

JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • March 2018

Juggle Jam 20 (JJ20) Notes

Essential Info. for 11-Week Countdown

SHOWS: Our shows are Friday and Saturday, May 18 & 19 at Hopkins HS. Call time is 5:45 pm; doors open @ 6:30; show runs from 7:00-9:45. **Friday Rec.** will NOT meet May 18.

CLUB REHEARSALS: Every club until JJ20 is a rehearsal*. We're finishing choreography, running routines, adding costumes. Please stay 'til 5:45 p.m. and inform Paul of absences. *No clubs March 26-30 or May 9, 15, 18. Clubs will be at Emmaus April 18-20.

ALL-CAST EVENING DRESS REHEARSALS: May 9 and 15 from 6-9 pm. Wear JJ20 Tees (and khaki shorts) on **Wed., 5/9** for our only all-company photo at 6:10 pm. **Advanced** will NOT meet on 5/9; **Elite** will NOT meet on 5/15.

PHOTO WEEK: Each Jughead's slide show/awards portrait will be taken March 6-9. Please attend an alternate day if absent.

T-SHIRTS: All Jugheads will receive JJ20 Tees at clubs from May 1-8. Parents, please indicate sizes via an emailed link.

Distinctive COSTUMES: These are key to club routines. Bring them weekly to club rehearsals by April 16-20. **Elite & Advanced:** various vignettes; **Thursday:** Storybook characters; **Friday:** distinctive musicals. Khaki shorts and JJ20 Tees are required for the grand opener, grand finale, and all-company photo on 5/9.

SKITS: Skits are at a premium this year due to several already assigned; text or email Paul with retrospective ideas or interest.

AUDITIONS: Jugheads desiring to perform a JJ20 specialty act (solo or small ensemble) need to audition on **April 17 at Emmaus Church.** Every prospective act must perform in the 3/17 Showcase and fill out an application by 3/30. Contact **Paul** for more info. *NOTE: Auditions are competitive, with likely only six acts cast. Priorities: entertainment value, uniqueness, skill, and polish.*

PARENT VOLUNTEERS: JJ is a huge production made possible by MANY parent volunteers. Our hope is that one parent from each JH family will **volunteer for one show or in another way.** Show night volunteers need not purchase a ticket for that night but won't see all/much of the show. Look for an emailed link (also on juggheads.com) soon on how to volunteer.

TICKETS: All tickets are reserved seats with two pricing tiers for adults/students. **Online sales begin Tuesday, April 3.**

Emmaus: Back-Up Club Site in April

When we're displaced due to TEC at St. Stephen's twice a year, we're grateful to **Emmaus Church in Bloomington** for providing us a consistent and hospitable back-up home!



These clubs will meet there **April 18-20:**

- 1) **Advanced** will be held at **Emmaus** on **Wed., April 18.**
- 2) **Thursday Rec.** will be at **Emmaus** on **Thur., April 19.**
- 3) **Ultimate** will be held at **Emmaus** on **Thur., April 19.**
- 4) **Friday Rec.** will be held at **Emmaus** on **Fri., April 20.**

Officer Voice: Eva H.

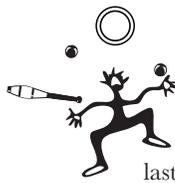
At school, where Jugheads spend most of their time, students are separated by age. Since similar people naturally form groups, most have friends with close to the same belief system as them. Jugheads breaks away from these expectations by providing a safe space for a wide range of people to come together and share mutual weekly experiences. By allowing children the chance to interact with those who are completely different from them in age and political beliefs, Jugheads teaches them that we are not all so different after all.

From the start of my JH career, I was assimilated into a community with many different types of people. As a 4th grader, I was shy and stayed with other 4th grade girls in an attempt to replicate the divides that school drives into us. As time wore on, I have come to recognize the amazing culture of JH and feel gratitude towards every person in the Company. Whether I'm talking to 4th grader Ava Armbrustmacher or graduate Elise Johnson, there is a connection that brings us all together despite our differences. Age does not disappear when you come to JH, but the hard lines that separate children and adolescents into groups soften as soon as a Jughead walks in the door.

Like age, another factor that often divides us is politics. Children and adults alike have been increasingly involved in politics over the last couple of years to the point where political discourse is almost unavoidable and arguments are common. At JH we are able to put aside politics and focus on comradery through both juggling and talking. Although I am aware of the differences my friends and I have in this regard, I am even more aware of our similarities and common ground. Not only do we share an activity, we all share a distinct culture of acceptance and respect. Instead of spewing hate at everyone who disagrees with us, Jugheads are able to realize that political beliefs are not what defines who we are and who we should talk to. At this time in history when adults struggle to find common ground, it is very refreshing to see students from many walks of life interact with each other with kindness, patience, and compassion.

We all come together to make connections with each other with the excuse of juggling. The community transcends the mere sport and art of juggling and instead fosters new relationships, bringing together the most unlikely of people.

—**Eva H.:** 8th Year Jughead; Officer; Friday Rec. Assistant; Showcase Student A.D.; Elite & UC Member; EHS Junior



JH Community News

- **13th ANNUAL WINTER JUGGLING SHOWCASE:** 17 acts will entertain all ages on Saturday, 3/17 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Hopkins High School Little Theater. It's a FREE show led by our SLT, and it's a great way to kick off our 2018 performing season!
- **Reminder:** There IS Friday Rec. on both 3/2 and 3/23 (Edina Schools release days; the latter kicks off Spring Break). Please send your child(ren) if possible, or at least to a (pre-)make-up day.
- **TWO DEADLINES for performers & leaders:** March 30 is the application deadline for both JJ20 Specialty Act Auditions (for April 17) and 2018 Summer Camp SLT (for June 11-July 13). Both forms are available at JH, online, and via email request.
- **U.C. Portrait Day:** Thursday, 4/12, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- **Senior Jugheads' families:** Submit any juggling-related pics to Wendy by 5/6 for JJ20's Senior Presentation. Unless a specific evening was requested, we'll honor each senior in ascending seniority: 1) years; 2) clubs; 3) leadership: Friday, 5/18—Clay D., Skip N., Luca P., Peter H.; Saturday, 5/19—Linus B., Miranda M., Joshua N., Laura S.
- **SLT Meetings:** 3/10, Malmgren; 4/7, Ashton; 6/2, Holmquist.

Paul's Platform: Reflecting on 20 Juggle Jams: A Six-Part Series

This column series celebrates our double-deca *Juggle Jam* milestone. This month touches on people facilitating greatness and endurance.

Part 3: "Coming of Age: Juggle Jams 6-10"

We left off last month with *Juggle Jam 5* (May 2003). That summer kicked off a five-year period where we came of age as a company.

From '01-'04, we were blessed to have long-term Ultimate Club Specialist **Dextre Tripp**. Dextre, a veteran pro juggler, only worked with UC about 10 times a year, but his three-year plan took our talented kids (with respectable standards even "back then") and introduced now-staple tricks and patterns such as hatchets, wraparounds, the Y, and dropbacks. His influence overlapped the last year of **Dan Berman & Peter Frey** (aka The Propellerheads, IJA Teams Bronze '00) and inspired legendary student leaders **Billy Watson & Kelvin Ying** (both JH Class of '07) to spearhead three consecutive years of training for and competing in the IJA Teams Championships. In 2002 (after JJ4), we were thrilled just to make the Finals in Reading, PA. In the wake of JJ5, that the shared vision of Dextre, Billy & Kelvin came of age, earning us our first UC Teams bronze medal.

Leading up to JJ6 (2004), UC trained to "three-peat" their bid for IJA Teams, but that training wasn't done in a vacuum; those kids represented the backbone of a company of kids who became pioneers at

lasting longer through high school, going further with team training, and making their Jughead membership more of a centerpiece than a sideline in their teenage pursuits. UC repeated their bronze feat at IJA-Buffalo, NY '04, and JJ6 also saw new levels of quality throughout the production. Fittingly, JJ6 was also the first year we produced a DVD and issued cast photos to every Jughead, the latter thanks to my brother **Tom Arneberg** and his innovative and nostalgic initiative.

JJ6 also marked the last year that **Wendy Arneberg** had to balance a full-time graphic design career with her hundreds of hours devoted to producing JJ and being my main supporter and cheerleader. She left her job on July 30, 2004; I threw a surprise retirement party for her at the Watsons' home; and she has enjoyed a more balanced hybrid vocation of homemaking and half-time JH work ever since.

Those two consecutive IJA Teams bronze medals after JJs 5 & 6 lent an additional credibility to my top Jugheads choosing to stay in this for the long haul. JJ7 featured some of those kids as sophomores and juniors, now branching out to compete at IJA in smaller teams (**The Swing Sisters, Guava, Les Filles, Swatch, Genetic Fallout** and eventually **The Five of Clubs**) and add to our litany of 12 IJA Juniors to date started by **Lana Bolin** and her two appearances after JJs 3 & 4. That post-JJ7 summer, three Swing Sisters (**Kelsey Harr, Jill Koralewski & Lauren Rice**) made the game-changing decision to return for their senior year, becoming my first HS graduates in JJ8. The JJ8 DVD records how difficult it was for me to read my comments to each young lady whom I'd coached and mentored for an average of 8.33 years, leading parent **Jeff Shlosberg** to aid me in pre-recording my comments (with Wendy adding her Slide Show panache) for our first media-based Senior Presentation in JJ9.

Speaking of Jeff, he was one of many parents in those years that practically made an avocation out of volunteering for JH. His era is shared by **Doug & Mary Watson**, who founded the EYJA and chaperoned for countless trips and hosted countless parties; **Danny & Lai Ying** who ran our merchandising for years and inspired the founding of the Winter Showcase in 2006 (just before JJ8); and **Darcy Wiklund**, who to this day is a stagehand for JJ despite the fact that **Riley** hasn't been a Jughead since 2008!

Of equal importance to our stalwart parent involvement and the fulfilled dream of expanding through high school as of JJ8, I began hiring grads to help me coach starting with JJ10. Inaugural grad-coach **Scott Richter** worked multiple club days for five years, giving me support and boosting our JJ production quality throughout his professional tenure. On a side note, my JJ's 6-10 cold openers were Gimli, Wendy's JJ7 video montage, Bob the Tomato, Elvis and Mufasa.

Our coming of age led to much thriving after JJ10, with a jump in rosters, coaches, and accolades. Next month, I'll recount the ups & downs of our maturing youth juggling company.

Developing Youth Through Juggle Jams Since 1999,

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