

Knights In Shining Armor

By: Alisa Andrews and Allison File

UNCC Levine Scholarship Semifinalists



The Levine Scholars Program is a full ride scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, totaling to \$105,000 in scholarship for North Carolina Residents. To earn this scholarship, the applicants must possess a commitment to community service, passion for knowledge, commitment to the program, and capacity for ethical leadership that elevates fellow students to a higher standard.

This year's semi-finalist winners from North Lincoln are **Grace Holbrooks, Andrew Berley, and Allison File!** Congratulations and we wish you the best of luck!!

More Scholarships

Here are a few upcoming scholarships you can still apply for!

Greenhouse Scholars: The Greenhouse Scholars Program awards scholarships to students from low income families. Scholarship amounts vary.

Criteria Include:

- Be a graduating high school senior planning to attend a four-year accredited academic institution
- Be a U.S. citizen/permanent resident of NC, Georgia, Illinois, or Colorado
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above
- Financial need (household income < \$70,000)
- leadership skills, commitment to community, perseverance.

Due: Dec 17th

[Click here](#) for more info

Jefferson Scholarship: NLHS may nominate two students for this prestigious scholarship for the University of Virginia. Criteria includes leadership, citizenship, and scholarship. See Ms. Black if interested in being nominated by December 1st.

[Click here](#) for more info

For more scholarships information, visit the NLHS webpage:

<https://www.lcsnc.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=6613>

Creative Castle

By: Grace Holbrooks & Liz Woodby

The Creative Castle is here to showcase the artists of North Lincoln High School. If you want to share your creativity with us, our emails are below for submissions:

gracemack21601@gmail.com &
lwoodby@gmail.com

Poetry

My Lasts

Do you ever look at something
With different eyes?
You know this something
Will be of its last.
The last time I
Sit in my room.
The last time I
Explain how I feel.
The last time he
Tells me goodbye.

Yes, our lives are filled with lasts,
And we never realize until they pass.

-Anonymous Student

Artwork

This month's artwork was contributed by senior Tanner Buff. She shares her thoughts about each work below.



"This feather is made by using an outline to nail the shape of a feather and going back in to wrap yarn around those nails. I used this piece to complete my portfolio for college applications."

- Tanner Buff, 12th grade

Editor's Piece

By: Rebecca Del Rossi

What I've learned in High School

Senior year: the end of an era where you learn who you truly are. Throughout high school you learn about, not only yourself, but also some important lessons about life you will always carry with you.

1. **Friendships:** The people who impact your life, and the ones who WANT to be in your life are the ones who will stick around. You can't make people stay in your life they don't want to or that are toxic to you. A big thing that I think helped me stay out of drama was definitely having a small group of friends at school and friends who don't go to my school. I've experienced that it's better to have a few friends that you are very close to, rather than just "surface" friendships.
2. **Not taking things for granted:** Since I'm a Senior, I realize I am never going to have these high school experiences again. MAKE THEM COUNT! I had so many upperclassmen tell me this but I never realized how quickly highschool flew by.
3. **Take every opportunity possible:** I have some regrets about not taking advantage of opportunities. I played basketball my freshman year, and even though I wasn't very good, I should've stuck with it to Play a sport or join clubs! Colleges look at many extracurricular activities.
4. **Social media:** My new years resolution my freshman year was to get off of some social media to enjoy the people I'm around and to eliminate some drama that was caused by social media. I think this really benefited me because I wasn't constantly worried about how many like or comments I got on a post and it allowed me to really focus on school and my close friends.

Mystery Person of the Month

By: Rebecca Del Rossi

Last Month's Mystery people:

Freshman: Ella Milburn

Sophomore: Joshua Guia

Junior: Taylor Doggette

Senior: Shawn Griffin



Win a prize! The first person to identify the Mystery Person of the Month will receive a either a Chick-Fil-A gift card or a free NLHS sporting event ticket. Text the number 81010 with message @rdelross. Text who you are and who you think the mystery person is!!!

1. What do you enjoy doing the most?
2. Choose three words to describe yourself
3. When is your birthday?
4. How many siblings do you have?

Freshman Boy:

1. Talking with friends
2. Perfectionist, Hardworking and Compassionate
3. October 21st, 2003
4. 1

Sophomore Girl:

1. Hanging out with friends.
2. Funny, Happy, Athletic
3. June 23rd, 2003
4. 1

Junior Boy:

1. Hanging with the boys.
2. Social, Chill, Outspoken
3. November 13th, 2001
4. 3

Senior Girl:

1. I enjoy spending time with my friends the most. It doesn't matter what we're doing because I know we will find a way to have fun.
2. Loyal, Emotional and Kind
3. August 17th, 2001
4. 6

Upcoming Events!

By: Faith Guia

December 1st:

-NLHS Band at Denver Christmas Parade

December 3rd:

-Progress Reports sent home

December 10th: @6:30 pm

-Sports Banquet

December 18th: @7:00 pm

-Winter Band and Choral Concert

December 20th-31st:

-Christmas Break! NO SCHOOL



"This is another piece I used for my portfolio. It's from an art project my freshman year to practice shading in respect to one singular light source."

- **Tanner Buff, 12th grade**

Photography



"This is the Flying Pig coffeehouse, recently shut down since the bridge to Oak Island closed and cut business. I really liked the atmosphere of the little house and the coffee was always fresh. So here's to the Flying Pig."

- **Lizbeth Woodby, 12th grade**

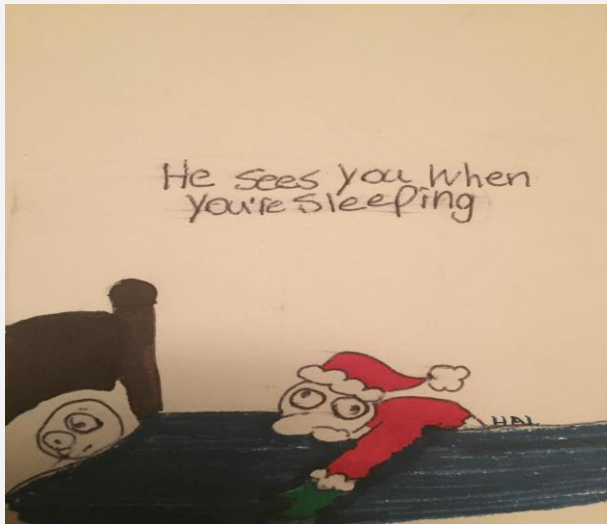


"I had just gotten my camera so I took Grace out to be my model so I could play with the camera's settings. I think it's funny because that day was so gloomy and cloudy, but with the two brightest things I could find that day (being Grace and the wall), it doesn't translate to the picture."

- **Lizbeth Woodby, 12th grade**

Jester Jokes

By Holt Ludwig



Sports

By: Bella Reid and Mattie Lancaster

Wrestling

12/1 Indian Classic
12/4 @ Cherryville
12/7 North Lincoln Duals
12/12 @ St. Stephens
12/15 Greyhound Classic @ Statesville
12/18 vs. West Lincoln
12/20 @ Lincolnton

Basketball

12/3 vs. Highland Tech
12/14 vs. Bessemer City
12/18 @ West Lincoln
12/27-12/29 Peoples Bank Tournament

Swim

12/5 @ Valdese AQC
12/8 @ HFFA
12/11 @ Hickory YMCA
12/19 @ Stowe YMCA
12/27 @ Wilkes YMCA

Winter Track

12/8 in Winston-Salem
12/20 @ Providence High School

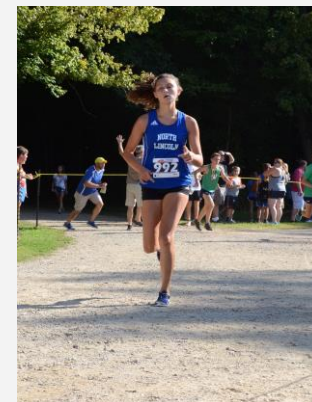
Knights Cross Country

By: Bella Reid and Mattie Lancaster

The cross country season has officially come to a close, with the boy's team defending their State Championship title. Although both teams were hoping to come home as State Champs, the girl's team did finish in second. Both teams did reign champions at regionals, with the boys placing 5 runners in the Top 10 and the girls beat Lake Norman Charter, the defending champion, placing 3 runners in the Top 10. We asked members of both teams to share their thoughts on their successes throughout the season:

"We were successful this season because we held each other accountable in practices, workouts, and races so we can be the best team possible" - Brian Risse, 12th grade

"I think we were so successful because we have a coach who encourages us to strive to do our best. Our personal responsibility also played a large role in our success. We had to give up lots of late nights and social events to get a good night's rest before meet days." - Regan Lang, 11th grade



December Polls

“North Lincoln’s Music taste”

By: Hannah Castro

This month, I asked North Lincoln’s student body about their favorite music. This is what they had to say:

What is your favorite genre of music?

I asked the students at North Lincoln what their favorite type of music was and I got a variety of responses.

A sophomore, Hadleigh Curles, getting into the Holiday spirit said Christmas music. I think we all can relate to that at this time of year!

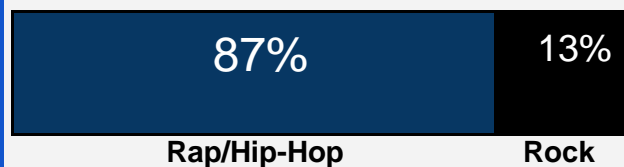
A junior here at North Lincoln named Adelayne Smith described her taste in music as heavy and gritty and said her favorite style of music is metal. She enjoys listening to several bands in this genre including Korn, Seether, and Gemini Syndrome.

I got the response of Rap music from several students, including: Drake Sturgill, a freshman; Emma Franklin, a freshman; and Ana Huss, a sophomore. The Rap genre is a widespread favorite because of its diverse selection between artists and styles. Some of the rappers these students enjoy listening to include Migos, Drake, and Kendrick Lamar.

Another popular favorite music genre at North Lincoln is country music. This is a shared favorite between many students including a junior, Karstin A. and a freshmen, Rachel Mincey.

Do you prefer Rap/Hip-Hop or Rock?

The two styles of music Rap/Hip-Hop and Rock seem quite different so I decided to figure out which one was most popular at NLHS.



Out of the 63 students who answered this question, 55 answered Rap/Hip-Hop and only 8 answered Rock. This didn’t surprise me. The Rap/Hip-Hop industry is growing more and more popular every day slowly pushing out other genres including rock, soul, jazz, reggae, etc.

Who is your favorite musician?

We now know what the most popular music genres are at North Lincoln, now here are everyone's favorite artists:

Within the Rap/Hip-hop and pop genres here's a few artists people favored:

- Stefani Delgado, a Freshmen, says her favorite singer is Shawn Mendes.
- Addie Reid who is also a Freshmen prefers the American Rapper AMINE.
- Emma Franklin, a Freshman, enjoys a variety of rappers including Lil Baby, Trippie Redd, NBA YungBoy, and Juice WRLD
- Carsyn Carrigan, a Freshman at NLHS, likes Post Malone. This response was given to me by several other students as well.

Within the Folk/Alternative genre:

- Billie Eilish was a popular favorite. I got this response from several students including Jasmine Day, Carsyn Carrigan, and Ashley Johanson.
- Ashley Johanson, a freshman, answered

Knight’s Kingdom

By: Grace Holbrooks, Faith Guia, & Rebecca Del Rossi

Volunteer Opportunities

All of these are great opportunities to help out the community and also help those who need volunteer hours for a club!

- Sally’s YMCA - Denver - (704) 716 - 7300
- Denver Baptist Church - Denver - (704) 403 - 3030
- Lakewood Care Center (Retirement Home) - Denver - (704) 483 - 7000
- Habitat for Humanity Restore - Denver - (704) 466 - 4300
- Mooresville Soup Kitchen - Mooresville - (704) 660 - 9010
- The Corner Table - Newton - (828) 464 - 0355
- Cornelius Animal Shelter - Cornelius - (704) 237 - 3602

Job Opportunities

Go and get an application at any one of these places if you are looking for a job!!!

- Burger King - Denver
- Arbys - Denver & Lincolnton
- Chick - Fil - A - Denver
- Wendy’s - Denver & Lincolnton
- Pie 5 Pizza - Lincolnton
- Homingstead (senior care)- Lincolnton

<p>The Lumineers as her favorite band as well as Billie Eilish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freshman, Max Sigmon answered Maggie Rogers and the Rapper, Takeoff.• From several Freshman, including Emma Miller and Natalie Gardener, I got the reply of the English musician, Rex Orange County. <p>What is your favorite song?</p> <p>After asking students about their favorite genres and artists, I was curious about what songs they liked best. These are a few of the answers:</p> <p>Jonathan Castro, a senior here at NLHS, said his favorite song is Topanga by Trippie Redd. This song was #25 on Apple Music's Top 100.</p> <p>Jasmine Day, who is also a senior at NLHS, said her favorite song is COPYCAT by Billie Eilish, which was recently on Billboard's Top 200.</p>		
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Scroll below for the continuing story of Charlie in *The Bard's Tale* by Hannah McGuire.....

The Bard's Tale

by: Hannah McGuire

How often do students get the chance to just sit down and read a story? Now, all you have to do is look at each month's issue of The Sword and Pen to get a few hundred words about a high school student with a shady and perhaps scary backstory. Read on to find out more!

The bus ride was, as usual, uneventful. Charlie listened to music while the wheels dipped in and out of the bumps on the ill-maintained main street in the small town where he and Mae lived. Charlie always sat in the back of the bus, whereas Mae sat in the middle. While Charlie tried to drown his tiredness in coffee and loud music, Mae woke herself up by talking to her friends, laughing, and scribbling down answers to her math homework.

Once at school, Charlie always went straight to the cafeteria. The school breakfast was free and helped control his insatiable 16 year-old appetite until lunch when he would eat from the old blue lunchbox he had packed the night before. Charlie, once through the line, always sat at the same table in the far right corner of the room. Within minutes, his best friend in the world, Nick, was there.

"Heya, Charlie," Nick smiled as he sat down across from Charlie, setting down his tray of eggs and bacon. The two were mildly contrasting but oddly similar. While Charlie was pale and brunette, Nick had tanned skin and blond hair; however, they had a common style. From clothes to music, they shared a similar taste in everything.

"Hey, Nick." Charlie moved his bag out of the way of his friend's lanky legs. "How was your weekend?"

"It was alright. I had to go to one of my brother's recitals, but other than that, good. What about you? You look exhausted."

Charlie had barely told anyone about the recurring dream, and Nick was not one of the few who knew. He didn't want people to worry about him. "It wasn't bad. I just had to get up early to work on the history paper. Have you finished it yet?"

Nick laughed. "Dude, you know I haven't even started it yet. It's due tomorrow, right?"

"Yeah," Charlie grinned, "but you get extra credit for turning it in today."

"What?" Nick looked up from his bacon, eyes wide in surprise. "I don't remember that!" Charlie started laughing, unable to keep a straight face.

Nick rolled his eyes and gently kicked Charlie under the table. "Jerk," he mumbled as he shoveled eggs into his mouth. Nick and Charlie always had a light banter between them. Charlie guessed that it bothered Nick, who was second in their class, that Charlie had a better grade in American History than Nick did without trying. Charlie didn't care, but it was fun to mess with his best friend.

Charlie looked down at his phone. "We've got to hurry, man. We're going to be late for calc."

The two friends finished their food hurriedly and then, after throwing their trays away, scurried into calculus. Their teacher and a dozen of the other students were already there, some trying to finish their homework subtly while Ms. Mauney welcomed kids into the classroom.

"Good morning, boys," she said cheerily as they entered the room. They mumbled back their good mornings and went to sit at the back of the classroom where they always sat.

Soon, the bell rang and the PA system crackled to life. "*Good morning, students and staff, and welcome back to another week.*" The voice of their principal warbled through the speaker and Charlie half-listened as he pulled out his neatly done calculus homework from the weekend. However, the principal caught his attention when he heard his own name issue from the intercom.

"And I need to see Charlie Asher and Joseph Jacobs in my office for a minute. Thank you, and have a great Monday."

Oh, God, Charlie thought. They know.