

# Headlight



Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community

www.mhsheadlight.weebly.com

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## Once In a Lifetime

Liam Reilly  
Editor-in-Chief, Junior

One of my first real high school experiences came in the spring of eighth grade. I went to see Acapellooza, one of the concerts put on by the talented MHS acapella groups. The concert consists not only of the high school's groups; other local high schools and even colleges send their acapella groups to perform. I remember this particular year there was an all-male group from what I remember to be Brandeis University, and they were really entertaining. They danced, made jokes with the audience, and had an enjoyable set. The song I enjoyed the most that they performed was "Once In a Lifetime" by the Talking Heads, which I had never heard before. The song is essentially about a man having a mid-life crisis, and the beginning of the song especially caught my attention. The singer is going through a hypothetical scenario in which he is in a life that is both wonderful and unrecognizable and he asks himself, "Well, how did I get here?" At the time, the song was entertaining, the acapella group's rendition was pretty funny, and nothing more. Over time however, and especially recently, the song has been on my mind. Thinking about my high school journey, and what an exciting opportunity I have before me as Editor-in-Chief next year, I've been asking myself: Well, how did I get here?

I got here, to be Editor-in-Chief, simply by following my dreams. I always loved to write, and was on the school newspaper staff in eighth grade at the Veterans School. So naturally, my inclination was to continue writing for my school paper at the high school. The problem was that something got in my way during my freshman year: me. I was too afraid to test myself and explore what the high school had to offer and so I chose not to partake in the school newspaper my first year here. Fortunately, my sophomore year I was able to get over myself and my doubts, follow my dream and attend my first Headlight meeting, and

I was hooked. I went to a second meeting, and then a third, and not before long I was a member of the Headlight staff. Dan Rosenberg and Grace Perry proved to be excellent as Editors-in-Chief and mentors in the writing process along the way. By following my dream to write, I have been able to join Headlight, and now become Editor-in-Chief along with Alex and Meredith.

Since I went to that first meeting, time has flown by. Looking back on how quickly my first three years of high school have passed makes me increasingly excited for my last year. With just one school year left in the high school, it is particularly important to work hard and not leave behind any regrets in all aspects of the high school experience (especially Headlight). I'm exuberant to be at the helm of what has become one of my most treasured extracurricular activities, and encourage students currently at the high school and those who will be attending next year to take a chance and do what they love, whether it is Headlight or any other activity. We all are high schoolers "once in a lifetime", and it is important that as high schoolers we make every moment count.

*"I got here, to be Editor-in-Chief, simply by following my dreams."*

- Liam Reilly, Editor-in-Chief

## A Passion for Headlight

Meredith Piela  
Editor-in-Chief, Junior

It was only a few weeks ago that I was writing what I thought would be my last article of the year. Well, I was wrong. Here I am, writing again, except this time, it's as an Editor-in-Chief. For those who don't know me (which is the case for the majority of you), I'm Meredith Piela, an incoming senior at Marblehead High School. In addition to Headlight, I run cross country and track, and I'm a member of the MHS band. As you can see, I'm not exactly a part of the more popular sports teams or activities, but I am part of ones with some of the nicest people. This includes Headlight, which is why I'm so glad to be a member, and an Editor-in-Chief.

When I was a freshman, still trying to figure out what I wanted to do, some of the Headlight members attempted to convince me to join. I didn't think journalism was for me, so I said no, not knowing that my mind would change the next year. Looking back, it seems like they knew me and what I wanted to do better than I did. When I first joined Headlight in the fall of sophomore year, I started to realize what I had been missing all of freshman year. Here was this great group of writers, led by their friendly and welcoming

editors, Grace Perry and Dan Rosenberg. Grace and Dan's enthusiasm about writing in the paper rubbed off on all of us. I knew I had found my place.

In the past two years, Headlight has taught me so much about the importance of deadlines, how to deal with edits in my articles, and most importantly, journalism. I know as an Editor-in-Chief I will learn more, but I can't wait to share what I've learned with all of the new members. Within a few weeks of joining Headlight sophomore year, I realized that journalism is what I wanted to do, so I made a promise to myself that I would work my hardest to be an Editor-in-Chief senior year. While filling out my application sheet, not only did I realize how much of a writing nerd I am (seriously, I'm pretty sure I was the only one who wrote that I love to edit papers and give feedback), but I also realized how passionate I am about journalism and Headlight. Not only do I love writing for the paper, but I also love reading it. Every morning at breakfast, I read the G section of the Boston Globe, and every Thursday, I look forward to coming home and reading the Marblehead Reporter. After being led by the wonderful Grace and Dan for the past two years, I believe Alex, Liam, and I can successfully lead Headlight next year, which won't be too hard, since we have such a great group of writers.

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- Meredith Piela, Editor-in-Chief

## One Year More

Alex Kerai  
Editor-in-Chief, Junior

The drums roll and the trumpet fanfare heralds the coming of graduates into their next phase of life. As "Pomp and Circumstance" plays, a scary thought rushes into my head: "In one year that will be me." How did this happen? How am I senior? Looking out on the sea of red and black robes I recognize the faces of friends I've had for three years or more who, in just a few months, will be gone from Marblehead and off to college. Last year graduation seemed so far away and now, if I blink, it'll be here for me.

With the unofficial start of my senior year occurring at 4p.m Sunday, I am very excited to begin my tenure as Editor-in-Chief with Liam and Meredith in our first issue. The past three years of my high school career, I have dedicated numerous hours to Headlight and I will continue that dedication for the next year. I know that the three of us will continue to make Headlight great and will continue on the tradition that has been set forth by the editors before us.

Junior year has come and gone and now the

stress of senior year is quickly approaching. I know it that it will probably fly by but I'm ready to soak in every moment. A year from now I'll be sitting on those folding chairs in the Field House wearing a long flowing robe with a square hat on my head trying to remember the past four years. And I know that it will have gone by way too fast.

There is only one more year of high school left for me. It's crazy to think that these three years have gone by so fast and that in six months I will have applied to college. One more year until graduation and in that year I look forward to a great year with Headlight and my fellow editors.

*"We will continue on the tradition that has been set forth by the editors before us."*

- Alex Kerai, Editor-in-Chief



## Headlight Staff

### 2013-14

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF: Alex Kerai, Meredith Piela & Liam Reilly

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