Before being crowned a Midwest princess, Kayleigh Rose Amstutz was merely another aspiring singer-songwriter in Willard, Missouri. Today, TikTok feeds into Roan's unprecedented fame by utilizing fifteen-second clips of entertainment. Roan's first covers were posted on YouTube, where her voice garnered some attention and landed her a record deal with Atlantic Records at 17. Like many young artists, however, Roan's EP "School Nights" lacked the individuality and clarity to launch her career. Dropped by her label and forced to move back to her small midwestern town, Roan was unsupported, yet free — free to develop her signature sound, costume, and unapologetically fun personality that the world would soon fall in love with.

Similar to contemporaries like Sabrina Carpenter, Roan found overnight stardom and internet fame; as her tumultuous career indicates, though, her success is not by luck but sheer determination. The source of mainstream recognition: her release of the anthem, "Good Luck Babe." Condescending in tone and upbeat in form, Roan addressed the heartbreak from "the one that got away." The lyrics, while personal, espe-

cially resonated with queer audiences, creating a community beyond general popularity. This community, however, continues to blur celebration with control. Her greatest comparison, Lady Gaga, said that fame was a monster, but Roan, despite recent backlash, will not be the next victim.

The backlash in question? Roan's recent response where she boldly stated, "I don't care that this crazy type of behavior comes along with the job... That does not make it okay." With select members of her fanbase stalking, harassing, and maintaining a false sense of ownership over Roan, "crazy" is an applicable adjective. Even with displays of inappropriate behavior, the public is split between celebrating her courage and deeming her ungrateful for speaking out. While Roan is not the first to experience exploitative fan treatment, she is, whether by choice or circumstance, the face of the ongoing parasocial relationship debate. We, as consumers, put in our AirPods, watch interviews, and attend concerts, seeking validation and representation. We know and love Chappell Roan. We do not, however, know Kayleigh Rose Amstutz, yet our obsessive interests in her as an artist are impeding upon her life as a person. Yes, celebrities are vulnerable to public praise and scrutiny, but they are not puppets for others to control, gate-keep, and exploit for personal entertainment — boundaries still apply.



CAMERON MARNOTO/THE PHILLIPIAN

Patterns indicate, however, that boundaries are meant to bend. Female celebrities cannot date, wear an outfit, make a face, or statement without microscopic attention. Additionally, it is best practice for women to be grateful for such attention and adapt to maintain it. Doja Cat, for example, faced major career setbacks following her significant appearance changes and disapproval of fan behavior. Similarly, Roan's non-media-trained demeanor and dress do not align with the blonde blowout of Sabrina Carpenter or the sequined bodysuit

of Taylor Swift. This is not to criticize any female artists but instead to question why our definition of femininity is so rigid and why those who fail to conform to it — notably Roan — face inequitable backlash when rejecting fans' toxic, possessive attention.

Of course, fandoms are not inherently detrimental to their respective artists. Roan's drag-inspired dress has brought night-club celebrations to music festivals with millions of people. The "HOT TO GO" cheer swept the nation, encouraging any and all to participate. Chap-

pell Roan is truly a Feminine: a voice that refuses to conform and aspires to unite. There are artists who you enjoy listening to and artists who have the skill set to respond to and even alter the pop cultural climate; Roan is the latter. Due to this, it is imperative that consumers give space, rather than suffocate her and her generational talent. Do not condone the supposedly inevitable rise and fall of the world's favorite Midwest princess; support your favorite artists' favorite artist before it's too late.

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

Dorm Decor Spread

ZACHARY YUAN

We asked Andover students on how they approached designing their rooms, and why they picked that specific vibe.

DEAN YANG '27

"This room belongs to Teo Choi '27 and me. Neither of us enjoys a cluttered mess in our rooms, preferring a minimalist, wide-open space. Since our beds are in the smaller rooms on the side, we decided to keep the larger room open for our friends in the dorm to come visit to watch movies and other activities."



KAI MYLES '27

"I feel very proud of my Jamaican identity, which is why I decided to center the room around who I am as a person, and where I came from. This room embodies my culture and nation and it gives me great joy working



CHLOE RU '27

"My wall reminds me of the things I love. I really enjoy watching F1, so I have a wall decorated with F1 cars. I also love music, so I put up posters of my favorite artists. I also have a light-up speaker that plays music and changes



SOPHIA DAVIS '25

"My favorite color is light green so I wanted to include that a little when decorating my room. The four posters on the walls have somehow survived my past three years at Andover, and will hopefully make it through this one"



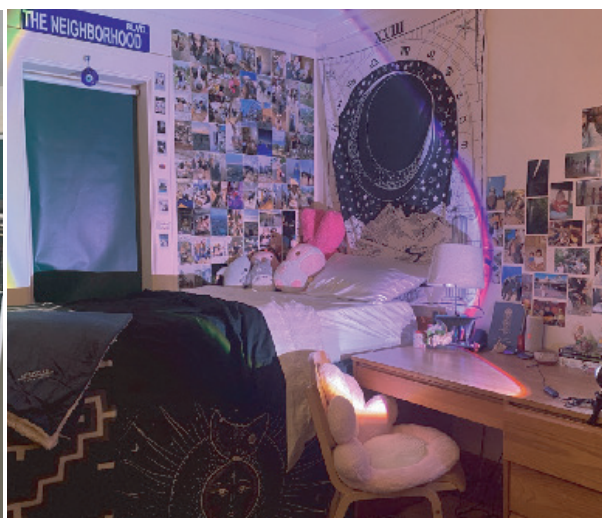
PRAGUN SETH '25

"Sunlight gives me energy, so I put my bed right next to the windows. I also put a bookshelf and family portrait next to my bed to make my dorm room feel cozier and more like home."



MARISOL TANG '26

"My dorm is full of staple items that remind me of the past and fill up space to make the space less bare. I added a ton of photos from last year and this past summer with memories of me dancing and being with my family and friends. Overall, I was trying to go for a really cute and comforting room that I could come and crash in



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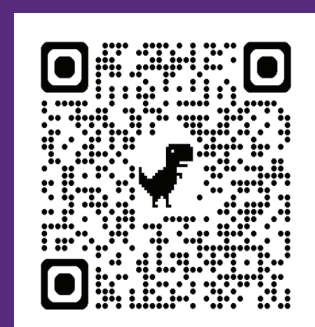


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