

Design Portfolio

GABE DEEDLER

Statement

When I opened my first InDesign spread the summer before junior year, I never imagined I'd end up as Editor-in-Chief of The Communicator Magazine, my school's print journalism publication. At the time, I barely knew how to use the software. I was just excited to try something new.

But as I started working on spreads — figuring out where elements should go, playing around with fonts and learning how to make a story feel alive on the page — I became hooked. Turning a blank spread into something that felt like a piece of art was satisfying beyond belief. Slowly, I started to see how much power design has, not just to make things look good, but to shape how people experience a story.

Over time, I took on more responsibility, and eventually I was helping other students learn the same things I'd struggled with. Leading the team gave me a deeper appreciation for collaboration, and for the little details that can make or break a piece—like the combination of colors or the ends of the fonts. I wasn't just designing anymore; I was helping set a tone for the whole magazine.

Looking back, what started as a nervous first dive into InDesign turned into something much bigger. It taught me how to think visually, how to work with others, and how to trust my instincts. More than anything, it showed me how much I love using design to tell stories that matter.

Gabe Deedler

Edition 2, 2024 *Keeping Up With the Trends*

In this spread, I was looking for different ways to experiment with typography and shapes, using rounded edges and squiggly lines to make the design feel modern and trendy. I took inspiration from online advertisements that felt flashy and colorful, and used Photoshop to cut out each item individually.

✱ KEEPING UP WITH THE ✱ **TRENDS**

Students share their opinions on fashion trends and circulating internet fads.

BY NINA REALS AND KENNEDY MCDONALD

Trends are constant, always coming and going at rates that few have the means to keep up with. There's always something hot or in style that seems to have everyone in a chokehold. We are in a revolving cycle of unconventional patterns, specific hairstyles and shoes. High school seems to be all about trends, who wears what and what they pair it with. Which trends seem to be making its way around CHS today?
 Finn Anderson sports a recent internet fad, Adidas samba shoes that they claim give the retro look they are going for.
 "I like the look of more old school or like

90s looking shoes, and I was at the DSW, and I just picked the pair of shoes that I thought looked cool," Anderson said. "A lot of stuff from the 90s has come back around."

Anderson believes that trends are inevitable and that we'll all follow whether we are trying to or not.

"I think even if you consciously try to stay away from trends or not participate in them, if you're involved with anything, I think you're gonna, subconsciously follow them," Anderson said.

Mariah Zeigler, a junior rocks an outfit that includes a camo print that was influenced by her Pinterest feed.

She thrifts most of her clothes, partaking in the current trends while still making an effort to be mindful of the environment.

"I think fast fashion is seriously really bad for the environment," Zeigler said. "I get most of my stuff at Salvation Army and these are my dad's pants."

She doesn't see our current love of the past as a bad thing.

"I think we are going back," Zeigler said. "Like, I feel like everyone just is in some different decade, clothing-wise. But the 20s don't really have a distinct style, because it's just like a combo of everything that came before."

Zeigler would like to see bangles or "big bracelets" next in the circulation. They're one of her favorite varieties of jewelry and love that they're making a comeback.

Aiko Shirato takes on a trend not in

the form of her clothing, but through her choice of water bottle. Shirato is seen carrying an Owala, a water bottle that is said to be the newest and trendiest. Shirato doesn't see her purchase as unnecessary, she says it makes sense for her.

"It's the only water bottle I really use, I really prefer straws," Shirato said. "I don't like to chug my water, and this has both options."

Similar to the others, Shirato thinks of trends as unavoidable.

"I definitely participate in some of it, but I try not to participate in fast fashion," Shirato said.

She views her Owala water bottle as more than a trend, something she sees staying around for a while.

"I think it'll last long term. I don't think it'll always be super trendy, but I don't think anybody will ever stop liking it," Shirato said.

From water bottles to unique prints to brands of sneakers, trends are constantly changing. Students agree on the fact we are all subjected to trends, whether we consciously choose to or not. Many students also see the damage and negative effects trends can have.

Fast fashion trends often result in poor-quality clothing that ends up in a landfill or thrift store five years later. As trends continue to move forward it will benefit the environment to change our thinking and how we choose to participate in trends.

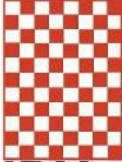


PHOTOGRAPHY BY GARE DEEDLER, KENNEDY MCDONALD AND NINA REALS



**LINA
BAILEY**

"THE WAY I DRESS
IS JUST ANOTHER
FORM OF SELF-
EXPRESSION. WEARING
FEMININE CLOTHES
DOESN'T JUST MAKE
ME FEEL CONFIDENT
- IT MAKES ME FEEL
POWERFUL."



**CASSIDY
MCKENNA**

"FASHION IS A WAY FOR ME TO
SHOW PEOPLE WHAT I MIGHT NOT
SAY - THAT I WANT PEOPLE TO
OPEN THEIR EYES, STOP MAKING
ASSUMPTIONS AND THINK DEEPLY."



"A GOOD OUTFIT CAN
REALLY GIVE YOU THE
CONFIDENCE TO DO
THINGS YOU WOULDN'T
FEEL LIKE DOING
BEFORE. WEARING A
GOOD OUTFIT CAN HELP
YOU STEP INTO YOUR
OWN SKIN AND GIVE
YOU MORE CONFIDENCE
TO MOVE THROUGH
THE DAY."



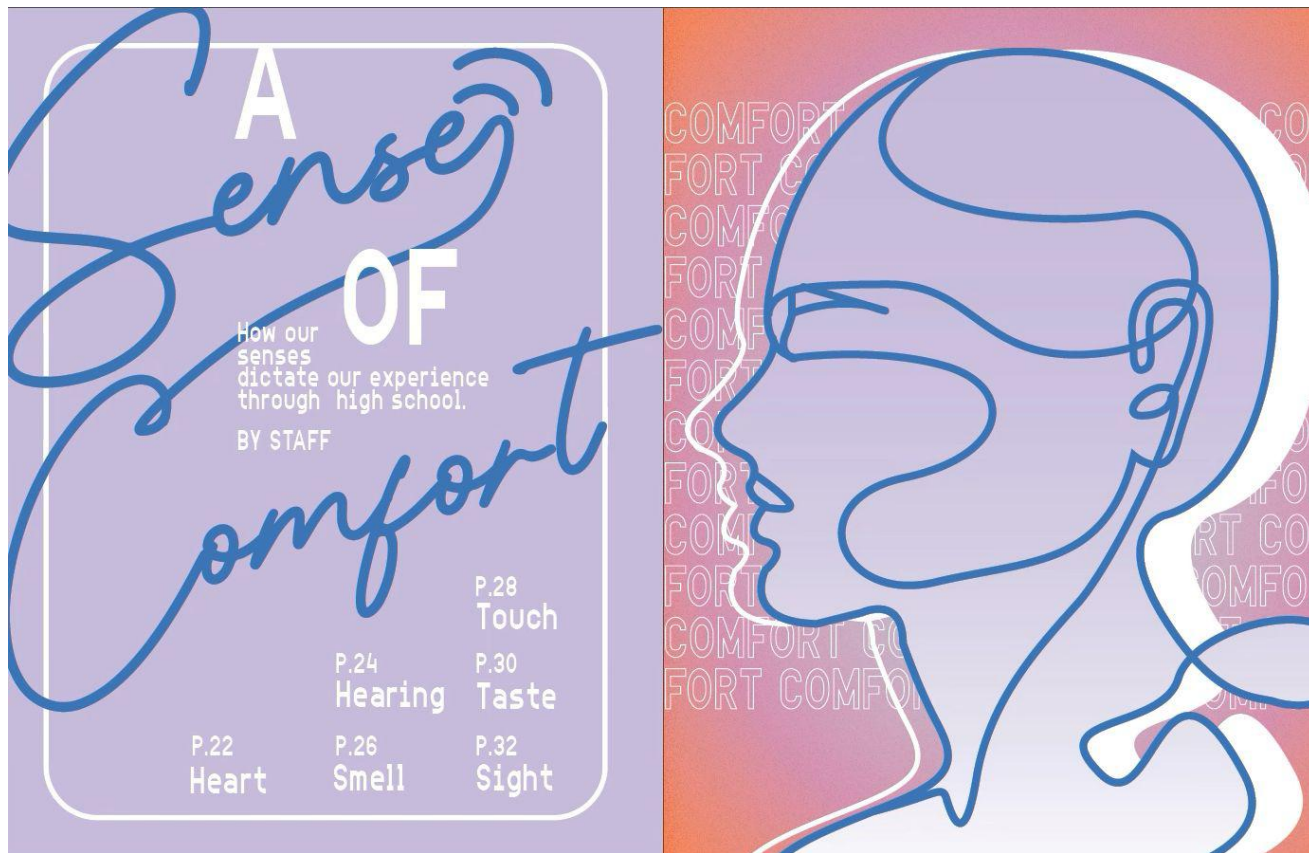
Edition 4, 2025 *Dress for Success*

As a fashion spread based on Mock Trial and business attire, I tried making this design feel very clean and corporate, with barcodes and even lines defining that aesthetic. I also used more industrial fonts such as Helvetica to make the design feel more integrated with the shapes.

Edition 3, 2024

A Sense of Comfort

This spread is the cover of a longer package based on the human senses, so I used design motifs like audio waves on the typography to show that purpose. Additionally, the colors in the background emit a comforting warmth with the cool lavender balancing it out.



Edition 1, 2024

Iseul Park: Unknowns

This spread is part of our first edition package story, featuring students' unknowns. The design came from the idea that each person has multiple identities and versions of themselves, represented by the afterimages. The letters are also stacked and descending to match the idea of layering, and the pink follows through the design.

