

# Global warming documentary heats up conversation

## Junior Lucy Spahr wins prize at C-SPAN Student Cam competition

by Rebecca Lee

Junior Lucy Spahr used her camera, computer, and passion for the environment to create an award-winning documentary for the C-Span StudentCam 2017 competition. "StudentCam is C-SPAN's annual national video documentary competition that encourages students to think critically about issues that affect our communities and our nation," according to their web page.

Students in grades six through twelve from all over the world can participate.

Spahr first heard of the competition through her AP U.S. History teacher, David Heineman.

"I try to share these sorts of opportunities whenever I can. One of my goals in teaching is helping students recognize the benefits of a 'life of the mind.'" "This competition was a way for students to express their views and interests in a way that they wouldn't normally in our class," Heineman said.

Spahr had some experience with film already. "Over the summer,

I took a film class at UCLA. I made a music video, too. So, I had some experience, but I had never made a documentary," Spahr said.

Over the span of two weeks, Spahr planned, researched, wrote, filmed, and edited what would become a six-minute video.

This year, C-Span prompted students to create a documentary on what they believed to be the most urgent issue for the new president and Congress to address in 2017.

"Students need to be informed on national issues and politics because they affect us all, students no less than adults," Heineman said.

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He continued, "I'm hopeful that all students would engage in the difficult, frustrating and sometimes rewarding work of getting involved and shaping the world they live in."

Spahr decided to focus on the issue of global warming in her film.

"It has to do with the political

situation that we're in now. It's really scary to think that people who are in office don't even believe global warming exists," Spahr said.

The documentary, entitled "Global Warming: The Dead Zone," begins with the story of a young boy, played by Spahr's brother Spencer, who loves to play and swim at the local beach. The story flashes forward, and the boy has grown into an older man, played by Spahr's grandfather Donald Lubin.

When he returns to the same beach, he sees that the water has become toxic and trash has collected along the shores.

Spahr uses footage that captures Senator Jim Inhofe throwing a snowball across the Congress floor, clips of President Donald Trump denying the existence of global warming, and recordings of Senator Ted Cruz dismissing certain studies on climate change.

She contrasts these with graphs that demonstrate downward trends in global temperature, satellite images that capture dried-up lakes, and interviews with scientists.

She includes clips of New Trier's own geoscientist, Donald Wurth, discussing the global greenhouse effect and the process of coral bleaching.

"I was really impressed with



Lucy Spahr and David Heineman celebrate her award-winning film | C-SPAN

Lucy's video. What struck me most was the narrative frame she constructed. It gave the set of facts she presented an immediacy and a personal weight that they might not otherwise carry. I think her marriage of structure and argument was particularly effective," Heineman said.

This year, C-Span received over 2,000 films from over 5,600 students, the most they have seen in the thirteen years of the competition.

Entries came from students from all over the United States, and from England, Singapore, Germany, and Taiwan, according to

C-Span. Spahr was one of the 150 prize winners. Her documentary received an Honorable Mention.

On Apr 4, Spahr celebrated her win. "C-Span came to visit New Trier. They had a little ceremony, which was really nice," Spahr said. Her family and friends were able to come to the ceremony and watch the film.

Spahr will be maintaining her environmental initiative by contributing her prize to an independent organization that promotes solutions to global environmental issues.

"I won \$250 and I'll be donating that to Greenpeace," Spahr said.

# Students shave to save

## Students participate in annual hair-cutting ceremony for St. Baldrick's

by Mimi Cassato

Hair dropped on the lunchroom floor for the annual St. Baldrick's fundraiser, where students volunteered to shave their heads to raise over \$14,000 for childhood cancer.

According to the St. Baldrick's Foundations, 300,000 children are diagnosed with cancer each year which means every two minutes a child is told they have cancer.

And 20 percent of these unlucky kids lose their battle.

However beating cancer is only one step in the journey. Two of three children who survive childhood cancer continue to suffer from the treatments they received resulting in learning disabilities, hearing loss, heart disease, infertility, and secondary cancers.

Childhood cancer is a problem that needs as much awareness as possible.

The St. Baldrick's foundation is unique at New Trier since it is not an actual club. Instead, Senior Nalani Wean is the lead organizer for St. Baldrick's, and for the last few years her group has teamed up with the Cancer Awareness Club (CAC) to help fundraise for the event.

However, the St. Baldrick's foundation does send our students packets and emails to help, but raising the money is up to the students.

KW teacher, the sponsor for CAC and was the faculty treasurer and sponsor for the St. Baldrick's event, in which he assisted students arranging the bake sale and information meetings for the event.

Tadelman goes on to state that he thinks it's a great opportunity for the kids on his club to work with another organization and, "although I usually let the kids



Senior Nalani Wean shaves her head to raise money for charity | NT Twitter

pick what they who they want to help, I always strongly suggest helping St. Baldrick's Foundation."

Senior Meredith Embre is currently on the executive board of the CAC. She said how Wean attended one of the clubs meeting to inform the members how to help raise money for St. Baldrick's.

CAC collected donations through the St. Baldrick's website and also by walking around the lunch room collecting student contributions.

"By joining up with St. Baldrick's, we were able to make an even greater difference and impact," Embre explained.

Junior Nick Solomon, an active member of CAC, said, "I walked around collecting money, and lots of students were willing to give to this amazing cause."

The shaves raised money by creating a sign-up on the St. Baldrick's website. They sent their link to friends and family through social media, who willingly donated along with making announcements during classes.

Some students and teachers shaved their heads for a second time like Wean and Tadelman, but for some like Senior Amanda Stiffler, it was their first.

"It was extremely liberating and powerful," Stiffler said while reflecting on her new "do."

Stiffler is also the shavee and barber coordinator for the club and raised nearly 7,000 dollars, which

was highest this year and almost half of the entire club's donations.

Stiffler explained that she has wanted to shave her head since fourth grade and has done Locks for Love five times.

After a close friend's family was impacted by cancer, did Stiffler finally get the courage to put both feet forward in shaving her head. Stiffler explained how meaningful shaving her head was, since it meant a lot to her friend.

Although shaving your head is an amazing concept in order to support children with cancer, it still does not mean that it happens without difficulty for the shavee.

Stiffler and Sophomore Celeste Carsello conveyed that some of their family members did not completely love the idea at first, "not everyone wanted for you to be bald or don't think you'll actually go through with it so some people are a little hesitant," Stiffler explained.

But along with Stiffler, Carsello stated that in the end everyone came around, "all my friends were supportive of it and there was a big crowd when I shaved my head."

Along with Carsello's friends, many other students watched while at lunch like Junior Abby Schinderle who reflected, "the event is amazing and it reminds everyone how big of a deal childhood cancer and how important it is to do everything we can to raise money and awareness for it."

# Milne SHAPes up to win national award

## NT Health teacher receives recognition for his teaching

by David Heiman

On March 17 Kinetic Wellness teacher Andy Milne won the SHAPE National Health Education Teacher of the Year award.

This came after Milne won the Midwest Health Teacher of the Year award and the Illinois Health Teacher of the Year award.

Milne won the award after initially applying for the Illinois Health Teacher of the Year award.

"After winning that one and then winning the Midwest award, I really didn't think I was going to end up winning the National award. Everything is just surreal to me right now. I was up against so many well qualified candidates that to be named the best health teacher in the US for this past year was just truly amazing" Milne said.

Milne's recognition stems deeper than regional awards with students sharing their praises.

"I think what separates Mr. Milne from the rest of the teachers is the fact that we are always doing projects. Not only are they interactive but they are really fun and get a lot of people involved," said junior Kyle Capone, a former student of Milne's.

Another former student agreed. Junior Ted Conklin said, "What really makes him a stand-out as a teacher is the fact that he gets the whole class engaged."

This year the award ceremony took place in Boston, Massachusetts at a conference that spanned from Mar 14 to Mar 17. The award was announced on the final day.

To apply for the award, Mr. Milne had to film himself teaching a class and get references from some of the teachers throughout the school.

Just two years prior, Andy Horne won the same award and attributed



Milne wins national award. | NT

his winning to Milne.

"Originally, Mr. Milne was the one who pushed me to apply for this award. I wasn't sure if I wanted to, but because of the support that I got from him it got me to the point I wanted to apply."

Horne continued describing his coworker's win, "When I found out that he had won the award it just made me so happy, because without Mr. Milne in the first place I never would be in the position I'm in right now. The best part of our relationship is the fact that we both just push each other to be the best teachers we both can be.

Both Milne and Horne hope that winning these awards will lead to more exposure of what they teach in their classes and to lead to some national exposure too.

Mr. Milne is hoping this award brings short term and long term coverage to the issues he raises in his health class.

"Of course some things happened right after I won the award. My Twitter followers went up and a lot of people were texting me. In the long run I'm just hoping to get more national exposure for what we teach in health here at New Trier and to get more people aware of certain issues that can affect the next generation."