

Purple Press

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Seniors March to the mailbox

Grace Bellamy
Staff Writer

On Friday, December 9th, the Open World Learning Community participated in, along with 16 other schools from across the country, in March to the Mailbox.



High schoolers cheering on the seniors

The ceremony kicked off when “Can’t Hold Us,” by Macklemore & Ryan Lewis started to play. The room burst into cheers as the seniors came into view, and made their way towards the stage. Principal Dave Gundale took the stage, and started his speech by thanking people - specifically those who worked behind the scenes, and helped the seniors with their application processes. He addressed the rest of the OWL student body by saying that the reason students come to school everyday is that they “are coming to work toward [the march].”

Then, assistant superintendent Theresa Battle gave



*The graduating class
College March continued on page 4*

Election: What’s good

Helena Squires Mosher
Staff Writer

On November 9th, OWL staff and students came to school with the knowledge that Donald J. Trump is our president elect. Republicans now control the Senate and the House of Representatives, and Democrats are stepping back to realize what went wrong, and what good comes out of it. Is there a silver lining to the election results?

First off, just because Congress is majority Republican, doesn’t mean it’s completely right-wing. Even though the Senate and House are majority red, the Democrats can still make visible changes. Down ballot from the presiden-

Electoin continued on page 5

What did the Dems do wrong?

Aurora Cordes
Staff Writer

As we all know, the Democrats lost big this last election. Or, the GOP won big - if by big, you mean losing the popular presidential vote and getting only 52% of the Senate. So, I decided - in the vein of the Republicans circa 2012 - to do a post-mortem on the Democrats.

What went wrong? I think the Democrats did a lot wrong. They were overconfident in their victory over someone they simply didn’t believe could win - and believed too much in the polls that showed a Trump victory comfortably within the margin of error. They were unenthusiastic about their candidate for president - and focused too much on said presidential candidate. “The Democrats just weren’t as enthusiastic about their candidate,” Sullivan said. “Whenever you make a race about the lesser of two evils, it’s not likely to inspire enthusiasm.” Sullivan also believes that the

Democrats cotinued on page 3

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Open News

Archery right on target

Veronica Rohde

Staff Writer

The OWL archery team began the season back in November, and practices every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and they have tournaments every Saturday. The Purple Press sat down with coach Mark Scioli back at the beginning of the season to talk about the team.

Q: How is the team looking so far?

Mark: "At the beginning of the year it's always hard to know how the team looks, but we have so many good archers coming back and about 20 new ones coming in."

Q: Who are some of the best archers?

Mark: "Top players are: Franklin Bajenske, Jacob Rohde, Marisol Adler-Espinosa, Emily Yang, Zoe Champion, Eli Mangan, and Rafael Espinosa."

Q: How many kids are on the team?



Owl archers shooting at the White Bear Growler tourney last January. Coach Mark in foreground.

Mark: "Right now I think we have about 40 team members."

Q: What are you most excited about this season?

Mark: "I'm always excited to start the season just to see who has gotten better. Everyone comes in better than last year. It's always exciting to see new kids come in to the team."

The first archery tournament hosted by White Bear Lake was on
Archery continued on page 3

Jazz choir, and the new café

Ingrid Ebbesen

Staff Writer

Once again, Alex has awakened from his slumber and assembled the jazz choir. This year, it's more active than ever before. I went to investigate reports of donuts and coffee emanating from the choir room.

Café Harmonie is a fundraiser from the open harmony choir that sells donuts, muffins, and hot drinks. "It's pretty cool," says 7th grader Fiona Connell, "I've never actually been through, so you probably shouldn't quote me." Overall, Café Harmonie has been one of OWL's most popular attractions, perhaps due to the sign looks like it says 'café harambe'.

The Jazz Choir (aka Open Harmony) is an exclusive, a cappella choir organized by Alex. 4 sopranos, 4 altos, 4 tenors, and 4 bases, and they perform jazziest and most classic tunes. Open Harmony is truly the cream of the OWL musical crop. A jazz choir alto, Kim Perez-Salazar says, "it's stressful at times, but really fun!" "The performances have been really good" said Abby, a 9th grader "there are some really dedicated people in jazz choir, which really contributes to the performance quality"

When asked about his future plans for the jazz choir, OWL's music

Jazz choir continued on page 11

Luke: From Hockey to History

Nora Leifheit
Staff Writer
Hockey Hair

/ˈHocke hæər/ Noun

A hairstyle typically worn short in the front, long in the back. “Woah, check out the hockey hair on that dude! Business in the front, party in the back, am I right?”

Synonyms: The Kentucky Waterfall, The Missouri Compromise, The Achey Breaky Big Mistakey, The Mullet.

Any hockey player worth his salt knows that good hockey hair can either make or break a game, but does it have a purpose? Our resident hockey hero, teacher Luke Turvold chimes in.

“Good hockey hair makes you look like you are skating faster than you actually are; so there is a legitimate reason as to why I may (or may not) have had it.”

Luke grew up in Red Wing Minnesota with his younger sister, his father and his mother. He said that he feels lucky to have grown up in such a loving place, and



Luke Turvold, the new social studies teacher

speaks fondly of his childhood. He spent his time either with friends and family, biking or reading. Around OWL Luke has developed himself quite the reputation for being a hockey whiz. In fact, Luke’s small town team went all the way to the State Hockey Tournament in (ask Luke what year), an achievement still boasted about in his hometown.

After high school Luke went to University of Minnesota Duluth with the goal of earning a business major, but through after-school programs

with elementary students realized that he wanted to be a teacher. He thinks that geography is part of our everyday lives, and that it challenges us to see the world through different perspectives. When interviewed, Luke said; “I’ve always been interested in why we do the things we do. I think geography can help us understand that.”

Luke started out teaching in the juvenile correction
Luke continued on page 10

Archery from page 2

Saturday the 7th. 36 out of 268 people in the tournament were from OWL and 2 people from our school won medals. Junior Marisol Adler-Espinosa, won 4th out of 56 in the high school girls division, and Ninth grader Jacob Rohde won 3rd out of 44 in the high school boys division.

The second archery tournament was on Saturday the 28th hosted by Chisago lakes. 364 kids were there total, 203 boys and 161 girls. The people who won awards at our school were Jacob, 1st place high school boys and 4th out of all 364 people, and 7th grader Ryuki Walker, 2nd place middle school boys and 10th place out of all 364 people.

The third archery tournament hosted by new Prague on Saturday the 4th. Jacob got 6th out of the 586 people competing. He place 2nd in the high school boys division.

The fourth archery tournament was held at Princeton on Saturday the 11th. Jacob Rohde placed 2nd out of 44 high school boys, and 2nd out of all 176 boys. Rafael Espinosa placed 4th out of 87 middle school boys and 13th out of all 176 boys. And Emily Yang placed 5th out of 50 high school girls and 6th out of 178 girls.

The fifth archery tournament hosted by Chaska on Saturday the 17th. Jacob got 1st place out of 48 high school boys and 1st out of all 110 boys. And 7th grader Pharrell Zens got 5th out of 45 middle school boys and 29th out of all 110 boys.

The next tournament will be tomorrow and will be hosted by owl in the humboldt gym.

Democrats from page 1

Democrats spread their resources ineffectively - going for states like Arizona and Georgia instead of focusing on the states they thought they had in the bag, like Wisconsin and Pennsylvania.

Well, how can they come back from this? “Start local,” social studies teacher Dan Sullivan says. “Build from the ground up - that’s what the Tea Party and Republicans did after the 2008 election.” Building a local base is crucial to national success - one of the reasons why the Green and Libertarian Parties gained little traction in the national arena is that they lacked an effective local base.

And where are the local Democrats going from here? DFL Communications Director Rachel Boyer says that “The DFL has been continually fighting for Minnesotans for 73 years,” and that “This last election didn’t go the way we wanted but our goal has always been to build a better Minnesota for all families and that work won’t stop now.” If Republicans could go from a seemingly crushing defeat in the 2012 Presidential Election, after which it was said that “The Republicans might never win the presidency again” to have the House, Senate, and White House in the 2016 elections, then it is possible for the Democrats to go from a razor’s edge defeat to total control of the federal government too. (100,000 more votes in the right places would have tipped the Electoral College in Clinton’s favor - winning Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania would take less than 100,000 more votes for Clinton)

Vikes give kicker the boot

Otis King and Isaac Moua
Staff Writers

Although it did little to bring them back into the playoff hunt, the Minnesota Vikings released kicker Blair Walsh. After his infamous missed 27 yard field goal in the playoffs last season against the Seahawks, it seemed Walsh totally lost all confidence in himself. His misses were factors in two important losses. He missed a total of 9 extra points



after touchdowns in his career leading up to his release. His total missed field goals for the 2015-16 season was 4. So Mike Zimmer has finally decided to get rid of him. The Vikings signed Kai Forbath from the Washington Redskins, who has a total of 69 made field goals including a 55 yard field

goal.

Blair Walsh is still young and has a chance to redeem himself. For the time being, however, he won't do it as a Minnesota Viking. After spending the season on the sidelines without a job, Walsh has been signed by the Seattle Seahawks.

We talked to football enthusiast Tom Totushek to hear his opinions on the matter. "Mike Zimmer gave him so many chances. Kai Forbath so far has not disappointed the Vikings in the slightest. He is 3 for 3 in field goals, but to be honest we don't know his extra point record with the Vikings, but we're guessing it's pretty good." He continued,



Blair Walsh kicking.

"I think it was the right move to let him go."

Opinions differ on the move, but the Vikings will be moving into the future without Blair Walsh.

College March from page 1

a brief speech. She congratulated the seniors on their accomplishments, and told them how important it is to take time to reflect during a period of transition. "You need to set new goals," said Theresa. "I'm so proud to be a part of this celebration and your hard work." John Thein, the interim superintendent for St. Paul Public Schools, also congratulated the seniors on their work towards what he said was the ultimate goal - a college diploma. "This is not the first step, but it is certainly not the last step," he warned them, before promising to be there at this year's OWL graduation. He was followed by an Outward Bound representative - a nod to the seniors who pioneered Expeditionary Learning at OWL.

The front rows were filled with parents, four of which chose to speak. They were all so proud of their students, and thanked the staff and community at OWL for all they had done. But they too acknowledged that not only was the day to celebrate the accomplishments of the senior class, it was to encourage younger students to follow in their footsteps. "I would like you to realize that the greatest opportunity education can provide is the opportunity for more opportunities," said OWL parent Rick Verner.

Senior Noah Rooze kicked off the student speeches. He told the audience of his plans, but also that he was unsure of his future. You don't have to know what you're going to do, he told the students, I wish someone had told me that. After that six other seniors spoke. Consistent with the theme of meaning to inspire the younger students, Grace Kellar-Long talked about what will happen, and prompted the students to look forward, "The truth is, this day is for you," she said.

The tradition of the March to the Mailbox was started in 2011, at Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School in New York City. Last year, 21 schools in 11 cities took part, with over 1,000 seniors mailing their application letters. In 2014, First Lady Michelle Obama joined a school in Washington DC on their March to the Mailbox. She gave a speech in which she praised the seniors, and encouraged the younger students. "This is where you want to be," she told them. This was a part of her Reach Higher initiative to get more kids into schools. OWL joined the tradition last year, wanting to honor their seniors' 100% college acceptance rate. "We wanted to find a way to celebrate our 12th graders accomplishments while inspiring our younger students to follow in their footsteps," said OWL's program coordinator Tim Leone-Getten.

cy, there have been historical wins, especially for women of color. For example, Ilhan Omar is the first Somali American elected to a state representative seat, and represents our very own Minnesota.

With such an unprecedented campaign to go against, Hillary Clinton, and Bernie Sanders, gathered a big and enthusiastic crowd of supporters, and those supporters aren't any less enthusiastic. A silver lining for this election is that people, especially young and minority voters, are being incredibly vocal about what they want to see change. Though Trump reached a lot of people, he also angered many. His potentially dangerous stances on issues like race and foreign relations have created an urgency for change. Now that he is president elect, people are very energized to get out to vote. OWL social studies teacher Dan Sullivan says, "Democrats need to have candidates selected that will energize the base to show up to the polls in 2018." If Dem-

ocrats can gain control of Congress in 2018, they'll have a huge advantage to turn the tides in politics.

This election has been a great opportunity to spur up conversations with people that have different views than us. At Open World Learning, being a very left-wing school, in a left-wing city, it can be hard to listen to and accept other people's opinions. "Our school is a relatively insulated place," says Luke Turvold, the new social studies teacher at OWL. "A lesson that I hope OWL students are able to take from this election is thinking about how we interact with groups and individuals who have different political views."

But if you still see no light at the end of this orange-faced, rigged tunnel, be your own silver lining. Email or write to Minnesota representatives about issues you're passionate about. Show up to protests. Donate to causes that you're passionate about. There are silver linings, and we will survive the next 4 years.

Bataan Death March to the Mailbox

Thomas Verner
Staff Spel Checker

OWL seniors partake in forced march, all but 46 perish.

On December 9th, OWLs graduating class was forced to march from their positions at Open School to the neighborhood house prison camp.



The Bataan Death March

Reports of individual survivors

have yet to appear, but official SPPS reports indicate that only 46 people out of the group survived.

The march came as a result of the OWL forces being captured by the advancing post secondary forces. The captive students were moved from their positions at Open World Learning to Neighborhood House Prison Camp. The group had to march over the course of a day in 7°F heat. They were given no breaks or rests, and anyone who couldn't keep up was left behind.

The post secondary forces have taken open school in their push out taking schools as they advance hopping from school to school.

The march began after General David Gundle surrendered and retreated. The Post Secondary forces gave commanders time to address their units, some gave rousing, optimistic speeches, and one thought he was being sent to

China for some reason. They were then forced out into the heat and made to march.

Their path followed the trails to the neighborhood house prison camp. Any students that couldn't march further were shot on the spot. As they marched they were subject to several forms of torture, including high fives and something the soldiers shakily referred to as drumming.

On their way the students were paraded around to the enemy forces, and were lead past Camp Riverview so the new recruits could see the captured students and subject them to more high fives.

Along the way all but 46 of them died, whether



OWL seniors at their march

they were rescued by the return of General Gundle.

due to the scorching 7°F weather, or the liberal use of high fives.

The remaining students stayed in neighborhood house until

Lip Synch Debate

Gender Norms

Matteo Vera
Staff Writer

Cis: Short for Cis-gendered, or someone who identifies with their sex at birth.

Drag: any clothing carrying symbolic significance but usually referring to the clothing associated with one gender.

When a person wears drag, they wear clothing usually associated with another gender. This could be a woman wearing typically masculine clothing, maybe with a fake beard, or a man wearing typically female clothing, maybe with some make up. In both cases it has the potential for humor. I personally find drag funny because it mocks traditional gender norms, and doesn't take itself too seriously. The concept that only one group of people get to wear one kind of clothing is frankly ridiculous and therefore mocking it is funny. In the context of our school lip sync battles it can also be funny to see someone being uncomfortable because of silly gender norms. Other people might find drag funny and think, "Look at how this guy is SO much worse at playing a woman, than a woman is! What a foolish man". My mom said that she finds drag funny because it can be an over the top portrayal of femininity and that she would laugh if a woman dressed like that. Drag has also been used for political reasons as a way to mock gender norms, for example RuPaul, a famous drag queen who participated in the 1993 gay and lesbian march on Washington.

Last month Aurora Cordes published an article where she argued that wearing or laughing because of drag in the lip sync battles is sexist, transphobic and should be stopped. Aurora quoted science teacher Megan Hall, who said that the issue with drag is that, "The idea that a man would debase himself by imitating a woman is laughable", implying that there is some sort of inherent superiority or that it's unbecoming for a male to portray himself as a female. Personally this is not why I find drag funny, it's about mocking the stupidity of gender norms and measure of solidarity with transgender people. It's about showing that you are comfortable in your gender and everyone should be able to be comfortable with their gender, free from discrimination or prejudice, regardless of whether or not it was their sex at birth. Aurora then argues that drag is transphobic because it portrays a caricature of a trans person that people laugh at. In my opinion, especially since we attend a very liberal school, if people are even laughing at someone, the person we are laughing at is the cisgendered person in drag, because they are uncomfortable wearing clothing that a courageous trans person, like Aurora, has to wear every day.

Aurora's article implies that anyone who has dressed

Lip Synch continued on page 10

Bias in the debate

Jude DeRango
Staff Writer

Many of us have known the situation on elementary school playgrounds, a harmless running race. Boys vs. Girls.

If the boy loses, he faces the taunting of his friends. "You got beat by a girl! how are you so weak, that a girl beat you in a race?"

If the girl loses the game, she faces the judgment of her peers, the fact that she lost can be used against the entirety of her gender; girls suck.

Nevermind that the male body is biologically built to be faster than the female's, it doesn't matter. Elementary schoolers have no concept of how hemoglobin, testosterone, and anatomical build affect performance. My grade school years felt like a constant passive aggressive gender battle, a struggle to find self validation through insulting others.

But sadly, It isn't just the elementary schoolers. This is a problem we carry into our teenage and adult lives. A problem of age old systematic barriers, misunderstandings, and bias.

As a society, we tend to hold minorities to a higher standard. Whether it's quality of work, (The wage gap) debate, (the presidential election; a woman was criticized for not being perfect and a man was praised for being not too bad) peaceful protesting, (people disagreeing with any form of BLM protesting because it's inconvenient.) Minorities are a part of a diaspora. There is a constant pressure to prove yourself, and exceeding expectations seems to be the only way to level with the majority.

Wow, a small radical part of a certain religion has started terrorizing other countries, and people of their own? Whelp, Better ban them all.

Because that will totally fix the problem.

Every single human being alive has a cognitive bias. A way they are willing to see the world. I do, you do, even Michael Cera does. And I believe it is something everyone should be aware of, because it affects our every decision. We can choose to exclude information that doesn't align with our bias, and recognize false or fabricated stories in order to support it. It can affect the way we see people. Ever heard of the halo effect? It's when one positive aspect of a person overshadows any negative actions that person might do. And sometimes, it's a matter of pride. Say for example, you found it humorous that a guy did a lip sync battle in a dress. Later on

Lip Synch Bias continued on page 13



Reviews 'n' stuff



Antonio got in a fight: Review



Antonio Carvale
Staff Columnist

For anyone who hadn't seen my badass black eye check it out on my instagrams @the_thunderbird_ daily updates about bad puns and wishing I was dead. But before we start, a poem. By me.

"Twas the night after thanksgiving, and all through the SA parking lot, my brother and I tussled, Trump's daughter is hot."

That's right people. I'm back and black and never going back. And I'm not kidding Trump's daughter is fine, Ivanka Trump if

you're reading this, mi amore, hit me up at 1-800-420-6969.

Alright with my shameless self advertisement out of the way, let's review a fight losers.

Starting from Monday to Friday, I had the most badass black eye. It started because of an icee. And now I see (that was a pun dangit) that it was 100000069% worth it. The fact that that SA counterman had to ruin legit everything is, A. Some bull, B. Fartologically stupid, C. as stupid as the word I just made up, or D. ALL THREE.

So you go to SA. You get your drink. You drink some. Then you refill it back to the top. That's just how it works. And my brother and I only had 1 dollar because we don't carry around money because we don't have any. This guy. This neckbeard white trash fart looking dumbo had the AUDACITY to charge us for those refills. Bringing the total to \$2.65. We did not have 2 dollars. Let alone 65 cents because if I ever have money I only carry around exactly \$4.20 in pennies or 69 singular ones. I did not have either. And if I did I would have spent it at Pizza Hut or a mini golf course. Or a combination of both which I will call "Pizza Putt" ©

So of course we didn't have enough money and the neckbeard at the counter not only yelled at my brother but threatened to call the fuzz and arrest us for stealing like 3 sips of soda. We left to the parking lot and here's how fights are supposed to go down. Bad guy (brother) does something dumb and throws the first punch. After the first punch the good guy (me) can act in self defense and

Fight continued on page 8

Vulfpeck: The Beautiful Game

Sam Dale-Gau
Staff Writer

Vulfpeck is the funkiest band alive.

Not funky like when you eat some three week old yogurt and you twist your face up in a knot before spewing it out, funky like the kind where you stick your neck out and sort of close up your throat in the middle of the word so it sounds like "phonkay." And their latest release doesn't disappoint.

Vulfpeck (no relation to a wolf pack) is a gang of silly, jazz trained college kids who originally toured the country for free by gaming Spotify. They made an album called "Sleepify". It was 11 tracks of just 30 seconds of silence on each one, the minimum time requirement for a track to qualify as a song on Spotify. Then they got all their friends and fans to put it on while they were asleep and made enough money off the royalties that they didn't have to charge anything for their tickets to tour. Classic.

They just put out a new album called The Beautiful Game featuring some new versions of their old songs with added vocals, like "Conscious Club" and "Margery, My First Car", as well as some brand new rockin' tunes. One of my favorites from their previous album Thrill of the Arts (which is also a knockout, probably even better than the new one) the instrumental version of Conscious Club, was upgraded in this new release to make it one of the highlights of the new album. Another home run of the album is "1 for 1 DiMaggio", a hoppin' baseball themed song that'll make you run for home (heheheh). Apparently Dimaggio was a baseball dude who got on base 57 games in a row... but I got that from my dad so don't quote me on it.

If you like Earth Wind and Fire (the best band in the world) or James Brown (another funky dude) you're gonna love Vulfpeck. They bring a new modern revival to classic funk in a fun, upbeat way. They've got interesting rhythms, catchy choruses and downright grooves. And also some of their stuff is completely instrumental so when your



The funk band's latest album

Vulfpeck continued on page 8

Vulfpeck from page 7

parents say “No music while doing your homework!” You can say “But there aren’t any words.” It’s not guaranteed to work but you can give it a shot.

Oh right. I forgot about Joe Dart. Possibly the greatest electric bass player ever. The rest of Vulfpeck are funky, sorry, phonkay, enough on their own, but Joe Dart outshines them all. He’s so good! It’s like his bass is just part of his hands and he can slow down time to fit 20 notes in one second. Seriously. He’s a god. Some of the songs featuring his talent on *The Beautiful Game* are “Conscious Club” (if you can’t tell, I really like that song) and “Daddy, He Got A Tesla,” but he really rocks it on every track.

Vulfpeck rocks, so give ‘em a listen. *The Beautiful Game* gets a strong recommendation, 8/10 other two are dumb. If you’re latest feel- ing their album, their previous album *Thrill of the Arts* is also strong. It includes their most popular song “Back Pocket” as well as “Funky Duck” and “Welcome to Vulf Records” among other top tracks. And if you’re prepared to see Joe Dart in all of his glory, look up “Beastly” on YouTube. He really is a beast. Oh dang it’s time to end the story. Uh, Spartacus out. Follow me on Instagram-- wait that ending’s already taken. Guess I’m just gonna have to end this story awkwardly and abruptly. Shoot.

Joe Dart on bass

Fight from page 7

kick the dudes butt. Just like my favorite movies, *Army of Darkness*, *Terminator 2*, lifetime original movie “*Mom at 16*”, and *Mad Max 3*, it always ends with bad guy getting his butt kicked and good guy coming out on top and getting the girl and walking away in slow motion.

This fight did not happen the way it was supposed to.

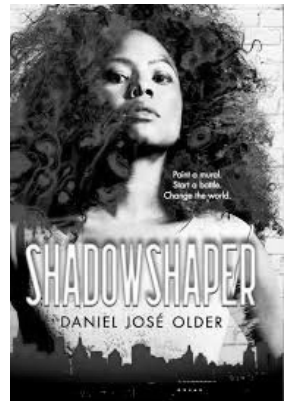
It was wrong in real life which already has a tendency to suck. Brother hit me with one solid gold hit outta nowhere giving me my black eye who I named Eyegor. Then we flippy flopped in the parking lot for a minute or two before mother had to be captain buzzkill and break us up.

IT WAS NOTHING LIKE THUNDERDOME. And screw *Die Hard* (more like *LIE Hard*. Nice.) for thinking an everyday normal guy like me or Bruce Willis could

Shadowshaper: “Relatable”

Nora Leifheit
Staff Writer

Despite being a staunch protester of teen angst in Young Adult books, I feel as though Daniel Older never overused this character trait to make Sierra more relatable. When Sierra has a meltdown, it seems reasonable to the reader because she’s been experiencing life-threatening situations. I think that more teens can connect with her this way, because not all teens are romantically driven. Not everyone will worry about how they looked yesterday, or what that cute guy in chemistry said to them, but everyone can relate to being afraid.



This Year’s “Read Brave”

Now let’s talk about what makes this a Read Brave book. If you don’t know what Read Brave is, it’s a program set up by SPPL where communities read books that; according to their website, encourages “intergenerational dialog about thought-provoking, contemporary issues facing teens”. In English, that means books that address problems that teens are affected by, such as sexism, racism, homophobia and discrimination in its many forms. For example, Sierra deals with catcalling as well as being generally labeled as “just Spanish” when in reality “just Spanish” doesn’t describe

Shadow Shaper continued on 9

win any sort of fight. I mean Bruce Willis is my man and we have basically the same beefy build but nah.

In conclusion:
Fights are BADASS. 10/10. 100/100. Better than pizza and mini golf. But not at the same time. Ala Pizza Putt©, Pizza Putt © my home. My life. Mi amore. Ivanka Trump. Fin. And if you’re thinking I learned anything at all from this it’s that I should get into more fights because my badass black eye has only attracted attention from my favorite kind of people excluding myself, girls. And if losing fights will get girls to talk to me, then look out *Fight Club* from *Rambo 3* and look out Stallone, there’s a new Italian in town.

Spartacus out losers. Remember to hate me, it gives me more power. I will never die. Peace.

The resistance reading list

Grace Keller-Long
Staff Writer



In the midst of the national tumult surrounding the winner of the presidential election, I have turned to books for comfort and hope. The following list of books features protagonists who move past fear and are able to stand up for what is right, and are a fitting inspiration for what we as a country need to do now.

Glory O'Brien's History of the Future by A.S. King
Glory O'Brien is just a regular kid, until she drinks a petrified bat, and is able to see the past and future. The future that she sees is terrifying, and she is close to giving up hope, when she realizes that in this future, she is leading an underground armed resistance. "It will not be about who we think we are. It will be about what we do."

The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making by Catherynne M. Valente

September is swept away through her home in Omaha, Nebraska, and is off to explore Fairyland, with only her wits and pluck to guide her. Fairyland is full of unfamiliar people who are united in their hatred of the Marquess, the ruler of Fairyland. September decides to take on the Marquess in order to help the many friends she has made during her journey, and then discovers that she and the Marquess have more in common than September could have imagined.

"The future is a messy, motley business."

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J. K. Rowling

This is the fifth book in the Harry Potter series, where Harry and his friends finally get serious and organize to fight dark magic. They realize that institutions like the Ministry of Magic and their representatives, like Umbridge, cannot be trusted to fight for what is right, so they take it on themselves. Harry and Hermione form Dumbledore's Army, and



rebel against the Ministry to fight dark wizards.

"Anything is possible if you've got enough nerve."

Parable of the Talents by Octavia Butler

This book is about community of people struggling to live in accordance with their beliefs in a 2030s America that has been torn apart by disease and religious extremism. The main character, Lauren, works in the community that she has founded to maintain hope in the midst of fear and hatred. Crazy enough, the book was published in 2001, but features a presidential campaign centered on making America great again. Even if the main themes hit a little too close to home, don't hesitate to pick up this book on account of that, because it ends on a hopeful, semi-positive note.

"Your desires, whether or not you achieve them, will determine who you will become."



Shadow Shaper from page 8

her Puerto Rican heritage.

In my opinion, Daniel tried to fit in too many issues into the book, and although it enriched Sierra as a character, I'd much more like to read a story that focuses on a few large issues and really delves deep into them, than a book that shoves in struggles that are unnecessary to advancing the plot. Quality over quantity.

An example of quantity valued above quality in this book is that they have one lesbian character. Her sexuality is never used as a joke, but it never really plays a part in the plot. I love how she was included in the story, but she was never written as a character beyond being the local honey-nut-queer(TM). It always seems like a cheap effort for inclusivity when a character's main purpose in a story is to be gay; gay and nothing else. I'm appreciating Daniel José Older's effort for inclusive literature, but trying to represent a community as diverse as the LGBTQ+ community in just one character is difficult, and hard to do correctly.

Overall, I'd give the book an 8/10. It was pretty fun to read, and it felt refreshing to see a character that isn't always represented in your typical YA novel, but it didn't trigger a feeling of love for the book. I don't yet know the secret recipe that makes a book so important to a person; what makes a book the one that they fall back to in a literary drought, but this book didn't have it for me.

The Shining: a novel?

Nik Logue
Staff Writer

Coming up on 40 years after its initial release, Stephen King's "The Shining" remains to be one of the most iconic and chilling works of horror to this day. The novel follows Jack Torrance, a husband and father recovering from a bout of alcoholism who takes a job to care for an isolated hotel in the mountains of Colorado with his wife and son during the closed winter months. Yet as the months go by, the hotel slowly takes on a mind of its own, Jack Torrance starts to find his writing tedious, his family unbearable, and a looming thought that something more lurks beneath the hotel walls, all while his son possesses a most intriguing ability.

Stephen King's third novel perfectly encapsulates the feeling of isolation and claustrophobia. The hotel that the story is set in almost feels like it's own character, King translates his themes of insanity and isolation through his dark, fantastical writing style. We develop a personal connection with the Torrance family, we are immersed into the hotel's vast, empty halls and grand lobby, there is a cold, unforgiving winter storm outside howling for miles, but inside, something worse is slowly brewing to a horrific breaking point.

A common theme amongst Stephen King's multitude of literary works is his characterization of the people he creates, this theme is present in *The Shining* as well, the reader gets a view into the mindset of Jack, Wendy, and Danny Torrance, their personal demons, and the ones they fear may be closing in on them. King provokes a mental image of the setting and characters. The setting of the novel is almost perfectly portrayed as the primary antagonist of the story. King makes *The Overlook Hotel* a character in and of itself and gives a face to the evil that the Torrance family is facing. The setting also provokes the reader to think about how little human contact, crushing responsibility, and yes, "All Work and No Play" can cause a troubled, yet well intentioned father to be driven to the brink of insanity and attempt to murder his family.

As one of the most iconic works of horror of the 20th century, "The Shining" is pretty scary. If you are up for a "slow burn" horror novel, then you will surely enjoy this, it has a highly eerie feel to it, just by reading it, I felt uneasy and claustrophobic, which makes such a brilliant reading experience on a lonely night with no one (or 1 guy who seems a little testy) around. All in all, "The Shining" remains to be one of Stephen King's greatest works, and shows to have held the test of time.



Luke from page 3

tions education system, providing educational services for adolescents in trouble with the law. He taught in corrections for seven years before moving to Gordon Parks High School, where he spent five years before moving to OWL.

Luke first heard about owl through word of mouth, and quickly took an interest in expeditionary learning, but was especially drawn to our school because of all the district attention we had garnered. He liked the methods that we practiced at OWL and wanted to join our staff, and started out the 2016 school year with us. It's safe to say that Luke fits in well with OWL's community.

Outside of school Luke likes to spend time with his family and friends, as well as go on runs with two year-old boxer mix Kona, his running buddy. Luke and his wife Jess have two children, a kind and active six year-old son, and a four year-old animal-loving daughter. Recently, Luke has been exploring woodworking. When asked, he said; "I'd really like to pursue that as a hobby, but I have a lot to learn!" Chase your dreams buddy.

Lip Synch from page 6

up as a woman during lip sync or laughed at someone who has is on some level sexist or transphobic. A vast majority of our school probably has either laughed at or dressed in drag. If we assume that almost everyone at our school is sexist or transphobic, it devalues these words against people who truly are. Also, since it is impossible to avoid these labels as a cis person, people would not take them seriously because they cannot change their subconscious behavior. In this situation banning drag during lip sync battles would be difficult and do little to change people's minds about LGBTQ+ rights other than making people angry and feeding the stereotype that the left does not have a sense of humor.

But if you agree with my position, you have concluded that at an incredibly liberal school (97% of my government class was on the far left, and Saint Paul is a very liberal area), most people are not sexist or transphobic. If this is the case, then stopping drag during the lip sync battle would prevent things like people in crew bonding in an uncomfortable situation, cis people getting to experience a very small portion of the discomfort of what is like to be trans for a single day, and an opportunity to make fun of traditional gender norms that persecute the LGBTQ+ community. If we banned drag during lip sync battles we would be letting a minority dictate the expression of the majority; so is expression criticizing traditional gender norms something we should prevent?

Hip-Hop overview

Leena Abdula
Staff Writer

Hip Hop, in my opinion at least it's the most amazing music genre that was ever created. many disagree and Hip Hop has been called disrespectful, dishonorable, misogynistic, angry and hundreds of other things by old white people time and time again. What you may not know is that hip-hop has been an outlet for the oppressed to voice their opinions on relevant issues within their communities and it's most likely the first music genre to contain lyrics about mental health. How, can writing music about "booty and

h*es" be political and thought provoking you ask? That's the exact problem. You have a pre-conceived notion of what hip-hop is and what it contains rather than doing your research.

It surprises the hell out of me how someone that spends hours upon hours



Chance the Rapper's album, Coloring book

researching the separating of atoms and how we can solve poverty doesn't even bat an eye or look up the lyrics to Tupac Shakur's "keep your head up". Yet instantly hears the word "rap" and hops out the bushes behind you while their mouth foams as they say "um, excuse me sweetie. I think you're wrong. I'm a man but I think hip hop is stupid AND misogynistic. That music is for dumb, incompetent people." What you may not know that Hip Hop was created in the Bronx of New York by Black and Latino youth during the late 1970s to speak about issues such as racism and poverty at the time. Hip Hop has now spread literally all over the world to voice the concerns and struggles of people of color in many different countries such as Senegal, Brazil, and Palestine.

In today's society, many people who claim Hip Hop has no philosophical meaning have a point with the rising of trap artists such as Lil Yahty, Lil Uzi Vert and 21 Savage. However, they still forget that this type of rap has only come up in recent years. There are far more rappers who write with meaning (both today and in the past) outweigh these trap artists. However, I don't see the harm in

Hip-Hop continued on page 12

A good movie and where to find it

Max Schibel
Staff Writer

Majestic creatures, wizards and witches, an evil threatening New York... That sums up the new look into the wizarding world from another of JK Rowling's books. Fantastic Beasts and where to find them. Newt and Jacob climb into the suitcase as step into a room. When they walk out there is a majestic camera sweep with hundreds of magical animals all around them.

This is a scene from the new movie Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. But Max how do you step into a suitcase you probably are wondering. The answer is simple... Magic it's what this movie is all about. This movie is based on a real book in the Harry Potter series written by Newt Scamander, an author from the early 1900's that traveled around the world learning about fantastic Beasts. The movie came out right before thanksgiving. In this movie Newt goes on a wonderful adventure in New York With his No-Maj friend Jacob. A no-Maj is what Harry Potter calls muggles which is a person who can't use magic. They are exploring to find all the magical animals who escaped out of Newt's suitcase and prove that there is something that is

Fantastic Beasts continued on page 13

Jazz Choir from page 2

director Alex Ferderer said "This year we are caroling at the nursing home near the school, second semester I hope we can get out in the public and perform. I didn't expect

it to be this big, I think the school knows it's a fun group and we get to sing fun music so a lot of people audition because they



know it's fun." The Jazz Choir recently

The Jazz choir performing at Cerenity Homesfor seniors

performed carols at the Cerenity nursing home Kim said "it was really sad, I almost cried because everyone was so sick."

OWLs jazz choir has high hopes, and Alex has high expectations. "I look forward to future jazz choir performances." He said.

having more upbeat, fun music being included into the mix. And although there have in fact been rappers who contain misogynistic lyrics in their music we forget how little we judge Pop, Country, and Rock for these same political issues. Bands such as The Rolling Stones have been misogynistic as well but because they appeal to the majority of white listeners it has been pushed aside.

Another critique of Hip Hop is that it's angry and vulgar. If this is the case, maybe it's just not for you (this is where I get heated). In terms of vulgarity, many rap songs will contain the same amount of curses as a rock song that you all seem to love so I don't know why you're mad about that. But in all seriousness being vulgar doesn't equal being unintelligent. I have no further explanation on that matter but unless you can prove its unintelligent and not just a form of intensifying emotion in one's voice then I won't provide my explanation either. Also, clean versions exist for a reason.

On the matter of being angry, the answer is simple. First off many rappers aren't angry to another level, for example, look at everyone's favorite upbeat rapper, Chance. Many of his songs are soulful and his emotions are beautifully balanced in his projects. And even if other rappers are constantly angry in songs it's most likely because people aren't going to smile and laugh at a neutral voice if someone is angry that his friend got killed by a cop. Again you could say the same for many other generally white musical genres such as classic rock, punk rock, and heavy metal. You may not agree but I've noticed that when a Person of Color is angry they're critiqued more often or more harshly than a white person. This feeds into the underlying racial bias we all have.

Now you may ask, but Leena music means nothing someone could create a song and it can be meaningful but it has done nothing to further social justice movements. That is simply not true. Firstly, listening to a poem or song that has educational or inspirational lyrics or words will push you to take action or learn about the issues that are brought up. Secondly, these songs have been so inspirational that rappers such as Kendrick Lamar have inspired many to fight against and learn more about police brutality against African Americans. Black Lives Matter has even adopted the chorus of his famous song "Alright"; a song about hope for the future as a black person in today's America, as a protesting chant.

Kendrick Lamar is the most widely known Political Rapper in the current rap industry. With his last full-length album, *To Pimp A Butterfly* from 2015 many if not all of the songs have a theme of black power. Many believe Kendrick Lamar might be the best rapper to date. If his songs didn't have a beat and you read the lyrics from a book you'd think it's just regular poetry. That leads me to my next point, many don't know that the word "Rap" is an acronym for

Rhythm and poetry. Because once you think about it rap is poetry with a rhythm. And in my own personal opinion, the majority of hip hop could honestly have more poetic devices than many of the famous poems that we read in our schools.

Many would think that I'm over reacting and that people don't hate hip hop because of underlying bias. But a very clear example that it is about race, is that everyone remembers back in 2014 when Macklemore won best rap album at the Grammys as a white rapper in a nomination list of all black men that many thought Kendrick Lamar would win for his album "Good Kid, Mad City" about gang violence and other difficulties that came with growing up in Compton. The only white man on the list won. Macklemore even said, "Kendrick was robbed" And in 2016 Kendrick Lamar's full-length album that was written and produced supposedly for 2 years while Taylor Swift's album *1989* that many knew was just a compilation of her most popular singles in the past year was the album that won album of the year. Even J.Cole (RAPPER WHO WENT DOUBLE PLATINUM WITH NO FEATURES) said "History repeats itself and that's just how it goes/ Same way that these rappers always bite each other's flows/ Same the thing that my n---an Elvis did with rock and roll/ Justin Timberlake, Eminem and then Macklemore." Here J. Cole explains how many don't appreciate music until it is revamped by a white artist in a place of privilege after originating from Black Artists. In other words, a classic case of cultural appropriation.

In conclusion, I think we all need to study different types of music and art forms before we judge it. You do not have to like a type of music but that doesn't mean you can be disrespectful about your opinion and provide no evidence to back why something is "not respectable". For many hip hop is part of someone's culture and upbringing and it could hurt someone to hear that their culture is "despicable and unrespectable" and in all honesty



Rap idol Kendrick Lamar

if this art form wasn't made primarily by black people you wouldn't have so much to say about it anyway.

Fantastic Beasts from page 11

wild and dangerous in New York. Newt, Jacob, Porentina, and Queenie band together to fight the Obscurial who was terrorizing New York. The ending is very climactic and exiting.

As a Potterhead I was excited for this movie and I really did like it. The actors played a great job with Eddie Redmayne, who plays Newt Scamander. I think Redmayne did an amazing job and was an amazing Newt. The plot line was great it made a new Harry Potter. The story really fit together and made a lot of sense. My favorite beast was easily the Niffler, a little animal that looks like a platypus and a mole that likes to take shiny stuff, because it was so comical and it was basically the cause of the whole story.

Overall I would give this Four stars out of five because of the end and also there should have been a little more about the beasts.

I would recommend this movie to anyone who likes Harry Potter and just a funny and action filled movie. Again you should watch this movie because I said so along with tons of other people.

Lip Synch Bias from page 6

it was brought to your attention that this may be hurtful to a group of people. Without realizing, your brain took a defensive position: "It's just comedy."

Or maybe you saw that same lip sync battle, and offended by the performance, formed an opinion, "These people are being sexist and transphobic."

There tends to be a few prevailing opinions about the lip sync battles: I see how this could be a problem, this is transphobic, this is sexist, it's just comedy, it's just comedy and you're stupid for being offended, this is an issue of toxic masculinity, I really don't care.

Opinions are a tricky thing. In most cases there isn't any clear answer, but even knowing that we are unwilling to consider another side. When we put aside our pride and opinions aside, and take a moment to consider a different point of view. Just because we live in a liberal bubble does not stop people from being ignorant and/or prejudiced about some things.

In my opinion, Aurora had some very valid points, but my take is slightly different.

For me, a man in a dress is not the problem. The problem is the fact that people find that funny. A person should be able to express themselves however they please. We've moved past the time of types of clothing corresponding with gender, the only thing that remains as a barrier is the Toxic masculinity, self and societal opposition to a man acting feminine. Femininity has often been equated with weakness, and masculinity with strength. I see so often young girls rejecting all things feminine because they want to prove themselves. (I was like that.) a majority of badass female characters in Hollywood are Masculine women who catchphrases are "grow a pair". Masculinity is for everyone. But so is femininity.

Drag racing plays an interesting role in this whole dialogue. And intentions of Drag queens. They are often parodying gender roles, and take them to extremes. They are dramatic characters for comedy. What happened in the lip sync battle, in my opinion, came nowhere near Drag racing.

But If all we do a about a problem is mock it, then nothing is going to be done about it. We're pushing it back down because it's too difficult a thing to deal with.

If you're a man reading this, who wishes they were able to express themselves in the same way women can, I challenge you to embrace femininity. Wear a dress, wear eyeliner, cry without shame, put flowers in your hair, Hug your friends, paint your nails, tell people how you feel, wear a crop top, braid your little sister's hair. Find the courage to express yourself however you want. Because that is the behavior that is going to help fix the problem of toxic masculinity. Not mockery.

Senior Profile

Paying Lor

How many years have you been at OWL?

13

What extra curricular activities are you're a part of?

Frisbee, theater, jazz choir, Outward Bound, History Day.

What is your favorite book or movie?

The Latehomecomer

What was your favorite fieldwork?

Gooseberry Falls trip with APES.

What is one place in the world you like to visit?

South Korea

Crew History:

Leo's crew all the way.



Comics



E-scape Goat

The Walking Bread

