



The 113th Annual Custer Contest

Madison Consolidated High School

Opal E. Sherman Auditorium

April 12, 2024, at 7 p.m.

Participant Biographies

The 113th annual Custer Contest will entertain spectators young and old with five Madison seniors delivering a unique collection of literary pieces. Please take a moment to meet our students and learn a little about their literary selection.

Lily Callis

Parents: Hadley Nighbert and Kyle Callis

Coach: Mrs. Krista Lee

College: Franklin or Purdue

Intended Major: Biomedical Sciences

High School Activities: Marching Band, Jazz Band, Put band, Pep Band

Title of Literature: *Anne of Green Gables*

Author: Lucy Maud Montgomery

Set in the late 19th century, the novel recounts the adventures of 11-year-old orphan girl Anne Shirley sent by mistake to two middle-aged siblings, Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, who had originally intended to adopt a boy to help them on their farm in the fictional town of Avonlea in Prince Edward Island, Canada.



Jack Heckler

Parents: Casey and Kevin Heckler

Coach: Mr. Aaron Kelsey

College: DePauw University

Major: Environmental Biochemistry

High School Activities: Varsity Soccer, Quiz Bowl, Theatre, and Bee Corps

Title of Literature: *The Laramie Project*

Author: Moises Kaufman

The Laramie Project's plot follows a chronological structure. It starts with interviews conducted immediately after Matthew Shepard's death and carries on through the subsequent trials of the two young men accused of his murder, concluding a year after his death.



Milap Patel

Parents: Zamir Patel and Jayna Patel

Coach: Mr. Emeka Koren

College: Purdue University Indianapolis

Intended Major: Computer Science

High School Activities: NHS, Quizbowl, Science Olympiad, Bee Corps / Future Problem Solvers

Title of Literature: *A Perfect Day for Bananafish*

Author: J.D. Salinger

The story centers on a young New York City couple, Seymour and Muriel Glass, as they visit a Florida resort and the bizarre, life-changing experiences they have there. The author critiques the materialistic consumer society of postwar America, which reveled in excess and gluttony. The country's economic boom prompted people to buy things that they or their parents had never before been able to acquire.



Alex Wang

Parents: Wei Wu, Hao Wang

Coach: Mrs. LeAnne Blackerby

College Choice: Purdue

Intended Major: Actuarial Science

High School Activities:

NHS Secretary, Quiz Bowl Member, MCHS Swim Team, and MCHS Tennis Team

Title of Literature: *The Book*

Author: H.P. Lovecraft

The Book is an unfinished short story by American horror fiction writer H. P. Lovecraft, believed to have been written in late 1933.



Nathan Wu

Parents: Xiaolong and Mandy Wu

Coach: Mrs. Jill Koren

College: Purdue

Intended Major: Engineering

High School Activities: Quizbowl, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pit Orchestra, Bee Corps, NHS, Track, Soccer, and Volleyball

Title of Literature: *The Joy Luck Club*

Author: Amy Tan

The story focuses on four Chinese immigrant families in San Francisco who start a club known as The Joy Luck Club, playing the Chinese game of mahjong for money while feasting on a variety of foods.

