

# THE CURRENT

O-Fish-AI Student Newspaper

Volume XXVI, Issue 3

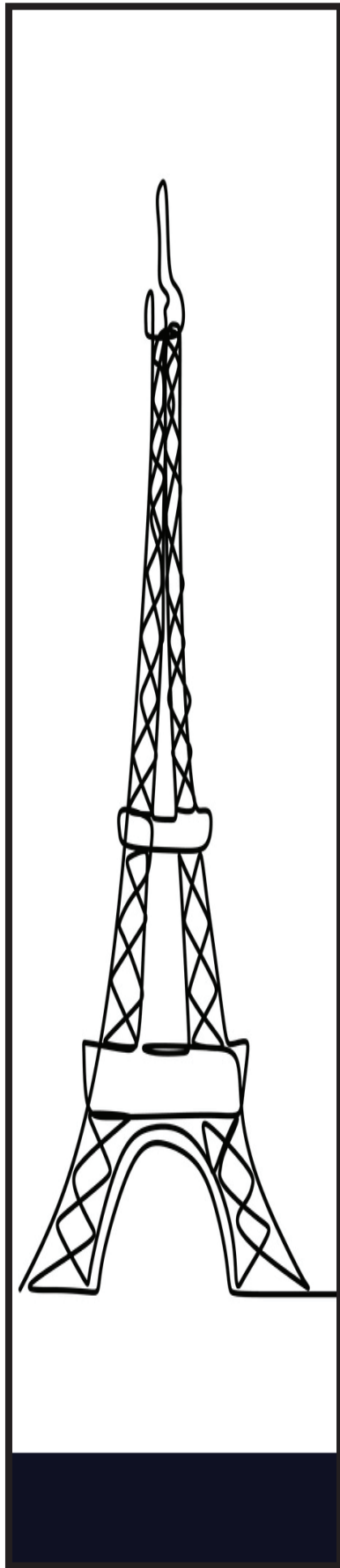
Published Since 1995

March 2023

www.mhscurrent.com

## YOU AND ME WALKING THE STREETS OF PARIS

Lukas Weiss  
STAFF WRITER

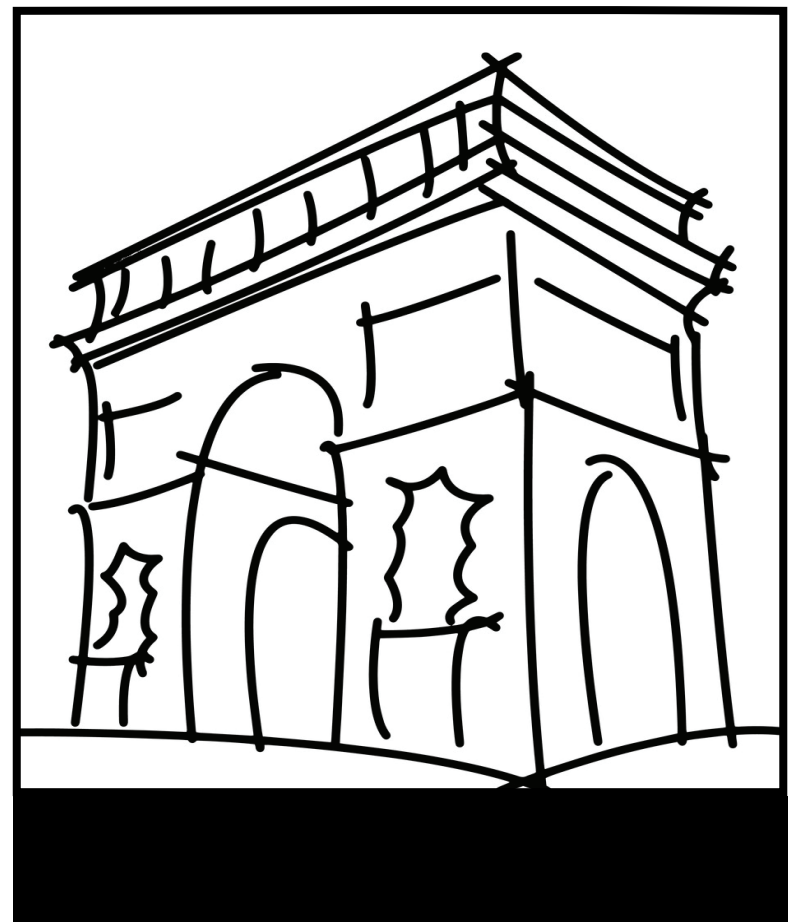


Is there anything better than Paris? Sipping cafe' au lait off the Champsw Elysse, or maybe it's relishing the Moulin Rouge while feasting on a plate of macarons. Established in 259 B.C under the alias of Lutetia, Paris has since garnered a reputation associated with culture, couture and cuisine. What separates the city of love from other destinations is its vast walwk-ability. With 20 arrondissements, or boroughs, crammed into an area 1/10th the size of LA proper, there should be no complaints about foot being the preferred way of transit. If memory serves, It took the Romans decades to conquer France in its entirety. So what's a short 20 something mile walk? Because of its manageable size, a day's time is more than enough time to get a look, feel and maybe a slight emotional attachment to the city.

The best time to commence our journey is before the clock strikes noon. Beauty sleep is important, but I wouldn't want to see you become a bust from the heat. Parading the Arc De Triomphe makes for a good start. Assembled in the 17th century, the monument was constructed to honor the dead and deceived who fought in The French Revolution. While the Arc's main purpose nowadays is to serve as a glorified roundabout, I'd be lying if I said the monstrous memorial wasn't worth visiting. Feeding into the Arc is the mouth of the Champ Elysse. From shopping at Saint Laurent to gaping outside of Chanel, this bustling boulevard is any fashion intern's lookbook put into life. Laissez-Faire aside, this street is perched with fountains galore and greenery. Unlike Americans, the French prefer

not to put priority on breakfast. Afterall, former French royalty Marie Antoinette fought with her stomach and all it got her was her head chopped off. All you really need to get your day started is a simple cappuccino and croissant. Move over Laduree, Boulangerie du Colisee and Julambre just got awarded as the best boulangeries in Paris by yours truly. Consesours can't go wrong with any items off their respectable menu, but my personal favorites are Juambre's chocolate croissants, or pain au chocolat, as well as Colisee's tart topped with garden-fresh raspberries. After our quick detour of living like a modern monarch of Versailles, we'll continue our stroll down the Champs. With mile two and the terminus of the beloved boulevard on the horizon, it's best to continue east along Rue de Rivoli. Entering the midst of the 1st arrondissement, visitors can expect nothing less from Paris's first and foremost. Containing Mona Lisa's long term home at the Louvre, along with the lush Tuileries Gardens, even a quick snapshot of the surroundings will bless your feed for the years to come.

Gliding your way across the Seine River will lead to locking eyes with the notorious Notre Dame Cathedral. Despite the fact that the Cathedral is closed to the public, visitors can still catch a gorgeous glimpse offering a view of its iconic rose stained glass and double aisles towering from above. With its epochal architecture giving the likes of medieval gothic, there's no denying that goths around the world would be a little less represented without the famed building to serve as such a symbol. Approaching Boulevard St



Germain, the feel of the quaint yet lively Latin Quarter will begin to dawn. Boasting cobblestoned streets and cabaret clubs aplenty, it's quite the change in scenery. If that sweet tooth of yours wasn't satisfied enough, I feel as if checking out La Creme De Paris wouldn't hurt. Situated in the center of action, the cafe provides a wide variety of crepes along with an extensive offering of smoothies, sundies and the in between. Diners will leave with a full stomach, and a degree in gastronomie. Proceeding our way down Boulevard Saint Michel, we'll venture into the illustrious Luxembourg Gardens. Taking up 60 acres of land, the Gardens offer dozens of amenities and attractions. The Medici Fountain is a standout to my liking, as it makes for the perfect place to seek tranquility.

Possessing a wide collection of statues from Ancient Greece to every type of animal, it seems as if even the worst of people have a statue they can aspire to be one day. Whether it's lounging on the lawn or adoring vibrant beds of flowers, no one does downtime like Parisians. With sundown soon approaching, it appears that it's time to make our last act of the day. Head in hand, tail tucked between the legs and facing the Eiffel Tower. While the two mile walk may seem troubling to those legs, keep in mind that you own these streets now. As you strut down the Champ de Mars, the lights suddenly begin to flicker. With the moon in place and stars shining, everything seems to be coming together. Better get that pretty picture quick though, the lights only flash for five minutes.

Quote of the  
Month

**A man who stands for nothing will fall for anything**

- Malcolm X

# The Return of Masque

Vol. XXVI  
Issue III

Published Since 1995  
www.malibuhighcurrent.com

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*Special thanks,  
to the MHS PTSA,  
the Shark Fund, and  
Keith Addis for their g  
enerous contributions.*

*And a heartfelt thank  
you to those who attended  
the Journalism Class  
Coffhouse in support  
of THE CURRENT*

Lucia Granados, Mathea Lasky, and Felix de Raspide Ross  
EDITORS-IN-CHIEF and EDITOR

What seemingly died away with the pandemic and changing times was rebirthed over the course of three wonderful nights. Masque's magical atmosphere was introduced to many and put on stage for hundreds of students and community members to bear witness. Every night showcased new acts, and brought new faces to impress.

The MCs Reyn Smith, Anita Lopez Vida, Leo Alexander, Sophia Boling, and Sophia Byron took it away by stringing together 16 acts every night and leaving no dull moment for the audience. Audience members walked out of the theater astonished and eager to come to the next show. Saturday night made Masque history with over 250 people in attendance, the highest number of people record-

ed for a Saturday. With special judge Mr. Ervin, and the first Teacher Act in ten years, it was no surprise that Saturday was this year's most exciting night.

The winners of Masque were chosen by special judges each night. Judges included Ms. Seikali, Mr. Corrigan, Ms. Galipeau, Mr. Meyer, Mr. Ervin and alumnis Noah Redclay and Trinity Drummond. Best overall performances were Marsaille Wells' galvanizing performances of "2 Steps Back", and Harlow Rocca and Mai-Anh Tarnay's electrifying dance number. Best group acts were Allegra Torres' "Put Your Records On", accompanied by band members Asher Torres and Nick Ortiz; and Jadin Baron's "Hysteria" with Alex Isles and Marvin Schmolka. Most entertaining acts went to Reyn Smith and Ms. Smith's

duet dance and Frankie Little's hilarious slam poetry. Last but not least, most original performance went to Stayley Brath for her unique take on the "Wednesday Addams" dance. Performed after months of preparation and dedication, each act rose to the occasion and put on unforgettable performances.

Head of production and Director Felix de Raspide Ross had been preparing for Masque since early November of 2022. During these five months, tedious tasks such as advertising, auditions, and rehearsals were solely accomplished by his determination. His vision came to fruition as he arranged all stage blocking, props, lighting, and sound, to make the show come to life. ASB, including Stage Manager Payton Pollack, worked as crew behind the curtains to make sure

every act was set up for success. Joelle "Cha-Cha" McNaughton accompanied several acts on piano, augmenting the sound spilling out from the stage.

This year's Masque doubled last year's revenue, raising over \$11,000 for prom and the class of 2024. Arts Angels generously helped with concessions, raising over \$400 in revenue. Mrs. Stowell and Ms. Auer advised and motivated students to support their fellow classmates and bring back the school spirit that once defined Masque.

Without the hard work of our MCs, our ASB class, our teachers, our advisers, and YOU - our students - Masque would not have been possible. Class of '25 has their work cut out for them, because this Masque will be hard to beat!



## Barbara Boxer Comes to MMS

Betsy Baker  
STAFF WRITER

On February 3rd, former California Congressperson Barbara Boxer made a brief appearance in the auditorium to share her knowledge with our middle school peers. She was a woman clearly accustomed to speaking under scrutiny - over her thirty-minute speaking time, she vacillated between stump speech and government lesson, first encouraging students to remember the three branches of government, then praising her own policies. She spoke expansively about the path of legislation through the

federal government, but discarded her point before she made a conclusion. Indeed, she made very few points at all: Ms. Boxer talked about the Declaration of Independence, the movement to save the dolphins, the evils of King George III, and the emotion the preamble of the Constitution evokes, but could not tie any one of those threads together. She garnered applause from her young audience when she explained that she had served both in the House of Representatives and the Senate. Students also cheered when she confirmed that

California was the first to elect two female Congresspeople to the Senate. But every student in the audience was a middle schooler, and despite Ms. Boxer's efforts to engage them in her discussion, she could not hold their attention for the full time. Maybe it was the circumstances of speaking to twelve-year-olds, or maybe it was the struggle of getting through the last period on a Friday, but no part of the speech felt fully developed. Despite the prepared whiteboard and her pocket editions of both

the Constitution, Ms. Boxer seemed to be grasping for her points. To her credit, though, Ms. Boxer really did make a serious effort to get students to participate. She asked constant questions and she answered their few questions with respect and thoughtfulness. Ms. Boxer's mere presence in our theater was an impressive enough sight, and one that will be the pride of Malibu Middle School for years to come - Barbara Boxer is, after all, a legend of California politics.

**Tyler Claire**  
STAFF WRITER

**Kate Mulder**  
STAFF WRITER

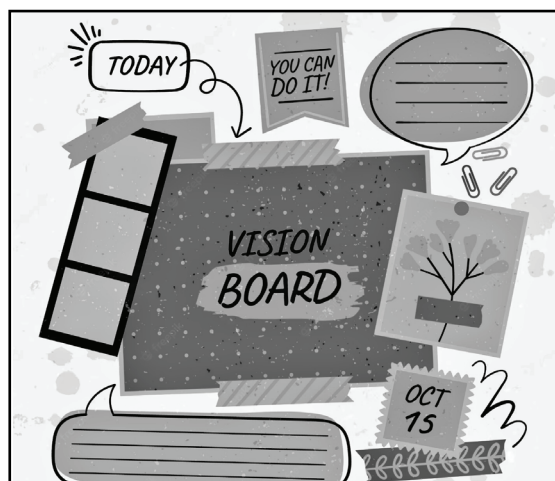
The first thing we need to leave behind is constant procrastination. At the start of every new year, we all make resolutions that never come true (most of the time). However, this year, we are actually going to follow these goals. This year we need to get stuff done without procrastinating (especially in school) and make everything easier on ourselves. The second thing that needs to be left behind is surrounding yourself with negative people. Negative people always ruin your mood and it's not worth it at all. This year, let's leave the negative people behind and find people who are truly exciting to be around. The third thing is people pleasing. This year, let's stop worrying so much about what others think and want; instead, we can focus on what we want to do. Instead of doing things for others, let's

do things for ourselves! This one is very important, we NEED to leave fake friends behind. This is definitely the year to leave behind fake people once and for all. What's the point of having them stick around? In addition, we have to leave behind a lack of motivation. In 2022 I had a lack

## Things to Leave Behind Entering 2023

of motivation and in the end, it never paid off. 2023 is the year of motivation and sticking to our resolutions! Next, I definitely hit snooze way too often and I end up late to school. The snooze button is so tempting that early in the morning and this year we should get up and get to school on time. Another habit to leave is spending too much money on miscellaneous things. At the

end of the month, I look back on how much money I spent and it never makes sense. 2023 is the year of saving money and only spending money on reasonable things. Furthermore, we NEED to leave behind staying in our comfort zone. When you stay in your comfort zone you limit yourself to so many opportunities that you may really like. The ninth thing to get rid of in the new year is having a messy room. A clean room can make you feel so much better and way less stressed. An easy way to do this is to put on a movie or tv show and pick up things until your room is clean! Last but not least, giving away unwanted items to those who actually could use them. I guarantee that everyone has unwanted things they don't use or even look at. Give those things to people who need it and could find a lot of happiness from things you don't want.



As years come to an end, without fail, New Year's resolutions begin to be a topic of discussion between people about what they want to improve in their lives going into a fresh new year. People begin to realize the new opportunities that could come out of the new year ahead, but in most cases people use January 1st as a checkpoint to where they can start fresh. Although I agree with the idea of self reflection and bettering oneself, I think that it is foolish to place significance on one day to change your whole life around. I know this all sounds

## New Years Resolutions Are NOT Necessary

pessimistic, but instead of placing significance on one day in order to change oneself, I think that using everyday as a checkpoint on what we want to do better the next day is a way for self improvement without waiting for a new year. Most people only follow their New Year's resolutions for a week or two because they are so eager to experience and change that they forget why they were aiming to improve that element of their lives in the first place, and instead revert to their most comfortable patterns. I believe it would be more helpful to approach every day with a new mindset of being better than

you were the day before instead of throwing all that responsibility on one day when it comes to new year's resolutions. A fresh start is a place for new beginnings and although New Years is a great excuse to change certain aspects of your life I do not think that life should rely on waiting to change your life until January 1st. After interviewing teenagers throughout the school it became clear that most if not all do not believe in New Year's resolutions. The main conclusion that I drew after asking a few questions is that the majority agrees with the idea that it is more important to change your life when you

want it to be changed instead of waiting around until a certain day to change your life. Life goes by too short to wait around to change your life until January first instead change your life when it feels right. Create new habits throughout the year when life feels like it needs a change don't rely on life improving after New Years. Just because it is a new year does not mean that you will all of a sudden gain the motivation needed to change the habits of your life. New Year's is an excuse and I don't believe in relying on it to change your life, instead change your life when you want to.

# Top 10 Healthy Habits for the New Year

**Helena Joujon Roche**  
STAFF WRITER

Here are healthy habits to make this year better than the last!!!

### Set motivational goals once a month.

Goals are necessary to keep you enthusiastic about the future. If you plan ahead and continue setting higher standards for yourself, you are guaranteed to reach success. Goals are not meant to be unreachable New Years resolutions; but exciting aspirations to look forward to throughout the year.

### Maintain a healthy and balanced diet

Fueling your body with nutritious foods will not only make you happy, it will improve your day to day life as well. Eating healthy can be very simple.

Growing your own fruits and vegetables can eliminate the majority of chemicals you consume in each meal. Finding easy new recipes on the internet, social media, or even a good old fashioned cook book can help your body store more energy and reach your full potential.

### Stay hydrated and go on daily or weekly walks

Hydrate every day, rain or shine, no matter if it is summer or winter. Keep your body hydrated to keep yourself feeling refreshed. Walking also keeps your body moving and developing healthy exercise habits will benefit you as you get older. Even if it is just 10 minutes a day or 30 minutes a week, it is guaranteed to keep your body in good standing.

### Get more sleep

Sleep is what helps us face the day ahead of us. If you are having trouble staying awake, you are taking away valuable time that you won't get back. Progressively go to bed earlier by 10 minute increments and before you know it, that sleep schedule will be fixed. Instead of waking up late and missing half the day, now you'll have some extra stimulating time in the morning.

### Travel and explore new places

Traveling helps you understand and appreciate the many different cultures and experiences this wonderful world has to offer. Start small and find a new coffee destination or dinner restaurant, it will give you a new sense

of happiness and contentment.

### Read a new book

Reading is very important and teaches you many new words and vocabulary. Reading also improves focus memory and the ability to use academic vocabulary in your everyday life. Reading is mostly enjoyable and can help you to find your new favorite book!

### Learn a new skill

Skills can be anything from learning how to ride a bike to taking cooking classes and more. New skills always help you to feel accomplished and will hopefully help you in your day to day life, for example a cooking class!

### Spend more valuable time with people you love

Time can be taken for granted and it is so important to spend our valuable time and surround ourselves with people who make you feel great and have a good time such as your friends and family.

### Maintain organization

Organization is so important seeing it helps you feel refreshed and more motivated to get your work done. Organization can also be a form of relaxation and can help you to calm your mood and more.

### Take breaks

Although you might feel like you need to get all your resolutions done and never take a break that is not true. Taking mental health days is so important to keep you on track and to not wear yourself down.

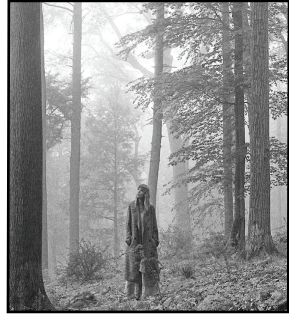
# Top Ten Best Taylor Swift Albums

Griffin Barrett, Chloe Rapf, and Sophia Mathai  
STAFF WRITERS

Disclosure: Following Valentine's Day, we ranked the queen of storytelling and love song's album discography. Let's be clear about one thing, Taylor Swift does not have a bad album. Throughout her discography, she has broken records, explored new music genres, and grown as an artist. We ranked her albums not by our favorite, but by her best. Although her albums are amazing in their own way, we ranked them based on lyricism, theme, cohesiveness, best songs, and production.

## 1. folklore

What separates Swift from other artists is her unmatched storytelling ability. She demonstrated her mastery of weaving stories by creating an album in a way she had never done before, separating herself from the lyrics and becoming a fictional writer. In folklore, Swift does precisely that, folklore. Swift created a trilogy of characters in "cardigan", "betty", and "august". Swift explored a new genre of music, drifting away from her country-pop persona. She took a massive risk in releasing folklore, but her unpredictability is one of the reasons why Swift is as successful as she is. She showed a more mature, evolved aspect to her personality by releasing folklore. Evermore might be a great album, but it wouldn't be able to exist without folklore, which is why it is number one.



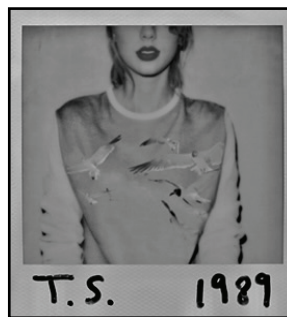
## 2. evermore

Evermore is one of Swift's most lyrically complex and cohesive albums. Thematically, it explores a wide range of topics, from emotional unavailability in "champagne problems", to murder in "no body no crime", to a heartbreaking ballad in "tolerate it". Listening to evermore takes one through the five stages of grief. Technically, evermore is folklore in the fact that it is folklore's "sister album", the leftover songs of folklore that she synchronized together into a second album. Evermore wouldn't have the success it has with fans if folklore didn't precede it.



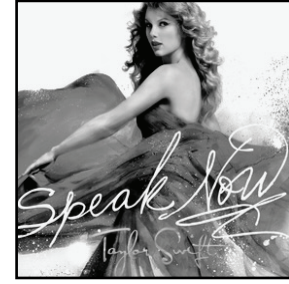
## 3. 1989

Undoubtedly, 1989 defined Swift's career and changed fans' views of her from a country star to a pop icon. She did not listen to her record label and took a massive risk by calling 1989 a "pop album". Swift put her heart and soul into this album, after her previous album, Red, did not receive Album of the Year at the Grammy's. Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, 1989 set a standard for any new pop albums to come. With its vibrant tunes and well-produced music videos, Swift took fans on a journey of her current life.



## 4. Speak Now

Speak Now established Swift's strength as a songwriter. This album had an impressive display of storytelling, much more advanced and mature than her previous album. What makes this album so special and distinguished is that she wrote it entirely by herself. This is something many artists have not done and is an extremely impressive thing to do at 19 years old.



## 5. Red (Taylor's Version)

Red is a fractured mosaic of feelings of a heartbroken person that all fit together. When Swift Re-recorded this album she added new versions and songs that made the album more complex and meaningful. Red displays an array of emotions while being a country pop album. "All Too Well" was already one of Swift's best songs, but when releasing the ten-minute version with a short film starring Sadie Sink and Dylan Obrien, she proved once again that Taylor Swift is the music industry. Some songs are a little hard to listen to, specifically "Girl at Home" and "Babe", as they don't really fit cohesively with the tone of the rest of the album, which is why Red (Taylor's Version) is at number five.



## 6. Reputation.

For the first time in her career Swift dropped her decade-old "good girl persona" and went for a different sound and style, and it worked. Every song of Reputation is the epitome of "catchy". Reputation manages to be a cohesive diss track while also showing her vulnerable sides with songs like "New Year's Day" and "Dress". This album is an underrated masterpiece that stands out in her discography. The songs do get a little repetitive though and are not reflective of her best songwriting abilities.



Continued on page 7

Next Up:



# The Downfall of Rory Gilmore

Irina Columbeanu  
STAFF WRITER

With this school year being halfway completed, it is safe to say that we all need a motivation boost to end the year off with a bang. Because of this, some of us have likely started reminiscing about or rewatching the early seasons of Gilmore Girls in order to encourage ourselves to be more like Rory Gilmore, one of the main characters in the show. She is a shy, ambitious straight-A student with a loving mother, Lorelai, who supports her every step of the way as she navigates through life's ups and downs. She is an icon to many of us because she embodies the exact type of student and person we seek to be: smart, pretty, and funny. Most of us begin the show looking up to Rory due to our desire to excel academically as she did, but her character goes downhill within the first few seasons. How did she go from being the

'it' girl to the one we feared becoming? During the early stages of the show, viewers are inspired by Rory's perseverance through the challenges of private school, and her academic achievements, including becoming valedictorian and being accepted into multiple Ivy League schools, are rewarding moments for both her and us. We looked up to her from day one, which is why we probably subconsciously chose to ignore the many flaws that sabotaged her. Throughout the series, she begins to make some huge mistakes. While the ones she makes at the age of sixteen can be dismissed on account of her immaturity, by the fifth season, she turns into an immoral person whose ethics and dreams are down the drain. For starters, she is unable to take criticism. This not only robbed her of the motivation needed to finish her degree at Yale, but it also jeopardized her relationships with those around her. She was also selfish, failed to acknowledge her privilege, and was disrespectful to those that cared about her. By the end of the series, many viewers felt disappointed in just how dirty the writers did Rory to change her from everyone's idol to a villain. In its Netflix revival, meant to give us a glimpse into Rory's life after college, we witness her being jobless, cheating on her boyfriend with her engaged ex, and living with her mom. One could say that this is karma from the relationships she destroyed for both herself and others during earlier seasons, but we can blame her for something that may happen to any one of us. However, even during this messy time of her life, Rory is yet again ungrateful towards Lorelai's kindness and refuses to improve as a human being, which is what breaks the deal for

me. Rory Gilmore's downfall can be linked to the feeling of burnout she acquired by spending her childhood preparing for college. Her first few years at Yale were successful, but when she started receiving criticism for her work, something she had never experienced before, she simply broke. The amount of pressure she received from everyone around her to be perfect made her cave because she was, in fact, really imperfect and cared too much about disappointing those around her. Of course, she made mistakes as she struggled to find herself during a difficult transitioning time, which is more than alright. But it's the fact that she was unable to bounce back from those mistakes that truly caused her to fall apart. Another motive behind her downfall was simply her last name: Gilmore. For decades, this name was linked with prestige and wealth, and while

Lorelai tried to protect her from this lifestyle, she was eventually introduced to it, and she sure enjoyed it. Her grandparents gave her an additional layer of protection and privilege by never truly saying no to her, because when they did, she moped around until she got her way. Overall, it would be unfair to judge Rory simply because she made a few questionable choices and mistakes, seeing as we all do the same at some point or another. However, it is interesting to see her character rot away into an unrecognizable person as she refuses to change and simply keeps on making matters worse for herself. We could either be devastated by her outcome, or we could take her story and learn from it. Try to take a step back from school and in order to avoid burnout and maintain a proper social life, but also learn to take criticism with open arms.

# The Dark History of Central Park

Alli Cunningham  
STAFF WRITER

Central Park is arguably the heart of New York City but before becoming the famous landmark it is today, it was once home to the thriving black community of Seneca Village. The idea to construct Central Park began in the 1840s and was originally to be constructed on the waterfront portion of the Upper East Side. This plan was rejected due to the white community of the Upper East Side fighting with the city in order to keep their homes. They won, which led the city to kick out the black community of Seneca Village. The community of Seneca Village tried to fight the city as the white community had previously done and won, but they ultimately lost. How did this occur? Well, America did what its best at and stole

land but just this time “legally”. Through the process of eminent domain, which means kicking out residents without reimbursement under the clause/guide of the land becoming public property. This resulted in lives being

uprooted and any hope of generational wealth disintegrating because property ownership was destroyed, not to mention the eradication of a safe haven for black residents of the 1800s of New York. Institutionalized racism is evident in this exam-

ple because the black community tried to stop the city but lost, unlike the white community. The displacement had long lasting effects on people of color and stopped them from obtaining wealth and community. The story of Seneca Village is just another tragedy in American history of systemic racism preventing and destroying the success of people of color. Unfortunately, the eraser of Seneca Village isn't the only time black communities were displaced, the formation of Lake Lanier was previously the black community of Oscarville. People of color continue to struggle to obtain success in America because of the outdated system that constantly denies people of color and other minorities equal access to opportunities.



# Why These 8 Ground-breaking Inventions Are Often Overlooked

Chloe Rapf  
STAFF WRITER

This Black History Month we are honoring black inventors and their creations that are not highlighted enough. These inventions play a pivotal role in our day-to-day lives and deserve recognition. When you think of “inventor” you probably think of Alexander Graham Bell or Thomas Edison, but you'll be shocked to discover how many inventions you rely on everyday that were pioneered by African American Inventors. George Washington Carver for example, is one of the most prolific inventors and scientists of the 20th century, inventing more than 300 peanut-butter-and-sweet-potato-derived products that we wouldn't be able to live without, like soap, vinegar, flour, and synthetic rubber. Below are riveting inventions that have shaped history and our lives today.

of her home, and an emergency button that would connect her immediately with the police.

4) Caller ID (1970s)  
Shirley Jackson was the first black woman to earn a doctorate from MIT. she laid out the groundworks for what would be the modern fax machine, touch-tone phone, fiber optic cells, solar cells and the technology behind caller ID and call waiting. Without her, none of these modern technological advancements would be as efficient as they are today. She joined the the co-chair of the President's Intelligence Advisory in 2014 by Barack Obama for her breakthrough scientific research and achievements.

5) The Water Gun (1982)  
That's right seniors, no water assassin without Lonnie Johnson. Johnson first developed the “Super Soaker” while working at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. According to Forbes, the water gun produced more than \$1 billion in sales.

6) The Clothes Dryer (1892)  
Contributing immensely to the efficiency of the daily lives of society, George T Sampson developed the first automatic clothes dryer in 1892. His idea for the invention came from his mother, who was born a slave. In an effort to make her life easier, he invented the clothes dryer. He also invented the Gamma-Electric Cell in 1971 that converts gamma energy into electricity.

7) The Ice Cream Scoop (1897)  
The ice cream market would be very different without Alfred L. Cralle. Although he never profited from it, he received his first patent of the ice cream scooper in 1897. Originally called the “Ice Cream Mold and Disher”, the scoop allowed for a manual operation with a built-in scraper to drop the perfectly molded ice cream.

8) Carbon Light Bulb Filament (1882)  
Thomas Edison might have invented the light bulb, but Lewis Latimer contributed to its functionality so that it wouldn't burn out after a couple days. The lifespan of a light bulb was extended thanks to Latimer and her received his patent in 1882.

1) The Traffic Signal (1923)  
Among other inventions like the gas mask that would be used during World War I, Garrett Morgan also invented the traffic signal. He was also the first black man in Cleveland to own a car. In 1923, Morgan revised the old traffic signal to add the yellow “caution” light, and is now the modern-day signal that makes our drives to school so much more efficient.

2) Automatic Elevator Doors (1887)  
Alexander Miles created the modern-day elevator, functioning automatically. Before his adaption, elevators were all manual and you had to close the doors and the shaft every time. An open shaft posed a serious threat to people's lives, so Miles developed a safer alternative. In 2007, he was recognized in the National Inventors Hall of Fame

3) Home Security System (1966)  
The modern security system would not be possible with Marie van Brittan Brown. Most nights, her husband would arrive late, so Brown created an ingenious system to ensure the safety of her home. The system was devised of peepholes to capture people at different heights, the two-way microphones that allowed her to communicate with people outside, a remote to unlock the door from the comfort



The Black Student Union is a club that advocates for the needs of students, while empowering, teaching, and discussing the Black experience. The mission of BSU is to promote a positive representation of the African American community on and off campus, as well as promote student leadership. Please contact Samira Bell or Marsaille Wells if interested!

## Consequences of Dependency in Adolescence

Harlow Rocca  
EDITOR

Whether it's from a significant other, family, or friends, why do so many people rely on love from others? Well, the sense of validation from other people keeps them thriving on a day-to-day basis. Being loved provides the validation people desire so they can get through their day.

There is a line that can be crossed with loving connections. One can share a loving connection with anyone they desire but a DEPENDENT loving connection is where this starts to get unhealthy. This is most present in high school relationships. When some teenagers believe that they are in love, they do not know how to maturely deal with this feeling; therefore they develop this dependency on their significant other that makes it so they don't know how to be alone or love themselves.

I see this very commonly in relationships, where there is a mutual dependency on each other, which is the only contributing piece to their happiness. However, once they lose their significant other, they act as if

they cannot go on. I understand that losing a significant connection may hurt, but those who are the most upset after losing it, do not know how to find peace and love with them themselves. The point is that, before one goes on to love someone else, one needs to secure their love for themselves. If this does not happen, one can lose themselves after a relationship because they were not emotionally dependent on it.

It is scientifically proven that "Human beings are an ultrasocial species — and our nervous systems expect to have others around us," and "According to biology, neuroscience, psychology, and more, our bodies tend to work wbetter when we're around, not alone." Although this is true, this does not mean that human beings should NEVER be alone.

Being emotionally alone and physically alone are two different things. When one is physically alone, that's when the sense of loneliness is present. But when one is emotionally independent without someone that heavily contributes to their happiness, this is a healthy way to be.

## The Subconscious and Conscious Emotional Effects of Childhood Trauma

Noelle Weeger  
EDITOR

From a young age every child is brought up in different environments. Our family dynamics determine these environmental effects on the young children that live in a home with either separated parents, blended families, or 'nuclear families'. What many children don't realize is the effects that their childhood has on them. The generational traumas that continue to move down due to the lack of understanding of the subconscious agony that follows



the child into adulthood. Individuals don't ever truly grow out of their traumas, but rather suppress the bad memories leaving the inner child wounded. According to "Subconscious

Mind & Inner Child Explained: The Key to Wellbeing" by Alex Migeul Meyer "If we don't heal our mental wounds that we're usually not even aware of, every single aspect of our life will suffer. The key lies hidden in our subconscious mind. The answers are carried by our inner child". The inner child is the root of subconscious traumas for many people, but how can people differentiate childhood traumas to current life struggles?

The subconscious is a part of everyone's mind, consistently working throughout the day, whether we are intune with it or not. When your trauma is subconsciously stored, it prohibits you from being able to be happy and to overcome your issues. For many people these struggles affect relationships and daily life. Being a child of divorced parents can lead to feelings of resentment, abandonment, anxiety, and instability in relationships. People don't realize the childhood that a person has experienced impacts the relationships that they build in their adulthood.

As you grow into adulthood, you may find these traumas to lead to difficulties in daily life and relationships. Paranoia, anxiety, trust issues, etc. may



overcome your relationships. To ensure this doesn't occur your first have to recognize the trauma you've endured. Healing your inner child is very important, and the first step is acknowledging this inner child. You may think the issues in your relationships and friendship are the other party, when truly it may be your wounded inner child. By acknowledging this and working towards healing it your friendships and relationship will benefit significantly.

## People pay a premium price for Supreme. But why?

Julien Lescure  
EDITOR

Supreme initially started as a skate store in Manhattan trying to pick up on New York's up-and-coming skate scene. The brand is now recognized globally and considered the king of the streetwear industry. What are the factors that continue to make Supreme a staple brand of prominence?

### Easily Identifiable

Supreme's iconic box logo is recognized globally and is one of the significant contributors to their success. Their simple but unique logo gives them a level of recognizability that is distinct and obvious.

### Limited Supply

Supreme also makes it difficult to purchase their items. They have a high demand for extremely limited releases, automatically making their apparel worth more. A Supreme box logo hoodie retails for \$148 dollars and resells for upwards of \$350 dollars depending on the colorway or collab. The 2014 Supreme x Northface Bandana Mountain

Jacket originally retailed for \$360 and can be purchased now for \$5,000. High demand and low stock means people will pay well above the initial retail price for the product, thus also creating a heavy market for resellers.

### Brand Recognition from Public Figures

Supreme can also credit a lot of its early success to brand recognition. At a Grammy afterparty, Kanye West was spotted wearing a Supreme Nike collaboration blazer. This sneaker that once retailed for \$150 sold for \$800 the next day. Tyler the Creator wore a teal box logo sweatshirt in his music video "She" that resold for \$3500. The retail price was again, only \$150. These celebrities brought a level of influence that immediately caused more gravitation toward the brand.

You can try and buy a Supreme piece for retail but due to the brand's hype, popularity, and high demand, you will most likely be forced to pay a premium price. Whether it is worth it or not is up to you.

## University of Idaho Case

Mandy Mulligan  
STAFF WRITER

I think we all know of the horrible event that took place in the early hours of November 13, 2022. Yet if you don't, it was the day that the four University of Idaho students were gruesomely murdered. The beginning of this case appeared to be a mystery, and took about a month for investigators to find their lead suspect and the charged killer, Bryan Kohberger. As we know the four students were killed in the early hours, presumably between 3-4 am, and the police suspect that the two surviving roommates slept through the attacks, ruling them out as suspects. The two survivors, the morning after the attack, called their friends over after they found one of the victims and thought that they were passed out and unresponsive. More towards the afternoon the police were called on the account of an unconscious person, and the responding officers found the four victims on the second and third floor of the students off campus home. Police were made known of an alleged stalker as a possible lead and had spoken to two possible suspects t but were able to rule them out as well. When checking

surveillance footage they were able to identify that the suspects car was a white Hyundai Elantra that went by the victims house 3 times before entering the area for a fourth time at 4:04 a.m. Police managed to track down where the car had traveled to after the incident, which was nearby Pullman, Washington, where the suspect lived while attending Washington State University. Moscow police asked law enforcement to look out for white Hyundai Elantras, and on November 29th, a police officer working at Washington State University searched cars that matched that description at the university and found one registered to Kohberger. Kohberger had registered his car in Washington State 5 days after the murders happened and got a new license plate, though the car previously had been registered in Pennsylvania, and set to expire on November 30th. Now having the news they had brought him in, and tracked his phone data to find that he had passed by the house at least 12 times dated back to August, and all but one of those times were either late at night or in the early hours of the morning. As well,

police found that his phone was shut off between 2:47 a.m. to 4:48 a.m., which remains consistent with his attempts to hide his location during the murders. The morning after the murders, he went near the house between 9:12 a.m. and 9:21 a.m. In addition, police said they learned Kohberger applied for an internship with the Pullman police in the fall of 2022. They also discovered that he had run a survey on Reddit that asked for participants to give their opinion on how to understand emotions and psychological traits that influence decision making when one is committing a crime. Most recently though, Kohberger has appeared in court in Pennsylvania with charges of first-degree murder and burglary charges, and extradited to Idaho, where he remains in custody. Kohberger's attorney requested bond, but the prosecutor argued against bond with the judges agreement. As of now the families and friends of the victims have been grieving and trying to heal from the attacks that happened to their loved ones, whilst authorities are doing what they can to put the suspect away.

# Ocean Pollution

Dylan Mendez  
EDITOR

To what extent do specific types of pollution affect our oceans and ecosystems? The biggest source of ocean pollution currently is called “nonpoint source pollution,” which is a result of runoff. This can include small sources such as septic tanks, cars, semi trucks, and boats; there are also larger sources of runoff like farms, ranches, and forest areas.

There are 4 major pollution groups that affect the ocean, these are pollution from marine debris, plastic pollution (microplastics as well), ocean acidification and nutrient pollution. Pollution from marine debris is a very vague type of ocean pollution because of how many different types of ocean-based items and merchandise that are left in the ocean. These can vary from fishing nets, buoys, towels, or lobster cages. Even much smaller and larger items like fishing bait or abandoned boats can be placed under the category of marine debris. These are all results of human activity and can either be directly or indirectly. Examples of direct pollution from marine debris are sinking boats to the ocean floor, leaving cages

and fishing nets out in the ocean, or even leaving trash on harbor docks. Examples of indirect pollution from marine debris are usually from runoff that are typically results of natural disasters that land on coastal cities.

The biggest cause of ocean pollution, however, is plastic pollution. I believe that this is the worst type of pollution the ocean suffers from because of the plastic’s longevity and how it never breaks down. This makes it certain that one day the piece of plastic that you throw out of your car or drop on the sidewalk will make its way into the ocean where eventually it will kill a marine animal. Every year, 14 million tons of plastic ends up in the ocean with no certainty that it will ever decompose. This makes all 14 million tons of plastic liable for killing millions of marine animals every year and destroying entire ecosystems. Plastic pollution makes up around 80% of all marine debris found from coastal waters to deep sea sediments. Plastic pollution is also included within microplastics. Microplastics are tiny bits of broken down plastic that are not visible to the human eye.

They fill up our oceans and live in the fish that we eat. Studies have found that it is very common for humans to digest microplastics through the sea food that we eat. This is an immense problem that needs to be solved immediately or else humans will suffer the consequences of our actions drastically and will kill off all species in our oceans that we need in order to survive. Ocean acidification is caused because of human-driven carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere meaning that more carbon dioxide dissolves in the ocean. Before the industrial era within the world the oceans average PH level was around 8.2, however because of humans this has now dropped to below 8.1 meaning that slowly the ocean is becoming more acidic slowly over time. This might not be an immediate issue unlike plastic pollution, but nonetheless still an issue that needs to be resolved if we want our kids to be able to enjoy and explore the vastness of the ocean. The larger picture here is that humans are physically causing the fundamental chemical imbalance of our oceans which results in

global warming and is destroying the north and south poles.

One of the biggest issues that is rarely talked about that threatens our oceans is nutrient pollution. Nutrient pollution usually occurs in coastal waters as it is from human activity and typi-

cal humans because it creates toxins that harm the skin of humans and marine life. The algae grows so dense that all sorts of life cannot function and live near it.

In conclusion, ocean pollution is a serious threat within all societies and should be an



cally comes from lawn and fertilizer usage. Simplified, it is a process where there are too many nutrients in our waters such as nitrogen and phosphorus. This creates a fertilizer effect in our oceans that causes an “algae bloom.” This is harmful to not only marine life but also

urgent matter that all political governments should pay attention to. World leaders need to start working together in order to prevent the mass extinction of all marine ecosystems and life or else the human race as a whole will become extinct as well.

## Mary Jane vs. Jack Daniels?

Lily Romanov-Wechsler  
STAFF-WRITER

From the time we were in elementary school, the idea that ‘marijuana is equivalent to the devil’ has been implanted into our brains. Schools used the tactic of bringing in a cop in the hope it will scare us away from ever thinking about using it. It is not only the schools that are doing this but our whole society. The narrative that marijuana is dangerous and a gateway drug has been around for decades yet alcohol doesn’t get the same bad reputation and rhetoric that is given to marijuana. The culture of drinking is a big deal in the United States and it feels more taboo if you do not drink, as if there is something wrong with choosing to abstain. Even in the drug awareness classes they give us in school, they talk about how there is nothing wrong with having a beer or two when you are older but if you smoke weed once you’re done for and a loser. But the real question is: Is marijuana really so much worse and dangerous for you than alcohol? The short answer to the question is no. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, “An estimated 95,000 people (approximately

68,000 men and 27,000 women) die from alcohol-related causes annually, making alcohol the third-leading preventable cause of death in the United States. The first is tobacco, and the second is poor diet and physical inactivity.” The CDC states that the number of deaths annually might be even closer to 140,000. We all have seen the stories about drunk driving and alcohol poisoning so when you think about it the numbers make sense. Also another horrifying statistic is that according to the Bureau of Justice, “2.7 million violent crimes occur each year in which victims are certain that the offender had been drinking.” So alcohol is not only harming the people who consume it but the people who are around them. This makes sense because I can’t even recall ever hearing about a person getting stoned and beating up their partner but with alcohol it is a common narrative, we see stories about it all the time. Now you’re probably wondering how do Marijuana statistics compare to alcohol. According to The National Library of Medicine “In 2017, they had almost 620 murders and 38,000 aggravated assaults—

an increase far greater than the national average.” So When it comes to violent crimes it is not completely innocent but it is nowhere near the scale of alcohol. It is also important to keep in mind violence caused by is more likely in people who have mental illness that can make them predisposed to psychosis. When you look at the deaths caused by Marijuana compared to alcohol there is definitely a clear winner. According to Medical News Today, “Smoking weed can, however, impair judgment and motor skills, so smoking cannabis before driving or doing other dangerous activities may increase the risk of an accident. However, most experts consider the risk of dying from marijuana itself to be very low, they also state that “most experts agree that it is not possible to smoke a lethal dose of marijuana in most cases.” So beside the fact that you obviously shouldn’t drive stoned they really can’t find any way that smoking weed can cause you to die unless you have pre-existing medical conditions but yet, most authority figures for some reason encourage the notion that marijuana is the substance you should be concerned about, not alcohol.

*Ranking Taylor Swift albums continued from page 4*

**7. Fearless (Taylor’s Version)**  
Fearless is one of our favorite albums, with songs like “Love Story” and “You Belong With Me” that appeal to all demographics, but it’s not one of her bests. Lyrically, the concepts that are explored in Fearless are a bit shallow and lack complexity. The production is almost flawless, but Swift doesn’t take risks in this album, sticking to one main theme, which is love. It does have a youthful and playful energy however and is one of the best country albums of all time.



### 8. Midnights

Swift’s newest album obtains the “pop perfection” of 1989 with a different sound and more complex lyrics. Midnights can be considered 1989’s older, more mature sister. It did make history however, becoming the first album to occupy Billboard’s Hot 100’s top ten list, but that is largely due to Swift’s ingenious marketing techniques. Midnights is a pretty cohesive album and thematically diverse but did not have the trilogy of

“betty”, “cardigan”, and “august” in folklore nor the palpable emotional range of evermore.

### 9. Lover

Let’s be honest, Lover does have a couple of flops on it, but let’s not forget about the bops. “Death by a Thousand Cuts” is one of the best breakup anthems and is lyrically heartbreaking. “False God” is a sensual portrayal of idolization in relationships riddled with religious symbols. What brought this album down however were the singles. Most swifties agree that “ME!” and “You Need to Calm Down” are irritating hyper-pop messes. Although this album was not groundbreaking there are many complex and lyrically amazing songs, but this gets overlooked by the singles that are definitely not great.

### 10. Taylor Swift

This is definitely not one of Swift’s strongest albums, but it should not be overlooked that writing a sonically cohesive album is an extremely impressive thing to do at sixteen. During this time, country music was dominated by males, but the swift writing this album changed things as it hit the charts and she began to make her mark on the world. This album also has some classic songs that wouldn’t get Taylor to where she is today.

# The Emma Chamberlain Effect

Emily Pablo Saavedra  
STAFF WRITER

You cannot deny that the rise of social media influencers across the platforms Instagram, Tiktok, and Youtube within the past 5 years hasn't raised some questions or your curiosity. Who is responsible for this recent trend? How did the occupation coined "influencer" come to be? In 2017, Youtube and internet sensation Emma Chamberlain took off and was well known for her quirky editing skills, coffee addiction, and relatable day to day vlogs. Emma began her Youtube career during her sophomore year of high school following a depressive episode. What ultimately made Chamberlain stand out from other youtubers was her ability to capitalize on her teenage girl relatability, authenticity, and eye catching editing skills. She has always been open about her struggles, insecurities, and flaws which have allowed her to connect with her audience on a deeper level and therefore launch her career to stardom. In the years that followed, Chamberlain continued to create day to day vlogs; but what helped her go viral were the chaotic yet typical adolescent videos that

consisted of her playing video games, drinking coffee, and dying her hair on a random Tuesday night. Her youtube began to take a turn when fans became infatuated with Chamberlain's new lifestyle that consisted of going to Coachella, lavish trips to Fiji, navigating life in LA, and meeting other popular teenage youtubers like Hannah Meloche, Summer Mckeen, etc. As Chamberlain's fandom continued to rapidly multiply, more and more people began to copy her fashion, youtube videos, sense of humor, and personality. This began to create a more authentic and open community on Youtube because more Youtubers began to show their true personalities and genuine selves allowing the viewers to connect with one another and form a safe and supportive community. When Chamberlain announced she was moving to LA in 2018, her following began to blow up and her videos consisted of hanging out with popular youtube sensations James Charles and the Dolan twins creating the almighty and short lived "sister squad". Emma's videos began to receive over 30 million views whenever she would post with

the sister squad because of the hilarious vlogs and ridiculous challenges they would do that showcased the internet stars personalities. Emma had reached influencer status at this point in her career, she could quickly go viral over the simplest things, influence people to buy clothes similar to what she wore, and sparked trends like thrifting, mom jeans, scrunchies, etc. However, following the breakup of this friend group, Emma began to lose some viewers leading to her reinventing her image and brand that consisted of fashion videos and laidback short vlogs documenting her seemingly quiet life. She launched her coffee brand Chamberlain Coffee in 2019 capitalizing off of her love for coffee and aimed at her impressionable teenage audience, allowing her to venture into other professions aside from Youtube. What ultimately shifted Chamberlain from Youtube sensation to celebrity was her ability to maximize her fashion sponsorships with high end brands like Louis Vuitton and sit front row at high end fashion shows. She began to model for brands like Pacsun, Louis Vuitton, Cart-

ier, Levis, Calvin Klein, etc; allowing her to stray away from her Youtube career and make a name for herself in the fashion and modeling industry. She has gone from making short adolescent vlogs in her small room in San Francisco to attending red carpets, gracing the cover pages of magazines like Vogue and Cosmopolitan, and interviewing high end celebrities at the Met Gala in just 6 short years. What has especially allowed Chamberlain to maintain a successful career no matter the growth and changes she has undergone has been her ability to maintain authenticity and discuss her mental health. On her podcast, Anything Goes with Emma, she talks about her struggles with depression, panic attacks, and anxiety in hopes of normalizing mental health struggles and being the voice for those struggling. She also talks about important issues and relatable topics like love, friendships, failure, family, and more. Although Emma has not posted in a year on her Youtube channel, she continues to be active on Instagram documenting her fashion evolution and lavish trips across the world main-

taining her relevancy. Emma's ability to profit off of Youtube and venture into different careers has created a gateway for the influencers of today. Take internet sensation Alix Earle for example, who quickly rose to fame across the platform Tik-Tok due to her relatable videos in which she gets ready to go out while openly discussing her insecurities, mental health struggles, and problems; this is similar to how Emma began her career. Avery Ovard, Kennedy Walsh, Nailea Devora, etc, are just a couple of the thousands of relatable influencers across several internet platforms that possess the same qualities, youtube videos, and brand as Emma Chamberlain. I think it is safe to say that in some ways, Emma is responsible for the traits and authenticity a majority of female youtubers possess these days and the reason as to why they are so successful and loved. The effect Emma has left on the industry and influencers of today is heavily prominent and will continue to have a long lasting impact on the way we consume media in the years to come.

The Drewth is a term created by media influencers Drew Philips and Enya Umanzor, detailing their alleged persuasion in current youth culture. Many of their followers attach it with the phrase, "The Drewth is spreading", after seeing their beloved leader, Drew, appear at an increasingly regular rate in mainstream media.

To understand The Drewth, you have to take into account: style, humor, and mindset.

The style of someone in The Drewth is very distinct: lots of

bright colors like orange, yellow, green, and blue. They wear colorful puffer vests over plain-

ly colored t-shirts or a ringer shirt, paired with woodland camo or hiking pants, and finally new balance shoes. Designer brands have taken notice of the niche community of The Drewth, using them as a means of advertising. When Marc Jacobs released their Heaven line, Drew and Enya became instant frontmen. A lesser known brand, Happy99, began releasing their first collections, and Enya and Drew were right at the front. Both brands catered perfectly to that same style of The Drewth, really focusing on GenZ sub-

culture, combining aspects like nostalgia, realism, and fantasy.

Another major aspect of The Drewth is their humor. On their weekly-podcast, Emergency Intercom, Drew and Enya spend a majority of their time diving into bits and expanding the lore of The Drewth. The types of jokes they make range from them being married cousins, to Drew having an alternate personality. Overall, their sense of humor is extremely ironic, satirical, and very self-referential, to the point

where you really can't tell if they're joking.

The final feature of The Drewth is the mindset; one of what is essentially just absurdism. The central idea of The Drewth is

to "slay"--a term which they resurrected from the deep depths of 2016--and they use in meaning to live your life how you want. They like to constantly remind each other that we live on a floating rock, so you might as well be yourself. Caring about the opinions of others is at the back of their mind--instead, they make sure to show-off their creativity and uniqueness, and to not care about the opinions of others. The community of The Drewth goes beyond what's normal for fans, it becomes a lifestyle.

## Exploring The Drewth

Isabella Burke STAFF WRITER

## What Makes a Wes Anderson Film?

Olivia Williamson  
STAFF WRITER

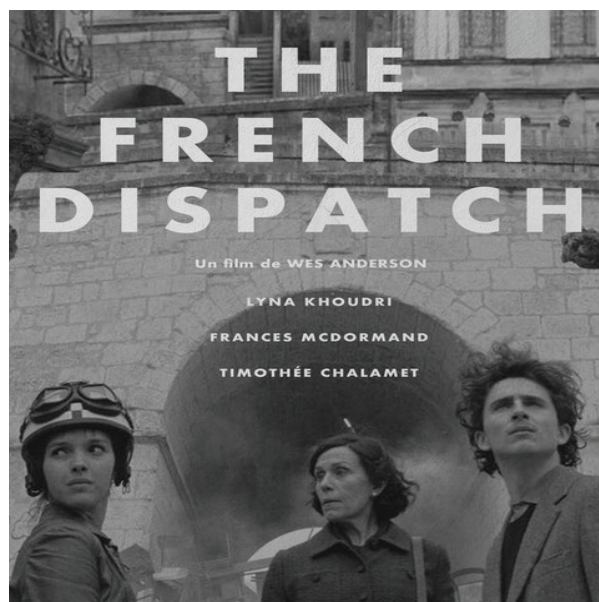
Wes Anderson is a filmmaker known for his distinct and quirky film style, creating a unique style that is entirely his own. Anderson has earned a reputation for repeatedly using the same artistic tools in his movies:

a specific color palette unique to the film, the same actors who appear in the majority of his movies, detailed sets that mimic life-size dollhouses and a great attention to detail. However one of his biggest visual styles is the use of symmetry. When watching a Wes Anderson film you can almost always tell it is his due to the symmetrical composition. Anderson often frames his shots with

a strong sense of balance and symmetry. For example, in The Grand Budapest Hotel, characters are often positioned in the center of the frame, with equal amounts of space on either side. Another distinct factor in a Wes

Anderson film is the colors. Anderson has a unique color palette for each of his films, often encapsulating the overall aura and aesthetic of the film through bright pops of color. Anderson's films often feature a soft, pastel color palette, adding to the whimsical

oranges, browns, and yellows, demonstrates his attention to color scheme in Fantastic Mr. Fox. Characters and their costumes are also influenced by the color scheme. He uses color to indicate mood, exemplifying the specific emotions within a scene.



Anderson's films often include a number of actors who appear in multiple of his films, such as Bill Murray, Owne Wilson, Edward Norton, Tilda Swinton, Adrien Brody and many more familiar faces. In almost all of his films the characters have distinct quirky personalities, adding an aspect of humor and charm. The humor used is often awkward, and dark, mixing comedy with tragedy. Lastly Anderson's wide attention to detail makes for his meticulous costumes and set design

and dreamlike atmosphere of his films. In Moonrise Kingdom the colors of the characters' clothing and colorful landscapes help to create a playful, childish, and nostalgic feel. His use of several warm colors, including reds, to the camera movements and shot composition. In The Royal Tenenbaums every shot is carefully composed and the film is filled with elaborate set pieces, from the family's colorful house to their eccentric wardrobes.



# ASB Candidate Speech Day

Felix de Raspide Ross  
EDITOR

March 16th is an ordinary day, right? No, it's not. It's Speech Day and it's the greatest day in our High School. The people love it, the candidates dread it, and the teachers ignore it. The 2022-23 ASB class has worked all year long to give the school everything they could. They have fought day in and day out for the students; and if they disappointed their voters, the 16th was the day students could do something about it. Students from grades 8-11 sat at the amphitheater, listening to every candidate explain their ambitions and sell themselves. Next year looks worrisome for ASB as they've got two vacant positions. We've got no Freshman Class President and no Student Board Representative. It's looking rough for ASB, but somehow - some way - it'll work itself out. Starting off the speeches was Felix de Raspide Ross with a very presidential speech. Felix wants to be the ASB President and he

is running unopposed. The pressure is all on him to bring the ASB class together. The haters are saying he will succumb to the pressure, but his avid supporters are convinced he will excel, just like he did as Junior Class President. Next was Maya Guzman, who vowed she would fulfill her duties as ASB Vice President in a compassionate and vice-presidential way. The people in ASB love her, but the public has yet to hear her deliver a speech. This is the first time she has announced her candidacy for a position within the class, with two years of loyal service. Following Maya was Romane Foulquier-Gazagnes, who announced his run for ASB Secretary in January. Romane's speech was inspirational, to say the least. He spoke with courage and integrity, swaying the masses and invoking a sense of unity into the students. Romane's got a lot going against him. With zero opposition and a lot of Frenchness, the voters just don't know what

to do. Are they going to tick the box or leave it empty? Only time will tell. Romane was the last ASB cabinet candidate to speak, which signaled it was time for the Class President candidates to go. There was no Freshman Class President candidate, so the current Freshman Class President and Sophomore Class President candidate Kylie Morra went first. Her speech was thorough, precise, and engaging. Her words were spoken, and her ideas were conveyed. Overall, Kylie had impressive ambitions for her class. She spoke on the lack of spirit at our school (a prominent issue for many students) and elaborated on what she will do to change that. Next, the Junior Class President position. Over these past few weeks, a lot of tension has been created over the position. The Junior Class President position was the only position to be wanted by more than one candidate, and the competition was real. Campaign week was brutal for Brienna Brandau and Payton

Pollack. Shots were fired, knives were pulled, and people were scared. Brienna was the first to go, and she delivered. Her speech was poignant and sharp. Her points were ambitious and her character was strong. Her beliefs echoed through the vastness of our campus, moving people in a way they had never been moved before. This was a speech to be remembered in our history books. But right when the Sophomores thought their minds were made, Payton walked to the podium. Payton smiled at the face of the adversity, for she was the only one aware of the nuke she was storing in her arsenal. Her speech was excellent. She promised grade unity and memorable events for her class. She used her experience being in ASB as well as the lessons she had learned from Felix to market herself as the better candidate. Payton had important words to say, but what demarcated her from the other candidates was that she showed her care for the position. It was

clear in her diction and tone that this was a position she was passionate for. Lastly, the Senior Class President race. Micah Fong joined ASB this year and has contributed immensely to the class. His love for ASB pushed him into pursuing the position of Senior Class President. Micah opened his speech with a bold political statement. He crumpled up his paper and tossed it away. News outlets are claiming this was a protest against capitalism, Micah's team is insisting that it was just a show of confidence. Unfortunately, it did not go too well for Micah. After tossing his speech, Micah seemed to be stumbling over his words and trying to remember what he had written. Micah crushed it, though. He owned his situation and closed Speech Day with inspiration and energy. The students of Malibu have a choice to make, and a future to elect.



## ASB Election Winners



Micah Fong



Payton Pollack



Felix de Raspide Ross



Kylie Morra



Romane Foulquier

Senior Class President  
Michah Fong will NOT do you wrong

Junior Class President  
Don't be hatin' vote for Payton

ASB Class President  
Felix will Fix It!!!

Sophomore Class President  
Want more? Vote for Morra

ASB Secretary  
Sebastian Sigal will be remembered as one of the greats, but I will be greater

# AP Classes: Promoting Fairness or an Outdated Relic?

Dylan Rem  
STAFF WRITER

The American high school system is extremely decentralized, with most schools being run by local districts which rely on property taxes and make their own rules of operation. According to a report by Forbes, this disparity in funding has caused vast inequalities between high schools, with poorer schools being more unlikely to provide advanced classes and strong curriculums compared to wealthier schools. In addition, GPAs, grade inflation, and academic cultures vary highly between schools, meaning that barring ACT, SAT, and other standardized test scores, there is no way to accurately compare students applying to different high schools. Throughout the world, most countries have standardized curriculums and testing to regulate entry into universities, but America's federal nature makes this type of uniformity impossible in U.S. schools. The closest alternative available is College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) program, which offers a standardized curriculum and corresponding tests to allow high school students to pursue college-level coursework.

Athena Rem, an 11th grade student at MHS, appreciates the structure AP exams provide for the course. She said that "I think it's really helpful to have the course set before the year even starts, so you know how much you have to cover and how long you have." Experts in education agree as well; a recent essay from the Wall Street Journal has called the AP Tests a "Great American Equalizer," commending the fact that all students are judged by an objective test at the end of the course.

However, many students and teachers also lament the inflexibility of AP coursework. Athena, in her interview, also stated that "[her] old history classes were able to move a little slower because we didn't have an AP to study for, which was helpful sometimes." An article from Psychology Today also noted that AP coursework is too rapid, focusing on memorization and quantity of facts ahead of building critical thinking skills, and contributes to already-high levels of academic stress. While the AP program may provide

standardization, the one-size-fits-all approach may prove ineffective for many students. All in all, AP classes and corresponding exams are still valuable as a method for distinguishing between students with high GPAs, as well as providing college credit. While it may not serve all students or schools as well as individualized curriculums, the relative equality it provides still makes it one of the more egalitarian parts of the college admissions process and the American education system in general.

## Rain Rain Go Away

Ayla Griffin-Jassby  
EDITOR

Seasonal depression is something that doesn't hit very hard in California, since the sun is out more often than not, it usually rains ten days out of the year. This winter, the weather has been less California and more Seattle, and since we are not used to not being able to go to the beach or even wearing warm clothes to school, we need a guide to survive the rain. Instead of sitting inside and being depressed because you can't step outside of your house without getting drenched, go to a cute cafe with your friends and get coffee. Or, go to the movies for a few hours and the rain will stop by the time it's over. You can go to a museum, go bowling, or if you want to embrace the rain, go for a hike! Don't let the rain get in the way of your plans, because

everywhere outside of southern California, experience this weather every winter, but with highs of 40 degrees instead of 65. Seasonal depression affects everybody, something about the combination of cold weather AND school is not a good mix, and definitely makes everyone lose a lot of motivation. On top of that, the pressure of the SAT and AP season makes you feel like there's no end in sight, but once the end of May hits we will forget this part of the year even existed. For now, accept that bringing an umbrella to school isn't embarrassing and outdoor schools are not fun. The weather will change and it will be back to spring soon. Do some of the things I said earlier, and you will get through the worst part of the year without any issues.

## Abolishment of the SAT

Murial Buran  
EDITOR

The Scholastic Assessment Test or, the better known, "SAT" is a 3-hour standardized exam that contains sections with reading, writing, and math comprehension questions to, by definition, show college admissions in the United States what a student knows and how well they can apply that knowledge. Students are ranked on a scale that goes 400 to 1600, and a perfect score can help determine a student's academic and career path beyond high school. However, the original name of the test was the Scholastic "Aptitude" Test, which by definition means testing one's natural ability in regards to school or education. Yet, by interpretation is a test that was established to that covertly measures a student's "college aptitude". Which

raises an issue because the scale of academic standards is created with unfair criteria that does not test every field of education. The SAT places students' capability into a box, completely looking past that many students excel differently depending on the subject, and environment. A student can do great in school with studying, time management, and note taking, but when placed in a competitive and anxiety-ridden environment like the SAT, they will fail. The test is ineffective in defining students because if judged by their score, a student's actual "college aptitude" is not shown. A student applies to college with desires to highlight and go into fields of work that advance their unique attributes, so why should the possibility of them gaining

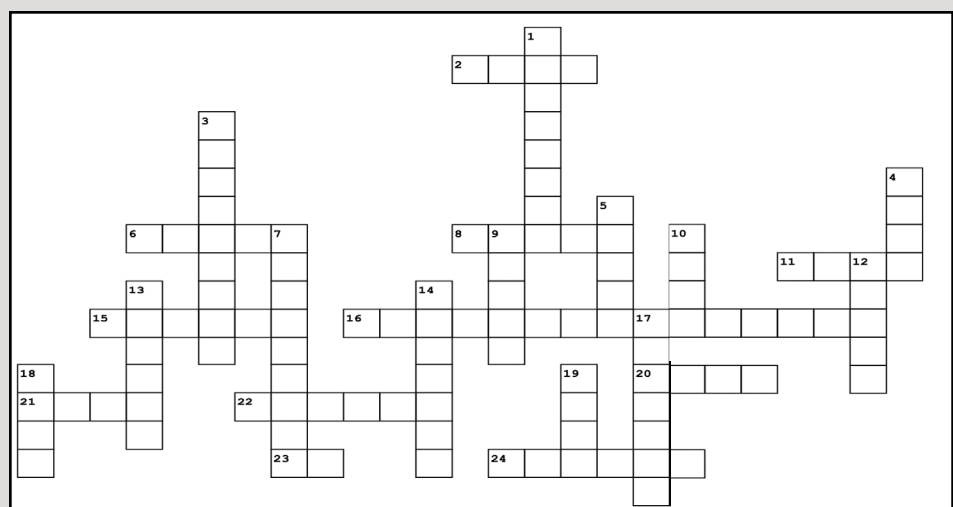
acceptance be highly influenced by a standardized test score. Slowly universities have started to become test optional, meaning prospective students can choose whether or not they want to submit scores and there are more than 1,750 schools that are not requiring them in 2023. But, still the idea that if one does not submit their scores, it will look like they did badly on the SAT is still stressed amongst students. It is time to abolish the obsolete test and judge each student on their extracurricular activities that show how they apply themselves outside of the general education requirements, and their ability to ameliorate not just on the report card but as an individual.

## Dating 101

Nanami Uchiyama  
STAFF WRITER

Ladies, Gentlemen and People of any and all variety Love is not easy, fear not! With this article I shall bestow you the gift and knowledge of the seduction techniques I've gathered from the students of Malibu. It seems to be, the most proactive group of the bunch would be the women. Going out of their way to talk to the crush, having decent conversations solely to find their other interests and even laugh at the not so funny jokes that they make. Teasing the other to receive a reaction, although not the most sensible to attract, there is sure to be some in the crowd who enjoy that particular treatment.

The boys were a very difficult group to interview as most of them just don't even bother. But here's what I've gathered. Being humorous and confident were two of the main characteristics they thought would be best to attract their crush. Keeping a regular conversation to connect with the person. Hiding their nervousness which I'm sure they find adorable. Thus far both sides have agreed that Hygiene, Decency, Humor and Intimacy were the things that both sides would want from the other. Intimacy can also have nothing to do with sexual relations (keep it pg kids)




- Across**
- 2. Symbol of love that chirps in the sky
  - 6. shrek's love
  - 8. Bonnie's partner in crime
  - 11. Roses's love interest who drowned
  - 15. A bad place for a bowling ball or mind
  - 16. Disney movie where the spaghetti connects their kiss
  - 20. He should propose and give you a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 21. what is Valentine's day all about?
  - 22. "My love" in French
  - 23. "I might kill my \_\_\_\_\_"-SZA
  - 24. In "XOXOXO" the X's represent

- Down**
- 1. The month of the day we celebrate love
  - 3. A sweet treat for your valentine
  - 4. When you mix red and white you get...
  - 5. queen of \_\_\_\_\_
  - 7. Greek goddess of love
  - 9. purple
  - 10. "I think it is our fate, so we should go on a \_\_\_\_\_."
  - 12. He shoots arrows at people
  - 13. Romeos love
  - 14. A secret \_\_\_\_\_ might give you a gift.
  - 17. \_\_\_\_\_ kisses
  - 18. "roses are red violets are blue"
  - 19. In "XOXOXO" the O represents

## Coffee House 2023

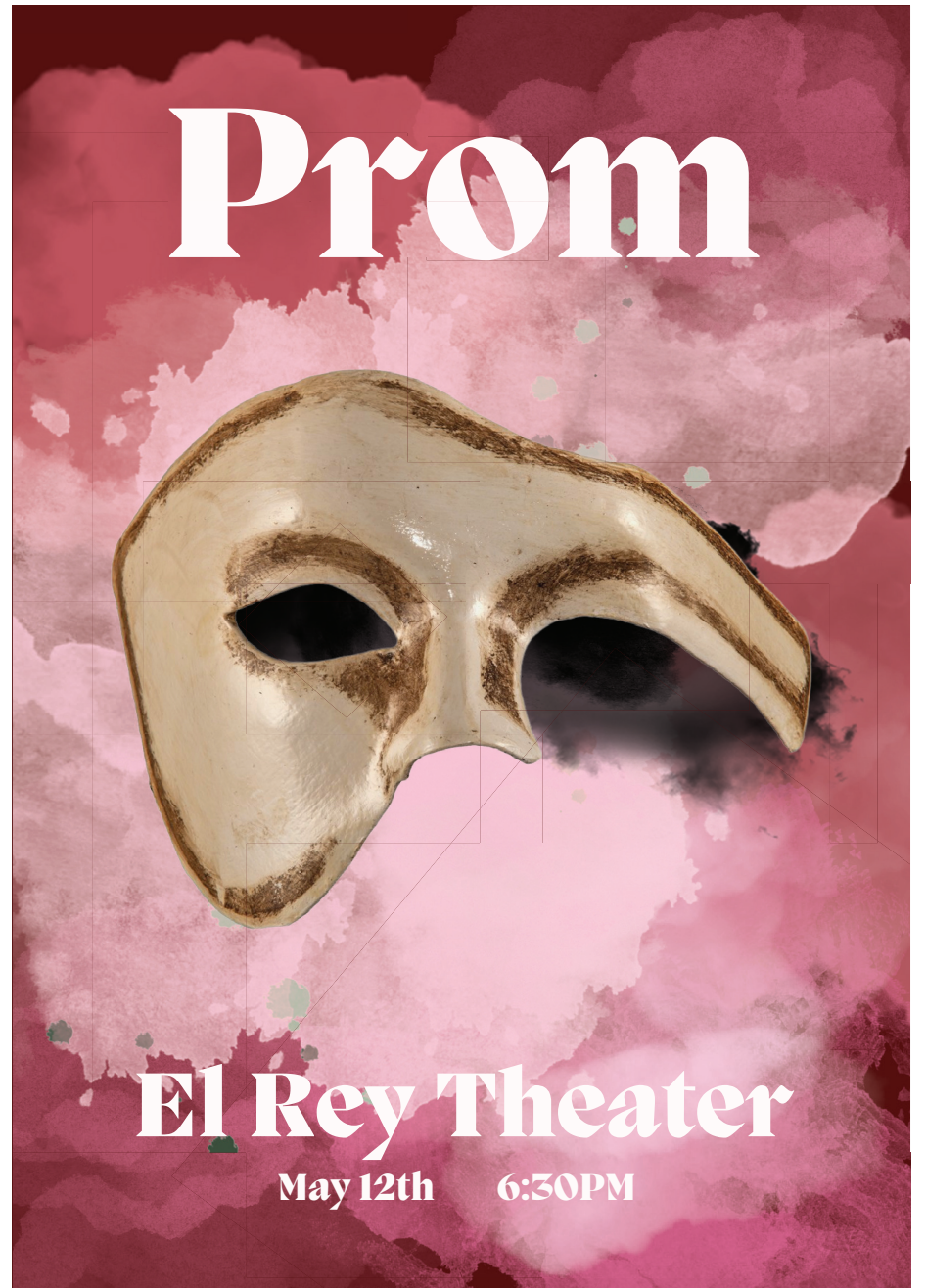


**OPEN-MIC NIGHT  
FOR THE STUDENTS**



**THE  
COFFEE  
HOUSE**  
6:00-8PM

**IN THE LIBRARY  
APRIL 27**



**Prom**

**El Rey Theater**  
May 12th 6:30PM

## COMMITTED SENIORS



**Takoda Moore**



I'm excited to move to North Carolina and learn about business analytics. I want to studying abroad and working towards building my own company!



**Estelle Shah**



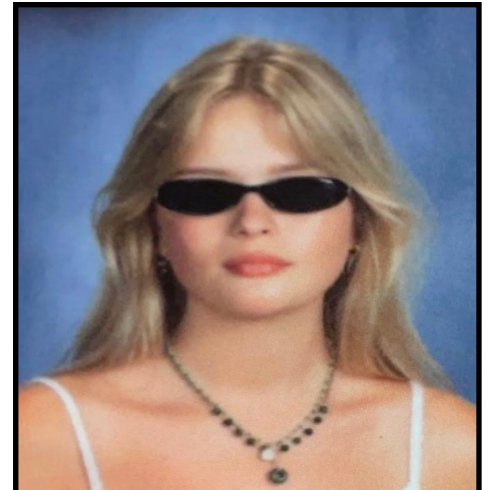
I'll be at the School of Professional Studies and majoring in Real Estate Development! I can't wait to meet new people and take classes all over the world!



**Griffin Barrett**



I'm super excited to live my island life while studying public health, minoring in marine bio, going to EMT classes, and continue my surfing dreams.



**Bella Burke**



I'm going to Trinity College! I'll major in Politics, Philosophy, Economics, and Sociology. I am really excited to go back to Dublin and leave America!