

Meet Emily Corrao, GHS Class of 2022



Emily graduated with a daunting task: which of her many interests should she pursue? She was accepted into Suffolk University, a private research university in downtown Boston that offers a wide variety of studies and opportunities for a taste of city living.

Emily is a multi-faceted student, having used high school to explore interests in drama, singing, and more, but ultimately decided that journalism was her path. Her pursuit of a career in journalism doesn't stop her from cultivating other interests as well—she's involved in a number of clubs and organizations that extend outside the classroom. Emily is entering sophomore year continuing to expand her horizons and seeking new opportunities for both her career and other passions.

What are you studying in college?

I'm studying broadcast journalism at Suffolk University, with a criminal justice minor. Criminal justice was one of the paths I was thinking about when I first applied to college, but I chose journalism because I felt like I could use it as a way to expand everything, because there's so much variety within it.

In Gloucester Public Schools, what were your interests and extracurricular activities?

I was a big **drama** person, all four years of high school. I also did chorus for three years, and was a singer for the **Docksiders band** for one year. I dabbled in **DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America)**, and I was part of the school newspaper, The Gillnetter. I dabbled in a lot of things at GHS, for sure.

What do you think you gained from each of these activities?

In terms of drama, I absolutely love singing and dancing and acting, and I feel like it helped my confidence. I loved The Gillnetter, too. My journalism teacher at Suffolk has been super supportive, and of course Ms. Trigilio at GHS was super helpful. I feel like she really prepared me for journalism in her class. For chorus, I learned how to read music at GHS, which is so useful, and I learned how to match pitch and how to do solfege. I'm part of the Suffolk Chamber Choir, which is just a fancy word for a choir, and we do more classical pieces. I found that in the chamber choir, a lot of people don't know how to read music, and I'm not amazing at it myself, but it does definitely help to know.

Where do you think all these interests began for you?

I've always loved music, and acting. I started doing plays in second grade, at The Annisquam Village House, and from there I started doing my school plays. I did my second, third, fourth, and **fifth grade plays** at Plum Cove, and all three years of **middle school theater** at O'Maley. I also did all the **O'Maley theater summer camps**, which again really helped my confidence. I did **chorus** in middle school as well. The teachers who ran those programs were very passionate about what they did, and the programs themselves were very welcoming. There were all different kinds of people with all different kinds of backgrounds, and you bond with people. They change you, whether they're students or faculty.

How are you feeling about the future?

Right now, I feel like I'm on a good path. I'm on the dean's list at Suffolk, and I'm really excited. I love being in the city...After college I would absolutely love to be in a big city like Boston, New York City, or even D.C. if I try to go down the investigative journalism path. I'm in broadcast journalism, so I'd love to do something with less writing, more talking. I can write, but I feel like I'm at my best when I'm speaking.



This interview was conducted by GHS student Aurelia Harrison in 2023, as part of a GEF Summer Internship. GEF funds a wide variety of dynamic programs in the arts, STEM, and more in the Gloucester Public Schools. GEF-funded programs are highlighted in yellow above. To learn more visit our website: www.thinkthebest.org.

