

## Interview with Kyle McBroom

This oral interview is being conducted for the local history project in Ms. Duyckinck's AP History class. The interviewer is DeCruz Pulikottil, and the interviewee is Kyle McBroom. The date is May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003, the interview is taking place at 11:41 AM.

DP- DeCruz Pulikottil

KM- Kyle McBroom

DP: So first of all, who are you? And why am I interviewing you?

KM: As stated twice before in the introduction. My name is Kyle McBroom, I'm a senior. This is my fourth year at Century, I've been here all four years, no skipping around. And I'm the ASB vice president for this year. Last year I did help start this oral history project last year. I'm also Mrs. Duyckinck's aide and independent study. And Kathrina Jauergizar and I have been recording different events that have been going on. And other such things as that. I've been involved the theater program. I've been involved with a whole bunch of stuff, so I know a lot about this school.

DP: So you were involved in Drama; were you involved from your freshman year?

KM: Yeah, I started winter of my freshman year with Elephant Man. One of my friends told me to audition. So I went auditioned I got a part. My director was Stu Cabe. I liked it so much, so I just kept going. I directed a one act that went to Nationals. Senior year I did all three staged plays so...

DP: From your freshman year in Drama and now your senior year in Drama, how much has it improved?

KM: That's a good question. There's a lot of ways to look at that. There's the competitive level. It's where we're just getting back to the spot that we were my freshman year. My freshman year, we won state with Coffee Break in the group musical. They went to nationals, and then they took the Kid's Game in group musical. Competitively speaking, we're just getting back to that, the group musical Façade just won state. As far as acting goes we haven't had anyone else break into acting. Marina Salazar, she ended up showcasing nationals. We're still good competitively, we just got state in technical theater. Our freshman year, our drive was huge, and the drive is huge this year. We had this pride in the theater department, and over the years that pride has sort of begun to wane. That's what I've noticed a lot, like we have this big space, we've got this great space, we've got these great directors like Janet Van Wess and Bill Johnston, we've got these great new people who know what they're doing and people aren't utilizing them. They're taking the space for granted, I mean people have abused the space to the point where its like, its not even funny anymore. I could recall a couple instances but I'm not going to go into that.

DP: Go into it, go ahead.

KM: You want me too? (Yeah) Alright.

DP: I wanna hear some dirt.

KM: You wanna hear some dirt, okay. Well, this one is huge, this is the thing that sparked the whole, uh it wasn't so much sparking but it was uh it was kinda... it was, we don't know. Its like the vents in the ventilation shaft. Speaking of which, this is what it goes into, and this is going to stay off the records because its like, you know, it goes into Ben Crop. So Ben and Jon Lewis one day they decided that they wanted to go exploring in the theater and they crawled into the ventilation shafts and they got caught. And that kind of sparked a whole administration talk about supervision in the school. And that's why mainly you can't be in the school anymore without supervision. That's not mainly why but that's the straw that broke the camel's back, quite honestly, that's what it was. That's what I mean by there's no pride in this theater anymore, I mean there's NOT because people like, things like that happen. I mean back in my freshmen year, nobody would have done that, why, because that's blatant abuse of the privileges of the space. I honestly think it's ridiculous, what happened. I told Ben and Jon I don't condone that whatsoever. I mean I still support them, Ben's still one of my very best friends in the world, I just, I thought it was one of the stupidest things that could have happened. But I don't know, that's like one example of why there's no pride in this theater anymore, I don't think there's any pride in this theater anymore. I mean sure there are some certain people and we're trying to bump that pride up, but its been quashed by other people who just don't wanna take it and we've been called elitists because we have this pride in this theater, and I think its ridiculous quite honestly. My personal goal was to get the pride back in the theater and you know I fanned the flame to other students, for underclassmen to come up and hopefully aspire to get this theater back to the point where it was my freshmen year, when it was just everybody wanted to be involved, it was so proud. I mean like our theater has such a reputation that when we go to Nationals people say "you're from Century High School" and you say yeah, and they go "wow! You did that thing with the thing in the thing" and you go yeah, and its pretty cool, so I guess that's sort of, I went on a tangent but that's okay.

DP: I went down to Scappoose High School and I met with their drama department and what it is, basically, is the corner of their cafeteria. When you go to other high schools and you don't see the facilities you see here, what does that make you feel?

KM: Century by far has, possibly the best space in the state of Oregon. It's got a great, I don't know how Liberty's is going to compare to it, but I know that Century has a wonderful space, and we've go to other schools and its like, I mean I went to Jesuit, actually, about a month ago and we walked on their stage and it's just tiny compared to ours, it was like, I just couldn't believe it. Like I said it just gives me this pride that I know that we've got this theater and we've got this space, like this beautiful gorgeous like hundreds of thousands of millions of dollars of equipment in that space. I mean its so cool to me, quite honestly, that I go here. And that's kind of why I think that people

should have pride. Because the space is the best in this state. There's so much talent in this theater, but its not being moved in the right direction. It's not being fanned so to speak. It's a flame, its not being encouraged and continue to grow. You go to other schools and you see their pitiful theaters, and its so sad, but you come to ours and you say "wow this theater is so huge" Hillsboro wanted a place to show off their arts, a lot of people are like "Hillsboro, blah blah blah, you're in the annals of Oregon" No they're not, a lot of people in Hillsboro enjoy fine art performances, and I mean our space is rented out by various groups and I think it shows about the community that they do want encourage fine arts performances.

DP: I think there's someone leaving this year, Janet? Who's replacing her?

KM: There's not going to be a replacement for Janet.

DP: There's Janet leaving, budget cuts and everything. How will this affect the drama department?

KM: I don't think theater's gonna change that much. It will, but it will be business as usual.

DP: Let's move on to speech and debate. When we compare our school to other schools, where do we stand?

KM: Century, this year has become a force to be reckoned with? This year Sean Ellis and Kathrina Jauergizar were great in Public Debate this year. Jade Olsen did great in Student Congress, she's only a sophomore. Ben Crop, he knows what he's doing, he's a good cross-ex debater; hes a good duo intepreter. Marco Perez, and you DeCruz, you're a pretty damn good Lder. But the team has been doing pretty well, and we got our first sweepstakes this year at Linfield. And we are establishing ourselves as a team in the National Forensics League as a powerhouse. We sent four people to nationals this year.

DP: Lets move on to school, and leadership. I remember my freshman year when I came here and I was in the assemblies, and it was amazing. I remember the spirit. How do you feel about that?

KM: Spirit is all up to the senior class. I said this in my speech at Jagfest; Leadership is a quality that every senior has whether they know it or not and it's through our examples that we carve our success at Century High School. And every senior should strive to achieve the pinnacle of what Century should be. I trueley meant that, like my sophomore year we had seniors like David Brush and David Beckan. And Tyson S. and Shawn Shack, not seniors but seniors and juniors. They were all into it. That's why assemblies were all pumped into it. This year, the class of 2003 is pretty spiritless quite honestly. Certain people like Theary Sim, Dante Ziulianni, Johnathan Brookins, they all have great school spirit. But it's not enough to have the whole class going. We got a huge senior class. But a lot of what Ive heard is, "Century sucks, I don't wanna be here" Why? Why?

You can legally drop out your sophomore year, if you don't like it, why are you here? I think it's the lack of leadership.

DP: If you tell some kids at this "you need spirit" they say, "no I don't, I just wanna study, graduate, and get outta here" What do you say to that?

KM: I think high school is what you make out of it, I mean if you're having a crappy time coming here, then why bother even coming? Every single day being miserable. That's why I've kept myself involved in extra curricular activities, because I wanna have some fun. Once you begin to have fun in school, you're gonna like school. That's where spirit comes from. Century is a great school, we have a wonderful facility. I've had a wonderful, wonderful time here.

DP: What makes you proud of Century?

KM: A lot of things make me proud of Century. Dawn Montgomery is possibly one of the most supportive people I know. Ron Webb, the athletics director, he is great. When you think of someone like that, you think "oh he focuses on sports" No, he is a very big supporter of the arts and other activities. Julie Browne is a great activities director, she helps out so much. Without Julie Browne, there would be no student Government at all.