

pegasus  
2023

# homestead

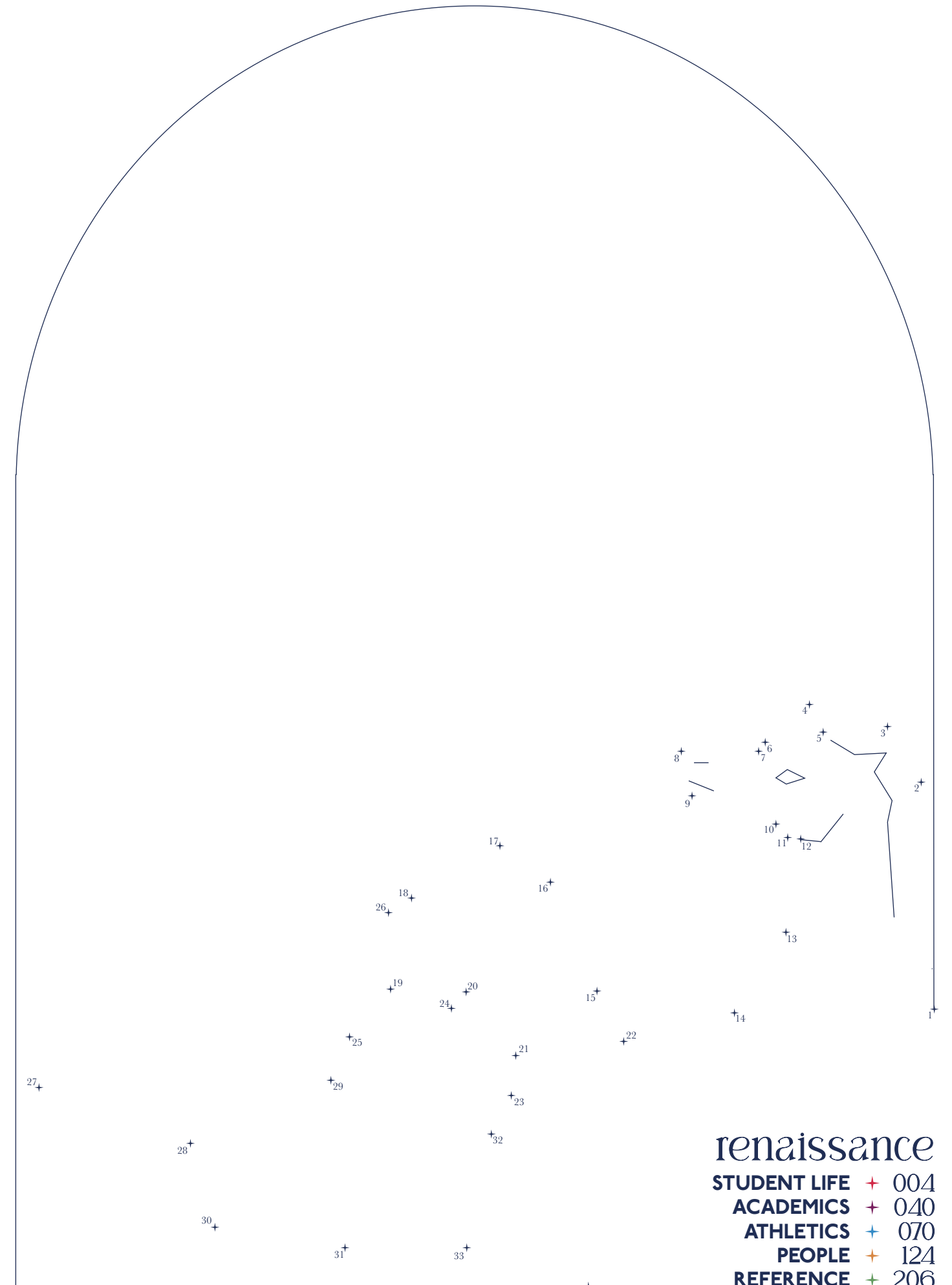
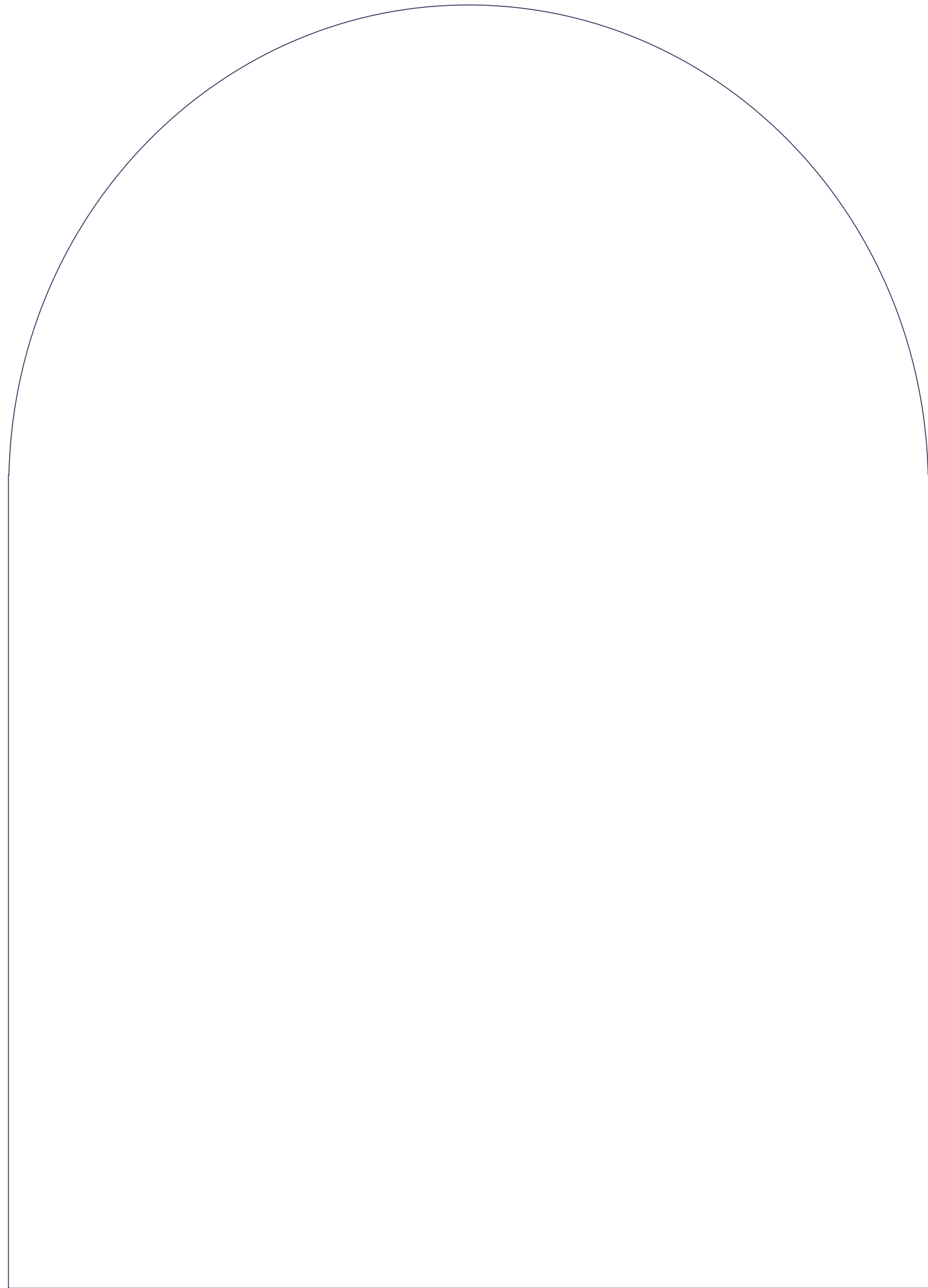
CUPERTINO,  
CALIFORNIA

vol  
ume  
61



ren  
ais  
san  
ce PEGASUS  
2023







Wearing sophomore class colors with pride, **Jefferson Hoang** (10) leads the Class of 2025 in a cheer-off at the annual BOTC rally.

*Photo by Kaci Freeman*

**HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL**  
21370 Homestead Road  
Cupertino, CA 95014  
(408) 522-2500

Principal: Greg Giglio  
Superintendent: Graham Clark

Student Population: 2,284  
Staff Population: 206

*[hhs.fuhsd.org](http://hhs.fuhsd.org)  
[hhspegasus.com](http://hhspegasus.com)*

Instagram: *@homesteadyearbook*

# ren ais sance

**PEGASUS 2023  
VOL. 61**



## IT'S THE START OF A NEW ERA.

Memories of summer still in the air, we rush through the gates with anticipation. For new and old students alike, the start of the semester marks endless opportunities: a chance to reconnect with old friends, go to the Fremont Bell Game, and finally join Indo-Pak.

As we pass through the sunlit quad, we wonder:  
**HOW WILL WE SEIZE THIS YEAR?**

The question fresh in our minds,  
**OUR SPIRIT OF  
DISCOVERY**

pushes us to explore possibilities and places. In places from the new A building classrooms to Senior Hill during Club Fair, we discover both ourselves and our passions.

Even in our studies,  
**WE EXPLORE:** delving deeply into our interests and encountering endless discoveries. We perform pig dissections in Physiology, unpack themes in *The Hate U Give*, and take on dual enrollment classes at De Anza. There's no green light to guide us, but we find our own path.

We are the **ARTISTS  
ADVENTURERS  
& INVENTORS**  
of this era. As we step into this new chapter of our lives, we choose to make the most of this

## RENAISSANCE.

ren  
ais  
sance

# carpe DIEM

## + SEIZE THE DAY

Music streams through the C Building loudspeakers, vibrant and spirited. Dressed proudly in traditional cultural clothing, we take turns making our way across the stage. Spanish Club and Hong Kong Student Association pass out cups of horchata and milk tea. The *Epitaph* snaps pictures for an upcoming article, and the ELD Commissioners ensure the event runs smoothly. At the sounds and smells of Multicultural Night fill the air, our irreplaceable community grows closer than ever before.

Emerging from two years of isolation, we return with newfound vigor. In this process of recovery, we rediscover our passions, rebuild programs, and celebrate one another. From Robotics victories to the new Lunar New Year event, we draw on the best of the past to create a better and brighter version of our community, like the Renaissance of old. We break records — moving on into semifinals with Mock Trial, earning award after

award for FBLA, even launching passion projects under our own name. As we enter our new era, we foster an unwavering community of diverse and unique individuals.

Our Mustang spirit shines in the glitter swiped under our eyes for the BOTC rally, the colorful decorations that ornament campus during Winter Wonder Week, and the cheering of upperclassmen club officers as incoming freshmen flood the quad for Orientation. We originate from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, yet we are united by the surge of green and white and the roar of the rally crowd. These events remind us that our strength lies in our unity and the love we share for our interests and passions.

As we enter our own Renaissance, we embrace the diversity and spirit of our Homestead community. With each passing moment, we construct a more perfect vision of the future. With each passing moment, we reach further beyond our bounds to **seize the day**.

**FLASH OF FABRIC** Jennifer Ren (11) performs a traditional Chinese dance on the quad stage during the Lunar New Year celebration. With around twelve years of experience in the activity,

Ren enjoyed the diversity of Chinese dance types. "It's really cool to learn different styles of Chinese dance," Ren said. "There's a lot of props, like fans or umbrellas, and you don't really see that in contemporary or more Western styles of dance." Photo by Mikaela Kivan



# sapere AUDE

+ DARE TO KNOW

Coffee in one hand and books in the other, we rush up the stairs of the A building just in time for class. Sitting in World History, we traverse the globe, exploring the principles of the Enlightenment and uncovering the stories of fallen empires. In AP Government, we apply past years of history classes to modern America, analyzing the structures of a world that, in a few short months, we will prepare to enter. Meanwhile, like scholars of the past, we find connection and meaning during our discussions of Gatsby's green light, Gogol's namesake, and Esperanza's stories of Mango Street.

As directors, artists, and performers alike, we take to the stage in a flourish. Whether learning new techniques in Ceramics, taking on a challenging solo for Wind Ensemble I, or putting together an elaborate set piece for Stagecraft, we continuously hone our craft with the support of our teachers and peers alike. When the lights dim, we take the spotlight, our hard work and

perseverance crystallizing into a perfect moment of clarity.

Both on and off of campus, we set our academic goals high. From AP Calculus BC to Honors Chemistry to American Studies, we venture beyond our comfort zones, slogging through difficult homework and caffeine-fueled study sessions and emerging victorious on the other side. Refusing to be restrained by what is readily available to us, we take on classes at De Anza and in online programs, seeking to expand our horizons in subjects like Psychology, Geology, and Linear Algebra. Our curiosity knows no bounds, and with each theorem memorized and essay drafted, our insatiable pursuit of knowledge only grows.

We are the scholars of this new era, and we face the infinite future of learning before us with courage and inquisitiveness. As we challenge our limits in fearless pursuit of the unknown, we **dare to know**.

**A WORK OF ART** Brush in hand, **Anna Drenan** (12) uses acrylic paint on an AP art piece. Drenan hoped to pursue a career in animation in the future, citing storytelling as her primary passion. "I really like being able to tell stories and share ideas with my art," Drenan said. "[Storytelling] is the main thing I look for in my art and in other people's art. It's always just really nice to look at everyone's thought process."

*Photo by Kaci Freeman*

# veni, vici, VICI

★ I CAME, I SAW, I CONQUERED

We spend our Fridays in the stadium, the crowd filling the stands and spotlights beaming from above. Pom-poms flying and glow sticks flashing, we roar from the newly revitalized Barnyard amid a sea of green and white. As the Marching Band plays their classic rendition of All Right Now, we cheer the Football team through their victory against Fremont, bringing the bell home for the fifth year in a row.

Even when the cheers of home games subside, we find beauty in the quiet moments of athletics. From passing through the dark quad before early morning practices to driving home after away games, we find joy in the discipline and challenges of honing our craft. Somewhere along the way, the bitter cold becomes refreshing, the sharp pain turns into mild aches, and the lingering soreness becomes a reminder of the limits we pass day by day.

We chart our own path, taking on new challenges in sports previously

unknown to us. Moving up to more advanced leagues, we compete at an entirely different caliber, taking each victory and loss in stride. Running drills during Field Hockey practice, treading water during a Water Polo game, and stretching before a Winter Guard performance, we find ourselves immersed in the life-long process of learning and developing new skills. Under coach changes, scheduling conflicts, and constant cancellations, we shine through as student leaders. These unfamiliar waters, although taxing at first, prove to us that there was a light at the end of the tunnel, growth at the end of every season.

In the end, we celebrate our victories, big and small — a clever goal, a smooth pass, an exhilarating performance. In the end, we redefine athleticism, persevering through unprecedented challenges with unwavering pride. In the end, **we conquer.**

**FREEZE FRAME** Amid a game against Mountain View, varsity quarterback **Charlie Castaneda** (12) prepares to throw the ball to **Wyatt Hook** (11). After over twelve years of involvement, he reflected on the collaborative nature of football. “[My favorite aspect is] seeing your work result in something more than yourself, and seeing the time you’ve put in really show on the field,” Castaneda said.

*Photo courtesy of Aimee Castaneda*



# ad ASTRA

## + TO THE STARS

From the banners commemorating league wins in the large gym to pieces of exemplary work posted on teachers' walls, we all hope to leave our own legacy. Over time, student leaders pass the torch to new members, sports captains impart their knowledge to incoming freshmen, and club officers make room for new leadership, but we each work tirelessly to make our fleeting years at Homestead count.

This narrative, penned throughout the course of a brief year, carries the brilliant accomplishments, individual aspirations, and uninhibited imagination of our new era. As we pass this precious legacy onto classes to come, we can only hope that they can see the stories we've sketched in the margins.

Exiting the years of quarantines and COVID tests, Homestead enters an era of greater exploration, invention, and innovation. Just two years ago, we were stumbling to class from our

bedrooms, limited to the floor plan of our houses and only in the company of our technology. Despite the pandemic, we've written our own history after we first set foot on campus. Whether we're starting our journey to higher education or founding our own businesses, Homestead students are the scholars, artists, and leaders of a new age.

On campus, our impact is clear. From student-directed One Acts to the new LGBTQ+ bookshelf to FBLA state victories, the legacy we seek to leave behind is one of creativity and progress. As with the visionaries of the historical Renaissance, we draw upon our past to envision our future. Reminiscing about previous years, we know we will continuously strive to improve those to come.

This is our renaissance. As we enter this new era, we look forward to our next adventure as our brilliant future takes us to the stars.

**MARCHING FORWARD** Wyatt Oates (11) performs the marching band field show during halftime at a football game. After playing saxophone for his first two years of marching band, Oates' switch to drums was driven by the sense of community within the drumline. "I really liked the drumline feel, and I wanted to be a part of that," Oates said. "Next year, I want to work hard to make us the best we can be."

*Photo by Hyein Kim*







## AS THE YEAR ENDS, WE TURN TO A **NEW CHAPTER.**

Though precious reminders of the school year linger, we look forward to the next with excitement. As we head off into summer, we reminisce about the biggest and smallest of moments: the time when we finally solved that physics problem, watched the Homecoming parade, and even performed in the BOTC dance battle.

As we share our last hugs of the semester, we wonder:  
**HOW HAVE WE SEIZED THIS YEAR?**

Inspired to better ourselves and one another,  
**WE DISCOVERED** our passions. Joining film club, we bonded over script writing and Interstellar watch parties. We joined Mock Trial to beat our fear of public speaking, and we even made it to Santa Clara County's Semi Finals. Alongside our closest friends, we cheered as the robot from our own Team 670 won victory after victory in regional competitions.

In the classroom, **WE EXPLORED** subjects from every corner of our universe. In classes from math to history, we challenged our understanding of biology and defended our theses in American Lit Honors.

Empowered by our experiences,  
**WE INVENTED** our own possibilities. Investing in our future, we sought out higher education. We tried our hand at entrepreneurship through the Maker's Fair and internships, and we even started our own small businesses. Yet, as we look forward, we know we still have so much to share.

This was an era of exploration, art, and invention. This was an era of self-discovery and friendship, where we bettered ourselves and mastered our crafts. This was an era of our life we will never forget. This was the era of our

## **RENAISSANCE.**

ren  
ais  
sance



# RENAISSANCE

**Katia Bravo** (12) and **Julie Cohen** (12) scream at the top of their lungs during a cheer-off, helping to earn the Class of 2023 the BOTC victory.  
*Photo by Eric Jaramillo*