



MAKING THE Connection

TO
Career Technical Education

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Rumfelt an 'all-star' student at Roseville High School

Kaylee Oliveri
Staff Reporter

Junior Miranda Rumfelt has done a lot in the short time she has been in high school. She has sculpted clay models as part of her auto shop class that have been crowned the "Most Creative High School Project" by the American Society of Body Engineers. She also met with Governor Rick Snyder at the State Capitol in Lansing.

Her latest accomplishment is one that summarizes all of those prior.

Rumfelt has been selected by local ABC-affiliate WXYZ-TV (Channel 7), as one of "Ann-Marie's All-Stars," which recognized individuals who are defeating the odds, breaking barriers, and changing the world. Rumfelt had a special segment filmed about her, which highlighted all of her efforts, both in auto shop, and throughout RHS.

Rumfelt began building a list of accomplishments as a freshman, when she became the first female freshman ever recommended by instructors to take Auto Shop.

She then used her time in the shop building a 1:3 Scale Model of a 1970 AMX, that was named the "Most Creative High School Project" by ASBE at the Michigan Industrial Technology Education Society (MITES) State Finals in Saginaw.

She backed that up her sophomore year by constructing a concept 2020 Dodge Demon (before Dodge announced its comeback), which caught the eye of the Governor during a trip to the Career Technical Education (CTE) Showcase at the

state capitol last April.

"It is crazy that I just started sculpting when I was 13, and I've accomplished so much by the age of 16," Rumfelt said.

All the clay models have not stopped her from doing the typical "dirty-work" either. Rumfelt has painted the last four project cars the program has entered into the Detroit Autorama. She also painted a special pedal car that was used by Axalta Coating Systems to debut the 2017 "Color of the Year" Gallant Gray at the NAIAS.

Her talents have taken her across the country with the RHS Auto Shop to various shows and competitions. This includes serving as a pit crew member at a Great American Racing Series (GARS) Race at Kentucky Motor Speedway, a tour of the NASCAR Shops in Mooresville, North Carolina, and will soon attend a trip to the Cleveland Autorama and an exhibit honoring the Roseville Auto Shop's 50th Anniversary.

Rumfelt is also involved in much more than just Auto

Shop. She is part of the RHS Bowling Team, RHS Color Guard, Student Assembly, and was elected Junior Class President by her peers just last spring. And even as a junior, Rumfelt has already begun preparing for her future.

She attended the College for Creative Studies (CCS) this past summer in one of their pre-college Transportation Design courses, and has spent the last five months working with real sculptors from Fiat-Chrysler on her next model of a 2017 Pontiac Trans Am-concept.

Hospitality teacher Grommons is RCS teacher of year

Sarah Allen and Jacob Baruth

Jon Grommons, who has been teaching hospitality management at Roseville High School for ten years, earned the title of teacher of the year for the 2016-2017 school year. Grommons is currently teaching three block classes at Roseville Middle School where he instructs students how to operate a restaurant successfully as well as how to cook, prepare, present and serve food. The restaurant the students run is called L.B Williams. They host multiple events and dinners in the school district and community.

RHS English teacher Gabriella Schmalenberg's classes have benefited from Grommons' culinary talents as he has provided meals to fit the themes of what they are learning. He has worked with Schmalenberg the past two years to cater their Louis Zamperini "Family pasta dinner" to fit the theme of the book "Unbroken." Grommons' students made them

gnocchi and other pasta sauces to help them experience the meals Louie talks about, and the family atmosphere of the dinner lends itself well to continue their analysis of family in the text.

"I think it is well deserved. He does a lot of things for our school and our community, and he is an excellent person and educator," Schmalenberg said.

Before starting his job at RHS, Grommons and his wife, Jacquelynn, owned a restaurant in Northern Michigan: The Glenwood. At his restaurant, he developed a strong connection with his employees, which happened to be high school and college students.

He trained students for all different positions and realized his best employees were his most struggling students, and he could easily form a bond with them. Grommons had his best connection with younger workers since everyone was so dedicated to helping out and relating to them was the easiest.

Grommons went to West-

ern Michigan University for his first two years of college, studying general business, and worked in the summer doing manual labor including agriculture and picking certain vegetables or fruits. He realized this was not something he enjoyed

and wanted to get out of manual labor and become a waiter because he thought it would be easier, so he soon turned to Michigan State University. At MSU, Grommons graduated with his bachelor's degree in hospitality management and then became a waiter and enjoyed how fast paced and hectic everything was.

"I could not leave the kitchen, it would not let me, it had me sucked in," Grommons said.

Soon after that, Grommons earned his teaching credentials from Ferris State. He then became the

hospitality teacher at RHS after his brother-in-law, David Chulo, who was teaching at Eastland Middle School, asked if he would teach his students how to make egg rolls for Chinese New Year, which is where he met former principal Peter Hedemark. Hedemark asked Chulo if Grommons would be interested in interviewing for the position.

When he became the hospital management teacher, he realized having a student-run restaurant is another level of heightened awareness, and everything that happens in a regular restaurant could happen here. Some students have signed up for his class not really knowing what to expect but ended up excelling in it, and seeing that spark of interest and passion grow is a good feeling when he sees them move on in various professions of the field.

"He is one of my favorite teachers and he has taught me a lot about cooking and has helped me become a better person," junior Morgan

Howard said.

Along with working inside the classroom and in the restaurant, the students have gone above and beyond outside of that environment. His students won the Michigan ProStart Knowledge Bowl in 2014, they won one gold and two silver medals at the Macomb County Culinary Competition in 2013, and they swept three gold medals in a friendly chili cook-off with our friends from Fraser High in 2012.

"My students show me the best of what our future could be, and my ten years here, I have seen amazing kids and see how they blossom in the environment," he said.

At home, Grommons has two children, his daughter Anja, 25, who is getting her master's degree as a registered dietitian next month from Western Michigan University, and his son Reed, 17, who is a senior at Cousino High School.

In his free time, Grommons likes to workout before and after school, cooks as a hobby and goes for walks

or bike rides with his wife. Most summers are spent with his family in northern Michigan at a Lake Michigan beach.

On his own, he has traveled to Germany and France right out of college where he worked at a luxury bed and breakfast in banquet rooms. As a child, he traveled extensively throughout northern Canada and inside the Arctic Circle. When Grommons was young, he would watch PBS and watch a man make stir-fries on television on Saturday afternoons while his mom was a homemaker, and would cook from scratch, which was what sparked his whole passion for cooking.

"It is an honor to be counted with everyone else who has gotten this award. The honor in itself is meaningful, but being counted and the company that I am, my brother-in-law David Chulo and my sister Cathy Chulo, is validating. It is actually really nice, and I am glad my mother is alive to see this since she will be very proud," Grommons said.

High School media center to be transformed into makerspace

Karli Obriecht
Section Editor

Multiple high schools across the United States, including Roseville High School, are transforming old rooms into makerspace rooms. A makerspace room is a place where students and faculty can tinker, build, read, draw, and express their creative and intellectual abilities. Building principal Patrick Adams is working with other faculty and students to design the room to where every student feels welcomed.

"We want students to create ownership in the space to where they feel comfortable and safe. It should feel like a home to students," Adams said.

Assistant principal Gary Scheff and science teacher Robert Smitka have been visiting organizations and companies to get supplies donated in efforts to create this space. So far, electrical and building supplies have been collected. The faculty organizing the construction hopes to get as many supplies as they can donated to this program. Each teacher is focusing on a different as-



The media center will soon be receiving a makeover.

pect they want to incorporate into the space. Smitka and Scheff are leaning towards the scientific and building space of the room. Assistant principal Monica Gabriel and English teacher Gabriela Schmalenberg are more concentrated on the creative aspects. They have ideas about adding a large white board, a reading space, and a table designed to be a coloring book.

There was a meeting held on Friday, March 3rd for faculty and select students from each grade to discuss ideas that everyone would like to incorporate into the room. The room is an ongoing process and can always be changed. It is a student

body decision; if the students are unhappy with the space, there is always room for remodeling.

"It is a unique opportunity to be able to build a space for kids to freely go and do what they want to do," Adams said.

The makerspace will take up the entire media center including the upstairs portion. The news and broadcasting studio will remain off to the side, but, hopefully will be moved soon into a better, more up-to-date area. The makerspace will be open the start of next year, but will be a work-in-progress. RHS wants to be able to fit the needs of every student which means they may have to add or remove things. It will be available to students before and after school and during lunch. Teachers will also have the opportunity to host their classes there instead of the classroom.

The space will let students express their creative and tinkering parts of their brains. The school hopes students will find the place enjoyable and spend more time in the area than on their phones.

Child care class visits elementary schools

Emily Soehren
Copy Editor

Child care is one of many electives. The class prepares students for employment or pre-employment in caring for children. This class focuses on the development of the child. Students learn how kids struggle when they are younger with certain tasks. It focuses on the development of the child through planning and evaluating activities based on academic skill. This class is available to juniors and seniors.

After taking vocational child care one, students can also take vocational child care two. This class gets even more into depth about the fields working with children. Students who take this class have to learn how to teach and deal with children of all ages. Students have to show genuine leadership skills.

Child care teacher Suzanne Dzieciolowski loves all her classes and thinks her classes really help. She mentioned how she knows so many former students who are now employed in a profession that works with children. Some of her previous students are pediatricians and teachers.

"I always have a great class. There are usually no



Students do a five senses activity during class.

problems when my students get with the kids. Their attitude is always positive," Dzieciolowski said.

Recently, child care has started going to the elementary schools. They go to all of them except for Kaiser. The class works with kids from kindergarten through fifth grade. While visiting each school, they help out teachers with various jobs. Also, they help the children with their worksheets or activities that they are doing that day.

The class goes to 34 classrooms in three days. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays they work more with the students by helping with their work and doing arts and crafts. At the end of October, they went to Steenland and made applesauce with the kids. They had to peel the apples and the kids got to help with the rest of the process. They really get into the thick of things. Doing hands

on activities and physically working with the kids can help build on the students' knowledge and skills.

"I think it's really cool that we get to work with the younger kids," junior Maddy Nassar said.

On Thursdays, the high school students are given tasks that teachers would normally do such as papers to grade, things to laminate and teach the kids how to do certain things. It gives them more of a teacher's perspective of working with kids.

When they are not visiting the elementary schools, they are taking tests or doing assignments. They also set up worksheets to send to the schools they visit. By doing that they make it easier for the kids to do the assignment or activity. It can also help the teacher by already having everything put together beforehand, making the day a little less stressful.

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