

Pathfinder

OCTOBER 2024



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: SARA DEBONI DALFINI

Sara Deboni Dalfini is an exchange student at Golden West for the 2024-25 school year. She is from Verona, Italy. Verona is a beautiful city in northern Italy with a lot of historical and cultural significance. You might recognize the city as the setting for the Shakespeare play *Romeo and Juliet*. Sara says school life in California is very different than in Italy. In Verona students take 12 classes and attend different subjects daily. There are no sports in schools, and the focus in school is solely on academics. Students who are interested in sports can play them outside of school. Sara says teachers at Golden West are more friendly and care more about the students than the teachers in Verona. At Golden West students often use computers to work on assignments, but in Italy, students only use paper. Sara says that people in Italy are very passionate. One thing they care deeply about is soccer! Everyone stops everything to watch soccer matches. Sara mentioned that she loves the food in her native country and her favorite food is pizza. Although the pizza in the United States is much different than authentic Italian pizza, she says she likes them both. Sara is very friendly and kind. If you see her around campus, please welcome her!



Sara and her mom in Milan, Italy



Verona

INFLUENTIAL HISPANIC AMERICANS FROM OUR CENTRAL VALLEY



Hispanic Heritage Month takes place from September 15 to October 15. It is held annually to celebrate the diverse cultures, contributions, and history of the United States Hispanic community. California assemblymember Mia Bonita said, "We are still living in a time and place where we need to make sure we elevate the experiences of Latinos. Having a month dedicated to telling their stories, focusing on their legacies and the everyday heroes who make a difference is very important."

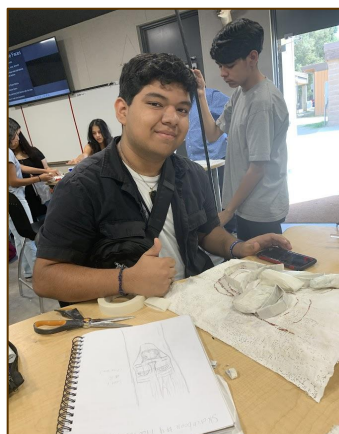


César Chávez (top), Dolores Huerta (bottom left), and Juan Felipe Herrera (bottom right)

César Chávez, Dolores Huerta, and Juan Felipe Herrera are influential Hispanic Americans with roots in California's central valley. Chávez and Huerta were advocates for social change, union contracts, and improved conditions for agricultural laborers. The motto "¡Si se puede!" (Yes, we can!) was coined by Huerta and is still proudly used today. Poet Juan Felipe Herrera was born in Fowler, California. He served as poet laureate of the United States from 2015 to 2017 and poet laureate of California from 2012 to 2015.

3D ART 2 TREE FACE ART INSTALLATION

Have you ever looked at a tree and imagined that it might have a face? Maybe you've seen an old oak and thought its knots resembled a nose, or you notice eyes staring back. Mrs. Thompson's 3D Art 2 students designed tree faces as an installation to share with Golden West students and staff. Installation art is a type of visual art that involves the arrangement of objects in a space to create a unified experience that transforms the viewer's perception of the space. Art students first made plaster molds of the trees, then used newspaper, tape, and plaster to build a face. Have you seen them around campus? Golden West students were invited to give feedback and vote for their favorite tree faces in a variety of categories. Some categories were best texture (looks most like tree bark), scariest, funniest, and happiest. Voting took place starting October 4th.



3D Art 2 students (from left to right): Scarlett Gibbons (junior), Antonio Villalvazo-Campos (senior) Diego Figueroa (senior), and Yocelyn Garcia (junior)

GWWhy

Have you noticed GWWhy metal plaques in classrooms and offices around campus and wondered what they are? This summer Mr. Lambert encouraged GW staff to think about WHY we do what we do. Mr. Lambert shared, "Our goal is to grow the team, establish Golden West as an exceptional high school within the Central Valley, in front of staff, students, and families, while making a positive difference to the wider community of Visalia." Mr. Schultz generously created the metal GWWhy plaques as a visual reminder to focus on the "why" daily.



CLASS SPOTLIGHT: HISTORY IN FILM

Ms. Brown is teaching History in Film classes this year. Students watch one historical film weekly. The first semester focuses on World History films and the second semester focuses on US History films. Students analyze the historical accuracy of the films and compare the Hollywood portrayal versus historical reality. They also analyze aspects of the films like cinematography, music, and costumes. If historical film piques your interest, register for the class next year!

TRAILBLAZERS IN THE COMMUNITY

- Golden West boys water polo players Armando Fregoso, Mateo Sanchez Chavez, and Jagar Brooks were spotted doing good in the community recently. They were at Costco in Visalia, and a woman needed help loading her car with her large purchases. These amazing Trailblazers were ready and willing to give her a hand. Well done!