

## Clara Barresi, Wando High School - 2022 Designer of the Year Contest

Creation is a way of expression. This is what my mom has continued to tell me as I have grown up. Ever since I was a little girl I have been interested in the arts. From winning the art award in third grade to becoming the most award winning-designer in our yearbook's history at my high school, I am always eager for a design outlet.

Going into high school I knew that I wanted to take as many classes as I could that interested me and especially find classes that would involve my love for art. Wando High School has allowed me to do so. Students like myself are given the opportunity to take classes such as AP art, photography, and my personal favorite, the journalism classes, such as Yearbook.

When the end of the year arrives and the whole school is ready to trade in their books for beach days, there is always one more book that everyone is excited for- the yearbook. I talk to many students and they question where the yearbook even comes from. I remember when I was younger questioning this too. I love when I get the opportunity to inform people about where it comes from and to tell my experience with Wando's yearbook staff, *Legend*.

Only positive things can be told when discussing my involvement with the Wando Yearbook staff. I remember when I found out that I had been selected to be a designer for the 2020 *Legend* Staff, I was so excited. After attending some design classes that our adviser arranged at the end of the summer, I felt so anxious and confused with the process. I had no clue what modules were or how far I should space the text from the pictures, but I was determined to learn and master design. I have always been a perfectionist and someone who pushes myself to go the extra mile

I quickly learned the ropes of design and became fascinated with everything I could produce. It soon became what I looked forward to during my school days. When it came to pages about the Prom and Talent Show, I loved getting in contact with students and hearing about their experiences at those events and bringing that feel onto the pages. It is the best when a page of yours feels alive. I always try to have fun pages, so that when the reader is looking through the book they want to stop and read the story or look around at the page. Many students may flip through the yearbook briefly but I believe that if the pages are well done and jump out to the reader, then they will stay on it and peruse. This was always a fun challenge.

At the end of my sophomore year, I was selected to be a design editor for the Student Life section. Throughout my junior year I not only got to design even more pages for the yearbook, but I had the responsibility of teaching new staff members how to design and lead a section of my own. Junior year introduced me to a lot of leadership skills and allowed me to flourish with my own creativity within the yearbook class. I was not done after that. At the end of my junior year, I then went on to be chosen as one of the *Legend's* Editor in Chiefs for the following year.

This past year as the Editor in Chief has taught me so much. I have learned how to manage a staff, solve problems between staff members, better my writing, and continue to grow more and more in my design. I have gotten to be creative every single day of my senior year. I not only helped design the cover, dividers, endsheet, people pages, ads, but I also got to help my staff with each and every content page in the yearbook. This past year has been incredible and has really showed me what my passion is in life.

I had so many amazing people to help me along the way, such as my section editors, the editor in chiefs and my advisor, Phillip Caston. Without them, I would not be where I am with design today.

Yearbook and designing has positively affected my life. I have met so many people, gained an outlet for my creative side, and this experience has guided me into what I potentially want to do when I grow up.

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For the title page, I had a shot staged and graphically edited to put light within a jar, emphasizing our theme Something Within Us.

# BEAUTY TY

For **Ty Han**, 12, the beauty within is about expressing oneself and not letting insecurities trap themselves in their own mind. He speaks from personal experience, as he once concealed his authentic self, constantly fearing how people would react if he let his true soul shine.

"Before I came out [as homosexual, I was really insecure about my body and everything. But when I came out I became more confident, especially through fashion, which also helped grow my confidence. But more importantly I had to not care what other people thought, because I had to start putting myself first," Han said.

From a young age, Han always had a feeling that he was different. But due to the factors surrounding him and his own internal turmoil, he was not able to express his true self until later in his life.

"I knew when I was, like, 4 that I was gay. I would get the girls toys when I went to McDonalds and I would always wear my moms heels. But I kept it in for so long because of the internalized homophobia I had from growing up Christian, and my dad was really Catholic. He always has strong Korean values where he wants his son to marry a woman and take over his business, so I held back for a long time," Han said.

While Han always had a feeling that he knew who he was, keeping it a secret from the rest of the world began to take its toll on him.

"Being closeted definitely has an effect on your mental health. I feel like closeted kids are a lot more depressed or anxious. You have this big secret weighing you down that you don't want people to know and then gossip about you or start to look at you differently," Han said.

Despite the war in his mind, Han could not hide how he was really feeling for much longer, and was greeted with open arms when

he finally revealed to his friends and family that he was gay.

"Coming out was actually not hard. My mom already basically knew since I was a kid and when I hinted at it one day, she asked me and I just told her yes. My close friends always kind of knew and when I told them they accepted me instantly," Han said.

As the weight of his secret began to lift off his chest, Han was able to fully enjoy the freedom of being himself, and being able to express himself in a way he never could before.

"When you come out, you are a whole different person. You see the world from a different perspective because you are not constantly in your shell. You don't constantly have a wall built up, wondering what everyone will say about you. You are able to just be yourself," Han said.

Not only did Han grow as a person through his coming out, but his relationships and friendships did too. Han's long-time friend, **Ayida Sanborn**, 12, was able to see his transformation, as well as their friendship's once he came out.

"When he came out, we grew a lot closer as friends because his personality came out, too. Before he was hiding a piece of himself, but now that he is more himself we are a lot closer," Sanborn said.

Han's confidence since coming out can be seen even by those who did not know him before. To one of Han's newer friends, **Maya Santos**, 12, his energy is rejuvenating.

"It is really nice to see people, especially when they are just starting to understand their sexuality, learn confidence, and understand that even if other people don't understand, you know that you are perfectly fine no matter what other

people think," Santos said.

With his newfound confidence came a newfound form of expression: an improved fashion sense. While Han once covered at the thought of everyone looking at him, now he dresses with the intention to catch the eye.

"Fashion is how I express myself. I wear cropped shirts and low-waisted pants and a bunch of jewelry. I don't want to have a boring outfit and be like everyone else," Han said. "I was like that when I was closed so when I came out I wanted to be different and not like everyone else."

Along with fashion, Han has found another way to express himself: makeup. After watching his mom and YouTubers while growing up, he decided to try it out for himself.

"I got into makeup at first because I was insecure about my acne scars, but then I stopped caring about that and just started doing it for myself. I feel like people think I wear makeup for others, but I honestly just do it for myself. Putting on makeup is like free therapy. It's like my own time for myself," Han said.

Now that Han is able to exhibit his own beauty within, he can confidently define the phrase, knowing that he is able to not just show physical beauty, but the beauty he has within.

"You build your own definition of beauty, but to me beauty is expressing yourself. Of course there will always be a beauty standard, but whatever standard you put yourself to is the best version of yourself. Being yourself is the best way to show the beauty within," Han said.

**Story by Lily Higgins  
Designers Clara Barresi**

*"When you come out, you are a whole different person. You see the world from a different perspective because you are not constantly in your shell."*

## EXPRESS YOURSELF

*Ty Han, 12, finds beauty in being true self*



OPTIMISTIC



DISTINCTIVE



STYLE

take a look  
**WITHIN.**



06

**SPRING**



**AUTUMN**

88



58

**SUMMER**



**WINTER**

138



**ADS**

258



194

**PEOPLE**

Our end sheet focused on the many special aspects of our school while encompassing the “within” element that defined our theme, Something Within Us. The boxes around images were used as a design element to visually conceptualize “within”.

# SPRING

The strings slide against the bow. The crowd listens in awe at the graceful sound. The lights shine on **Autumn Buchta's**, 11 face as she takes in the moment before her.

"I have been playing the viola for six years now. I got into it when the Cario Orchestra came to my school and I just thought it was so cool and I just knew I wanted to do it," Buchta said.

Since starting high school, Buchta has joined the Wando Orchestra, following in the footsteps of those who originally made her want to play. Through being a part of the orchestra here, she has been able to create memories that will last a lifetime.

"I have a lot of friends in the orchestra and it is really fun to be able to play with them. I also got to play at the Gaillard Center a couple of times and it is always really cool," Buchta said.

Throughout her time of performing and playing the viola, Buchta has always been able to count on her biggest supporter, her grandma, for everything she may need.

"My grandma is my biggest supporter. She bought me my

instrument which was so nice of her. She also used to drive me to rehearsals, and always encouraged me to audition for different orchestras. She even would pay for all my private lessons," Buchta said.

Buchta hopes that she can take her talent even further after high school, and continue to play the viola for many years to come.

"I definitely want to keep playing after high school. I want to go to a college with a good orchestra program," Buchta said.

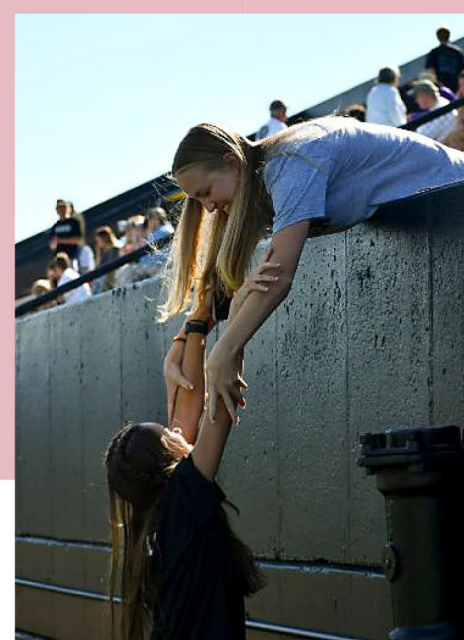
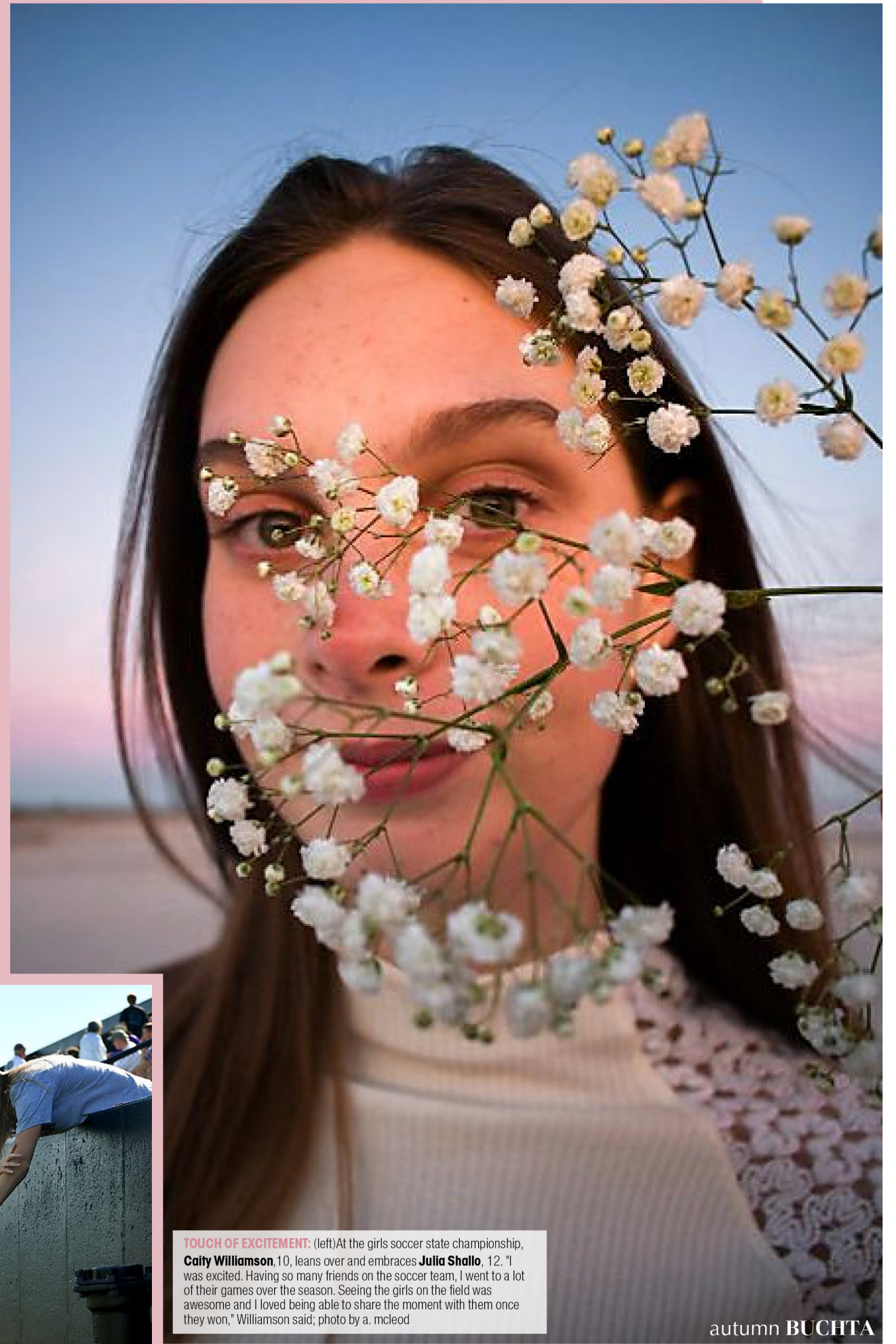
While Buchta loves to play, she loves to perform even more. Side by side with all of her friends, she is able to perform with more confidence than she would have by herself.

"I really just like the performance aspect of it the most, I love doing concerts. It is really fun to play with other people. I don't like performing by myself, but I love to perform with other people. Orchestra has given me a creative outlet," Buchta said.

**Story by Lily Higgins**

**Designers Clara Barresi, Lily Higgins, and Millie Rice**

beach volleyball	08	10 chorus
prom	12	14 girls soccer
auto tech	16	18 language
boys soccer	20	22 culinary
math & engineering	24	26 baseball
DNA	28	30 photography
inspiration within	32	34 softball
wellness club	36	38 parking
boys lacrosse	40	42 social media
girls lacrosse	44	46 vaccination
boys tennis	48	50 astronomy
thrifting & fashion	52	54 track
boys golf	56	



**TOUCH OF EXCITEMENT:** (left)At the girls soccer state championship, **Caity Williamson**, 10, leans over and embraces **Julia Shallo**, 12. "I was excited. Having so many friends on the soccer team, I went to a lot of their games over the season. Seeing the girls on the field was awesome and I loved being able to share the moment with them once they won," Williamson said; photo by a. mcLeod

autumn **BUCHTA**  
photo by I. daniher

I came up with this concept for the section dividers that would not only make the Table of Contents for each section easy to digest, but also to highlight the subject of thematic copy in a dominant, bold fashion.

# down the FAIRWAY

*Varsity golfer moves from New York; makes impact on team*

**Sidak Chawla**, 12, enjoyed his first years of high school in New York, and his life changed quickly when he moved hundreds of miles away to South Carolina, altering the course of his golf experience in a more positive way than he ever thought.

Growing up in upstate New York, Chawla got the news that he was moving down to Charleston in the middle of his sophomore year.

"My parents were thinking about moving and then one day told me about Charleston and honestly, I was excited," Chawla said.

Growing up playing golf, Chawla played with his dad and then later played competitively in New York. After joining his high school's golf team, Chawla became a serious golfer.

"The competition was not that good in New York so when my dad told me we are going to Charleston, I knew this was a good opportunity," Chawla said.

When moving down, Chawla was given the names of schools in the area with good golf teams. After he learned about the academic and golf

opportunities given at Wando, he knew he had found the right place to start anew.

"We looked at Academic Magnet and Wando but there were so many activities at Wando and an amazing golf program and it looked like a great school," Chawla said.

When Chawla officially moved to Charleston, he started his sophomore year at Wando. At school, he met the golf coach **Gerald Lloyd**.

"I first met Sidak when he was taking a tour of our school," Lloyd said. "He was a very polite young man with a great personality."

When he moved, he did not know anyone, but after he met Lloyd he knew there was a good relationship to come.

"He called me into his room when he knew I was at school since the season had not started, he instantly made me feel so welcomed," Chawla said.

When Chawla started his golf season with a brand new team, he met people with whom he will have lifelong friendships.

"With golf it is individual, but also you get to celebrate with your teammates

where it is seriously like a family," Chawla said.

Going into the season, Chawla met someone who made him feel like he belonged: **Spencer Harp**, 12, who has played golf since he was 5. Harp met Chawla when Chawla moved here sophomore year, and the two became closer than he imagined.

"Sid was a super chill guy who, when needed, will grind and keep grinding until what he needs is done," Harp said.

After growing together on the team, they are both spending their last season of golf together before they graduate.

"I love playing golf, but don't know if I will play after high school as academics are the most important to me, but I never know what can happen," Chawla said.

Even though Chawla has only been on the golf team for two full years, he still had a great experience on the team.

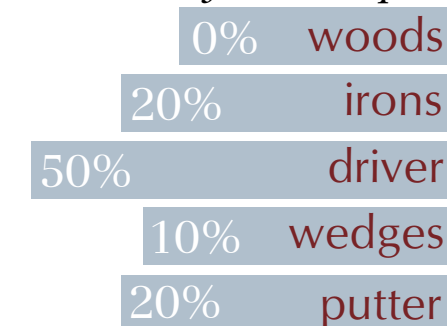
"He is always working on his game to improve himself as well as helping others on the team, off and on the course," Lloyd said.

**Story by Julia Galbally  
Designer Emma Schambach**

*"With golf it is individual, but also you get to celebrate with your teammates where it is seriously like a family."*

## choice of CLUB

*Every golfer has their favorite weapon*



Ten varsity golfers surveyed

**spring 56-57  
boys golf**



**IN FULL SWING:** (above) During his downswing, **Adam Chavez**, 10, focuses on making good contact. "I just remind myself to stay relaxed and make sure I stay connected through my swing. I try to think of the tempo and keep my swing fluid," Chavez said; photo illustration by b. schwinne and e. dodd



**ALL EYES ON ME:** (far left) Hitting from the fairway, **Sidak Chawla**, 12, concentrates on making a good swing. "With people watching, the pressure gets to you but I stayed calm and I was hoping that I hit a good shot," Chawla said; photo by s. cote

**GO FOR THE GREEN:** (left) Cutting up the turf, **Edward Orr**, 12, looks to get on the green. "I was on the fairway and wanted to get on the green so I was using a wedge," Orr said; photo by s. cote

**MAKING CONTACT:** (left) Teeing off on hole one, **Harry DeGrood**, 12, holds his finish until the ball has landed. "I felt confident, because the driver is usually my favorite club in the bag... but I could feel the nerves a bit. I was telling myself to hit the fairway and try to avoid trouble," DeGrood said; photo by s. cote

On the boys golf spread, I wanted to employ a dominant visual of a player striking the ball along with modules for quotes and statistical information.