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Global Leader Today

WINTER ISSUE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

Akiane Kramarik

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Artistic
Success

Also Inside:
Bullying? No Way!

America's Top
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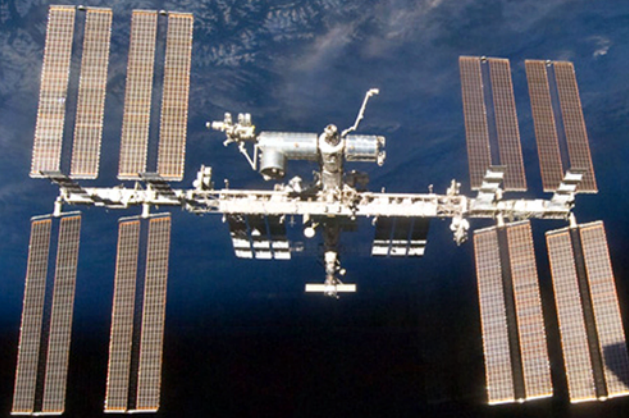
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Global Leader Today

Volume 1, Issue 3

Winter Issue

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THE SINGLE BEST THING
YOU CAN DO TO ATTRACT
PEOPLE INTO YOUR LIFE
AND TO TRIGGER AN
AVALANCHE OF
OPPORTUNITY IS TO MAKE
SOMETHING BIG HAPPEN,
SOMETHING THAT
CAPTURES ATTENTION
AND WHICH POINTS ALL
EYES IN YOUR DIRECTION.

- Gary Ryan Blair

Letter from the Publisher



Dear Readers,

Welcome to the winter issue of *Global Leader Today*, the third in a series of what started out as a dream I had a few years ago. Since I came to the United States almost forty years ago, education has always been very important to me. With this magazine, I have the opportunity to help bring information that matters to young people and their family members all over the world. I take that responsibility very seriously, and I am determined to use this vehicle to help fulfill the mission of our parent corporation, *Global Education Vision*.

For those of you who don't know, the mission of *Global Education Vision* is to orchestrate a world-class educational experience for students of all ages, whether poor, disenfranchised, homeless, orphans, refugees or those with special needs, as well as those in impoverished or developing communities around the world, to prepare them for the challenges they will face after graduation, and to give them the education they will need to become productive individuals and potential leaders in their societies.

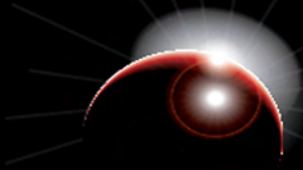
In each new issue of the magazine, we are committed to bringing you stories of young people from around the world who are doing things that matter. Some have said there is too much apathy in the world today, and too much indifference. As a contrast to that, I am inspired by what I see young people doing today throughout the world. Let us not gloss over their accomplishments, their passion, their courage. These are bold times and young people truly are making a difference in the world today. In the pages of this magazine, we will continue to bring you their stories that you too might find inspiration and perhaps the motivation you need to make a difference in your own community. I sincerely believe that every one of you who reads this has the potential to become a global leader in the near future. Whether you accept that challenge or not is up to you.

Regards,
Dr. Harry Hwang
Global Education Vision
California, United States

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To The Parents...

Does it Matter What College Your Children Attend?

Everyone knows the routine: a high-school student nervously opens an envelope that hopefully contains the good news that he or she has been admitted to their favorite college. The real question for the parents, though, is whether picking one school over another will really matter in the future? What makes one school more attractive than another? What factors should you consider when making a choice to apply in the first place?

Recent studies have shown that the answer mostly depends on the intended major. Economists agree that graduating from college definitely affects annual earnings in the future, but how much a particular school makes a difference is still under debate. For certain majors, attending a top-ranked college is invaluable. For many career paths, however, it really doesn't matter where a person graduated. A team of researchers from Brigham Young University and San Diego State University compared the annual income after ten years of graduates from different colleges across the United States while factoring in their majors and their level of degree. What the results showed is that school choice matters the most for business majors. Those who attended top-ranked schools earned, on average, 12% more than their peers who graduated from schools lower in

the rankings. For education and social science majors, there was also a major boost in annual income for those who attended top-rated schools. By comparison, engineers who attended the top universities in the nation only saw a slight increase in earnings over their peers who attended lesser known schools. Humanities majors who graduated from the most elite schools did see an increase compared to those attending lower rated schools, but for those in the sciences, the school they attended seemed not to matter at all.

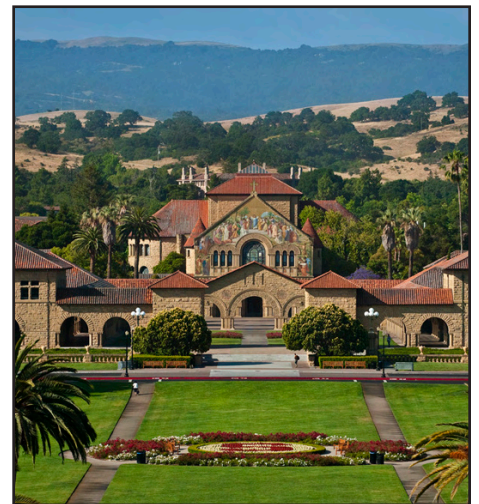
Why the differences? Researchers suspect it has to do with the level of networking and better internship opportunities for business majors, compared to their peers. That said, should parents forget about choosing the most elite schools? The overall research concludes that ten years after graduation, those who graduated from highly-rated schools do earn more than their peers who attended less selective schools. These are certainly important things to consider given the rising cost of a college education, and the increasing amount of debt young people are taking on to graduate. While higher-ranked schools often affect a graduate's standing in a particular region or industry, for most young people simply graduating from a college is what matters most.



Harvard University



Columbia University



Stanford University



Every year, *Forbes* magazine ranks the top colleges in the nation. The top factor for the 2016 list is ROI [return on investment]. Many other factors were considered, like factors that directly concern students (and their families), such as: are current undergrads satisfied? Will I get a good job and be a leader in my chosen profession? To see the full list of criteria, as well as the top 660 colleges ranked, visit: <http://bit.ly/2jMbw0X>

America's 2016 Top Colleges*

Name	State	Cost	Students
1. Stanford University	California	\$64,477	16,963
2. Williams College	Massachusetts	\$66,240	2,126
3. Princeton University	New Jersey	\$61,160	8,088
4. Harvard University	Massachusetts	\$64,400	28,791
5. Massachusetts Institute Of Technology	Massachusetts	\$63,250	11,319
6. Yale University	Connecticut	\$66,445	12,336
7. Pomona College	California	\$64,870	1,650
8. Brown University	Rhode Island	\$65,360	9,181
9. Wesleyan University	Connecticut	\$65,443	3,224
10. Swarthmore College	Pennsylvania	\$64,363	1,542
11. University of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	\$66,800	24,806
12. Amherst College	Massachusetts	\$66,572	1,792
13. University of Notre Dame	Indiana	\$64,775	12,179
14. United States Military Academy	New York	\$0	4,414
15. Northwestern University	Illinois	\$68,060	21,554
16. Columbia University	New York	\$69,084	27,589
17. Dartmouth College	New Hampshire	\$67,044	6,298
18. Tufts University	Massachusetts	\$65,900	10,907
19. Bowdoin College	Maine	\$63,440	1,805
20. University of Chicago	Illinois	\$70,100	15,097

* Source: www.Forbes.com

“I would like to die on Mars, just not on impact.”



By Alex Schrader

A Profile Of Elon Musk

“When I was in college, I wanted to be involved in things that would change the world.” Ever since he moved to Silicon Valley in 1995, Elon Musk has done just that. Born on June 28, 1971, in Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa to an electromechanical engineer father and beauty queen mother of some acclaim (Maye Musk – whose face appeared on Special K cereal boxes in the mid-1990’s), Musk developed a fascination with computers and engineering at a very early age.

In a way, he had to...

Musk’s early years were challenging to say the least. His parents divorced when he was 9 and he was a victim of severe bullying in grade school. Enough to warrant a trip to the hospital. Musk had an existential crisis (or what we in the Western World would call a nervous breakdown) and was re-invigorated by the classic novel “The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy” and swore upon finishing it, that his life’s mission would be to “save humanity.”

Musk’s first step on that journey was the creation of the video game “Blaster” after he taught himself BASIC programming. His entrepreneurial streak continued through University as he formed a Speakeasy and sold computers out of his dorm room while earning dual degrees in economics and physics from the University of Pennsylvania. It wasn’t until 1995 when he moved to California

that his vision of “wanting to change the world” really came into focus.

Elon formed Zip2 with his younger brother Kimbal and sold it to Compaq in 1999. Using the proceeds of that sale, he formed X.com, an online financial services company and merged it with the organization that would ultimately become PayPal. PayPal was a hot-spot for the best creative talent in Silicon Valley in its heyday and Musk traded emails and texts with such internet Titans as Reid Hoffman (founder of LinkedIn), Max Levchin (co-founder of Yelp) and Steve Chen (co-founder of YouTube). As PayPal’s largest individual shareholder, Musk became a billionaire.

Now known as the CEO and creative visionary of Tesla Motors and Space X, Musk’s goals seem as though they are straight out of a science fiction film. Truth is, they are actually quite simpler than that. With Tesla he simply wants to take us off our prehistoric reliance on fossil fuels, and with Space X his goal is to turn us into a space-faring civilization using the planet Mars as a base of operations. With other brilliant ideas such as the Hyperloop and Open AI (to develop Artificial Intelligence), it is safe to say that Musk is at the forefront of changing the world. If there is any quote that he has given that best describes his psychology, it is this: “When something is important enough, you do it even if the odds are not in your favor.”

64 BEST ONLINE JOBS FOR TEENS UNDER 18 —LEGIT & FREE—



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Spotlight



Courtesy of Logan Guleff

FINDING YOUR OWN INNER SUPERHERO

Want to be a master chef and you're still just a teen? That certainly didn't stop Logan Guleff who in 2014 beat 20,000 other applicants to become the youngest-ever winner of the Master Chef Junior competition. Recently on The Today Show, Logan served up his Mushroom Monster Burger. Made of half mushrooms and half ground beef, Logan said, "Because we use less meat, and mushrooms have lots of nutritious benefits, you're eating a burger that is better for your health and waist line, but is still a super satisfying burger!" At just eight-years-old, Logan appeared his first time on The Today Show showing off his entry in JIF's Most Creative Sandwich Contest. Logan advises people of all ages to "find your inner superhero." Besides admitting his own super power is his ability to "grit and grind," he asks people to consider what drives them, what makes them tick? As Logan told us, "My recipe for success - dream a dream, find a goal and work for it!" To follow Logan's culinary journeys, visit him at www.loganguleff.com, on Twitter @LoganJrChef, on Facebook @LoganJuniorChef and on Instagram at Logan.Jr.Chef.

New Ideas

Cryptocurrency Anyone?

Of course we use plastic cards now to make transactions, as well as digital wallets and various online payments, but are you using cryptocurrencies yet? Way back in 2009, bitcoin became the first decentralized cryptocurrency to become widely popular as an alternate form of money. In February 2014, the first bitcoin ATM was installed in Austin, Texas, home to the also trend-setting SXSW. Since then, investors around the world have flocked to the new technology. Like the tech explosion in Silicon Valley, some will become billionaires in the coming years by educating themselves and taking action, while others won't even know what happened.



The Traveler



EMBRACE CHANGE

Change happens to everyone and everything. No creature on planet earth is immune to it. How you adapt to change is a big determining factor as to how successful you are going to be.

Why...?

Well, some of us do not appreciate the lack of control or the uncertainty that comes with change. Change can cause bruised egos, embarrassment, even failure. But if you don't move forward, you will most certainly be left behind. At your age, change is commonplace. Your courses change yearly.

Your attitudes towards friends, sports, music and entertainment, are in a constant state of change as well. Those are a few of the wonderful things of being young.

As you grow older, the more set in your ways you become. You have routines. Those routines have sub-routines. Same restaurants, same people... you get the idea. Before you know it, years pass like thumbing through the pages of a book.

Then... it happens...

One day you're in a stuffy corporate office in Skokie, Illinois and the next... you find yourself in the jungles of Southeast



AP PHOTO

Alex Schrader

Asia... floating down the Mekong River in a canoe... contemplating the creation of an international magazine and wondering "how did I...?" Take my word for it.

Once it happens, relax. Take a deep breath. Your change most likely won't be as severe. The first way to deal with it, is to create an immediate and achievable GOAL. If that goal, for instance, is simply to pass a class, take the steps necessary by adjusting your schedule for more study time, or ask for help from your teachers, peers, or family, even if you don't want to. If your boss at work gives you a

task that seems difficult or insurmountable, simply divide that task into a sequence of smaller tasks that you can completely control.

Remember, your success or failure, for the most part, will be dependent on the work you put in. If you do not achieve your ultimate goal, consider that it is only the FIRST TIME you attempted it. Your feelings may get hurt, your ego may get bruised, and your heart may even break, but don't consider that to be a failure. It is simply a fork in the road, a point of recognition so you learn not to make the same mistakes again (though the scent of her will definitely linger)...

And if by chance your achievement takes you to an exotic location halfway across the globe... you may be fortunate to finally realize that life isn't always a problem to solve... but a journey to experience.

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*“I don’t wait
for inspiration,
inspiration
waits for me.”*



Images Courtesy of Akiane Kramarik

Art Through Experimentation

By Lindsay Shaffer

That mindset propelled artist Akiane Kramarik to become a world renowned painter and poet at just nine years old. She is considered the youngest binary genius in both realistic painting and poetry, with her work inspiring people all over the world. Her paintings have been featured on news channels and talk shows worldwide, starting with Akiane’s appearance on Oprah at the age of nine. The most amazing aspect of Akiane’s story is that she learned everything about art on her own. She

received no art instruction and her parents were not artists. Instead, Akiane followed a philosophy of constant experimentation and learning from her own mistakes. She gave her style of painting the name Akianism, which she describes as a “universal blend of realism and imaginism.” Her paintings are amazingly lifelike yet also out of this world.

Her path to artistic success, however, was not easy or straightforward. Akiane, whose name is the Lithuanian word for “ocean,” was born in a

run-down shack in Illinois and lived the first few years of her life with little exposure to the outside world. Her rural home was dirty and moldy, with hardly any furniture. Yet despite their poverty, her family was close-knit and loving. Akiane spent each day playing with her mom and brothers, taking walks in nature and making their own books and toys. They made the most of their meager circumstances and



lived a simple, playful lifestyle.

As a young child, Akiane showed a keen interest in people's faces and was able to perceive the emotions of others deeply and accurately. At the age of four, she began to have unique visions and impressions of the world around her. These two experiences, which she found difficult to describe to her family in words, gave her a longing to express herself through art. As a result, she turned to drawing. And her drive to create was relentless.

Although her family was too poor at the time to afford art materials for her to use, Akiane was not to be deterred. She used anything from fruits and vegetables to charcoal from their fireplace, drawing on walls and underneath the family's kitchen table. At first, her mother was distraught by Akiane's use of the family's living space as a canvas. Soon, however, she began to appreciate the unique

passion and talent her daughter had for art and saved money to buy Akiane her first art supplies. When Akiane started painting a few years later, her passion for art was so strong that she would wake up at 4am to work on her latest painting. Her paintings were amazingly accurate and lifelike, seeming like the work of a much older, professional artist.

Yet, Akiane was not always so confident in her artistic ability. Like many geniuses before her, she faced many people who did not understand or even criticized her art. Once, as a young child, she entered an art competition. Not only did she not win a place or prize, but afterward the judges told her parents she had no artistic talent. Not being recognized for her talent was difficult for Akiane. She wanted to quit her artwork several times. Often, she would throw away her drawings in the garbage, but her mom took them out and saved them. Akiane attributes much of her success to her supportive family who believed in her even when no one else recognized



her gifts.

Akiane, now 22 years old, shares three key ingredients for cultivating an artistic gift. First, she advises young artists to "find someone that believes or understands your passion wholeheartedly." That person will encourage you when you face criticism or uncertainty and keep

you from giving up when the going gets tough. The second aspect of cultivating creativity is to choose a "designated creative time" and commit to it daily. In choosing this time, Akiane suggests that each individual "listen to your body clock. By doing that, you reach your high peak of creativity." While her creative time begins at 3am each morning, Akiane believes each person's timing is unique and it's important to find out for yourself. Lastly, she advises artists to "be as unique as possible and don't try to blend in. If you have something you're really good at, enhance it as much as you can."



In order to provide encouragement for young artists that may not have easy access to mentors or teachers, Akiane has plans to open her own art school in the near future. She laughs as she explains the likelihood of "opening her own university" before she ever attends one. She plans to create a space where budding artists can freely explore their creativity and hone their skills. With her unique artistic style and deep love of others, Akiane will no doubt continue to inspire people to see the extraordinary in their lives and in the world around them.

From the book *Akiane: Her life, her art, her poetry* by Akiane and her mother Foreli Kramarik and www.akiane.com.



Bullying? No Way!

By Eileen Weber

Victims of bullying often suffer in silence. Jaylen Arnold knows that first hand. It wasn't enough that he was prone to vocal outbursts and sudden tics from Tourette syndrome. It didn't help that he also suffered from Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder and Asperger syndrome. This kid just couldn't catch a break.

Bullied mercilessly, his stress level was off the charts. That only made his symptoms worse, eventually making him homebound and unable to go to school.

"The bullies told me things would only get worse if I tattletaled," he said. "My Tourette's was at an all-time high."

His mother Robin couldn't help but notice. She took him out of school and subsequently placed him in another one. It had been a painful experience but the memories were still fresh. At the tender age of eight, he decided to fight back. With the help and advice from some of his doctors, he went back to his old school to talk about what happened and how it affected him.

That's when Jaylen's Challenge Foundation was born. He started small in his hometown outside Tampa, Florida talking to kids at schools about his experience. When one of the local newspapers covered the story, Jaylen catapulted to fame in just a few weeks. Highlights Magazine, People, Nickelodeon, CNN, and The Ellen Show sought him out. It wasn't just a story anymore; it was a movement.

Now at the age of 16, he has been on a speaking tour in 17 states and 142 schools. He gets their atten-

tion with a call-and-response tag line of "Bullying? No Way!" With a little luck, he is hoping to take his tour abroad someday.

"If he just talked to that one class, I would be super proud," said Robin, who is the foundation's Executive Director. "He's got the gift of speech and can inspire them, Tourette's tics and all. I had no idea the journey he'd go on. I'm still in awe."

Jaylen speaks to children as young as kindergarteners and as old as seniors in high school. But his big focus is middle school. While he's aware you need to nip it in the bud when they're young, the worst behavior happens between the sixth and eighth grades. The emotional effects often leave kids feeling anxious, depressed, and even suicidal. Many parents aren't aware that most childhood suicides occur in middle school.

"I've had kids who even admitted to me they were thinking of committing suicide," he explained. "It's heartbreaking and it's eye-opening. Kids don't realize how they affect other kids."

Children and young adults commit suicide every day somewhere around the globe. Brandy Vela, an 18-year-old from Texas, felt so despondent over being

bullied for her weight that she shot herself in front of her family. Tyrone Unsworth, a 13-year-old gay Australian boy, killed himself because he believed his classmates wanted him dead. Brandon Singh Rayat, an Indian-born 15-year-old in the U.K., hanged himself after 16 months of harassment and a fake Facebook page was created threatening to rape him and his mother.

Jaylen explained that it's very important for other people to get involved—parents, teachers, friends, and neighbors. He tells kids to immediately notify someone when there is bullying. Otherwise, things can quickly spiral out of control.

"These kids, they know how to [kill] themselves," Robin said. "But they need to know it's not a permanent solution to a temporary part of your life."

Should more people step in when they witness it? According to Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center, the answer is yes. Bullying stops nearly 60% of the time if a bystander intervenes on behalf of the victim. One out of every four students reports being bullied during the school year. It doesn't even have to be face-to-face. Social



Courtesy of Jaylen's Challenge Foundation

media plays a major role. Of the kids who were cyberbullied, 90% said they were bullied offline so it's a one-two punch.

Most people think of a bigger kid picking on a little kid for his lunch money when it comes to bullying. It happens with both genders, however. While boys can be more physical and embarrass you publicly, girls tend to be a little more

covert. The result is just as insidious.

"There is nothing nastier than middle school girls who want to hurt you," Jaylen remarked. "It's emotional warfare. They make the person feel as low as they can."

Jaylen said he was still trying to figure out what the bullies actually get out of it. Was it insecurity? Pride? A feeling of superiority?

Well, it's complicated, said Julie Hertzog, who has been the director of Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center since they formed in 2006. There are a lot of reasons why one kid bullies another. Sometimes there's a lack of realization about the negative reaction it can cause. Other times, kids don't care how their behavior affects someone else. Building empathy is critical. And in some cases, kids are acting out from a place of pain and anger because someone else is bullying them.

Hertzog laid out three main steps in dealing with someone who is being bullied. The primary aspect is to let that person know they are not alone. Being supportive goes a long way. Then, letting that person know they have rights. There are school policies in place specifically geared toward anti-bullying because of legislation. While there is no federal mandate, bullying often overlaps other issues of discriminatory harassment—race, religion, gender, or disability. For those things, there is a legal recourse.

But the biggest step in helping a victim of bullying is how they can help themselves. Kids can feel isolated as if this is only their problem to fix. Creating an "action plan" of how to solve the situation can empower them to feel more in control.

"So often, we justify bullying behavior in our children," said Hertzog. "We say, 'kids will be kids' or 'man up.' We need to give them the tools to be their own advocate and stand up for themselves."

What if your school unwittingly



Courtesy of Jaylen's Challenge Foundation

promotes a bullying mentality? Dorothy Espelage, Professor of Psychology at the University of Florida and an international expert on bullying and youth aggression, said the school climate really matters.

"Schools can foster bullying behavior when adults are modeling it," she explained. "Coaches are some of the biggest bullies. It's accepted in sports."

She went on to say that there is not just one type of bully. For as many of them who have a callous, Machiavellian attitude, there are plenty who operate as no more than common thugs. Both are mean and cruel, just in different ways.

"With a caring teacher environment, we can create a space where a bullying disposition doesn't get engaged," said Espelage. "In other words, it's malleable."

People can change if we give them the right opportunities. But if you're Jaylen Arnold, sometimes you just have to make your own opportunities.

ON THE MAP



Courtesy CBCNews

1. Finding Post-Olympic Courage in Rio

The city of Rio de Janeiro won the 2016 Summer Olympics by promising to improve its infrastructure. As a result of the increase in cash flow, it got that — a subway extension, and a new rapid transit bus line. A major renovation of the port area created a lively, inviting new public area, filled with daily crowds who came there to see the Olympics in person. After the games were finished, Mauricio Santoro, professor of political science at Rio State University said, “The Olympics exposed Brazil’s problems. Now Brazilians need to have courage to fix them.” The city’s mayor said that the Olympics weren’t about solving all the problems of Rio but they were meant to improve people’s lives. As he pointed out, kids growing up in favelas will judge the “legacy.” “OK, it was not a tragedy,” Professor Santoro reminds us, “but there were many serious problems and we have to address those problems, not just because of the Olympics, not just because of the foreign tourists, but because of the lives of the people who actually inhabit Rio and we have to stand up to these problems after the Olympic circus is gone.”



2. Effects of BREXIT on Teens

In June of 2016 when voters in the United Kingdom considered whether to exit from the European Union, everyone knew that while this vote was supposed to be in the interest of the country, it was actually mostly in the interest of the older people; most of UK’s youngsters were completely against it. Before the vote, graduates from the UK could seek employment in any of the 28 EU countries, but now they will probably need visas to cross borders. In addition, students from India who wish to study in the UK will be affected by the vote, in that obtaining one of the limited number of visas for one country is much more difficult than getting one for the entire EU. The truth is that since UK citizens believe that Brexit is mostly meant to increase job security and employment for British people, there will be minimal immigrations to the UK in general at this time.



3. Philippines to abolish tuition fees at public universities for lower-income students

The Philippine government has passed a new budget which includes allocations to all state universities and colleges starting from the 2017 academic year to cover costs normally paid for by students’ tuition fees. President Duterte has called for conditional implementation of the allocation, with higher priority being given to poor but academically qualified students. “One of the long-standing concerns of poor families,” said Senator Loren Legarda, chair of the Senate Committee on Finance, “is bringing their children to college, because after finishing high school in public schools most of them have no means to pay for tuition in SUCs (state universities and colleges). The 2017 national budget addresses this concern.”



Introducing Hannah Herbst, 2015 America's Top Young Scientist

By Randy Gold

What do you do when you live in an area in the world where your electricity to your home keeps turning on and off throughout the day, or worse, you have no power at all? Well, you ask Hannah Herbst, winner of the 2015 America's Top Young Scientist award...

GLT: Congratulations for winning the award for America's Top Young Scientist of 2015!

HH: Thank you.

GLT: Can you tell us what you did to win the award?

HH: Yeah, so, I developed a novel ocean probe called BEACON which stands for Bringing Electricity Access to Countries through Ocean Energy Collection, and pretty much what I did was I developed three separate prototypes. The first one was hand held, the second one was stationary, and the third one was recycled and it cost only \$12 dollars, and the combination of all three concepts led to one novel energy probe that could potentially help my nine-year-old pen pal in Africa, Ruth, who is living in energy poverty.

GLT: We understand that as a part of the process you are given a mentor. Can you tell us about your mentor and how he helped you?

HH: Sure, so my mentor's name was Mr. Jeff Emslander of 3M. He was an incredible mentor over the summer program with the Young Scientists Challenge, and pretty much what he did was we got to go on Skype calls on Tuesdays every week and he would give me guidance about my project. What I really loved and took away from this mentorship program was that he never gave me straight answers. He would always, you know, give me kind of direction or ideas or materials to try my own thing and give my own method of problem solving and if I really needed it he would step in and kind of give me some more pointers,

but I think that the mentorship was really valuable in that way that he didn't tell me what to do or how to do it. He let me innovate and gave me guidance and walked away.

GLT: We read on your site that this innovation was inspired originally by your desire to help a nine-year-old pen pal that you have who's living in sub-Saharan Africa, where many of the people live in energy poverty with sporadic or no access to electricity. How did you go from this initial desire to your actual solution? Can you talk about the process?

HH: I began in the seventh grade with kind of my whole engineering journey. My parents put me into this summer engineering and technology camp at Florida Atlantic University which is where I am currently dual-enrolled now. At first I was very apprehensive because I was the only girl in the program but after a week

of learning about robots and coding, I was very into it. Later that year when I received the newsletter about my pen pal in Africa, I was really compelled to solve her problem and because of that engineering camp I now have the confidence and the skill set to be able to innovate something to help her, so kind of that process of going from someone who is obsessed with theatre and sports, which are the two things that I am still very, very passionate about,

to being able to innovate this ocean energy probe has just been an incredible journey, and I'm so grateful that my parents put me into that camp because without it I wouldn't have the confidence to be able to solve her problem.

GLT: That's very cool. We read on your website that you have a passion for educating others using STEAM. Can you tell us more about that?

HH: I actually started my first not-for-profit this last November. It's called Project STEAM. It's designed to help kids get involved in the STEAM field,

fairs or just kind of being able to create an idea that addresses a problem and then be able to present it to their classmates because communicating science is probably one of the more important parts of the scientific process, in my opinion.

GLT: When people want to know more about Project STEAM, where would they go online?

HH: We have a Twitter page. It's @pr0jectsteam and we have an Instagram page. It's Project STEAM.

GLT: Who has influenced you the most when it comes to you becoming a scientist?

HH: I definitely have a lot of mentors and a lot of people who influence me every day. My parents are definitely the primary influencing factors. I mean, no matter what I've done through out my life, they've always been very encouraging. And something that I think has really



Hannah Herbst and Jeff Emslander, her mentor from 3M

benefited me is that they never really pushed me to do one specific thing until seventh grade. They let me explore. They let me kind of try my own thing. I was really obsessed with theatre. That's something I did from third grade, and I still do it now and it's allowed me to become really confident in front of people speaking about my projects. Also, sports is something that I'm still doing now. I play soccer. I sense it's something that I'm very passionate about and I'm

which is Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Math, from a young age, and pretty much what Project STEAM is is it's a two to three day workshop that can be implemented into existing class curriculum around the United States and pretty much what it is is it encourages kids to innovate and become global leaders on just a local scale and then eventually go up to that national and global level through participating in different competitions or different science

really glad that my parents have been such great influences in my life to try my, you know, kind of passions and pursue them. Another influencing factor: other young scientists. I mean people who win Google Science Fairs, Young Scientist Challenge, they're all really inspiring to me and continue to inspire me to continue my work every single day.

GLT: So, as a part of this process, we saw pictures on your site that you went to the White House, you met the President, what was that like for you?

HH: It was incredible. I mean, just being invited to the White House is an incredible opportunity and all the opportunities that have come out of going to the Young Scientist's Challenge and being named America's Top Young Scientist have just changed my life in so many ways. Meeting the President was probably the best opportunity that I've had so far.

GLT: In looking back at all that you have been through, what advice would you give to other young people who see a problem in their own community that needs to be solved?

HH: Well, I'd really just say: try stuff, because before I was fourteen I had no engineering experience. I wanted nothing to do with science or technology, or any of that, simply because I thought it was reading out of a textbook, memorizing and then spitting it back up on a test again.

GLT: Sure.

HH: I mean, that's not science.

Science is really doing, and I didn't know that until I was way older. So, if you want to do something to solve a problem that could impact your friends or family, or people around the world, just try stuff, 'cause you never know what can happen.

GLT: As a female scientist, what would you say to the girls who live in the developing or oppressed countries where it's not easy to get an education if you're female?

HH: I've never experienced

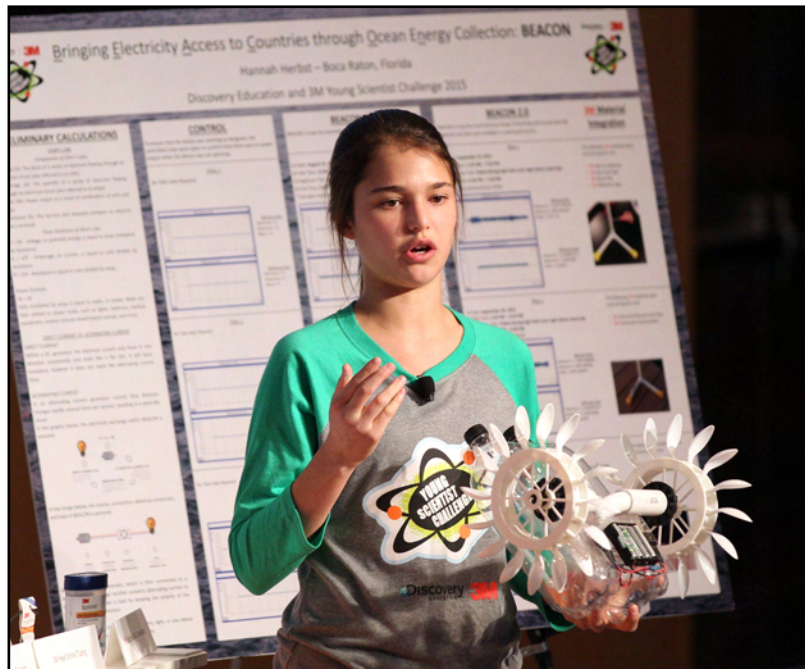
country's oppression or lack thereof stop you from becoming something great.

GLT: For people who live in areas of the world where there is no STEM or STEAM education, what would you say to them?

HH: Really I think that the big driving factor behind STEAM is that it's all around us. I mean, science is literally everywhere. It's in rivers. It's outside. It's inside. It's in structure. It's just all over the place, so you don't have to have a STEAM curriculum in order to succeed. I didn't have a STEAM curriculum. I still don't have a STEAM curriculum. So, school is not your education. I think that really getting out and doing science and being a creator is your education. So, don't let school dictate the fact that you don't have a STEM education. Just allow yourself to explore within your own realm.

GLT: Before we finish with our last question, I noticed that you talked about a passion for theatre, and you mentioned in STEAM including the Arts as a part of STEM. What role do you see, or what importance do you see for the Arts in education?

HH: I think that the Arts and STEM go hand in hand. I think that if we don't have STEAM instead of STEM, we have a big problem, because if you can't communicate your science, and if you can't talk about your work, then you've got a ton of issues because nobody's going to know about it. So, I think that Arts integration is something that's very, very positive



Explaining BEACON, her award-winning project

that. I'm very fortunate to live in a country where education is a given and you have to go to school, and I'm very grateful for that opportunity. So, if you're in an oppressed country or an underdeveloped nation, I would just say to keep trying because there are ways to educate yourself that don't involve school. You really don't let school get in the way of your education if you live in a developed nation, and don't let lack of school get in the way of your education. I mean, create your own education for yourself 'cause there are plenty of things outside or create things inside. Don't let your

for students. In fact, it gave me the confidence to be able to articulate myself and to kind of pursue my own passion. In third grade I was bullied a lot. I wasn't really very social, and then the use of theatre to kind of get that energy out was something that was very, very beneficial for me throughout my life. So, I think that the integration of theatre and physical activity can really help the STEAM part of things, as well.

GLT: Thank you. So, what's next for Hannah Herbst? Where do you see yourself in five years?

HH: Well, right now I'm actually working on a new research project. It's called SEIAC. It's an identification system for



Courtesy Hannah Herbst

airborne chemicals in war-torn areas. So, my system can, in the future, identify chemical warfare or in chemical spilled products, like in Texas four children were just killed because of their exposure to a pesticide. So, my project can detect that and subsequently issue a warning to vulnerable civilian populations. So, that's what

I'm working on right now. I actually have a science fair award ceremony I'm going to tonight to hopefully be able to progress to the Florida State Science and Engineering Fair in March and then compete with my research there. I really love science fairs, so I'll continue to do that throughout my high school career. I'm fully dual-enrolled at Florida Atlantic University and Florida Atlantic University High School right now, so I'll continue pursuing my college classes and hopefully be able to make an impact in the world with whatever I do.

For those who want to follow Hannah online, visit her website at www.HannahHerbst.com or find her on Twitter @HannahHerbst07.

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A Vegan Child's Journey

By Jana Free

Meet Genesis Butler: A 10-Year-Old On a Journey to Give Animals Their Freedom

Genesis Butler is a 10-year old girl living in the Los Angeles area of California, in the United States. A vegan since age 4 and an animal activist with years of experience behind her already, Genesis inspires kids and adults to live a cruelty-free life by keeping animals off of their plate and from being used by humans in any way.

When Genesis Butler was 4 years old, she had an epiphany while eating a chicken nugget dinner her mother had prepared for her. She intuitively sensed that something was wrong with her meal and she asked her mother to tell her what was in the chicken nuggets. Genesis' mother, Genelle, was honest with her daughter and stated the truth – that she was eating a chicken, a real chicken and an animal who used to be alive. Upon hearing that she was consuming an animal, Genesis immediately refused to eat her nugget dinner and would refuse to eat animal flesh every day after that.

Genesis, like many children, loved animals so she was upset with the fact that she had been eating them for dinner. Even though her mother continued to try to get her to eat animals for a short time after that life-changing day, Genesis held to what her heart told her and she adamantly denied all of the



Photo by Beth Lily Redwood

animal meals she was served. Luckily, Genelle had previously watched a documentary about the food production system and had considered that eating animals was not good for her family's health or for the health of the planet. After just a few of Genesis' food refusals, Genelle and Genesis' father decided to follow Genesis' lead and finally make the switch to the healthy and compassionate diet they had already promised they would adopt one day.

Doing What You Know is Right

It can be difficult to follow your heart and do what you know is right, especially when you're a child under the guidance of parents and when you live in a culture that has a long history of acting opposite to what you believe is just. And, it can be fulfilling to speak the truth, even at a young age. With not even a decade of life experience to back her, Genesis dug her heels in and stood strong as she confronted her

mother, father, siblings, peers, and any adults who would listen. At an age when many children simply accept what is presented to them and spend a good amount of their time on self-focused activities, Genesis began sharing her message of animal freedom with her family, friends, and complete strangers.

“For people who eat animals,” Genesis said, “I don’t think they even really think about it. They just eat animals because they feel like they always have to eat it. They don’t think “Oh, I’m eating a pig” when they are eating bacon.”

Reaching People Through Education

Genesis is considered a leading animal advocate and animal activist, even among adults. She has been going to protests and demonstrations for years, at circuses and at other places where animals are used for food and entertainment. She educates attendees and visitors on living a lifestyle that doesn’t involve animal use. Genesis frequently talks with people at the grocery store and in personal gatherings, sharing information about vegan food as well as the healthy and delicious food she eats. She speaks at events and gives a child’s point of view on the rights of animals to live free lives, and she shows up at city council meetings to discuss the plight of animals in local areas, such as the trouble coyotes face when they given a green-light vote to be killed.

“My goal is to help end animal agriculture and businesses that keep animals captive,” says Genesis. “I really want the whole world to go vegan so animals can live free. I want to help animals be

able to stay in their natural habitats and live their lives free.”



Photo by Beth Lily Redwood

During the 6 years that have passed since that light-bulb moment over her chicken nugget dinner, Genesis has worked with NFL player David Carter on vegan outreach and she as volunteered with Farm Sanctuary to help take care of animals who have been abandoned and abused. Genesis



Photo by Beth Lily Redwood

is part of a local community of animal activists in the Southern California area who stand up for animals day in and day out. She says that fellow Southern California activist Ellen Erickson is one

of her role models, because Ellen speaks up for the animals no matter the situation – even when it is rainy and cold.

Recently, TEDx asked Genesis to apply to be a speaker. She had to prepare a video of herself speaking and then submit it to the organization. Genesis kept track of when her filmed speech was due, and for this important event she reminded her mother that she had to submit it. With Genelle’s help, Genesis has met deadlines like those

given to adults and has finished projects well ahead of due dates. Of course, she finds time to play and be a kid too. But, her heart and mind are with the animals, and she has decided that she will be a constant presence as an animal activist working toward total animal freedom.

“When I have something to do like come up with a speech, I just work on it whenever I’m not playing or I have some free time. My mom reminds me when I have something to do and she leaves it up to me when I do it but she will remind me if I haven’t worked on my projects and I need to finish it soon. I also have a calendar and I look for demos I can go to then I write them down so I can remind my mom to take me.”

You can learn more about Genesis on her Facebook page called A Vegan Child’s Journey, which you can access at www.facebook.com/aveganchild-journey/. You can also find

out about her Genesis for Animals foundation she started (and will be working on more when her homeschooling is through for this school year) by visiting www.GenesisforAnimals.org.



Photo by Morag Bitan

Destined for Education

by Elissa Einhorn

“People think it’s about me, but it’s not,” declares Israeli educational leader. “It’s about us.”

Karen Tal sits in a hotel lounge in the southwest section of Jerusalem and stares out of the picturesque windows that line the wall. Just beyond the high-rise apartment buildings in clear view is the area where Tal grew up. Ir Ganim was a poor neighborhood but one that, along with Tal’s parents, shaped the woman who would become a top educational leader in the State of Israel.

“My parent’s emphasized core values,” explains Tal, whose family emigrated to Israel from Morocco when she was 3 years old. “To give tzedakah (charity), to be a good student, and to be a good citizen. It was like a contract between me and my family. If we learned and achieved, all of our dreams could come true.”

Her parents had their own dreams of their daughter becoming a lawyer, however, Tal knew at a young age that she was destined for educa-

tion. By age 11, she was giving private lessons in Hebrew, math, and other subjects to neighborhood kids.

“I felt that I had this talent to make an impact,” she says. “I felt I could influence young children, that they listened to me.”

The world of education took on an even greater meaning when she began attending a prestigious high school that opened her eyes to the difference between growing up in Ir Ganim and

more affluent neighborhoods.

Although an adolescent, Tal immediately realized, “The whole world was in my hands,” meaning literature, art, philosophy, music, and more.

Undeterred by the social and economic gap between her and many of her peers, the teenager now had no doubt that education was her path and she was determined to succeed. Fast forward a few decades and one begins to comprehend the power of determination.

In 2006, two fledgling schools in southern Tel Aviv were on the brink of being closed. With Tal as the new principal, the schools were combined to become Bialik-Rogozin, which had a student body of refugee children from 48 countries, among them Sudan, Nigeria, South Africa, Ukraine, and Chile. Muslims, Christians, and Jews, many of whom Tal describes as “coming from worse than nowhere,” learned side-by-side under the holistic model that Tal created with meaningful collaboration with four vice-principals, teachers, parents, volunteers, and the community at its core.

“Schools,” Tal believes, “should be a home. They should be open from morning until night. A school should not ask students and families to go out into the community for services; the community should bring services to the school.”

A natural organizer and multitasker, as well as a graduate of the Mandel School for Educational Leadership, Tal’s team created individual plans for each of Bialik-Rogozin’s more than 1,000 students in



Photo by Morag Bitan

grades 1-12, highlighting everything from their strengths to their dreams—while at the same time, figuring out what to do about peeling paint, broken steps, and bathroom renovations. Razor focused, Tal believed this approach would lead students to graduate with the qualities imbued in her: self-esteem, values, a commitment to giving back to community, and a clear code of behavior, not to mention academic excellence. And she was right.



Photo by Haim Yavin

In 2005, 28% of the student body passed their matriculation exams; by 2011, the number

skyrocketed to 87%. Her volunteer corps went from 0 to 220 and included individuals from high tech industries, Tel Aviv University, and non-profit organizations. The school also created a choir, a band, and a computer skills program, and began offering onsite speech and language, and music and art therapy.

These accomplishments did not go unnoticed. Bialik-Rogozin received Israel’s National Prize for Education. It also was the subject of an Academy Award-winning movie, “Strangers No More” that poignantly chronicled the inspiring journeys of several students. Tal herself received the 2011 Charles Bronfman Prize, considered to be one of the most prestigious awards in the Jewish world. Her most prized possession, perhaps, is a letter from the late Israeli President and Prime Minister Shimon Peres following a visit. Tal beams as she translates from Hebrew to English Peres’ words: “This is a place for inspiration. This school proves to us that democracy is not just a place to give citizens the right to be equal, but also the right to be different.”

Tal has taken her talents to Tovanot B’Hinuch (Insights in Education) in order to scale her model in schools throughout Israel. The strategies and tools she brings are critical, but it is her core belief that leads to the greatest accomplishments.

“The most important thing I figured out,” she says earnestly, “is if you put your mission and not your ego on the table and give credit to everyone, that’s the formula for success.”



The Art of Asking Those Who Know

By Randy Gold

For each issue, *Global Leader Today* magazine looks for young people who are making a difference in the world today. This time we bring you Warren Cassell, Jr., a young Accounting major who grew up in the Caribbean on an island of just 5,000 people named Montserrat. We talked today with Warren as he took a break from his studies at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Warren first established himself on the world stage by authoring two of the Self-Help books on the Amazon Bestsellers Lists. For many people that would be a lifetime achievement, but at the time, Warren was just thirteen. A year later, he succeeded in getting into print in the *Huffington Post* with an article he titled “I’m Not Your Average Fourteen-Year-Old and I’m OK with that.”

When Warren was just eight years old, his parents invested in him to start a greeting card business on the island of Montserrat. “Most people there,” Warren said, “didn’t have access to com-

puter software to create their own personal cards. The stores didn’t have cards like that for people.” At just six years old, Warren got his first personal computer and at the time he felt like the happiest person in the world. At eight, he says, “I decided that instead of playing games with my computer, I could actually make money with my computer.” At that point, he used the money his parents gave him to start his business and bought computer software that allowed him to make custom greeting cards. “The reason why I started this whole venture came from my mom, actually. She knew that as a child I

always wanted to start my own business but I thought I had to wait until I was much older. I thought I had to wait until I was finished with college. I thought I had to create a business that had a physical presence.” His mother, however had seen him make a card for a family friend one time and she said, “You know, you may want to start a business, and that’s a beautiful card that you made. Why not sell your cards here? Why not start a card business?” At that point Warren said, “Why not? I have nothing to lose. I am sure I can get a lot of experience from it and make money from it, so why not?” Going into the venture Warren didn’t really think that failure would affect him. As he says, “What’s the worst thing that can happen at eight years old starting a business?”

In examining Warren’s website, we noticed a variety of interviews he had conducted with some very influential people. We asked him how that all came about? “It actually started off,” Warren answered, “with me wanting to learn from people who have just achieved great success. I would read books from people and decide: hey, I want to ask them some specific question that wasn’t touched in the book. So, I started reaching out to very accomplished people. One of those people was Ivanka Trump and I reached out to her about three years ago after I finished reading her book and I wanted to learn more. I wanted to ask some specific questions. So, I sent an email and two weeks later I got back a response saying she’d love to set up a call.

Walking away from the knowledge I got from my call with her and some other people, I realized that it would be quite selfish of me to keep that information to



Suresh Sookoo, Former COO, RBC Financial (Carribbean) Ltd., left, chats with Warren Cassell, Jr.

myself. The average person may not have the chance to speak to a multimillionaire or be able to get questions answered by someone who may not have the time to answer everyone, so I decided: why not record these



Courtesy of Warren Cassell, Jr.

calls and share them with others, because I am able to connect with people this way, and I’m also able to give that information to others, as well, directly. I think of it as a way to get it to as many people as possible, especially young people, because the podcast is geared toward young people. Giving them the opportunity to find out what exactly are people like Charles Koch thinking and what exactly are people who come from backgrounds like

Sebastián Marroquín. He’s the only son of Pablo Escobar, and I had the opportunity to interview him about his life, growing up in a world of narcotics. I think that’s

really helping my mission, because I didn’t just want to be able to create wealth, or gain knowledge for myself. I wanted to be able help others, so, that’s the major reason why I decided to have this podcast.”

As you look at Warren’s history to date, you will find that one of his major passions is the world of investing and currently he is majoring in Accounting. We asked Warren what he would advise for other young people who may be interested in pursuing a future in finance or investing?

Warren replied, “I think that the best way to learn is go actually into that, mark yourself into whatever that is that you want to learn. Before I started to invest, I watched countless documentaries on different investing from successful investors from all industries, not just the stock market. I played the simulated stock exchange online for two years before I even bought my first stock. I think just by doing that, you’re learning a lot more and you don’t have to wait. You can be fifteen-years-old and you can start reading about it so that once you’re older, or once you have more money to invest, you’ll already have that knowledge and you’ll already have gained insights on how it should work.”

To hear the entire interview, visit us online and click the link at the end of the article about Warren Cassell, Jr. in the winter 2016 Issue. To find out more about Warren Cassell, Jr., visit: www.warrencasselljr.com.

CURRENT EVENTS

AROUND THE WORLD IN JUST TWO PAGES

By Randy Gold

14-YEAR-OLD SCHOOLBOY SIGNS A CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO MAKE ANTI-LANDMINE DRONES



Fourteen-year-old Harshwardhan Zala has signed a deal with the Government of Gujarat's Department of Science and Technology in India to produce anti-landmine drones, a contract worth about \$733,000. The 10th grader presented the drone prototype in 2016, which cost about \$7,300 to make with partial financing from the government. Zala said the idea came to him after learning in the media about the high casualties caused by landmines to the army. When asked how it works, he replied, "The drone is designed to send out waves that cover eight sq. meter area while flying two feet above the surface; the waves detect land mines and communicate their location with a base station. The drone also carries a bomb weighing 50 gram that can be used to destroy the landmine." The drones will contain RGB and infrared sensors, a thermal meter, and a 21-megapixel camera with a mechanical shutter for high-resolution image capturing. The Gujarat government hopes that these anti-landmine drones will eventually be produced commercially. Harshwardhan Zala's proud father Pradhyumansinh is an accountant with a plastic company in Naroda, India, and his mother Nishaba is a homemaker.

STARKEY HEARING FOUNDATION STOPS AT THE SKATEISTAN SKATEPARK IN JOHANNESBURG



Earlier this month, Tony Hawk and friends David Loy, Talente Biyela, and Shawn Hale joined the Starkey Hearing Foundation for a mission to Johannesburg, South Africa to help bring the gift of hearing to youth there. And skaters being skaters, they couldn't help themselves--they brought their skateboards, too and visited the Skateistan Skatepark in the city. Currently it is estimated that over 1,600 young people each week in Kabul, Phnom Penh and Johannesburg are provided with a safe space to skateboard through the non-profit organization Skateistan. As a part of the program, they learn before and after school, and half of those young people are girls. For more information visit www.skateistan.org.

ADDING COLOR TO THE ACADEMY AWARDS



Photo by Greg Hernandez

In the last two years, the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite began trending after people noticed nearly

every actor nominated was white. This year's nominations broke a record by honoring six black actors at the same time. Certainly each nominee deserves the nomination, but the fact that it is newsworthy speaks to how far we are from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision when he delivered his "I have a dream" speech. King dreamed of a world where we were color blind. Events in 2016 in the USA gave young people around the world pause as they considered media portrayals of what many consider to be obvious examples that we are anything but that. With the 2017 nominations, there are signs that there are changes happening. For many, the changes are long overdue, and for others there aren't enough changes. Certainly Latino, Asian and Native American actors wonder when it will be their turn to be recognized for their contributions. In that respect, there is one thing we can count on in general as things move forward and that is change.

PEACEFUL TRANSITION



Christopher Morris - VII for TIME

Being based in the United States, we cannot help but be aware of the political process in our own back yard. On January 20th this year, the reigns of control were peacefully turned over to a new administration. President Donald J. Trump took the oath of office and became the 45th President of the United States. In his acceptance speech, President Trump said, "Every four years we gather on these steps to carry out the orderly and peaceful transfer of power, and we are grateful to President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama for their gracious aid throughout this transition. They have been magnificent. Thank you." At least half of the voters were disappointed by the outcome, and yet the government

and the country move forward, all the same. In 1776 when the government of the USA was first formed, the founding fathers trusted the process they had written out as instructions to the future, and here we are today, some 240 years later, still honoring their solution to previous anarchy, rebellion, insurrections and unrest as governments throughout history were toppled, overthrown or violently removed from power. This constitutional republic called the United States of America has many failures, many blemishes in its history, but as a form of government, certainly its process of peaceful transition can be looked at as a model for success with any government.

X GAMES FINDS A NEW HOME



U.S. Bank Stadium, Minneapolis, Minnesota

After three years in Austin, Texas, X Games is now moving north to the U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The four day event runs from July 13-16, and next year will run from July 19-22, 2018. To follow the games online, visit www.XGames.com/Minneapolis.



Take Control!

By Alex Schrader

What I enjoyed most about putting this (our third issue) together, was that each and every one of the amazingly talented youths that our writers profiled took their ambitions, their thoughts, or even events that happened to them in their personal lives into their own hands, and turned them into something productive. I feel that Akiane Kramarik's quote sums it up best: "I don't wait for inspiration, inspiration waits for me." Awesome attitude to have, because even though Akiane is a genius and an experienced painter, she still has to face a blank easel to paint a picture, and that boys and girls, can be quite scary. She takes it head on. Bravo!

I was also excited to see us address two issues that I believe are VERY important, and one which I think, is severely unaddressed, investing. The first though, is bullying. Precious few of us have passed through their youth unscathed or free of bullying, ie: "Alex Schrader calculator... born in an incubator... built like a termina..." You see?

With the explosion of social media, bullying has come to the forefront



through Facebook videos of kids defending themselves in a fight, or teary-eyed teens contemplating suicide. Jaylen Arnold should be commended for the mental fortitude he has displayed by not only admitting to being a victim, but by forging ahead to form "Jaylen's Challenge Foundation."

Now, investing and money are things that few people, let alone kids, ever discuss. Why? Maybe they're scared. Or maybe it all sounds like adult stuff? You cannot hide or escape from money. We are going to talk about it a lot more in future issues. But seriously, how refreshing is it to see a 14-year-old like Warren Cassell, Jr. tackle it directly? Remember, grown-ups aren't a whole lot smarter than you. Consider this... the brilliant teen scientist Hannah Herbst has not only shaken hands with the President of the United States, she's had dinner with him, and I never have. It's also great to hear about kids like Genesis Diaz looking out for our four-legged friends when few of us care to, or of Logan Guleff, bringing a synergistic quality to the culinary arts. So, fear not... as Logan encourages us, "find your inner superhero" and take control!



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