

The Wolf Howl



Chandler High School || April 2025

AVID Welcomes Incoming Freshman to CHS Campus

By Ava Peterson, Reporter



Photo by Ava Peterson

On Feb 24, 2025, Chandler High School's AVID program hosted an inspiring all-day event, welcoming eighth-grade students from Anderson Junior High School for a special outreach event designed to welcome incoming freshmen. The day was filled with exciting activities aimed at easing the transition into high school and giving the students a glimpse of what to expect in their future academic journey.

The day kicked off with icebreaker games to help the eighth graders get to know each other and connect with their future classmates and AVID pen pals. These upperclassmen, who are currently participating in the AVID program CHS, played a key role in making the junior high students feel at ease and excited about their upcoming high school experience. Yaretzy Valenciana Macias, a sophomore and first-year AVID participant, commented, "The

games definitely made everyone more comfortable and open to speaking out. Even if students came to Chandler High separated from their friends, they left with new ones!"

The AVID mentors helped guide the eighth graders through the day, answering questions and sharing advice on how to navigate high school life. The excitement continued with a pizza lunch, allowing students to bond over a meal, before heading on a tour of the high school campus. Seeing Chandler's courtyard, JSU, and cafeteria firsthand helped ease nerves and build anticipation for the next chapter of their education.

The program concluded with a Q&A session, where the eighth graders had the opportunity to ask anything on their minds. Upperclassmen shared their experiences, offering tips on everything from balancing homework and extracurriculars

to making new friends and getting involved in school activities. The impact of this exchange was clear; the younger students left with a newfound sense of confidence and excitement about their future. But this event was more than just a tour or a fun day. It was a reflection of the power of mentorship and school community Yaretzy Valenciana Macias explained, "With these younger students, I had the chance to demonstrate leadership. I truly hope this experience will help them feel less stressed on their first day of high school and succeed during their high school years!"

As these eighth graders prepare to take their next step into high school, they will do so with not only a better understanding of high school but also with new connections, role models, and a sense of belonging. And in the end, that's what AVID—and a great school community—is all about.

AP/IB Science Students Take on Catalina Island

By Ipshita Chowdhury, Reporter

From February 21-23, IB and AP science students (especially us AP Environmental Science kids) took a trip to the Catalina Island Marine Institute at Toyon Bay, and honestly? Best decision ever. I was so excited to go this year because everyone always talks about how much fun it is, and for once, the hype was actually justified. This wasn't just another school trip but rather three days of nonstop adventure, marine life, and a much-needed break from the harsh reality of junior year. AP Environmental Science students got to see their classroom lessons play out in real ecosystems, learning about marine life, conservation, and hands-on research in a way that felt way more real than a presentation. "The topics we learned on this trip aligned so well with what we've covered in APES," said Mars Haffey, a junior taking both APES and AP Bio. "It was really cool to see everything come to life."

The second we got there, we were in the water. Snorkeling became part of our daily routine, whether it was mid-afternoon or late at night when the water sparkled with bioluminescence. Of course, the hardest part wasn't the swimming, it was squeezing into wetsuits, which was basically a workout on its own.

One of the most fascinating parts of the trip was the shark lab, where we learned how sharks are unfairly demonized in media (calling out Jaws) and what conservationists are doing to protect them. We even got to pet some in the institute's aquarium, where they rehab fish before releasing them back into the wild. Then there was the squid dissection, which also doubled as a murder mystery, with camp counselors dressed as detectives as we tried to figure out what took out our poor squid.

The food? It was tolerable. But when you're feeding over a hundred high schoolers and elementary schoolers, you can't expect gourmet meals. The campfire, though, made up for it, and so did the endless inside jokes, laughter, and the forced detox from our phones and the internet that actually made us more present. The ferry ride to and from the island was stunning, but if you're going next year, please bring a warm jacket unless you want to get hypothermia.

Even though we were only there for two full days, it felt like a week with how much we packed in. If I could do it all over again, I absolutely would. To anyone thinking about going next year—just go.



Photo provided by Ipshita Chowdhury
Pictured: Sophia Meda, Ipshita Chowdhury, Alexis Francis, Charlotte Flattre, Marissa Haffey, Kaia Smith

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2025 Grammy Awards

By Kenadie Chee, Reporter

The 67th annual Grammy Awards took place on February 2, 2025, with top recordings from September 16, 2023 to August 30, 2024. The Nominated artists for songs of the year were Lady Gaga & Bruno Mars, Taylor Swift & Post Malone, Billie Eilish, Chappell Roan, Sabrina Carpenter, Kendrick Lamar, Beyonce and a few others. The Grammy's award was going crazy viral through all social media platforms. Obviously some bad and good but the most viral moment was when Beyonce won album of the year "Cowboy Carter". Kendrick Lamar taking the Record of the Year award with his Drake diss "Not like us" song.

Chappell Roan earned the award for Best New Artist. The Best Pop Duo went to "Die with a Smile", by Lady Gaga and Bruno Mars. The Best Pop Solo went to Sabrina Carpenter. Best Rap Album went to Doechii. Many more awards were given which is great but the most talked about was Beyonce's award, hundreds or even thousands of people on tiktok, instagram were talking about how Beyonce did not deserve to win that award, people were also speaking about how Billie Eilish should've won at least one award during the Grammy's which I

agree with. There's plenty of posts going around of Billie crying because she didn't win a single grammy along with Beyonce's surprised reaction when she won album of the year. Besides all of the drama in the Grammy's there were plenty of talented artists that did deserve the awards.

Another popular topic in the Grammy's were the performances by Sabrina Carpenter, RAYE, Charli XCX, Chappell Roan, Shakira, and more. Sabrina's "Espresso" performance went viral because of her acting, outfit changes, and choreography, making her catch the attention of her audience. RAYE's performance was also going viral with many fans and others admiring her vocals, and presentation. Above all it's pretty obvious fans and many more enjoyed the Grammy Performances. Lastly, the event of the Red Carpet, again it's all on social media you'll see multiple people rating celebrities outfits, and pictures of beautiful outfits and ugly ones. Many people have said for The Red Carpet look many celebrities went for pretty basic outfits, but there's also plenty that look very amazing even if it isn't much like Taylor Swift red dress, during The Red Carpet or the Jaden Smith outfit.

Senior Recitals Give APAC Seniors Opportunity for Final High School Bow

By Isabella Dana, Editor-In-Chief

Every year, for Chandler High's Theater Company, there is a special tradition. This tradition consists of three performances hand-picked and directed by seniors, which is why this theater tradition is called Senior Recitals. Senior Recitals this year happen to land on May 1st, and tickets are only \$5 at the Chandler Center of the Arts in the Bogle theater. This year, the night will be filled with comedy as the performances showcased will be "So You Wanna Be a Cheerleader" by M. G. Davidson, "Bad Things happen to Good Actors" by Ian McWethy and Jason Pizzarello, and finally "Mmmbeth" by Allison Williams.

The first performance will be "Bad Things Happen to Good Actors" by Ian McWethy and Jason Pizzarello, which will be directed by seniors Hailey Laidig and Joshua Gonzalez. This performance will consist of characters such as Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, and many more who will be played by Elle Patterson, Brayden Nesbitt, Xilan Squire, Claire Likes, and others. This one-act is based on the musical and movie "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," but has gone wrong. The actors

within the one-act will experience a series of hilarious encounters with those in the audience and those on the stage. Seniors Hailey and Josh chose a performance that unites actors with laughter to share one last laugh between seniors and underclassmen within APAC. To these two APAC directors, this one-act represents one last laugh with close friends and family, yet another unforgettable memory for all of APAC.

The next performance will be "Mmmbeth" by Allison Williams, which will be directed by senior Grey McIntosh. This performance will feature characters such as Mmmbeth, Lady Mmmbeth, and Banquo. Mmmbeth will be played by senior APAC member Tobias Guisto, the main character. The story is also based on a play, "Macbeth." In this one-act, the original story of Macbeth was overtaken by the witches, the villains of the story, and events that are supposed to happen take a complete turn. This one-act was chosen because of the light-heartedness of this heavy storyline.

The last one-act that will be performed and directed

by seniors Riely Foerst and Bella Dana is "So You Wanna Be a Cheerleader" by M. G. Davidson. In this one-act, there are cheerleaders Brittani, Britnee, Britney, and Kevin who want to compete in nationals, but they are in dire need of one more member to qualify for the competition, so they host tryouts with the strangest yet funniest characters in school. APAC members Dominic D'Amico, Shayla Forero, Rocky Landgren-Lee, Leo Iverson, and even Ms. Likes play the main characters of the four cheerleaders and other comedic characters. Unlike the other two one-acts, this play is not based on another amazing piece. Despite this fact, Riely and Bella "are extremely excited to work" because the actors are "disciplined, multitasking, and [exhibit] impeccable characterization skills."

All these one-acts are viewed as the last tradition shared between APAC members. In a way, Senior Recitals is a final goodbye to our lovely seniors, which is why this tradition has continued throughout the years. APAC welcomes the CHS community to share this special tradition with them on May 1st for the price of \$5 at the CCA.

Chandler High Seniors Pass the Torch of Kindness to Next Generation

By Kiley Jacobson, Editor

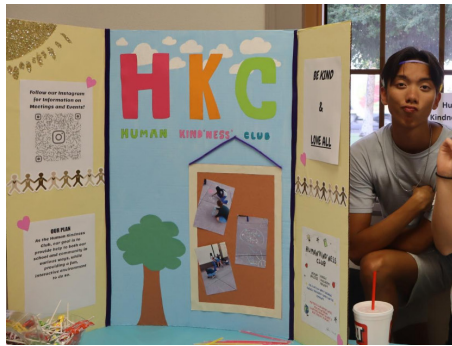


Photo by Kiley Jacobson
Featured: Trenton Huynh

What started as a simple idea among two high school seniors has developed into a movement that is set to continue inspiring students for years to come. Shae Laskowski-Trant and Trenton Huynh, both seniors at Chandler High School, founded the Kindness Club this year with the intention of spreading kindness throughout their school and community. Their initiative has been a success, with over 170 active members, and now as they prepare to graduate, they are passing the torch to a new group of dedicated students.

Jaden Fontana, Micah Zahir, and Alexis Francis are a few of the juniors who will be stepping up to lead the Kindness Club into its next chapter. Jaden Fontana, who will serve as the new president,

has ambitious plans to extend the club's reach and impact: "We want to open more interactive projects to increase engagement and make a real difference." Her goal for the club is to create a culture of kindness that extends beyond our school and into the community.

The Kindness Club has already made a significant impact under Shae and Trenton's leadership. They organized events such as hosting a booth at the Semicolon Society and having their members pass out homemade bracelets to further unify the community. The club also launched a social media campaign to promote positive messages and encourage students to share their own stories of kindness.

As Alexis, Jaden, and

Micah take over, they plan to build on these successes and introduce new initiatives. One idea is to create a "Kindness Wall" where students can post notes of appreciation and encouragement from one another. Another is to partner with local volunteer organizations to sponsor community events that promote kindness and unity.

With the new leadership team in place, the future of the Kindness Club looks bright. As they work to spread their message of kindness, they are not only making a difference in their school but also setting an example for others to follow. "Kindness is a simple but powerful message, and we're excited to see how it continues to grow," remarks Shae.

AVID Students Organize Donation Drive for Chandler Community

By Roselyn Johnson, Reporter

As many of you may have noticed, AVID students organized a canned food and clothing drive on campus in February to give back to the community and those in need. The minds behind this immensely successful project were Harley Gonzalez, Dominic Arredondo, and Judah Adams, three Chandler students searching for an idea

to better their community. As Gonzalez, Arredondo, and Adams explained, the drive started as a group project about "The Spirit of Giving." The entire class was asked to brainstorm ideas to help the Chandler community. These included giving to the homeless and collecting donations. Eventually, these three students landed on the idea of hosting a

canned food and clothing drive on campus to support local community organizations.

This drive ended up becoming so popular and successful that they were even requested to extend it another week beyond their original end date! Dominic explained, "Due to a sudden influx of canned goods, they said, 'We

need you to stay one more week, 'cause we have so much more to give you.' We possibly might even extend it more."

All of the clothes donated to the drive were transported to the One Small Step Clothes Cabin, a local clothing bank in Gilbert, and the canned goods were donated to the Chandler CARE Center Food Bank.

After items are delivered to these locations, these community partners will distribute them to those in need. In the end, it's amazing that our school provides opportunities like this to normal kids willing to make a change.

TikTok Ban in U.S. Sparks Controversy

By Hugo Ortega, Reporter

On April 24, 2024, former President Joe Biden signed a bill passed by the United States Congress that required ByteDance, the Chinese company that owned the social media app TikTok, to divest of its ownership within the next 9 months or face a nationwide ban. The bill quickly became quite a controversial topic within the TikTok and social media communities, with many questioning if the government really made the right move to ban an app out of fear that the Chinese government was potentially gathering sensitive personal data without their users' knowledge.

"I think that it's completely unnecessary," said Aurora Jass, a sophomore at Chandler High School. "TikTok is a very easily accessible way for people of all ages to get information, and to strip that away from millions of people is a violation of free speech and for many would remove their source of income." Aurora believes that banning TikTok would violate free speech laws and take away an extremely popular app that is used by millions of Americans for information, entertainment, and income.

The controversy began because the TikTok app was rumored to gather the sensitive personal data of users without their consent, including personal details, location data, and device information. U.S. lawmakers proposed legislation that would ban ByteDance, the parent company who owns TikTok and several other apps, from operating in the United States. In addition to TikTok, ByteDance is the

owner of several other apps that are used by millions of Americans, including CapCut, Gauth, Lemon8, and Marvel Snap.

Nine months after the bill to ban TikTok was signed, it went into effect on January 19, 2025, and TikTok informed their users that their app was officially shutting down in the United States until further notice. In addition to TikTok being inaccessible to millions of Americans, all other apps owned by ByteDance were similarly affected.

As you may expect, this left millions of avid TikTok users highly unhappy. While some users and content creators returned or switched to American-owned social media platforms like Instagram, YouTube, or Snapchat, many disgruntled TikTok users protested by signing up for RedNote, a Shanghai-based social media app with mostly Chinese users that is similar to Instagram (which is not accessible in China).

After several years of ban rumors, many TikTok fans feared that the app was truly banned for good this time. However, the app was surprisingly unbanned in the United States approximately twelve hours after the ban took effect. Why? It turned out that President Donald Trump signed an executive order pausing the TikTok ban for 75 days to allow ByteDance additional time to find an American company to purchase the app. In the meantime, TikTok was accessible again for US users, much to the relief of social media fans everywhere.

There are still plenty of things to



Photo by Hugo Ortega

argue about from this ban. Some believe that this ban was implemented just to eliminate Chinese competition in the United States, while others believe it was totally not needed. Omar Duarte, a Chandler High School freshman, stated, "I really don't think it was necessary to ban TikTok. Sure, it's from China, but it wouldn't affect much at all since it's just social media."

Only time will tell whether TikTok will eventually survive in the United States. Many prominent American companies and businesspeople have publicly expressed interest in purchasing TikTok, including Microsoft, Oracle, and Elon Musk, who also owns X (formerly Twitter) and SpaceX.

New Voices Bill Designed to Protect Student Voices

By Peyton Postovit, Reporter



Photo by Peyton Postovit

There are countless student journalists across the nation and at our school, and protecting their very right to publish news and information without fear of censorship is vital to maintaining journalistic integrity. With a bill known as the New Voices Bill back in the Arizona state legislative process and recently clearing the House Education Committee, it opens up new doors for state leadership in Arizona to protect student journalists from being censored by their school or district administration.

This bill was first introduced and passed a vote in both the Arizona State House and Arizona State Senate in 2017, but it failed to make it off the governor's desk. Renewed interest has sparked the bill to make its way back into the state legislative process. Wolf Howl reporter Abby Ogles explained how "important to our craft it is to be able to have the ability to express ourselves with journalistic integrity without the fear of facing unwarranted censorship."

Several members of this school newspaper have been working diligently the past few months to send and write letters and make phone calls to our state representatives, urging them to support this bill which is so vital to the work we do. Contrary to what some critics may claim, a New Voices bill wouldn't allow student journalists to make rash or unsupported claims or write articles that would cause danger to campus life; rather, it is meant to confirm that student journalists are real journalists, who are entitled to the freedom of speech and freedom of the press rights protected in the Bill of Rights.

With the future of this bill hanging in the balance, it's up to everyone to show their support for student journalists. Please consider contacting your state legislators and tell them to support the New Voices bill for student journalism.

Speech and Debate Helps Students Build Valuable Skills

By Melanie Harris, Reporter

Speech and Debate is a fun and inspiring elective here at Chandler High School. People have the ability to talk or express themselves in many different ways. Not only is the class welcoming, but the people apart of this community are very supportive of each other. The members of this club can also gain skills they may have lacked in the past.

Furthermore, a lot of fun events are one of the most interactive and exciting times. The speech and debate tournaments are events where members make different speeches or debate arguments that they come up with themselves and go against different schools. Members are said to like the freedom of being able to make their own speeches or arguments. It is also fun to compete with other schools but also to make new friends. Ayah Karriem, who is

the secretary of Chandler High's speech and debate club also agrees. "My favorite part of speech and debate is probably competing at tournaments."

To include, members have said they also have gained skills they had problems with in the past. Mostly being able to talk or perform better. Karla Barrios, another member of the team in Chandler High's speech and debate states, "I was able to learn how to perform better." Students who have a tough time talking to a big crowd or face to face might have a good time participating in this club. It will help them gain social skills and build confidence.

Overall, speaking in front of a bigger audience might be hard for introverted students and possibly intimidating. But not at all is the speech

and debate club ever not welcoming or willing to help one another's challenges. Olivia Dlott, a member of this club at Chandler High says, "My first impression of speech and debate was that it was fun and everyone was very accepting."



Photo by Melanie Harris

BLACKPINK Member Jisoo Explores Solo Journey with New Album "AMORTAGE"

By Kenadie Chee, Reporter



Photo Courtesy of Moxie

If you haven't heard the news, a South Korean artist, actress, and international star, Jisoo, released a mini album, AMORTAGE, on February 14, 2025. She's a member of BLACKPINK, a South Korean girl group formed by YG Entertainment. Jisoo is an extremely popular, successful woman, not just as a BLACKPINK member but as a soloist; she has 79+ million followers on Instagram and has won countless awards. Jisoo has been involved in modeling and

acting but is known for her vocals and harmonizing as a singer.

Jisoo made quite the idol of herself when she released a debut album, *Me*, which was recognized as "the best-selling album by a female soloist in South Korea" and "the first to sell over a million copies." Another big song was "(FLOWER)," earning her another moment in the spotlight: "First Female K-pop Solo Artist to Achieve 1 Million PreOrders," tallying the "Highest

First-Week Sales By A Female Soloist."

Jisoo's new album songs are "Earthquake," "Your Love," "Tears," and "Hugs & Kisses." These songs set the experience of relationships defining stages of love. One of the songs, "Earthquake," is about the emotions of falling in love and adding the connection of love stages you can or have experienced. These songs vividly show the emotions of a crazy attraction to one and even a liberating breakup. The songs themselves can explain the whole love process.

I don't personally listen to a lot of K-pop, but I've definitely heard crazy hits; K-pop is extremely popular, and I do have some songs downloaded. I know the BLACKPINK members, and Jisoo is extremely beautiful and an inspirational idol.

After hearing her brand new album, I think it's pretty good, and the meaning has a realistic take on falling

deeply in love with someone. While it's not the best work, she has ever done, Jisoo's latest album is very well-balanced and refined. I recommend giving Jisoo's album a chance. The songs aren't groundbreaking, but I will say they are catchy and fun. "Hugs & Kisses" is my personal favorite. For the others, I would give 4 out of 5 stars. This album is fantastic, and I recommend everyone to give it a listen.



Photo Courtesy of Moxie

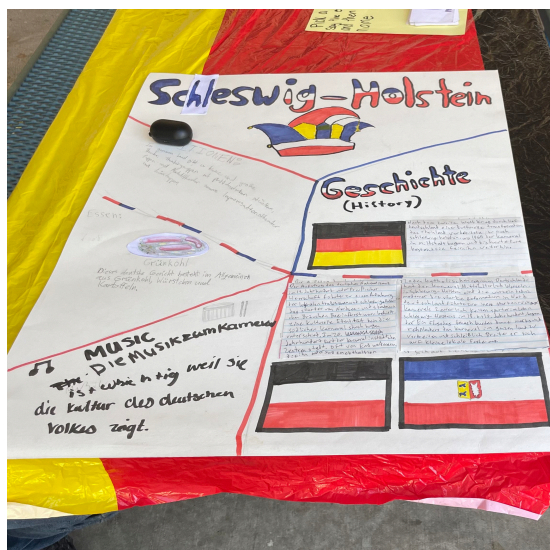


Photo by Tristan Ortega
German Carnival



Photo by Hugo Ortega
Natalie Huynh and Connie Chung
at Chandler Innovation Fair



Photo courtesy of Roselyn Johnson
Arizona Renaissance Festival



Photo courtesy of Jaclyn Robbins
Kaia Smith, Marissa Haffey, Alexis Francis,
Ipshita Chowdhury, and Sophia Medal
at Catalina Island



Photo by Ipshita Chowdhury
Cheer Team at Spring Pep Assembly



Photo by Peyton Postivit
Zach Barnett at the Volleyball Tournament



Photo by Kiley Jacobson
APAC at Unity Assembly



Photo by Peyton Postivit
Volleyball Tournament



Photo by Marissa Haffey
Ipshita Chowdhury, Kaia Smith, Marissa
Haffey, Alexis Francis, Ellie Craig, Kailah
Johnson, and Venice Lee
at Catalina Island



Photo by Hugo Ortega
Chandler Innovation Fair

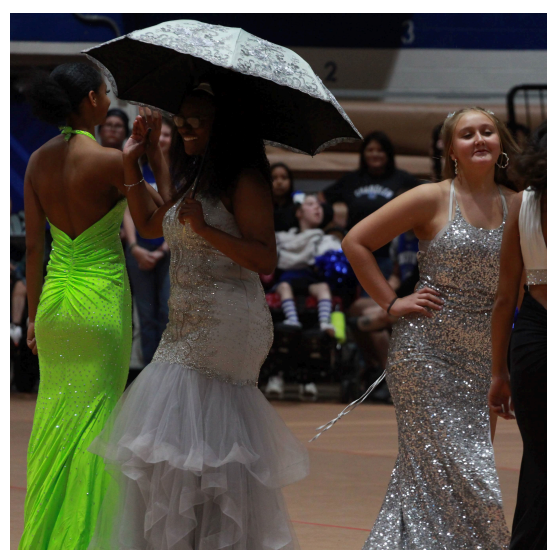


Photo courtesy of Jessica Hojnacki.
Nadia Ashley and Lyla Schmerfeld
at Spring Pep Assembly

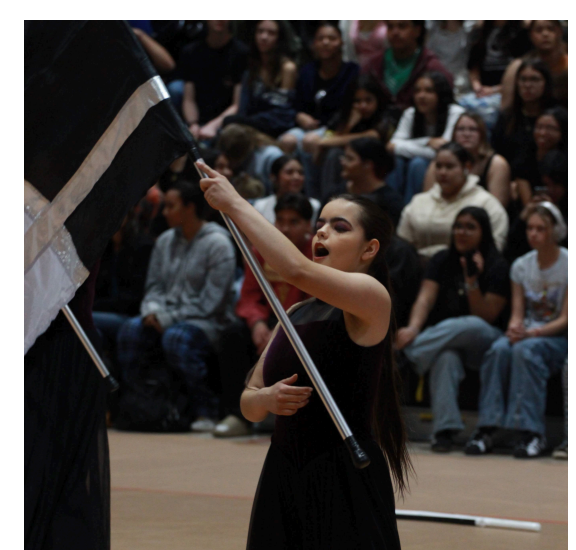


Photo by Ipshita Chowdhury
Jordyn Quamo at Spring Pep Assembly

Students Get Hyped at Spring Pep Assembly

by Ipshita Chowdhury, Reporter

The spring pep assembly kicked off with a sneak peek of the theater department's upcoming production of *Little Women*, featuring senior Hailey Laidig delivering an emotional and powerful performance as Jo March.

Next, the Pom team took the floor with an electrifying routine, showcasing their sharp moves and school spirit. Keeping the momentum going, StuCo introduced a lively game of trivia with a twist—competitors had to scoot across the gym floor and back to answer their questions. In a hard-fought battle, the seniors emerged victorious, securing another win for their class.

IB Dance and Performance followed with a captivating number set to *Alibi*, blending technique and emotion into a mesmerizing display. The assembly then took a competitive turn with a modified game of flag football, where players had to snatch their opponents' flags to eliminate them. Each eliminated player joined the snatchers, intensifying the game until only one remained standing.

The crowd roared as Cheer took center stage, fresh off winning three national championships. Their high-energy routine reflected the hard work and dedication that earned them their titles. Right after, Color Guard wowed the audience with their precise and artistic performance; they recently won the Arizona state title as well, go Color Guard!

To round out the assembly, the school welcomed the spring sports teams—Tennis, Baseball, Volleyball, and Track—setting the stage for an exciting season ahead. Finally, the event ended in style with a prom dress fashion show,



Photo courtesy of Jessica Hojnacki
Xilan Squire, Shayla Forero

leading up to the highly anticipated announcement: Prom 2025 will take place on April 12 from 7-11 PM at OdySea Aquarium, with the theme *Aurora Borealis*. With school spirit at an all-time high, the assembly set the perfect tone for the rest of the semester.

CHS STEM Club Makes Impact at Chandler Innovation Fair

By Hugo Ortega, Reporter

On February 22, 2025, the City of Chandler and the Chandler Unified School District partnered up to host the 14th annual Chandler Innovation Fair, showcasing various businesses, innovators, students, and artists within the Chandler community. During this free one-day event, visitors got the opportunity to engage in a wide variety of booths, each one focusing on different activities related to the STEM field.

A participant that stood out during the Innovation Fair was Chandler High School's STEM Club, who allowed their visitors to interact with a number of different hands-on activities. Their booth primarily focused on teaching younger kids scientific concepts including static electricity and the layers of the earth. "My favorite part

is how it brings people together through science, it's just a lot of fun," says Natalie Huynh, a member of Chandler High's STEM Club and a current Junior at Chandler High School. She emphasized how much this Innovation Fair meant to her because it allowed her to connect with all sorts of different people while having the opportunity to learn about science.

Another Chandler High STEM Club member who was helping operate the booth was Connie Chung, a current Senior at Chandler High School. She had a crucial role in volunteering at this event, helping teach kids of all ages about different science concepts as well as giving them knowledge that would last a lifetime. When asked about her favorite thing about the innovation fair, she said, "The Innovation Fair really

allows me to branch out to all ages, and it allows me to learn so much more science," Chung also emphasized how the Innovation Fair was the perfect opportunity for students to learn so much from this event.

The Chandler Innovation Fair left a good impression for many visitors within the Chandler community because this event demonstrated what students within the Chandler Unified School District are capable of doing if they pursue a career related to the STEM field. Since the Innovation Fair offered a wide variety of booths and interactive experiences, the fair has been seen as not only an educational place but also a way to express the creativity that occurs within the Chandler community.

Maddox Batson is a Rising Star in Country-Pop

By Morrissey Cervantes, Reporter

Maddox Batson isn't your average 15 year old. The Nashville, Alabama based artist is making a name for himself in the country-pop scene. His musical journey began by covering songs by artists like Zach Bryan and Red Clay Strays, demonstrating a vocal maturity and his understanding of music. In a way, these covers were not copies or imitations but they were interpretations revealing his command of melody and emotion.

Although Batson's cover work is good, his talent extends far beyond that. He has skill as a songwriter and his own unique brand of country-pop. His early singles "Tears in the River" and "I Wanna Know" showcased that he was

not only a good vocalist but also a talented songwriter. When you listen to these songs you can feel the emotion and relatable lyrics. Proof of his talents was further solidified by his collaboration with Lana Del Rey and Quavo on their song "Tough." This impressive joint venture demonstrates Batson's adaptability across genre boundaries.

Batson's latest single, "Girl in Green" was a bit of a surprise to me. This showcased the refinement of his personal musical style. The song blends country instrumentals with pop vibes, and it highlights the many instruments used in the track. The result is appealing to a wide range of listeners, even if they aren't a big fan of country-pop.

Although Maddox Batson has many achievements, he remains humble. He recognises his rise to fame and the great people that surround him whilst still being a kid. He even said in a recent interview, "I'm still just a kid, though, I'm happy about that." This humility combined with his talent makes him not just a promising artist but a truly captivating one. Maddox Batson, with his unique voice and talent, has a bright future and the potential to become a major force in the country-pop music industry.

German Carnival Brings Together Chandler High Community

By Tristan Ortega, Reporter

In what proved to be a stunning display conveying a wondrous degree of cultural pride, through numerous decorations, experiences, and interactions, a memorable celebration was sponsored by CHS's German Club in the courtyard on February 28, 2025. The resounding German spirit harbored here showed itself tenfold through a lunchtime Fasching, or Karneval, held in the heart of the CHS campus.

The festival, which was held just outside the JSU entrance, bedecked the neutral colors in prominent shades of red, yellow, and black. The familiar minimalistic facade was left all but unrecognizable behind numerous tables situated out front. Numerous clothes and games were set up for students and teachers to peruse while passing by. Many people stopped by to play a few of the fun-filled activities set up by their peers. Others enjoyed viewing the decorations and posters and billboards set up, showing off fun facts and interesting points of German history. German language teacher, Mrs. Simone Richert, helped to ensure everything went smoothly and maintained the amazing environment on that sunny day.

The German Carnival was truly an amazing sight to behold, and it demonstrated the hard work and pride of CHS' German language students, proudly showing off how diverse this school and its attendees truly are.

CHS Celebrates School Spirit Week in February 2025

By Abigail Ogles, Reporter

The halls of Chandler High buzzed with excitement as Spirit Week kicked off on Monday, February 24, 2025. Each day brought a new theme, and students went all out to show their school pride.

Monday was "Meme Day," with students showing off their favorite internet and social media memes.

Tuesday celebrated the number 2 with "Twin Day." This day gave students the opportunity to show off their favorite outfit while matching with their person of choice. The theme also gave seniors at Chandler High one last opportunity to match with either their friend or their favorite staff member.

By Wednesday, the campus was filled with students rocking their best dad fit as students dressed down for "Adam Sandler Day." Even some members of the staff participated, such as Mrs. Kemp, Psychology teacher, who borrowed pieces from her husband's and son's closets to show her love for Adam Sandler.

Thursday's "Emo Day," let the students of Chandler High rock out in all black. This gave students the opportunity to turn a simple black outfit into something more that spoke to them as emo.

Finally, Friday arrived—"TGIF Day", where fashion-forward students dressed in their best 1990s and 2000s-themed outfits, from hip-hop to grunge to skater and more.

The week-long celebratory vibes culminated in Friday morning's Spirit Assembly, where students erupted in cheers for many of Chandler's music, dance, and performance groups, including APAC, who dazzled us with a scene from their spring musical, "Little Women", which was showing that week



Mara Ramsey, Lulu Melanda

AZ Renaissance Festival is a Fun Escape from Modern Life

By Roselyn Johnson, Reporter

The Arizona Renaissance Festival is a highly visited fair experience that is held every spring in Arizona. Aside from attracting a wide variety of communities, it also teaches the history of our world, bringing us back in time to teach us about the age of art and enlightenment, when common people were encouraged to expand their opinions and see more to life than what they were taught. Though technology doesn't currently allow us to actually go back to the early 14th century (yet), this fair is definitely the closest you can get to time travel in Arizona today.

If you have been to the fair, you are aware of the many opportunities it brings. When you walk in, you are guaranteed to have a once -in-a-lifetime experience, including rides, shops,

jousts, and even fun encounters with people in character. If you're lucky, you may event meet some memorable new friends along the way like the Statue Man or a Mermaid Princess.

"I've been installed in Rome, Paris, London, and now Gold Canyon —I've made it to the top!" said Cornelius the Statue. Though we all know these people are actors, they truly dedicate their lives to making the experience feel so real and fun for everyone.

As the Mermaid Princess Jurien stated, "My favorite thing is learning about all the humans, and their culture, their animals, all of it." These people really put the cherry on top of a wonderful day of adventure at the Festival.

Over the course of the whole year, the Renaissance Festival visits over 200 locations all around the United States, making it possible for people across the country to a festival near them. If you're interested in attending in 2026, the Arizona dates are usually during the months of February and March every year. One thing that makes this fair awesome is the affordable prices; on average, it will cost you around \$35 for a whole day of fun, plus whatever you spend on food.

If you're interested in having a blast with some family and friends while taking a deep dive into the past, the Arizona Renaissance Festival is definitely for you.

Learn more at arizona.renfestinfo.com/

Sears Replacement Round1 Bowling and Arcade is a Hit

By Morrissey Cervantes and Sergio Patron, Reporters

While it is unfortunate that traditional department stores like Sears and Macy's have struggled and eventually closed down at malls around the country, these shutdowns can create space for new and exciting experiences like Round1 Bowling and Arcade, which has taken Sears' former location at Chandler Fashion Center.

Before Round1 Bowling and Arcade was built, Sears, the legendary early 2000s department store, was in its place. Aaron Keeports, a content marketing manager for Cleo, states that Sears shut down due to "Strategy flaws, missed opportunities, and costly miscalculations that eventually crippled the brand." Sears failed to keep up with today's standards and made poor decisions, eventually leading to their downfall.

Our personal experience at Round1 was a new one. Sure, other places like Main Event are similar, but Round1 is a new spin on the classic arcade formula. Seeing new arcades and games we hadn't seen anywhere else was refreshing. There were VR headsets, and this was something that hadn't been seen to my knowledge. The atmosphere was playful, and all you wanted to do was play all the games there.

Aaron Doan, a junior at Chandler High School, recently shared his thoughts and opinions with us. Aaron states, "The place had lots of games you would see at Dave and Buster's, and there was a pool and bowling. They had a variety of options for food, and on grand opening day, they offered everyone a free slice of pizza and drink." Aaron also shared that the vibe was chill and very welcoming. The workers were friendly, and the service was good as well. Overall, Aaron rated Round1 a 9/10 and recommended visiting the place.

Isaac Sarmiento, a Senior at Chandler High School, visited Round1, and we asked him about his experience there. Isaac states, "Yeah, it's a cool arcade; they have some of the same games I saw in Japan." Isaac also tells us that there are a lot of rhythm games, claw games, and cool music games for all kinds of people to play. Round1 gives him the vibes of Dave N Busters or like any other arcade. Isaac thinks Round1 is a fun place to visit, and you should try it.

Round1 Bowling and Arcade are like any other arcade and bowling, but some people enjoy them better than those other options. Round1 is just so new, and exploring something new like this brings joy to us. Aaron Doan and Isaac Sarmiento shared this joy about Round1 and brought it to life. Round1 Bowling and Arcade is here, and it's here to stay, so you might as well go have fun and give it a chance!

Fortnite Begins Next Chapter with New Season

By Seth Welch and Emiliano Mejia, Reporters

Despite releasing almost eight years ago, *Fortnite* continues to be a game that always finds a way to get bigger and better. Epic Games released its newest update, Chapter 6 Season 2 of *Fortnite*, and it has become a popular topic of conversation among students at Chandler High School. With new map locations, new and returning weapons, and new gameplay mechanics, this latest chapter has a lot to offer its many fans. Seasoned players Alex Frias and Aaron Doan shared their views on the new season and how their gameplay has been since the new release.

Alex Frias, junior, has mixed feelings on the new season. "I didn't really enjoy the gameplay, but the skins were cool and so were the new items," Frias explained. He really likes the new baseball bat weapon as well as a new item that allows players to open vaults without a key. He also thinks the new locations on the map are pretty nice, as they show new sides of the game and may spark interest for people who have never played before.

Aaron Doan, also a junior, appreciates how the new features align with the "heist" theme of the update: "I

really like the new weapons and skins, especially how the theme really ties it off," he said. He also appreciates that these new items make a real difference during battle, including the the med-mist grenade, gold-splash, and Sub-Zero's Combat Kit. Although he is aware that some players have mixed feelings about the new season, Aaron still finds it enjoyable and refreshing overall.

Kendrick Lamar's Superbowl LIX Halftime Show Delivers Powerful Message Through Music

By Melanie Harris, Reporter

"The revolution's about to be televised. You picked the right time but the wrong guy."

This was the line everyone was stuck on ever since Kendrick Lamar's amazing performance at the Super Bowl LIX Halftime show on Sunday, February 9, 2025. Lamar's performance was a big chokehold for his fans; not only did he perform well, but the thoughtful meanings behind his words and performance were the biggest reason why his show is still being talked about.

Kendrick Lamar is considered by some as one of the best rappers of all time. He is not only a lyrical genius but a multiple Grammy winner. His song "i" won the Grammy for Best Rap Song in 2014, and he also won Song of the Year for "Not Like Us" in 2025. "Not Like Us" made a huge impact on his career, particularly because of how the song played a role in the ongoing (and rather heated) professional and personal feud between Lamar and another artist, Drake.

"Not Like Us" was a song that Kendrick made to diss or expose Drake. The lyrics, "Say, Drake, I hear you like

'em young" apparently criticize Drake for his alleged sexual misconduct with other musical artists. Because of these allegations, Drake has been a well-known name throughout 2024.

As expected, reactions to Kendrick Lamar's Halftime Show have been mixed. Some felt the Halftime Show was boring, while others insist it was the "best Halftime Show of all time." This has led to heated disagreement online, where some people are "flaming" others who claimed the show was boring, stating that they didn't understand the meaning. Film and TV writer Jason Hellerman, writing for nofilmschool.com, thinks Lamar's defenders may be right. Hellerman wrote, "But that's kind of the point [Lamar's] making here. His performance wasn't your typical Super Bowl spectacle with big surprise guests and fireworks. It was poetic, artistic, and deep. It was controversial and outspoken. It was something that made people have to think."

Kendrick Lamar wasn't focused on only his performance, but rather the message he was trying to send. The

meaning behind the show was mainly about the racial injustice in American culture. The famous actor Samuel L. Jackson was dressed up as Uncle Sam during the Halftime Show. He was making comments, mocking the people who racially discriminate against black people saying, "Too loud, too reckless, too ghetto," almost making it seem like he was trying to warn Kendrick and stop him from spreading the message. This also continued when Kendrick and SZA finished performing the song "Luther," as "Uncle Sam" said, "That's what America wants, nice and calm."

Overall, there were many hidden messages throughout the show that were interesting to find. Kendrick Lamar, being a famous artist but also a great lyricist, was a great fit for sending an important message. Not only did viewers enjoy the performance, but there was a great amount of emotion involved as well. Chandler High School student and Kendrick Lamar fan, Giana Guerrero explained, "Since he's more popular among the younger audience, it was easier for him to relay the message."

Up-and-Coming Musician Jenna Raine Transcends Her TikTok Roots

By Tristan Ortega, Reporter

Since the August 2024 release of her breakthrough single, "Roses", Jenna Raine has proven to be not just one of the pop scene's newest stars, but also as one of the best to ever grace the genre.

While this statement is certainly bold, Raine has dismissed any and all doubts toward her rise to the center stage. Whether it be through her fascinating lyrics told through her mellowed-out yet high-reaching tone, the chipper melody followed by her subdued instrumentals, or any of the other fine details of her music, there's no doubt Raine is on track to be the next big thing.

The Texas-born artist has had

quite the eventful career ever since debuting as a thoroughly charming amateur singer who would proudly display her work on social media platforms such as TikTok and YouTube. Raine quickly established herself online as an introspective songwriter and musician, drawing lyrics from her own experiences, both heartwarming and heartbreaking; she has a knack for turning her personal memories into honest yet striking poems. Raine's words are then translated into melodies through her lush voice, a wonderful blend of wishful vibrato and distinct ringing tone, accompanied by catchy rhythms and exhilarating instrumentals.

Raine's newest single, "Good

Grief", establishes her as more than just another social media musician. Like the songs her fans are already used to hearing online, "Good Grief" is a fantastic few minutes of absolutely unapologetic fun. This seems to be only a small taste of what's to come, as we look forward to her upcoming EP "Only Started Growing", set to release on April 25. There's no doubt her thousands of avid listeners and adoring fans are counting down the days.

Listen to her new single "Good Grief" on streaming platforms everywhere, and find Jenna Raine on TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube @itsjennaraine

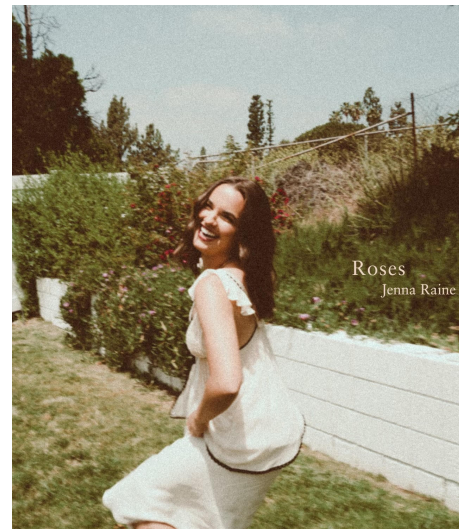


Photo courtesy of MOXIE

Mars, Karis face off in 2025-2026 Student Body President Election

by Lily Eaton, Editor



Photo by Lily Eaton

Chandler High School held our Student Council Elections for the 2025-2026 school year on February 26, 2025. This year we had two candidates running for president:

Karis Hurd and Mars Haffey, both juniors. Karis and Mars have both been in Student Council since freshman year and put a lot of time, effort, and energy into campaigning for this election. We spoke to both candidates prior to election day to learn about their journeys to the student body presidential elections and what they each hoped to accomplish if elected.

Karis Hurd dreamed of being a student council president since elementary school, but the school she previously attended did not offer student government. When Karis attended Chandler High School her freshman year, she strived to become president by her senior year. In Karis' freshman year, she was the Freshman Class Representative, her sophomore year she was the Sophomore Class Spirit Commissioner, and she served her junior year as Junior Class President. Karis has always been a

people person and was inspired to become president to give people a voice.

Karis sought to connect with the student body, bring back CHS spirit, and create better relationships and a better environment between students, teachers, and administration. Campaigning taught Karis that having a voice and the ability to use it in the right way matters. This process has taught her not to be scared of voicing her opinions and making necessary changes.

Mars Haffey has been highly involved in Student Council and our school community since her freshman year. She is driven to make our school the best it can be by lifting school spirit, bonding with our students and teachers, and planning more assemblies, activities, and events for our students. The campaigning process for Mars was very hard work and taught

her a lot about networking and support systems. Being in Student Council and campaigning has brought Mars closer with her fellow classmates in the class of 2026 as well as students from all grade levels.

Student Council has impacted both Karis' and Mars' lives in many ways, teaching them about determination and community. Both Mars and Karis believed there wasn't a single bad candidate running for any position and that the 2025-2026 school year will be a great successful year full of new opportunities and changes.

After these interviews, it was announced that Mars Haffey will be your 2025-2026 Student Body President! The Wolf Howl congratulates both Mars and Karis for their excellent campaigns and wishes them both the best for their senior year.

CHS Cheer and Pom are Three-Peat Champions

By Emiliano Mejia, Reporter

The Chandler High School Cheer Team recently captured attention as they made their way to Anaheim, California, following a victory at the state national championship. This significant achievement was celebrated with the proud addition of a very well-earned trophy, a testament to their effort and commitment.

Madison Price, a junior on the squad, shared her perspective on their performance, confidently stating, "I knew if I hit our show cheer routine, we'd have a pretty good shot at winning." With three years of experience under her belt, Madison

explained how focused practice has alleviated her pre-performance nerves, allowing her to thrive. "A different mat and some lights can't throw us off," she said, showcasing her confidence.

The team embraces a unique tradition before stepping onto the floor, showing off their unity and focus. Madison elaborated, "Before we go on, we listen to the same song twice and say a team prayer with our right foot in." This ritual not only boosts their spirits but also reinforces their bond as they prepare for their big competitions. Their dedication, as not only did they secure their first-ever trophy, but they also celebrated their JV team's success,

culminating in an impressive total of three trophies for the program.

Madison further highlighted their commitment, remarking, "We have team practice during first hour; however, my stunt group and I put in a lot of work outside of school to hone in on our skills." This drive for excellence illustrates the many hours and intense dedication that Madison and her teammates invest in their cheerleading journey. Overall, the Chandler High School Cheer Team stands as a shining example of teamwork, perseverance, and the pursuit of success.



Photos by Emiliano Mejia

Varsity Baseball Hosts First Tournament of 2025 Season

By Seth Welch, Reporter

As participants in a game that requires intense focus and competition, the baseball team at Chandler High School is dedicated to working and training hard for the game. Chander's Varsity Baseball team recently hosted this season's first four-day tournament from February 26 to March 1, 2025. Although they started off the season with two losses, they finished their tournament strong with a solid win against the Mountain Pointe Pride with a final score of 19-1.

Jackson Durham, senior, is a pitcher for the varsity team who practiced day in and day out for this event. Jackson summed up his perspective toward the sport: "Put in the work, just try your best, and it'll work out in the end". Durham said that this season's tryouts for the team went very well for him, allowing him to showcase his strengths in teamwork and working with other players. Jackson's eventual goal is to make a college team and attempt to play baseball professionally.

Luke Rylee, senior outfielder, also looks forward to improving his baseball game after high school. "Not only is college a step closer to a professional level, but also a broad opening to learn from the best as well," Luke explained. Luke said his strengths during tryouts and the beginning of the season were teamwork and catching and connecting with teammates long-range. His immediate goal this year is to finish the season on a high note and not let the people who have been rooting for him down.

Boys Volleyball Serves Up Success

By Peyton Postovit, Reporter

As the Chandler Wolves prepare for the 2024-2025 boys volleyball season, their roster is packed with talent, height, and experience. With the balance of up-and-coming juniors and veteran seniors, the team is looking forward to making deeper run this year than before.

The Wolves can rely on their senior class to set the stage for success. Setter Carter DiMickle leads the team in distributing the ball effectively, while Mark Batista, Eli Rother, and Brennan Dales bring to the court strong skills across multiple positions, bringing versatility and skills to the squad. Middle blocker Zakk Bolton provides a strong presence at the net, ensuring a solid defense and quick attacks.

Chandler also boasts a powerful front row headed by juniors Jacob Mayer, Ethan Dye, and Spencer Shuey, whose size and athleticism make them formidable offensive forces. With outside hitters Micah Knipmeyer, Zach Barnett, and Judah Knipmeyer, the Wolves can bring a well-balanced attack from the left and right sides of the net.

On defense, libero Anthony Quinta and defensive specialists Alex Gora and Brennan Dales will use their abilities to read the game and make critical digs that will be essential in keeping the plays alive. "I'm excited to see how far this team can go against the best schools in the state," Alex Gora told us in a recent interview.

This team has a well-rounded dynamic that features height, power, and skill, putting Chandler in a prime position to compete at the highest level. Head Coach Bobby Robson is optimistic for this team's chances: "This is a great group of kids we have this year. If we show up every day, put our best foot forward, and work on our consistency, we have very good chances of going all the way this year. While we do have high hopes for this team, we also understand that sometimes life throws stuff at us. It's just out of our control, but [it's] nothing that the team can't handle."



Photos by Peyton Postovit



Rising Popstar Sensation Freya Skye Set to Take the Music World by Storm

by Abby Ogles, Reporter

Freya Skye, a 16-year-old singer-songwriter from Buckinghamshire, England, has always been passionate about music. Her musical journey began at the age of five, and by 2021, she released her debut single, “I Love the Way.” In 2022, she represented the United Kingdom at the Junior Eurovision Song Contest with her song “Lose My Head,” finishing fifth overall.

In January 2025, Freya unveiled her latest single, “Can’t Fake It,” a dance-pop track that showcases her evolving artistry. The song was co-written with Swedish producers Svante Halldin and Jakob Hazell, and actress-songwriter Katelyn Tarver. The accompanying lyric video, directed by Clio Award-winner Boni Mata, features playful yet angsty visuals depicting Freya’s heartbreak over a relationship gone wrong, complemented by top-notch choreography.

Personally, I was a huge Freya Skye fan because of her appearance on Disney, so when I heard she started making music, I

was all in. At first it took me a second to really get into “Can’t Fake It”, but when I got used to the catchy pop track, I was a fan. The track is available for streaming on platforms like Spotify and Apple Music. Freya’s engaging social media presence, including her Instagram account (@iamfreyskye), keeps her audience connected and informed about her latest projects.

Beyond her music career, Freya has also ventured into acting. She appeared in season 9 of the Canadian series “The Next Step,” playing an exaggerated version of herself. She is also set to star as Nova in the upcoming Disney Channel film “Zombies 4: Dawn of the Vampires,” scheduled for release in 2025.

If you are someone who loves an upbeat pop artist who can cheer you up, Freya Skye is the new artist for you. With her undeniable talent and dedication, she continues to captivate audiences worldwide, solidifying her place as a rising star in the entertainment industry.

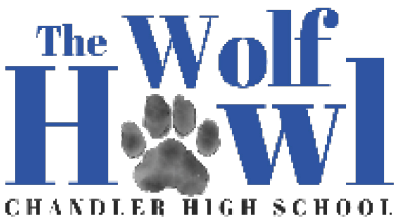
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