## **Samuel Cousins**

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

## Los Altos High School

December 2023



Senior

Los Altos High School is proud to recognize Samuel Cousins as our December 2023 Student of the Month.

Sam is part of Los Altos High School's Theater troupe, Broken Box. Here, he has been in 12 plays and 3 musicals since his freshman year. He continues to foster his love of theater outside school, participating in numerous plays with Upstage theater.

Sam understands the vast positive influence theater has had on him, and wants to foster this community for others as well, as a Vice President of GIFT Theater where he volunteers in 5 shows a year. GIFT Theater is a volunteer charity theater company run by teens in the Bay Area that performs abridged plays and musicals for underserved audiences in children's hospitals and elderly care homes.

In addition to acting, Sam is the Captain and starter for Mountain View Volleyball Club 18 Black team, and is on the Los Altos's Varsity Volleyball team. As a teammate and team leader, he works to foster a community of support and improvement at every practice and game.

Looking back on his time at Los Altos, he has been most impacted by Broken Box and the Performing Arts department as a whole. Though he doesn't plan to pursue acting as a career; he knows he will leave High school with the firm belief that performing onstage is one of the most valuable experiences anyone, in any field, can have. He recognizes that acting has taught him to be a better problem-solver, leader, and classmate.

His favorite academic classes have been Computer Science and ADEN, where he can combine his creativity with tangible solutions and progress.

Currently, he works to represent the student voice at LAHS in local politics regarding transportation policy and infrastructure, writing letters, petitioning and attending local planning meetings to get student voices involved in municipal debate over transportation policy like bike lanes. He hopes to bring more community members into decision making processes, and encourage (both through policy and self-practice) more cycling and green transportation in his community. After Graduation, Sam hopes to study Urban Planning and Computer Science and explore how computer simulation can educate urban and transportation policy.

Thank you Sam for all that you provide to our community, and we look forward to more accomplishments coming your way.