

Nothing beat the feeling of getting my first yearbook in elementary school. The contagious buzz in the classroom as everyone went around the room, desperate to sign each other's yearbooks. The quiet playground as we all opted to sit under the cluster of trees and flip through each page, as opposed to seeing who could swing from the monkey bars the longest.

I didn't realize until I started thinking back to those days, but I wanted so badly to be able to have that emotional effect on people, through design and photography, just like my elementary school yearbook had on me all those years ago.

Thankfully, I have evolved past the juvenile world of Comic Sans and clip art into a beautiful universe of clean design and typography.

My passion officially began in seventh grade when I was finally able to get my hands on Photoshop and InDesign. I don't think my middle school yearbook adviser knew the full extent of what kind of monster she was creating by giving me access to these programs. Or maybe she did because in eighth grade after becoming EIC, I was in her room meticulously combing through each page of the yearbook at every chance possible.

High school is where it got really

serious for me. My friends and I would joke about how I live in the yearbook room, but given the opportunity, I would gladly make the back closet into a really nice master bedroom.

Shout-out to all of my teachers in the past six years of my life who allowed me to rush through my classwork so I could retreat back to the yearbook room.

My fellow EIC's and I would stay during lunch, study hall and even after school most days to brainstorm new and innovative ways to showcase the different events of the year, pushing each other to be better designers.

Somehow I found my clear design aesthetic in between the stacks of National Geographic and Bon Appétit magazines scattered on our work table at all times. And from that point on, I was no longer flipping through magazines on a whim. I would critically judge their designs and techniques for capturing their audience and soak up new modern design trends to try and figure out how to implement them into my own.

I can finally look back now, having sent my final yearbook to print, effectively ending my time as Editor-in-Chief. Before, it has always been a mad dash to the finish line each year and then having to come back almost immediately after the chaos to think of a new theme for the next year. But now, being able to have this time before college to reflect on everything I've accomplished, I can honestly and truly say that I wouldn't change a single thing about how my life fell into place.

The domino effect of my obsession with design, which began in elementary school eventually led me to winning first place in Washington, D.C. for the 2019 National Yearbook Spread Design of the Year. From that point on, I began to build the courage to change my major from Nursing to Advertising and Graphic Design so I could keep chasing the high of designing something that people respond to.

I honestly can't imagine my life without the constant tweaking of yearbook spreads to achieve perfection, only to change it the very next day because it wasn't good enough for me.

I think even being considered for this opportunity is extraordinary because design really has been a major part of my life for the last six years and I plan to continue this journey throughout college and into my future. Thank you for taking a look at work that represents the culmination of these hours of work and my InDesign obsessiveness.



OPENING

OFTEN our openings and closings showcase one large photo per spread. With this year's theme of The Usual, I decided to use multiple photos on each spread to reflect different aspects of students' Usuals, so throughout the five spreads of the opening and closing, we used 23 different photos and I designed different complementary layouts for each one. To elevate these spreads, I had to pay close attention to the edges of the seven cutouts and execute them perfectly to ensure they laid properly on top of the color blocks.



SPRING SHOWS

ORIGINALLY, this spread had more of a traditional layout but after finding this amazing photo, I decided to rework the entire spread around it. The purple was the obvious choice for one of the pull colors and then I contrasted it with the mint pulled from the background of the bottom left photo to create a striking combination. Being the first spread in the book, I think that the colors and sheer size of the photo make this spread a stunning first showstopper.



STUDENT SECTION

AFTER finding this emotional dominant photo buried in our football folder, I decided to build the student section spread around it. We always have a lack of photos of the underclassman in the fan section because the front of the stands are often dominated by seniors, so I decided to make it a dedicated senior page. Using only six photos at a larger scale allowed the emotion in the fan section to be conveyed on the page, taking the spread to the next level through the use of our photography.

CULINARY PROGRAM RAMPS UP FOR BAKE SALES & LUNCHEONS

Spread by Reagan Zuniga & Logan Don

Feb. 10: Measuring and mixing the batter Feb. 11: Making the icing, rolling out the shortbread, & cutting the

50 lbs chocolate chips 150 lbs dark chocolate 70 lbs white sugar 25 lbs white chocolate







DON'T GO **BAKING MY HEART**







WAIT A MINUTE CULINARY TRAINING SPLITS TIME BETWEEN KITCHEN, WAITING TABLES











CULINARY

IN past years, we were never able to express how amazing the culinary classes were, so this year, we made it a priority to show up to every bake sale and luncheon to photograph them in the kitchen. With this new dedication, we were able to get some really beautiful shots of the students creating vibrant food like the salads in the dominant or the intricate gingerbread houses in the sidebar on the right hand side. I knew that I wanted to pack the spread with as many photos as possible and contrasting it with unusual pull colors, to create a very full and well designed spread that could showcase the incredible work that the culinary program does.

Culinary | THE DISCOVERIES 129 USUALLY,













SENIOR ADS

THE dedication and attention to detail that I showed while designing and perfecting all 117 senior ads over 46 pages, makes this one of my favorite sections in the whole book. To keep up with the theme, the ads were designed to bleed off the top of the spreads, but not the side, which complicated the whole process, seeing as how we didn't want to cut off any messages, photos or names. I went through every ad and designed them specifically so the ads on the top had an extra four picas between the name or photo and the cut off of the page to ensure all of the content lined up perfectly, and vice versa with the ads on the bottom of the page.