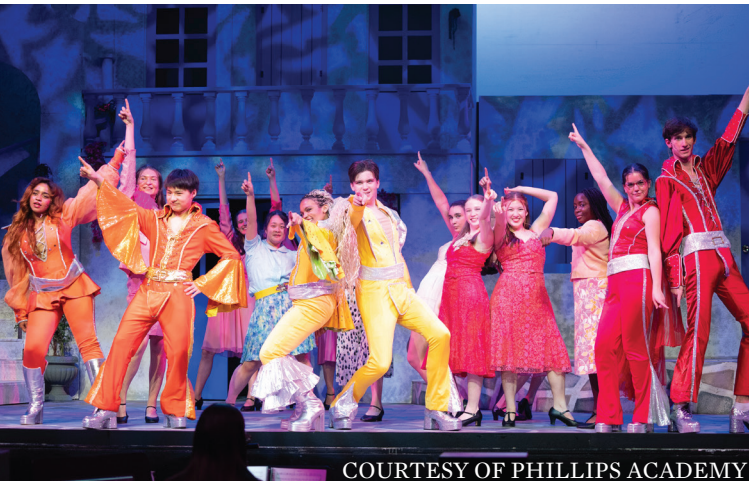




COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY



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WELCOME TO ANDOVER

This special edition of *The Phillipian* contains advice from students, recent Andover news, information on Andover sports and arts, tips on navigating campus, and events to look forward to. We hope you enjoy.



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Commentary, A2

Advice From Returning Students

Students wrote to *The Phillipian* offering advice for new students.

News, A3

News Highlights From the 2024-2025 School Year

Read important news stories from last year and new information for this school year.

Sports & Arts & The Eighth Page, A4

Sports and Arts and The Eighth Page

An overview of all things sports and arts and humor at Andover.

Guides A5-A6

Campus Guides & Events

Learn tips for your first year at Andover and events to look forward to this fall.

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The Phillipian

The oldest preparatory newspaper in the United States. Founded 1857. Vol. CXLVIII Phillips Academy

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Wisdom From Returning Students

Freedom and Interest

CAMDEN SCHOPLER



COURTESY OF CAMDEN SCHOPLER

Welcome to Andover! Starting out can definitely be nerve-wracking, with so many new faces, opportunities, and expectations. In those first few weeks, try saying yes to anything that sparks your interest. When club day comes around, explore as many clubs as you'd like, you might sign up for a dozen and only stick with a few, and that's totally okay. As the term picks up, your time will start to feel more limited, so finding small windows — like lunch

or the gap between classes and sports — to get homework done can really help free up your evenings. Also, don't forget to check the Weekend-er every Thursday; it's full of fun events to help you make the most of your weekends. But more than anything, talk to people. Start conversations, even with strangers. Everyone's adjusting, just like you, and a simple chat can grow into a lasting friendship.

I am You and You are Me

SEBASTIAN VERMUT



M. ENOS / THE PHILLIPIAN

As you settle in on campus, it gets very easy to get caught up in the excitement of your first few days in your new home. Maybe you'll notice that everyone seems to know what they're doing except for you. I can promise you that for the first weeks of the year, everyone is still figuring things out. Some people are simply better at hiding their confusion. Maybe you think you know what you're doing already. The truth is, you probably don't, but that's not a bad

thing. You've just got to keep your mind open to the dynamic life that is attending Andover. Countless new experiences and opportunities will be thrown at you, and that can be overwhelming. Lean on your classmates who, even though they may not seem like it, feel the same. Together you'll figure things out. All it takes is some getting used to.

Super Support System

IZZY PARK



COURTESY OF IZZY PARK

Explore the options for support you have on campus. While the phrase 'trusted adult' can seem cliché, there are so many faculty members, from house counselors to advisors and Sykes counselors, who are genuinely eager to listen. The first conversation is the hardest, but it can start with something as simple as an anecdote about your day. Also, take the time to connect with students who will be there for you, whether that is your roommate, friends, or prefects. The relationships you build here will truly shape your Andover experience.

Ask For Help

LARKIN TECHENTIN



COURTESY OF LARKIN TECHENTIN

At Andover, you will find yourself constantly surrounded by so many talented, accomplished people (including yourself), which may make reaching out for support feel intimidating or like a sign of weakness. But, what makes Andover special is that this couldn't be further from the truth. Whether it's checking in with a teacher during conference period, admitting to a friend when feeling stressed, or simply asking your prefect where to sit in Commons, the Andover community is here for you to help you grow into a better self. You don't need to prove yourself by doing everything alone. Have the humility to reach out when you need it.

The Trifecta

SOPHIA TABIBIAN



COURTESY OF SOPHIA TABIBIAN

Hi new students! We're so excited to have you this year. As a four-year senior, here are my top three pieces of advice:
1. Make sure to get out of the dorm frequently, and try to meet at least one new person every day. If this sounds super nerve-wracking, find a buddy and work on this goal together! Trust me, the people are what make Andover special.

2. Try new things! Some of my greatest interests at Andover have come from giving lots of different sports, clubs, and classes a try.
3. Talk to your prefect. I was a prefect last year, and I can guarantee you that we want nothing more than to be part of your journey! Never be afraid to reach out; your prefects always got your back.

Believe and Achieve

ALLEGRA LEE



COURTESY OF ALLEGRA LEE

New students, be yourself. As you know, [Andover] is made up of smart, accomplished kids, and this can be intimidating. You may encounter people who, intentionally or unintentionally, make you feel like you are not enough and don't belong here. I spent too much time as a Junior feeling this way. I felt I was not smart or cool enough to be at Andover, and instead of embracing who I was, I wished to change myself to not feel like an outsider (which did not work).

The truth is your friends—and the people you'll meet who you're meant to connect with here — will love you exactly as you are right now. Alongside every person who makes you feel like you don't belong, there will be another who loves you and reminds you that you are more than enough. So please be yourself, and the friends you're meant to have will come to you.

The Phillipian welcomes all letters to the Editor. We try to print all letters, but because of space limitations, we enforce a 500-word limit. We reserve the right to edit all submitted letters. Letters must be responses to articles already published by The Phillipian. We will not publish any anonymous letters. Please submit letters by the Monday of each week to phillipian@phillipian.net or to our newsroom in the basement of Morse Hall.

To subscribe, email subscribe@phillipian.net, or write to The Phillipian, 180 Main Street, Andover, Ma, 01810.

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CORRECTIONS:

Gracie Aziabor '26 and Philip Meng '26 Elected 2025-2026 Student Body Co-Presidents

STAFF REPORT

Gracie Aziabor '26 and Philip Meng '26 were elected on April 11 to be the 2025-2026 Student Body Co-Presidents, hours after the final debate at All-School Meeting (ASM). Throughout Spring Term and over the summer, 2024-2025 Co-Presidents Saraya Angbazo '25 and Nate Liang '25 will help the pair transition into their new roles.

Aziabor and Meng initially worked together as Student Representatives during their Junior year. Meng noted how their shared experience offered the pair a unique perspective into the inner workings of Andover, proving valuable as they now begin their tenure.

“[Being a Junior] class representative was really beneficial for me. I got to meet Gracie [who] has become one of my closest friends. Junior class representative really gave me an insight [into] how the school runs and how to work with the administration. Then, we took these two years off to really explore our interests. Now, we’re back, and we have the necessary means to get the things that we’re envisioning done,” said Meng.

Beginning in January, the co-presidential race unfolded over multiple months, including crafting a platform, multiple rounds of voting, and a final debate. Reflecting on this long process, Meng highlighted the dedication and time that went into their campaign.

“Gracie and I have been really putting in so much work for this since the beginning, honestly, there have been many nights where we’ve stayed up until 3:00 a.m. or 4:00 a.m. just getting ready and thinking about the things we were going to do. We are so excited to get started on all of this,” said Meng.

Throughout their campaign, the pair focused on four initiatives: a digitized Add/Drop process, Equity, Balance, and Inclusion (EBI) reform for Juniors and Lower, a club budget and handbook, and Susie’s vouchers on birthdays for students. Aziabor shared her excitement to begin implementing their initiatives, such as the club handbook, which aims to centralize policies about running a club.

“I’m really excited to start



Philip Meng '26 and Gracie Aziabor '26 in Cochran Chapel during the Co-President Debate on April 11.

working on the club handbook, which I feel like a lot of people would assume is less enticing on our platform. It’s more of behind-the-scenes work. I’m excited to really get going, and that’s one of those things that I know we can hit the ground running on and start thinking about what we want to include. I’m so honored to be chosen for this, and I want to start as soon as possible,” said Aziabor.

Angbazo pointed out her favorite initiatives from the pair’s platform and applauded their ability to build upon the work of Co-Presidents before them.

“[Their club budget and handbook initiative is] such an amazing way to build on what Nate, Mr. [Christopher] Capano, [Director of Student Activities], the Student Activities Office, and I did this year with ClubHub. As Co-Presidents, it’s a big skill to be able to work with what is already existing at Andover and just to refine them and make it even better. And I think that is like a great example of great Co-President work,” said Angbazo.

From their experience of being the 2024-2025 Student Body Co-Presidents, the outgoing pair offered a few words of advice for how Aziabor and Meng could achieve success during their tenure. Angbazo emphasized the need to accept rejection, as there are a large number of factors that are required for each proposed initiative, while Liang pushed the pair to begin advocating for change immediately.

“I would say get started early. Even though their terms don’t technically start until the fall

[when] people get back to campus in September, [I suggest] just go for it. Especially because Saraya and I are here to get them started on their term and work with them through May, [a piece of advice is] to really start having conversations with different faculty about their ideas as soon as possible because the year goes by fast,” said Liang.

Reflecting on their campaign, Aziabor and Meng expressed their gratitude for the Andover community throughout the election process and shared their eagerness to step into their new roles.

“I would like to say thank you to the student body for believing in us and for really riding with us along the whole... The support and love that I’ve felt from the end of the community across these past couple of months really warms my heart, and it makes me so grateful to call myself an Andover student,” said Aziabor.

Meng added, “Thank [you to] all of the people who have supported us along the way: all the students, all of our friends, and all the faculty who have been able to talk to and have helped us walk through our ideas. Most of all, we’re just so excited. There’s so much to do, and there’s so much to get started on.”

Editor’s Note: Philip Meng is a Business Manager and Gracie Aziabor is a Layout Editor for The Phillipian.

Editor’s Note: This article originally ran on April 11, 2025.

K. MA/THE PHILLIPIAN

A

PA'S NEW CELL PHONE POLICY

What you need to know

Student cell phones should be silenced and out of sight 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday.

Students may access their phones in an emergency or in their dorm room, the GW mailroom/locker area, or Susie's.

From 3 p.m. (1 p.m. on Wednesday) until 8 p.m. on school days, and on Saturday and Sunday, students may access their phones in most spaces, except for: school commitments, while on the move, when in Silent, in line at Commons, restrooms, or locker rooms.

After 8 p.m. on evenings before days with classes, students may not access their phones in a supervised place of study or in dormitory common rooms.

By 11 p.m. on evenings before days with classes, 9th and 10th graders must place their phones in a charging station outside of their room. Students may access their phones at 6 a.m.

If a student has their phone out during prohibited hours or in phone-free spaces, an adult will take the phone and bring it to the Dean of Students Office, where the student can pick it up at 3 p.m.

L. HEYD / THE PHILLIPIAN

Meet Your 2025-2026 Blue Key Heads!

- “Insane. Sweaty.”
- Sarah Bae '26

“My throat is already sore.”
- Frank Hu '26
- “GOOOO 26!”
- Maya Clark '26

“Ecstatic and dialed.”
- Jack Farrell '26
- “Amazing, excited, and I don’t even know what to say.”
- Will Ware '26

“OVERJOYED!”
- Maty Bah '26
- “We are starting tomorrow.”
- Maddie Greenwood '26

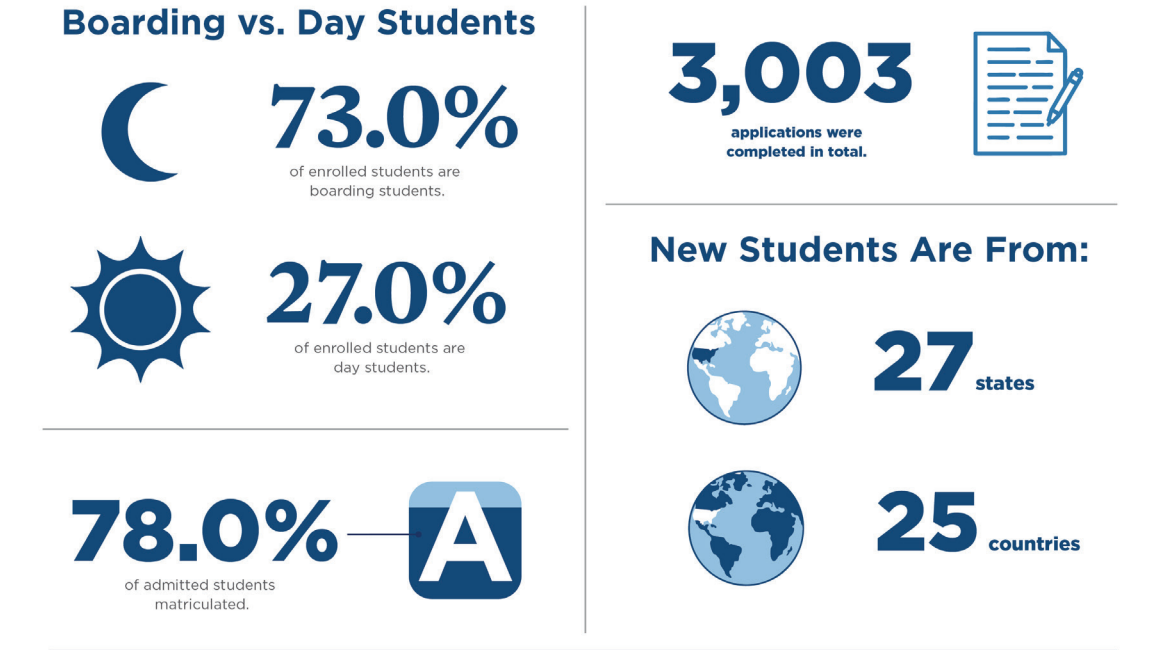
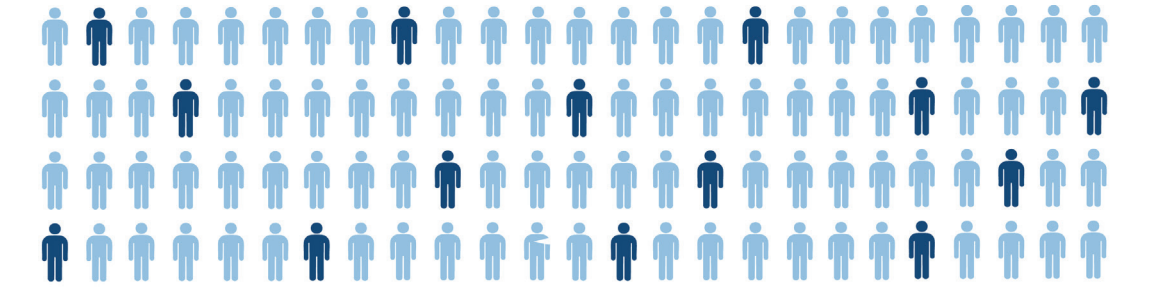
“I’m at a loss for words.”
- Cade Rutkoske '26
- “Blue.”
- Addison Deng '26

“LET’S GOOO.”
- Malcolm Tolbert



Newly Admitted Students

Overall Admit Rate: 14%



All About Arts

Fall

During Fall Term, Andover opens the year with a variety of arts events. Highlights include Grasshopper — the talent show on Family Weekend — and the pep rally where dance groups such as Blue Strut, JVNE, and SLAM perform before Fall A/E.



A LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN



Courtesy of Phillips Academy

Winter

Winter Term features several memorable events such as the musical and annual holiday All-School-Meeting. Students gather for Abbot Cabaret, Andover's winter talent show, to watch their peers perform in a cappella groups, bands, and more.

Spring

Spring Term brings exciting Senior recitals, performances at the Earth Festival, and the annual Kpop show. Students working on Independent Projects, including showcases and Art 600, reveal their year-long cumulation of artwork.



CMANZO/THE PHILLIPIAN

Campus Dance Groups

- Blue Strut
 - SLAM
 - JVNE
 - Fushion
- Hypontiq
 - Footnotes
 - Bollywood Dance Club
- Asian Performing Arts (APAC)
 - Photon



K.MA/THE PHILLIPIAN

Campus Music Ensembles

- Keynotes
 - Yorkies
 - Azure
 - Fidelio
- Concert
 - Jazz
 - Symphony
 - Orchestra
- Chamber
 - Amadeus
 - Gospel Choir
 - Handbell Choir



E.LIU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Fall Preseason Memories



COURTESY OF MURATHIME DAISLEY

Members of Girls Varsity Soccer at their annual Team Prep camp in Casco, Maine.

MURATHIME DAISLEY '26

"It's great to see our underclassmen grow into the team, which has happened throughout preseason. Our team lost a lot of Seniors last year, so we were expecting this year to look very different. Our Seniors were the heart and soul of our team, so we had a lot of nerves awaiting preseason, but we've exceeded my expectations. Everyone has stepped up their game to a new level of maturity. We've developed a greater cohesiveness over the last two weeks."

SCOTT CARMICHAEL '27

"Football preseason was great. The whole team brought great energy and focus to practice everyday. The new players molded very well with the guys, bringing great effort and leadership. The new culture of Andover football is off to a great start."



COURTESY OF SCOTT CARMICHAEL

Coach Charles Brown and members of Boys Varsity Football.

CHLOE SONG '26

"Preseason is going well. The team is just getting into the swing of training with each other again. We're super excited for the season."



COURTESY OF CHLOE SONG

The Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams at Holt Hill.

Phirst Day of School

"How am I going to make lean now?!" - Student enraged at new Sykes protocol

"Hey" - student actually looking up on the path due to recent cellphone bans

"I just met my soulmate in the nine square line."

OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

"Cluster Olympics, Capture the flag, 8:30 sharp, be there"

"Bro Trump just announced tariffs on new international students."

Week's Top Headlines

- Vista Walk Now Three Times As Long to Promote a Fitter Andover As Part of Sykes' Make America Healthy Again Initiative
- Seniors Using Toddler Backpacks Struggle to Fit Their AI Supercomputers
- Grown Man Claiming to be a Soccer PG Detained in Commons Line While Looking for a Free Meal
- Cell Phone Task Force to hold Absolute Sendy Victory Party in Light of New Phone Ban

Andover Slang

"A/E"

Andover/Exeter, the sports competition that happens between Andover and Phillips Exeter at the end of every fall and winter term

"ASM"

All-School Meeting, a Friday meeting that all students must attend every week

"The Den" & "Den Run"

When students make a trip to buy snacks at the Den (a colloquial name for Susie's)

"G-Hop"

Grasshopper, the fall term student talent show that occurs over Family Weekend

"Junior/Lower/Upper"

Formal terms for ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade students (note: generally, juniors are just referred to as freshmen)

"The Knoll"

Pine Knoll cluster

"Lawning"

Hanging out or studying on a grassy area, commonly the Great Lawn

"PACS"

Phillips Academy Campus Safety (978-749-4444 - save this to your phone!)

"Plip"

The Phillipian

"The Quads"

West Quad North and West Quad South clusters

"RayK"

Andover's current Head of School, Dr. Raynard Kington

"Sam Phil"

Samuel Phillips Hall, the large building at the center of campus that houses history and language classrooms

"Silent"

Garver Room in the OWHL: an entirely silent study space for independent work

"Sliding"

When students choose not to participate in an athletic activity for one term (only available to Uppers and Seniors)

Campus Guide: Study Spots



1. George Washington Hall (GW)
First floor lobby features fun and vibrant seating. GW also houses Andover's mailroom, performance theaters, day student lockers, and administrative offices.

2. Addison Gallery of American Art
Quiet study environment amongst shelves of art history books. Need a break? Stroll through the Addison's traveling exhibitions and permanent collections. Limited hours.

3. Morse Hall
Math, computer science, and statistics help offered on most weeknights. Connected to Morse is the Community and Multicultural Diversity (CaMD) office that offers spaces for various clubs, affinity groups, and collaborative study.

4. Pearson Hall
Chalkboards and wooden desks – home to Andover's historic classical language classrooms. Pearson also houses the Academic Skills Center (ASC) that offers accessibility services, study help, and quiet rooms for working.

5. Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL)
A wide variety of study spaces. Ask for research help from librarians at the front desk, reserve a study room, or craft projects in the Makerspace.

6. Gelb Science Center
Science help offered on most weeknights. Large whiteboards and seating can be found in the Gelb hallways for collaborative study.

7. Paresky Commons
Contains four main seating areas; sit anywhere you'd like with anyone you want. The bottom-left quadrant of the building, nicknamed "Lower Left," is the quietest and often the most studious. Work on a group project over food and drinks.

8. Pan Athletic Center
Colorful booth-style and table seating in an open environment. Stop by the newly-built pool, dance studios, and wrestling facilities in the Pan if you have the chance!

9. Snyder Center
Second floor offers modern seating while overlooking the indoor track, squash courts, and Phelps stadium.

Follow us on social media!



@thephillipian



The Phillipian

State of the Academy (SOTA)

The **State of the Academy (SOTA)** is an annual survey conducted independently by *The Phillipian* that serves to gain a better understanding of the student body. This anonymous survey asks a comprehensive set of questions comprising of nine sections: General, Politics & Worldview, Education, Wellness, Drugs & Alcohol, Sex, Campus Culture, Community Diversity, and Discipline.



Scan the QR code above or visit sota.phillipian.net to view the most recent edition of SOTA, which was done in the spring of 2025 with a participation rate of 74.2% (865 students).

Downtown Delights!

Go-to spots for students in downtown Andover

Restaurants

Kokoro Craft Udon - hearty udon bowls and Japanese-style appetizers + side dishes (978-783-3920)

UBurger - burgers, fries, shakes, and other fast food (978-809-3338)

OTTO - rustic pizza (617-588-6910)

La Rosa's - Italian specialties, gourmet sandwiches, fresh pasta and salads (978-475-1777)

Pazzo Pizza Co. - Neopolitan style pizza and pasta (978-409-2268)

Casa Blanca - classic Mexican eats (978-289-4165)

ShoYu - Chinese and Japanese restaurant serving sushi and other pan-Asian favorites (978-409-1494)

Akita Ramen - Japanese ramen and rice bowls (978-409-1077)

Perry's Plate - classic American brunch (978-409-1814)

Karma - sushi and Chinese, Korean, and Thai cuisine (978-809-3075)

Brooksy's - wood-fired pizza straight from the brick oven and signature American fare (978-783-3654)

Coffee

Dunkin' Donuts

Ultimate Perk - cash only!

Starbucks

Perfecto's Caffe - bagels, pastries, coffee, sandwiches, and salads (20 minute walk from campus, most students typically order: 978-749-7022)

Caffe Nero - popular study spot with pastries, coffee, and quick bites

Sweet Treats

Sweet Mimi's - quaint chocolate and candy shop

Cup 89 - gelato and bubble tea

J.P. Lick's - classic ice cream and other frozen treats (a student favorite!)



HOW TO JOIN THE PHILLIPIAN

The *Phillipian* is Phillips Academy's weekly student-run newspaper that has been publishing since 1857. We strive to represent all voices of the student body through journalism, and with a board composed of Editorial, Digital, and Business sections, we have a place for any of your passions and skills. No prior experience necessary! If you have questions or concerns, feel free to email Upper Management at um@phillipian.net.

I want to get involved! I'm interested in...

Business

Business: manage finances of *The Phillipian*, handle advertisements and funding

Digital/Visual Media

Digital: upload articles online, web development and coding

Graphic Design: create visual graphics, major role in creating SOTA (State of the Academy)

Layout: configure articles and visual content on InDesign for print

Writing

Illustration: draw and create illustrations for articles

Photo: take photos to supplement articles in all sections, provide additional visual content

Video: event coverage, create both short-form and long-form original content

Arts: write about performances and exhibits, fashion features

News: write about current events at Andover

Commentary: contribute your opinions, hot takes, or shower thoughts

8th Page: all you need is a sense of humor :)

Multilingual: translate or write articles in another language

Copy: check for grammar, mechanics, and styling consistencies

Scan this QR code to join!



