

# JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

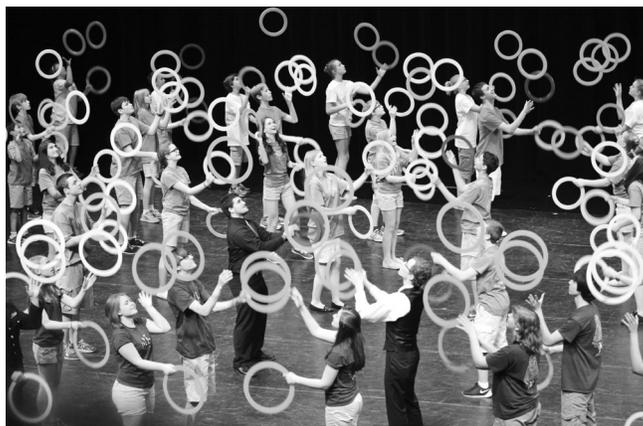
Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • Summer 2014

## JJ16: Tight-Knit Theatre, and more

### Annual show celebrated youth, company priorities

“Ya got juggle, my friends...” JJ16 continued our tradition of publicly celebrating youth through juggling. Commonly known as an “art and sport,” juggling at JH means so much more: Community...Mentorship...Theatre...Teamwork among a wide age range of both boys and girls...Changed lives...A place to grow up. JJ is admittedly a dramatic display of juggling meted out among our members, but it’s often through the very process of rehearsing and performing that much development occurs!

Among the stream of ongoing feedback received since JJ16 weekend (akin to a national holiday among many Jugheads!), many have commented on how smooth and entertaining the show was, clearly seen in our six club group routines. From the “**State Fair**” fireworks to the beloved & customized “**Rudolph**” characters to the precise dance moves of **ABBA** to the drama of “**West Side Story**” to the rousing energy of “**The Music Man**” to the big band delights of “**Jugglin’ Jack**,” every large ensemble this year was well-received, and each act was *somebody’s* show-stopping favorite!



Photos: George Hadjiyanis

On the specialty act front, **Pretty in Pink** epitomized a vaudevillian all-ring routine; **Simple Physics** brought their brotherly club passing (and boxers) to the stage; **Samazon** showed adventurous creativity in a hopeful IJA Juniors act; **Reid-iculous** became the 3rd-ever dropless solo in JJ history; **Suit and Tie** showed his technical chops as The Ace of Clubs (and Balls :-); and both **The Liddle Sisters** and **MERC** turned in dropless small ensembles, raising the bar for what polished teamwork and years of practice among committed teens can accomplish.

The “music, mayhem and meaningful stuff” started with “Rock This Town” and ended with “Reach,” with well-paced and witty skits peppered throughout the show, and the Senior Presentation and Slide Show adding heartfelt depth.

**Coach Kelvin Ying** will be dearly missed (and he ended with a bang by masterminding both “West Side Story” and “The Music Man”), as will our 10 seniors who each averaged just under six years in the company with innumerable memories, life lessons, and mentor moments.



*NOTE: Erica, Sydney & Evan filled our hearts as they represented the seniors and cast families with their words and gifts on Saturday night. I’ll reiterate: God’s grace continues this work, and your love & gratitude make our calling a joy, not a burden. Thank you! —Love, Paul & Wendy*

## Coach Corner: Kelvin Ying

This June will effectively mark my second graduation from JH, seven years separated. So as a parting blessing to all the Jugheads, I want to share some of the life lessons I learned between the mile markers.

1. *Hard work and good work are two different things.* Time and effort will produce results. But an efficient and disciplined approach will produce better results.
2. *You can learn the most from your hardest teachers.* It isn’t always true, but many times, the difference between an easy teacher and a hard teacher is an unwillingness to compromise on expectations. But unlike a mean teacher, a hard teacher will praise you when you have earned it.
3. *People want you to succeed.* From old teachers to new acquaintances, everyone has been happy to offer me words of wisdom and encouragement. I simply need a sincere desire to learn and the courage to ask.
4. *Be ambitious, but be smart about it.* Ambition might be as simple as a complex Juggle Jam routine or as profound as leaving a wonderful job for an uncertain future. The impor-

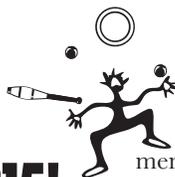
tant thing is that you know where you can and should push your boundaries.

5. *Share your successes, own your mistakes.* When something good happens, give credit to those who helped you. When something bad happens, always look inward first to see where you could have improved. But as my frisbee captain said, “You are allowed zero time for self pity.”

6. *Good things tend to happen to good people.* It’s that simple.

7. *“What you do, who you are with, and how you feel about the world around you, is completely up to you.”* This recent quote from Mike Rowe (Discovery Channel’s “Dirty Jobs”) summarizes so succinctly what I wish I had known about life while in college. You are never trapped. If you are unhappy with your friends, make new ones. If you do not like your job, find another one. If you believe you can do better, then do better. Don’t settle, and don’t give up.

Thank you to Paul, Wendy, and the Jugheads for three unforgettable years of coaching. Always remember the power of the dream, and I’ll see you at Juggle Jam 17! —*Kelvin Ying: 9-Year Jughead (‘08-‘07); College Summer Coach (‘08-‘11); Three-Year Coach (‘11-‘14)*

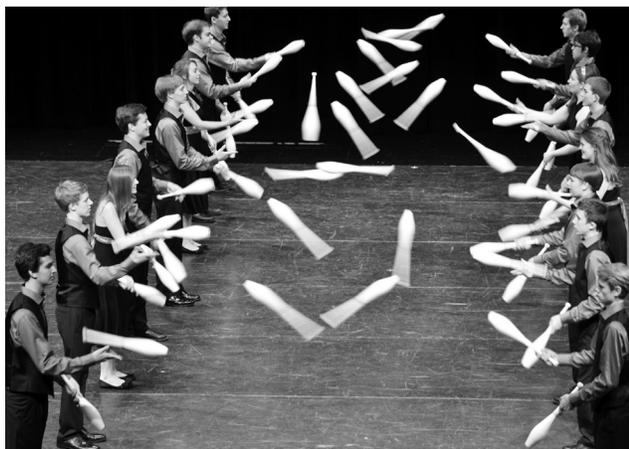


## Taking Center Stage: 2014-2015!

- **Fall 2014 Registration:** The enclosed form details signing up for next school year. All clubs (except U.C.) will fill first-come, first-served starting **May 23**; Rec. Clubs open to *new* rookies on **June 9**—including siblings of current *Jugheads* and former *Jugheads* who were not registered for Spring 2014.
- **JJ17 Dates Set!** JJ17 is Friday & Saturday, May 15 & 16, 2015 at Hopkins HS; all-cast Dress Rehearsals are Wednesday, May 6 and Tuesday, May 12.

## Bulletins & Birthdays

- **SUMMER CAMP FORMS** are available in our gym/online for seven (7) weeks of juggling camps (June 9-July 25; no camp July 4).
- **ST. LOUIS PARK PARADE:** Sat., 6/14. Email Paul to sign up.
- **3rd ANNUAL JH PICNIC:** Wed., 6/25 @ Edina's Utley Park.
- **THE EDINA PARADE** is 7/4, 9 am. Email Paul to sign up.
- **IJA-PURDUE TEAM:** Send-off meeting: 7/23; final payment: 6/27.
- **EYJA JOGGLING MEET** is 7/12 led by **Summer Coach Jack Levy**. "Juggling Thursdays" will train kids during camps!



## Paul's Platform:

### "Performer, Pastor, or 'Preneur?"

This school-year-ending column is a reflection on the 20th anniversary of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Co., LLC, and how my career came to a critical crossroads in 1994. I hope it serves as a life lesson that any interests and talents in life, however seemingly insignificant or transient, can work together for our good if we have eyes to see!

In 8th grade, my goal was to be the next Steve Cannon, a WCCO radio legend. While dabbling in sports and developing my performing skills in high school, I grew to love theatre. In college, I majored in Speech-Communication (with lots of writing), minored in Music (Singing) and Theatre (Acting) while devoting much time to the U of M Men's Chorus and the Refresh-

ment Committee Theatre Co., including the "Sunday Nite" Radio Variety Show. Aside from my academic and performance pursuits, I grew much through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and I went to CA for camp counseling in '89, packing my 20th birthday gift: *Juggling for the Complete Klutz*.

Upon graduation in Dec. '91, I couldn't find gainful employment in radio (despite six-months' interning at 'CCO), so I abandoned that dream, seeking the Lord for four months until He called me to lead Edina KIDS Club/Wise Guys in May 1992. I thrived there, but I grew restless in 1994, feeling I had something else to do. I auditioned for Disney World, *Forever*

*Plaid*, and Radio AAHS, not landing any role. However, I was accepted to Bethel Seminary, thinking "career ministry" may be God's will for me. But rather than enroll that fall, I was promoted to the newly-created Wise Guys Manager position, and I started the "Clubs" program, with myself leading 4th-6th graders in the Table Tennis Club and the Juggling Club. With

seminary as my fall-back and an ongoing desire for theatrical involvement, I responded to what became a growing demand for coaching juggling and directing shows. By '99, I spun off the Wise Guys Jugglers, re-named them the Jugheads, and the rest is history.

I neither became a full-time entertainer nor a vocational pastor, but this entrepreneurial endeavor combines several passions into a unique calling that I couldn't have envisioned. (Consider also Wendy's indispensable, complementary talents which she developed long before, and along the way, of developing this business!) I "perform" every day (sometimes on stage); I "pastor" in many ways; and I trust God more than I did as a (more) clueless 25-year-old longing for new career direction. This company almost didn't happen. Its very existence is a miracle of timing, (obscure) talents and interests, and a Great Director who works all things together for good! (See Romans 8:28, Phil. 1:6)

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