



JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

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EYJA Showcase: 3/18 in Hopkins

Acts must “preview” for Carolyn Liddle by 2/26

The 11th annual EYJA Winter Juggling Showcase is Friday, March 18 at 7:30 pm at **The Little Theater** in Hopkins High School. This 90-minute public show is *free!* The 1/29 sign-up deadline has passed; now, each of the acts must preview their routine for **Student Director Carolyn L.** by 2/26. The cast/order will be set in early March.

JJ18 Photos, Tickets & Volunteers

Key dates: Feb. 22-26 pix; April 4 online tix

- Our Juggle Jam (JJ) Slide Show is a cherished tradition! **Photo Week is Feb. 22-26: Wendy Arneberg & Diane Schroeder** will take portraits, group shots and candids during all clubs except U.C. Each Jughead may choose attire and posing props. If your Jughead must miss his/her club day that week, please plan to attend a different club day that same week to take to take his/her photo. Email Wendy of your club change plans to schedule a time-slot.
- All tickets for JJ18 (May 20 & 21) will be reserved and sold online in two pricing tiers for Adults & Students (\$15/\$10 and \$12/\$8). A link to buy tickets will be on **jugheads.com** beginning April 4 (the first day after Spring Break). Remaining tickets will be sold at the door each night of JJ18.
- Look for an email in March detailing JJ18 volunteer opportunities (e.g., pre-production, rehearsals, show nights).

Officer Voice by Elise J.

It’s 10:00 pm on January 30, and in exactly 16 weeks, something big will happen. In exactly 16 weeks, it will be the closing night of JJ18, and we will be counting out the bows for “Reach,” tears streaming down our faces. In exactly 16 weeks, my dad will be taking photo after photo of my friends and me in the lobby of Hopkins Auditorium. In exactly 16 weeks, many Jugheads will be driving from the auditorium to the Edina Perkins for the post-JJ celebration. But all this won’t happen for another 16 weeks.

So what now? What’s the point of all these weeks leading up to those big moments? Everything important will be happening in 16 weeks, so it must be that the next 13+ club days are merely steps until the final goal, right? But in reality, that’s not the case.

As incomparable as performing on the JJ stage is, the weeks leading up to it are just as great, but in a whole other way. As a 3rd year student leader, I can honestly say that watching a routine take shape is only second to hanging out with all my

“children” each time I assist. Choreographing “Annie” with the other Friday Rec. student leaders was definitely the best part of last year. Seeing the routine go from an idea at the fall Officer Retreat, to teaching swing dancing to elementary/middle schoolers, to seeing all my “kids” perform in JJ17 was just phenomenal.

So the best advice I can give every 3rd grade rookie and each deca-Jughead is to embrace the lead-up to JJ. Although you can’t stop dropping and you feel ridiculous learning the choreography, make the most of it. My friends still make fun of me for my wacky cartwheel in JJ10, but I still can remember that I met my first best friends in JH through that vignette.

Therefore, even though you may roll your eyes at the swing dance moves and complain about how you can’t hit that one trick, make the most of it. Looking back at these months leading up to the show, you’ll remember how much fun it was to mess around with your friends while creating an amazing routine. So look forward to that wonderful night in 16 weeks, but cherish the moments now.

—**Elise J.:** 9th year Jughead; Elite member; Officer; Advanced Club Assistant; Junior

CLUB SPOTLIGHT: Elite Club

“Life & liberty” are hallmarks of largest club

Borrowing from the series “American Ideals and JH” (see reverse), Elite has a **life** of its own and unparalleled **liberty**. Unlike any other day, Elite’s sparse leadership structure and grassroots involvement make it our least-structured club yet a perennial favorite of many of our 2.5 dozen teenagers. While **Coaches Tom and Paul** would not have wished on them the club’s chosen JJ18 theme (“High School Musical”), the members were so gung-ho that Tom led committee meetings to flesh out the routine. Perhaps because of this liberty to “own” the club (and a vetting process with higher technical standards this year), even our eight rookies have risen to the challenge to wisely use free time, find passing partners, and enjoy minimal rules with maximum freedom. Future Elites be aware: there are no assistants here, but Elite often represents the best of times for self-directed, friendship-seeking Jugheads.

2016 Summer Camps Preview

Our summer camps are an ideal place for youth to immerse in juggling and our JH culture! Camps run from **June 6-July 1**. A full week is optimal for beginners; most Jugheads choose punchcards. Look for mailed summer reg. forms with your March newsletter by **March 5** with coupons good through **April 30**. Qualified students: complete an Assistant App. by **March 25**.





JUGHEADS Community News

- **No-Club Reminder:** No Monday Rec. on Presidents' Day, 2/15; no Thurs. Rec. on Thurs., 3/24 (church conflict).
- **Yes-Club Reminder:** "Yes" Elite & Friday Rec. on 2/16 & 3/4, respectively, *despite* Edina Schools' release days. (We had 100% attendance at Mon. Rec. on 1/25, an Edina release day!)
- **MONDO Juggling & Unicycling Festival** is Feb. 12-14 at Concordia U. in St. Paul. A few spots remain to attend with our group on 2/13; request a form at club or a PDF via email.
- **Next Officer Meetings:** 2/6 @ the Opps'; 3/12 @ Dunbars'; 4/16 @ Rutzens'; 5/28 @ the Moettus/Hedberg home.
- **JJ18 Shows:** May 20 & 21; **Dress Reh.:** May 11 & 16.
- **JJ18 Specialty Act auditions** (solos/ensembles, *not* club routines): Tues., April 12 (evening) @ Wooddale Church-Edina Campus gym. Potential acts: fill out audition app. by Mar. 25.

Paul's Platform: "American Ideals and JUGHEADS: A 2016 Series"

Introduction. I love our country, its founding principles, and the unalienable rights it offers its citizens (via our Creator). I doubt if JH in its current form (including our unique founding) could even exist in another country, and I've consciously celebrated American ideals in many aspects of how this "American-made" company is run.

Part 2: Liberty. Most definitions of "liberty" contain the word "freedom" as a common synonym. It's one of the most hope-filled words of human existence! Our own Liberty Bell (A.D. 1751) has a quote from Leviticus 25:10 engraved on it: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." The original quote was Jehovah God speaking to the nation of Israel through Moses, and it's a poignant example that our American founding fathers' concept of liberty had roots far deeper and higher than mere temporal wisdom or cultural opinion.

Hand-in-hand with true liberty/freedom is personal responsibility. Liberty is not primarily a license for flippant autonomy and self-ish ambition; it's ultimately *self-control* to choose for oneself the best courses in life rather than have them dictated by a ruler. Benjamin Franklin wrote, "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom." Regarding self-government, JFK said it "requires qualities of self-denial and restraint," and famed journalist Paul Harvey said it "won't work without self-discipline." And one of the most iconic quotes in American history points to the precious nature of liberty as not mere freedom of choice, but rather freedom from tyrannical oppression:

"Give me liberty or give me death!" (Patrick Henry, March 23, 1775)

Here in the 21st century, I run JH by maximizing freedom and minimizing rules. Yes, we have daily meetings, warm-ups & standards; a Code of Conduct for traveling; and high expectations placed on the membership by our adult leaders and the SLT, but there remains a remarkable percentage of time at club & camp where kids have a lot of say over how they invest their time.

Part of this strategy comes from my career background in childcare, where I often saw the same core kids five days a week year-round, so we could "afford" to have long periods of time where productivity took a backseat to relationships and simply hanging out. (Even in those years, I routinely had 4th-6th graders who learned seven balls and five clubs long before I had any official standards!) Part of it comes from the knowledge that motivation to improve (or create a routine or initiate a conversation) has to come from within a member rather than constantly dictated by the leaders.

On the negative side, the more freedom one has (as a citizen and as a Jughead), the more possibility of wasting the freedom or even using it for licentiousness in whatever forms. On the positive side, maximum freedom means a person can truly explore the limits of personal possibilities with minimal (if any) constraints—except perhaps limited *time*.

Many parents have expressed to me that juggling skills are low on the list of priorities of why they support their kids as Jugheads. It's the personal character taught *through* the juggling, performing and relationships that is a prized element of involvement. So I remain patient with kids who hardly achieve records but every few weeks, but who feel safe, accepted, loved, and challenged to pursue excellence at their own pace and in their own timing. That's liberty, and it's one more reason our mosaic of membership is a microcosm of the diversity and melting pot that is the United States of America.

Developing Youth Through Juggling (and **Liberty**) Since 1994,

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