

**Northwestern State University's  
ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars**



Chris Reich, NSU Photo Services

**Learning in the Time of Covid-19**

**2020 Photo Journal  
Thirty-Second Edition**

## Online Classes

ADVANCE was pleased to offer online summer classes to keep bright students engaged in learning during the pandemic. But, we cannot wait to return to our face-to-face program on Northwestern State's campus next summer!

The upcoming program will be held  
July 4 - 24, 2021

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Like us on Facebook: /pages/Advance-Program



### Algebra 1

Top row (from left): Bo Collinsworth, Amelia Norwood. Bottom row: Jessica Bass (Instructor).



### Biology

Top: Elena Miller.  
Bottom: Masen Starks.  
Bottom right corner:  
Whitney Golden (Instructor).



## Chemistry

Top row (from left): Hayley Loe, Ravi Baker, Karma McCoy. Bottom row (from left): Derrilon Young, Elisabeth Miller. Bottom right corner: Chris Hynes (Instructor)



## Physics

Top row (from left): Brianna Stephan, Andrew Galatas (Instructor). Bottom: Logan Byrd.

## Psychology of the Criminal Mind



Top row (from left): Mackenzie LaCombe, Ava Reid. Second row (from left): Cyrus Sorsby, Tyra Thomas. Bottom row (from left): Maggie Charlet, Morgan Rabun. Bottom right corner: Tom Tiefenwerth (Instructor). Not pictured: Micah Armstrong, Ava Daigrepoint, Emmy Eason, Dylan Manuel, and Trenton Scott.



## Activities

Making grails while watching the classic movie *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* are (top from left): Logan Byrd, Ashley Adams (RA). Bottom (from left): Amelia Norwood, Elisabeth Miller.



## Volunteer Residential Assistants (RAs)

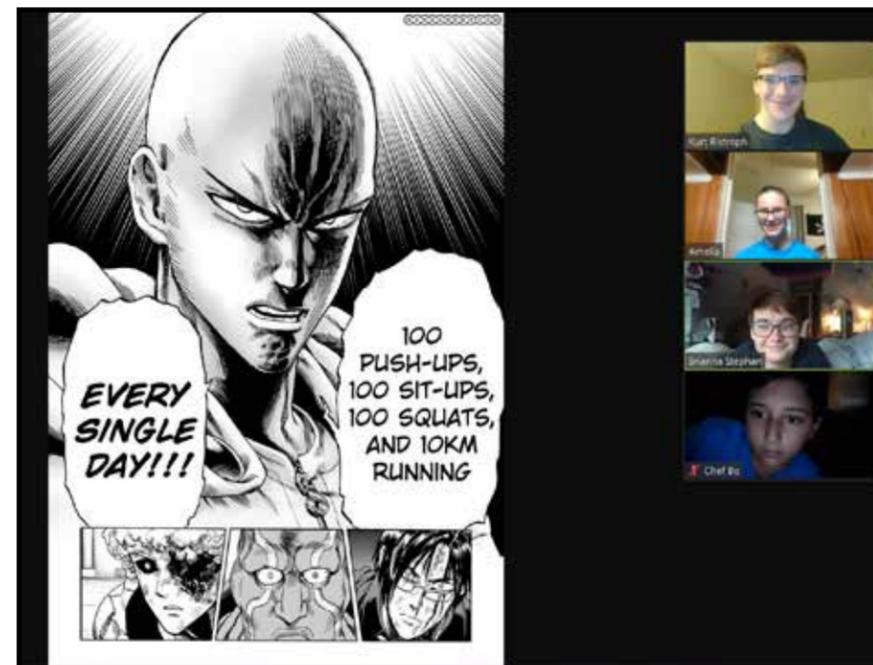
Activities at ADVANCE are a highlight of the program and give students time to relax, make friends outside of class and their RA groups, and have some fun. This summer was no exception.

Staff members, who are now young professionals, from previous programs volunteered their time to offer 21 creative activities during weeknights and weekends. Participants loved the activities, and ADVANCE is eternally grateful to the fabulous volunteer RAs.

**Long Live the Spirit of the Orange Shoestring!**



Top (from left): Tamara Zishuk, Pius Lau, Freddy-May AbiSamra, Celia Mangham. Bottom (from left): Ashley Adams, Kurt Ristroph, Nona Goodwin. Not pictured: Laila Din, Kyle Rachal.



## One-Punch Man

Possible One-Punch Man contenders are (top to bottom): Kurt Ristroph (RA), Amelia Norwood, Brianna Stephan, Bo Collinsworth. Who is ready for the challenge?

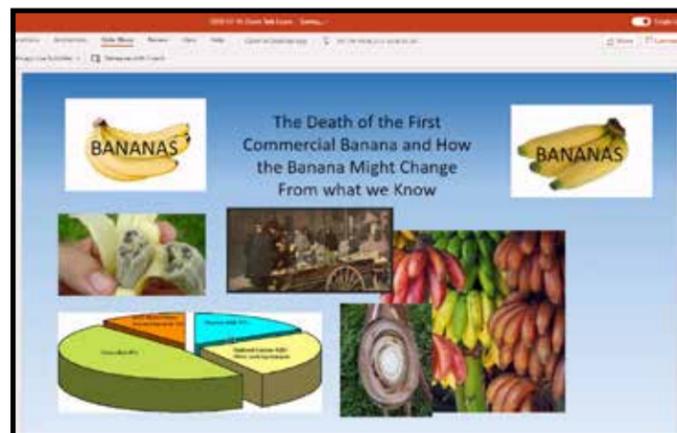
Zoom  
Talk  
Learn



During the Zoom, Talk, Learn activity, students chose a topic, prepared a PowerPoint and presented it to others.



Presentations by (top to bottom) Masen Starks, Cyrus Sorsby, Elisabeth Miller.



Top row (from left): Masen Starks, Freddy-May AbiSamra (RA), Cyrus Sorsby. Bottom row (from left): Harriette Palmer, Elisabeth Miller.



Mafia...

A perennial favorite activity at ADVANCE!

Above top (from left) Amelia Norwood, Kurt Ristroph (RA) - The Godfather, Emmy Eason. Middle row (from left): Brianna Stephan, Elena Miller, Logan Byrd. Bottom row (from left): Elisabeth Miller, Cyrus Sorsby, Mackenzie LaCombe.



Captain Planet

Above (from left): ADVANCER Amelia Norwood and her sister, Meg, participate in Captain Planet by picking up trash in their neighborhood.

## Dance

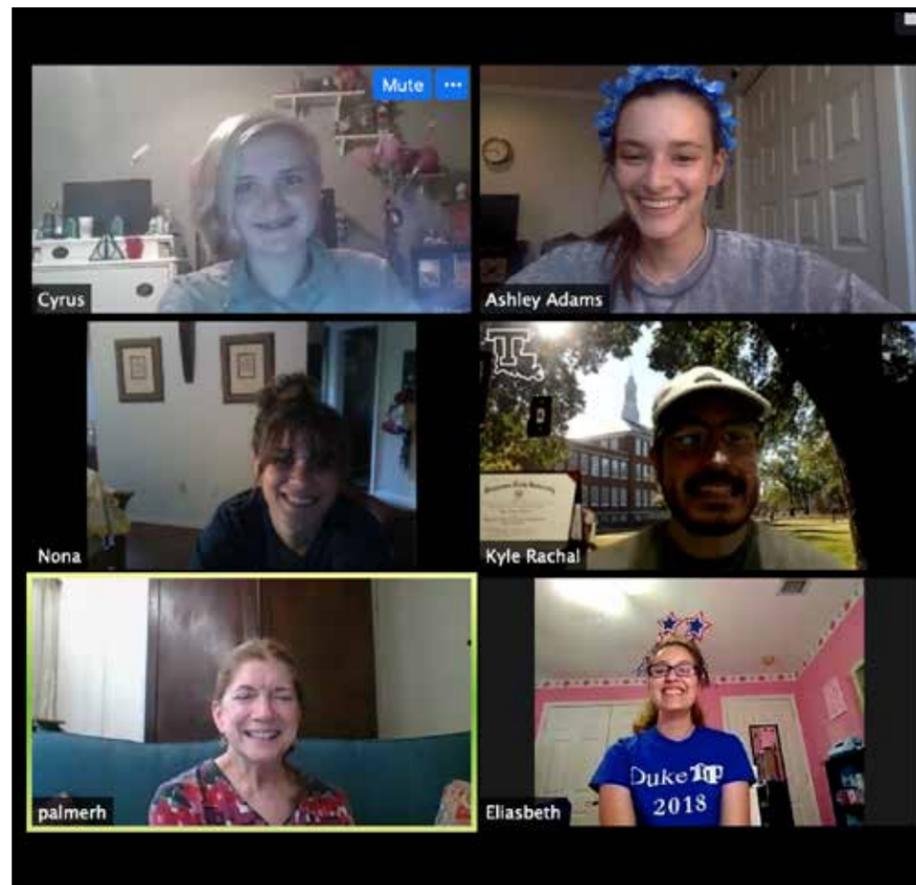
ADVANCE usually hosts three fabulous dances. This year, we opted to have one virtual dance.

Taking photos of people dancing to *Footloose* is challenging, but doing it virtually proved more difficult than usual! The playlist included classic dance songs and those in attendance sang along.



## The Hat Game aka: Fish Bowl

Everyone enjoyed the Hat Game, a combination of Taboo and Charades. Left column (from top): Cyrus Sorsby, Nona Goodwin, Harriette Palmer. Right column (from top): Ashley Adams (RA), Kyle Rachal, Elisabeth Miller.



## Chopped Cooking Challenge

This activity featured 5 talented chefs and 3 world renowned judges:

**Judge Nona** - a famous chef whose specialty is creating foods that both pets and humans can enjoy together.

**Judge Kurt** - a James Beard Award winner who only cooks and consumes breakfast food. He has a pet koala, and therefore infuses a lot of eucalyptus into his dishes.

**Judge Tamara** - grew up on a Bulgarian cow farm and is dairy good at making cheesecake, butters, and soft cheeses (even though lactose does not sit well with her). She has a pet dragon who enjoys eating

caviar, escargot, and popcorn.

Our five competing chefs had a variety of cooking experiences.

**Chef Elisabeth** grew up on a citrus farm and all of her cuisine includes fresh oranges.

**Chef Masen** trained under Gordon Ramsey to serve an international group of chefs.

**Chef Mackenzie** frequently channels Julia Child in her cooking. She loves getting creative with the dishes she makes and frequently uses Nutella in her dishes.

**Chef Brianna** started cooking at 6 years old and loves to incorporate

sweet peas and foraged fruit into dishes. You might have seen Chef Brianna on Top Chef Jr. six years ago.

**Chef Bo** was new to cooking and used this as an opportunity to expand his culinary skills.

The rules of the competition were simple. Judges give a theme. Chefs have 15-20 minutes to cook a dish that fits the theme. At the end of the time, they had to present their dishes for review and judges provided feedback, picking winners for each round.

Round 1: Chefs made an appetizer that both they and their pets would eat.

Round 2: Chefs were

asked to create a dessert that would hold them through a zombie apocalypse.

Between each round, chefs were sent into breakout rooms and asked to discuss life's big questions (such as: How many holes does a straw have, and why?) while judges, (including our guest judge, Ms. Harriette - Iron Chef America winner in 2019) deliberated.

Ultimately, Chef Masen prevailed. His consistent appetizing and thematically relevant dishes paired with his training from Gordon Ramsey led him to be declared the Chopped Champion.

Great job, chefs!



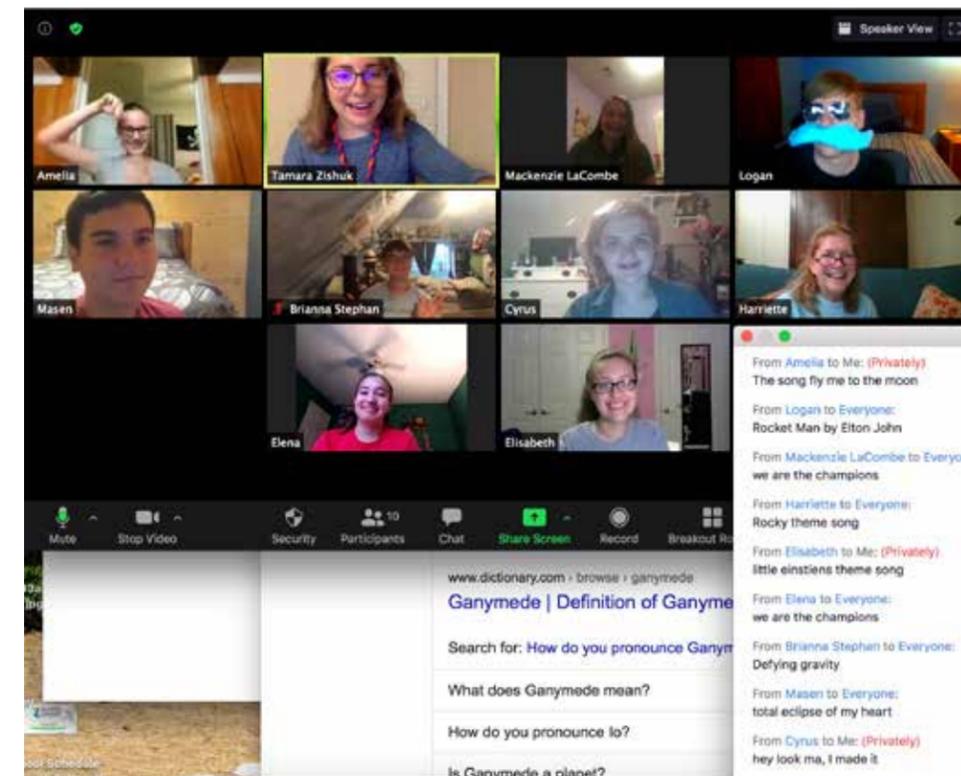
Top row (from left): Judges Nona Goodwin, Tamara Zishuk (RA), and Kurt Ristroph. Middle row (from left): Harriette Palmer, Mackenzie LaCombe, Masen Starks. Bottom row (from left): Brianna Stephan, Elisabeth Miller, Bo Collinsworth.

## Talent Show

ADVANCE's Talent Show, a long standing tradition, is held on the last night of the program. Participants were Amelia Norwood (pianist) and Cyrus Sorsby (vocalist).



Top row (from left): Amelia Norwood, Tamara Zishuk (RA), Mackenzie LaCombe, Second row (from left): Masen Starks, Brianna Stephan, Cyrus Sorsby, Harriette Palmer. Bottom row (from left): Elena Miller, Elisabeth Miller.

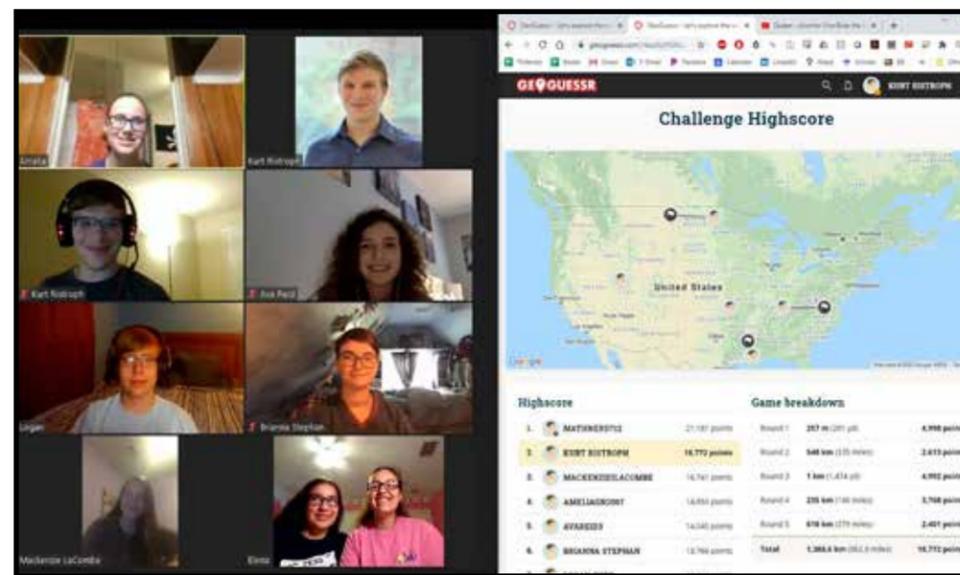


## Trivia Night

Themes for three rounds of trivia, hosted by RA Tamara, were 1) Guess the theme 2) Space 3) Obscure British Laws. After the "space" round students were asked what music they would play after landing on the moon. Check out the playlist!

## Google Maps

Where are we? RA Kurt randomly dropped the group somewhere on a map, turned on street view, and shared his screen. Students took turns giving him directions, and the first person to correctly guess where they were was declared the winner.



Google travelers (left column top to bottom): Amelia Norwood, Kurt Ristroph (RA), Logan Byrd, Mackenzie LaCombe. Right column (top to bottom): Kurt Ristroph (RA), Ava Reid, Brianna Stephan, Elena and Elisabeth Miller.



## Coffee House

Coffee House is always held the night before finals. Celia Mangham, the Coordinator of Residential Life for ADVANCE, compiled a great playlist for folks to listen to while studying. Not pictured: Ashley Adams (RA), Elisabeth Miller.

# Bingo and Create Your Own Adventure

This activity is a round robin writing exercise...with a twist. Students play quick games of Bingo. Every time someone gets a bingo, the winner gets to add three sentences to a short story everyone writes together. Then we play another round of bingo, and repeat until we have a full, but outlandish, story. Each color indicates when a particular student adds to the collaborative story.

It was a cheerful morning in the town of Zombiedale. Zombies and humans get along mostly well aside from the occasional skirmish. That is what occurred this fateful day in the otherwise glorious year of 2072. The skirmish that occurred was between two young children fighting about a little stuffed animal. The stuffed animal was a llama with magical powers that could grant any wish. Both children wanted it because it would grant their wishes, but it would only grant one. One child wanted to use it to be able to do anything he wanted without getting in trouble. The other wanted to be able to become friends with everyone he meets. How would the two resolve their argument? The adults of both species wanted them to not argue about it. They want them instead to leave it behind and move on to different toys because the llama would be too disruptive. So, the adults try to persuade the children to destroy it. The commotion caused a few of the zombies nearby to come see what was going on. A few of the zombies decided that they wanted to take



the llama for themselves. The zombies decided that they were done having to live among the humans, so they were going to use the llama to take over the humans. The group of zombies devised a plan to take the magical llama from the young children. Their plan was to send a zombie in to distract them with the greatest thing of all, FOOD. To put the plan into action they needed to get the best food, so they did some research. After the research, they came to the conclusion that the most popular foods in the area were pizza, ice cream, and fried chicken. The zombies sent 5 of them to get the food needed for the plan. In the meantime, the rest waited while watching the children. The zombies who went to get the food were stopped by a security guard, who asked where they were going. The zombies lied and said they're grandmother needed soup to help her get better. The guard allowed them to pass by. While getting the soup, however, one of the guards became suspicious. Since when did zombies have grandmothers, and since when did those grandmothers need food? This guard went after the zombies and questioned them more in depth. While the guard was questioning them, one of the zombies figured out a plan to get out of the situation. They decided that they would lure the guard into



an area with no one else around. Once they lured the guard away, they would knock the guard out. After the guard was knocked out they took their flying car back to the others. When the whole group was back together, they put their plan into motion. One zombie went up to the kids and offered them the bomb pizza. The bomb however failed to detonate, so the zombies tried arsenic ice cream. That worked, but the kids were unconscious, not dead. But the zombies didn't know, so they took the llama, but two hours later the kids woke back up. The kids noticed that the llama was missing, so they went to find the zombies. By time they found them, the zombies had already hopped on their hoverbikes. The kids needed to find a way to reach them. Luckily, one of the kids happened to know how to hotwire a car. They found the fastest car on the street and took it. They went after the zombies, going as fast as they possibly could, which was fast enough to lap them and some. They came to clash, with a bang and a boom. Suddenly silence filled the air as a beam emerged from the sky. Out of the beam came the magical and mystical LLAMA MAMAS. The Llama Mamas were trying to figure out what had caused the clash. The zombies blamed the kids, and the kids blamed the zombies. The Llama Mamas told them to stop arguing, and they would have to come up with a wish together. The Humans and zombies fought over the wish for hours to no avail. Then finally a little baby zombie came up with a wish: for the wish llama go away and never came into existence. This way there would never have been a reason for conflict to occur.



But the zombie that was chosen to say the wish didn't say what everybody wanted. Instead she wished that everybody could have a magical stuffed animal. When the people heard that she had said that they were shocked and couldn't decide what to do. Everyone was happy about them all getting wishes, but one human kid wasn't. After everyone had made their wish, the kid decided to gather everyone to make his wish. Once everyone gathered, the kid said, "I wish for the magical stuffed animal to never have existed." Before anyone could protest, the wish had been made. Everyone's wish disappeared, then the clock turned back. It went too far back, though, and now they were 2070. The time change caused everyone to forget about llamas, real and stuffed. So, people carried on with their lives. And life was back to usual. Though the llama mamas being their unpredictable chaotic selves, hid a llama in the town to be discovered at a future date. The llama mamas looked over the town as peace had once again returned, and patiently waited for conflict to return so they could be more of their awesome selves.

*THE END*