

Terra Firma

A Student Magazine

Vol. II 2021-2022



The Year of Two Tours
The Return of Grand Tour
Pages 4-5



PROVIDENCE
CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



PROVIDENCE

CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Terra Firma, solid ground, represents a metaphor for the vision and mission of Providence. We seek to teach and train young men and women to reach their highest potential in truth and character, to cultivate minds “well-made” not simply “well-filled.” From this solid foundation, rooted in Scripture, students prepare to go forth in service to God and man.

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FROM THE HEADMASTER

Commencement Address to the Class of 2022

Many years ago, when our grammar principal was part-time, I had the privilege of handling grammar discipline in her absence. I have lots of great stories, and one in particular stands out from pre-k circa 2008. On this day a little cherub was sent down for hitting a fellow student...in the head. Like a good police interrogator, my goal was to get the student talking. When I inquired as to why the student chose to hit a peer, the answer was something I will never forget. “Well,” said the student, “I just got in that hitting mood.” That made, of course, for a fascinating conversation. Both students involved in the incident, as you probably have surmised, are now graduating and sitting to my left. It’s been a wonderful fourteen years for both the perpetrator – Becca – and the victim – Jeffrey.

In Acts 17, the Apostle Paul addresses a crowd at the base of the Acropolis in Athens. The Acropolis literally means “high city” – so named because those were the places where people could be nearest to their deities, where their altars of worship were in closest proximity to the heavens. In this famous Mars Hill speech, Paul commends the Athenians for their religiosity, pointing even to their statue to “the unknown god.” Paul’s speech begins with God the Creator of all, continues with God the sustainer of all, and concludes with God the judge of all. It was not a safe message to a people who called Paul a babbler and who were always on the lookout for the next new thing.

After pointing to their own poets and pagan philosophies, Paul says this: “What you worship as unknown this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, does not live in shrines made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all men life and breath and everything.” Paul was never afraid to take risks for the gospel. He knew the truth, and without fear proclaimed it even when he knew some would mock, which even in this case they did.

You, seniors, are like Paul; you are different. You are set apart - this is what is meant by the biblical word, sacred. Knowing what you know, believing what you believe, you are called by God to be different from the world, from those who search for meaning in all the wrong places looking for that next new thing. Our belief in the good news changes how we think as we renew our minds. As you have learned at Providence, these views conflict with the wisdom of the world in nearly every area of life.

- Your definition of truth is different.
- Your concept of vocation is different.
- Your paradigm for the good life is different.
- Your view of suffering and trials is different.
- Your understanding of morality is different.
- Your view of marriage is different.
- Even your philosophy of education and grades, as several of you have pointed out, is different.

But here’s the key question: *Why* are these things different? It’s for the same reason Paul gave in his speech to the Athenians. Because Christ was resurrected from the dead. This is the basis of our faith, our reason for the hope that lies within us, the essential Truth that guides and shapes who we are. It’s the reason we think and act differently. As Paul says elsewhere, if Christ did not rise from the dead, we are of all people to be pitied, for we are still dead in our sins.

Carl Trueman writes in his book, *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*, “The virtuous person is the one whose instincts, whose sentimental or emotional responses to particular situations, are correctly attuned. No law can make men or women moral if their sentiments are not properly ordered.”

C.S. Lewis writes similarly in *The Abolition of Man*. Lamenting an education that fails to include robust moral training, Lewis writes “In a sort of ghastly simplicity we remove the organ and demand the function. We make men without chests and expect of them virtue and enterprise. We laugh at honor and are shocked to find traitors in our midst. We castrate and bid the geldings be fruitful.”

Training in moral virtue is paramount. Not for its newness, nor its practicality. A robust education includes forming the right habits as we seek to embody virtues such as kindness, gratitude, respect, diligence, and courage. Not so we can win friends and influence people, not because we look good in the eyes of the world, but because God’s Word instructs us to do so as we pursue Christlikeness.

Like the Athenians in Paul’s day, people today search for idols, always on the lookout for the next new thing. The writer of Ecclesiastes says that there is nothing new under the sun, and we read elsewhere that while the grass withers and the flowers fade, the Word of our God shall stand forever. So be different because you are God’s, you are Christ’s, you are redeemed and freed to live as such. It’s been a privilege to have played a small part in that habit formation, in this cultivation of wisdom and virtue.

Mr. Ryan Evans
Headmaster

THE YEAR OF TWO TOURS

Kalinn Hilt

Every summer after school gets out, the incoming senior class goes on a two-week trip to Europe called Grand Tour, where they get to visit the places that they have learned about since kindergarten, from Mars Hill in Athens to C.S. Lewis's house in Oxford. The class of 2022 was unable to go last summer due to COVID restrictions, so they added an extra week to their spring break and flew to Greece, Italy, and England.

Their favorite part in Athens was when they stepped off the train and were immediately immersed in the bustling crowd of vendors and tourists with a beautiful view of the Acropolis. They also enjoyed getting lost because of their tour guide, Mr. Worley. After Athens, the Seniors hopped over to Rome, where they indulged in abundant amounts of gelato. Some of their favorite sites were the Colosseum and the monument of Victor Emmanuel II. They visited the Uffizi in Florence and saw countless pieces of art, and their favorite memory is when Aidan Ely got locked out of his hotel room and had to sleep outside on a lawn chair overnight.

Things took a turn for the worse when their luggage was left behind in the Florence airport and they had to buy new clothes in London, but they did not let a minor inconvenience like that stop them from enjoying the British Museum, Buckingham Palace, and C.S. Lewis's home. They loved seeing *Phantom of the Opera* and watching the tulips bloom at the Hampton Court Palace gardens.

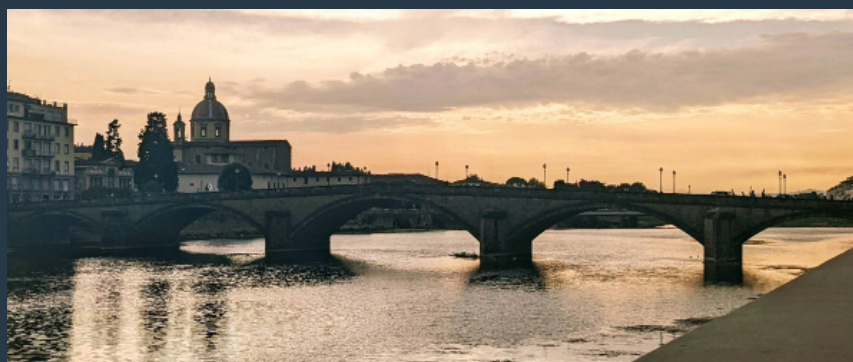
Now that they are home, they are each preparing for their next great adventure. Jackson Baron, Paige Johnson, and Ethan Smith will be heading to Bob Jones University in the fall, and Jeffrey Evans and Jessica Olson are attending The Master's University. Rebecca Arneson is going to New Saint Andrew's College, Rose Brokaw to Wentworth Institute of Technology, and Sydney Bredenberg to Grove City College. Keith Larkin will be at Regent University, JD Olson at Colorado Christian University, Marc Dumaoal at Whitworth University, and Aidan Ely at the University of Massachusetts Boston.



With the lifting of restrictions throughout Europe, that also meant that the incoming senior class was able to go on their Grand Tour as planned. All eleven students were able to attend and they took a very similar tour as the outgoing seniors, ranging from Greece to Italy to England. We are especially grateful for the leadership of Mr. Worley, who led both tours in the span of just a few months while also finishing up his regular teaching duties as the school year came to a close.



On the tour, students see art, architecture, and historically significant sites as a means of adding important context to the learning they have been doing for a number of years. It is also meant to help draw the incoming senior class together into a meaningful unity as they step into greater positions of leadership in their senior year.



JOGATHON 2022

Gabriella Nursalim

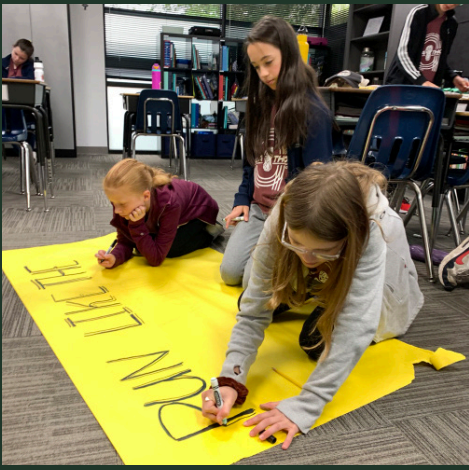


On Friday, May 20th, Bob the Builder befriended pirates, ninjas, and walking, talking watermelons. Together, they spread good cheer with high fives and human tunnels. However, without the Providence Annual 2022 Jogathon, this grand celebration would never have happened.

Each year, Providence hosts the Jogathon fundraising event. In the weeks leading up to it, generous friends and families donate to students in grades Pre-K to sixth. These students come energized to the Jogathon and run the most laps possible, especially if sponsors chose to donate per lap. Meanwhile, many 7th and 8th graders jog alongside some of the youngest runners while many high schoolers, dressed in their class themes, shuttle exhausted runners around the field in decorated wagons. These little runners get to meet their older peers and enjoy the ride while their older peers get to serve their younger peers and valiantly attempt to run as fast as their legs will let them. When the running is over, the students anxiously count their lap bracelets and then celebrate with a snack.

Personally, I loved watching adults and students alike blow bubbles through the air while our perseverant runners popped bubble after bubble. The eighth graders on snack duty also presented one of the most creative snack displays yet, complete with snack bar pyramids and skyscrapers. Our high schoolers can testify they too received a workout offering Bob the Builder, pirate, ninja, and watermelon themed rides this year. All in all, the service was worth the struggle because students, like first grader Cassie Como, shared that they especially loved the rides (the pirate one particularly) and look forward to decorating their own wagons one day.

With money raised for the school and fun had by parents and students alike, the 2022 Jogathon ended a success. But beyond its fundraising success, it built up the Providence community, spreading Christian joy and encouragement to all ages alike.



PROVIDENCE SPORTS

Alex Bravo-Jump & Blake Tibbetts



This year was a successful year for Providence sports. In the winter season, our basketball team did the best it has ever done, ending with a 6-6 record for the regular season, and we even made it to the playoffs, where our record was 1-2! The leading senior, JD Olson, who made second team all-state described the season as, “A great environment - it was a great season and experience.”

In addition to the high school team, we also had basketball teams for both middle school boys and girls. The middle school boys were able to pull out six victories in their season after several grueling practices after school. Both girls and boys practiced in the gym at Overlake church but were also able to compete there as well. The middle school girls were juggernauts, beating their opponents five times, and on one occasion beating the other team by 45 points.





When spring came around, we also had a lacrosse team for the first time since 2018. Coach Matthew Morris led the drive to reassemble the lacrosse team, which was last active when he was a student at Providence. We hope to continue the program and continue to improve next year. Senior Ethan Smith said, “It was a fun season, a lot of character building and perseverance, and overall an entertaining year.”



Providence also participated in Track & Field this spring. We had both high school and middle school Track and Field teams, with ten and thirty-three students respectively. Every day after school, our athletes would train to increase their strength, speed, and endurance in preparation for their meets. In those track meets, we observed highschoolers setting records; for example: Dexter Kaufman set new school records in both the 400 and 100 meter dashes, Jackson Baron shocked us with his improvement in long jump, breaking his personal best four times, and Ella Walsh qualified for Tri-District in Hurdles, having not trained in this event in other meets. Along with Ella, both Dexter and Jackson qualified for Tri-District with various events. As for the middle school, their large size allowed them to compete in many sports with excellence, in total placing top five in events 23 times throughout three track meets. Titus Marshall was able to place top five in all meets, Judah MacGillivray amazed the crowd with his shot put and discus performance, and the 4x100m and 4x200 teams saw great success in their races.



Sports and Providence teach and build character so that we can use the gifts and abilities God gave us to glorify Him. It is not all about winning, but rather about glorifying Him and using the talents He gave us to grow in character.

The Return of the Buddy System

Maddie Ness



Part of the overall mission of Providence is to develop caring individuals who treat all people with respect and kindness. The buddy system greatly helps towards the accomplishment of this goal by helping to create meaningful relationships between grammar and secondary students. At the beginning of the year, each grammar student receives a secondary buddy. Students like Theo Ness had the fun chance to join their secondary buddies for lunch throughout the year. “It was really fun,” Theo recounts, “We talked a lot about sports and video games. I learned that my buddy Aiden likes to play *Zelda Breath of the Wild* like me.” Recently, both the 10th and the 1st grade classes went on a fun joint field trip to the zoo! Between marveling at giraffes and watching the underwater exploits of polar bears, students enjoyed discovering new things about each other. Through the buddy system, younger students receive good, godly examples to learn from which will remain with them their entire lives. On the flip side, the buddy system helps older students gain a clearer sense of purpose in the Providence community. All in all, the buddy system is a win-win for all ages as students can make a difference for others as part of our wider school culture.



BE OUR GUEST

Providence Classical Christian School Presents: *Beauty and the Beast*

Elizabeth Godavarthi



During this school year, our drama program put on the famous Broadway musical *Beauty and the Beast*. After a cast of eight people and a show put on in the Great Hall last year, we came back with the biggest cast we have ever had consisting of 60 people from grades 6-12. On the same note, we sold out all four of our shows for the first time in Providence history.

This drama season was a four month period of bonding, laughter, hard work, and dedication. We spent four weeks learning the music, four weeks learning the choreography from the talented Mrs. Letsche, and eight weeks putting it all together. This show took an immense amount of effort and time from not only the students, but also the staff. We thank Mrs. Hilt, Mrs. Letsche, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lambricht, Mrs. Worley, and Jessica Olson for their extreme devotion to make this show the best it could be.

Speaking from experience, drama gives students the opportunity to work closely with teachers, make new friendships, gain appreciation for art and music, and grow closer to friends. While spending hours together after school everyday, we were able to learn new things about each other and make new friendships that lasted even when drama was over. If you are considering joining drama next year, I can guarantee that you will not regret it.





SECONDARY PROTOCOL

George Owen & Dexter Kaufman



Each year Providence high schoolers take part in Protocol, an event designed to build up godly men and women by giving them an opportunity to demonstrate their manners. High school students enjoyed a fun night of laughter, food and meaningful conversation. The series of classes leading up to the events taught students to act with poise and proper etiquette. The formal setting provided an opportunity to exemplify godly conduct. 9th and 10th graders participated in semi-formal Protocol while 11th and 12th had formal Protocol. The upperclassmen took a road trip for the second year in a row to Coeur d'Alene Resort.

The Semi-Formal Protocol was held at Anthony's, in Edmonds. Students got to experience fine dining in beautiful settings, learning to be competent and respectful men and women in a formal setting. The protocol event also included parent chaperones, who enjoyed helping students grow in social grace. Beyond that, the students also got to learn to honor adults in respectful conversation.

As a part of Formal Protocol, the junior and senior gentlemen each accompanied a girl for the evening. The guys practiced honoring and respecting women in a formal context, while the girls practiced following the lead of their escorts in a formal setting. On the way back from Coeur d'Alene, the juniors and seniors spent an afternoon in Spokane, eating lunch at the Old Spaghetti Factory followed by a long walk through Riverfront Park. Junior Liz Godavarthi said "Protocol gave me the opportunity to grow closer to my classmates; I will cherish those memories forever." Protocol provided a unique and effective opportunity to mold godly men and women in the distinct way each gender is meant to express the image of God.



SPELLING BEE & SPEECH MEET

Sophie Day & Elizabeth Duciuc



On February 11, Providence grammar students competed in the grammar school spelling bee. Every student first competed in a class spelling bee, which produced one winner in each class. Megan Pop and Theo Antoci (1st), Zoe Djajadi (2nd), Lydia Nichols (3rd), Mekayla Cannon (4th), Julia Cressey and Kristiana Benn (5th), Gabriel Kurniawan (6th). These students advanced to the final competition. Julia Cressey, a fifth grade student, was the winner overall, and sixth grade student Gabriel Kurniawan was the runner-up.



In addition to the spelling bee, Providence also held its annual speech meet for grades 1-6. Students are given the option to memorize and recite a poem, fable, Bible passage, or historic oration. These performances are practiced in front of classmates, parents, and teachers before being evaluated by judges based on expression, volume, and diction.

This year's top scorers were Scout Taylor, Nora Nichols, Anna Reeve, Eva Ryan (1st), Arden Reph, Cyrus Hatcher, Kira Zhuravlev (2nd), Liddy Nichols, Michaela Dale, Cara Wilson (3rd), Faith Kwakye, Kaylin Saul, Ruby Sykes (4th), Kamden Russel, Duncan Ness, Vittoria Celi DeVer, Marguerite Elliot, Willem Sandeno, Mateo Badillo (5th), and Clara Day, Annika Dale, and Lee Dennis (6th).

2022 ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION

Sofia Ness & Twilight Lambright



This year's annual benefit auction was yet another smashing success! The theme this year, 'Awaken Wonder,' was beautifully organized by the unbelievable Mrs. Cory Marshall and Mrs. Stacey Sykes. The 340 auction guests enjoyed a woodwind quintet throughout the night with the entertainment of auctioneer, John Curley.

The night was filled with many events led by the auctioneer with the assistance of the Providence juniors and seniors. There were two items—the Cherian's Slavic feast and the Morris' famous Thai dinner— that tied for the highest bid item of the night at a whopping \$4,400 - a record for sure! Another record was broken by the House Projects, which collectively brought in \$12,300!

By far one of the most exciting parts of the night was the final amount of money that was given to financial aid at a tremendous \$265,000! To close the event, Mr. Evans gave a beautiful heartfelt speech to Mrs. Cory Marshall in gratitude for her incredible hand in the school events throughout the years. This was, sadly, her last auction with Providence, but her coordination will always be remembered, and the beautiful work she did with the auctions will be missed.



PROVIDENCE AWARDS

3rd Trimester 2021-2022

GRAMMAR A HONOR ROLL

Ruth Bittner	Evelyn Nichols	McKay Marshall
Michaela Dale	Mekayla Cannon	Hannah Poole
Liddy Nichols	Jett Morine	Duncan Ness
Eliana Bouckennooghe	Zachary Letsche	Lyla Belle
Aiden Phan	Luke Kessens	Christof Schultz
Otto Tasche	Jack Hansen	Noah Smith
Anna Franklin	Elly Wilson	Bella Wier
Chloe Drake	Julia Cressey	Kyle Kessens
Ransom Butaud	Willem Sandeno	Lael Joshua Evangelista
Cara Wilson	Verona Bontrager	Annika Dale
Gabriella Biwott	Fia Powers	Isaac Powers
Ashleigh Poole	Kamden Russell	Lucas Kim
Mele Elliott	Addie Millett	Ethan Bredenberg
Olivia Koo	Mateo Badillo	Esther Franklin
Olivia Padineant	Marguerite Elliott	Gabriel Kurniawan
Jacob Antony		

GRAMMAR AB HONOR ROLL

Molly Owen	RJ Owens	Calvin Widjaja
Annah-Sophia Evangelista	Faith Kwakye	Emma Badillo
Josephine Drake	Sarah Duciuc	Elam Bouckennooghe
Gillian Enwiya	Gracie Willett	Helen Owen
Theo Ness	Ruby Sykes	Hanneli Aboul Hosn
Addley Cherian	Maximus Kent	Clara Day
Peter Day	Manoah Deu	
Olivia Parsons	Jedidiah Moore	
Caitlin Daniels	Norah LaPine	
Emma Marquez	Stephen Zuo	
Olivia Kading	Amelia Koo	
Jayden Ishmael	Estella Hall	
Kaylin Saul	Natalie Moore	
Brooke Hwaung	German Gaievski	
Hannah Schwerin	Mathew Kim	

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Kate Bredenberg	David Knudsen	Gabriella Nursalim
Jane Kelley	Sofia Ness	Cody Tibbetts
Lillian LaPine	Maddie Smith	Sydney Bredenberg
Judah MacGillivray	Aaron Joseph Langub	Rose Brokaw
Elijah Parsons	Hollis Bontrager	Jeffrey Evans
Ben Smith	Josiah Hansen	Keith Larkin
Elias Poole	Luke Marshall	Jessica Olson
Benjamin Letsche	Ella Walsh	Paige Johnson
Hala Aboul Hosn	Owen Kirkman	Jackson Baron
Catherine Benn	Nathan Kim	Marc Dumaoal
Alec Giacometti	AeraBella Fitzgerald	Ethan Smith
Sean Nursalim	Kalinn Hilt	
Cecilia Owen	Dexter Kaufman	
Peter Bredenberg	Andrew Letsche	
Bridget Kelley	Madeline Ness	

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Samantha Welch	Elizabeth Duciuc
Nathaniel Millett	Odessa Kaufman
Blake Cressey	Twilight Lambricht
Elizabeth Russ	Beau Kowalick
Esmee Deu	Evan Graham
Micah Wilson	Ashley Knudsen
Fiona Stelman	Elizabeth Godavarthi
Hayley Belle	George Owen
Von Sandeno	Rebecca Arneson
Sydney Owens	JD Olson
Brooke Byrum	
Opal Bontrager	
Calvin Moore	
Sophia Sykes	
Blake Tibbetts	

PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Sarah Knudsen	Kylea Small
Joseph Reeve	Austin Pierce
Abigail Causey	Adeo Lambricht
Nakia Brunswick	Matthew Reeve
Rachel Duciuc	
Joshua Saul	
Casey Small	
Aidan Pierce	
Gilead Bouckennooghe	
Geneva Kowalick	
Sophie Day	
Joshua Oftedal	
Micah Willett	
Nathan Welch	
James Reeve	

Summa Cum Laude: 3.90-4.0 GPA, Magna Cum Laude: 3.70-3.89 GPA, Principal's List: 3.30-3.69 GPA

SECONDARY AWARDS

Yearbook Award: Kalinn Hilt

Music Award: Rebecca Arneson

Art Award: Paige Johnson

Drama Awards:

- Best Actor: Marc Dumaoal
- Best Actress: Ashley Knudsen
- Distinguished Service: Jessica Olson
- Rookie of the Year: Andrew Letsche
- Middle School Drama Award: Jane Kelley

Outstanding Rhetorician: Marc Dumaoal

National Latin Exam 'Gold Medal' Award:

- Blake Cressey
- Lucas Kim

Cliff Gillies Athletics Awards:

- Jackson Baron
- Ethan Smith
- Paige Johnson

Athlete of the Year: Jeffrey Evans

Secondary Character Awards (nominated by fellow students):

- Von Sandeno
- Maddie Smith
- Josiah Hansen
- Andrew Letsche
- Jackson Baron
- Jessica Olson

Faculty Awards:

- Grades 7-8: Kate Bredenberg
- Grades 9-10: Josiah Hansen
- Grades 11-12: Paige Johnson



Congratulations to Drew French, who completed 11 years at Providence and was granted an honorary graduation certificate at our year-end secondary awards assembly. Drew is marked by his joyfulness, his diligence, and his unwavering patience. He participated in multiple activities over the years, ranging from the classroom to athletics to serving on our facilities team. He will be missed by students and faculty!

STUDENT ART



Matthew
Reeve



David
Knudsen



Ashley
Knudsen

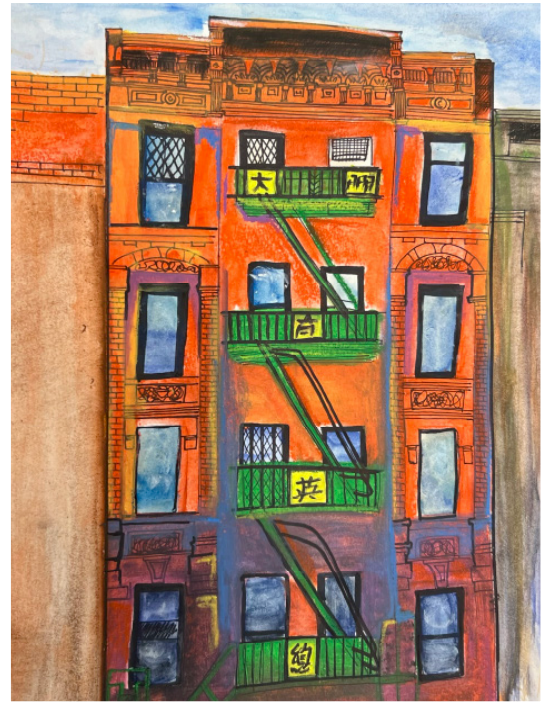


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STUDENT ART



Paige
Johnson



Kylea
Small



Kierra
Lohman



Abigail
Causey