

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Vergennes Union High School

Faith McAllister

Faith McAllister is Vergennes Union High School's latest Student of the Week. She lives in Ferrisburgh with her Mom, Dad and older sister Clarinda.

Faith's favorite teacher is AP Biology teacher Sarah Thompson. According to Faith, Ms. Thompson's "teaching style is straightforward, clear and consistent. She has so much knowledge and she is able to answer my questions. She is also sweet, thoughtful and funny. She makes class engaging and her style works well for my learning." Faith is currently a member of the National Honor Society.

Beyond academics, Faith has been a student athlete for all four years of high school, participating in basketball, track and soccer. She has also been a member of the Symphonic Band during high school as a flutist. She has been a member of the Green Team in previous years. This year, she also participated in the VUHS German Exchange program, which provided a "cool experience" and a fun challenge to communicate in a different language. Notably, Faith loved experiencing a different culture as a student because it enabled her to know more about what it would be like to be a teenager in Germany.

Outside of school, Faith works at the VUES after-school and summer care programs. She also volunteers with Young Life on work crews and has worked with classmates to raise money to cover the VUHS pavilion costs. She likes working with younger kids and being a part of their lives, and enjoys helping them learn problem-solving and emotional regulation skills.

Faith likes to spend time with friends and family. She also loves crafting (especially working with clay), shopping and playing board games.

Her advice to younger students is, "Everyone has their own stuff, so try not to think so much about what other people think. People don't really care about what you are doing or what you are wearing. I've got other things to worry about, so it has been freeing to let go of things that don't matter."

After high school, Faith is going to UVM to study zoology with she hopes to work at a wildlife reservation in the future. We wish her all the best!



Faith McAllister
VUHS

Middlebury Union High School

Kirin Biancosino

Middlebury Union High School is proud to recognize senior Kirin Biancosino as its Student of the Week. Kirin is the son of Michole and Amit and lives in Middlebury. He has two 10th-grade siblings, Mira and Para, and a dog named Wolfgang.

When asked what he enjoys most about school, Kirin shared that he appreciates the opportunity to take a wide variety of classes, as he enjoys all of them — especially music and math. He is particularly grateful to Ms. LeBeau and Mr. DeBruyn for their continued support over the years.

Kirin has excelled in his musical pursuits, earning recognition at Districts, All-States, and New Englands. He was also awarded the District's Division Scholarship.

He has been actively involved both in and out of school. At MUHS, Kirin has played tennis all four years and participates in band, jazz band and choir. He is an active member of the BIPOC Affinity Space. Outside of school, he fences with a local fencing alliance.

In addition, Kirin works at the Marquis Theater and has volunteered his time providing sound design for productions at Middlebury College. In his free time, he enjoys playing music, practicing piano and saxophone, and playing chess.

Reflecting on his high school experience, Kirin emphasizes the importance of not letting others' opinions negatively impact your mental health. He encourages students to try a variety of activities to discover their interests, noting that passions don't always emerge right away.

In the fall, Kirin plans to attend Swarthmore College, where he will study music composition and math.

Middlebury Union High School congratulates Kirin on his many accomplishments and wishes him continued success throughout his senior year and beyond.



Kirin Biancosino
MUHS

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To celebrate your achievements, Full Circle Building & Remodeling is providing each Student of the Week \$25 in local currency (Bristol Bucks, Middlebury Money, Vergennes Green, or Brandon Bucks). Just check in with your school's Student of the Week coordinator to claim your prize!

Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers and administration.

Congratulations, Faith and Kirin!

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