



# THE DISPATCH

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

ISSUE IV, VOLUME 45

MAY 2016

HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

OAKWOOD AND MCKAY ROADS HUNTINGTON, NY 11743

## \* \* \* COMING SOON IN THE JUNE ISSUE:

- A MEMORIAL TO LINDA KEHN
- IOS VS. ANDROID
- PUZZLE ANSWERS TO THIS MONTH'S ISSUE
- A SUMMER BUCKET LIST
- MOVIES TO EXPECT THIS SUMMER
- WORD AROUND THE SCHOOL

\* \* \*

## HIGHER MINIMUM

## WAGES-

### *Are They Hurting Our Chances at Jobs?*

A DISPATCH EDITOR'S TAKE ON THE EFFECT OF RISING MINIMUM WAGES, WITH A COUNTER-ARGUMENT TO BE PRINTED IN THE JUNE ISSUE

BY SARAH JAMES

FOUND ON PG.2

## ARE YOU FEELING THE BERN?

LINDSAY SAGINAW

Despite Hillary's attempts to win over the youth vote, Bernie Sanders continues to entice and attract a slew of the younger generation in the recent caucuses and even in our own mock presidential primary. So why have so many millennials pledged their support to the democratic candidate who is over triple their age?

(cont. pg. 11)



## 'THE LITTLE MERMAID' A HUGE HIT

ANN GLACKIN

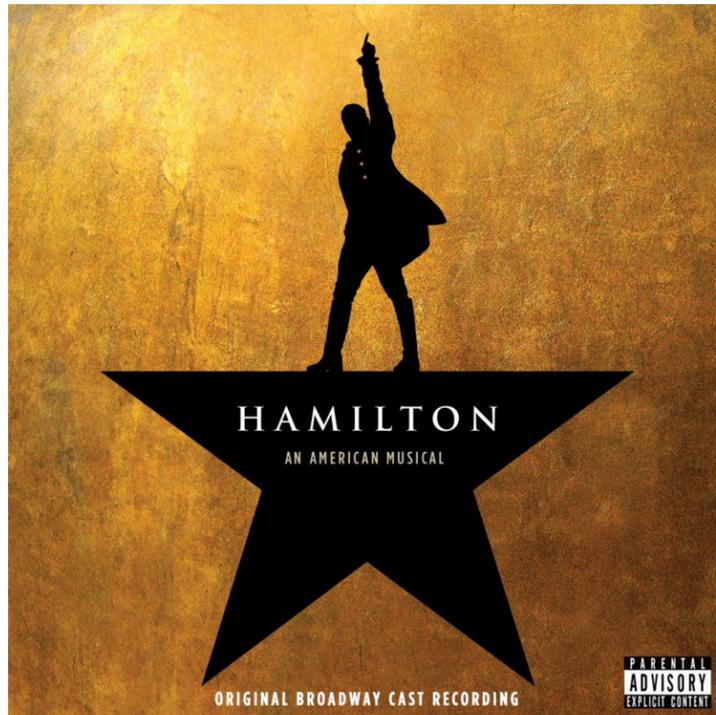
CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

The Huntington High School drama club's production of 'The Little Mermaid' was a huge hit! The Drama club Director, Mr. Michael Schwendemann held auditions three months ago for the Disney classic, drawing in students of all grade levels to create a wonderful cast. The cast worked furiously in hours of rehearsal to recreate the classic story in their performances on Friday, April 15th and Saturday, the 16th.



## BEST AND WORST OF THE 'HAMILTON' SOUNDTRACK

ANN GLACKIN



The hottest ticket on Broadway right now is the new musical about the founding fathers "Hamilton" by Lin Manuel-Miranda. Tickets are nearly impossible to get, and with good reason. Everyone, even the show's critics, loves "Hamilton." The show's critics only criticize its social application and whether or not its diversity in "Hamilton" is truly revolutionary. In terms of the soundtrack, people seem to agree- it's amazing, like nothing they've ever heard before. Revolutionary.

So? Is the music worth all that? Is the soundtrack really worth twenty dollars? Honestly, it depends. (Continued pg.18)

## SCHOOL POLLS

### SHOW STUDENTS

### VOTE AGAINST THE

### ESTABLISHMENT

EMANUEL ANASTOS

THE RESULTS of our recent school-wide poll of Huntington High School show that young people are highly in favor of anti-establishment candidates who defy or go beyond the typical characteristics of their re-

CONTINUED PG.8

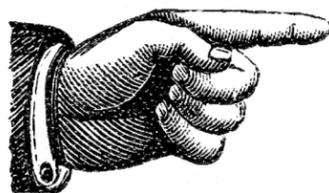
spective parties.

In this poll, participants are required to circle their preference for each party. The poll reflects who the students as a whole would like to see be the nominee for each party.



## IN THIS ISSUE:

- NETFLIX: COMING AND GOING IN MAY (PGS. 13 AND 16)
  - BERNIE VS. HILLARY MEMES (PG.11)
  - SUDOKU & MAZES (PGS. 14 & 15)
  - 'IS OUR TURF TOXIC?' AN INVESTIGATION (PG. 7)
  - 'IT NEVER GOES OUT' ALBUM REISSUE (PG.13)
  - 'BLACKFISH' REVIEWS (PG. 19)
- INDEX AND NEWS IN BRIEF ON BACK PAGE



## WANT TO SEND SOMETHING IN?



SUBMIT ANONYMOUS ADVICE QUESTIONS TO ROOM 252

TWITTER

@HHSDISPATCH

REMINDE

TEXT @HDISP To 81010

FACEBOOK GROUP

@HHSDISPATCH

EMAIL (FOR ARTICLES)

HHSDISPATCH@GMAIL.COM

# HIGHER MINIMUM WAGES ARE HURTING TEEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

BY SARAH JAMES

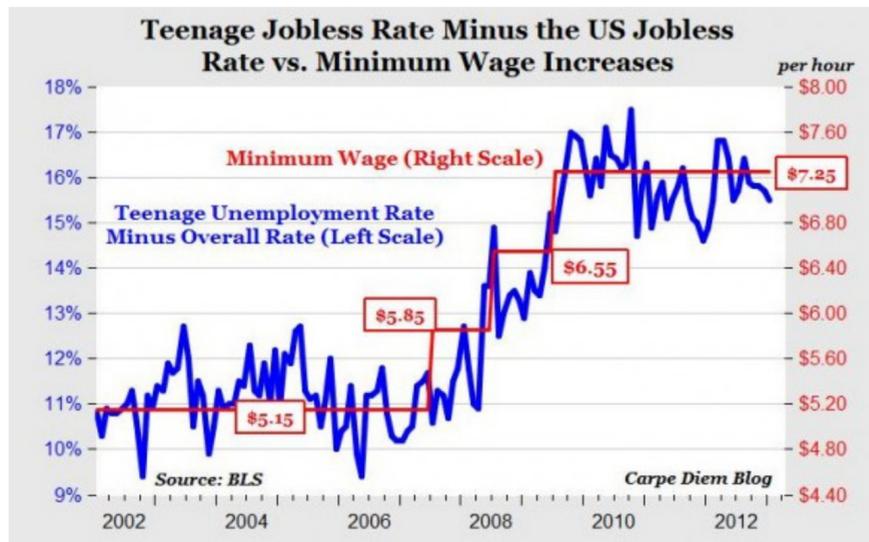
A very important part of of FDR's New Deal was the federal minimum wage that ensured workers that they would gain at least some money in order to counteract the Great Depression, or at least make conditions better in order to stimulate the economy. Back then, the federal minimum wage was \$0.25-- the equivalent of approximately four dollars-- today it is \$7.25, though many states maintain a higher minimum wage. For example, New York state's minimum wage is \$9.00, and rising. One might wonder, what's the problem with that? More money is a positive. However, as Biggie once told us, "Mo' Money Mo' Problems" you know? Here's what I mean.

According to Pew Research Center, 24% of minimum wage workers are teenagers, and this makes sense. As nice as it would be to have a larger pay as a teenager, it isn't necessary. Most teenagers live with a guardian that provides for them, and so the money they make from their measly minimum wage earnings is used as spending money. Teenagers work so they can save up for a car, buy that new pair of sneakers everyone is wearing or maybe use it for gas money or for a prom ticket. Rarely is it that a teenager is working in order to maintain their livelihood. Teenagers don't usually work to pay for rent, a mortgage, utilities or any other grown-up stuff. This is why working minimum wage jobs at McDonald's or the mall works well for us adolescents, and this is how it has always

been. Now, however, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find a job because many adults who are long out of college are working the minimum wage jobs that once supplied us with our cute new dress or those concert tickets we've been lusting over. These adults have work experience that a lot of us don't have, thus they are beating us for job positions, and as minimum wage increases they are just getting more comfortable.

By no means am I implying that it is easy to live on approximately \$300 a week, but it is doable. Increasing minimum wage also means that many people may be laid off in order to make accommodations for the larger salary by simply having less people to pay. With this, the advent of more and more automated processes is becoming key to businesses but is a downer for the both the job hunters and the consumers. Robots and automated programs require no pay, so those who go looking for a job will find themselves at a loss. Consumers as well may be missing out, not on job opportunities, but on human interaction. The reason many shopping experiences are pleasant is sometimes simply because of a friendly face, or a warm, ready-to-help, greeting.

As a teenager that already has a job, I'm all for minimum wage rising, but I remember how hard it was to find a place that would hire me, and as minimum wage hikes up, your chances of getting a job are going down.



## ARE YOU FEELING SOME KINDA WAY ABOUT A TOPIC? WRITE ABOUT IT!

THE DISPATCH IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS TO SUBMIT ARTICLES.

Drop in during one of our Weekly Wednesday Meetings or Thursday Workshops after school in Room 252

SEE FRONT PAGE FOR CONTACT INFO  
JOIN OUR REMIND: TEXT @HDISP TO 81010



## The Dispatch 2015-2016 STAFF

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF  
**MICHELLE D'ALESSANDRO**  
AND  
**SARAH JAMES**

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
**RACHEL MOSS**

SPORTS EDITOR  
**EMANUEL ANASTOS**

COPY EDITORS  
**SABRINA FLORO, STEVE YEH**  
AND **JACOB FULLER**

MUSIC EDITOR  
**PAGE MONTECALVO**

TECHNOLOGY EDITOR  
**CHRISTOPHER GIORDANO**

### CONTRIBUTING STAFF

*Oscar Aguilar, Emanuel Anastos, Nicole Arenth, Jordan Biener, Isabella Cahill, Katy Dara, Ursula DeRosa, Jahi Douglas, Sabrina Floro, Janelle Fore, Vincent Fredericks, Jacob Fuller, Santos Garcia, Chris Giordano, Ann Glackin, Taylor Haberkern, Ashley Herkommer, Chloe Liepa, Page Montecalvo, Rachel Moss, Elly Mustafa, Alex Muller, Mia Nitekman, Darya Odeabas, Ingrid Oliva, Emma Pandolphi, Nolan Piccola, Naomi Ponce, Massie Rinere, Max Robins, Rachel Roday, Cindy Rodriguez, Lindsay Saginaw, Allie Smith, Alex Tacopena, Hanae Wada, Colette Wagner, Ally Wohl, Steve Yeh*

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE  
JOURNALISM CLASS

ADVISORS  
**MS. AIMEE ANTORINO AND**  
**MR. EDWARD FLOREA**

The Dispatch is Huntington High School's official student publication. Written for over 1200 students attending HHIS, The Dispatch is distributed to all students, staff and school community members at the school free of charge.

The Editorial Board is the newspaper's decision-making body, organizing and directing its operation. The Dispatch staff has adopted the following editorial policy to express the rights, responsibilities and philosophy of the newspaper for the 2012-2013 school year.

The Dispatch of Huntington High School is a public forum, with its student editorial board making all decisions concerning its content. Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters are preferred signed, but may be published by request. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to laws governing obscenity, libel, privacy, and disruption of the school process, as are all contents of the paper. Questions, comments, and letters to the editor should be sent electronically to hhsdispatch@gmail.com or submitted to The Dispatch mailbox located in the main office.

Opinions in letters are not necessarily those of the staff, nor should any opinion expressed in a public forum be construed as the opinion of the administration, unless so attributed.

The Dispatch's goal is to provide readers with interesting content in a wide variety of areas. Such areas include the news coverage of school and community events, as well as features on relevant topics. In addition, The Dispatch will provide opinionated editorials on controversial topics, as well as provide previews and reviews for upcoming school and professional sports seasons and other forms of entertainment.

The Dispatch accepts advertisements from local businesses and student organizations. The basic rate for advertisements can be provided on request to any interested organization. Requests for specific pricing, and examples of past advertising may be requested via e-mail through hhsdispatch@gmail.com. The Editorial Board reserves the right to refuse any advertisement deemed inappropriate, specifically those that reference illegal or controlled substances, products, services and/or paraphernalia.

# HUNTINGTON BLUE DEVIL WINDBREAKER IS A STEAL

by emanuel anastos

The Huntington Blue Devil 'Jerzees' Windbreaker is a smart buy: generously priced, high-quality, and long-lasting, with a bonus of being fashionable and representative of Huntington High School.

The windbreaker is ideally equipped for foul weather, including high rain and winds. The windbreaker is thoroughly waterproof, proving to be like a poncho in heavy downpours of rain. "I was pissed when I unexpectedly had to walk home in a windy rain storm after school with just one skinny jacket, but I was enthralled when I realized I wasn't getting wet!", said one satisfied buyer.

The hood is an essential part of the unique warmth-preserving qualities of this jacket. "Tying up the hood really makes you realize how important keeping the head warm is in keeping the body warm," said the happy jacket-owner. "I'm freezing in the wind, and then I tie the hood strings really tight, and my whole upper body keeps warm as the wind is not able to blow out the warm air," he says.

The jacket is great for carrying things as well, and is handy when one is only wearing shorts or has overly sagging packets. The jacket has one large zip-up pocket by the stomach to put anything from phones, I-pods, nutrition bars, notes that need to stay dry, or anything that is up to six inches long. Behind it is an open pouch that gloves or other things can be put in as well, and gives easy access to these things. You can even use this open pocket to warm up cold hands in on a windy, rainy, or just plain cold day.

The cost is one of the main reasons giving this buy so much value. This jacket, which has lasted one buyer six months in great condition to date, was bought for only \$25 at a Huntington football game. This is a tremendous deal for a durable and well-equipped jacket like this that has endured many rainstorms and has been through the washing machine many times. Many other windbreakers

of similar qualities cost twice as much money, or even more. "I think that's a great buy!" said one woman when informed of the price of the rain jacket when shown and detailed to her. "Most really good rain jackets that keep you dry are at least fifty bucks," she added.

One of the windbreaker/rain jacket's greatest appeals is its stylish fit. It produces a sleek and shapely body figure, creasing inwards appropriately around the waist and the cuffs to cleanly cut the edges of the jacket, instead of sagging awkwardly and not appealing to the shape of the wearer. The hood area is one of the most eye-appealing; the front part covers the neck area efficiently, and the back part (the hood) tightens in to the back of the neck that the hood strings draw it into, sleekly forming the top of the jacket instead of having the hood protrude out ungracefully. This clean collar mounts the wearer's neck and head to give it a pen-sive and sharp look. Last but not least, the homely dark blue color that represents Huntington goes handsomely against all skin tones, and the Blue Devil emblem lets whoever wears the windbreaker represent Huntington wherever they go. It can even serve as a warm-up or practice jersey for varsity or J.V. teams at Huntington!

The sole and lonely downside of the jacket is that it easily shows when dust or baseball dirt streaks across it. So, it does have to be washed every once in a while. Luckily, the jacket does not stain, and these dirt coverings and even heavier smearing of the jacket comes out easily in the wash. The jacket is quick-dry too! In the end, the one negative of the jacket highlights even more positives to this windbreaker.

This jacket is a steal of a buy, and I would definitely recommend trying to get one if something like that is needed or of one's desire. How would I rate it out of ten? I'd give it a ten. It has so many positives and at such a great price, asking anything better of this jacket would be beyond disingenuous.

# SPELLING BEE ISN'T JUST FOR THE GENIUSES

by emanuel anastos

I don't think anyone complains about going to the spelling bee. It's something where you can watch high-level competition, socialize, and learn how some words are spelled.

While watching the spelling bee is a great way to end the last day before February break, so is actually being in it! How do you get in? Get the most or second most words right in the quiz given in your English class. What if you're not the very best speller but just want to have a good competitive time? If a winner but doesn't want to be in the competition, then you're in luck; you can volunteer for any winner who doesn't want to be in the actual spelling bee. "I was ecstatic when, in 9th grade, I barely knew any words on the quiz, but none of the winners were into going to the spelling bee. I was the first one to volunteer to take their place, and I actually got past the first two rounds to be the last 9th grader standing!" said one current 11th grader, who hasn't gotten in since then. Isn't it funny to see someone's face when they get a difficult word they never expected to be able to spell right?

Of all of the 50-or-so students who are in the spelling bee, only a handful are really in it to be the champion. These few competitors are often known for studying the dictionary, and even sometimes reading the entire thing! In past years, there were usually larger groups of these top spellers who battled it out and provided fierce competition. This year, the group of top spellers was much more concentrated. The winner, Olivia Stamatas was flawless, taking the crown handily. She never even needed to rely on anyone else getting a word wrong to survive, as past winners had needed. Though her performance robbed the audience of suspense, it was admirable to see Olivia shine through the competition.

Although there was a lack of high competition, there was, more importantly, a wide

range of students who got to enjoy spelling and have a truly enjoyable learning experience. Both the audience and the participants had the aura of competition spread onto them. While the competition at the highest level was dominated by Olivia, the lower general competition was more inclusive than past years (kind of like the NBA East!). Lots of students, some to their surprise, got their first word (or two) right, and got to move on to be asked harder words and had to think harder. "I remember when I first heard my second-round word "solemnity" which sounded like "selenium", but then recognized the root of the word solemn and got it right!" said one student.

It is fun enough even to be in the audience and pretend like you're being asked the word that a competitor has to spell, but this year, you could even be part of it in a spectator spelling bee at the end! About 40 kids from the audience got to go up to the stage and participate, much to their delight. For anyone who went up, there was fun, but also competition if desired. It seemed like everyone who went up tried to get their word right, and show some pride in their spelling skills. There were quite a few people who did get their words right. There were also a few people who said funny quotes after they got their word wrong. Thomas Goldsmith announced "Yeezy 2020" after he tried to spell his word.

The spelling bee is such a simple and universal competition, yet it is so effective in making education a fun thing. Such a rare mix of competition, education, and learning probably couldn't be without such a simple thing: spelling the English language. What is it about spelling? Is it that it is exciting? Because doing it successfully can be lucky and unexpected? Because it takes knowledge of a language, not just memorization of words? Regardless, we shouldn't plan on stopping such a magical thing anything any time soon.

## ENL LIBRARY TOUR A HUGE SUCCESS

BY MICHELLE D'ALESSANDRO

Huntington Public Library, Station Branch- The libraries of our town are often an underappreciated feature of Huntington life, but last month, they became a place of wonder and excitement.

On April 6th, a group of ENL students took a wonder-filled field trip to the public library with Ms. Miller, Sra. Rosa and Sra. Pena, where they received their first library cards, learned how to check out the plentiful multilingual books, movies, and music available, and set up accounts for both online and mobile resources. With the help from librarians Laura McKinley and Corinna Jaudes, the students were also given a tour of the library, which contains both a teen room and a computer room, as well as a demonstration of the available Rosetta Stone program and online homework help services, which are sure to come in handy.

Many of the students checked out their first books and movies, and were excited to share their experience and their new books with the other students on their return

to school. Sra. Pena wrote, "Students discovered that reading can be fun, and many of them started visiting the school library on their own time and sharing the books they read with their peers in my HLA classes." Ilsi Martinez is a shining example of the success of library field trips, and was the inspiration of the field trip to a public library after becoming an avid reader following a class trip to the school library. She now presents her books to the class with enthusiasm, taking a step even further to check out books in English from the library. Her newfound passion and the success of the tour have inspired more tour plans for the future.

It is field trips like these that help kids grow as students and can create a lasting impact on their future. A passion for reading can lead to much more success in the future, and sparks a love for learning new things. This desire to learn and to explore new topics can help find a career, as well as to flourish in it. One book today, a brighter future tomorrow.



# REVISITING COMMON CORE

BY ASHLEY HERKOMMER

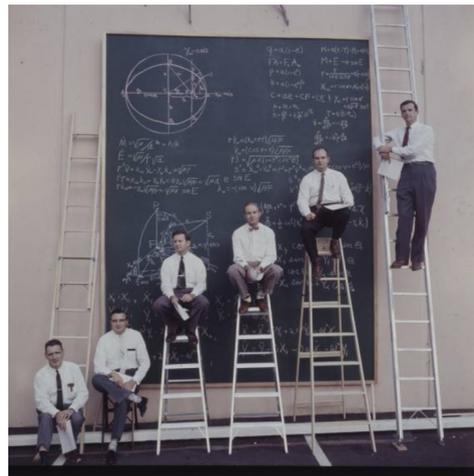
For most students, Common Core has been a stressful new way of teaching. Many kids are tired after six hours of school and don't need an extra three hours to do homework. However, when it comes to applying the question before answering it.

It all started in 2008 with former Arizona governor, Janet Napolitano. She wrote an "initiative of the year", which stated how she wanted an improvement in Math and Science education. She soon created a group of commissioners, governors and corporate chief executive officers to make up a new way of teaching, later known as Common Core. This new educational standard is now accepted in 42 states.

Many people believe Common Core is a very

stressful new way of teaching. Many kids are tired after six hours of school and don't need an extra three hours to do homework. However, when it comes to applying the question before answering it. The new standardized test, Desiree Jones from James Lick High School in East San Jose said, "With this test, you had to make your point and explain your answer. In the future, you may have to do the same thing - back up your claim - where you work. You can't just say, 'That's good.' You'll need to say what you think and why."

Not only is this im-



ent work, their child gets the whole question marked wrong. Stephen Colbert, father of two says (in reaction to his second grade sons' homework), "I can't figure the damn math problem out. ... This doesn't make any sense to a normal human being."

He argued that the assignment takes a simple subtraction

problem and makes it "overtly complex."

The parents are struggling to learn the new work along with their kids and the teachers are finding it to be hard to adjust as well. Valerie

Lake, eighth-grade English teacher and literacy coach at Lower Manhattan Community Middle School in New York City said, "Some people say, I hate the Common Core. I think they mean, I hate the Common Core standardized tests. That's different."

As a society we have to realize that Common Core is a method to help us learn and grow, just the way the districts are applying it to school work and tests are what make it stressful and hard. Although school districts are beginning to work towards getting rid of Common Core, if they do abolish it, it's only a matter of time before they make a new method of teaching.

Schools aren't trying to hurt us, they're trying to educate us. Although many students are upset with Common Core, at least they're trying to improve on our education methods.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN THE DISPATCH, CONTACT EDITORS AT HHSDISPATCH@GMAIL.COM

**BAUSCH PHOTOGRAPHY**  
631-682-8328

**PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY THAT STANDS OUTSIDE THE BOX. USING ONLY THE NEWEST TECHNIQUES, BAUSCH PHOTOGRAPHY CREATES ONE-OF-A-KIND PROFESSIONAL PORTRAITS**

# STUDENTS MAKE MEMORIES OF A LIFETIME ON COSTA RICAN EXPEDITION

BY ALLIE SMITH & JORDAN BIENER

Over February break, 43 students and five teachers left behind New York's cold weather to venture out into the rain forests and rugged terrain of Costa Rica.

A five hour plane ride sent the travelers into a new world, where they experienced a new take on nature, adventure, and culture.

The travelers were accompanied by a Costa Rican native as they voyaged from the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific Ocean by bus and by boat. In seven various provinces of Costa Rica- each unique in climate and natural landscape- the travelers followed a packed itinerary. The nine days were spent visiting villages, kayaking, white water rafting, zip lining, boat riding, swimming, snorkeling, and hiking. Students and chaperones experienced a different way of life. The travelers stayed in five different hotels, but spent most of their time outdoors. They developed a close relationship with the wildlife, and with rice and beans- both a large part of the Costa Rican experience.

This "Costa Rican Expedition" was booked through EF Tours, and spearheaded by Huntington High School's Camille Tedeschi. Social Studies teacher

and traveler, Camille Tedeschi is not new to traveling. Her voyages have taken her across the globe, but this experience was one for the books. "It is hard to compare each tour, but I think Costa Rica 2016 is at the top of my list. I was still in Costa Rica thinking about when I would return with another group. The tour ran smoothly, there were lots of smiles and everyone was safe. My main priority is to keep the group safe and to have fun, and I know this trip accomplished both tasks."

Tedeschi was certainly not the only one who enjoyed this adventurous vacation. HHS Junior Rachel Roday says, "It was one of the best experiences of my life." Some of her favorite activities included ziplining and visiting the hot springs. Roday said, "It was so cool to do these amazing activities with my closest friends."

For HHS senior Spencer Pashkin, white water rafting was the best part about the trip. "It was a thrilling experience. Not only did I experience the rush of adrenaline and the excitement of battling the rapids, but I got to share this experience with great friends, old and new, and our fantastic teacher chaperones."



STUDENTS GATHER FOR A PICTURE WITH MS. TEDESCHI

Students brought home the best type of souvenirs- great memories of a once in a lifetime adventure. Social Studies teacher and traveler, Camille Tedeschi says, "The next EF tour with students is the July tour to Tanzania, then February 2017 to Galapagos Islands, and April 2017 to Ireland. I plan my tours a year in advance." If you would like to go on an incredible tour to see the world with Ms. Tedeschi, make sure to ask her about upcoming trips.



A PRE-RAFTING GROUP PHOTO

# THE LITTLE MERMAID MAKES A HUGE SPLASH

(cont. from front page)

Auditions this year showed an outpouring of some of Huntington High School's finest talents. Hopefuls had to perform a song, act a monologue, and, for the first time in several years, learn a dance combination to be considered for a role. Auditions lasted three days before finally, to the students' relief, posting the cast list Friday before February break. Bursting with enthusiasm and determined to create a brilliant show, cast members spent five days a week after school, working to learn the music, the dances, and the blocking.

The HHSDC's production of The Little Mermaid closely mirrored the Broadway production, with

some changes to make it more accessible to high school performers. The show had all the classic songs Disney fans know and love from the movie, as well as some wonderful new ones. The show expands the roles of several characters, creating a new song for Ariel's mersisters, Flounder the fish, Scuttle the seagull, Prince Erik, Ursula the Sea Witch, and her minions Flotsam and Jetsam. Flotsam and Jetsam, who both have a minimal part in the movie, were popular audience favorites. The show's new content and Mr. Schwendemann's brilliant direction created an entirely new experience from a timeless classic.

The cast was comprised of both familiar and

new faces. One familiar face is Huntington High School Senior Nancy Fallon, in the titular role of Ariel, her second stint as a Disney princess, after playing Belle in last year's production of Beauty and the Beast. Miss Fallon has been in all eight shows debuted by the HHSDC since her freshman year. Another familiar face is Andrew Gunthner, who is performing as the wacky seagull Scuttle. Senior Justin Waite is looking forward to his final Drama Club production, in which he'll be playing Eric's advisor Grimsby. Junior Jordan Biener

made a second appearance on the HHS stage after student directing last year and playing a role in this year's fall drama. She appeared as Sebastian, the uptight crab. Of the rehearsal process, Ms. Biener said, "The cast is amazing and such fun to work with. Preparing for the show has been a lot of work, but we are all very proud of how it's turned out and can't wait to share it with everyone." Ms. Biener, Ms. Fallon, Mr. Gunthner, and Mr. Waite appeared alongside many other talented students to create an amazing show for this year's Drama Club production.



A SINGING NUMBER FEATURING ARIEL, SEBASTIAN, FLOUNDER AND SEAGULLS

# WE ARE DESTROYING THE EARTH

by ashley herkommer



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: A DUMP SITE IN MANILA TOWERS OVER VILLAGERS, CHILDREN COVER THEIR FACES FROM THE SMOG POLLUTION IN INDIA (2012)



A CONTROLLED FIRE BURNS SPILLED OIL IN THE GULF OF MEXICO



EFFORTS ARE MADE TO CLEAN UP OIL AND PLASTICS WASHED ASHORE



ABOVE: LAKE OROVILLE, CA IN 2011 AND 2014

The Earth is the most precious possession we have, but year after year people still fail to take action. The environment needs to be taken care of and society isn't doing enough about it.

Huntington High School seems to need more education regarding the environment. Besides the AP Environmental Science elective available here at Huntington High School, there isn't enough awareness structured around the negative externalities of damaging the Earth.

Environmental disasters are happening too often. Whether or not they're caused by careless human error, everyone is affected by these disasters. According to the National Wildlife Federation, environmental disasters such as the BP Oil Spill polluted waters along the Gulf of Mexico, which contaminated drinking water, killed many animals and fish, and could have potentially released dangerous toxins in the air. Humans, animals, and the Earth itself are paying the price for these environmental disasters.

The U.S. National Academy of Sciences says, "The scientific understanding of climate change is now sufficiently clear to justify taking steps to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere."

Innocent animals every day are losing their habitats due to deforestation. Environmental disasters also are destroying their resources, which could lead to endangerment or extinction of these animals. Environmental disasters are so preventable and yet so frequent. We have to enforce the Environmental Protection Policy and the Endangered Species Act to help save and protect the animals with no voice. It's important to know that although we depend on urbanization to flourish in

the economy, the forest provides homes for thousands of animals. Forests also provide us with oxygen and natural resources that help us develop our society.

The landfills that fill up America are another huge problem the environment faces. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, in 2013, America generated 254 million tons of trash. This included materials such as grass clippings, furniture, clothing, bottles, leftover food, and papers. The problem with landfills is that people are throwing away their valuables that take up enormous amounts of space and release toxic emissions into the air.

Climate change is another preventable situation we have. Because of issues like mass pollution, human error, and environmental disasters, the temperatures have increased worldwide. Global warming doesn't just heat up the earth, but also causes extreme weather patterns during the summer and winter months.

The government is taking action though. The U.S. Department of State stated that in 2012, U.S. greenhouse gas emissions fell to the lowest levels it has been in nearly two decades. They're also working towards issuing trash collections, taxing fuels in order to reduce their use, banning the use of heating coals, and promoting recycling. Reliance on wind, water and solar power are also increasing. However, our job as a society is to always ask if it's enough.

The American Physical Society says, "The evidence is incontrovertible: Global warming is occurring. If no mitigating actions are taken, significant disruptions in the Earth's physical and ecological systems, social systems, security and human health are likely to occur."



# IS OUR TURF TOXIC?

BY STEVE YEH  
**CRYOGENIC RUBBER INFILL**

The turf field. The arena on which high school sports teams clash. The Huntington High School turf field, also known as Blue Devils Stadium, has been in use since its construction in 2007. Many factors favor the use of artificial turf over the use of grass fields, including the need for durable fields to accommodate multiple sports teams, high cost of maintenance of grass fields, and the need to conserve water.

However, the safety aspect of artificial turf has not been thoroughly examined. Two years ago, Amy Griffin, associate head coach for women's soccer at the University of Washington, compiled a list of 200 American athletes (158 of whom were soccer players and 101 of whom were goalkeepers) who had been diagnosed with cancer. Though there is the possibility of correlation of exposure to artificial turf and cancer, a proof of causation requires more than an enumeration of those affected; it requires scientific experimentation and statistical data analysis. In fact, there is an ongoing inquiry by federal agencies, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Centers for Disease Control and the Consumer Product Safety Commission to offer the federal standpoint as to if artificial turf is safe or not. In light of the recent announcement of a federal query into this matter, I had decided to investigate a little into the safety of the turf field at our school. I must make a foremost apology that this may be a potentially bland report, however, I would like for all of the facts to be presented. Lastly, I hope that this report will be read in its entirety, especially the "list of confinements" subsections of each corresponding section to avoid any misconceptions.

The \$720,000 turf field was constructed using components, which include the synthetic grass blades and cryogenic rubber infill, manufactured by the company FieldTurf. Cryogenic rubber infill, the little black specks which tend to cling to clothing, is derived from rubber tires; the former adjective cryogenic merely describes the process of cooling the turf to cut the rubber tires into fine rubber granule fit for use. It was the safety of these two components, the grass blades and rubber infill, that I was most inclined to find out about.

## SYNTHETIC GRASS BLADES

Last year, my friend Evan Aguirre and I collected detached synthetic grass blades, which I then mailed to the Center for Environmental Health for a free screening for lead, which causes lead poisoning. I received the response that there was no detectable lead content by procedural usage of an x-ray fluorescence analyzer. Though this is certainly great news, I must elaborate about the confines this inquiry was limited to:

- Only detached synthetic green grass blades were sent to the Center for Environmental Health, so the conclusions of the test for detectable lead cannot be extrapolated for synthetic grass blades of other colors
- This test only provided results of lead content and not of other chemical compounds and metals
- As the detached synthetic grass blades were sampled from the outermost regions of the field (as only in those regions were there detached grass blades to be found), statistically, there may be regional differences in lead content

Bluntly said, it is possible for the small sample region of synthetic grass blades to return negative for lead content analysis while other regions of the turf field to return positive.

The second component to be analyzed was the cryogenic rubber infill. As stated before, the source material for this rubber, also known as styrene-butadiene rubber and crumb rubber, is tires. The Materials Safety Data Sheet of the crumb rubber, provided by the Huntington School District, stated that the hazardous ingredients included:

Ingredient	Percent Composition
Vulcanized Rubber (Styrene-Butadiene Rubber)	45-50%
Carbon Black	25-30%
Process Oil	10-15%
Zinc Oxide	1-5%
Sulfur	1-5%
Stearic Acid	1-5%

Through modest investigation, it was found that minimal intake of stearic acid, sulfur and zinc oxide causes little to no health effects.

In contrast to the Materials Safety Data Sheet, a report by Environment and Human Health, Inc. (EHHI) sought to identify the chemical constituents of the ingredients. Chemical compounds of the crumb rubber "identified with confirmatory analytical studies at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station" included:

- Benzothiazole: Skin and eye irritation, harmful if swallowed. There is no available data on cancer, mutagenic toxicity, teratogenic toxicity, or developmental toxicity.
- Butylated hydroxyanisole: Recognized carcinogen, suspected endocrine toxicant, gastrointestinal toxicant, immunotoxicant, neurotoxicant, skin and sense-organ toxicant. There is no available data on cancer, mutagenic toxicity, teratogenic toxicity, or developmental toxicity.
- N-Hexadecane: severe irritant based on human and animal studies. There is no available data on cancer, mutagenic toxicity, teratogenic toxicity, or developmental toxicity.
- 4-(t-octyl) phenol: corrosive and destructive to mucous membranes. There is no available data on cancer, mutagenic toxicity, teratogenic toxicity, or developmental toxicity.

\*The statements of "no available data..." refer to the insufficient data for the types of toxicity pertaining only to exposure to crumb rubber; according to the report, "...many, if not most, of the compounds present in tire crumbs and shreds have been incompletely tested for human health effects..."

These chemicals were concluded by the experiment to have the ability to be volatilized into the vapor phase (released into the air) and leached (released into the water) while under relatively mild conditions of temperature and leaching solvent. In addition to the chemicals, metals were also identified and included: zinc, selenium, lead and cadmium. High levels of zinc (20957µg/kg tire) were found relative to the levels of the other metals, which could result in zinc toxicity to plants by way of exposure to contaminated water. Through personal correspondence, the President of EHHI, Nancy Alderman corroborated the fact that styrene-butadiene rubber is "the product used in synthetic turf fields" and that it is "often referred to as 'crumb rubber', implying that this was the material used in the studies.

Though there are possible presences of these chemical compounds, according to the Huntington School District, there have been no complaints of skin, eye, skin irritation and allergic reactions due to use of the turf field.

Again, I must outline the confines of this literature review of the EHHI:

- Though the corroboration by the President of EHHI highlighted the fact that styrene-butadiene rubber was synonymous with "crumb rubber" and was used in the studies, the conclusions cannot necessarily be applied to the styrene-butadiene turf field of Huntington High School

• Rather, full conclusions can only be made if a similar analytical experiment is performed on the crumb rubber infill of Huntington High School \*The full report can be found on the EHHI website at [www.ehhi.org](http://www.ehhi.org)

## ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

This last section deals with the environmental effect of the turf field. As noted before, the turf field nullifies water cost in comparison to the maintenance of the traditional grass field. On the other hand, the potential leaching of chemicals and metals may be of concern with regards to the environment. The water drainage system of the turf field at the high school leads to drywells; the conventional drywell collects excess water and gradually dissipates the water through small exit openings into its surroundings. If the rainwater passing through the turf field into the drywells is tainted with leached chemicals and metals, particularly that of zinc, it may perhaps lead to negative ecological effects, including the increased toxicity to the nearby plants and soil.

### Limitations of this conclusion:

Again, this conclusion can only be confirmed or dismissed if a procedural analytical experiment is performed on the crumb rubber infill of Huntington High School

There are many other altering effects the turf field could have on the rainwater that could be confirmed or dismissed with tests for possible pH level and water hardness changes

For all three of the sections of this report, potentially adverse effects relating to the synthetic grass blade, the crumb rubber infill and the environmental concern have been explored. Nevertheless, I must reiterate and stress that further conclusions can only be drawn if specialized tests are conducted on samples of synthetic grass blades and crumb rubber of the Huntington High School turf.

\* \* \*

**TLD:** (By Michelle D'Alessandro)  
The short answer: It's very possible  
The longer answer:

Grass blades were sent off to test for lead content, and came back negative. However, that was only a small sample and tests of other synthetic grass could have different results.

The rubber crumbs commonly used in turf have been found to have irritants and a carcinogen, but there's not enough data to prove other types of toxicity. The rubber tested contains various metals as well as chemicals that have the ability to be released into the air and water under general conditions. However, these conclusions may not apply to the rubber used in \*our\* field.

Lastly, our turf may cause negative environmental effects because water passing through can latch on to its many chemicals and metals.

Research shows that turf could be potentially contain hazards and toxins, and we are left to assume our turf possesses some of the same risks as those used in research.

# SCHOOL POLL:

BALLOTS WERE DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL TO SIMULATE ELECTION RESULTS IF STUDENTS WERE TO VOTE. SOME CANDIDATES INCLUDED HAVE DROPPED OUT SINCE THE POLLING

by emanuel anastos

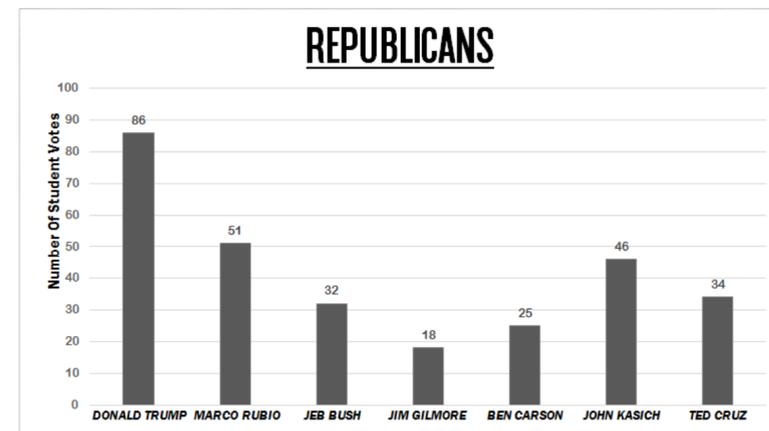
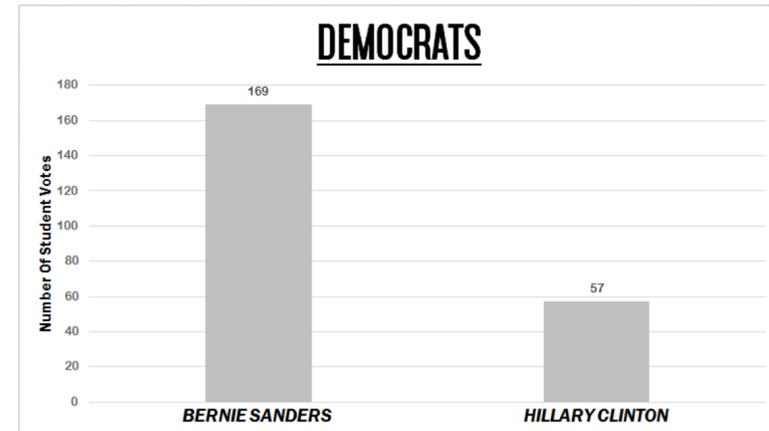
(continued from front page) On the democratic side, there is a one-on-one showdown between Vermont senator and former mayor Bernie Sanders and Secretary of State and former senator, Hillary Clinton. On the Republican side, the field has narrowed from 17 to 3 contenders as we near the halfway point of the primary election process, who are Texas senator Ted Cruz, reality TV show actor Donald Trump, and Ohio Governor John Kasich.

On the Republican side, the winner is Donald Trump, well above any other candidate with 86 votes; the next closest is Marco Rubio at 51 votes. Still, the vote is thoroughly splintered between other candidates who, when consolidated to one candidate, would easily top Trump. "Wouldn't some of those votes go to Trump?" one may ask. Not likely. Trump supporters seem to be especially enthusiastic, and one usually is either for him or against him. Still, when combined, not all of these votes may consolidate against Trump. There are two distinct anti-Trump factions, which are led by headline conservative Ted Cruz, who is currently Trump's biggest challenger in the race for the GOP (Republican) nomination, and the more moderate candidates Marco Rubio and Kasich. In the actual race, Trump is in the lead with 458 delegates to Ted Cruz's 359, with Rubio way behind at 151, trailed by Kasich at 54. Rubio and Kasich's chances rest largely on Florida and Ohio, each candidate's respective home states, which are the first winner-take-all states in the contest. Kasich is almost neck and neck with Trump in the Ohio polls and has a good chance (probably 50-60%) to win Ohio, while Rubio is down significantly (about 15 points on average in the Florida polls) and is getting calls to drop out. So, the Republican

side is pretty chaotic as the heads of the party are trying to do all they can to prevent Trump from becoming the nominee and thoroughly destroying the party.

But beside the fact that there is not just one anti-Trump candidate to consolidate around, why does Trump have so much appeal? His support seems to extend to young voters, though is not necessarily strengthened by it, as his 30 percent share of the student votes for the Republican nomination is actually slightly under his one-third share of national election voters. Nonetheless, why are some young people, who tend to be more progressive, in favor of Trump? The main reasons for Trump's appeal are likely his "rebellious" spirit and willingness to say things bluntly that no one else would dare to say. Despite his racially fueled rhetoric and derogatory comments (which most of his supporters are likely in favor of), there is likely a minority of younger support who like him solely for the fact that he is does not censor what he says.

What is happening on the Democratic side? Some pretty exciting stuff. Initially, Hillary Clinton was expected to be the inevitable Democratic nominee. But she is facing an unexpected challenge from an insurgent Bernie Sanders. No, she is not losing the race; in fact, she is over 200 delegates (748 to 542) ahead of Sanders in the race for 2,382 delegates needed for the nomination (excluding the 717 super-delegates who choose their own candidate and almost always favor who wins the pledged delegate race). But Sanders is coming off his first win in a large, diverse state that is Michigan, and after Florida and North Carolina vote on March 15th, there will be no Southern states left, and the territory will begin to favor Bernie Sanders. Also, Sanders will



Poll Results Submitted by Ashley Herkommer

not run out of funding any time soon, because his campaign support is fueled by an average donation of 27 dollars by hundreds of thousands of donors, unlike other candidates who largely profit from "Super-Pac" donations by very wealthy donors and companies. He is gaining momentum, and although Clinton still remains the favorite, that could change in a few weeks to come.

Now, why do young people support Bernie Sanders so overwhelmingly? He crushes Clinton 164 to 55 in the school poll, and does goes well beyond that in the national polls, typically winning voters under 30 with 85% of the vote. Primarily, young people are idealistic. This means that they are often the biggest dreamers, and see no bounds to what can be achievable. Sanders, who believes a "political revolution" will help him achieve free col-

lege tuition at state schools for two years, universal healthcare, extreme measures to preserve the environment, and other massive progressive changes is often labeled as being "unrealistic" by his critics and opposition. Whether he is or not, though, young people seem to be the dreamers who believe these things can happen. But Bernie has also captured the spirit of younger people due to an appeal that, although wholly different in its policy proposals and disputed authenticity, is somewhat similar to Donald Trump's appeal of being rebellious and fearless. In fact, many school ballots had Donald Trump circled as the Republican candidate and Bernie Sanders as the Democratic candidate of choice. Still, though, Sanders support dwarfed by his support among non-Trump voters. Lastly, young voters do not

have the same fondness as many older Democrats of the Clintons, who remember the thriving economy of the 90s under President Clinton. Young people often see Hillary as phony and in her attempts to appeal to young voters in which she imitates hip-hop dances, and untrustworthy next to a candidate with as consistent a record as Senator Sanders on key issues such as trade and foreign affairs.

The results of the school poll tell us that anti-establishment sentiment is vastly popular among young voters who are looking for a change in the way American politics functions. Some fear that this is dangerous, while others tote it as wonderful and evolutionary. Nonetheless, we all can agree that this is a pivotal election in the course of where America (and the world) will head for the future.



## THE LONG DECAY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

by jacob fuller

**WHEN A TREE DIES, IT DOES NOT FALL OVER.** It rots, and it festers. The tree is consumed by fungi and termites, gnawing away at its foundation. And after the foundation has been destroyed, even the slightest storm will fall it. Throughout this election cycle, so many have been quick to point out that the Republican Party is falling apart. However, what they fail to recognize is that this is only the culmination of a decay that has been occurring for years, destroying the party from the inside out. The failure of the Conservative movement to self-regulate has divided the party beyond recognition.

Following the renowned Reagan administration, George H.W. Bush was met with the task of preserving the Conservative agenda set forth by Reagan. Bush accomplished this to a degree; he continued the war on drugs, ended the Cold War and maintained the American position as a global 'police force'. However, Bush was ultimately a failure in the eyes of the fiscal Republicans, the oldest branch of the party, with the only goal of ensuring little government economic intervention and promoting tax cuts for businesses. Despite promising on the convention floor to never raise taxes, Bush was forced to do so because of the pressure from the Democratic majority in Congress and the large deficit of the Reagan administration. In the eyes of the Republicans, Bush was a traitor. Bush was not reelected and lost to Bill Clinton in 1992. It would only be eight years before another Bush entered the White House.

The years of the Clinton administration were not too kind to the Republican Party. Clinton distracted from the focuses of the Reagan and Bush administration. To make it even worse, Clinton left office with the highest approval rating of any president since Roosevelt. It was clear to Republicans that they were beginning to lose their grasp on America, and the differing opinions on how to solve this issue began the downfall of the party.

After eight years of the Clinton administration, Republicans finally had their chance to reclaim the White House. And after a close race, George W. Bush beat out the Democratic nominee Al Gore. Jump to a year later to September 11th, 2001, the day of the collapse of the Twin Towers by the terrorist group Al-Qaeda. This began the 'War on Terror', reignited American patriotism, and strengthened the Republican

Party. However, from this patriotism came an increased fear of outsiders entering the United States. This xenophobia infected the Republican Party quickly and foreign policy became a key focus point for the party to this very day. Despite all this, the party was (mostly) united under a common set of ideals and would remain so until 2008.

In 2008, the Republican candidate John McCain was faced with a dilemma. McCain needed a new and interesting Vice-Presidential candidate to combat Joe Biden, the smooth talking and likeable nominee of the Obama campaign. However, the party was having trouble in accepting any of his preferred running mates. They needed someone new, someone who was charismatic, and most of all, someone who would assist with the women vote, a group that they had been losing year by year. But after all of their searching, what they found would ultimately end up destroying the party from within- Sarah Palin.

Sarah Palin met all of their categories; she was the governor of Alaska, had children and could potentially relate to the common people. However, Palin's knowledge of foreign policy, economics, social reform and law were...less than adequate to say the least. But despite all odds, Palin had hit a live wire within the Party. She invigorated the tired establishment and brought energy wherever she went. Palin represented a new type of politics in America, one that was sensationalist and radical. To put it simply, the voters respected McCain, but they loved Palin. But when they lost, that live wire that Palin tapped into continued to buzz, and unbeknownst to Palin, she had electrified a radical, nihilistic voter base that would soon become known as the Tea Party.

In the wake of the election of President Barack Obama, a radical movement known as the Tea Party was formed. This movement had no clear goals and lacked any form of structure, and despite its name, the Tea Party is not a political party. But if the Tea party is clear on anything, it would be that it is anti-Obama. Through the years, the Tea Party grew, and expanded its reach into Congress. The Tea Party is essentially the ultra radical branch of the Republican Party. Although the Tea Party was radical and divisive, it was not condemned by Republican leaders in an outright fashion, and in return the Tea Party did not directly attack party leadership either;

thus allowing for its continuing expansion. This symbiotic relationship lasted until 2012 with the reelection of Barack Obama, and the defeat of the Republican establishment's 'golden boy', Mitt Romney. For the Tea Party, this was especially insulting as the party had yet again failed to stop Obama with yet another 'moderate' and 'centrist' candidate. At this point the relationship between the Tea Party and the Republican establishment had turned sour.

**"HE LOST THE POPULAR VOTE BY A LOT AND WON THE ELECTION. WE SHOULD HAVE A REVOLUTION IN THIS COUNTRY!"**  
-DONALD TRUMP JUST AFTER THE 2012 PRESIDENTIAL RESULTS CAME OUT SHOWING AN OBAMA WIN

As usual, Trump got the facts wrong but the essence right (Obama did not lose by the popular vote). Trump wanted a revolution so he began by destroying his own party. The final nail in the coffin came when the Republicans gained control of the House of Representatives and the Senate in 2014, but without a two-thirds majority needed to override presidential vetoes. So even with control, the party could not act, and due to radical members in Congress, they could not pursue bipartisanship. Republicans were in power but could not act, thus growing even more dissent within the voters. And so in 2016, Donald Trump has taken advantage of radicalism within the party, dissent towards establishment from moderate voters, and the party leadership's fear of splitting the party, to become the Republican frontrunner.

It should be clear now that the Republican Party's down spiral was not due to Trump; rather, Trump was a product of a downward spiral that had been going on for years, slowly destroying the party from the inside. In many ways, Trump is an eventuality; one man who took advantage of being in the right place at the right time. So in truth it is not Trump's fault for breaking up the party and in truth, it is no single person's fault. Rather it is the party leadership in general that has failed repeatedly in the eyes of its supporters. Trump and his supporters have run on the idea that the establishment has failed them. And for once, (and only once) I agree with Trump supporters.



# BERNIE VS. HILLARY

WHO'S THE BETTER GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE?

by emanuel anastos

"Hillary's more pragmatic." "She's the middle candidate." "She's the compromise candidate... Bernie's too radical; his ideas are great, but he can never win a general election." These are all frequent phrases perpetuated by the Clinton campaign and the mainstream media, which sometimes even translate into a misleading truth in the minds of undecided Democratic voters.

"My heart tells me Bernie, but my head tells me Hillary", stated one woman interviewed before the Iowa caucuses back in February, who ended up going with her 'head' that night in Hillary's 0.3% victory. However, it's strange that she went with her "head", or at least, with the "logical decision" (as she saw it), when the data on the better general election candidate point emphatically to Bernie Sanders.

In head-to-head matchups with the three remaining Republican candidates, Hillary beats two out of the three according to the RealClearPolitics average: she beats Donald Trump (the GOP front-runner) easily 50.0-38.8%, edges out Ted Cruz 46.7-43.2%, but loses to John Kasich significantly, 41.5-48.0%. Does Sanders do as well against these candidates as Hillary does? In fact, He obliterates Trump 54.7-37.2%, easily handles Cruz 49.6-41.5%, and is neck-and-neck with Kasich, up 46.0-45.0%. Are these polls exact in predicting winners? No. But are they the most obvious factual data we have about how the candidates would fare in a general election? Yes.

Hypothetical matchups aren't the only data that show Sanders would have an advantage over Secretary Clinton if nominated. Bernie has the best favorability ratings of any candidate left in the race (and is the only one besides John Kasich with positive favorability ratings), at 49.2 favorable to 40.5 unfavorable. Hillary is overwhelmingly unfavorable, at 41.2 favorable to 54.2 unfavorable.

Certain Democrats may want to cover their ears at this one: In a poll done by "The Daily Caller", Hillary Clinton ranked the worst of any candidate in the category of perceived honesty and trustworthiness

(even before many of them dropped out) at 27% trustworthy to 56% not. She polls even worse than Donald Trump, whose actual 77% of statements are false according to Politifact.com. Meanwhile, Bernie is BY Far the best of any candidate in this category, crushing it at 47% trustworthy to only 24% not, a nearly 60% trustworthy rating among decided participants.

What is the largest and only factual argument that Clinton supporters always lean on for her being a safer bet for the nomination for Democrats? "Bernie Sanders is a democratic 'socialist'", which many say makes Sanders a riskier bet to nominate, as only 47% of U.S. citizens said that they would elect a socialist in a poll from 2014-2015. Apparently, though, even this would not apply to Sanders in this election, as he frequently breaches the 47% mark in hypothetical polling matchups against Republican candidates. It seems like times are changing, and not in Hillary Clinton's favor.

Still trying to find any last reasons why Hillary is a more reasonable gamble? I hope it's not that she will be better at getting things done in a Republican Congress. A recent news article describes how Bernie Sanders, the supposedly "too-left-wing-to-get-anything-done" senator, has gotten the most roll call amendments passed in the Republican-dominated Congress of ANY member, flipping Hillary's "Bernie is giving promises he can't keep" argument flat on its face.

I could go on and on about reasons why Bernie Sanders is the overwhelmingly better bet and much more REALISTIC overall candidate than Hillary Clinton to win the election in November. While Hillary still looks to beat the most likely Republican nominee, Donald Trump, according to polls, even her husband Bill Clinton admitted that it would be a very, very much closer race than expected. In a moment when people are fed up with the status quo and "establishment" politicians like Clinton that has played into part of Bernie's rise, Hillary's husband might be right. It would be dangerous for Democrats to nominate Hillary Clinton in 2016.

# BERNIE SANDERS FOR PRESIDENT

BY ALEXANDRA MULLER

BERNIE SANDERS is currently running to be the democratic candidate for the presidential race this election year. His increasing popularity amongst young people across the nation has given him the support he needs to take his campaign to the primaries and hopefully to the White House.

Before starting his campaign, Bernie was active in government for many years. He served for 16 years as the sole congressman in Vermont, was elected to the United States Senate in 2006, and is now serving a second term as a senator. All of these qualifications display his extensive experience in the government, unlike some of his opponents.

His campaign focuses on the idea of putting democracy back in the United States by embracing a "Political Revolution". On his website, he states "In the year 2016, with a political campaign finance system that is corrupt and increasingly controlled by billionaires and special interests, I fear very much that, in fact, government of the people, by the people, and for the people is beginning to perish in the United States of America... We cannot allow that to happen." (This seems to be a stab at his opponent, Donald Trump, whose entire campaign is based on the encouragement of big business involvement in government processes). However, it does describe Sanders' views on the need for change in the way our political systems are controlled (and given his many years of experience, it can be assumed that this goal is set with just cause).

Bernie has taken a stand on a variety of issues, such as the need for a higher minimum wage in order to allow people living in poverty to get themselves above the poverty line. Furthermore, on the same issue, Sanders demands that women are to be paid the same amount as men, as opposed to the current \$0.79 to a man's dollar.

Sanders is also involved in the Black Lives Matter movement, describing the issues that have been occurring with our police force. He states, "We must demilitarize our police forces so they don't look and act like invading armies... We need to federally fund and require body cameras for law enforcement officers to make it easier to hold them accountable... We need new rules on the allowable use of force. Police officers need to be trained to de-escalate confrontations and to humanely interact with people who have mental illnesses... We need to make sure federal resources are there to crack down on the illegal activities of hate groups." Sanders focuses on protecting the people of the United States from hate, discrimination, and an increasingly dangerous police force. He focuses on reform while other candidates are choosing to completely ignore the matters at hand.

Bernie Sanders also vows to offer healthcare to every man, woman, and child, giving people the opportunity to obtain their right to health, and recognize it as legitimate. In stating that he wishes to bring Americans universal health care, he also means to bring said health care to the LGBT community, which is a major step forward for LGBT people in America.

Bernie Sanders fights for a more progressive America, he wishes to better the nation and secure our future. Sanders represents the change that we need to see in America, unlike other candidates that wish to take us back to previous decades. Standing with him means that you are standing with an increase of jobs, a livable minimum wage, LGBT equality, increase in women's rights, Medicare for all, a demand for racial justice, and an opportunity to obtain a better economic status. However, statistics show that, although his supporters are numerous, he does not get the same voter turnout, as does Clinton, Trump, and other candidates. It is up to the people to get him into office, it is up to us to make a difference; it is up to us to change America.

# BERNIE VS. HILLARY:

The New Meme That Brings Teens Into Politics

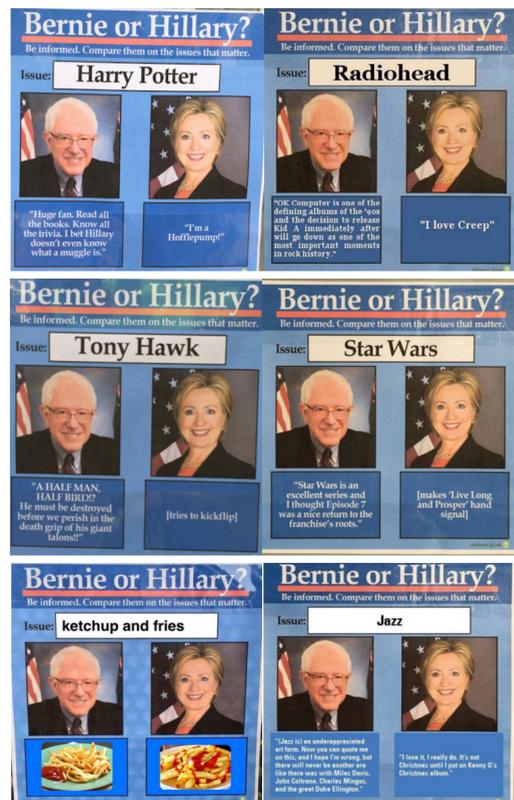
BY KATY DARA

It's simple. It's effective. It's "Bernie vs. Hillary": the meme. Circulating on Tumblr, Twitter, and Instagram, the meme mimics a typical election year poster: "Bernie or Hillary? Be informed. Compare them on the issues that really matter." The issues that really matter, in this case, include the candidate's views on topics varying from feminism to gaming consoles. Typically, Bernie Sanders' response is passionate, informed, and charming while Hillary Clinton's is insufferable and flat. As one Facebook contributor spelled out: "The meme is supposed to show that Bernie [knows] what he's talking about and is relatable while Hillary is out of touch and flops."

The "Bernie versus Hillary" meme by Jeff Wysaski is one that's rather popular. The popularity of the joke on social media adequately reflects the views of the majority of our generation. While many teens don't have a vote in this year's election, the ridiculous and often stupid meme does reflect the political views of the young population in an entertaining way. With candidates providing their "views" on irrelevant topics, teens effectively voice their concerns regarding the Democratic Presidential race.

However, another argument has arisen; is the meme sexist? Some people argued it was about Hillary attempting to pander to young voters, while others thought it was a more insidious reflection of how culturally, we often assume women fake their interests. Some think that the meme attacks Hillary Clinton's intelligence based on her gender. While Sanders' fictional quotes are informed and enthusiastic, Clinton's cold and out-of-touch answers reinforce the idea of the "fake geek girl" stereotypes. Many are asking why the joke has devolved into something where the female candidate is always the one that is misinformed or grossly under informed when it comes to a particular topic. While the fake flyers seem pro-Bernie, the original creator Jeff Wysaski stated that it was meant to poke fun at both candidates.

What do you think? If you've been living under a rock (or in a world without Wi-Fi), check out these examples and decide for yourself:



continued from front page

by lindsay saginaw

...Personally, Bernie gained my attention simply because I believed there was no other worthy candidate. Though not having personally experienced the many problems that plague our generation, Bernie seems to understand them, and wants to take action.

When asked about why Bernie has his vote, Senior Page Montecalvo replied, "Bernie Sanders is the only option left." It appears much of the general youth feel the same way.

Bernie Sanders hasn't done anything (yet) to endanger his status as a well-respected candidate and potential democratic nominee, as many other members of his party and the GOP already have. Many people still think that Hillary Clinton still hasn't regained her footing after using her family's private email server to share confidential information. Due to this scandal as well as several others, the youth consensus believes she cannot be trusted. National polls reflect this idea, where a poll by YouGov reveals only 27% of people believed her to be an honest candidate, the lowest among all others.

On the opposing side, front runner Donald Trump continues to embarrass himself and our country in a show of disrespectful and ignorant remarks. The rest of the GOP isn't much better, even after trying to alienate themselves from Trump. During the presidential debates, Bernie has remained calm, cool, and collected while his opponents blustered and blundered around the stage.

During recent months, a photo of Sanders from 1962 has surfaced, showing a young Bernie restrained by police after attended protests to end segregation. The fact that Bernie has been fighting for equal rights since his early twenties shows his dedication to the cause, and willingness to fight for what is right.

In an unexpected win, Bernie Sanders took the Michigan primary, beating Hillary 49.9% to 48.2%. This put Hillary on the defensive, as many projected her to dominate this region. However, it looks like the Michiganders couldn't be fooled by her failed attack against Sanders on the auto bailout at the debate in Flint, Michigan this past Sunday. This city certainly has experience in the auto industry, and saw right through Clinton's attempt to rattle Sanders.

This problem can be explained only by glancing at Hillary's calendar: nearly all five days of her campaign in

Michigan was spent in Wayne County, giving even more of an advantage to her among African American voters in Detroit, but neglecting other key regions where she could have easily gained delegates. Sanders, however, campaigned all across the state, targeting minority-heavy regions and gaining a significant amount of voters there.

Hillary needs to work on spreading out her reach to all aspects of the population. While she targets specific people in different states, rejecting the other areas with a diverse demographic, Bernie is travelling all over the state and winning the votes.

Unfortunately, there are some flaws in Bernie's plan to transform America. One of the reasons why the youth is so enthralled by this senator is that he promises free college to all young Americans, leaving us to dream of a student-loan free future and all of the possibilities in the world for our education. Bernie also says that he is going to make Wall Street pay for this endeavor. While it's a nice idea, nobody has bothered to point out that this will be a nearly impossible feat to accomplish. Wall Street consists of hundreds of private companies currently leading our economy. Bernie could in no way force these private businesses to pay for college, however corrupt they are. Let's just say that he did find a way to exploit their riches for the greater good of the American youth populous; Where would that leave our economy?

After watching the Dem Debate in Miami, hosted by Univision on March 9th, I must say that I was disappointed as a whole with the entire event. For one, the questions asked to the Secretary of State and Senator were, for a lack of better words, stupid. Far too many questions were based on the recent and ongoing events in the GOP, which was not only completely inappropriate but also irrelevant. In addition to the lack of satisfactory and informative questions, the competitor's responses also lacked assurances and credibility. All in all, after the debate, I didn't feel like voting for either candidate and also didn't feel like watching the news ever again.

While Bernie has the youth vote, and Hillary has the rest, after a week of long campaigning and several primaries, I feel like these two candidates have much to prove before either would get my vote, if I could vote.

# INGRID OLIVA- "REFUGEES"

POEM SUBMISSION,  
WINNER OF 'POETRY FOR THE HART'

Can you hear the thunder,  
Over the sound of all the crying children?  
Can you hear the thunder,  
Over the sound of the cries for sanctuary?  
Can you hear the thunder,  
Over the sound of the buildings crashing down?  
Can you hear the thunder,  
Over the sound of bombs finding their way to the ground?  
Can you hear the thunder,  
Over the sound of the violence that is nudging you for attention?  
In a place far, far away  
Lies a world in full and complete destruction.  
Where the children trade in playtime and an education,  
For hard labor.  
Where the cities, once full of life,  
Are now full of war and memories.  
Where gunfire is the last thing heard before night falls,  
And the first thing before day comes.  
Where bombs sent by the world,  
Only further destroy their home.  
Where peace is only a distant friend,  
And violence is a new one to fend off.

# 'LONG ISLAND'S BEST' COMMEMORATES ARTISTS NEW AND OLD

by michelle d'alessandro

THIS YEAR, THE HECKSHER MUSEUM'S "LONG ISLAND'S BEST: ALUMNI EXHIBITION" CELEBRATES THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY FROM APRIL 9 - MAY 8.

This year, The Hecksher Museum's "Long Island's Best: Alumni Exhibition" is celebrating their 20th anniversary from April 9 - May 8.

Since its start in 1997, over 4,500 students have entered the juried exhibition, and this year's installment will feature 3 of Huntington's own- Justin Meyer, Aaron Feltman, Eli Mollineaux. Artists Arianna Bauer, Aaron Feltman, Chloe Liepa, Eli Mollineaux, Theresa Moreno and Molly Warren from Mrs. Singer's classes and Justin Meyer, Erica Vazquez, Steve Yeh, Tatiana Khokar from Mrs. Mohanty's classes have all applied to the prestigious exhibition, which will showcase alumni artwork in commemoration of the past 20 years. The annual arts-in-education initiative is a rare opportunity to experience extraordinary work by Long Island high school students-both past and present. The Hecksher Museum can now connect with the community through their Instagram account @heckschermuseum, and encourage attendees to post exhibition-related photos under #hmalibest and #ArtistsoftheDay. Long Island's Best thanks their Presenting Sponsor, Neiman Marcus, as well as Inna Gellerman, of Gellerman Orthodontics,

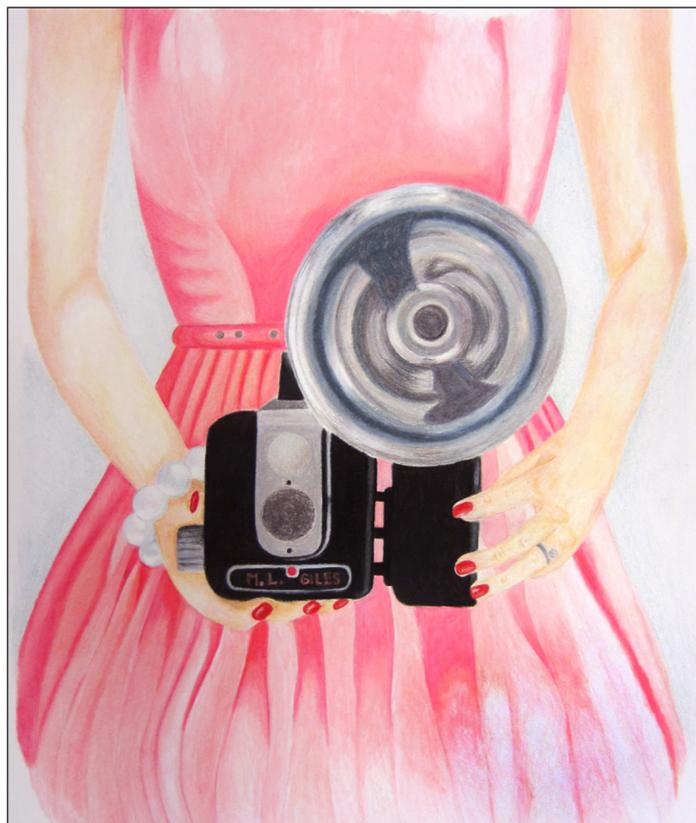
The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation, and The Laura B. Vogler Foundation for their generous support and donations that made this year's exhibition possible. Come stop by to celebrate with artwork from the past 20 years of exhibitions, with all educators and students with IDs admitted free to the Long Island's Best exhibition until Closing Reception on Sunday, May 15 at 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm.



DIGITAL PAINTING BY JUSTIN MEYER

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

If you would like to submit a piece, contact Ms. Mohanty and email the PDF file to [hhsdispatch@gmail.com](mailto:hhsdispatch@gmail.com), along with a brief artist statement that features your name, grade, and inspiration for the piece.



# MAGGIE GILES

PRE-AP STUDIO ART GRADE 11

My name is Maggie Giles and I am currently a sophomore enrolled in Mrs. Singer's Pre-AP Studio Art class. This project was originally intended to be an opportunity for us to focus on new techniques by drawing a desert item. However, I chose to challenge myself a bit more and decided to use a photographic image from a bygone era as inspiration. I was drawn in by the style of the dress and accessories depicted in the image. This motivated me to improve my drawing skills and did so by focusing on the white gloss of the pearls, the reflection of the camera and the use of varied colored pencils to create an accurate skin tone. This year's art class has given me the freedom to explore multiple mediums such as charcoal and paint, but colored pencils remain my top choice. I hope to eventually come back to them and continue exploring new techniques and imagery.



ALBUM REVIEW:  
**THE HOTELIER-  
IT NEVER GOES OUT  
(REISSUE)** LABEL- TINY ENGINES  
RELEASE DATE- 3/24/15

by page montecalvo

Last year indie-emo band The Hotelier put out one of the most emotionally draining, upsetting, but perhaps the most beautiful album of 2014, *Home, Like Noplace Is There*. Its self-reflective lyrics and heart-wrenching instrumentation was accessible to all music fans, regardless of their preferred genres, and people took notice of the small Massachusetts-based band. Surprisingly, many people who are fans of the record aren't even aware that *Home, Like Noplace Is There*, albeit an incredible album, isn't The Hotelier's first.

In January 2011, the band quietly dropped *It Never Goes Out*, which quickly became one of the punk scene's hidden gems. Their label, Tiny Engines, decided that following the popularity of The Hotelier's sophomore album, they would re-release *It Never Goes Out*, and I'm glad they did. The album took me by total surprise with the opening track "Our Lives Would Make A Sad, Boring Movie," reminiscent of a punchy Saves the Day-type track, rather than their usual

melodic strumming. Their next track, "Vacancy" although not as lyrically diffuse as most Hotelier tracks, is still a gripping song, and every time vocalist Christian Holden screams out the refrain, "Oh, we are the same," listeners want to join in. It leaves you thinking about who 'we' really represents. The next track, "Lonely Hearts Club" is alright, but it's not really too engaging and doesn't bring anything new to the table that other bands haven't already done. In contrast, the next song is hands-down the best on the album. "Ode To The Night Ratz Club" is a lyrical masterpiece telling the story of two youths breaking into factories and falling in love. It leaves listeners on an extremely unexpected somber note, "We had ideas of staying close together for all time; I wish I still had that same state of mind." It's uptempo and it's a fantastic return to form for The Hotelier. The fifth track "Weathered" is very enjoyable. To be honest, it sounds like the bastard offspring of a Weatherthans and Turnover track, but I mean that in the most loving way. A very slow buildup resonates with a resounding cry and a harmonica-guitar-drums break that closes the track nicely, with some solid vocals. Sadly, the album drops off in quality here with the next three tracks being, at least in my opinion, shallow and rushed. "I'm Gone" lacks the lead singer (Holden) on vocals and guitarist Cody Miller who replaces Holden is just inept at carrying the harmonies. "Holiday" is a minute-long mess. The instrumental aspect feels cursory and is lyrically (as well as vocally) not on par with other songs on the album. "Still Water Spectacle" was just boring, with the same chords and structure as the previous track. The last song, "Title-Track (There Is A Light)" makes up for the mistakes made in the previous few tracks, with Holden's voice crooning over a landscape of delicately plucked strings and soft, but somehow strong, drumming. It's a perfect closer to the album and perhaps good foreshadowing to what the band would come to release later on.



SCORE :  
7.75 / 10  
FAVORITE TRACK:  
"Ode to the Nite Ratz Club"  
LEAST FAVORITE TRACK:  
"Holiday"  
FOR FANS OF:  
Turnover- *S/T*,  
The Get Up Kids'-  
*Something To Write  
Home About*,  
Hotelier-  
*Home Like Noplace Is There*

# F.D.T IS ANTI-TRUMP ANTHEM

BY INGRID OLIVA

The presidential campaign has been tense since the very beginning, but things have been heating up recently. One effect of this tight race is the incorporation of political views in music.

Rappers YG and Nipsey Hussle recently released a track called "FDT", an abbreviation for "F\*\*\* Donald Trump". Throughout the song, they greatly emphasize their disgust for Donald Trump, referring to him as "cancer". The song sets an aggressive tone for Trump's presidential campaign and paints him in a very negative light. The song even targets Trump supporters, stating that "[if] you vote Trump then you're proly on dope". YG and Nipsey Hussle succeeded in incorporating their thoughts onto a track; something person-

ally believed to be long overdue in relation to the music industry when speaking on today's politics. Trump and his future plans hit home for rappers like Nipsey Hussle, due to the fact that he grew up in LA, a home to many Mexicans, a group that has been verbally targeted by Trump and his supporters, constantly referring to them as illegal immigrants who are "criminals" and "rapists". At the end of the song it is even said, "It wouldn't be the USA without Mexicans".

The song is a brief summary of what many anti-Trump supporters think, and expresses many people's deep disgust for the candidate. Whether one is politically conscious or not, they should give the song a listen. It might be full of curses, but Trump is full of worse!!

# NETFLIX UPDATE

MICHELLE D'ALESSANDRO  
IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER. LIST OF ARRIVING SHOWS AND MOVIES ON PAGE 16

## LEAVING:

### MAY 1-7:

- 100 Bloody Acres (2012)
- A Company Man (2012)
- The Animatrix (2003)
- Anna Karenina (1948)
- Author! Author! (1982)
- Beware of Mr. Baker (2012)
- Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989)
- Bus Stop (1956)
- Election (1999)
- Encounters at the End of the World (2007)
- From the Terrace (1960)
- Full Metal Jacket (1987)
- The Great Divide (2012)
- Harriet the Spy: Blog Wars (2010)
- Holiday Engagement (2011)
- Kiss of Death (1995)
- New World (2013)
- Oslo, August 31st (2011)
- Ravenous (1999)
- Samurai Champloo (2004)
- Scooby-Doo (2002)
- Terms And Conditions May Apply (2013)
- That's What I Am (2011)
- Torrente 2: Mission in Marbella, aka Torrente: Mission in Marbella (2001)
- Training Day (2001)
- Truth or Die (2012)
- Scrubs
- Slightly Single in L.A. (2012)
- JFK: The Smoking Gun (2013)
- Stealing Harvard (2002)
- Computer Chess (2013)
- Under The Bombs (2007)
- Finding Normal (2013)
- JFK: A President Betrayed (2013)

- The Score (2001)
- The Ladykillers (2004)
- Is the Man Who Is Tall Happy? (2013)
- Sing It On (2015)
- The Master of Disguise (2002)
- Offender (2012)

### MAY 15-21:

- A Pope For Everyone (2013)
- Bratz: BFF: Best Friends Forever (2007)
- The Greatest Places IMAX (1999)
- In Her Skin (2009)
- Inhale (2010)
- Lightning Point
- Maria la del Barrio (1995)
- The Quest (1 Season)
- Search for the Great Sharks: IMAX (1995)
- Tiger Eyes (2012)
- Blade Runner: Theatrical Cut (1982)
- The Last Tycoon (2012)
- Handy Manny
- Ikki Tousen Great Guardians (2008)
- Ikki Tousen: Xtreme Xecutor (2010)
- Peep World (2010)
- Struck by Lightning (2012)

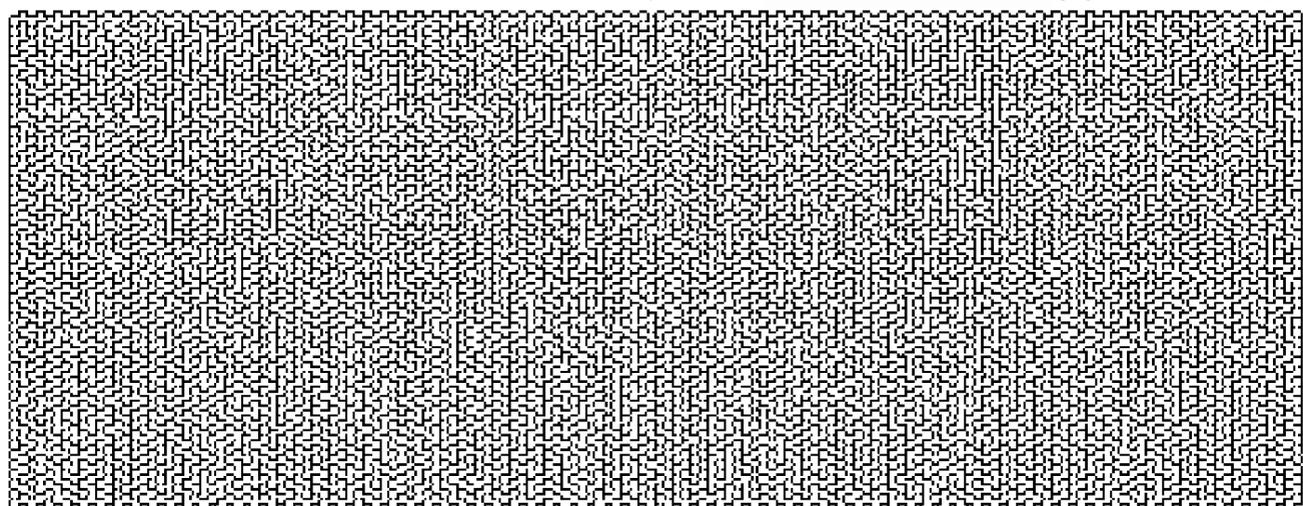
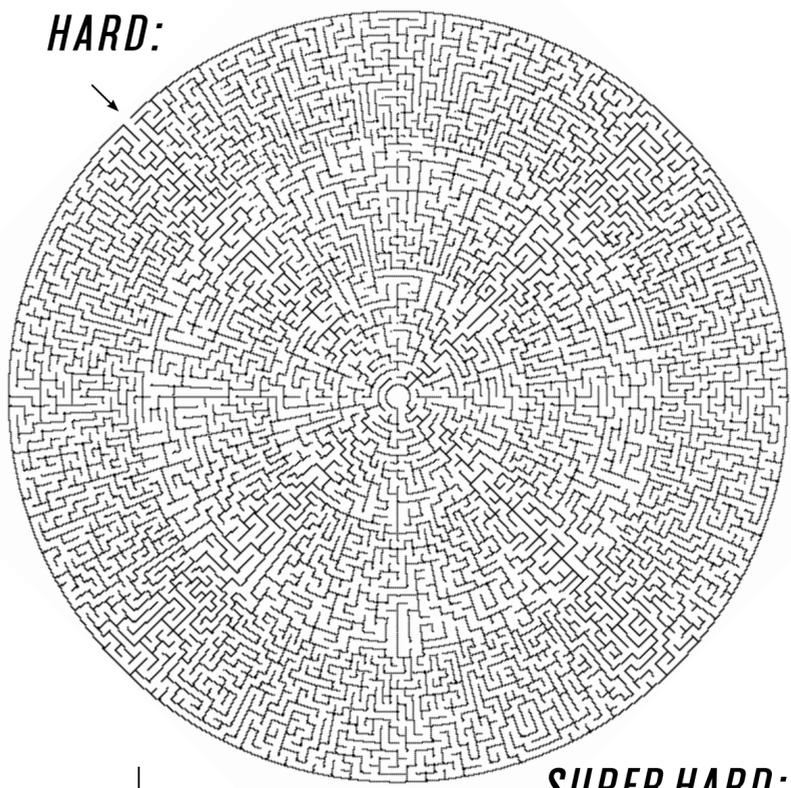
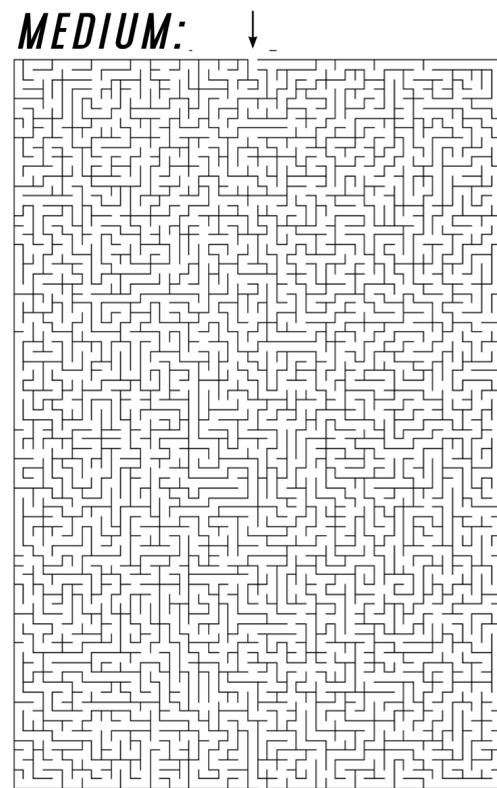
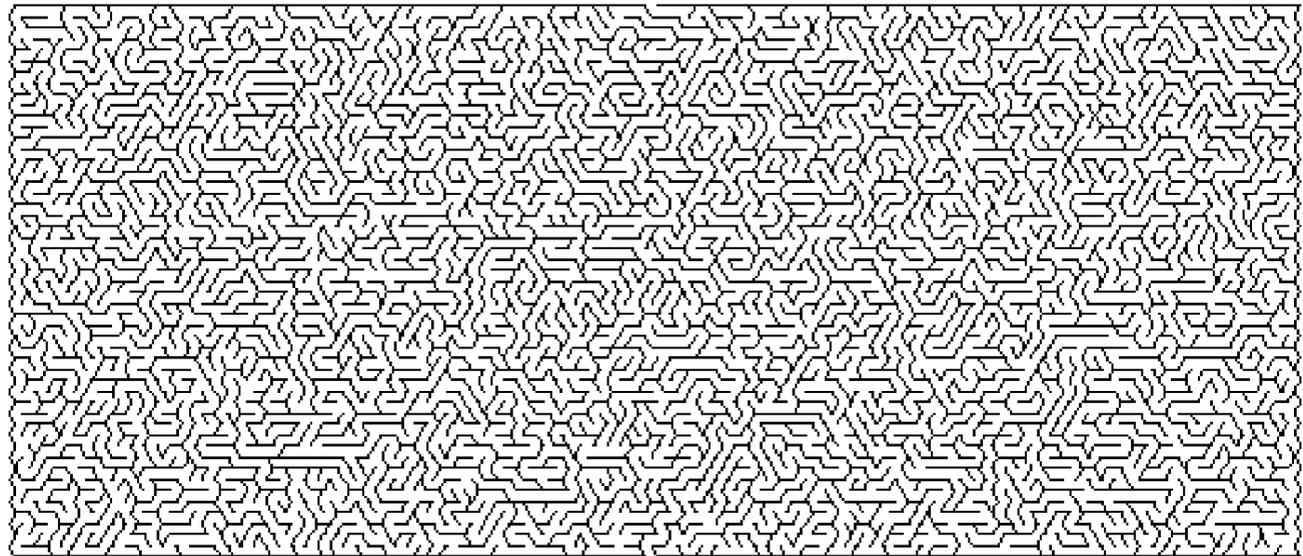
### MAY 22-28:

- Ida (2013)
- Stand Off (2012)
- Black Hawk Down (2001)
- Escape from Tomorrow (2013)
- Run & Jump (2013)
- Vanishing of the Bees (2009)
- Barfil! (2012)

### MAY 29-31:

- These Birds Walk (2013)
- Clerks (1994)

# MAZE FOR DAYS *EASY:*



6				9	5
2			7		
9			7	6	4
		6	3	4	2
		8			
7				8	
	5	7	6		3
	3		8	5	4
		2		5	8

*EASY*

7		3	4	2	
	6	2	1	7	
4		5	6		
	7			8	
					6
					5
					9
					2
5					7
	9				6
		1	6	9	3
				4	

		6	2		1
4	9				
8			7	6	
	4			2	3
9		2	6	7	5
7		8		9	
	7	3	2	4	
					5

*MEDIUM*

5			7	2	
2					
		4			8
	3	2	9	5	
					7
				6	4
	6	3		5	
9					4
			6	8	1
					3

	5	3	1		
			7		
2				3	8
8	1	5	2		6
9				1	
				8	
	3	6			4
		7		4	1
			7	2	

*HARD*

		9			5
2			1		8
			9	6	3
					2
	6				
	4	2			7
			5	7	
9					6
		4	5		8
3				4	9

# NETFLIX UPDATE

MICHELLE D'ALESSANDRO

**IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER. LIST OF DEPARTING SHOWS AND MOVIES ON PAGE 13**

**ARRIVING:**

- MAY 1-7:**  
 A Study in Sherlock (2016)  
 Admiral (2015)  
 Ava's Possessions (2015)  
 Bring It On (2000)  
 Bring It On: All or Nothing (2006)  
 Easy Living (Seasons 1-3)  
 El Crítico (2013)  
 FernGully 2: The Magical Rescue (1998)  
 Finger of God (2007)  
 Gary Gulman: It's About Time (2016)  
 Great Expectations (1998)  
 I Am Road Comic (2014)  
 Jesus Town, USA (2014)  
 Just Friends (2005)  
 Kevin Hart Presents Keith Robinson: Back of The Bus Funny (2015)  
 Kevin Hart Presents Lil Rel: RELevent (2015)  
 Kevin Hart Presents: Plastic Cup Boyz (2015)  
 LoliRock (Season 1)  
 My Last Day Without You (2011)  
 The Nutty Professor (1996)  
 Off the Map (2013)  
 Palm Trees in the Snow (2015)  
 Pleasantville (1998)  
 Shark Lake (2015)  
 She's Beautiful When She's Angry (2014)  
 Sixteen Candles (1984)  
 Sugar Coated (2015)  
 Terra (2015)  
 Things We Lost in the Fire (2007)  
 To Catch a Thief (1955)  
 Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers: Runnin' Down a Dream (2007)  
 Who's Driving Doug (2016)  
 The Replacements (2000)

- Submerged (2015)  
 The Keeping Room (2015)  
 Shanghai Knights (2003)  
 Fourth Man Out (2015)  
 Marseille (Season 1)  
 Ali Wong: Baby Cobra  
 Baby Daddy (Season 5)  
 Grace and Frankie (Season 2)  
 Young & Hungry (Season 3)

**MAY 8-14:**

- The Chosen Ones (2015)  
 A Stand Up Guy (2015)  
 Eisenstein in Guanajuato (2015)  
 Goosebumps (2015)  
 They Look Like People (2015)  
 Bleeding Heart (2015)

**MAY 15-21:**

- We Are Still Here (2015)  
 Yo Soy la Salsa (2014)  
 American Dad! (Season 10)  
 Kindergarten Cop 2 (2016)  
 Slasher (Season 1)  
 A Girl Like Her (2015)  
 Benders (Season 1)  
 Lady Dynamite (Season 1)

**MAY 22-28:**

- David and Goliath (2015)  
 The Letters (2014)  
 The Ouija Experiment 2: Theatre of Death (2015)  
 Electricity (2014)  
 Graceland (Season 3)  
 The Last Man on the Moon (2016)  
 Bloodline (Season 2)  
 Chef's Table (Season 2, Part 1)  
 The Do-Over (2016)  
 Mako Mermaids (Season 4)  
 Hell on Wheels (Season 5)

**DO YOU LIKE:**

- MUSIC
- MOVIES
- FASHION
- SPANISH
- PUZZLES
- DEBATES
- TECHNOLOGY
- GIVING ADVICE
- OPINION PIECES
- ENTERTAINMENT
- CURRENT EVENTS
- CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS



@hhsdispatch



hhsdispatch@gmail



@hhsdispatch



...and think you could write about it? Or do you have an idea for a new article for the Dispatch? It's never too late to join! Join our remind (Text @ hdisp to 81010), follow us, and come to our meet-ins in room 252 on Wed. and Thurs.



## 'HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER' FINALE REVIEW

BY ALLIE SMITH

How I Met Your Mother has definitely had some lows during their last season, but as a fan, I was still genuinely excited for the series' closing episode "Last Forever." The cast and crew of How I Met Your Mother finished their nine-year run with a bang. The two part finale closed off the series in a way that complimented the other 206 episodes.

Kicking off "Part One" with a 2005 memory of Robin's initiation into the group was a brilliant way of beginning the finale. It generated nostalgia and set the tone for the rest of the hour-long episode, as it jettisoned through the next 25 years.

I was pleased to see that the screen writers Carter Bays and Craig Thomas challenged the expectations of the viewers. HIMYM writer, Carter Bays, tweeted, "We wrote a comedy with dramatic elements till the very end, thanks for taking that ride with us. We did a finale about life's twists and turns..."

The cast and crew

definitely played into the idea of "twists and turns," particularly in the love lives of each character. One fan named Farah Piou voiced the devastation of many, when she tweeted, "It felt like a betrayal of the mother and the audience that has rooted for her for nine years," but the "unexpected" is what life is all about. As evident in the theme of the HIMYM finale, change over time is a good thing. Rather than sticking to the "happily ever after" for Robin and Barney, Ted and Tracy, their marriages came to an end to allow others to take off. The spirit of each character was captured in our final glimpse at their love lives.

Ted's wild story of how he met the children's mother was not missing any pages. The personalities of Barney, Ted, Marshall, Lilly and Robin have been consistent and fully developed throughout the entire series, right down to the last episode. The cast played up on the quirks and attributes of each and every beloved character. Junior at North-

port High School, Jenna Roderka, said, "I loved all of the characters and the way the show was written; from start to end you felt as if you were friends with them. I was happy to see what was in store for the characters and -how their lives were going to end up, even though it wasn't the ending that I wanted."

I would give the "How I Met Your Mother" finale an A, and as a whole, I'd recommend this show to all teens and young adults who, like the characters of the show, are learning about life's twists and turns. My only complaint about the finale is that it forces me to face the grave reality that I won't know what to watch anymore. I had wondered how the series could be tailored off with a bang in just two episodes. But once again, the How I Met Your Mother Cast found a way to make me want to laugh and cry. It was truly legendary.

**You can watch HIMYM on Netflix and Amazon Prime, whose 9 seasons ended in March 2014**



## AND THE OSCAR GOES TO... (...ANOTHER WHITE PERSON)

by jordan biener

When the nominations for the 2016 Oscars were announced, one thing was very apparent; only white actors were nominated. This year marks the second year in a row in which only white actors were nominated for the coveted supporting and leading actor and actress awards.

Many viewers anxiously awaited the opening monologue of host Chris Rock to see how, or even if, he would address the white-washed Oscars. When the lights went up in the Dolby Theater on February 28th, Rock took the stage. "I'm here at the Academy Awards, otherwise known as the White People's Choice Awards. You realize if they nominated hosts, I wouldn't even get this job. So y'all would be watching Neil Patrick Harris right now. But this is the wildest, craziest Oscars to ever host, because we've got all this controversy. No, no black nominees, you know, and people are like 'Chris, you should boycott. Chris, you should quit. You should quit.' How come there's only unemployed people that tell you to quit something, you know? No one with a job ever tells you to quit. So, I thought about quitting. I thought about it real hard. But, I realized, they're gonna have the Oscars anyway. They're not gonna cancel the Oscars because I quit. You know?

And the last thing I need is to lose another job to Kevin Hart, O.K.?" Throughout the rest of the monologue, Rock continued to poke fun of other actors, however, he clearly addressed the issue of the nominations.



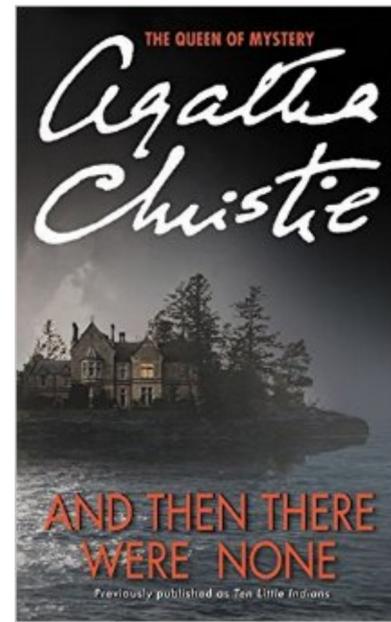
CHRIS ROCK'S OSCARS MONOLOGUE ADDRESSED REAL ISSUES WITH HUMOR

When the nominations were announced, they were received with protest automatically. Cara Buckley, of the New York Times wrote, "In other words, the only Academy nods for two of the year's biggest films about African-American characters went to white people." This quote was pertaining to the movies Creed and Straight Outta Compton. Buckley also states that "The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which doles out the Oscars and has long been a bastion of older white men, has been trying to diversify its ranks as Hollywood faces increasing criticism about its hiring practices..." The Academy's current president is Cheryl Boone Isaacs. In her speech at the Oscars she stated how disappointed she was when the nominations came out, "Our audiences are global and rich in diversity," she said, "and

every facet of our industry should be as well."

The nominations were not well received on social media either. The #OscarsSoWhite made a roaring comeback from its origin after the 2015 Oscar nominations. The public was outraged upon the announcement of nominations. However, the opposition died down when the stars arrived in their gowns and the golden statues were awarded.

There needs to be more of a long term approach. In his monologue, Rock posed the question, why are there separate categories for females and males? There doesn't truly need to be a different category. Is it sexist? Or is it just giving everyone a fair chance at receiving the award? If so, should there be categories specifically for African Americans? This would certainly help the problem of nominations, but would it truly satisfy the root of the problem? The ethical way to fix this problem is making sure the Academy is made of not only an even amount of men and women, but an even amount of African Americans and Whites as well. Even with the controversy, it was still a great night with great dresses and laughs. Hopefully, next year the problem within the Academy should be fixed and it will be a greater night than ever before.



BY ASHLEY HERKOMMER

And Then There Were None is a mystery novel written by Agatha Christie, the Queen of Crime. This captivating page-turner draws you into the lives of ten strangers that are invited to a private island by a mysterious host. Unknown to them, one dark secret connects them all.

Agatha Christie is the most popular author in the world aside from Shakespeare. And Then There Were None sold over 100 million copies, making it her bestselling novel and one of the best selling mystery novels ever.

Ten strangers come ashore on this strange and private island off the coast of South Devon in England, but as they enter the mansion expecting a lavish party with interesting guests, their host, as well as any socialites, are nowhere to be found. As their uneasiness escalates, a voice from a hidden gramophone reveals the true reason they've been called to the island. They've all committed a murder in the past, and got away with it. How do they handle the news that someone knows their secret, and who is this person?

One by one each guest is murdered according to a "10 Little Indians" nursery rhyme that hangs in each of their rooms. Before the weekend is over, the guests struggle to figure out who is hunting them, or has it been one of them all along?

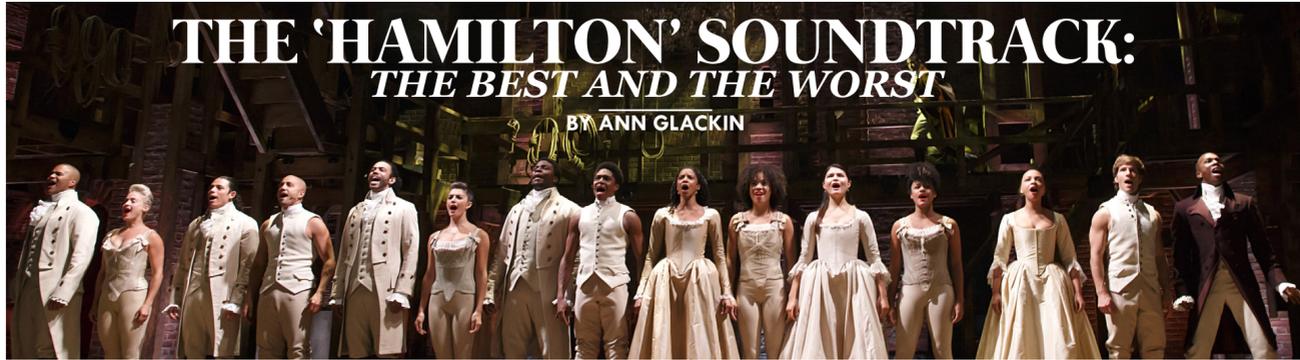
The first chapter sets the scene for the reader. It gives the background and personality of each character, and reveals the individualized and specific invitations they each receive. The characters are unique and mysterious, but likeable. Within the next few chapters, the book draws you in and makes it's impossible to stop reading.

As the deaths continue, they realize there's no way off the island, no one to rescue them, no boats available for them to leave, not to mention terrible storms, and lack of food. Everyone is trapped while one by one they fall prey to the unknown murderer, as they receive punishment for the crimes they thought they had cleverly escaped.

Agatha Christie weaves an intriguing tale that's sure to draw anyone in, leaving them begging for more. You'll never guess the ending.

**\* "And Then There Were None" has been adapted into a highly acclaimed BBC mini-series, which premiered late last year in the UK with 3 episodes, and aired in the U.S. early this year. The miniseries comes highly recommended with a 90% Rotten Tomatoes rating\***

\* R E V I E W \*



## THE 'HAMILTON' SOUNDTRACK: THE BEST AND THE WORST

BY ANN GLACKIN

(CONTINUED FROM  
FRONT PAGE)

In my opinion, it is, but it totally depends on a person's taste in music. The musical has been gaining popularity for bringing hip-hop to the stage, but if you completely hate hip-hop, chances are "Hamilton" will not change your mind.

If you are open to hearing a new sound on the Broadway stage, look no further. The music is beautiful and the story heartfelt. Every single line of all 46 songs is important to the story and returns in a clever way later on in the musical.

If you remain unconvinced, here are some of my least and favorite songs of the soundtrack and why they tack where they do. If you're unsure about making the commitment to listening to the entire show, I would recommend starting with any of the songs on my favorites list.

### MY LEAST FAVORITES: 1. "THE TEN DUEL COMMANDMENTS"

This song is probably the least lyrical of all the songs on the Hamilton soundtrack. While "Hamilton" is well known for blending rap and traditional Broadway styles, this song is purely rap. Additionally, it isn't the most interesting rap in the show, as the pace is significantly slower than the other songs and is simply a recitation of rules. It does become important later as the themes return in several instances throughout the show, but the song itself is boring, and always gets a skip when it comes up on my phone.

### 2. "YOUR OBEDIENT SERVANT"

This song defines passive aggressive nature, in which Hamilton and Burr, now bitter rivals, send each other falsely courteous letters, before challenging each other to a duel. This song is fun, but nothing super special vocally. I will not skip it if it comes up on shuffle, but I never specifically choose to listen to it.

### 3. "HURRICANE"

I feel truly terrible for saying I do not like this song. It's beautifully written and one of the only completely solo songs for the character Hamilton in the entire show. However, what is supposed to be a gut wrenching song about loss and pain simply falls short for me. The problem is that it's too much like traditional musical theater, and Lin Manuel-Miranda does not have the voice to carry it. Lin Manuel

-Miranda has a decent voice, but it is not what makes him exceptional; he instead shines through with authorial skills and his rap ability. Not only does the song feel slightly out of place and underperformed in an otherwise fantastic show, the story told in it is one the listener already knows from the opening number. This lessens the effect of the story on the listener's emotions- they are no longer as interested since they have no anticipation of learning something new about the character. It is still a great song, but in comparison to some of the others, it just falls flat.

### 4. "SAY NO TO THIS"

I am being extremely unfair placing this song on my list of least favorites. It is beautiful blending of old and new styles, a great story device, and has stellar performances from Leslie Odom Jr. as Burr, Lin Manuel-Miranda as Hamilton, and Jasmine Cephas-Jones as Mariah Reynolds. Jones especially shines in this song showing off her gorgeous alto jazz voice. The reason I dislike this song is honestly a silly one- HAMILTON MAKES SUCH BAD LIFE CHOICES! This song is cringe-worthy to listen to, and not because of any of the performances, but because I, as a listener, have come to care for these characters, so much that it is extremely difficult to listen to them doing something so destructive. It is during this song that Alexander Hamilton cheats on his amazing, sweet, and too-good-for-this-world wife Eliza Schuyler. IT HURTS SO MUCH. That's all.

### MY FAVORITES:

#### 1. "YOU'LL BE BACK", "WHAT COMES NEXT", "I KNOW HIM"

I decided to group these three songs together because they are extremely similar and all sung by the same character. King George, who in this production is larger than life, sings to his colonies about how he is saddened by their departure from the empire. However, it's done in the form of a British pop break up song, in which he laments that he "will send a fully armed battalion to remind you of my love." All three songs are hilarious and happen at various points in American history as King George looks on disapprovingly upon his old subjects, even mocking George Washington for giving up his power "is that true? I wasn't aware that was something a person could do." King George appears in the musical for a grand total of nine minutes, but he steals the show.

The juxtaposition of British pop, the music of the English Empire, against hip-hop and rap, the music of the revolution, is one of the best parts of the soundtrack as a whole.

### 2. "THE SCHUYLER SISTERS"

While I enjoy the entire soundtrack, I fell in love with this song the first time I heard it. "The Schuyler Sisters" is so much fun and introduces the three female leads for the first time. They are sassy, smart, and independent, especially for their time period. As Angelica Schuyler says, "we hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal, and when I meet Thomas Jefferson I'm going to compel him include women in the sequel!" The girls are ambitious, brave, and witty, which makes them incredibly fun to listen to. The voices of Phillipa Soo, Jasmine Cephas-Jones, and Renee Elise Goldsberry (who play Eliza, Peggy, and Angelica Schuyler respectively) blend together beautifully.

### 3. "RIGHT HAND MAN"

"Ladies and Gentleman, the moment you've been waiting for, the pride of Mount Vernon, General George Washington." You don't realize it's true until the song says it, but the audience has been waiting to meet George Washington ever since they knew the show was about the founding fathers, and this song doesn't disappoint. The raps in the song are wonderful and revisit earlier songs such as "My Shot." It is an amazing intro for a fantastic character and an amazing performance from Chris Jackson. You can't help but get excited when you hear the song come on. It's a great song of character development for Hamilton and super fun to listen to.

### 4. "WINTER'S BALL", "HELPLESS", AND "SATISFIED"

I have to group these three songs together because that's the way you have to listen to them. These songs all tell the story of one night, when Alexander Hamilton met his future wife Elizabeth Schuyler, and the events that transpired as a result. The story's told from three different points of view- Aaron Burr's, Eliza's, and Angelica's. The transition between "Winter's Ball" and "Helpless" works perfectly, smoothly switching from cocky betting to sweet flirtation with just one word repeated many times "hey." "Helpless" is a fantastic establishing song for Eliza as a character. It gives the audience a peek

at her innermost thoughts as she feels herself falling in love with Alexander. It is clear that there has never been a person who deserves genuine love more than Eliza does and your heart cannot help but swell for her. "Satisfied" on the other hand is devastating. This song simply rips your heart out, as the audience realizes that Angelica also fell in love with Alexander, and gave him up for the sake of her sister who she loves "more than anything in this life." Not only is the music beautiful and the concept of rewinding the past genius, these three songs have so much heart, it's impossible not to love them. They are without a doubt some of the best songs on the soundtrack.

### 5. "ONE LAST TIME"

I'm not crying, you're crying. This song is gorgeous and tells the story of George Washington's farewell address. Christopher Jackson's voice soars in this song, and it is so special to hear the words of his historical address come to life with so much genuine emotion. Listeners can't help but feel attached to the relationship that Hamilton and Washington formed as Secretary of Treasury and President, and they are as sad as the characters are themselves to see it end. A creative mix of beautiful notes and words spoken in rhythm work together to weave a beautiful tapestry of music.

### 6. "WAIT FOR IT"

This song is when we learn our villain Aaron Burr's story, and come to appreciate the reason why he always withholds his opinions. The song is a heart wrenching commentary on oppression and people who are too afraid of speaking out for fear of losing everything. Burr is determined to believe that something good is coming for him. So long as he protects himself, the thing he has been waiting for will find him... This makes his eventual disgrace, after he kills Hamilton, even more tragic.

### 7. "THE WORLD WAS WIDE ENOUGH"

This is the song of the fateful encounter in which Burr shoots and kills Hamilton. The song shows both Burr's and Hamilton's thoughts during the duel. Hamilton's thoughts are revealed in the seconds after Burr pulls the trigger on the kill shot. Time stops and we hear why Hamilton decided to finally throw away his shot in this moment and why Burr finally decided to stop waiting for it. They each betray their most fundamental beliefs that have driven them the entire show and it results in a

bad end for both. This juxtaposition of two people that seem specifically designed to contradict each other is the driving force of this show and it comes to a peak in the song well worth the wait.

### 8. "NON-STOP"

This song is the Act 1 finale and by far my favorite song on the soundtrack. The song follows Hamilton after the war and his take no prisoners attitude as he works non-stop to help build a new nation and gain his cabinet post. During this song every character we have met this far comes together as they are each chasing their respective wants, many of them having to do with Alexander. Since the show's told in retrospect, the audience and presumably the characters as well know that it's only a matter of time until Hamilton will die. The song overlays the themes from nearly every song that has been in the show this far from the "Schuyler Sisters", to "Helpless", to "Satisfied", to "Wait for It", to "My Shot", to "History has its Eyes on You" etc... They're all there. The songs mix perfectly to build both excitement and dread as the characters marvel over the sheer volume of writing that Hamilton produces and ask, "How do you write like you're running out of time?" Both these words and the sound of a gunshot as the last note in the song remind us that Hamilton is indeed "running out of time", even though he doesn't know it. The voices of the other characters, each singing their respective song, seem to be trying to pull Hamilton back, attempting to give him advice they believe could save his life. Eliza even tells her husband "just stay alive that would be enough." The song is the perfect mix of recalling and foreshadowing. The music is phenomenal and I could listen to it for hours.

I could go on and on about this soundtrack. The amazing songs are too numerous to thoroughly detail every single one. The soundtrack has 46 songs, and at around \$20.00, it's a worthwhile buy for the two and a half hours of amazing music that you get. Forging over \$700 to see it at the Richard Rodgers Theater? Maybe not, but the music and the story are incredible and well worth exploring through the sound track. It will make you laugh, make you cry, and very likely make you obsessed. It's all worth it though, just join your fellow fans in freaking out over the amazing music, and lamenting over how ridiculously expensive the tickets are; it's fun. The soundtrack is amazing and I highly recommend listening.

One thing that the movie did fantastically well was its research. The documentary was chock full of primary sources, from event videos to interviews with people who witnessed the attacks first hand. The most prevalent source of information in the movies is firsthand accounts of former Seaworld trainers who used to work with the whales. This choice was very effective in the documentary as one of its central themes seemed to be that the violent attacks were in no way the fault of the trainer, as Seaworld had suggested. In the event of Dawn Brancheau's death, Seaworld stated that Tilikum thought he was playing and that the attack was Ms. Brancheau's fault as her ponytail was longer than regulations say they should be. Firsthand accounts of retired trainers was invaluable to discrediting this claim, as they said that many trainers wore their hair in a similar manner and had never been told not to. Additionally, the film makes it clear that the trainers had no education in marine biology, and therefore didn't know that the whales in captivity were meant to live much lon-



# REVIEWING: BLACKFISH

## TAKE ONE

by ann glackin

The movie "Blackfish", the story of many whales kept in captivity and the attacks that happened as a result, was very well done, but very troubling. It is extremely difficult to watch both the brutal attacks of the whale trainers and the mistreatment of the whales that happen in the movie. The movie mainly follows the life of one orca and his offspring. This whale's name is Tilikum, and he is responsible for many violent attacks. Tilikum himself was often attacked by other whales, leading to violent tendencies in both him and his offspring. The movie focuses on the events leading up to the death of a senior Seaworld trainer Dawn Brancheau during a show, and the reason why Tilikum may have become so violent.

One thing that the movie did fantastically well was its research. The documentary was chock full of primary sources, from event videos to interviews with people who witnessed the attacks first hand.

The most prevalent source of information in the movies is firsthand accounts of former Seaworld trainers who used to work with the whales. This choice was very effective in the documentary as one of its central themes seemed to be that the violent attacks were in no way the fault of the trainer, as Seaworld had suggested. In the event of Dawn Brancheau's death, Seaworld stated that Tilikum thought he was playing and that the attack was Ms. Brancheau's fault as her ponytail was longer than regulations say they should be. Firsthand accounts of retired trainers was invaluable to discrediting this claim, as they said that many trainers wore their hair in a similar manner and had never been told not to. Additionally, the film makes it clear that the trainers had no education in marine biology, and therefore didn't know that the whales in captivity were meant to live much lon-

ger in the wild. The film quite clearly paints one corporation as the villain, and that is Seaworld.

Seaworld told their employees many falsehoods about the whale. Saying it was normal for a large quantity of whales to have a collapsed if in and that the thirty years they typically lived in captivity was more than they lived in the wild. Seaworld is thoroughly criticized in the film for never telling the trainers about the risk that they may experience by working with the killer whales, especially Tilikum. By not telling the trainers about Tilikum's violent history, and allowing Tilikum to breed and pass on his violent tendencies, Seaworld is accused of knowingly putting people's lives at risk.

The only weak point of the movie in my opinion is the complete absence of a counter argument. Not a single Seaworld representative or supporter was interviewed for the film. Despite the fact that the absence is disappointing, it almost works in favor of the films view, as Seaworld refused to be interviewed for the film. Innocent people keep no secrets.

The movie does a fantastic job at humanizing both the whales and the trainers. It becomes clear that both attacker and attacked are victims of captivity from Seaworld. It becomes clear that the trainers truly care about the animals, and that they are heartbroken that the orcas continue to live in captivity, as they formed a special attachment for them from their many years working with the whales.

The movie as a whole was incredibly well done, and presumably got its point across, as Seaworld has completely shut down its orca breeding program. Whether the decision was made directly as a result of pressure for, his movie is unknowns, but it would be an incredible coincidence were it not.

## TAKE TWO

by allie smith

It is shocking and disturbing to witness footage of interactions between humans and captive orca whales. This material was showcased in "Blackfish," a critical documentary directed by Gabriela Cowperthwaite about the treatment of the animals by marine park staff. This film focuses in on a few killer whales that performed water tricks in front of paying customers.

A marine park named SeaWorld takes the brunt of the

film's many criticisms. Sea World, the largest and most famous marine park, is the business model for the other parks that the film featured. Sea World refused to contribute any sort of commentary for the film, but

two premises seem evident, the first being that life at SeaWorld is harmful for killer whales and second, it is dangerous for trainers working with these animals.

Orcas are highly intelligent and sensitive mammals. They are peculiarly intelligent, communicative, and have an extra part of their brain to process emotion. There have been no reported incidents of violence or aggressions with humans. So I wondered, "Why have they been given the name, killer whale?"

"Blackfish" established that captivity induces psychosis in many of the animals. The film notes that a result, the whales can react instinctively or accidentally to attack, hurt, jostle, or even kill trainers. A quintessential example

was the review of death of trainer Dawn Brancheau in 2010, and the history of Tilikum, the killer whale involved in her death. Sea World tried to cover up the reality of the incident, but after watching "Blackfish," it is clear that this tragedy could have been avoided by giving orca whales the freedom and respect that they deserve.

"Blackfish" stands as a form of propaganda, remonstrating for wildlife protection. Retired

trainers- ever so knowledgeable about orca behavior and human-orca interaction- even speak out to inform and persuade in the film. After watching "Blackfish," I cannot respect any facility, such as Sea World,

that stands for the containment of such incredible animals or the endangerment of human beings.

Overall, I'd give this film four stars, it was interesting and the content was well pieced together. I felt that the film was effective in raising awareness and educating the audience about orca whales. Animal lover and Senior at Huntington High School, Caroline Tonks, said "I thought it was an eye opening documentary that showed you the clear problems with sea world and the in humane treatment of the orcas." I'd recommend this film people ages 14 and up because although the message is one that everyone should hear, the movie was at times too graphic for younger audiences.



# NEWS IN BRIEF



## CURRENT EVENTS

## TECH/POP CULTURE/MUSIC



After Ted Cruz dropped his bid for presidency on May 3rd, Kasich quickly followed suit, leaving Trump the presumed GOP candidate, given no alternate nominees are chosen



On April 30, President Obama gave his eighth and final White House Correspondents Dinner Speech, using various jokes to remark on topics ranging from the Presidency candidates to leaving the White House



Tim Peake tweeted photos of Canadian wildfire from the ISS. The blaze has spread to almost 250,000 acres (10x the size of Manhattan) and has forced over 80,000 to evacuate



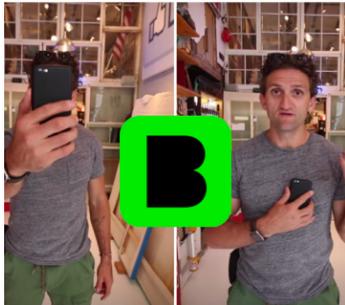
Maelbeek metro station hit in Brussels bombing attack that killed 16 in March reopened for service on April 25. Flowers and hand-written notes remain on display in memoriam of victims



Drug lord 'El Chapo' has been transferred to Juarez prison near the Texas border while previous jail improves security



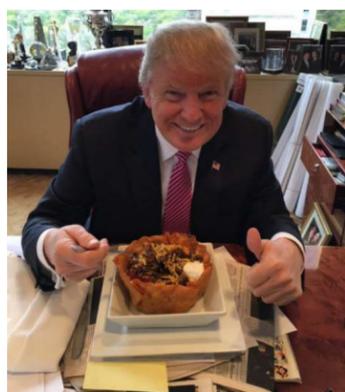
Justin Timberlake releases new song 'Can't stop the Feeling' for movie "Trolls" and confirms new album is in the works



BEME app launches first official version, designed as a social media app that uses proximity sensor to record videos and then immediately posts them, eliminating need to view life through the screen of a phone



iPhone SE launches with a 4-inch screen, marketed as a cheaper, smaller alternative to the iPhone 6. The phone, though only costing about \$400, still has incredible profit margins for Apple



Donald Trump posts Cinco de Mayo tweet promoting taco bowls in the trump tower (which are not on the menu) and sparks yet another wave of controversy on social media



Apple reports their first quarterly earning decline since 2003. However, they expect an increase when the iPhone 7 is released in September later this year



Beyoncé surprise drops sixth album, 'Lemonade' along with an hour-long HBO special on April 23rd, causing cheating controversy. Jay Z's team says to expect a new album exposing his side of the story



Tesla launches their 'Model 3' sedan as an affordable car for the masses, and had thousands lining up to pay a \$1,000 'dibs'. Priced at only \$35,000, CEO Elon Musk promises to ship 100,000 units by the end of 2017, and has accelerated Tesla's production plan by 2 years, predicting the shipment of 500,000 units by 2018



"Batman vs. Superman" fails to completely take off, with ratings torn between disappointment and mild enjoyment. However, "Captain America: Civil War" maintains positive reviews and faces the 5th for All-Time Best Opening Day, beating out January's Deadpool Opening Day.

## ISSUE INDEX

- 2 EDITOR'S PAGE
- 3-5 SCHOOL NEWS
- 6 EDITORIALS
- 7 RESEARCH
- 8-11 POLITICS
- 12 ART SECTION
- 13 MUSIC AND T.V.
- 14, 15 PUZZLE PAGES
- 16, 17 ENTERTAINMENT
- 18, 19 REVIEWS
- 20 NEWS IN BRIEF

NEWS IN BRIEF BY MICHELLE D'ALESSANDRO

**WONDERING WHERE THE SPORTS SECTION IS? SO ARE WE.** IF YOU WANT A SPORTS SECTION, WE NEED SPORTS WRITERS, SO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE WITH AN INTEREST IN SPORTS TO WRITE ABOUT IT. WRITE ABOUT ANYTHING ABOUT SPORTS. JUST DO IT.

