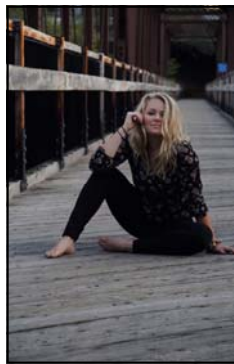
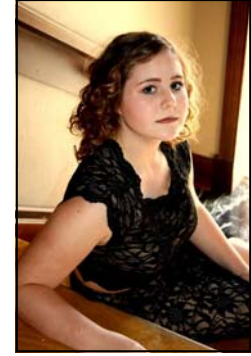
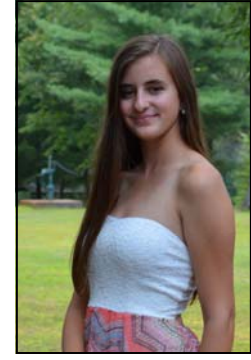
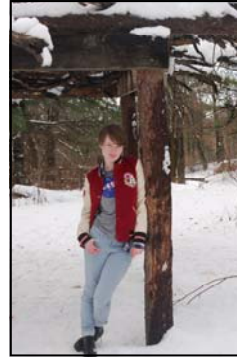


“Treating students
like people since
2005.”



The Super Special Senior Edition!

Our Senior class has been really busy working on their Senior Projects. This edition of the Wildlands Newsletter features each of our Senior's projects. Each year the Seniors decide on the requirements for their projects to ensure high-quality well-rounded work. This year, the requirements included: a written reflection, a video component, and something that could be left behind for underclassmen.



Senior Project Portfolio

Equine Breeding	2
Physical Therapy Exploration	2
Duck Gizzards	3
The Great Trail	4
Wildlands Reunion	4
Learning to Sail	5
Art Classes	6
Photography Portfolio	6
Tall Tales of a Story Collector	7

Equine Breeding

For my Senior Project I am exploring the world of equine breeding. My grandparents had an equine breeding business and my dad grew up showing horses and working with foals at certain times of the year. There are many different things to consider when it comes to breeding a horse. One is you have to make sure that you have the right stallion for you mare. You're basically looking to make the offspring to be better than the parents. Then you have to see how you want to breed. In the past they just normally did live cover. Another way is through the use of artificial insemination (A.I.).

Back in February I got to visit Bluff Country Equine, a vet clinic for horses. I went there to see what the business end of breeding was like. I learned that the owners go through the work of trying to find the right matches, and a vet has all the equipment necessary to see how a mare's cycling is changing, when she's going into heat, and medication to help get the mare into heat. Then, depending if the owner wants the mare to stay that long, they can even do an ultrasound to confirm pregnancy. It's an interesting project and this was only a little peek into this crazy world.

-Kylie B.



Albert: My Gelding



Physical Therapy Exploration

I've been a student at Wildlands since my Freshman year. Starting next year I plan on going to college in order to earn my doctorate in physical therapy. This career goal has led to my Senior Project this year.

To start off, I found places to job shadow physical therapists. My goal is to job shadow at four different locations. So far I have completed my third job shadow, and I have conducted interviews of each Physical Therapist. I've been to the Augusta Rehabilitation Center, Dunamis in Augusta, and Dove Healthcare Center. It has been really fun to find out what I could be doing after college. This experience has been helpful in confirming that this is the career path I would like to take.

The next step is to conduct my last job shadow and interview. I would like to go to the Kinesiology Department at UW-Eau Claire. After that I will write a paper on what I learned from these experiences and what path I'd like to take for my career. Lastly, I will create a how-to video that explains what I did and how others could recreate this to research their own career paths. I plan to have pictures from the different steps of my project included. I hope to leave a lasting impact on the students at Wildlands through my project. Everything from my project will be on my personal E-Portfolio.

I'm excited to go to my next job shadow. Each one is a totally new setting that always keeps my interest. I've already learned a lot about how I'd like to use my doctorate and I can't wait to show the school everything that I've prepared. This is shaping up to be my favorite project of Senior year.

-Teaera F.

Gizzard Inspection

As avid duck hunters, we are curious and concerned about the future of waterfowl. Knowing there is a history of lead poisoning in these birds, we wanted to see if ducks were still unknowingly consuming lead.

Kylie, Traven, and I wanted to conduct a lead poisoning test on gizzards. We saved all of the duck gizzards we shot this year so we could examine them. We opened and cleaned the gizzards. We started to see the tissue and the gravel that helps grind the bird's food up. As we were cutting them open we were looking for damage to the gizzard due to lead poisoning from shotgun pellets, sinkers, and other lead pollution in waterways.

We needed to be careful and methodical as we examined each gizzard. We were looking for indicators such as lead and dark gray color in the gizzard. The gizzards that were green and rough with a hint of pink were the healthiest ones. As we got deeper into the experiment we could see darker and mushy tissue which indicates that there was lead damage.

The gizzards we collected from Lake Eau Claire had lots of evidence of lead damage such as soft tissue and even lead shot. The seabirds from Maine that we examined appeared to be healthier than the local birds. Going through this project our question had been answered: yes, waterfowl are still suffering from lead exposure and damages. This pushed us into deeper research.

We had started to research how many birds were estimated to have lead poisoning and what were the effects on a bird that had lead poisoning. Lead can also get into the fish that the ducks eat, which has an affect on their food. The ducks will slowly die out through the years from the lead. We found out that the lead makes the birds reproductive system fail. Another good indicator of lead poisoning is a bright green staining of the vent area. The heads will also look puffy and start to swell. They will be mistaken for "crippled" birds and or shot but really the lead is just taking effect. In our study we noticed that sea ducks had really healthy looking gizzards. We were startled to find in our research that out of all the birds in Wisconsin the Bald Eagle was the most common bird affected by lead poisoning.

The most common way the wildlife in Wisconsin consume the lead is due to shotgun pellets and sinkers. Our research tells us that there still is lead in our waters. Not only do we have it in our lakes but it's getting into our wildlife. One way hunters can help is use steel shot and sinkers instead of lead ones. This would make tremendous difference in the health and longevity of waterfowl.



Poisoned Gizzard

-Dylon A.



Healthy Gizzard

The Great Trail

After starting and losing interest in many different projects that were eligible for my Senior Project, I was finally able to construct one major interest of mine into one of the most in-depth and extensive projects I have ever done. It has been a goal of mine to get back into the wilderness after experiencing a 10 day backpacking trip in the Rockies, so I took that information and ran with it. My ultimate goal is to have the outline of a backpacking trip made for the summer of 2019. I plan to hike a segment of The Great Trail in Canada and have started to narrow down the section I want to hike. The entire



Winter Camping

trail stretches all the way across Canada and is the longest in the world (14,000 miles). I am looking at a trail named Twaytrail in the province of Newfoundland. It is 542 miles long and winds through the wilderness along an 1800s era rail line from Channel-Port aux Basques to St. John's. To prepare myself for this trip I have taken a wilderness first aid and winter camping course to strengthen my knowledge and keep myself safe. I have also joined a group created by Merrell called "Women in the Outdoors." By being a part of this program I am able to learn more about the supplies I will need in the backcountry and connect with other strong women that love to hike. The next step in this project process will be researching weather habits, estimating how long it will take me to hike the trail and the cost, and learning how to trade out supplies in another country.



The Great Trail Map

-Mayachel S.

Wildlands Reunion

For my Senior Project I am planning a Wildlands Reunion. Since this is the first reunion Wildlands has done, there was quite a bit of planning involved. I sent out a survey on social media for alumni to fill out to find the date that worked best for everyone. A second survey was sent out as an RSVP. This will help narrow down our budget for food and allow us to plan accordingly if anyone has special dietary needs. Using Canva, a design industry specialty software, I designed a few invitations that could be posted on social media and sent out in emails with more details about the reunion. We opened up the reunion to any student that attended Wildlands at any point during their career, even if they left Wildlands in good standing and went on to graduate elsewhere. The reunion is taking place on May 5th at the Main Lodge on BCR from 1-4pm. There is a suggested donation of \$10 to help cover the cost of the room and the food.

-Molly M.



Learning to Sail



At the Helm

For my Senior Project I had the opportunity to take a sailing trip in the Great Exumas of the Bahamas. My main goal was to learn how to sail, how to live on a boat, and how to stay safe while sailing.

My initial research included interviewing two NOAA/National Weather Service employees, hoping to learn more about their marine and nautical resources and how the organization works. I also studied *Learning to Sail: The Annapolis Sailing School Guide for all Ages* to get some basic knowledge on sailing, terminology, and safety.

We met Captain Matt Thill and Admiral Bernice Neumann of Bernoulli in Georgetown. This part of the Bahamas is known as the outer islands and presents a more authentic Bahamian experience. Georgetown is a working town known as the “Cruising Capital of the Bahamas.” One part of this town is a port town and the other is a floating city with approximately 250 boats anchored during the height of the winter season. There were hundreds of cruisers (sailors that sail for pleasure), traditional cuisine, and the daily hustle and bustle of a typical working port town.

Our days were filled with snorkeling, exploring, and tootling around the harbor in both the sailboat and the sailboat’s inflatable raft known as a dinghy. We sailed around to all of the local cays (pronounced keys) and islands; we enjoyed hiking on nearly deserted beaches. The harbor had a large reef that turned out to be a great place to explore different types of coral and spot all the local species of fish.



Snorkeling



Making Pita Bread with Admiral Bernice

The traditional cuisine was one of the most interesting parts of this experience. Based on advice from the locals, we tried conch fritters, conch burgers, peas and rice, and Bahamian macaroni at beach-side “shacks.” Each dish was meant to be simple and delicious. The best part was that when we were all done with our conch burgers, we got to take the shell home and make a conch horn that we could play at sunset.

To wrap up my project, I created two videos about preparing food on a boat and general boating safety. I also researched common phrases and their nautical origin, like keep an even keel, and created a presentation and interactive puzzle.

-Lauren L.

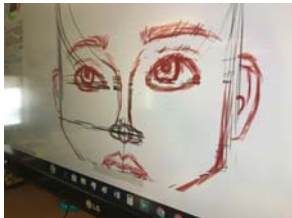
Art Classes

I, assisted by two of my peers, created an art course for Wildlands students to partake in. We wanted to make sure that any level of artistic experienced students could get involved. The classes also are not dependent on each other, so students wouldn't have to be a part of all the classes to still participate.

We have had four classes so far and have a plan for two more. Our first meeting was a short introduction into the class and what the students should expect. We then taught some drawing exercises to give them a glimpse into the rest of the course. During our first real class we made collages that, in a later class, could be used as the covers of their very own DIY sketchbooks. We showed the students different types of collages provided lots of magazines and supplies, but left the rest up to them.



Class One - Collages



Class Two - Portraits

The second class was much more instructional, we taught the basics of drawing portraits. This gave students the ability to sharpen their skills or learn the artistry for the first time. Our most recent class was the "Japanese Calligraphy Stamp Carving class". Students got to carve their own stamps into a rectangular block stamp. Students loved this class because they learned the history of Japanese lettering systems and calligraphy, and got to learn how to write their own names in Japanese.

We set a cap of 20 students to keep the productivity high and the supply need low. However, the amount of interest the students have expressed about this course is so much more than expected. I created a google site with an overflowing gallery of the students work and more details about the course, including the class calendar and sign-up for students. The site was crucial to create for an easy reference for future students in conducting other art courses. I get many students requesting more classes, they seem to be as excited about the rest of the course as am I. The last two classes will involve the DIY sketchbook and our science and art class which will be screen printing our very own t-shirts.

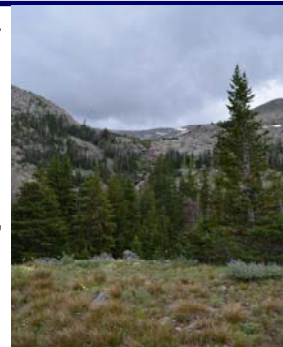


Class Three - Calligraphy Stamps

-Alanna V.

Photography Portfolio

Throughout the past several months I've been working to create a professional portfolio showcasing my photography, as well as providing a place for software, writing, and any other skills that I may need to present in the future, especially at a University. Given, however, that the primary focus of this portfolio was on my photography and videography, I had to learn quite a bit about the maze that is American copyright law and enforcement. I had to learn what counts as a copyright for what and for how long, and how to effectively utilize intellectual property and legal licensing systems. On top of that, I learned (and am still learning) the advantages, disadvantages, and peculiarities of maintaining a public portfolio. It has been a great learning experience, and has proven to be a good tool in the present and likely long into the future.



A Photo from my Portfolio

-RJ R.

Tall Tales of a Story Collector



Shhh! Recording in Progress

I have loved music ever since I can remember. I've always loved to sing, and in more recent years I've taught myself how to play Ukulele. I also became interested in writing music and have been working on improving that skill. With all those things in mind, I thought a good senior project for me would be to record an album.

My first step for this project was to decide what I wanted to accomplish and what questions, or curiosities, I wanted to answer. These included things like: How is a good song structured? What does it take to create a quality song? How could using different instruments and sounds create a different feel to a song? What is the full process to create an album?

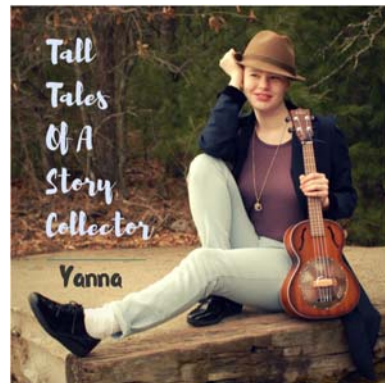
What do you need to create an album? I realized with all those questions, and more, I had a lot to work on. I had to learn things like how to use recording software, write songs, design cover art, and I had to learn some

music theory.

The resources I used to learn were partially online resources, but I also had some great people who mentored me too. Music is, in some ways, a very social thing; it is not always just sound, it can be emotions and people, metaphorically speaking. So then, it only made sense that I should find other musically inclined people to help me out in my project. I talked to teachers, family members, and musicians in the community. I got lots of good tips and advice that I used to work through the process and challenges of my project.

This project helped me to improve a lot of skills in my life, such as organization, working around roadblocks, and learning how to communicate with people to get what I need. I enjoyed my opportunity to learn exactly what goes into creating an album, and I am so happy to have a final product to share with lots of people.

-Ellyanna D.



Album Cover

Join us for Graduation!

Please join us as we celebrate the graduation of the Class of 2018! We will be hosting a ceremony for our graduates on May 24th, 2018 at 7:30pm in the auditorium of the Nature Center. Refreshments to follow.





Augusta School District
E19320 Bartig Rd
Augusta, WI 54722
www.wildlandsschool.net

Phone: 715-877-2292
Fax: 715-877-2234
Email: Wildlands@august.k12.wi.us

Help Support

Donation Amount

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Indicate how you'd like your donation to help Wildlands!

<input type="checkbox"/> equipment/supplies	<input type="checkbox"/> fieldwork/fieldtrips
<input type="checkbox"/> student scholarships	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlands can decide
<input type="checkbox"/> bike team	

Your donation to Wildlands School will provide students with up-to-date research equipment, support field work opportunities, fund local fieldtrips, or support our senior scholarships. Anyway you look at it, the money directly helps our students.

Wildlands needs your support.
Wildlands has established a 501c(3) non-profit organization to support student research and activities. If you would like to help us provide students with unique learning opportunities please use the form below. All donations are tax deductible.

Benefits of supporting Wildlands:

1. With a donation of \$50.00 or more, you will be recognized as a contributor in our Wildlands' Newsletter.
2. With a donation of \$500.00 or more, you will be recognized on our Wildlands' Equipment Trailer as a Major Contributor.

Name of Contributor(s):

Address:

(Internal use only. We will not give away or sell your information)

Thank you for your support!

Thank you for your support!

Mail this section with your donation to:

Wildlands School * E19320 Bartig Road * Augusta, WI 54722