

# The Plaid

## Celebrating Pride



Staff Writer,  
Megan Larsen

As one of the most considerable outlets for the LGBTQ+ community to express themselves freely, Pride Month is an important event to members of the queer community across the United States. In commemoration of the StoneWall Riots first anniversary, June 28th, 1970 became the start date for the first parades. Then, in 1999 & 2000 established by President Bill Clinton, June became known as "Gay and Lesbian Pride Month". A month where every person could show their pride in who they were and who they chose to love. Later on, during President Barack Obama's time in office, each year he declared June as "LGBT Pride Month". Now in today's society, parades and parties are thrown to march and celebrate for Pride.



lar quality or skill). The month of pride celebrates being comfortable in one's own skin. After the history and even present day oppression members of the LGBTQ+ have faced, the month of Pride throws parade after parade to toast to them and recognizes them as a big part of our society. Junior Aaliyah Famber is a part of the community voices that love attending these parades. Famber said, "I attend these parades to feel whole in my community and so I can feel like I'm apart of something bigger, to be around people who understand the struggles I go through as apart of the LGBTQ+ community." Marching in these parades empowers queer members with the same pride that has been stripped from them by America's society. To answer the question in a short, pride month surrounds the community with joy and love

to uplift them from the pain and shame they have been forced to endure.

What does Pride month celebrate? The textbook definition of pride reads as to be especially proud of (a particu-

The celebration not only inspires individuals to be themselves, but additionally to feel surrounded by love and kindness. Junior Kaia Greer, a member of the LGBTQ+ community expressing their supporting for these parades believes "pride parades give queer people the chance to express themselves freely, as well as meet people like themselves who they can relate with". Greer, who's birthday happens to fall on the first day of pride month, has attended many parades and say they felt "loved and supported" by everyone surrounding them. The true unconditional love that members of the community have for one another is beautiful. It is seen that no matter race, gender, who they love, how much money they make, or whatever could differentiate them. Members of the LGBTQ+ community understand what it



is like to feel extracized and treat those surrounding them with the same love and support they wish to receive.

Marching for pride, is marching not only to be prideful in oneself, but to be prideful in those surrounding the love as well. It is not only a day about loving yourself but about spreading love to those around you. Pride month is a month that can be "celebrated by anyone, so they

can come and be welcomed by love and kindness," according to Greer. Pride is not only for those who are queer but for everyone to celebrate and enjoy the love. Find a local pride parade in the area and feel just how much love there is.

## Juneteenth

Staff Writers,  
Lianna Smith and Kaylie Berry

Holidays like Christmas, Halloween, and Easter are widely known and appreciated by people around the world. Though these holidays do deserve to be celebrated, there are many that are overlooked or unknown. The main focus today is Juneteenth. With many people's lack of knowledge on this holiday, it's time to shed some light on its importance to the people. But what is Juneteenth?

To answer everyone's question, the holiday

Juneteenth is a day in June (June 19th) where the people acknowledge and celebrate the freedom of African Americans. "Juneteenth is acknowledged by 47 states and the District of Columbia, but it is not a federal holiday.

Many African Americans participate in Juneteenth celebrations, which include parades, rodeos, street fairs, family reunions, park parties, cookouts, and music festivals," cites the article "Juneteenth History: Why Doesn't Everyone Know about Texas."

Though African Americans are well past some of the harsher treatment they faced long ago it is still shocking to see that 3 states are against acknowledging Juneteenth when it's a day to not just celebrate African American freedom but African

Americans themselves. Many might not know the significance of this and tell African Americans "well you already have Black History Month, what more could you want?" But why should they have to settle with simply a month? A chapter if you would. There are many things African Americans have done and one month out of a year shouldn't be the only time African American achievements are taught about. There should be more people educated on the matter, to have it be taught in schools without having to take a specific class to know about African American

history, because it's just American history. Juneteenth carries so much presence with it, but it's so unknown. Many know

when their favorite holidays are coming due to media projection and being taught through family and school. But when a holiday is not shared or publicized it can be hard for people to know when different holidays are going on. Freshman Zohra Kunonga, said "Already as it is black people aren't celebrated in public widely. Also, many black people in history are known as people such as Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, and Rosa Parks. But there are a whole bunch of people that many don't know about

because America's history has taught that it was all a bunch of white people, but a lot of black people have done things in the past but they don't teach that in school." But Kunonga was not the only one with an opinion. Freshman Ayanna Campbell, had this to say, "I think it's not that common due to what it's about and I guess the subject could make people uncomfortable even though it shouldn't. But where we live, it would make most people uncomfortable so they don't talk about it as much, with people saying "it's setting us back, guys! we shouldn't talk about it."

Following up with Juneteenth not being widely known, many share a similar opinion. In the article "Why's it taking so long for some of us to find out about Juneteenth?" written by Kyla Wright, she says, "We as a people are lacking education on a holiday that's supposed to be ours in our classrooms and our communities. 'There's so much vital history that school textbooks leave out, especially when it's about African-Americans.'"

As Juneteenth is unknown, many express their opinions on this matter. Kunonga said, "I feel a lot of people's holidays need to be known so we can know each other more, so we can understand each other more, like where we come from and so we can help find each other's common ground and to be able to have more peace or love for each other."

Kunonga's message is true: how can the people grow as a community if they don't understand each other? They

have been going in the same cycle for a long time with very little change, but if they can all just stop and start putting other people's feelings into consideration the world would be a much better place. Nowadays having feelings and showing emotions is seen as being "weak" but it is a natural way to express oneself and when we can get past this, then maybe we can grow as a community.

Going back to Juneteenth not being widely publicized, it goes the same way for many African American achievements and

history. Many of the events that happened in history are being sugar-coated and made to seem that everything worked out in the end. But this is not the case for every event and many black inventors who have had their credit overlooked or forgotten entirely. There are traffic lights invented by Garrett Morgan, automatic gear shifts invented by Richard Spikes, Laser Cataract re-

moval surgery by Patricia Bath, and many more. They aren't looking for credit and praise, but just for the general population to know that they did something. With Juneteenth being severely overlooked it deserves to be widely recognized just like many other known holidays. It is not just a remembrance of the past but to show and start the growth of the present. Juneteenth is a very important holiday for people to celebrate with it acknowledging essential times within history.



# Into The Rabbit Hole

## Senior's Doorways Of Memories

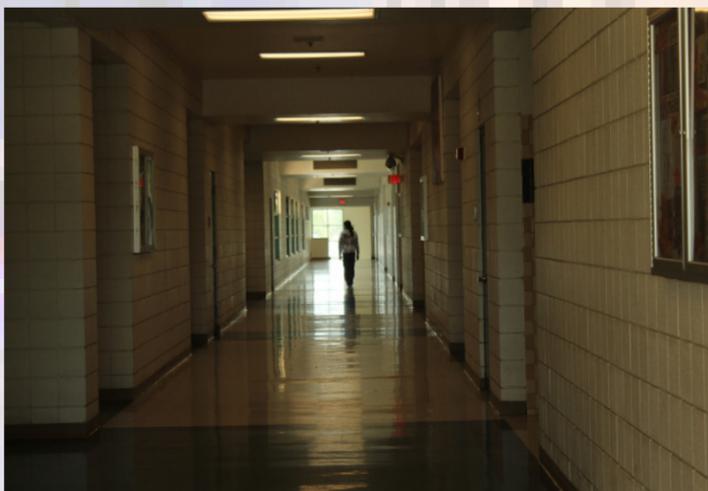
## Achievements Through the Years

Staff Writer:  
Dani C.

As Seniors come to an end of their high school years, they are going down memory lane. Seniors were given the opportunity to walk the halls of the elementary schools that they once ran across when they were younger. From walking the elementary school halls to walking across a stage to receiving their diploma is no small victory. Class of 2022 seniors gave us insight down their memory lanes.

Upland High School's Varsity Water-polo and Swimmer, Aylinne Bueno, has been

a part of Water Polo for three years. She said, "I'm going to miss going to In-N-Out after every swim meet." One of her favorite memories from high school was being able to be on Water Polo and part of Swim, but she is looking forward to her future outside of the high school. High schoolers each have their own cliques and clubs, so every senior will have a different perspective on their memory lanes. Garcia



said, "I'm going to miss my friends and being chased by proctors on campus." An important thing to remember is that there's more to high school than just grades; you want to be able to walk across remembering all of the fun moments. Addi said, "I'm looking forward to going on trips after I graduate." Seniors are officially free to continue their education or adventures. Some seniors are excited to go to college to pursue sports or other interests, while

others are looking forward to creating new memories on adventures. Senior said, "I was a part of Varsity Basketball, I'm going

to miss the involvement of being a part of staff." As seniors remember their past, some realize this is the last time they'll do certain things. She said, "The class settings, teachers, the presence of being here, the presence of being around everyone... I'm gonna miss it." This is not the end of memory lane, it's the start of a new path down it.

## Character Development

Staff Writer:  
Cameran Wilson

When you are close to the end of something exciting, it is sometimes fun to look back and see how far you've come. In literature or fiction, someone growing up and slowly changing over the course of a long run is referred to as character development. For high school seniors, it should be important to look back at their very first day attending high school and see how much they've changed since. From personality to appearance, or just overall performance in high school, it is common for everyone to change drastically in the long run.

It is good to change in a familiar environment, especially one you have been in for 4 years, because it is a part of being human. How have you changed in personality? How have you changed in academic performance? Most have changed since their very first day in high school, some minimally and others drastically.

It is interesting to compare how one was in their early teen years to how they are now as a young adult. High school may appear very stressful to some and maybe that could have taken a toll on a person over the past 4 years. Regardless of how someone has changed or not, it is at least great to have changed at all in the 4 years. Normally in fiction, character development is seen in creating fictional characters with the same complexity and

depth as real human beings, which means that it should be common for most people to change. There are numerous character traits that any person can develop over the course of a 4 year span, and they can often differ since their very first day at high school.

As stated in an article from University of California, "It has long been believed that people can't change their personalities, which are largely stable and inherited. But a review of recent research in personality science points to the possibility that personality traits can change through persistent intervention and major life events." Major life events in high school such as field trips, sports in P.E., and/or academic success can lead to character development. By the end of high school it is likely that seniors have an understanding of the importance of their experience and are glad that it determined their future. In their first day of high school they were probably oblivious to what would become of them 3 years later.

As Senior, Michael Harwich states, "I feel like I know the campus better. I've also learned a lot throughout my years." Perhaps they will go through more character development in their days of college or adulthood in general. Here, seniors have had their first chance at developing their personality through their high school years. Now it's time for them to step into a new phase in life. Welcome to adulthood.

Assistant Editor:  
Thomas Wingert

Seniors have finally met the end of their high school experience and many have achieved so much throughout those 4 years. From the start of their high school journey, all the way up until now, many have accomplished many feats and achievements. These accomplishments can help students to move on during the final moments of high school. These achievements allow students to look back and not have regrets.

The seniors have all been through their own experiences and situations and were able to tackle those challenges to get where they are today. Their achievements are like milestones that show what they were able to accomplish in certain times of their lives. When asked about what his proudest achievement was, senior Peterson Chiu said, "The achievement that I am the most proud of would be my recent job; I was able to leave a good impression with everyone." Chiu was able to leave his work satisfied that his co-workers



were happier because of him. This alone is a great accomplishment in itself because he was happy about others' satisfaction rather than his own. Chiu

also said, "Something that I've earned that means a lot to me was the amount of friends outside my grade level I've made within my senior year." Chiu was able to go and meet new people and befriend them, older or younger, expanding his social skills while also having more people to laugh and smile with.

A senior by the name of Mateo Rivas also has many achievements and accomplishments to reflect on. He has been through many phases and has learned a lot about many different cultures and styles of sports. "In boxing I got my first body shot on one of the coaches and it winded him. It made me feel good 'cause I've been working hard to improve my punching power," says Rivas. He has worked long and hard to achieve better results each time he trained. He also said, "over the years I've been deciding on what to do by trying out many sports and activities, then I found boxing and I just fell in love. I love the workout and I love the satisfaction it gives." Rivas was able to accomplish finding a passion and pursuing it. It may have taken him going through many sports and activities to get it, but he is now happy doing what he loves best.

Being able to end the final moments of high school without regrets is the best accomplishment one can have. As seniors finally see the end, they can now look back at all of the milestones and achievements that they have earned and use them as motivation; or simply something to look back on and laugh and smile at with themselves and their friends.

## Where do you see Yourself?

Staff Writer:  
Mia Menacho  
Staff Writer:  
Juan Campos

Upland High School is wishing the class of 2022 goodbye this year. Time flies and people get lost in it and believe that they are still the sophomore they once were. These seniors are going to give us feedback on how they feel about all this and if they are prepared for the next chapter in their lives.

Senior Alex Kolisar is graduating from Upland High School this year and spoke about his senior year and what he has planned for the future. Kolisar's favorite memory at Upland High was going to school events like homecoming and prom with his friends. Kolisar also enjoyed connecting with new people and making friends that he has gotten close with. Kolisar also spoke about what he's going to do after high school. His plan is to continue with school and go to Chaffey College, then transfer to Cal Poly Pomona for pharmaceutical sciences. Just in case things don't work out, Kolisar also has a back up plan to get a history teaching credential. Kolisar said, "History has always been a passion to me."

Although it's one of his last options, it's still one of his favorite subjects! Lastly, Kolisar wanted to give some advice

to future graduates and that is, "try your hardest now because that is what counts at the very end." Kolisar speaks on behalf of all graduates and seniors by saying this.

Senior Larissa Perez is a current senior who will be graduating this year from Upland High School. Perez will miss the friends she had made along the way and the teachers who helped her and encouraged her. Perez will miss experiencing football games and seeing the same faces in every class, but she is excited to join the explorers program at a 4 year college. Perez has her future planned out and wishes to become a crime scene investigator which has always interested her. Perez encourages people to try new things and not to be afraid of failure. Larissa Perez wishes everyone to enjoy these four years and tells people to not procrastinate and enjoy the memories with the people you care about.

Seniors will be saying goodbye to this school and everyone who contributed to be a part of their experience. These seniors know what their life is going to be like once high school is over and they are preparing for it. What the future has in store for them is all up to them and the



decisions they have made up until now. They will follow their dreams and become the people they wish to be and will become. Even if their high school experience was cut short, they made sure to make the most of it.



# Into The Rabbit Hole

## Pursuing The Future

Staff Writer:  
Isaiah Maniti

As the last few weeks are finally drawing in, seniors have continued to make a strong effort finishing their school year off as well as pursuing goals of their own for the future. Of course, it's times like these that some students take in the moment to reminisce about their prior moments of high school; be it from their time in freshman year, perhaps something fun they did with their classes during a certain time, or maybe a bad moment to think back on just to lightly vent and poke fun of. Regardless, it's good to have the time to reflect back on the yesteryears of the high school days, share stories about those days with friends and family, and then some more. Even so, students must press themselves onward in the time they have now to shape the future they wish to strive for.

With how little time left of school we have, it is exciting to know that senior students will be able to graduate soon; however, it is important to remember that life won't suddenly become an easy street from here on out. Not only is there testing to get done and over with, the life of being an adult is not something to scoff at. That

### Growing Up?

Staff Writer:  
Ashley Gudino

No matter what grade you are currently in high school makes you realize that your adult life is just a few years away. Which opens your eyes to the fact that most of the things needed to know about becoming an adult weren't taught to us. This can leave a huge impact on young adults because maybe they do what the people around who can teach them or might get themselves in a situation that requires them to know these skills which they do not have. Which brings the questions, who should be responsible, will getting this education from school help, and is it our responsibility to learn on our own.

"Education in school just prepares us for our careers. We don't learn anything about actual adulthood." Stated by Alana Reyes a junior at upland highschool. School has only been focused on education for career but we also need the proper education to be able to be lone adults with no need to have to depend on others to teach us how to be adults when we are already adults. This raises the question: should school be held responsible for teaching us the life skills needed for our adulthood? According to the article "#Adulthood 101 and Life Skills courses making a comeback?" the author states "Many parents feel that it's the school's responsibility and, due to the generational shift that led us to our current reality, often don't realize schools don't teach these skills until it's too late." Even some parents think that we should fit these lessons into our education, but some might argue that it should be the parents responsibility to teach their child these things. When asked if we should be getting these skills from our parents Reyes states "Yes we do learn these life skills by seeing our parents. However there are some things we just need to be taught to do so we don't mess our lives up."

If we don't get these classes for life skills for students what should be taught. When asked what should be taught to students to prepare them for adult life Reyes states "we need life classes to teach us how to do well in jobs or get jobs, taxes and bills. We could also have classes on housing related things" As you can see if we got these classes we should be able to

being said, with the time students have now before graduation day happens, the most important note to keep in mind now is to make a strong academic effort until the last few days swing by. Keep up the good work in getting A's or B's; in doing so, students can have a better chance of achieving their future goal. As senior student Tenny puts it, "I plan on attending UCI, working towards an engineering degree so for now I'm keeping up my senior grades, attending webinars/tours of UCI to prepare me for the college transition." With that much a senior student like him is trying to work up towards for the future, it'll be a huge accomplishment with a great payoff once he reaches that goal. Setting out for big goals and accomplishing what needs to be accomplished in the present time is one thing, but it's also good to backpedal a bit and look back to the past.

For many students, whatever grade they may be, school ending is definitely a time to be thrilled for. No more school, no more busy online or hands-on busy work; just absolute bliss to walk out of the school campus and be completely finished with the school year knowing that there

fully care and provide for ourselves for adulthood from taxes to bills and even household chores.

When people turn 18 they are seen as adults, and are expected to automatically know how to act and live like one. Which many can say is unfair due to the fact that we are not taught most of the things needed to be an adult. So are these expectations too high? When asked, Reyes states "When we turn 18 we don't automatically just learn to be adults. It doesn't change that you are still young and growing at 18." Everyone is constantly learning from what they experience, and just because we are legal adults does mean that we have learned it all. When asked about her personal experience with the education system and how it has prepared her so far she states; "For myself I've learned adult life is truly hard and sometimes growing up is scary. Our education system needs fixing but it'll never be as hard and hard to keep up as an adult."

As you can see growing up is hard, scary and difficult. Especially when we don't get taught these skills in school which are meant for learning and teaching. Some students might be excited for adult life and some might not but our adult life is just around the corner. We need these lessons to insure that we don't make mistakes and we can become proper adults.



won't be anything to deal with. Others on the other hand may miss being at school for one reason or another, which could be something plain and simple or perhaps a deep connection between with other students and teachers. Senior student and football player Guy Crawford stated that, "It was a nice learning experience. I learned my strengths and weaknesses, and also got to know what life meant. I found Jesus while I was in high school, and so he really changed me more than anything. I will miss the laughs and talks with my friends that I have so fondly." It's nice to make the most of going through school as an experience for multiple things, especially when sharing those experiences with friends, old and new. Although seniors will have to take that next step into



life once graduation passes, many of them will have something to think back on all the good and the bad that came with it for others to hear in future generations.

Senior students will move onto the next stage of their lives, making their own decisions as to what they want to do with their lives now in order to shape their future. School will no longer be the one thing keeping them busy on a daily basis, but at the very least, those moments will continue to be their most memorable parts of their more youthful years.

### Four Year Flashback

Staff Writer:  
Garrett Sepulveda

As the school year of 2022 comes to an end, our graduating seniors prepare to leave our campus and start their new lives, whether it be through college or university, or just moving straight into the workforce. We say goodbye to our seniors with one final look back on their time here at Upland High.

**Prom 2021** - After more than a full year of being separated from their peers, students finally gathered in one place to celebrate finally being reunited with their friends. Students were heartwarmed as they hugged and greeted those that they missed most.

**Freshmen Tailgate** - This year's freshmen tailgate was one of the first events that members of the link crew were able to work in over a year and a half. Students enjoyed games and food as they waited for our football team's first home game.

**Yearbook Signing** - Many students found the last yearbook signatures they got to be their main sense of motivation in the midst of the pandemic. Senior Keo L. appreciates this important high school factor because "it gave you a last look on what the overall year with your friends, teachers, and new people you got to meet was like" These signatures served as strong reminders that students have friends and peers that care about them and can't wait to see them when the world returns the the slightest sense of normalcy.

**The Pandemic Itself** - This journey was seen as both a gift and a curse depending on which side of the spectrum you lied on. Though the start of quarantine was dreadful as students and their families were sent into hiding as the world had seemed to have flipped upside down, many used this time to reflect and improve themselves. For many, this time was where students experienced the most personal growth as their views and talents shifted depending on how they were affected by the tragic occurrence that was the coronavirus. Overall quarantine gave many individuals the opportunity to complete goals they wouldn't have been able to achieve otherwise.

**Fusion Fest 2019** - This event acted as a way to expose students to the various and diverse arts programs that take place at Upland High. This gave the opportunity for many to uncover a new passion for something that they may not have discovered otherwise. Seniors in many arts programs offered at upland are thankful that they were given the opportunity to experiment their skills in a new field that they learned to thrive in.



**Homecoming Game 2018** - At this point our current senior football players and marching band members were playing at their first homecoming game. Senior band member Devin exclaimed that "The Upland Highland regiment had spent hours preparing our field show, "Elsewhere", and bonding with each other on 12 hour competition days". This was one of the big turning points for our marching band, all of their hardworking hours would all amount to this one field show. Through their shared feelings of exhaustion they had bonded not as friends but as family. Many members of band would agree that through the trials and tribulations of these performances, this was where they would see that all of their hard work had finally paid off.



# Editorials

## High School Films' Clash with Culture

Staff Writers,  
Alessandra Sandoval and  
Angelica Gordon

Disguised with a purple veil and sunglasses, a guy calls out in the middle of the crowd at a girl in the front of a female assembly, "She doesn't even go here." At the sound of such a line, a lightbulb immediately lights up in our minds shining the words Mean Girls. It gives an example to the many iconic lines living and breathing in our society due to the production of high school movies rising to become classics leaving an effect on pop culture and overall general society.

High school is the epitome of memories and the pinnacle of a neutral ground held by everyone. Although to each their own in experience, it is something that binds any person together due to the specific qualities it retains. Ms. Sage, a US and World History Teacher, said, "Everybody in America for the most part goes to high school, it's mandated by law, so it's a common experience. These years in high school are when you start to create your own opinion, maybe break away from the

starting to question them at the very least. You start to do more independent and critical thinking, maybe you go that direction, maybe you don't and this is the stage of your life that you do that." Blossoming into the person one fortifies or desires to be is a key aspect of high school. Junior, Ethan Gonzalez said, "I think high school is a big part of our coming-of-age era, I guess it's kinda where we embark on all these different adventures and experiences, all at once in a span of just four years and it's kinda just a lot placed in those four years that you experience. There's so many people



values of the adults in your life. You're

you're surrounded by and you're kinda just part of this huge culture that's its own culture on its own to be honest because high school's - high school."

Tuning into a few hours into a screen turns into seeding and rooting experiences acting as gateways for others to gather understanding across generations. It acts as a time machine, an artistic artifact representa-

tive towards the past, and a fun lens on the

present. Sage said, "A lot of the nineties was consumerism since the economy was growing with the growth of the internet and there was a lot of that in the fashion and materialism shown in nineties movies you know you look at history and be like that's why it influenced that."

Although not always personally relatable, classic high school movies in-

stead create relativity. It stands in the embodiment of friends reciting lines at times without context, catching on immediately and the feel-good aura it preserves. Referring to Mean Girls, Gonzalez said, "I think it's the culture of the movie and around the

time it was released, the actresses as well, and I guess the stereotypical high school - cliqueness of the groups: it's the mean girls, it's the jokes, and it's the nerds, and I think the stereotypes are just funny and comedy...being in high school, it can be cliquy sometimes. Obviously not as distinctive as jocks, cheerleaders, and nerds, but there is diversity inside cliques and different types. It's just not as boxed as it's portrayed in movies." Highlighting the energy classics as such carried, elaborating on the nineties movie, Clueless, Sage said, "I wanted Cher's wardrobe so badly, but I think I liked the friendship that the three girls had."

Some of the most iconic movies



are based off of high school like 16 Candles, Clueless, or even a more obvious one High School Musical. This list continues on and all of them have one thing in common: clichés like the "cool kids," "nerds," or even "jocks". Lots of people get some kind of impression from these movies. Freshman, Celeste Maloncon said "people do kind of have their own little cliques that they stay in... I don't think it's to the extreme of how they have in Mean Girls and everything though." When growing up, many hear how once in high school everything changes, especially the people one chooses to be around and how this is going to be the time of one's life. We see these events like risk taking or even just having fun taking place in movies like Highschool Musical 2 when Troy and Gabriella decide to live a little and have a date while at their job. While this event did have consequences they both got a memory that will soon last a lifetime. Freshman, Angelina Cryer said "these kinds of movies teach us a lot in a way... almost like a guide to what is to come." They show teens to just ask someone out, study for that test, or even go to that one party because in the end they only have one life and need to live it.

## Cultural Diversity in Education

Staff Writer,  
Dani Varela

As the years go by, society is becoming increasingly diverse. Drexel University in the article "The Importance of Diversity & Cultural Awareness in the Classroom" states, "In 2014, U.S. public schools hit a minority majority milestone with Latino, African-American, and Asian students having surpassed the number of white students." It is predicted by the U.S Census that by 2044, over half of the United States will be people of color. More than ever, it's beneficial to be educated on different cultures around the world, but what exactly is cultural diversity?



Cultural diversity essentially describes the differences within peoples' looks or beliefs. Contributor Deanna DeBara from the article "Everything You Need to Know about Cultural Diversity in the Workplace" says, "Sociologist Dr. Caleb Rosado, a leading expert in multiculturalism, defines cultural diversity as '...a system of beliefs and behaviors that

recognizes and respects the presence of all diverse groups in an organization or society, acknowledges and values their socio-cultural differences, and encourages and enables their continued contribution within an inclusive cultural context which empowers all within the organization or society." There are various topics that tie into cultural diversity. Maria Kampen, a writer from the article "7 Ways to Support Diversity in the Classroom" says cultural diversity "includes many different factors:

race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, ability, age, religious belief, or political conviction." Cultural diversity is important in the classroom because it allows students to recognize and accept the differences that exist around them. Without diversity, people would never be comfortable in being themselves in fear of being judged. "Essentially, cultural diversity is about bring-

ing people together from a diverse set of backgrounds and cultures, then creating an environment that not only recognizes the differences between those cultures and backgrounds, but celebrates them. It helps create a safe space for people to be authentically themselves," deBara added. In addition, cultural diversity also prepares students for a more diverse workplace in the future. Drexel University's article also states, "It also teaches students how to use their own strengths and points of view to contribute in a diverse working environment." Lastly, students gain a better understanding of others and



become more empathetic towards them. "It allows them to empathize with people different from themselves since they're more aware of the experiences someone of a different race or cultural group may face," says Drexel University. There are many ways to encourage diversity in a classroom. It's important to expose students to new ideas and cultures. "Work with your teachers to see if you're representing a wide range of voices in

the curriculum. If possible, teach literature from authors of color," writer Maria Kampen adds. Another way to promote diversity is getting to know and understand your students individually. Kampen said, "Take the time to learn about your students: Where do they come from? What kind of socio-economic situation do they live in, broadly speaking? Are they meeting academic achievement standards, or are they struggling? Do they get along with their peers?" Lastly, being able to notice and stop inequality within a classroom will prevent any mishaps between students. "Part of supporting diversity in the classroom is creating a safe space for students

and educators to talk about how issues of discrimination affect them on a personal, classroom- and school-wide level," Kampen states. Understanding how to incorporate diversity into a classroom is critical to student success. Working to include diversity into learning materials from staff and students as well as encouraging sympathy and respect for students is key to creating a safe and happy learning environment for all.

# Features

## Community Collage vs. University

Staff Writer:  
Samia Gazi

As the end of the school year approaches quicker and quicker, nearly every single senior has or is getting prepared to go off to college. Exploring why exactly they all chose the colleges they did. Is that particular college specialized in their major field? Or was it where they wanted to travel to? Or maybe they wanted to get into a world renowned college.

It's as clear as day that deciding your future and applying to colleges isn't an easy task. There are so many things to take into consideration. Among these are student loans, if traveling is necessary and how far, dorms, and if they are even ready to be on their own. Many have to choose between schools because of situations like these. Senior Cole Bray, stated, "I was accepted into Boise State and Oregon State, but decided to go to Chaffey College instead." Although Boise and Oregon are good choices for what Bray is hoping to study for, mechanical engineering, he is choosing to stay here because it's cheaper

and he doesn't have to move away from home or worry about a dorm.

Some have high expectations for themselves to make it into a four year university as soon as they graduate high school. Whereas others would much rather go to a community college and get their general education finished before starting their major. According to the article "Community College vs. University: Pros and Cons" there are several reasons why some choose a university over a community college, one of those being the lack of competitive sports teams. They stated, "Community colleges typically don't have competitive sports teams. If you played sports in high school and want to continue to do so in college, you may want to consider a four-year university." For those who want to pursue a career in a sport, choosing a community college might not be the best because some of the best and well known sports teams are from Universities. Of course there are always pros and cons to every decision. One of the pros of going into a community college is that it's

Some community colleges do not require an essay to be submitted along with any standardized tests. Obviously these are just a few points that some seniors would take into account when trying to figure out where to apply.

Although someone that has decided to pursue their future in a university is Senior, Jacob Mendez, who has chosen Cal State Fullerton. Mendez was accepted to not only Fullerton but also to San Marcos. His reason for choosing Fullerton was, "I wasn't all that amazed at San Marcos, but it was the complete opposite when I tried Fullerton." Of course the campus wasn't the main factor of why Mendez chose Fullerton. He did his research and found out it has a good pre-business program to



preference of staying close to home. One of those being the potential to still live at home. They stated, "Live at home, and you'll save over \$40,000. [...]home cooked meals and seeing your pets."

There is no right or wrong answer of which type of schooling to go into. The choice differentiates everyone. Everyone has different reasons for why they choose a community or university close to home or in another state.



extremely inexpensive in comparison to going to a university. The article states, "The average cost for a private four-year university is \$37,650 per year." Whereas the yearly cost for community colleges is an average of \$5,000-\$6,000.

Another pro is that there are fewer people in classes along with an easy application process.

major in along with making sure he was still close enough to home. Mendez shares that same thought process with many seniors today. So many of them want to stay close to home. According to the article, "Why You Should Consider Going To College Close To Home" it included a multitude of reasons why some may have the



## Upland Meets Met Gala

Staff Writer:  
Samia Gazi

As the end of another year approaches, students will be making a quick stop at the Met Gala before it's time for graduation gowns and goodbyes! ASB announced this year's prom theme to be Met Gala: A Starry Night on April 12th. Thus, commencing both a fashion rivalry and a fit over how to dress. Although so many of our high school years feel insignificant, memories made from nights like prom push the high school experience to feel more memorable and valuable. Preparations for prom have been colliding with crams for exams. Naturally, students are overwhelmed, but ready for relaxation after a non-stop, jam-packed year. During the past few months, students have had to combine and balance academics with prom preparations. Junior, Giselle Avila put it this way, "It's hard and one has to be sacrificed a bit for the other but prom shopping brought fun during a stressful time." Clearly, it's been a whirlwind of a time to prepare for prom. On the other hand, Avila emphasized, "I love dress shopping and planning with friends, it's so uniting and fun."

We all know the theme, love it or hate it. However, when the big day came, students noticed the lack of decoration in accordance



with the theme. All this fuss about "A Starry Night" but not a single star was to be seen in sight. On the bright side, with three stories, prom at the California Science Center gave students a chance to roam around. From ping pong to shuffleboard, the second floor provided a space of leisure from the mosh pits and mayhem downstairs. Sadly, there could not be a photo booth, but the unique arcade space made up for it. Upland High students did not disappoint in the fashion department. Any color you could imagine, someone was adorning it. Long trains to colorful suits were more popular this year and stood out from the crowd. Props to students for their fashion sense!

Although opinions on the music choice varied, the DJ played songs like Party in the USA by Miley Cyrus and Hypnotize by Notorious Big which were Upland-approved. Students relayed that the inclusion of hispanic music embodied their picture of prom. Other favorites were Yo Perro Sola by Bad Bunny, Best of Both Worlds by Hannah Montana, and anything by Pitbull.

Whether it was the general uniting ambience of having people you love around you or the preparations that anticipated the event, prom gave students a magical night and lasting memories.

## Body Image and Youth

Staff Writer:  
Liyah Sera

As of recently, many teenagers in this generation seek what is known as the "ideal body." The height of social media and societal pressures have inundated young individuals for decades. According to the Teen Health and The Media Education website, more than 78% of teenagers have some sort of body insecurity by the age seventeen. Although these statistics are jarring in retrospect, teens are finding ways to create a healthy and intuitive relationship with their mind and body while still acknowledging the overall thoughts of body insecurity and what it means to love yourself. Some may question where this body insecurity

is coming from and why teens are so overwhelmed by the way they look. A common consensus is generational influence and how parents push a narrative of what they expect their children to look like from young ages. Upland High School senior, Macky Freeman, explained that "I am in a healthy and loving space with my family, but when my dad lost weight he became very concerned about getting us down to a certain weight. However when we go to the doctors I feel like they gave us the same answer without helping in any way." While parents don't intentionally want to make their children have body image issues, the generational cycle influences parents to have twisted views on how someone should look.

This generational cycle affects the outside world and shapes society's expectations. When these negative beliefs become mass influences on society, they can develop into standards that many young adults and children think they must abide by. This may lead to pessimistic perspectives on an individual's self confidence—especially when people realize they cannot conform completely to the present standards. Sophomore, Hayden Gonzalez, noted that "Opinions never affected me when I was younger but when I started getting older, [it is now] harder to ignore comments like



that and you start forming little things you see about yourself." Though we tend to focus on the negatives, being able to

grow as a person from these experiences can be the most rewarding. Making the best out of the worst situation is what is admirable for the current generation. Senior, Devin Perez, added that "although you feel like the comments you hear are the end of the world, there are more positives than negatives and there are so many supportive people who will always be on your side." Learning how to love yourself can be very rewarding and will be the stepping stone to growing as a person. Although people may experience some sort of body image issues in their lifetime, body issues will never hold weight to who one is as a person. What seems to be harsh is easily fixable if people start becoming more accepting to any and every size.

the

## Met Gala

invites you to a ...

### Starry Night

May 14th, 2022  
8:00 pm - 12:00 am

The California Science Center  
~Almanson Building~

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hugged and  
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# Features

## Summer Job Profiling



Staff Writer

By: Kaylie Lara-Villagrana

Back in older generations such as the 1940s and 1950s, children as young as eight or nine would have to go to work in order to help take care of themselves and support their family. Throughout the years, we as a society have diverged from having younger children work. Yet so many young adults strive to have a job at such young ages, especially in recent generations. Therefore the question arises: How different is Generation Z from the previous generations in regards of obtaining and working a job? What is the reasoning behind this new drive from teenagers to have a job of their own? And how beneficial is it really for an individual when it comes to a student who has to balance school, work, and possibly sports all together?

Although one of the main benefits that drives individuals to work a job would be the pay, it also benefits other aspects such as character building and independence. Bella Llamas, a senior at Upland High School had this to say about the gains from holding a job: "It teaches independence and offers an opportunity to make money." In the current generation, there are many students who



strive for independence by the time they reach high school. Therefore by experiencing the work environment, not only will they obtain the commonly sought after independence, but also profit from their hard work by the end of the month. Though these gains do not come easily, especially for those who are new to the workforce. "Many teens come into jobs with no experience. Most places

for students would hire anyway—just be prepared to learn...come in with confidence," Llamas comments. With an open mind and a willingness to learn from your peers, getting the hang of a job will come in due time.

By working a job, it not only prepares one through character building, but also equips them with skills that are needed when an individual reaches adulthood. Based on experience, Makayla Gomez from Alta Loma High School states, "It benefits us to get familiar with the working life and to see how it will be. It gives us experience and professional social interaction

which also looks good on resumes."

When equipped with prior experience in the work environment in regards to experience and social skills, it better prepares the individual for future occupations that require these skills. Adding onto this statement, Llamas also agrees that an occupation during school or over the summer provides, "social skills and problem solving skills." However, even if these skills are an added bonus from working a job, many students do not have the time for a job due to their own personal workload or after-school activities. Despite this concern, Llamas says this in



regards to whether or not a job can take time out of one's day or summer: "Most jobs are flexible with hours and you may create a schedule that will work for you". Although a job can create a more compact schedule, many job offers will recognize that as a student there is more responsibility towards schooling or sports activities. Therefore

many jobs will help create a schedule that works best for everyone involved.

When applying for a job, there also comes the compilation of going in for the interview or the stress of having to manage a teenage life along with other outside activities. Despite this, Llamas expresses her point of view as a student-athlete who also manages a job both during and out of school, "Work is a great thing to improve life skills; learning to balance it is one of many skills. Be aware of your schedule and make sure you balance both school, work, and sports correctly." Working over the summer or during school can be a difficult feat for many to handle, but it is also a good method towards gaining the experience that is expected as students get older. As final words of advice when going into the workforce for the first time, Gomez states, "Be yourself and confident and what happens is meant to be."



## Research of Higher Education

Staff Writer

By: Ace Davila

Community colleges used to have a reputation for not being as academically serious as four-year universities.

But with that, there have been a lot of sources saying otherwise. The Education Corner says, "A lot has changed in the world of community colleges. Most importantly, academic standards have risen, as have the qualifications of the teachers." That being said, the choice of going to a community college or a university depends on the plan of higher education. At community colleges, the education is comparable to that of what someone could get at a university, and the times are more flexible. Education Corner says, "The quality of education is comparable to traditional institutions of higher education."

Some students are still gravitating toward wanting to go to a four-year university and not a community college. It could be for many different reasons, like parents pressuring them into it or because of the other things that the university has to offer. For example, sports or the extensive campus facilities could be a draw. There are a



lot of things that could be better about a university, like how it is easy to find information about the school. Universities work hard to get the attention of students around the world. So finding

information about a four-year university could be easy. Mwcc.edu's article "Community Colleges vs. Universities" says, "Finding information about four-year universities is simple because the schools often go out of their way to contact prospective students."

There are also cons to going to a community college. One of the cons of going to a community college is that if someone goes to a community college, they will likely need more education. Mwcc.edu's article "Community Colleges vs. Universities" said, "Community colleges focus on providing basic education, associate degrees, and career certificates." With that being said, if someone wants to have a job that requires a bachelor's degree after going to a community college, they would have to go to

a university in addition to community college.

Universities also have pros and cons. For example, some of the pros of going to a university include getting more money at a job, being able to secure specialized jobs, and being able to gain work experience. However, there are some drawbacks, such as larger classes, being in debt, having to devote a significant amount of time to studies, and the fact that it can be extremely

overwhelming.

The choice of going to a community college or a university all really depends on the job. For instance, if someone was going to be a flight attendant they will not need to go to a university. But if they wanted to be a Financial manager they would have to go to university.



# Features

## Plans For the Summer

Isabella Roccia,  
Staff Member

As summer is quickly approaching everyone is getting ready for the end of the school year. Finals are arriving and students are preparing. But students also would rather be thinking about their summer vacation and plans for this year. Whether they wish to go to a different state or country, or would rather stay home and relax, there are endless possibilities of activities for students to participate in this summer. Finally getting to relax and take a break from a busy school year there are many ideas everyone is already starting to plan to do with their friends and family. One can have fun this summer by themselves or with others. As discussed by Camille Styles in her article, 25 Fun Things to Add to Your Summer Bucket List, she gives many different examples of simple and fun activities one can participate in this summer. Camille Styles even says,



“making memories doesn’t have to be a big production. With a little intentionality, we can turn normal days into unforgettable ones.” By this, she really means that maybe summer 2022 will be an opportunity to try new things and go to different places, or maybe it will be a summer full of traditions and comfort. Making memories and having fun this summer in your own way is how you may have the most fun.

No matter how big or small the activity is or how many people there are with you, all activities this summer are something to look forward to and be excited about. Some of the most popular activities people will definitely be seen participating in

going swimming at the pool, especially in the effort to cool down because the obvious heat is something we are destined to see this summer. Out of state is a popular affair many people are going to be taking place in this year. Junior, Bella Fiorindo talks about how she is excited to go out of state to visit family and how she is a fellow participant in going down to the beach as she says, “I would like to go to the beach a lot this summer.”



this year which may occupy most of their

Although, some students will still be participating with our school this summer. Summer school, sports, marching band, there are many activities people are still involved with this school that will be with our school that they are looking forward to. There are many other people who are also getting ready for college and will be spending their summer preparing for going away to college. Whether it is shopping for their dorm or getting invested early in the school’s area to adjust to this new change in their lives. And there are other students looking for jobs for the summer. Just to have extra money, to start preparing for college, or to help family, there are many students getting ready to have a summer job

time. Junior Samantha Lopez plans this summer around getting a new job and hoping to get her to permit as well to eventually get their license. She is predicted to be busy this summer and is ready to “be more productive since [she will] be working and will want to prepare for my license.”

There are so many activities and different time-consuming fun that everyone is going to enjoy this year. With worrying less about covid, as most of us were last year, students can feel free to enjoy their summer without worrying too much. Spending it with friends and family, seeing friends at school, and practicing hard or working hard for a summer job are all great ways to spend your plans this year.

this year are going down to the beach, or

## Accomplishments On Letterman Jackets

Venecia Jacobo Martinez,  
Layout Editor

As the year comes to an end we are all looking back at all of our memories. Letterman jackets are a great example of good memories. Each patch added is another achievement. It shows how much a student was involved in school activities.

Senior Ma’kayla Harrison has continuously added to her jacket throughout the four years of high school. Since Harrison is very involved in school she decided to buy a letterman to show what activities and academics she’s participated in. Harrison said, “My favorite patch on my letterman jacket is my Academic U letter because it is one I worked extremely hard for during my High school career.” Harrison adds that she worked extremely hard for this patch, she earned it by maintaining a 3.5 gpa and above for four semesters. Harrison is a cheerleader and does have a patch for it. Harrison said, “The patch that took

me the longest to get was my varsity cheer letter patch which I waited 2 years for and received my junior year.” Harrison is very family oriented, her biggest accomplishment on her letterman jacket is being able to incorporate her grandmother, who has sadly passed away, Harrison said, “Representing my grandma was great, she play an extremely big role in my life so I decide to dedicate a patch to her.” Harrison’s jacket



will now be a happy memory of high school with all very well earned patches to look back on.

Senior Shyann Lopez has also been a very hard working student at Upland High. Lopez has been in honors classes and clubs on

campus. Lopez said, “I think my favorite patch on my letter man is the U, I like it because it reminds me of all of my memories at Upland.” As Lopez’s last year comes to an end her goals after high school are to go to fashion school. Lopez said, “I added a fashion patch because it is a big goal of mine, I’m really into fashion and would like to be a stylist after high school, so adding a patch for it is very important for me.” Lopez has worked on her letter man jacket for all four years of high school. Lopez said “I use my jacket to look back at things I did my freshman year, like receiving honor rolls both semesters. I am very proud of myself, and everything I’ve accomplished through my high school career.”

Senior year is the year to look back at great accomplishments and memories you’ve had in the passed four years. Letter man jackets are a great way to represent good highlights in high school.

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