Application for Multimedia Journalist of the Year - Section 10E

Ray Hathcock

In my four years of working in the publications and newspaper staff, I have taken in as many skills as possible. I dove right into the Introduction into Broadcast Journalism and Introduction to Photojournalism courses my first semester of high school. They were difficult for me to learn, but I did it nonetheless to enter into the newspaper staff.
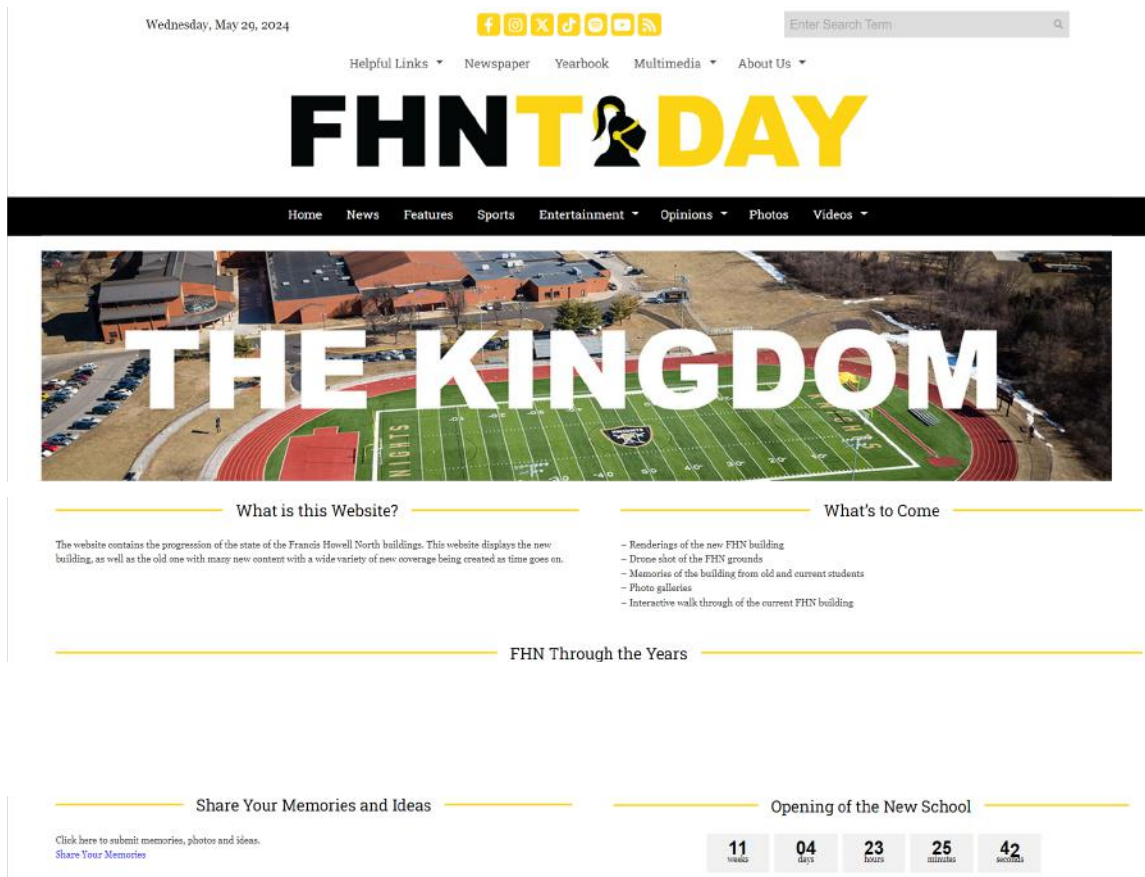
In Newspaper we worked on the North Star Newspaper and the FHNtoday.com website. All I really did was design newspaper pages, write stories and use my photo skills for producing the photos for my own web stories, but that was the extent of what I knew. That was until the end of my sophomore year when the Website Editor in Chief introduced to us the idea of multimedia projects. Sure, our publications have done simple versions of them before by combining a video with a story, but otherwise there wasn't much that I had seen. So when a group of us did that I was intrigued by the different aspects that could go into it, especially the interactive elements.

My junior year I became the news section editor. I have always wanted to figure out how to grow as a person, as well as help other people and other things grow and change into the best version that it can be. So when thinking about what I want to do in my senior year as an editor, I thought a lot about the previously started multimedia piece, The Kingdom. It was an ongoing project about the unique progression of the original Francis Howell North building before it's demolished.

I had been in three different staffs in my senior year trying to help out and expand my knowledge. I was only a TA in the photo staff, but working alongside everyone else in the new sports staff and the newspaper staff. I did this especially because I was in charge of multimedia for the website as my newspaper editor position as the Managing Editor. I started up a website cycle in Newspaper for this specifically, and it was not an easy job. I had used my skills from all of the different courses I took and used the connections I had to better the communication throughout the staffs, and with it all, started up larger multimedia pieces regularly.

I began this process by introducing multimedia to the staff by talking about previous ones and furthering it by explaining what else there is to be done with them. I explained to them interactive elements, such as timelines or maps, and how they could definitely be utilized in our program. I told them that they could pick whatever topic their heart desires, which really helped with creating the projects. I used Multimedia Check In forms that I created to keep track of everything along the way. I, of course, would talk to each individual group as much as I could. I had only one hard deadline originally which was the completed project. Although a huge mistake that I had made was that I didn't recognize that I needed more frequent hard deadlines on these projects, because there's a lot of content to be accomplished as well as that I needed to post these monthly on the website. I could conclude from these projects that it really proved how creative people can be with access to many more elements through multimedia projects. They also gained viewership and their time on our website.
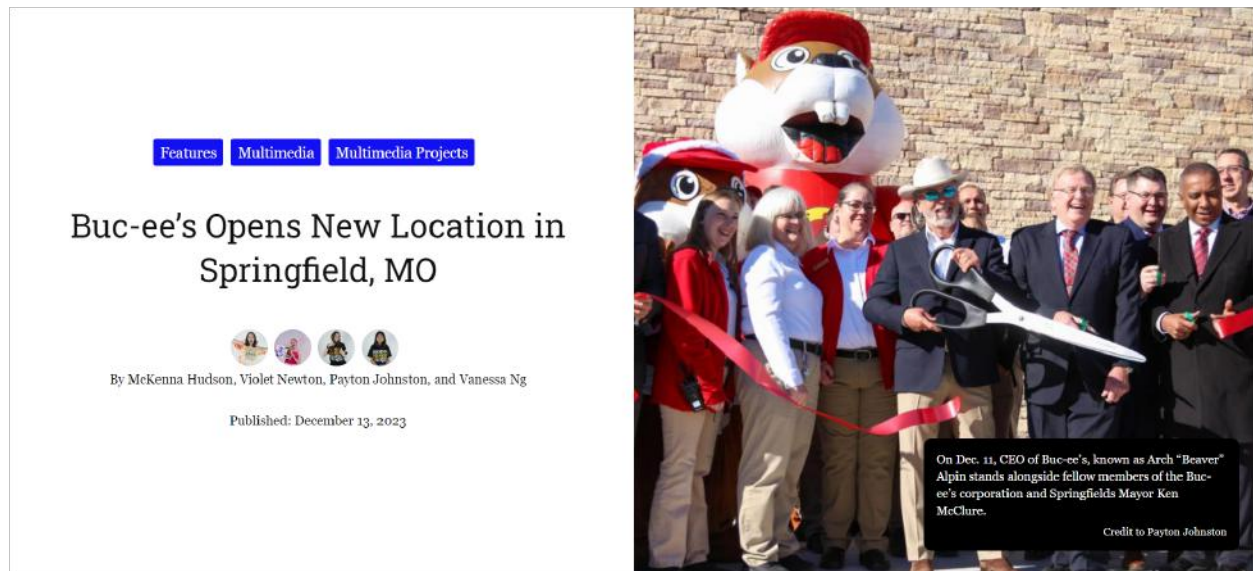
Entry #1 - The Kingdom

The Kingdom, named for that as the home of the Francis Howell North mascot the Knights, originally only displayed the progression of the first building once the construction of the new building was announced. We have an interactive timeline that shows that it used to be a Junior High, into a High School, and decided to add a variety of multimedia content about the new school. I was in charge of making sure everything was set and updated and orchestrated content for this site and created content for it as well.

Entry #2 - Buc-ee's Opens

This was the first large multimedia piece published in the 2023-2024 school year featuring the Grand Opening of the new Buc-ee's in Springfield, Missouri. Two people from our Newspaper staff worked on this, Violet and Mckenna, who wrote the story, built the interactive map and contributed to the Tiktok. Payton took the gallery and cover images, as well as Vanessa recording the Tiktok. As the multimedia editor, I created training for the staff, coordinated teams to make the packages and coached them along the way. This is an example of what one of the team's did with the leadership and training I provided.
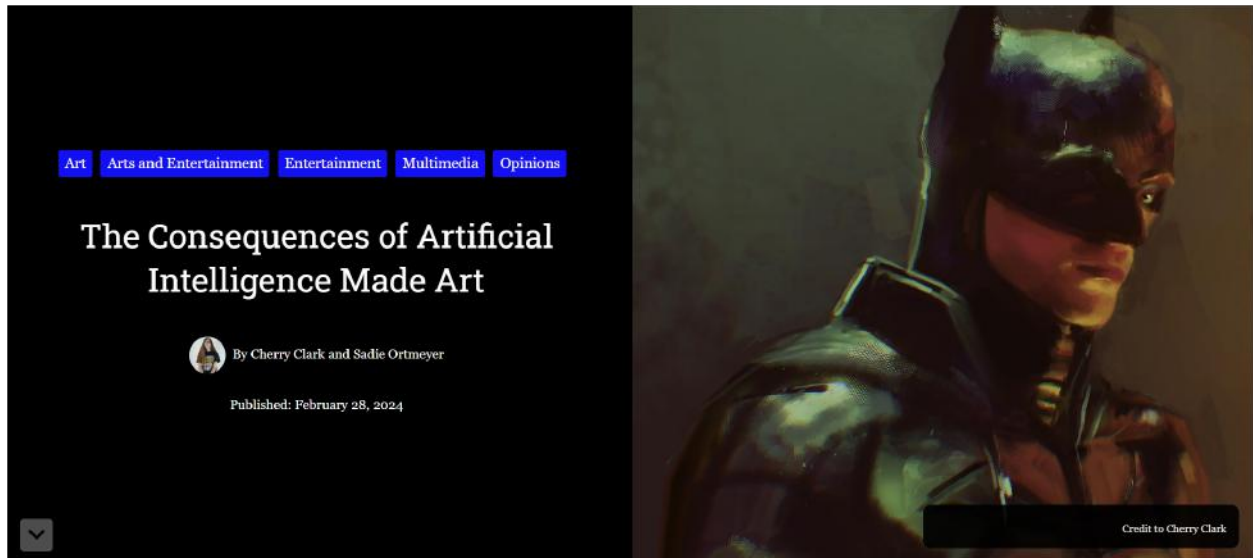
Entry #3 - Maui Wildfires

A wildfire rages on in the distance in Lahaina, Hawaii.

Credit to Daniel Conroy

https://fhntoday.com/2023/12/18/devastating-wildfires-in-maui-destruct-citizens-way-of-life/#
I was impressed by Riley's passion for the Wildfires in Maui, Hawaii. She had connections previously where she had received the photo submissions, so she set this whole thing up by herself. Alongside the outstanding story that she wrote, she created the interactive map to prove how vast the wildfires spread. Again, as the Editor of this section, I worked to make sure everyone was trained and that all the pieces got published and looked good. I feel this project turned out as well as it did because of the coaching and help that I gave to Riley.

Entry #4 - Consequences of AI

The Consequences of Artificial Intelligence Made Art

By Cherry Clark and Sadie Ortmeyer

Published: February 28, 2024

Credit to Cherry Clark

https://fhntoday.com/2024/02/28/the-consequences-of-artificial-intelligence-made-art/

This was a multimedia piece that had completely new ideas than we've had before, such as Sadie's interactive quiz or her 'What's the Difference' comparing images of an original painting versus an IA made version. Cherry contributed by using one of her illustrations as the cover and finding different perspectives from around the school that relate to the readers to show how AI is truly impacting artists. Again, while some multimedia journalists could be showcasing all of the content they created, I think there's something to be said for an editor who empowered and trained others to make their own. This has been my staff's most successful year with multimedia projects and it went so well that other staffs in our school are planning to do them next year.

Credit to Shutterstock

Climate Change-Global

☐The Causes of Environmental Climate Change

Climate change is a problem that affects everyone in the world. While there are many things that contribute to the problem, the biggest cause for this change is greenhouse gasses. There are four greenhouse gasses that greatly affect climate change: carbon dioxide, water vapor, methane, nitrous-oxide and aerosols. All of these add to climate change by trapping heat in the atmosphere.

"I do think that it's pretty obvious that data is there showing that the climate has been changing quite considerably over the last few decades, especially after the Industrial Revolution, which

Credit to Maya Helbig

Climate Change-Local

What is Environmental Consciousness?

What is the first thing that everyone does when they wake up in the morning? Many may say something else but the true first thing is taking a breath of fresh, clean air. People often don't realize how reliant they are on a clean environment and take for granted things like that. Unfortunately our environment is in a bad state and some of the things people do are just fuel to the fire. Fortunately, there is hope.

"The good news is that there are lots of things to do," SLU professor Benjamin de Foy said. "Not everybody has to do everything but at the same time everybody has to do something."

One of the problems with the environment is that there isn't just one issue that can be pinpointed and fixed. There are many issues working together to slowly degrade the environment. Some of the biggest issues the world is facing are air pollution, climate change and water pollution. The combination of things like increased carbon emissions

https://fhntoday.com/2022/03/16/environmental-consciousness/

This was my first multimedia piece created my sophomore year. I worked on the first story 'The Causes of Environmental Climate Change', and that really inspired me to learn more about multimedia. This had received an award my sophomore year and I realized just how important these could be, especially considering that these don't get utilized often.