

As a young journalist, I initially pictured my future projects to include independent news stories. However, upon joining Advanced Journalism and Inklings in the beginning of my sophomore year, I was made aware of my broadcast requirement, which challenged my preconceived notion of journalism that emitted collaboration entirely. Ever since my first “two-fer” broadcast almost two years ago, I have discovered that broadcasts are an entertaining and efficient mode of communication as well as an outlet for teamwork.

While COVID isolated me from peers with similar journalistic inclination, I was able to find a common ground within my Advanced Journalism class. Our articles were to be completed individually, but partnerships were permitted for the daunting broadcast requirement. Using the “school project” excuse to avoid my parents’ strict pandemic limitations on my social life, I stumbled upon the opportunity to use my own voice as a journalist to provide an extra boost in any capacity possible. Honing in my niche iMovie editing skills, interview abilities and collaborative tendencies, I sought to highlight areas of concern and people/businesses worth celebrating through my shared platform. Although my initial incentive for creating broadcasts was to socialize, it soon became apparent to me that the small task of compiling b-roll and interviews went further within my community than I could comprehend. Eventually, broadcasts became more than an opportunity to explore shared interests with fellow staff writers -- it evolved into a passion, fueling my efforts to draw attention to worthy topics.

As a newly appointed Web Managing Editor, I have been tasked with maintaining high quality stories on our website. Through our analytical data, I have noticed the most alluring posts are the broadcasts. As a result, I have made it my personal mission to ensure engaging and informative stories. In order to do so, I have taught my peers how to use professional video cameras as well as editing software. This opportunity has furthered both my leadership skills and my passion for broadcast. Such experiences with aiding others has reinforced the idea that journalism is allowed to be collaborative.

Compiling broadcasts has taught me a multitude of journalistic and personal skills, but overall, my experiences have opened my eyes to the world of collaborative journalism. As a partnership, ideas circulate more and projects are more thorough. Broadcast journalism has undoubtedly furthered my passion for journalism as it exposed me to infinite possibilities, such as collaboration and involvement with my community.

Judges, thank you for your consideration.

[20 Questions with Ms. Mchale: cruising the Staples halls](#)

I collaborated with my friend to produce a segment for Inklings' new show, On the Wreckord. Last minute, the physics teacher we had prepared to do the show got stage fright, so we completely restructured our questions and rehearsed with a new teacher. The segment was meant to emulate Vogue's 73 Questions series, so a lot of planning and research (as in watching episodes) went into the making of this broadcast.

[Westport Nutrition fuels community with healthy options](#)

I had been stalking Westport Nutrition on social media for two months waiting for them to open so that I could make a broadcast about their business. Three days before the grand opening, my partner tested positive for COVID, so I took our prepared questions and captured as many interviews, background information and b-roll as possible so that we could edit it together and make the process more collaborative despite this inconvenience. We were even able to sample some teas and give out coupons to friends!

[Funny Pretty Nice elevates thrifting experience](#)

After peering into the window of Funny Pretty Nice for far too long, my friend and I finally decided to create a broadcast about their unique business model and fashionable clothing. It was fascinating learning about this woman owned business that decided to open up during the pandemic when many stores were forced to shut down.

[War tensions increase, efforts to help Ukraine prosper](#)

My friend and I were inspired to complete this broadcast after discussing the Russia-Ukraine conflict in school, as we realized that many students had personal connections and were contributing to Ukrainian efforts. It was empowering hearing that Staples students were participating and standing up for what they believe.

[Students evaluate reduced midterm weight, new policies](#)

The news of "fake midterms and finals" was highly controversial throughout Staples' hallways, and it felt necessary to showcase the debate amongst highly motivated students. We sought to give a voice to opinionated students who were affected (positively or negatively) by the rule.