

Cometeer

D-DHS choir spectacular coming soon

By Trinity Dement
Cometeer staff

It's that time of year again - the season where magic starts the time of giving and being with the family, where you sit down at the table and enjoy the fresh turkey and the smell of the stuffing. Oh yes, you named it - it's time for CHRISTMAS!

Well, actually, it's time for the Delavan-Darien High School Christmas carol spectacular! Mr. James Larson is the teacher for D-DHS's four choirs - Accelera, Lydian, Treble and Chamber, with each harder than the other. These choirs will be singing a variety of songs, such as "Here We Come Wassailing", "Joy to the World", "Silent Night", and so much more.

Come down on Black Friday with your family and enjoy this magical night. Also, if you want to be a part of an amazing choir team, join choir. Mr. Larson would love to have you read more to know about all of the four choirs and more about him.

The Choirs

Mr. Larson is proud to be the instructor of the four amazing choirs, each harder to get into than the one before, and those of you who came to the Informace - meaning a performance where he goes over everything that is done in class and it is also a word made by Mr. Larson - you know how spectacular these choirs are. The choirs are Acapella, Treble, Chamber and Lydian.

Acapella is for every grade and it is for all genders. You also don't have to audition for it, the only one for which you don't have to audition. Treble is different - it's only for girls 14 to 18 and you have to audition for it. There are only 15 girls, so if you're a girl and you're a very good singer, Mr. Larson would love for you to help out.

Chamber is next and it is for all genders, but you do need to audition for it. Also, you must be a sophomore and up. Last, but not least, is Lydian. Lydian is hard to get into as you need to be a junior or a senior and you need to be a good singer and know all or most solfege as well as read notes. But it doesn't stop there as also for Lydian, you must audition. Ask Mr. Larson about what you need to know in order to be in Treble, Chamber and Lydian.

The Play



The D-DHS play is "Moby Dick," which is about an all-girls school that's going to be closing down. All the students in that school are kids that can't go to a normal school because they are homeless or they did something bad and can't go back to their regular school. So they decide to make a fundraiser to make sure the school stays open and their fundraiser is a play.

If you're interested, the director is Mr. Larson. He will help you pick out a 30-second song for the chorus. If you want to be a lead, you need a monologue, a headshot photo and a resume. The resume should have your height, weight and your special talents and also experiences, plus your name at the top, of course. So "break a leg" and come to try out for the D-DHS play.

Time is now to study abroad

By Jacob Prado
Cometeer staff

The new school year is well on its way and, although next year is far off, it's already time for students interested in studying abroad to make their decisions.

Every year, Delavan-Darien High School hosts a number of foreign-exchange students who come to the United States to study. These students are from all over the world and come to the United States for numerous reasons, like studying abroad, exploring the American culture, or any other reasons.

Applications for scholarships to study abroad are opening up for the 2018-19 school year, but to make a decision students should consider all of the benefits as well as some potential drawbacks.

One big advantage of studying abroad is the chance for a student to see the world and experience a new culture firsthand. When students study abroad they go to school in a totally new setting and experience the different country from a rare perspective. For most students, it is likely the first time outside of the United States.

Another reason students decide to study abroad is simply to experience another country's educational system. Every country has a unique and different educational system and exchange students consider their own education. Students who come to the United States sometimes come just for an education they can't receive in their home countries.

Studying abroad also provides students with a lifelong experience that can make them stand out on college or scholarship applications, as well as on job applications and resumes for the rest of their lives. While these are just some of benefits of studying abroad, there are many more, including often making new friends for a lifetime.

One of the potential drawbacks of a study-abroad experience can be the lack of language knowledge and skills of a different country. Before a student decides to study abroad, it is obviously helpful to

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New class helps supply sports officials

By Jacob Prado
Cometeer staff

This year at Delavan-Darien High School, a new class is being held that will hopefully help the referee shortage in all recreational sports games. "Sports Officiating, Coaching, and The World of Sports," or simply sports officiating, was newly introduced this school year as an option for students at D-DHS that will help them obtain a certification to officiate high school sports games.

Throughout this course students will gain the skills, techniques and knowledge necessary to obtain a certification from the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association that will allow them to officiate two different sports. While this is one free option, there are other ways not just high school students, but students as young as 12, can do to obtain a referee certification. The focus of this article will be on the need for more referees in recreational youth soccer games and how anyone can do this.

Every fall and spring the soccer seasons begin and for referees it's back to the fields for most. While many soccer, and other sport, referees do return season after season, some referees, about two in 10, don't return for their third year of officiating according to the National Federation of State High School Associations. This decline in referees has been seen nationwide as there has been an increase in player participation that leads to more teams, but not enough referees to officiate all of the games of these teams.

The decline in referees is easy to understand and potentially fix if team members, coaches, parents and sports organizers work together. There needs to be a recruitment for new referees that are supported throughout the learning process and who stay longer than recent studies show. While the problem is not yet reached, a crucial point if this trend of a decline in referees continues, we may see the effect in youth soccer games more often than not.

Any players or soccer enthusiast who would find this an interesting weekend side job would contribute to reversing this decline

in soccer referees. People as young as 12 can take a course that will allow them to become an official soccer referee in the state of Wisconsin for recreational and youth league soccer games. By visiting wisref.org interested people can follow the link that says "BECOME A SOCCER REFEREE". While this way of becoming a referee does require an initial fee (around \$60) to take an officiating course, it could be more beneficial to the referee. With gaining this license, instead of a high school officiating certification, the referee has much more of an option and can make more money than officiating a game every few days.

Usually recreational and league soccer games are held on Saturday and Sunday mornings, which allow for these referees to still have another job. On these Saturday mornings a referee could be on the fields for a few hours but walk away with close to \$100. The current fees for referees are shown to the right, but for some youth games Delavan Soccer Club does pay referees more than the recommended amount.

While this job can be stressful on younger referees, Delavan Soccer Club, and many other soccer organizations in the area, has tried to relieve the stress on these referees by posting signs on the soccer fields during games. These signs say, "Please remember, the players are kids, the coaches are volunteers, and the referees are human". The point of placing these signs on the field during the games is to encourage parents, coaches and even players to support the referees

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Studying abroad...

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study and practice the language of whatever country the student selects. While a student may practice for months beforehand, he or she may not be as prepared as they think and can fall behind in the new school setting. Also, socially, it possibly makes it harder to meet new friends.

Another potential drawback could be the cultural shock that students can experience. All of the research that a student can do beforehand can prepare them a little, but when thrown into the culture, students can still be surprised. Students could be taken aback when they arrive in the new country and will need to adapt to this new culture and the customs. A student can also become homesick.

Furthermore, another drawback is the high cost of studying abroad, which can surpass \$10,000. While there are scholarships that can help lower, or even eliminate, this cost of studying abroad, students may still have to pay thousands of dollars. Considering the cost and some of the small setbacks students may encounter, there still have many great benefits to studying abroad.

When a student is considering benefits and drawbacks, they need to examine and take a close look at all of them. There are ways that a student can help and learn to deal with the drawbacks that will occur before and during their study-abroad experience. One of the first steps a student can take regarding cost is to apply for as many scholarships as possible. To prevent a large unexpected cultural shock, students can try as much as possible to learn even more about everyday life in the country they choose.

After considering all the benefits and drawbacks, students should take time to decide. If a student decides they want to study abroad, then they should apply for scholarships and take time writing applications. Overall, studying abroad is an opportunity that could be very beneficial to one's education and future.

2017 (July 1- June 30 2018) WYSA Referee Game Fees Recommended U6-10 & State League				2018 (July 1- June 30 2019) WYSA Referee Game Fees Recommended U6-10 & State League			
Group	Referee	AR (Ea)	Per Team	Group	Referee	AR (Ea)	Per Team
U6 (3 v 3)	\$12	N/A	\$6	U6 (3 v 3)	\$14	N/A	\$7
U8 (4 v 4)	\$12	N/A	\$6	U8 (4 v 4)	\$14	N/A	\$7
U9 & U10 (7v7 w/GK)	\$14	\$10	\$17	U9 & U10 (7v7 w/GK)	\$16	\$12	\$20
U11 & U12 (9v9 w/GK)	\$28	\$18	\$32	U11 & U12 (9v9 w/GK)	\$30	\$20	\$35
U13 & U14 (11 v 11) Rec/Comp	\$38	\$28	\$47	U13 & U14 (11 v 11) Rec/Comp	\$40	\$30	\$50
U15 & U16 (11 v 11) Rec	\$42	\$28	\$49	U15 & U16 (11 v 11) Rec	\$44	\$30	\$52
U15 & U16 (11 v 11) Comp	\$48	\$32	\$56	U15 & U16 (11 v 11) Comp	\$50	\$34	\$59
U17/U18/U19 (11 v 11) Rec	\$48	\$32	\$56	U17/U18/U19 (11 v 11) Rec	\$50	\$34	\$59
U17/U18/U19 (11 v 11) Comp	\$58	\$38	\$67	U17/U18/U19 (11 v 11) Comp	\$60	\$40	\$70

Opinion: Transition to high school works out

By Morgan Lock
Cometeer staff

High school - these two words can scare the life out of young adolescents. Specifically me, before I arrived at Delavan-Darien High School as a freshman this year. You always see high school in the movies displayed with the three queen bees who rule the school and the freshmen who get bullied every day. That is not what high school is like at all in actuality.

On the first day of high school, I was terrified. Terrified of getting lost, terrified of getting shoved into a locker, terrified of the upperclassmen, terrified of anything and everything of which I could be terrified. When I walked through the doors, I thought, "This is it; this is where I die." Yes, I am really that dramatic. However, my worries eventually died down when I recognized some people and my route from the open house.

The number one thing you're going to hear in high school for months is "get involved!" It may sound silly, but it's true. The best way to make friends and navigate your way around is to join new clubs, groups or sports. This year, I made a lot of new friends from joining the swim team, the marching band, and the school newspaper. Even though there can be scheduling conflicts, you can usually resolve those with the understanding supervisors.

Another thing that is super important in surviving high school is to make sure you do your homework. Yes, it's a cliché, but it is super important, because your GPA and your cumulative never goes away. My number one piece of advice would be to take a study

hall. It can truly be your lifesaver, or so I've heard. I don't have a study hall this semester and, even though I am on the swim team, sometimes it feels like I am drowning in homework! I will be taking my own advice and having a study hall next semester.

Lastly, another big change from middle school to high school is all about finding yourself. My best friend goes to another school and I miss her every passing day, even though we try our best to communicate. Looking on the bright side of things, even though it's hard, it gave me a chance to find myself and to figure out who I was on my own. I have met some amazing people, even though she will never be replaced.

To conclude, high school was a really big change that scared me this year, but I got through it and once you do, it's a very fun experience.

Referees...

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and give the referees a much better work environment.

According to a USA Today article, some of the main reason for a decline in referees who officiate long term was verbal abuse from parents, the aging of current referees with little influx of new referees, a low payscale for what referees do, and a dramatic increase in club and recreational league sports teams.

If everyone - players, coaches, parents and even officials - works together, there can be an solution to the decline of referee participation, reasons for referees leaving, and it can create a better atmosphere at all games. The class at D-DHS is a step that can help this situation.

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It's Never Too Late
To Get Involved and
Contribute to Either
The Phoenix Rising
or
The D-DHS Cometeer
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