

LATEST NEWS, COMMENTARY AND JOURNALISM FROM THE HEART OF NORTH LAKE ECHS STUDENTS.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

WE'RE BACK  
PAGE 1

NLECHS SPOTLIGHTS  
PAGE 2

EXPLORING JOURNALISM  
PAGE 3

MONTHLY MEDIA  
PAGE 4

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH  
PAGE 5

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH  
PAGES 6

UT AUSTIN  
PAGE 7

HOMECOMING '22  
PAGE 8

COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT  
PAGE 9

UPCOMING EVENTS  
PAGE 10

MEET THE STAFF  
PAGE 11



## We're Back!

BY BRIANNA MIRELES

Legacy class, we have finally made it to senior year! Only a few short months until we are walking across not one, but two stages. We have come a long way from running across the street to Taco Bell for a Baja Blast, to adjusting to online school, to navigating a new campus, and learning the routine of college classes. Many of us have grown from freshman year. We have dealt with the stress and anxiety from both high school and college classes. We have also endured a global pandemic that brought us closer together. What we are about to accomplish is something not a lot of people are able to do.

We might see this year as a way kick back and relax but we are not quite there yet. "Legacy class" is a big title with big shoes to fill. We still have to set the standards for future classes and show them that all of the hard work pays off at the end. We still have some challenges ahead, but the finish line is visible and it's now a sprint to May 2023. Enjoy the memories that are being made with your classmates and friends. We have been surrounded by our biggest supporters these past four years. Our time on this campus might be in it's final days, but the memories we have made will be cherished forever.



# Welcome Mr. Becerra

BY JASMIN SALAZAR & JUAN RIOS



## Mr. Becerra

"ALWAYS HAVE THE NEED TO  
LEARN SOMETHING NEW."

With this new school year starting up, we are introduced to new teachers, staff and students. One of our new staff members is Mr. Becerra. He graduated from Red Oak High School in 2011. While in high school he participated in marching band and he also attended football games and competitions. Mr. Becerra often describes himself as a reserved person. He is quiet and introverted but when it comes to family and friends, he is extroverted. He often has no free time but when he does he likes to spend his time reading, watching Netflix and going out with friends and family. An interesting fact about Mr. Becerra is that he likes reading a lot of books. He has about 400+ books that he has collected since high school. Mr. Becerra is interested in going into teaching. One of his long term goals is to be able to teach at a college level. He would like to teach English and Literature as a dual credit course. Another goal he wants to achieve is being able to earn his PhD. He chose to come to this school because it was a good start for his experience. Some things he enjoys most about North Lake ECHS, is that he tends to relate a lot with high school students. He thinks they are funny and entertaining. The environment is also relaxed and comfortable. However, some challenging things are being able to keep students in the classroom and learning everyone's names. One of his biggest accomplishments was being the first person on both sides of his family to get a masters degree. Throughout his life, he has always been thankful for his 5th grade teacher. His elementary teacher had high expectations for him, and that's how he gained passion in reading. He always had an appreciation for his parents when it came to his education. Along the way, he faced some obstacles, but overcame them by speaking the truth. He got help and felt comfortable speaking about what he was facing in life. "Learn to be adaptable because you don't know what life is going to throw at you. As well, Mr. Becerra says, "always have the need to learn something new." He encourages students to have the "want" to discover new things every chance you get. In life, he looks forward to traveling outside the country. He encourages students to never stop learning and to travel around the world.

# Student Spotlight: Vanessa Diaz Torres

BY VALERIE ANGUIANO

Prior to entering her senior year, Vanessa Diaz Torres attended the 2 week Pre-College at John Hopkins in Baltimore. In order to attend this program, you must have a 3.0 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale. According to Vanessa, "Going to John Hopkins was one of the best experiences of my summer. It was a great learning experience. I was able to be in a lecture hall with a cardiovascular surgeon. We got to listen to his lectures and shadow him in the hospital setting. This helped me decide on a nursing career instead of becoming a doctor. I got to learn from the best nurses and doctors at Johns Hopkins. We got to see first hand how they are working to save lives and what to do in certain scenarios. Even though I was the only Mexican girl there, it made me work harder than anyone in my class and prove to myself that I can make it anywhere." Not only was Vanessa able to decide on her career path post high school, but it also prepared her with hands-on experience in the medical field.

For more information you can visit:  
<https://summer.jhu.edu/admissions/pre-college/>







# Exploring Journalism

BY CLAIRE SPILLMAN

Over the last summer, I spent two weeks at Texas Christian University for a journalism camp in partnership with the Bob Schieffer College of Communication. Journalism is an art that requires truth and curiosity, “it can never be silent, it must speak while the echoes of wonder, the claims of triumph and the signs of horror are still in the air.” (Henry Grunwald) My interest in Journalism started from an interview I watched on the Forest Fenn treasure hunt. Not only was the story captivating, but it also made me want to hunt for something unknown. Attending the camp provided me with multiple opportunities to interview, write, and explore my creative

side. During the camp, I was able to interview NBC 5 DFW reporter, Noelle Walker, and write a story based on it. Her reports consist of telling true stories about people across Texas. She aims to bring out genuine responses from subjects that leave a greater impact on the audience. During an interview, the interviewee can often be intimidated by the environment, the journalist, and having to answer questions on the spot. As storytellers, Noelle Walker believes we have to remember “to be human...That’s how I get people to talk because I don’t forget that. You just talk to them like they’re a person not like they’re a subject.” After holding the interview I filmed footage to create a visual story of my own. I learned

how to format my stories using the Associated Press style and participated in photography classes. During this camp, I also had the opportunity to broadcast my own news story with a friend. Being in front of the big camera and having to read the teleprompter was a lot of fun, there wasn’t a lot of pressure because it was an active learning experience for all of us. Spending time editing and reshooting


furthered my appreciation for the field; every time I watch the news I know exactly what is happening behind the camera and it’s very interesting. Not only was I able to immerse myself in the field of journalism, but I was also able to explore the TCU campus and the city of Fort Worth.










# Monthly Media: October

This fall we need a well-deserved break from HOT girl summer and a transition into a mysterious, windy, and cool autumn. A majority of us are probably exhausted from the long and unruly heat wave and are more than ready to be able to wear sweaters without, well, sweating, and fuzzy socks. **Mazzy Star** is an artist who I feel resonates with this mysterious, cozy, and ominous portrait of October and specifically the **Among My Swan** album.



01:30

04:03



Among My Swan

Mazzy Star

Disappear

Flowers In December

Rhymes Of An Hour

Cry, Cry

Take Everything

Still Cold

All Your Sisters


I've Been Let Down

Rose Blood

Happy

Umbilical


Look On Down From The Bridge



54 min 6 sec

genres: alternative rock, dream pop

(songs in *italics* are my favorites from the album)



BY ELAINA HUMPHREY

October is synonymous with scary movies of course, and there are so many classics including **The Conjuring**, **Scream**, and **The Shining**. One of my favorite movies to watch during October is **The Corpse Bride**.

The Corpse Bride follows the story of Victor, who while practicing his wedding vows for an arranged marriage with Victoria in a dark forest, accidentally summons Emily, the corpse bride who was murdered shortly after her own wedding. Emily brings Victor with her to the underworld where she hopes she can marry him and finally have a companion after dying in vain. Victor eventually has to leave the underworld to save Victoria from marrying the same man who murdered Emily.

Duration: 1 hour 14 min

(Spoiler warning)

This movie is a perfect cozy movie that screams October and is fun to watch in the company of others as well. One of the main messages in the Corpse Bride is that although Victor agrees to marry Emily at first, the marriage will not satisfy Emily's death and will only impose death onto Victor.

MONTHLY MEDIA

PAGE 4



# Students of the Month

THE STUDENTS BELOW HAVE DISPLAYED EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR AND ARE BEING RECOGNIZED BY THEIR TEACHERS! CONGRATULATIONS!



Oak Trujillo

9TH GRADE STUDENT

"Oak is a wonderful example of what a student at NLECHS looks like. Oak comes to class ready to learn and is willing to give a helping hand to their peers, whether it is school related or not. Oak strives for success and is always seeking ways to better themselves. Oak is an amazing student and a joy to have in class!"

- Ms. Martinez

Diana Angulo Portales

10TH GRADE STUDENT

"Diana has shown initiative in supporting her fellow students. When a new student needed help getting set up in one of her classes, she volunteered to help them and did so with patience and kindness. Her willingness to help those around her adds to a positive classroom environment and makes her stand out as this month's sophomore student of the month."

- Ms. Crawford





# Students of the Month

THE STUDENTS BELOW HAVE DISPLAYED EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR AND ARE BEING RECOGNIZED BY THEIR TEACHERS! CONGRATULATIONS!



Christie Vo

11TH GRADE STUDENT

"Christie has a positive attitude and work ethic. She gives 100% to every thing she does from class work to club involvement. She brings energy to the classroom with her positive contributions to discussions. She puts forth her best effort always. Christie is respected by both peers and teachers."

- Ms. Krause

Ricardo Flores

12TH GRADE STUDENT

"Ricardo has shown great leadership and maturity this year. I have seen him take responsibility in culture building and advocating on behalf of his classmates. I am exciting to see where his journey takes him and I am grateful to be a part of helping him in accomplishing his goals."

-Coach Nguyen







# UT College Visit

BY BRIANNA MIRELES

On Friday, September 23, NLECHS 12th and 11th graders attended a college trip to University of Texas in Austin . It was the first time our school has taken a trip outside of the DFW metroplex. I was looking forward to this trip because I saw it as a way to open my options for colleges outside of my hometown. The trip made for a long day but also made for lots of

memories with our friends. Once we were dropped off at UT, it was announced that we were going to be competing as teams in a scavenger hunt throughout the campus. Teams were quickly assembled and we set off to our first stop. Even though it was extremely hot the team that I chose was determined to win the prize Mr. Eppler planned on getting us from the campus bookstore.



We made our way across campus from stop to stop. The checkpoints that we had to complete were highlights and some of the most iconic spots on campus. We had to take a group selfie at all of the stops within the two hour time limit. If we arrived late to our lunch meeting area, we would get points off. There were also bonus opportunities such as if we got a classroom with a lot of seats and desks or if we found a turtle pond. Once the time hit 2 hours, our team was exhausted, sweaty and

got all of our steps in for the day. We were looking forward to the buffet in the dining area. The dining hall was another good experience of what being at UT would be like. Once we finished eating, we took a group photo in front of the famous clock tower and headed back to the buses. Arguably, the most exciting part of the trip was Buc-ee's. When they told us we had 15 minutes to get what we wanted from Buc-ee's, everyone raced off the busses. This entire experience was wonderful and great team building for us. We can't wait to go on more trips in the future.



Introducing our very first

# HOMECOMING



## Homecoming '22

The tradition of homecoming started decades ago as a football ritual. Teams would invite back old students to support their team in a football game. As the years went by many traditions about homecoming evolved and changed. One of the most unique traditions

celebrated in the south these days are homecoming mums and garters. Mums and garters are a compilation of ribbons, flowers and trinkets that are traditionally worn the week prior to the Homecoming game or dance. Girls wear their mum around their neck

and boys wear theirs on their upper arm. The mums and garters feature pieces that represent activities and events that the students participates in. Sports, clubs, grade level are some of the most frequent represented things. We recommend shopping for your mum supplies now before supplies run out. North Lake Early College High School will be hosting our first Homecoming. Even though we don't have a football team or game, we will be hosting a Homecoming dance. The dance will be on November 12th at Adamson High School in Dallas, TX. The theme is A Night Full of Stars. Homecoming week activities will be announced soon.

**Materials Needed to Make a Mum:**

- 1 mum flower
- 3 single backers
- 1 pipe cleaner
- 25 yards of ribbon
- decorative accents
- Centerpiece
- Staples
- Glue sticks
- Hot Glue Gun
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Neck-strap

**Materials Needed to Make a Garter:**

- 3 Single backers
- 10 inches of elastic or pre-made garter band
- 1 mum flower
- Ribbon: 10 yards of ribbon
- Decorative accents
- Stapler
- Staples
- Scissors
- Hot Glue Gun
- Glue sticks

*Save the Date*  
*North Lake ECHS Presents*  
*A Night Full of Stars*  
*See you November 12th*  
*at W. H. Adamson High School*  
*(309 E 9th St, Dallas, Tx 75203)*  
*Time: 7:00pm to 10:00pm*  
*Formal attire*  
*More information coming soon*





# COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

## THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

BY JASMIN SALAZAR-SARAVIA

Chicago University is a private university located in Chicago, Illinois. This university is ranked in the top #6 of best colleges. This school offers fifty-three majors and forty-seven minors for undergraduate students can choose from. The school offers many masters programs as well. This University is formed around a multicultural and international community.

The University of Chicago offers an online application system, however it is important to know that the application requirement and information is different depending on the type of program students choose from.

The University of Chicago also helps students obtain financial stability. It offers on-campus student employment opportunities, educational benefits to veterans, teaching assistantships, fellowships, grants, and other financial aid.

The University of Chicago offers housing and residence life which helps students engage in the social experiences of college in a safe environment. The campus offers over 450 student activities and includes everything from stand-up comedy to model United Nations.

The acceptance rate at this university is about 7.3% and the student to faculty ratio is 5:1. The graduation rate is 94%.

To learn more visit: <http://college.uchicago.edu>

### ***Popular Degrees Offered:***

- Biology
- Business
- Computer Science
- Data Science
- Economics
- Engineering
- Political Science
- Psychology

### ***School colors:***

**White and Wine (red)**

### ***School mascot:***

**Phil the Phoenix**

### ***Average Class Size:***

**77.9% of classes have a maximum of 19 students.**

### ***Graduation Rate:***

**94%**

### ***Location:***

**Chicago, Illinois**



# Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 2022

October 1	FAFSA Opens
October 5	ACT Testing
October 7	NO SCHOOL
October 10	Columbus Day & Indigenous Peoples Day
October 11	Coffee With the Principal (L237D)
October 12	PSAT Testing
October 14	NO SCHOOL
October 18	Luis Radley's Birthday (International Holiday)
October 18-21	ACP Testing
October 19	Year Up Lunch & Learn
October 21	Prairie View A&M University Field Trip
October 26	SBDM Meeting @ 6:30
October 28	Texas A&M University Field Trip
October 31	Halloween



# Meet the Staff

2022-2023



CLAIRE SPILLMAN



LUIS RADLEY



KIMBERLY MENDOZA

FOLLOW US ON



@NorthLake\_ECHS



North Lake  
Early College HS



@NorthLake\_ECHS



BRIANNA MIRELES



JASMIN SALAZAR



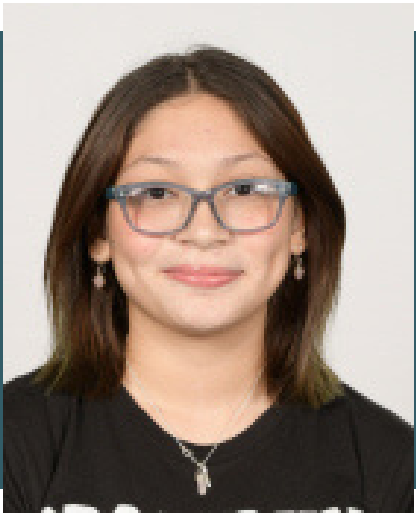
@nlechs\_yearbook



@nlechs\_newspaper



JUAN RIOS



VALERIE ANGUIANO



ELAINA HUMPHREY