



Princess Bio

Name: Lydia Yihdego

School: David Douglas High School

Year in school: Senior

Future education plans: 4-year University to study Biology

Career plans: Physician's Assistant and specialize in OB/GYN or Dermatology

High School Activities & Honors:

I play violin in my church's community orchestra, volunteer at my local hospital, and stay active by planning Black Student Union meetings as Vice President of the club. I also enjoy travelling and meeting new faces. Through a nonprofit organization that I'm a part of called Wonderfolk, I've had the opportunity to work on service projects in Portland to promote equity and service. I'm happiest when I'm serving others and making a positive impact.

Hobbies and special interest:

- Student Government : Junior & Senior Class President
- Black Student Union : Vice President
- David Douglas High School Symphonics Orchestra : 1st Violinist (Premier Level)
- Oregon Health & Science University Cancer Research Intern : Summer, 2025
- JV Girls Basketball : Team Captain
- Principal Honor Roll : Grade 9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th

What is your favorite place to visit in Portland and why?

My favorite place in Portland is OHSU, especially the tram ride down to the Knight Cancer Research Institute. Being surrounded by healthcare professionals, researchers, and patients filled me with an exhilaration like no other. The view is stunning, but it's the sense of purpose and possibility on that hill that inspires me to pursue my career goals.

What are you most proud of during your high school career?

Organizing Junior Sunset is what I'm most proud about from my high school time. Not many traditions exist at our school to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of the junior class, and so when I became president I worked to organize an end-of-year event specially for them so they can come together to reflect and celebrate their year. It was considerable work getting approval for the event, and then having to deal with the logistics of organizing it, but what made the effort worthwhile was seeing joy on the faces of my fellow classmates once the event came to fruition.

What is your favorite Rose Festival event and why?

The Grand Floral Parade is my favorite event. I have cherished childhood memories of my family and me camping overnight in order to have the best viewing spot. As a child, the first time I slept outside of my home was camping for the parade. Waking up to my mom's hot cocoa and sitting down in our camping chairs to take in the grandeur and colorful displays of the parade is one of my favorite memories, and that is why the parade is my favorite event.