

URSULA FRANKLIN ACADEMY

NEWSNOTES

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Model UN

By Maggie Hou

The Ursula Franklin Academy Model UN delegation has seen great gains in the past year. Model UN is a simulation of committees in the United Nations as well as key contemporary, historical, and fictitious organizations. Delegates are assigned countries or roles that they will represent, and through debate and research everyone works towards passing resolutions to ameliorate the issues at hand.

This year we are proud to earn the title of Best Large Delegation at both the 2015 Secondary School Interactive Crisis Simulation and the 2016 University of Toronto Model United Nations Conference. Our collective efforts have allowed us to push ourselves to new heights as we engage our public speaking and teamwork skills in this diplomatic process. We have truly come a long way over the past few years, growing from a group of impassioned students into a team of dedicated delegates.

Coming up in April, we will be attending the 2016 Southern Ontario Model United Nations Assembly (SOMA). The UFA delegation will be representing countries such as China and Belarus in the UN Security Council, World Health Organization, and many other committees. Certain students have also been selected to partake in the Crisis Committee simulating the Hannibal War. As our last conference, SOMA is gearing up to be an exciting finish to an exceptional year.

In the spirit of our school values, the UFA Model UN team does our best to help meet our team members' financial needs. We hold multiple fundraisers throughout the year in order to subsidize the cost of conference fees. Recently, we have been able to raise over \$1000 through our cookie dough sales campaign. Our success is only conceivable thanks to the generous members of our school and community who have contributed towards our events.

We also own our sincerest gratitude to the UFA administration and faculty for their continued support for our team. Above all, we thank our staff advisor, Chio, for guiding us and providing us with the skills and encouragement that have led us to where we are today. She has dedicated an incredible amount of time and effort into helping us become better versions of ourselves. Model UN has become akin to a second family, and I'm sure in the coming years it will only grow into an even more cohesive and remarkable unit.



U of T Model UN Conference 2016

Dates to Remember

March 21	Classes Resume
March 25	Good Friday Holiday
March 28	Easter Monday
March 29	School Council
March 31	EQAO Literacy Test
April 1	Grub Day
April 8	Boys' Night (Tentative)
April 14	UFA Idol
April 15	PA Day (No Classes)
April 22	Earth Day
April 25	Provincial Report Cards Distributed
April 26	School Council (6:00 p.m.)
April 26	The Teenaged Brain Workshop for Parents 7:00 p.m. (Library)
April 29	Grub Day
May 6	Girls' Night
May 10	Grade 8 Welcome Potluck
May 13	Environmental Alliance Assembly
May 20	Carnival
May 23	Victoria Day
May 27	Rainbow Day
May 31	Athletic Banquet
June 2 - 7	Modified Week
June 9	Academic Support Day
June 10 - 23	Exams
June 23	Prom
June 24	Review Day Exams and Final Marks
June 29	Graduation

Franklin Athletic Association - FAA

By Marie Sherman, FAA President



Our most recent event was the Inside Ride, an indoor cycling event to raise money for childhood cancer which was held on Friday, February 26. Thanks to the help of the event coordinator, Brendan Plymale, the FAA execs and a team of student volunteers, it was a great success. UFA exceeded our goal of \$12,000 and raised a total of \$20,380! This means that over the course of our total of eight Inside Ride events we have raised \$83,780. Prizes were awarded to a variety of top teams. Top team mileage went to Team 7 (Ben Barcados, Thomas Kidd, John Black) who rode 28.3 km. Best team costume was Netflix and Chill (Alicia Demaele, Natalie Lewis, Yuna Kim, Kush Patel, Ryan Gu and Zakaria Issa). Best team spirit was X o the Beach (Ben Winters, Ben Eyre, Conor Plymale, Lucas Antoniazzi, Andrew Dybka, Sam Worrod). Best team fundraiser was Just Maui'ed (Oskar Dunklee, Stella Baigent, Hunter Springing, Eleanor York, Ginger Weis Down, Jonathan Kidd). The top female fundraiser was Sophia Sharp and the top male fundraiser was Oskare Dunklee. Big thanks to everyone who contributed to this event!

The FAA is in the midst of rehearsing for our next big event. UFA idol, a talent show is coming up on April 14. There is quite a wide range of acts including dancing, yo-yo tricks, magic, music and rubik's cube! Parents and guests are welcome to join us for this performance in the auditorium at 11:12.

Athletic Banquet and Intramurals



Our Athletic Banquet this year will be held at King's Banquet Hall on Tuesday, May 31. All student athletes can pick their tickets at the beginning of May (they have already paid for it with their athletic fee).

Tickets will go on sale for the rest of the student body at this time as well.

Ball Hockey intramurals were held from the end of November until January. The winning team was B Dizzle Inc (Sebastian Vella, Jackson Jones, Quinn Boswell, Sophia Zambonelli, Maya Mittlestaedt, Spencer Lortz and Bremner Churchill). Volleyball intramural finals are being held this week. After March Break there will be basketball, then European handball intramurals.



Spring Sports Update



The Badminton team is well underway already competing in 3 games.

The team's current record is 1 win and 2 losses, with our last game before March break scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on March 9th versus Forest Hill.

The Ultimate tryouts have finished and the list was posted this week.



Girls' Slo-pitch and Boys' Baseball will have interest meetings after March Break.

Girls' Soccer will make their cuts after Unit 5 Wednesday sessions are over.



UFA Ball Hockey is back and will be attending an OBHA tournament in May. Tryouts will start after the March Break.

Swim Team

Congratulations to the swim team for a successful season! Over forty swimmers worked hard to improve their strokes during Wednesday sessions and practices that took place both after and before school! The following are events in which Ursula Franklin's swim team member's placed top three:

Regional Finals at the Etobicoke Olympium

Gold: Junior Girls 100m Free Relay (Bianca Alikalfic, Jay Lewis, Mad-die Romain, and Sophia Tonks); Gold: Junior Boys 100m Free Relay (Quinten Beelik, Valentino Cheng, Yaro Markin, and Spencer Qu)

Qu); Silver: 50m Junior Girls Backstroke (Isabel Lacy); Bronze: 50m Junior Girls Butterfly (Bronwyn Engell); Bronze: 50m Junior Boys Butterfly (Valentino Cheng); Bronze: Junior Boys 200m Free Relay (Quinten Beelik, Valentino Cheng, Yaro Markin, and Spencer Qu); Bronze: Senior Boys 200m Medley Relay (James Ketchen, Brendan Plymale, Jack Spears, and Misha Zharov).

District Finals at the Pam Am Swim Centre in Markham-

Bronze: 50m Junior Girls Backstroke (Isabel Lacy)

Provincial Finals in Windsor

Bianca Alikalfic, Bronwyn Engell, Jay Lewis, Sophia Tonks, and Taisia Vinnikova competed at OFSAA for the Junior Girls 200m Free Relay AND 200m Medley Relay events and placed 15th and 9th respectively in the province! Isabel Lacy also competed in the 50m Junior Girls Backstroke event at OFSAA and is now ranked 15th in the province! We are very proud of our OFSAA swimmers!



Health and Physical Education Updates



This winter has been very busy in the Health and Physical Education department. The Grade 12 Kinesiology class attended the ThinkFirst Injury Prevention Strategy for Youth (TIPSY) program at St. Michael's Hospital. This program is an injury prevention program that included a tour of the trauma resuscitation room in the Emergency Department, talks by nurses, Toronto Police Services, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and a trauma survivor who had sustained a brain injury. The Grade 11 Physical Education students visited Sunnybrook Hospital to take part in their Preventing Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth (PARTY) program. Students took part in a comprehensive tour of the Sunnybrook facility, including the Emergency Room and the Intensive Care Unit, followed by intense and personal presentations by police, a paramedic and an emergency room nurse. Our group then visited the Lyndhurst Rehabilitation Centre to listen to the riveting personal stories of those undergoing a lifelong rehabilitation process.

This past month, all physical education students took part in activities-based consent workshops that were facilitated by Effy Min of *Bad Subject*. Effy has run workshops for our staff and our students at our Upstream Conference and she and her facilitators did a wonderful job delivering these workshops.



Just this week, Fit Spirit "Fit Club" was launched for the Grade 9 Girls' physical education classes. Fit Spirit is a foundation that provides opportunities for teenage girls to get active and have fun with friends. The girls will have the introduction launch, a nutritionist visit and be taught a simple "fun" dance by a professional dancer. After 8-10 weeks of training our girls will run a 5 Km or 10 km run in Downsview Park on May 17th. This is a wonderful and empowering program that our UFA girls loved last year and we are excited to be taking part again this year.

Environmental Alliance

Clean up the world The EA is working toward Platinum recertification this year. In the process, some of the initiatives of the year have been a very successful Battery Drive through home-room classes in conjunction with a Battery Bake Sale. Currently, we are beginning to implement our Green Bin waste program (piloting it with the staff first), and planning our May Eco Assembly on the theme of Water. Our Wednesday sessions continue to be dynamic places where we bring together a variety of ecological interests and initiatives.



Student Council

Student Council is the elected representative body for students at UFA, and as such we been busy with a number of projects. We held a successful Legacy Assembly that featured an exploration of the Syrian Refugee Crisis, with guests Amal Kanafani and Loly Rico. For the first time in three years UFA will be holding a semi formal dance this March 22nd at Lula Lounge. Additionally, we are planning another great Carnival, along with some charity initiatives. Student Council Executives meet every Tuesday at lunch, and the House meets every Wednesday morning. In these spaces, we field concerns and ideas from the wider student population, and liaise with our staff representative, with the goal of fostering healthy democratic participation in school life.



A New PALS Season Underway

PALS are sad to bid farewell to our graduating members (Lucas Antoniazzi, Maggie Hou, Teighan Mittal-Mercer, Shayla Perko, and Conor Plymale) and thrilled to be welcoming our new members (Gigi LaRose, Thomass Muir, Cole Parry, Asha Trotz-Motayne, and Sage Worrod).

Coordinators Lauren MacDonald, Kai Trotz-Motayne, and Lily Zhang have begun work on preparing for next year's Grade Nine Retreat.



Sage Worrod and Archie Burton Smith have the task of organizing our May New-Family Potluck; Eli Azevedo and Ali Shafshak will be coordinating our t-shirts and early outings; Ashley Ferreira and Claire Radner will be in charge of welcoming grade nines on the first day of school in September; Thomass and Sarah McFarlan will run the Fall Lunchtime Program for new students; and Gigi and Wintana Paulos will be heading up the student portion of our November Open House.



As for fundraising, Cole and Asha will manage the October bake sale, and they have the challenging task of participating in the creation and coordination of a brand-new event next spring that will involve our whole community. Stay tuned for details!

Girls' Night



Girls' Night is fast approaching and students have already begun planning for this year's event on Friday May 6th! Girls' Night is an event unique to UFA, which has been successfully held for the past 16 years. It is a night where all girls are invited to sleep over at the school to attend educational sessions focusing on empowerment and self-esteem. Girls' Night also promotes community, not just in the new friendships made between the participants, but also because it is an evening that is organized and facilitated by students for students.

As all of our costs – facilities, materials and payment for speakers – are covered through fundraising and donations, we are reaching out to parents in the hopes that you might be able to contribute to our event.

Girls' Night is an important evening and we hope that you can be a part of it. Please let us know if you have anything that you can donate.



Success Story!

UFA's Book Drive for The Children's Book Bank!

By Sofia, Skylar and Tyrese:



Congratulations! Over the past two weeks our community has donated more than 600 books for the Children's Book Bank! Thanks to everyone from UFA's Youth for Youth Social Action Committee and the Environmental Alliance. The [Children's Book Bank](#), is a registered Toronto charity that provides books to low income and high need families across Toronto. Their location in Regent Park offers books to children and school groups at no charge in an effort to put books in the hands of kids who may need them the most! Their mission reaches early learning centres and children's programs all across the city.



Youth 4 Youth Bake Sale

On Thursday March 3rd 2016, the Youth 4 Youth committee organized a bake sale to raise money and awareness for homeless youth here in Toronto. We raised over \$160!!! All of the proceeds that we raised went to an organization called Eva's Initiative. This organization will use the donations to give Toronto's street youth a fresh start.



From Student Services

Summer School and E-Learning – New Credits



Students have the opportunity to take new credits in the summer, either by way of traditional face-to-face summer school classes in July (July 5-July 29), or through E-Learning courses offered in July and in August. Sign-ups for these experiences will begin in late April or early May, but E-Learning summer school registration may open as early as March 29. Please check the TDSB website for details as they become available.

It should be noted that UFA does not generally endorse and support the taking of courses over the summer unless it is strictly necessary, and in some cases, a guidance counsellor will call home to speak to a parent before approving a course request. We encourage students to engage in other enriching experiences in the summer, such as volunteering, part-time work, socializing, travel, reading, and good, old-fashioned relaxing. We want our students to return to school in September rested and refreshed!

Summer School – Remedial Credits

If your child fails a course, there may be the possibility of taking remedial summer school. The grade will need to be above a 35%, and the course a compulsory one that is offered as a remedial credit (i.e., only a half-day experience, not a full-day). If this situation arises, you will receive a call from the school on Monday, June 27th, and be told to come in to the school to register your child for summer school.

If you have questions about remedial summer school ahead of time, please don't hesitate to contact your child's guidance counsellor for further information:

Heather Strupat, Grade 9 Students (ext. 20135)

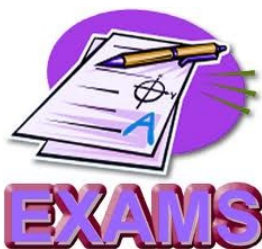
Anna Pesovar, Grades 10-12 with Surnames A-L (ext. 20041)

Ali Callegarini, Grades 10-12 with Surnames M-Z (ext. 20136)

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

The Literacy Test (OSSLT) will take place for all grade tens (and any older students who have not yet passed the test) on the morning of March 31 at 8:30 a.m. All other students will have the morning off and must not arrive to school until the end of lunch. Families of students writing the OSSLT should have received a letter home about the details of the morning, and students who receive accommodations as part of being on an IEP have had a letter mailed home. We wish all our students good luck!

Final Exams in June



Final exams run from Friday, June 10, until Thursday, June 23rd. Families are kindly reminded not to schedule family holidays or other commitments during this time, as exams cannot be rescheduled.

Students are welcome to come in on Thursday, June 9th – “Academic Support Day” – for last-minute extra help from their teachers. On Friday, June 24th, students are invited back to see their teachers and find out how they did on their exams. Marks will not be final, however, until teachers have attended promotion meetings.



URSULA FRANKLIN ACADEMY

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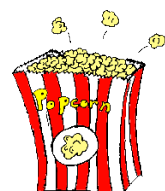
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STUDENTS AGAINST SEXUAL STEREOTYPING



In order to escape the frigid February temperatures, SASS hosted "SASS Cinemas" every Wednesday at lunch. Students enjoyed some movie watching fun and pop-corn! Stay tuned for another SASS Cinemas event this spring!



From the Main Office

Helpful Hint: Put your child's name on the label in their uniform. We will make sure they get it back if they lose it!



Youth 4 Youth Action Committee

A Big THANK YOU from our Syrian Refugee Family



This winter our UFA community contributed over 1000 clothing items and toiletries towards newly arrived refugees and homeless youth as part of a local and



global awareness and fundraising campaign on homelessness. These items were delivered to various places in the city including Eva's Initiatives for homeless youth and the Toronto West Refugee Collective (TWRC).



The newly arrived Syrian refugee family sponsored by TWRC would like to send a very big thank-you to all of us for your generosity. An entire family of 6 was outfitted for winter and summer from our donations!



Graduation



Save the Date!

June 29, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Graduates will receive more information regarding graduation on April 22nd at the Graduation Assembly, including community hours, awards, gowns, and purchase of graduation caps. There is no limit to the number of guests a student can invite. All are welcome!

