

SPONSORED FEATURE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

BY JONATHAN KANE

Hadley Cabitto, entering her senior year at Wood River High School carrying a 3.6 grade point average and a member of National Honor Society, loves to perform. Her favorite outlets are as a singer and an actor at the high school.

Currently a member of both the choir and the girls' singing group, Enchante, Hadley is also an ambassador with the Girl Scouts, in which she has participated since first grade. She also is a recipient of the Bronze Congressional Award and participated in Advance Placement Language, U.S. History and Literature.

But it's in front of an audience that Hadley is most at home.

"It's amazing to be able to perform," she said. "Being on stage is the greatest adrenaline rush you can have without dying."

She always sang for fun and joined the choir at Hemingway Elementary School in fifth grade. Besides singing, she plays a little piano and ukulele.

"My dad is really into music and he constantly had it playing in our house our entire lives," she said. "After my sister was born, we started doing Saturday morning concerts for our parents. We'd wake up early and my

dad would turn on the radio and we would jump up on the table and start singing and force our parents to watch."

Hadley grew up loving classic rock because "that's what our parents were into. I think I know more songs by the band Boston than any other pop songs."

She also considers herself to be shy and nervous in front of people.

"When I'm acting, you can forget it because you are playing someone else and it's easy to be that person and forget who you are. Singing can be more nerve wracking but it depends on what you are singing. If the song is difficult, you have to be focused and not worried about what people think."

When she joined the choir at 10 years old, she was instantly in love.

"Our teacher was so supportive, which was amazing because she was trying to focus thirty 10-year-olds."

Her freshman year she

joined Enchante. "There are 15 girls and we meet twice a week at 7 a.m. and do two or three concerts a year.

"Unlike the choir, we focus on pop songs and musicals like 'The Sound of Music' and 'Wicked.' I'm a musical fanatic and so are all of my friends. I have more musicals on my phone than anything else and I could talk to you for years about the musical 'Hamilton.' I could sing every word to every song and it's all I've listened to for the last three months. It's such a beautiful mix of Broadway and pop and rap. It's something we've never seen before. Along with 'Les Miserable' and 'Wicked,' it's my favorite."

Hadley added that performing is more difficult than it looks.

"You get that feeling in your stomach and you can't tell if it's fear or excitement," she said. "You also know that there are a lot of people depending on you so you can't let them down."



Hadley Cabitto. Photo courtesy of Hadley Cabitto

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