

One History Class? Nah... **FOUR**

GURAM PIRTSKHALAISHVILI, 11, HAS A PASSION FOR HISTORY



Guram Pirtskhalaishvili, 11, a foreign exchange student from Georgia, excels in history. Pirtskhalaishvili is taking a total of four history classes this year. From Honors U.S History, World History, Geography, to Sociology, Pirtskhalaishvili enjoys learning about social studies and uses time outside of school to explore the subject as well. "I can watch historical movies and read historical books endlessly,"

Pirtskhalaishvili said. "My favorite class is World History because I can observe some historical processes across the world." Although Pirtskhalaishvili has a passion for history, he still puts in a lot of work into every class. "The hardest is Honors American History. It's not difficult, but it's just harder than my other classes because I'm learning a lot of different things and have a lot of homework."

1. Andre LeMaire, 12, gives the oath to speak the truth and nothing but the truth in the witness chair. LeMaire liked that Mr. Mole was the judge. "Molé thought he was a higher being so it spiced things up," LeMaire said. *photo by ethan michon.* **2. Reagen Hitzler, 12**, explains the prosecution's position and challenges the defendant's story. Hitzler felt like the mock trial helped her understand more of the intricacies of court. "I think I just learned more about making objections in court, and how the trial process works as well. Calling out witnesses, defenses, and then adapting to different situations I'd say is a big deal," Hitzler said. *photo by ruby bales.*

Diya's **Future** Perfect

DIYA SURI, 12, DESIGNS HER FUTURE PERFECT LIFE IN AP PSYCHOLOGY



As a young student who is still figuring out what she wants to do herself, Suri enjoyed the opportunity to create a crazy life. "I started off as a doctor but then became a movie star. I also moved to Antarctica and got a pet goat. I decided to take a more unrealistic route," said Suri. She also loves learning about the human brain. "It's been really interesting learning about how the brain works and how the world around us shapes how we behave. I loved this project because it gave us a lot of opportunities to be creative and silly with it," said Suri.

AP Psychology is a class where students learn about the structures of the brain and various mental disorders. **Diya Suri, 11**, was asked to complete the challenging task of planning out her future. Suri decided to make the most out of this assignment and make an extravagant life.



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"My favorite part was listening to all my classmates pretend to be lawyers and witnesses. It was interesting to watch them be in a higher position like that. I was a part of the jury. It was not stressful because I didn't have to speak in front of everyone, but I really had to pay attention to what was going on."

Laura Lambrech
Laura Lambrech, 12

Objection, RELEVANCE

AP GOVERNMENT SIMULATES A REAL LIFE COLORADO JURY TRIAL

"What were you doing the night of the crime?" You sit there in the witness seat, reminding yourself to remain unreadable. This is how the events unfolded during the AP Government mock trial.

Mr. Molé was an entertaining judge and he helped the class throughout the entire trial. **Ashley Hardman, 12**, said, "Molé is hilarious and he did a good job being unbiased." **Reagen Hitzler, 12**, shares that this experience allowed her to do the things she loves. "I just thought it was fun acting like a lawyer. I really enjoy speaking, debating, getting up in

front of the class, and just sharing my opinions. I'm definitely a big fan of criminal justice as well," Hitzler said.

During the trial, tension built as the litigants worked hard to convince the jury to be on their side. **Amber Wright, 12**, said, "It was competitive between the prosecution and the defense. There were more outspoken people on the other side, so we were certainly doing our best to get the class on our side. The class had a lot of fun with it."

This trial helped many students understand how the United States jury system works on a deeper level. **Erik Gustavsson, 12**, said, "It showed us how the system works, how cases are selected, and how judges decide what's constitutional and what's not. Basically, just how everything works."

The mock trial was an experience that AP Government students will never forget. *story by alaina feddes.*



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3. Xander Owen, 12, converses with his lawyers as his position as the defendant. Owen watched the trial get intense as the lawyers got really into it. "A couple people got mad and started yelling at each other," Owen said. *photo by ruby bales.*

4. As a witness, **Ashley Hardman, 12**, brews up a response to the prosecutor's questions. Hardman enjoyed working with the class in the trial. "I really like my class so we're all comfortable with each other," Hardman said. *photo by ruby bales.* **5. Amber Wright, 12**, questions the witness as one of the prosecuting attorneys. Wright liked to experience what it's like to work in the legal field. "I'm interested in potentially studying law in college, so to have this bit of a practice trial experience was really fun, even though it was just at the high school level," Wright said. *photo by ethan michon.*



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LEARN YOUR OWN WAY



Cameron

Cameron Pontbriand, 9

"We are doing a project and taking a few quizzes, so me and my friend are going to be rapping about the Legislative branch."



Chelsea

Chelsea Young, 10

"I do the required materials, and I go through the textbook and mark important places. I do a few flashcards for things I don't know."



Camden

Camden Senneff, 12

"Normally I'm not too big on social studies, but Mr. Molé makes it fun, so that makes it easier to understand."



David

David Nguyen, 11

"I read the textbook and do all the extra credit stuff. I know that other people don't do it, but it really helps me learn it."