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## 2023 SENIOR CLASS GIFT

ABIGAIL BATES ('26)

During the One Day Giving Challenge on Friday, April 21, the senior class of 2023 will participate in multiple donor challenges to raise funds in support of the 2023 Senior Class Gift to Houghton University.

Since the Class of 1925, graduating classes at Houghton have upheld a tradition of producing a meaningful addition to the campus; a practice that originated with President Dr. James S. Luckey, the first president of Houghton University. In the beginning students pledged sums to Houghton within ten years of graduating, which developed into annual physical additions to the campus through donations and student funding.

Some of these class gifts include the Christmas Tree outside of the Campus Center (Class of '15), the apple orchard by the tennis courts (Class of '16), the circle of bench swings near Gillette Hall (Class of

'18), the mosaic sculpture in the shape of a strand of DNA (Class of '19), the KidsZone inclusive playground at the Kerr-Pegula Athletic Complex (Class of '21), and the recent portrait of President Wayne D. Lewis Jr. (Class of '22).

This year's gift is a renewal of the path that goes from Centerville Road up to the Stevens Art Building. The additions include a repaving of the entire path, five new LED fixtures, a metal handrail running up the length of the path, and a class gift sign inscribed with Romans 15:13.

Senior Kathryn Evans, the Representative of the 2023 class, decided on the Senior Class Gift with two other members of the Senior Class Cabinet—Senior Emmanuella Osuzoka and Senior Mary Vandenbosch.

"We all sat down with Amy Tetta," Evans explains, "to just discuss the three options and out of the three options we thought that the path was going to be the best addi-

tion, and impacted all of campus and not just one area. And it would impact community members as well."

After the Senior Class Cabinet's selection, others, mainly in administration, are directing the implementation of the project; a project of great benefit to the university, Evans emphasizes.

Senior Jax Johnson agrees with renewing the path due to the difficulty of spotting it in the winter, especially without a railing. They also describe how it is particularly difficult in the winter for their friends, who are all art majors and walk the path regularly.

"I think making it [the path] a safer, more accessible environment will be good for [seeing the path]," Johnson says, "and also [will] probably have greater use."

With the 2023 Senior Class Gift already in construction, students can expect to see the finished product in time for this academic year's commencement ceremony. ★



Envisioned design for the senior class gift

COURTESY OF AMY TETTA

## Fellowship of the Bands event brings rock 'n roll to Houghton

ANNA CATHERMAN ('24)

This Friday night in the Wesley Chapel, rock bands from around campus will converge for the inaugural "Fellowship of the Bands".

Organized by CAB Coffeehouse Director, and Senior, Demetri Court, "Fellowship of the Bands" is a concert featuring alternating bands playing in an "informal atmosphere". Many of them are groups that don't get to play at Coffeehouse or other events on campus.

According to Court, the event is "not a competition" - it's about col-

laborating. "Good times, good atmosphere, good vibes all around."

"Fellowship of the Bands" will begin at 9 p.m. to allow students to take advantage of the other events on campus that night, including the choir concert, various athletic events, and the "One Day Giving Challenge".

Junior David Olson is leading one of the bands set to perform, and playing in another. As a singer and guitarist, Olson is excited to play in a unique setting he hasn't gotten much experience with at Houghton.

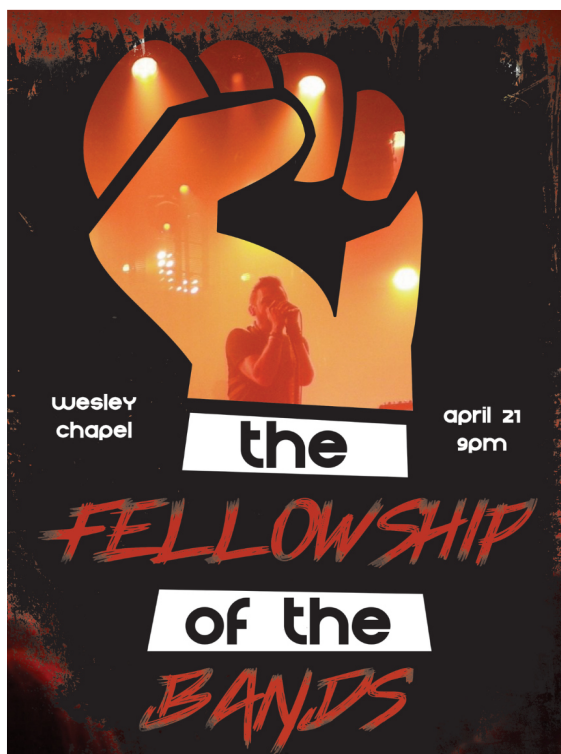
"I'm psyched about the event because it is a unique chance to play a harder style of music that wouldn't necessarily fit in your average open mike setting," Olson says. "It also gives me an opportunity to play with a drummer and bassist in front of people which will be super fun for me."

Director of Student Engagement Jana Newberry has been involved in the planning of the event, which is set for one of the busiest days of

the semester. Houghton's largest fundraiser, the "One Day Giving Challenge" will take place on the same day as the "Fellowship of the Bands", and places a large emphasis on student involvement, and the fun events that close the day serve as a reminder that all that's going on is for the students. There also will be a Nugget and Fry Bar in the Reinhold Campus Center beginning at 8:30 p.m., so friends can hang out and grab food before the concert.

Olson encouraged students to come out and support the musicians, saying that "Everyone should come because it's gonna be wicked fun! The atmosphere is gonna be amazing and you'll get to see your friends take this opportunity to go out on a limb and act really strange!"

Court also encouraged students to attend the event, saying, "It's going to be rock 'n roll and a merry band of people... [h]ow many times does the chapel play any sort of rock?" ★



The Fellowship of the Bands poster

COURTESY OF JOEY SCHUNEMANN

## Feature: Amanda Cox

JAX JOHNSON ('23)

The Director of Houghton's Lyric Theatre, Professor Amanda Cox, who recently directed Houghton's production of "Into the woods" has recently participated in numerous other projects. Some of these projects include working on a film called "Through the eyes of Grace", and acting in a production of "The Last 5 Years". Cox discusses her recent step into the acting world with the exciting, the anxiety inducing, and the everyday, all as a part of the experience.

On entering the world of professional acting, Cox says, "It's something I have always dreamed of doing. I thought I would love to do this. I think I'm gifted in this way but it just wasn't what I did and I've had a beautiful, wonderful, fulfilling life...but then it was like God looked at me and said, 'But what if you could?'"

In early 2022, Cox found a casting call and began auditioning for a film titled, "Through the Eyes of Grace".

Cox describes the film as "a faith-based thriller about a mother who's teenage daughter disappears and throughout

the movie we're just trying to get her back."

Cox notes other recent on-screen appearances through true crime productions acting in the recreation scenes as well as a short film called "Dear Hallmark".

While she has begun acting on-screen, Cox still keeps her love for the stage. She has recently been in several shows including "Camelot" and "The Last 5 Years", as well as an upcoming role as Marmee in "Little Women".

Cox continues by describing the process of getting headshots, going for auditions, and getting her first manager.

She says, "you're basically signing up for a permanent temp job, because there is no permanent job...sometimes there will be months or years in between and that's normal."

With auditions, she says, "You just have to release them out into the universe." Throughout the whole process she notes that she is incredibly grateful for her family, including her husband who has been, "a great foundation to rely on."

Moving forward, "I just want to keep having projects in front of me," Cox says. ★



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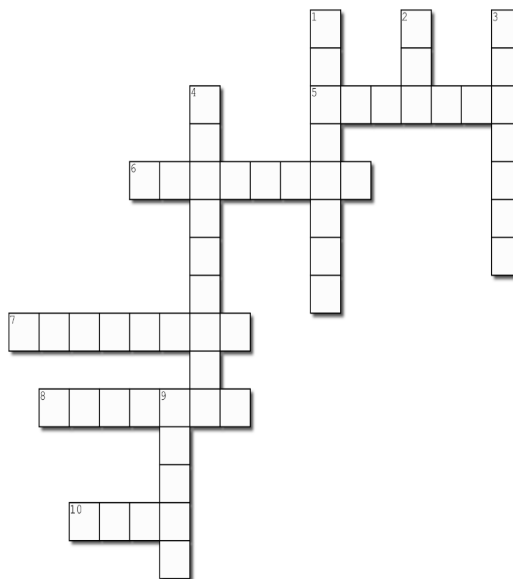


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## Puzzles

### Building Bash



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

#### Across

5. Tallest Building in Allegany County
6. What Dorm stood where Fancher is Today
7. Before Fancher was an Administration building, it was a \_\_\_\_ Building
8. What Building was torn down (not moved) to make room for Chamberlain?
10. Before Gillette was Gillette it was \_\_\_\_ Hall

#### Down

1. Oldest Dorm currently standing at Houghton
2. When Chamberlain Opened, it went by the acronym \_\_\_\_
3. Oldest Building currently standing at Houghton
4. Before Lambein was Lambein, it was....
9. Before Rothenbuler was Rothenbuler, it was \_\_\_\_ Hall

## Sudoku

	6							1
			7	3	6			
					9			7
	1	2		6		7	9	
	7	5		9		2	6	
	3	9		2		4	1	
3			2					
			9	8	5			
7							8	

Difficulty: Tricky

PROVIDED BY SUDOKUOFTHE DAY.COM

# Stepping Into the Unknown



VICTORIA HOCK ('23)

At this time next month, I will be done with my academic career. I will have walked the stage in my cap and gown, said goodbye to my friends, and be close to starting or have already started my first full-time job. It's crazy to think that my time as a Houghton student is almost done. It may sound cheesy, but your four years here will really fly by.

Just two days into orientation week, I called my mom, upset and saying that I wanted to go home. I had never been away from home that long, and I was sure college was not for me.

However, my mom convinced me to stay, and I'm so glad she did. College has given me so many things, and one of those things has been friends, some of which came into my life in unexpected ways. One technically entered my life helping my mom carry a box of supplies up the stairs in my dorm. I was eventually officially introduced to this person through a mutual friend who I had met through an amazing Houghton faculty member.

I would also be remiss not to mention the many friends I've made through working with the

*"Stepping out of your comfort zone doesn't have to look like taking on a leadership position. It could mean simply joining a club. It could mean getting a campus job. It could even mean taking a class outside of your major if you're given the opportunity."*

ance from Editors who genuinely wanted to help me improve my writing. Eventually, I was offered the News Editor position, followed by the position I am in now—the Co-Editor-in-Chief. I am fortunate to work with a wonderful team of people. We all support each other as we work to cre-

campus organization that provides students with service and fellowship opportunities, and even a church to attend. If anyone would have told me in high school that I would end up holding two leadership positions in college, I would have laughed.

Now, this is not an ad for contributing to the Houghton STAR, nor joining the SASF (though both of these organizations are amazing). Rather, it is encouragement for you to step out of your comfort zone while you're here. Stepping out of your comfort zone doesn't have to look like taking on a leadership position. It could mean simply joining a club. It could mean getting a campus job. It could even mean taking a class outside of your major if you're given the opportunity.

Regardless of what this might look like for you, stepping out of your comfort zone can positively affect your college experience in so many ways. You may learn new things, such as a new genre of writing, or

gain leadership skills. You may even meet new people, some of whom may become good friends. For me, even just staying here was stepping outside of my comfort zone. Sure, I thought at the time that I would have probably been more comfortable at home, going to school locally or online. However, I chose to stay at Houghton. Had I not done that, I would not have the friendships I do today. I would not have the knowledge I do today. I have even decided on my future career—a journalist. Had I not taken the leap and written for the STAR, I don't think this career idea would have crossed my mind.

It has been a privilege working for the STAR. While I am sad to leave what quickly became my favorite pastime, know that you will be in excellent hands next year and beyond. I can't wait to see this publication grow and thrive for many years to come. ★

*Victoria Hock is a Senior majoring in Writing and minoring in Communications. She is currently one of the STAR's Co-Editors-in-Chief.*

Have an opinion  
you want to share?

CONTACT  
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## SPEAK OUT!

Letters to the editor  
should be less than 600 words

SUBMIT TO  
star@houghton.edu



The mission of the Houghton STAR is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have been the ideals of Houghton University since its inception. This is done by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.

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## Thanks For Reading



The STAR would like to thank everyone for reading the paper throughout the semester. Next Semester, Joshua Carpenter will be stepping into the Co-Editor-in-Chief position with Christian Welker as Victoria Hock graduates. We are excited to see what next semester brings with our new editing team at the helm. We are committed to continuing the STAR's mission of being the voice of the Student Body on campus.

We appreciate your continued support and hope to grow and improve in the upcoming academic year.

With love,  
The STAR Team