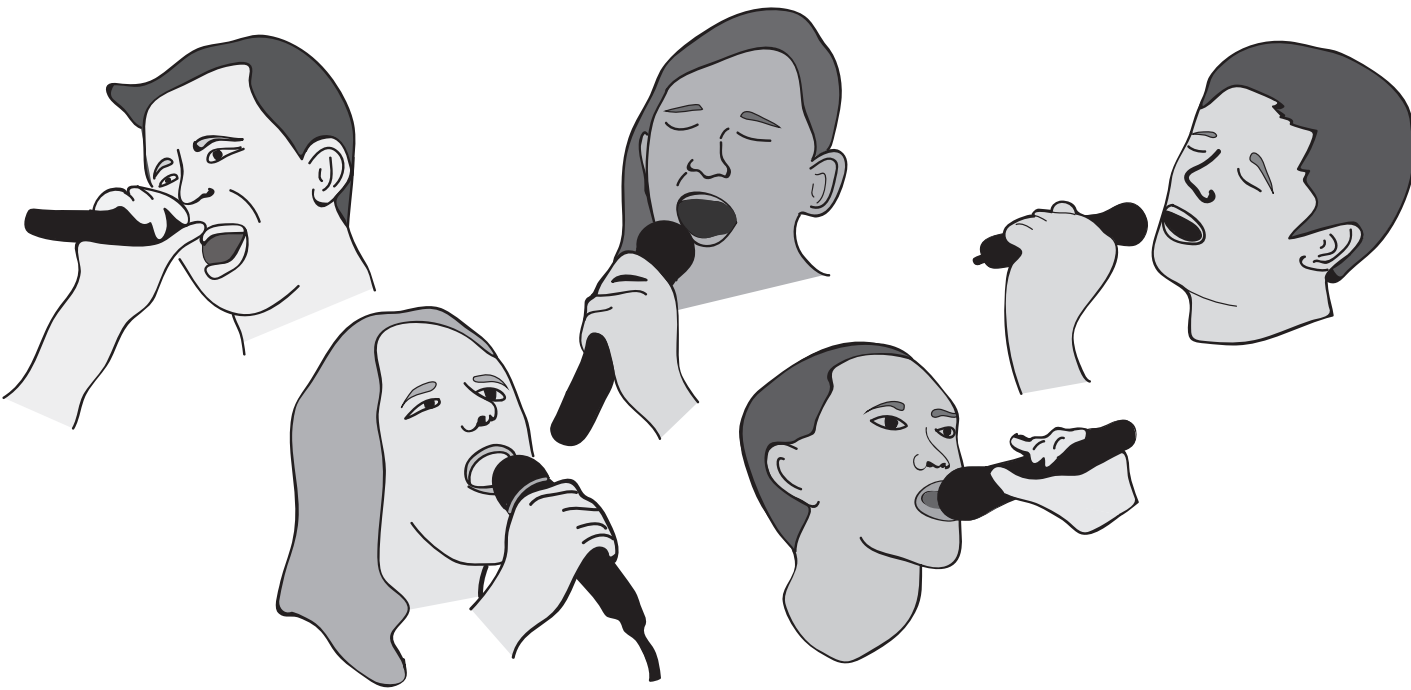


# Picking up the mic and taking the stage in Davis Idol

## DAVIS IDOL



Final round. Saturday Jan. 31 7 p.m. Brunelle Theatre.

By **ZOE JUANITAS**  
Editor-In-Chief

The annual Davis Idol singing competition sponsored by the Advanced Treble Choir will kick off tonight at 7 in the Brunelle Performance Hall.

The event is split up between the preliminary rounds (tonight and Saturday, Jan. 25) and the finals held on Saturday, Jan. 31.

ATC is incorporating some new aspects into this year's competition, including younger judges, some of whom are past Idol winners.

"We are [also] giving away a free pizza to one of the lucky ticket holders each night," choir teacher Karen Gardias said.

To apply, singers simply had to fill out an application with song choices, a short bio and pay a \$10 application fee. The first 20 applicants were chosen. The process didn't include an audition, in order to give an equal opportunity to anyone who wanted to perform and to encourage singers to apply who may not

have experience performing on stage.

For Jamie Kingsley, who was last year's winner and now a freshman at Notre Dame de Namur University, Davis Idol was his first experience singing in front of a large crowd.

"All my friends told me that I should do it so I just went for it," Kingsley said. "I fell in love with it."

Since then, singing has become a more prominent aspect of Kingsley's life and he has even released his first album.

Kingsley highly recommended that anyone try out in future years, calling the event a "stressful but exhilarating and amazing experience!"

Senior and DHS Madrigals soprano Elisa McIsaac is returning for her third year with a song lineup of "Colorblind" by Amber Riley for the preliminary round, "Sad" by Maroon 5 for the finals and "Never Gonna Give You Up" by Rick Astley if she ends up winning.

"Each year I have my friend Abby Soler kinda round up a few songs for me to choose from," McIsaac said.

This year, she wanted to show off her low-

er singing register by choosing more relaxed songs that differ from her usual music preferences.

"The other two years I've done kind of emotionally intense songs that were kind of in my range but took a lot of energy to sing. This year we chose songs that were really chill," McIsaac said.

The 18 competitors won't be the only ones singing tonight, as the ATC performs each round with a different assortment of songs.

Junior Elise Chu, the ATC accompanist, described the Davis Idol performance as "stressful and fun at the same time. Stressful because we had a lot of rehearsals near the end to perfect our songs, and fun because, well, performing can be fun!"

Davis Idol is not only a way for ATC to fundraise for their class trips, but also a great opportunity to see peers perform. Tickets can be purchased beforehand from any ATC member or at Watermelon Music. Preliminary tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door, and finals tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.

SAM EATON / HUB GRAPHIC



KATE LEE / HUB PHOTO

## Old phones face problems with new software

By **ELLY SCHWAB & DANTE YASUI**  
HUB Staff

After the release of newer iPhone models, customers using older models start to complain about slower processing time and shorter battery life. There is sometimes no room for new software on older phones and the cost of a new battery is almost as much as the latest models. Are these simply limitations of modern technology, or is Apple trying to sneakily sell their newer, more expensive models?

Several DHS students have experienced this challenge with Apple products. An example of this is the change in the shape of the charger when the iPhone 5 was released. The iPhone 5's new charger made it impossible to use the same charger for the iPhone 5 and all older generations of iPhones, iPads, and iPods.

"It's frustrating having to keep track of two chargers," sophomore Aidan McNerney said. McNerney has an iPhone 5 and an older generation iPad, so she needs two different chargers. It's difficult to keep track of both chargers when moving between her mom's and her dad's house, McNerney says.

By developing the new chargers, Apple forced people to buy new chargers or an adapter which can cost up to \$30.

Apple provides a one year warranty and AppleCare, but it still costs \$129 to get a screen replaced, \$38 for a new charger, \$79 for new battery, and depending on the products, AppleCare can cost anywhere between \$29-\$349.

Several people have complained about their iPhone 4 slowing down due to new updates. When a new generation iPhone comes out, a new software update is available. When owners of an iPhone 4 download the update, some observed that it caused the phones to slow down instead of become faster.

Sophomore Samuel Resendez noticed that his iPhone 4 seemed to worsen after the iPhone 5 release. "I have heard a lot of people complaining that their iPhone 5 seems slower post iPhone 6 release," Resendez said.

The Davis AT&T location refused to comment on this issue.

Former Hitachi employee Milt Demaray designed software for telecommunications networks, and doubts that Apple plans these problems in advance. "We never had a strategy of planned obsolescence. We were always too busy trying to make a living," Demaray said. "It's easy to suspect that it's a clever strategy, but as the hardware speeds up and gets more capable then it's only natural for software vendors to take advantage of that."

"I think it's really hard for any big organization to keep secrets," Demaray said in response to whether this was a viable business strategy. "If a big vendor like [Apple] was planning to cheat people it would become common knowledge pretty quick."

One explanation of the degradation of Apple products is tin whiskers growing out of soldered circuitry. Tin whiskers are microscopic conductive fibers that can grow out of tin surfaces according to an article written by Maxim Integrated senior business manager John O'Boyle. "These whiskers can form electrical paths, which affect the operation of the subject device," O'Boyle said.

However, Demaray believes that the hardware slowing down is more likely to be caused by more processor-intensive software than by physical limitations.

## Artists of the Month

### Students get together and start giving off good Vibes

By **ASHLEY HAN**  
HUB Staff

A couple of students from the DHS jazz band created a new sextet earlier in the school year, known as The Vibes-. The jazz combo features senior Drew Thomsen on drums, senior Nathan Puckett on bass, senior Utsav Bhargava on piano, junior James Merges on alto sax, junior Sophie Seng on the tenor sax and vocal and Da Vinci junior Bunky Hampton on guitar.

"A few of us had the idea to create a combo at the end of the last school year, because we wanted to have some musical group where we had full control over what we played and how we played it," Bhargava said.

A local music teacher and band director, Celia Cottle, provided the band with rehearsal space and some performance opportunities, and the musicians started rehearsing

every Sunday starting in August.

The band receives paid gigs at the Shady Lady Saloon, a bar located in Sacramento, every first Sunday of the month and has played at festivals as well.

"These gigs are a lot of fun. We go into them with a vague plan, and leave a lot of what we perform up to feeling and communication. It provides a good base for improvisation and creativity," Puckett said. "I really enjoy the atmosphere there. It's very laid back and smooth."

The members' passion for music led them to record a CD about two weeks ago. Although they are still in the process of naming their CD and creating hard copies, they are submitting a few of their CD songs to the Next Generation Jazz Festival in Monterey.

"The songs on the CD range from an original swing tune, to a bunch of latin style tunes, to some gospel-ish stuff. We play a bunch of different types of music and don't like to stick to one genre," Seng said.

Seng played in a band with Merges and Hampton in another band called Ten Til Midnight last year and all the the members have played with each other at some point in jazz band.

According to Seng, the band has not decided on a specific name that everyone agrees on.

"We started as 'Vibes and Stuff' but no one liked that besides us so people just started calling us things that had to do with vibes. We have been called 'The Vibes,' 'The Vibe,' 'Vibes.' I don't think anyone in the group is too concerned with our name so we just rolled with the vibe thing," Seng said.

Nonetheless, many of the group members enjoy playing more spontaneously, modern music.

"My favorite memory of Vibes is when we performed at the Sac State Jazz Festival and received some very nice comments from the clinician there, both positive remarks and suggestions for improvement. It made me feel that we were doing pretty well," Bhargava said.



BISMAHSIDDIGI / HUB PHOTO

Pictured from left to right: senior Utsav Bhargava, senior Nathan Puckett, junior Sophie Seng, senior Drew Thomsen, junior James Merges and junior Bunky Hampton.



# All the world's a stage

ROP Stagecraft students build sets, work soundboards and support productions

By ELLEN FINN  
HUB Staff

Kathy Peter's sixth period ROP Stagecraft class does a lot more than build their, well, building skills. The 23 DHS craftspeople have learned not only how to drill and saw, but how to enhance a performance with color, light, and sound.

The Brunelle Performance Hall holds more than 100 events each year, from drama to band performances to elementary school dance recitals. Stagecraft helps with the light, sound and set for each of them.

"The most challenging part of teaching [Stagecraft] is that it's all technical information they need to know, at least at first," Peter said. "I need to figure out how to communicate facts without lecturing

all day long. I want to let them be creative."

Senior Kelly Evans said one of her favorite parts of stagecraft so far has been working on DHS' "Into the Woods" set.

"I really like working with wood, so one of my favorite parts has been all the building we did for the set; we built a lot of platforms because [senior] Eden Tomich designed almost another stage covering most of the existing stage," Evans said.

Students also enjoy hooking up sound and working the soundboard so that the audience can clearly hear what the actors or singers onstage are saying.

"There are wires that run above the stage so getting sound from stage to house is fairly simple and how that works is really fascinating," Evans said.

The Stagecraft class recently started working on lighting, and

are planning on touring the Mondavi Center on a field trip this spring to learn more about complex stage lighting systems.

"The current [Mondavi] production manager has been fabulous, and really wants to get them as involved as possible, and lets them play with the equipment on our trips," Peter said.

The class learns how to design sound to create an atmosphere, create sets from scripts and investigate how theater companies operate financially and artistically.

Evans is working on a group presentation about the physics behind the lighting a stage properly. She's researching how to use power safely and how to avoid overloading stage cables.

Stagecraft plans on building sets for the upcoming Tony Fields memorial show and spring performances.



Senior Eden Tomich paints a part of the set for "Into the Woods." Tomich paints precisely but still incorporates her creativity.

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