

Farewell to the Class of 2017



Central Top Ten (+) Seniors

Isaac Ash

Next year: Harvard University
-elitist memes
Favorite memories: Spending time with friends at extracurricular and AP Chemistry.
"Find a way to make to make boring stuff fun. Take lots of naps."



Ben Bushnell

Next year: Wesleyan University
-Classics and Geometry
At Central: Central Chamber Singers, Musicals, and Ultimate Frisbee
"Zag on 'em,"



Beatrix Fackel

Next Year: Luther College
- Nursing
Favorite memories: My favorite class was APUSH and meeting new people .All my teachers. "Always communicate with your teachers and ask questions."



Abigail Fritz

Next year: University of Minnesota Twin Cities
-Economics and Psychology
At Central: Mock Trial and Music "Take every opportunity. Don't hesitate to try new things."



Serena Jing

Next year: Stanford University
Biology and Engineering
At Central: Band and Orchestra, Speech, and Science Fair
"Get involved in the things you love."



Annika Peterson

Next year: St. Olaf College
-English and Education
At Central: Chamber Singers, Musicals, and Ultimate Frisbee
"Try lots of new things, find what you're passionate about and have fun."



Julia Loewenson

Next year: Macalester College
-Biology
At Central: Advanced Biology and Music
"Join clubs! I regret not joining any until junior year."



Isaac Morales

Next year: University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Engineering and French
"I will remember most of my four years of football playing for Central. This helped keep me connected to the school even while I was doing full time PSEO."

Bridget Moynihan

Next year: Tufts University
-school of engineering.
"I've really enjoyed all the great clubs here. I was in math team, Roots and Shoots, and orchestra. I would advise other kids to really get involved at Central. I loved taking Latin, physics and all the great math at Central."



June Ofstedal

Next year: Wellesley College
-International Relations, -Political Science and French
At Central: IB, French Immersion, International Affairs Club, Orchestra
"Make the most of the opportunities available at Central."



Benjamin Young

Next year: Case Western Reserve U
- Math and computer science
Favorite memory: my two trips to the FIRST robotics world championships with the robotics team. "My advice to underclassmen would be to avoid doing anything that you wouldn't otherwise do just because you think it will help you with getting into certain colleges. If you do, chances are your high school experience will be significantly worse, and it will probably look better anyway if you get deeply involved in a few activities as opposed to lightly involved in too many."



Seniors walk out of Central on June 2nd for the last time as students of Central

Last Will & Testament

- I, **Joe Tillotson**, do hereby will my Minuteman pride to my sister and the Class of 2018.
- I, **Alexa Carter**, do hereby leave Central High School to the Underclassmen.
- I, **Kourtney Hinton**, do hereby leave strength, encouragement, & the motivation to finish strong to Ayanna Hunter.
- I, **A'lonna Jefferson**, do hereby leave wise advice to Alana Sayers – keep your head up babygirl. Strive to do great things. Good things always return back.
- I, **Selena Tatum**, do hereby leave my strength and patience for Senior year to Great P.
- I, **Victoria Vang**, do hereby leave all my stress and baggy eyes to Malee Yang.
- I, **Arianna Williams**, do hereby leave all the littiness and school spirt to Sophomores and Juniors.
- I, **Emily Christenson**, do hereby leave my position as club presiden to Keondra Kelly.
- I, **Jack (Maya) Neathery**, do hereby leave my will to live to Gabe Muellner.
- I, **Molly Dadlez**, do hereby leave my APUSH notes and Quizzes and any good textbooks to my darling stand partner, Sophie Le Meur.
- I, **Faith Opakunle**, do hereby leave all of my lit snapchats on my memories to replay all my good times to Fosin Opakunle.
- I, **Ayanna Young**, do hereby leave my constant pessimism and ability to complain at any given moment to Tallese Graham.
- I, **Kate Rogers**, do hereby leave my advice to have a bunch of fun to the Freshmen.



Seniors honor "Outstanding Teachers and Staff" at Awards Night. Staff honored were: Matt Lijewski, Craig Karlen, Tracy Olson, Meria Williams, Andy Brigger, Elias Mamma, Matt Shipman, Steve Jents, and Rebecca Bauer

Teachers overwhelmed the students (16-9) in annual softball game



Sr. Class Council put on the annual Sr. Picnic in Griffin Stadium, June 1st

Griswold, Maxwell and Zamansky inducted to Hall of Fame

by Cassie DeVries

The Central Hall of Fame is a wall of honor that pays tribute to the great things alumni of Central achieve in this world.

On May 23rd three more people were inducted - The first to be inducted into the Hall of Fame this year was **Nellie Griswold Francis**. Born in Nashville, Tennessee, her family moved to St. Paul in 1883. Francis was the only African-American



graduate at Central in 1891. She was one of the eight students invited to give a speech at her graduation. Her graduation speech was centered around the problems of racism in the community, and was judged as the best by the *Pioneer Press*.

Following graduation, Nellie married William T. Francis in 1893. While Nellie worked as a stenographer, transcribing at the West Publishing company, she also taught at her church. In the mid-1910's Nellie Francis created the singing group, Folk Song Coterie, an exclusively African-American performing group. Years later Nellie was given credit for writing the 1920 Minnesota anti-lynching statute. Nellie Griswold Francis passed away in 1969, in her home of Nashville Tennessee.

Judge Stephen Maxwell was the second to be inducted this year, for his work as an attorney and activist. Maxwell was born in St. Paul in 1921, graduating from Central in 1939.

After graduating from college, he joined the Navy in 1942, later retiring as a Captain. In the 1950's he then became a legal counsel for St. Paul's NAACP. A decade later Maxwell helped prosecute T. Eugene Thompson in 1963. After running, though unsuccessfully, for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1966, Maxwell was added to the municipal court bench. Only a year after that he joined the Ramsey County District Court. Maxwell retired 19 years later, living in St. Paul with his wife before passing away.

Maxwell's wife and granddaughter accepted his award. His granddaughter said "Grandpa always believed change started within, and then came out".

The 3rd inductee graduated from Central in 1964. **Ron Zamansky** achieved a distinguished legal career in the Twin Cities, partnering at Doherty, Rumble & Butler. Zamansky worked with the Hennepin County Bar Association Ethics Committee, the National United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Cabinet, and the Jewish Community Foundation.

For the past 30 years Zamansky's Create a Memory Foundation has been providing social services for children. The program has provided more than 15,000 children a night of fun and games. Zamansky has been noted by the University of Minnesota Notable Alumni. He also received the Martin and Esther Capp Leadership Award as well as the 2010 Sidney Barrows Lifetime Commitment Award.

Central finishes 150th Celebration in Grand Old Day Parade



Grand Marshall Mackbee



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Last days, goodbye...

by Leilani Andrews

Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors: each memory you make, *hold on to that*. In these moments, we are so excited to leave that we don't think about the things we might miss. Look at the people who may have been your best friends once. Look at the people who are your best friends now. Think of all of the good times and all of the bad times and how you have grown from them. Look at the first place you saw or met someone who changed your life for the better. Think of the times you have had something make your heart race. Look at your teachers, find your favorite spot in the school. Think of a good memory that comes with each place you've walked. Do not be afraid to take risks and do not be afraid to be happy. Do not be afraid to be sorry and do not be afraid to be yourself. There will be things that you regret and there will be things that you are forever grateful for. You can think of high school as *those simple* four years, or as *four years of your life*.

Seniors... While we walk through these halls as students one last time, hold on to every good memory you have ever had because someday you may actually realize just how quickly everything passed by and you might miss it or want it back, even if you don't right now. Thank your teachers, and thank everyone who has ever made you feel happy. Each moment we have spent here has changed us in some way. These moments are now only days away from meeting the last, so try to admire each one. When you finally walk out of those front doors, down those steps... Listen to the sound of students talking and screaming from excitement and feel the wind push against you as you rush down those stairs to the next chapter of your life. Listen to the song you walk to. When you finally sit down in the seats before you walk across the stage for your diploma, look at the people next to you and remember everything around you. These are the things we take with us and remember forever, so remember them as the time you realized you made it and became the person you are - stronger than the person that walked in those front doors as a student for the first time four years ago.

Central, whether you are class of '17, '18, '19, or '20, be proud of yourself and what you have done and will do.

Because now, and in the near future, you have survived high school.

Congratulations class of 2017. Good luck

Thoughts of a Youth Exchange student at Central from Pakistan

"Year in life or a life in a year".....Just to experience that couple of words, I stepped in USA..... About two years ago I heard about the Youth Exchange and study program. I got an opportunity and I got selected in this exchange program, after a couple of tests and interviews, I finally got a letter that I achieved that opportunity to put a label of an exchange student 2017 with my name. My name is Areeba Aslam and I am a junior at Central High School in St. Paul MN. Basically, I am 17 year old girl from Pakistan on this program with a bunch of others exchange friends.

Being born as a younger one in middle class semi conservative family, I got most of the freedom, for being daddy's little girl. But I always wanted to step out of that girl circle and wanted to be something else. Sometimes our greatest passion evolves from the curiosity that arose in childhood, when you start exploring all the new things. I mostly play around with colors and art. From that I started stalking many incredible sceneries and then I got a passion to really visit those places. Visiting charm with your own eyes is just a relief.

As I got my letter, I was stuck in that moment and my siblings were saying "so.. you really are going for a year". That moment seemed like I really put a first step to my new life. I start planning all the stuff I had to do to go. We had a lot of conferences and meeting before departure in Pakistan. I was so excited about my placement that where I am gonna spend my glorious one year of my life in an American place. So the time arrived and just before two days of my departure from my Country's capital Islamabad, I got an email from one of our head of an exchange program that I got my placement in the city of St. Paul Minnesota. Truly before my placement I had no idea what actually Minnesota is. But after my placement, I searched about this place more and more, the weather, snow, atmosphere, popularity, famous places and many more things.

On my way, I flew from Pakistan to Dubai and stayed there for about 13 hours. Those were the precious moments when I was in the lobby with other bunch of exchange student from Pakistan and spend all the time in fun and roaming that amazing airport. After that, from Dubai we flew to Germany in about six hours and spent next seven hours in Germany's airport lobby, and did the same fun and roaming around the airport. Then finally time arrived and we were on the airplane for Washington D.C. On 4 August 2016 I with my friends arrived in Washington D.C, and the feeling I get was something new. I spend two days in D.C for my orientations.

I arrived to my new host family on 7 August 2016..... new... but my family. Being with them for this whole time was such an attachment that leaving them is kinda seems like horrible dream but in the same time I had really comfortable and excited feeling that I am gonna meet my family... my natural family.

In all the time I was I am changed, my language, my dressing, my behavior... all developed more and more by the time. In Pakistan our national language is Urdu, and people ask me where did you learn English... so English is our industrial and financial language from past 65 years.

I went through a lot of cultural shocks in America because of the differences, but now by spending a lot of time here, my stereotypes are cleared, my experience is increasing, my accent is becoming more American, because in Pakistan mostly British accent is used.

As living in USA.... I tried a lot and a lot of new things, which I could never do in my own country. New classes, new courses, clubs and many more things. As I live every single day of my life in USA it feels like I am living these moments which I always thought of in my dreams. My real life started when I steps out ogy comfort zone. I chose this year to be the first perfectional highlight of my life. It's not a trip or vacation, it's my second life, which I once thought of living. By having many friend from all around the world I left my heart in so many places. I am so satisfied with my decision of skipping my academic year of education Pakistan and came here that, I'd rather look back in my life and say "I can't believe I did it", instead of saying disappointedly,.. "I wish I did that..."

I read many books in the world, but the best stories we can ever find is in our passport. Packing your life in one suitcase is not easy as it seems, it takes a lot of courage to leave the things behind. It was scary to step alone outside from your country at this age, but the regret was more scary than this.

After couple of days I have to leave this life, this country, these people, school and my friends..... My situation is so complicated cause My exchange year is gonna over soon and I am gonna leave my family and friends to return to my family and friend. Yeahhh... it is complicated.

I had a blastic experience here and thanks to all who were with me. High was the main part of exchange year... I am gonna miss these hallways, lunches and talks, a lot more than anything.

Now... time to go... so Good bye, lots of love

Areeba Aslam

