

POLITICS AND PODCASTS IN THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Sierra Murphy '25, Kate Quach '25, Shay Moriarty '25

Editors-in-Chief

Cameras flash, microphones cluster at the podium, and voters rally from the stands. In their campaign during the 2024 Presidential Election season, front runners Kamala Harris and Donald

Trump spoke before large, in-person audiences to advocate for their respective stances on a range of issues ranging from immigration to healthcare to taxes.

However, during recent weeks, in an effort to target various populations within potential Gen-Z voters, the two candidates have taken their voices to a different platform to amplify their opinions: podcasts.

Trump appeared on Joe Rogan's podcast, *The Joe Rogan Experience*, on October 25th. With more than 14 million listeners per episode, Rogan claims the top spot on Spotify's podcast rankings. Rogan's podcast, famous for encouraging unfiltered conversations, appeals to a largely male listener base.

Those who tuned in, such as Finn Gilbert '25, said that Trump being on the podcast was "good" for him to "have a new platform to share his policies and better demonstrate his character."

The episode stirred reactions, as evidenced by reactions to shortened clips that were posted on

TikTok.

During Trump's presidency in 2020 when TikTok was gaining popularity, Trump announced his desire to ban the growing social media platform. With 100 million users worldwide, TikTok is one of the most widely used platforms. However, due to security concerns, Trump considered banning TikTok in the US, but this ban never went through. Although the ban never happened, earlier this year, the debate about banning TikTok re-emerged in the media. Trump was in favor of the ban a few years ago; however, today, he leveraged the platform in an attempt to draw in Gen-Z and male voters.

Kamala Harris recently went on *Call Her Daddy*, a popular podcast with 5 million weekly listeners, hosted by Alex Cooper. Harris previously avoided these podcasts, so her presence on the episode surprised many fans of the podcast. "I watch her podcast occasionally, and have seen many influencers on it. This

Continued on Page 13



Image c/o foreignpolicy.com

HUMOR
TEACHER COSTUMES



Keep an eye out for teacher costumes throughout the issue...

FEATURE
THE NECESSITY OF ADVOCACY TODAY

Zoe Omar '25

Managing Editor

Hillary Clinton, former presidential candidate, said, "If you believe you can make a difference, not just in politics, in public service, in advocacy around all these important issues, then you have to be prepared to accept that you are not going to get 100 percent approval." Here, she states that advocacy is expressing an opinion or a strong belief. But, she emphasizes that acting on these beliefs in spite of unpopular opinions is vital to creating change. With the upcoming election and debates between Vice President Kamala Harris and former president Donald Trump, advocacy is more vital than ever.

Some advocacy campaigns that are prevalent in the world today include rallies, petitions, fundraisers, lobbying, and protests. These forms of advocacy not only bring issues to attention, but also give voice to groups who are possibly in the minority or are often silenced. Advocacy is a part of America, embedded in the country's ideals of the freedom of

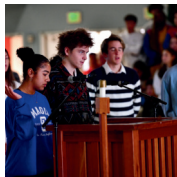
speech and innate human rights. Advocacy is crucial because it is important to express one's views, despite being in the minority. It is important to keep trying to be heard with the hope of creating change. It is only when people decide to give up that American society falls to despair. America is a multicultural, multiracial, vibrant society. Change comes from the culmination of different people hoping for a better America, and speaking out to create the change they desire to see.



c/o Public Policy Institute of California

During the election season, voting becomes a critical form of advocacy.

SEE INSIDE



ALL-SCHOOL
PRAYER SERVICE
Page 4



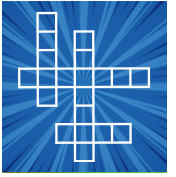
DIWALI
CELEBRATION AT SI
Page 7



2024 ELECTION POLL
Page 10



SEASONAL BEVERAGE
SHOWDOWN
Page 15



THE CROSSWORD
Page 20

Aida Artashesyan '28

Another year, another successful Homecoming dance at SI! Every Wildcat can agree that the night of Homecoming is always highly anticipated and a memorable way to celebrate the start of the school year.

Homecoming is an annual event that traditionally welcomes back SI's students. Before the dance, the neon-themed Homecoming football game against Riordan took place on October 4th. Even though Riordan had the lead by halftime, SI pushed through and came back stronger than ever, taking down the Crusaders, 31 to 28. This game was a great way to boost SI's HOCO spirit and prepare for the celebratory night.

And on October 5th, celebrate we did... Cowell Gymnasium was quickly transformed to CLUB COWELL! Lights were flashing and the beats were bumping to pounding tunes

HOME COMING: A HIT!

Contributing Editor

played by one of SI's very own students—D-Flo, aka Danny Flores '25! Earlier in the evening, SI's very own band High Five performed some great hits. Of course, SI made sure the night was not only a blast for everyone, but also an experience to remember: delicious snacks were served and the photobooth was packed with students capturing memories.

This event was the freshmen's first all-school dance, and what an amazing way to celebrate their transition into high school! It definitely left a good impression for what is to come in the next four years, as Bryce Killion '28 exclaimed, "I had a blast getting dressed up, hanging out, and dancing with all of my friends! It was a really fun way to start my freshman year."

And, although the event was a first for the freshmen, it was more of a "Homeleaving" for the class of 2025. One of SI's seniors, George Zaghaba '25, said, "Homecoming this year was an awesome experience; it really felt like a club with the set-up and music. It was cool, but sad, to go to my last Homecoming dance as a senior with a bunch of my friends, and I'm going to miss it for sure."

Overall, SI's incredible first dance of the school year left everyone excited for more. We definitely measured up to the slogan, meant to inspire community and inclusivity, "Welcome to the Party!" Luckily, Homecoming 2024 is just the beginning of a school year planned with many more enjoyable events!



Students dance at Homecoming.



High Five band performs music.



DJ D-Flo hypes up the crowd with his energy.

SI WELCOMES PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Connor Comolli '27

Contributing Editor

Over the months of September and October, eighth graders from local middle schools have been touring our campus, getting a glimpse of what high school life is truly like. These visits are designed to help prospective students explore our school's classes, opportunities, and values, making the transition to high school less stressful.

During the training of SI students as tour guides, the admissions office shared that "[w]e are welcoming eighth grade students to our campus in order to provide an authentic and personalized experience... Our goal is to highlight the positive aspects of our school and promote SI as a school community."

These tours overall allow these students to experience a day in the life of a student here. They are able to interact with current students and teachers to see how they might fit into our community. Both the student ambassadors and visiting eighth graders have shared some great feedback about their experiences. Matthew McNally '27, an ambassador who has already toured many

prospective students, enthusiastically said, "I like being an ambassador because I get to help out an eighth grader who is looking for guidance in their high school decision process."

A prospective eighth grade student from St. Phillip's School stated, "I liked how, even while being on a tour, I felt like I was a student attending here. People were very friendly, and the teachers were inclusive to the students shadowing."

These remarks demonstrate how welcoming our school is to its visitors, creating an open and inviting environment that encourages these future students to feel at home.

We look forward to possibly seeing them return as members of our community next year.



Ambassadors take their eighth graders into the village.



Eighth graders visit different classes.

THE VOLUNTEER FAIR: EXPLORING SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

McCann O'Brien '26

Contributing Editor

Students flocked to Cowell Gymnasium on October 15th for the volunteer fair, an event when many wonderful organizations visit campus to inform SI students about various service opportunities in and around the city.

One of the organizations present at the fair was Brady Riding, which offers therapeutic horseback riding lessons to children with special needs. Students can volunteer to take care of the horses, as well as help with the children and plan the organization's various events. This is a great service opportunity for SI students, especially animal lovers, and is located only a few blocks from campus.

Another organization that was popular among fair-goers was America Scores, which is an afterschool soccer and poetry program designed for underprivileged students. America Scores provides something for anyone interested in volunteer opportunities, including Kate Wilhelm '26, who described it as "a fun way to get kids engaged through sports."

These options allow students to create meaningful connections by assisting disabled communities in activities like gardening, sports, and cooking classes.

Sienna Cline '25 commented on Camp ReCreation in particular: "Camp ReCreation is an overnight summer camp serving adults with developmental disabilities. I've had the opportunity to volunteer at this camp for two years now, and I have created so many friendships with so many of the campers." She continued, exclaiming, "This camp is something that I look forward to each summer, and I definitely recommend it to students looking for a place to complete their core project!"

Many of these organizations, like Self-Help for the Elderly, enlist mostly student volunteers; their representative stated, "We are very excited to have friends from St. Ignatius to come volunteer with us... I know that the students here are very compassionate and love the seniors." Self-Help for the Elderly has over 27 locations in five Bay Area counties, including one on Vicente and 40th that SI students often visit.

Service is an important part of Jesuit teaching here at SI; the mission of the Arrupe Center for Social Justice's service requirements is for "students to engage in service they are passionate about, while also

having them venture outside of their comfort zones and into their local communities," as outlined by SI's website.

Student volunteers definitely reflect those values, as described by Beatrice Sopko '26, who expressed, "Volunteering is really important because you're contributing to your community in many helpful ways." Ultimately, the fair was a success, allowing students to find new service opportunities that further connect them to their communities and help them contribute to the world around them. Stop by the Arrupe Center for Social Justice in the Student Center to learn more about ways to positively engage with our communities!



Students visit different booths at the Volunteer Fair.

MAGIS ADVENTURES ON SOCALTOUR

Jordan Liu '26 and Annika Watkins '26

Associate Editors-in-Chief

Over quarter break, Oct. 10-12, 44 students from SI's Magis Program took part in Magis' annual Southern California college tour. Students visited CSU Fullerton, USC, LMU, CMC, UCI, and CLU. Participants talked to SI alumni who gave advice on the application process and shared their perspectives as college students.

A few highlights included exploring downtown Disneyland and watching an LMU versus USD volleyball game. Student participant, Pascal Chavez '26, claimed, "It's a great experience for college preparation, and SI offers opportunities of growth for its students."

The Magis program provides excellent resources for college admissions, and it reflects SI's values of opportunity and inclusion.

Camila Limo Fernandez '26 shared, "I think it's motivating for students to see and hear from college students and learn about the different resources that each school offers."



Students on the Magis SoCal tour visited colleges such as Cal State Fullerton and UC Irvine. On their tour, they heard from SI alumni's experiences on campus.

SHARE YOUR VOICE WITH THE FROSH CLOSEUP

Kate Quach '25

Editor-in-Chief

Inside SI invites students in the Frosh class to share their moments at SI by being a featured leader of a special section known as the Frosh Closeup!

This space in SI's newspaper celebrates the special journeys and experiences of the students taking their first steps into high school. As a part of the Frosh Closeup, you can show your leadership and school pride, while representing an aspect of all the diverse areas of student life: athletics, arts and literature, music, math and sciences, and performing arts. You have the incredible chance to showcase your 9th grade adventures in all of Inside SI's newspaper issues. Connect with students of all grade levels as you voice your experiences, passions, and aspirations as you set out on your exploration this year!

Apply here: bit.ly/FroshCloseup

The Frosh Close-Up was a fun and rewarding way for me to connect with the school community and share my unique experiences as a freshman!

-Ami Mora '27, Frosh Closeup 23-24

SI GATHERS FOR THE FIRST PRAYER SERVICE

Sienna Cline '25

Managing Editor

On October 15th, the entire school community gathered for the first prayer service of the school year. Throughout the school year, students and faculty will gather together four times in the McCullough Gymnasium to reflect on our spirituality. During this school year, all four of the prayer services will revolve around the theme, "Showing the Way to God."

This first prayer service focused on the importance of "Clearing the Way to God." To begin the season of Advent, the second prayer service will talk about "Finding the Way to God." The third prayer service for Ash Wednesday will explain "Following the Way to God." Lastly, the final prayer service of the school year for Easter will emphasize "Being the Way to God."

The prayer service planning team transformed the gym into a beautiful worship space, creating a sacred space with a wavy path. On the path, there were various objects that depicted different obstacles that could prevent people from growing in their spiritual relationship with God. Some of these objects placed on the path included a mirror, gate, and door.

Prior to the prayer service, students had been asked to answer the following question: What gets in the way of your spiritual journey? At the beginning of the prayer service, a video presentation showed anonymous responses from several members of the student body.

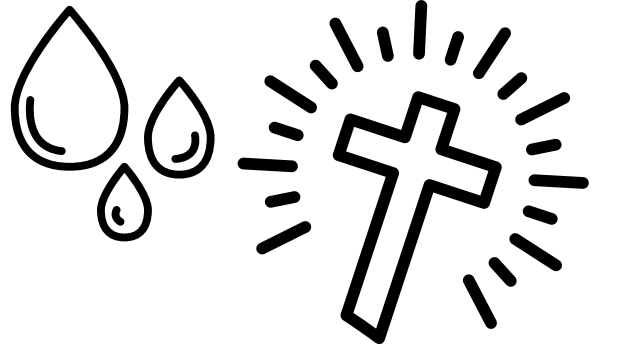
In addition, seven students were selected to share their responses to this question live in front of the entire school. Quinlan Stallings '25 stated, "During the prayer service, I offered my response to something that has held me back in growing my spiritual relationship with God. I shared that my lack of time management is something that has held me back. This is something that many of my fellow classmates can relate to as well." The relatability of these responses cause students to feel less alone, and to realize that everyone faces obstacles in life as it is not perfect.

Towards the middle of the prayer service, Corey Lemmer '25 took center stage and shared about her obstacles with faith and how she was able to find her way to God. In addition, throughout the entire

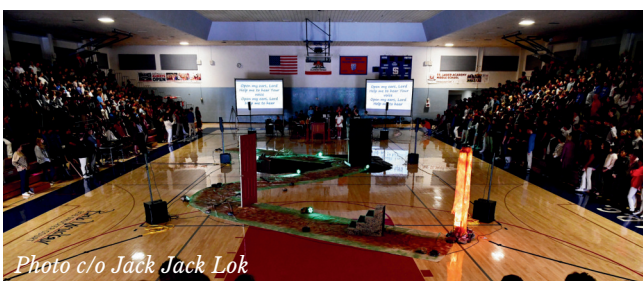
prayer service, the music ministry performed many songs, including "Open my Eyes" and "I Hope You Dance."

Many different students in the school community took on leadership roles during this prayer service. Maggie Strain '25 was one of the MC's for the prayer service and explained, "At first, I felt really nervous seeing the entire student body walking into the gym. However, I knew I felt ready to lead our school community in prayer, and I felt comforted by the presence of everyone around me."

Overall, this first quarter prayer service was a great way to start the year off on a good note.



Maggie Strain '25 and Gio Bueno '27 serve as MC's for the prayer service.



Prayer service worship space



Corey Lemmer '25 shares her story with the student body.

TEACHER SAFE SPACES

Emily Peterson '28

Contributing Editor

With the commotion of the upcoming election and the rush to coordinate Halloween costumes with friends, it is important to find places that allow us slow down. Balancing all that happens outside of school with what seems like an endless amount of assignments is not easy. All this can become very overwhelming, and it helps to have a safe space to take refuge in. Check out where some of our new SI teachers find their safe spaces.

Ms. Fleig

"My mom is my safe space. I feel I am much closer to her now than when I was growing up, especially since my dad passed away in 2022. Although she comes from a different generation than me and we don't always see eye to eye on things, I know that she will always try her best to understand where I am coming from without judgment. A master of humility, my mom is always willing to learn something new, and to admit and apologize for her mistakes, with the resolve to do better next time. I hope to follow her example and make others feel as safe in my company as I do in hers."



RS Department

Mr. Trigueiro

"My safe space is two things: music and the basketball court. Throughout my life, I've always searched for the perfect song for every moment - and the search has given me peace. Listening, singing along, and dancing to my favorite songs bring me a peace that almost nothing else can. Otherwise, I find peace when I am on the basketball court by myself. Nobody to listen to, nobody in the way. And when I can combine my music with my basketball: heaven. My safe space is two things: music and the basketball court."



RS Department

Ms. Mathews

"My safe space is my family as a whole, but more specifically my sister. We've experienced some heavy moments in our lives and, as cheesy as it may sound, I would not be where I'm at today without her. As older sisters do, she always keeps an eye out for me. She's the first person I talk to when I'm dealing with a tricky situation and am in need of advice. She brings me a sense of calm when things are not going as planned."



Athletics Department

Dr. Hoverstad

"When I think about a safe space, I think of my good friend Beth, who has a real gift for wanting to know other people in an authentic way. She's really good at listening non-judgmentally and sharing from her experiences, but also isn't afraid to offer a gentle challenge when she thinks I could be a little more kind or generous toward others."



RS Department

SHOWCASING THE CULTURE OF ALAS

Jordan Liu '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday, October 19th, SI's Association of Latin American Students celebrated its annual ALAS Showcase. This year, the theme was Voces del Pasado y Presente: Voices of the Past and Present. Students showcased their culture through dancing, singing, and performing spoken word.

The event took place in Weigand Theater and the Student Center, a departure from the past location of the Carlin

Commons.

Despite the difference in logistics, Camila Limo-Fernandez '26 commented, "Even though this year's showcase setup was different, I still loved seeing all the performances, which ranged from traditional Peruvian dances to uniquely choreographed bachata and folklorico."

Aiden Guerrero '26 noted, "The showcase this year took a great deal of adaptation, and I'm

thankful for the performers, parents, audience, and AALPA for making the showcase shine." Even with the change in location, Aiden observed that "Everything came together wonderfully," and that "The ALAS team is proud of what was organized and all the efforts from every single individual who participated."

The ALAS showcase highlights the different vibrant cultures and communities that make up the diverse LatinX community at SI.

Nicholas Shumway '26 shared, "ALAS is important to me because I have found a community where I can share my stories, experiences, and have fun with others."



ALAS students take a bow



Ms. Miguens and ALAS Students dance with the flags of their cultures.



The transformed student center serves as a lively entertainment space.

CELEBRATING FILIPINO HERITAGE MONTH

Jordan Liu '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

The month of October includes the celebration of Filipino Heritage Month. It was first proposed by in 1991 by the Filipino American National Historical Society. The month honors the first recorded arrival of Filipinos to the continental United States in Morro Bay, California on October 18, 1587.

The month serves to honor the culture, history, and accomplishments of Filipinos. Filipinos have impacted our country greatly: figures from activist Larry Itliong to

inger Bruno Mars have inspired millions of Americans. Kate Ozaeta '26 said, "Filipino culture is all about caring for others with a passion. As a Filipina-American living in an 'Americanized' immediate family, I feel compelled to learn more about my culture and live each day with this same passion to serve as I do during Filipino Heritage Month."

Filipino Heritage Month gives an opportunity for Filipinos to connect to their roots

and grow closer to their culture. Pachi Chavez '26 said, "I love the tradition of my Filipino heritage, such as the games we play at family gatherings or the great food we eat. We Filipinos are very proud people; it's great to be part of such a patriotic culture." Sean Abello '26 added, "Family is a big part of Filipino culture, and I think that community of family is really special and nurturing."

PERSPECTIVE: FILIPINO BOOK FESTIVAL INSPIRES

Evelyn Conboy '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Earlier this month, I attended the Aligning Legal Practice with Creative Selves panel at The Filipino American International Book Festival (FilBookFest), an event that celebrates Filipino American literature, culture, history, experiences, and pride.

This year's theme was "KAISÁ'T KASAMA: Celebrating Our Diverse Voices and Solidarity." The panel I attended was hosted by a group of Filipino female lawyers from the Pinay Powerhouse. A Pinay is a woman of Filipino descent, and the Pinay Powerhouse is a women's collective focused on empowering Pinay lawyers.

The panelists spoke about their diverse journeys through law school and beyond. One woman discussed balancing motherhood with legal studies, while another described starting her legal career at 41 after pursuing three other careers.

One of the panelists even served as California's first Filipino attorney general.

As an aspiring lawyer, I found their reflections on navigating law school as women of color especially meaningful. Their stories challenge the often narrow stereotype of lawyers as predominantly male and white. Their experiences showed how law intersects with personal identity and breaks down barriers for women and people of color. This bold defiance of and challenge to conventional norms inspires aspiring female lawyers.

The panel's overarching theme focused on how to maintain creativity in the highly analytical world of law. One speaker explained how she lost her love for reading during law school but rekindled it through poetry. The panelists also collaborated to publish a book filled with short stories and poems, illustrating that law and creativity can coexist. Their

message reminded me of the importance of nurturing all parts of oneself, even in demanding careers.

One quote that particularly resonated with me came from an older panelist who said, "You can do everything, just not all at once." As someone with many aspirations, I found this insight grounding. She had pursued four careers, which reassured me that I can pursue all my dreams without feeling pressured to achieve them all at once. This panel challenged my preconceived notions of what it means to be a lawyer. The representation of women of color in such prestigious roles felt empowering, offering me both inspiration and a renewed sense of possibility for my future.



INTRODUCING “COMPETITIVE MATH CLUB”

Madison Dela Rama '27 and Genevieve Arcenio '27

Managing & Contributing Editors

Are you interested in challenging yourself? Boosting your confidence and resilience? Improving your problem-solving abilities? Then the Competitive Math Club could be a good fit for you!

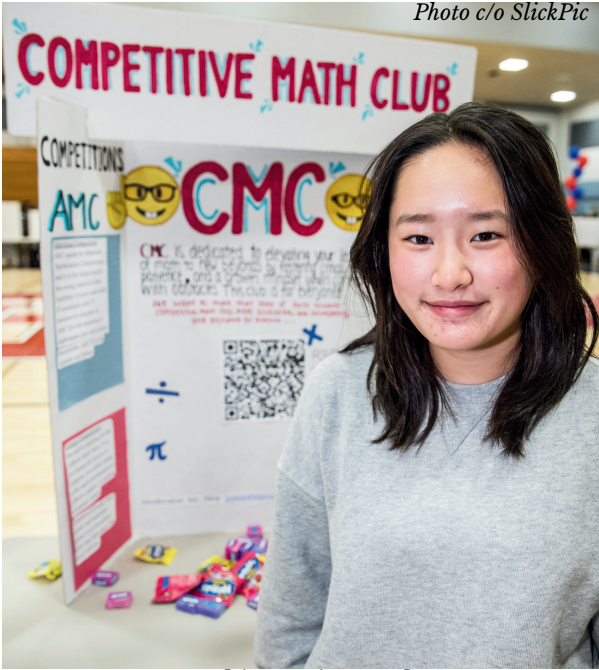
The Competitive Math Club, CMC, is a new, student-run club at SI, founded by sophomores Aimee Mao, Natalie Wong, Emma Ishimoto, and Maddie Dela Rama. The club consists of about ten members, who complete weekly practice tests to prepare for the mathematical competitions that occur throughout the year. We asked the club leaders, Aimee Mao '27 and Natalie Wong '27, to provide how they were motivated to create CMC.

“If anything, it wasn’t motivation,” Mao said. “If I remember clearly, I was waiting outside a classroom with Natalie for a club photo, which ended up being a string of [students] and us; it was obvious the club leaders just made it for the resume. We jokingly lamented how almost all the clubs we signed up for were inactive. If we had our own club, we wondered, we would surely do more than an annual club photo. Then, Natalie suggested the competitive math club, and the rest is history.”

“Our leadership team desires to promote competitive math at SI and teach students the skills of teamwork, communication, and much more,” Wong added, “which inspired us to create CMC. We strive to diversify and foster STEM at SI.”

“I attribute most of my enduring motivation to the help of a friend,” Mao said. “Without Natalie, I wouldn’t have had the courage to imagine the club. She helps keep me accountable and inspires my sense

of purpose. Now I’m not saying that you can’t do anything without a friend. However, at that time, as the two freshmen who came up with this idea on a whim, we were ambitious and a bit doubtful, and it was easy to fear that this fitful fever would die soon amongst other preoccupations.”



Emma Ishimoto '27 at the CMC booth during the club fair.

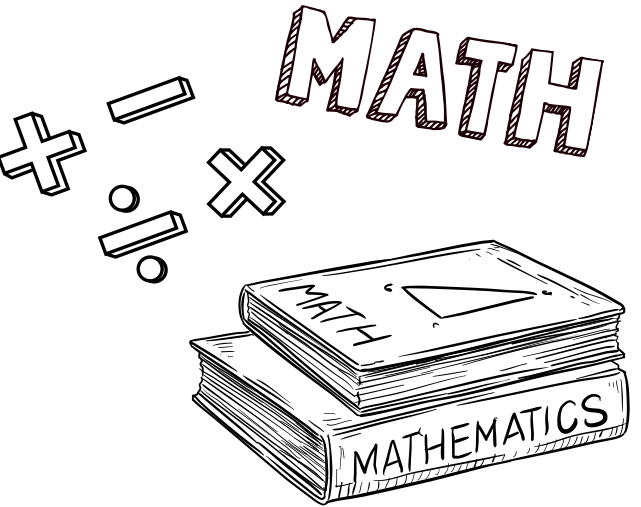
Currently, CMC is preparing for the American Math Competitions (AMC) tests in November. Over 300,000 students take this test each year. There are two versions of this test that SI students can participate in: the AMC10 is for Freshmen and Sophomores, and the AMC12 is for all high school grades, but is specifically made for Juniors and

Seniors. Both are in the multiple-choice format. The AMC isn’t your ordinary math test. The problems are meant to challenge students’ problem-solving skills. Students who score in the top 10% of the nation can qualify for the next test, the American Invitational Mathematics Examination. Following this second exam, students can qualify for the prestigious USA Mathematical Olympiad. In the spring, the club will be preparing for the SAT.

The club leaders shared goals they hope to achieve for the school year: “By the end of the year, we hope to provide other students with resources for the AMC and to participate in group competitions,” Wong said. “We also strive for our club to be more recognized among the SI community.”

CMC meets frequently to prepare students for individual and group competitions, depending on the month. The leadership team urges students interested in math to check out the club; they are active!

Check out their Instagram page: [@si.compmathclub](https://www.instagram.com/si.compmathclub)



SI HEADS TO DC FOR IFTJ

Evelyn Conboy '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

The annual, nation-wide Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice (IFTJ) conference brings together over 2,000 students, faculty, and staff from Jesuit high schools, colleges, and parishes across the U.S. First held in a tent in Georgia in 1996, IFTJ began as a response to the brutal murders of six Jesuit priests and several civilians by military forces during the Salvadoran Civil War in 1989. These murders, part of a broader violence that claimed the lives of thousands of Salvadoran citizens, made the Jesuit priests martyrs for justice and inspired a movement to honor their legacy. Over the years, IFTJ has expanded its network and now gathers annually in Washington, D.C., where participants remember these martyrs and draw inspiration from them to continue social justice advocacy on Capitol Hill.

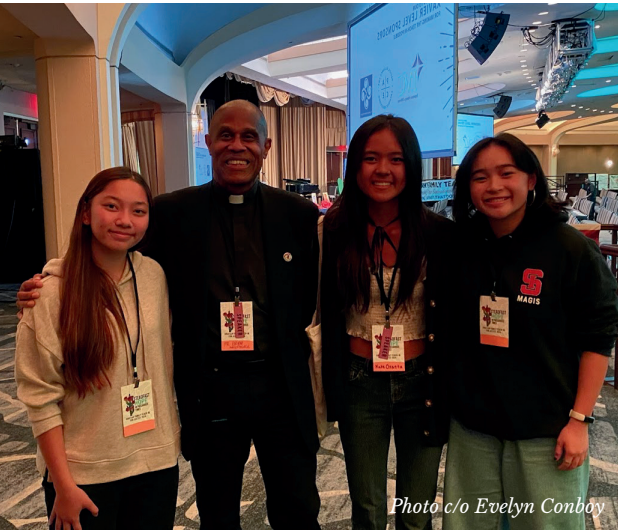
This year, St. Ignatius brought a 12 student delegation to the IFTJ. At the conference, these students explored Washington DC, participated in unique storytelling and workshop sessions, connected with other Ignatian students and faculty, and met with their national representatives. Kate Ozaeta '26 and I provided a keynote address on the main stage for approximately 2,000 people.

2024 IFTJ delegate Charlotte Parker '25 shared her highlight of the trip saying, “I especially enjoyed the breakout session I went to that had a panel about the

intersections between the LGBTQ+ community and the Catholic Church and how people have grappled with what the church has traditionally said about same-sex marriage and how they have grappled with their faith and their LGBTQ+ identity.” Jaiden Marx '25, another 2024 IFTJ delegate, shared how the IFTJ workshops challenged his preconceived notions about the DACA system and taught him about DACA’s complex pathway to citizenship.

Kate Ozaeta '26, a 2024 IFTJ keynote speaker, shared her experience with speaking: “It connects people who you don’t know. You learn about these issues in your school community, but then you get to put them into action with other people across the nation. You feel empowered to do more for your communities and I really enjoyed going a second time and getting a different experience. Speaking at the IFTJ was a great experience and I found joy being able to share my story and be that inspiration to other people. I used to feel lost in social justice, but enjoyed being able to be a light for others,” she said.

Senior IFTJ delegate Chance White '25 shared that “[he] would recommend [the IFTJ] for anyone who’s passionate about justice, learning about the legal systems of our country, for someone who’s an agent of change in their communities, and someone who acts with and for others.”



Three SI Delegates (from left to right: Gabbly Blas '26, Kate Ozaeta '26, and Maya Briones '25) meet with IFTJ keynote speaker, Bryan N. Massingale, a racial justice scholar and theologian.



SI Delegates speak with Senator Butler's staffer on Advocacy Day.

Rini Saha '25

THE MAGIC OF DIWALI

Contributing Editor

Diwali is the celebration of new beginnings, the triumph of good over evil, and many family traditions! Diwali is primarily a Hindu celebration, with some of the biggest festivals for this holiday in places such as India and Nepal.

In many places, mostly in India, schools close and everyone celebrates with family gatherings, food, fireworks, and lots of shopping. My mom recounted the magic of Diwali in India when she was little: “The whole city, including every house, glittered with lights at night. There would be a big parade and people would enter all kinds of floats. Sometimes, the floats resembled the Mayapur Temple, and at other times, they resembled popular trends, like the Titanic!”

A way I celebrate Diwali is by lighting Diyas, which are oil/ghee lamps. Usually, they are colorful, and the fancy ones are adorned with gems. On a platter, we arrange the diyas with flowers, beautifying them with colored powder in patterns called Rangoli.

A fond memory I have of Diwali as a 5-year-old in India was the firecracker box. It was dark outside of my Uncle’s house, and he gave me a tiny little box the size of my palm.



SIPAC parents celebrate Diwali on campus.

He said to throw it as hard as I could to the ground to see what happens. When it hit the ground, it made a pop, and out from the cracker box came a little snake replica. I initially thought, “Wait, that’s so cool. Give me another one! I blinked!” Although I haven’t found a firecracker box since, I continue having fun with sparklers and my sisters!

Radhika Saha '28 recounted her memories of Diwali: “I remember lighting the sparklers at night and stringing lights all over the house every year. My favorite sweet treats my mom makes are Malpua, which is fried sweet dough, and Dudh Kuli, which is sweet dough in kheer. There’s also a lot of salty snacks, like pakoras or samosas.”



Offering Diyas At Home During Kartik Month

Naina Paul Mulye '27 said her favorite part of Diwali is celebrating with her family: “I get to see my grandma and cousins that I don’t see very often, and it’s always so fun to have a big gathering. My favorite part is driving to my grandma’s house and spotting it a block away because of all the candles and diyas that are lit up. I also love my grandma’s homemade Indian food and desserts. We do pooja and give our blessings to each other, and the kids always take turns ringing the small bell when my grandma recites her prayers in Hindi. We also do sparklers and fireworks to celebrate, which is always so fun.”

Diwali has a special place in many people’s hearts. Personally, I’m ready for some good food and celebrating with my family, and I’m especially excited to light some sparklers!



SI families join in painting diyas and eating Indian food during the ASC/SIPAC event.

Alexander Goldberg '26

THE JEWISH HOLIDAY OF SUKKOT

Contributing Editor

October is the season of high holidays for Jewish people around the world. These holidays include Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year), Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement), Simchat Torah (the end of the cycle of Torah readings), and Sukkot. Despite being one of the lesser-known Jewish holidays, Sukkot is actually the longest holiday on the Jewish calendar, lasting an impressive nine days.

Let us explore the history of Sukkot and what makes it not only one of the longest holidays, but also one of the most important holidays for Jews around the world!

Sukkot, also known as the Feast of Booths or the Feast of Tabernacles, celebrates the harvest and the Jewish peoples’ 40-year-long perseverance in the desert after escaping Egypt.

To celebrate Sukkot, Jews traditionally create a Sukkah, meaning booth. A sukkah is a simple structure consisting of three walls, made of wood, and a roof, made of branches or thatch.

Many Jews sleep, drink, and eat with friends and loved ones under the Sukkah during the holiday in order to commemorate their ancestors’ 40-year journey in the desert.

Another Sukkot ritual is the shaking of the lulav and etrog. The lulav consists of willow, myrtle, and palm branches, and the etrog is a yellow citrus fruit. Jews shake the lulav and etrog together, hand in hand, to symbolize our thanks to God for his presence in our lives. When Sukkot comes to an end, Jewish people often donate the materials of the Sukkah as a mitzvah, meaning good deed.

As Jewish students, Sukkot allows us and all individuals to be thankful to God for all that he has given us: fruits, vegetables, a roof over our head, and God’s protection.

We are reminded to be our best selves, to persevere through adversity like our ancestors, and to give back to our communities as God sustains us.

During Sukkot and always, let us all remember to be grateful for all of God’s gifts. Shalom SI, and Chag Sukkot Sameach!



“Sukkot is important to me because it’s a holiday we celebrate at my Sunday school. I love seeing and teaching kids about this holiday and sitting in our synagogue’s sukkah with them.

-Tali Makstman '27

“Sukkot is important for me because it not only reminds me to persevere through adversity, like my ancestors in the desert, but also to appreciate God’s endless gifts.

-Jacob Bushler '25

*CORRECTION: In the September issue of Inside SI, in the article “Do We Really Need Safe Spaces,” we incorrectly reported that every student can join at least one of the 7+ affinity groups organized by SI. Affinity groups are designed for individuals who share a common identifier (e.g. race, religion, sexual orientation). Students are welcome to join an affinity group if they can speak to the experience of being a member of the group from the “I” perspective. We encourage readers to check out the SI website here: <https://families.siprep.org/students/equity> for more information about Affinity Groups at SI.

THE FLAWS OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Bobby Mullin '26

Contributing Editor

In anticipation of the upcoming election, American televisions and phones are plastered with red and blue maps of the country, thanks to the Electoral College—the voting system of US Presidential elections. While intuitive, the electoral college is flawed and fails to create a representative government.

The Electoral College states that each state receives one vote for each of its members of congress. This means two votes from each state's (two) senators, plus the votes from the state's representatives in Congress, as determined by the state's population. These electoral college votes are what actually determine the election, and not the popular vote. Unfortunately, the two minimum electoral votes that every state receives give a disproportionate amount

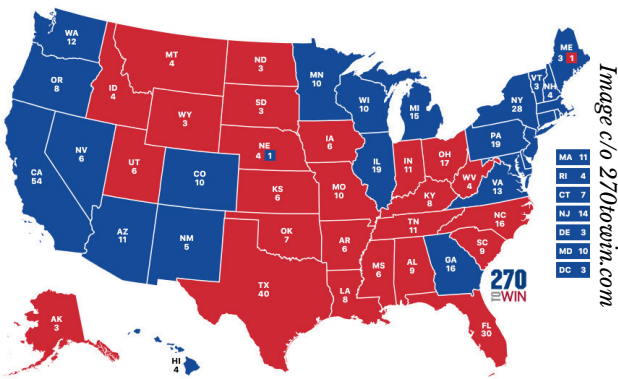
of power to the smaller states.

This results in the votes of citizens from smaller states being more powerful than the votes of people from more populous states. For example, California has 1.38 electoral votes per million people, while Vermont receives 4.63 electoral votes per million people. A truly democratic process should value the votes of all citizens equally. The winner-take-all system of the electoral college leaves the fate of the entire election in the hands of only a few key states.

The millions of votes for the less popular candidate in a given state hold absolutely no value in determining the election. Because a candidate only needs 51% of a state's popular vote to receive all of its

electoral votes, most states are practically guaranteed to vote a single way, meaning most politicians never bother campaigning there. This means that the eight to ten states whose outcome is not predetermined end up influencing the entire election, as we already know how all the other states will vote. Additionally, this system makes it more difficult for third parties to arise, perpetuating the two party system.

It is important to note that abolishing the electoral college is not for the benefit of a given political party; it is an issue of creating a more fair and representative democracy that works for the best interests of the people.



Electoral college map for the 2020 election



Protests around America question the ways of the Electoral College.

CHILDREN’S LIT AND UNDERSTANDING NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Ava Murphy '25

Managing Editor

Communication unites us. It is how we connect and understand more about others. Communication translates into literature by creating stories and ideas that transcend generations. The stories and books we read and share in childhood stay with us. As we move through life, we fondly look back on these tales. They shape us and encourage us to grow. They teach us empathy and make us stop and reflect on what type of people we want to become.

However, we do not often consider how deeply these stories impact us. Children’s literature has an incredibly important role in the development of our understanding of communication and the development of our empathy.

This does not just apply to spoken forms of communication, but also non-verbal forms of communication. Non-verbal context clues appear throughout children’s literature, adding greater meaning to a character’s words.

Similarly, in real life, our facial expressions, habits, and involuntary physical responses reveal more about how we are feeling. For example, in the children’s classic *Winnie-the-Pooh*, the characters of the Hundred Acre Wood verbally express themselves, but it is really their non-verbal communication that makes their verbal meaning whole.

Winnie-the-Pooh puts his head between his paws when he is deep in thought or considering his feelings on a subject. When Piglet is scared and feeling like he is in a situation of distress, his physical gestures fill the role of speaking when his words fail him. Likewise, Eeyore’s tail is often more important than his voice and is his main mode of non-verbal communication. Without these actions, the reader may overlook the underlying meaning and emotion behind their word. When these are brought to light, the reader can empathize

with the character and their hardship.

People rely on their non-verbal forms of communication just as much, if not more so than their spoken language. When you stop and consider a person’s physical behaviors and gestures, you may find out more than you ever thought you would.

In these instances, when you reach below the surface and take the time to consider what these behaviors can teach you, you truly can empathize and relate to another person.



YES ON K

Tai Morganson '26

Managing Editor

Just as the silhouettes of the Marin Headlands blushed red with sunset, a couple leaned into each other, watching the Earth turn away from its light source as they enjoyed the car-free weekend along our city’s beloved Great Highway. Behind them, pairs of bikers glided past, engaged in mellow conversation, rollerbladers aggressively roll-danced, and people walked dogs. As I jogged with my Pitbull Terrier, the park’s original purpose became clear. Conceived when San Franciscans could only see each other on Zoom and exercise indoors, the pilot project of the Upper Great Highway was opened with the goal of uniting all San Franciscans. Against this backdrop of a milky red horizon, I realized how the Great Highway project had succeeded.

The pilot project that has kept the Great Highway open and without cars twice a week is ending soon. This would end access for dog-walkers, athletes, and everyone in between, resuming car access indefinitely. Prop K, which would keep the section of the Great Highway open to all and closed to vehicles, should be passed into law. Opponents of Prop K state that it proposes a park for all San Franciscans, but it actually would remove a path to school or work. Opponents argue, aren’t commuters entitled to speedy routes home?

However, Prop K accounts for these traffic concerns. First, the use of the Great Highway is changing drastically, as its problematic proximity to the ocean dangerously pulls segments of the road onto the beach. In response, the city is closing the road south of Sloat Boulevard, removing the road’s connection to Daly City; drivers who take the Great Highway will have no choice in routing inland, regardless of whether Prop K passes.



Supporters of “Yes on K” raise awareness in their community.

However, Prop K outlines traffic reform to minimize the effect of this planned closure, preserving the Great Highway connection between the Sunset and Richmond neighborhoods and adding traffic signals along Lincoln Way. This ensures that commuters can route inland safely and more efficiently than they currently do. Sunset Boulevard and the Great Highway are far below their maximum traffic capacities, which are down 30% and 40% since the pandemic, respectively.

Members of the St. Ignatius Green Team and Young Democrats came together to support Prop K on Friday, October 18, because forming Ocean Beach Park will be a lasting, generational step toward carbon reduction. Sunset Supervisor Joel Engardio commented that the St. Ignatius volunteers, “went to work putting flyers on doors after school because Prop K is about their future.”

A vote for Prop K is an endorsement of athletes, park-enjoyers, and our local environment; it reflects a commitment to making San Francisco a greater city to live in. What are you doing this weekend? Take your dog for a run or go for a spin on the Great Highway! Gather some friends for a bonfire, and experience the heavenly scenery, uninterrupted by cars. Enjoy the fruits of past initiatives and head on to the JFK promenade, which is embellished with artwork, public pianos, and rest stops.

The Golden Gate Park destination, now permanently car-free and thriving, is evidence that San Francisco has never regretted prioritizing recreation and community. Do the same for the Great Highway. At its core, Prop K is about whether San Francisco should be a community-centered attraction, or remain as a concrete, through-street to elsewhere.

NO ON K

Nora Shaskan '26

Contributing Editor

San Franciscans have begun voting for different candidates and propositions in the hope of improving their city. But San Francisco has a very diverse population —ranked in the top ten most diverse cities in the state—so obviously not everyone will agree on everything. One proposition that many have been conflicted over is Proposition K, a proposition that would permanently shut down the Upper Great Highway and provide space for an oceanfront park. In December 2022, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors issued a 3-year pilot to close the 2-mile stretch of road alongside Ocean Beach only on the weekends. Prop K would make this section of the Great Highway open to recreation and pedestrians (instead of cars) permanent and extend to weekdays.

Some, including SI’s Green Team, support Prop. K, arguing that the closure of the Upper Great Highway will offer a park by the water and protection for local ecosystems. People can then have a space to walk, jog, and cycle and small businesses will have a place to sell food and drinks. That sounds great, but unfortunately, things aren’t that simple.

Naomi Sumida, a journalist for *The San Francisco Chronicle*, counted how many cars drove on the Upper Great Highway on a Thursday morning between 7 and 9 AM. She wrote, “We chose the morning commute to capture people heading to work or school.” Sumida counted around 3,300 vehicles, including cars, trucks, and motorcycles. So, I have a question for those wishing to permanently close the Great Highway: if the street is turned into a park, where will these 3,300 vehicles go in the morning?

Closing the Great Highway will not decrease the number of cars on the streets; it will simply push the traffic to residential areas and force anxious drivers trying to get to work/school into the Sunset’s neighborhoods. Working-class citizens will have to find a new and probably longer route to their destination, spending gas money and time most people can’t afford. The only benefit the couple hundred pedestrians and cyclists will gain will be that they’ll be



San Franciscans advocate to keep the Great Highway open.

exercising in traffic lanes, not the walkway. However, sidewalks are already provided for those on foot every day of the week and Proposition K does not secure any removal of pavement. Besides, the road will still be used for emergency vehicles such as fire engines, police cars, and ambulances.

Although I am part of the Green Team and would like to see more San Francisco parks, I believe that shutting down the Upper Great Highway to private vehicles will not benefit the majority of the city’s population. The Great Highway has become a pleasant space for joggers and pedestrians on the weekends, but too many San Franciscans use the provided lanes to commute during the weekdays. Sure, the 2-mile stretch of road will be calmer and more enjoyable if Proposition K is voted for, but at a cost: traffic congestion in neighboring residential streets, means more potential accidents.

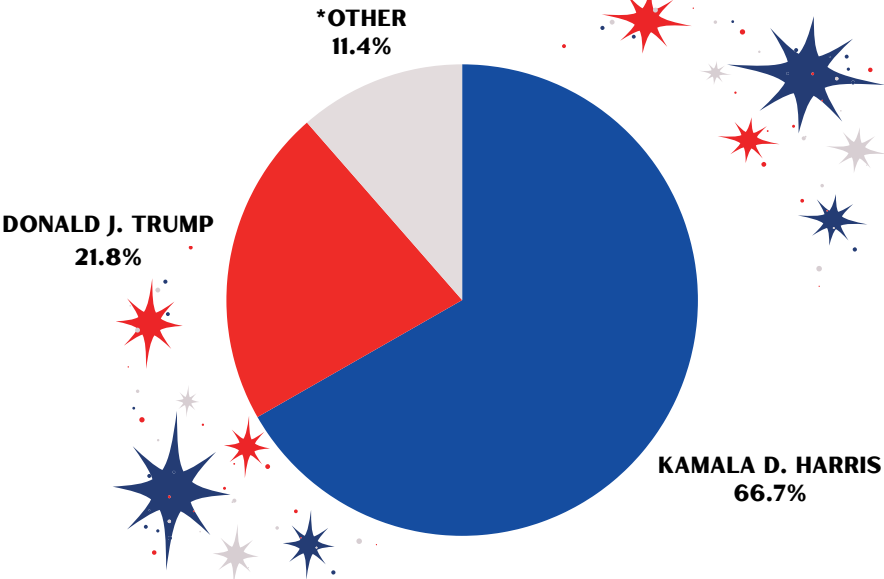
In the interest of a working-class resident, I suggest voting no on Prop. K.

THE 2024 ELECTION POLL

*BASED ON 481 RESPONSES

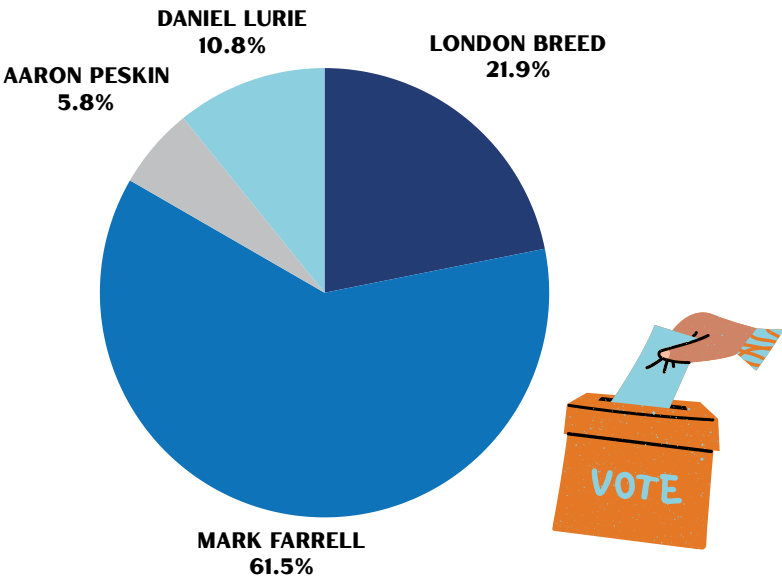
Inside SI held an online poll to find out S.I.'s views on the upcoming election and important propositions. Here, we display the opinions of the SI community.

WHICH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE DO YOU SUPPORT?



*No "Other" candidate received more than 9 votes

WHICH SAN FRANCISCO MAYORAL CANDIDATE DO YOU SUPPORT*?



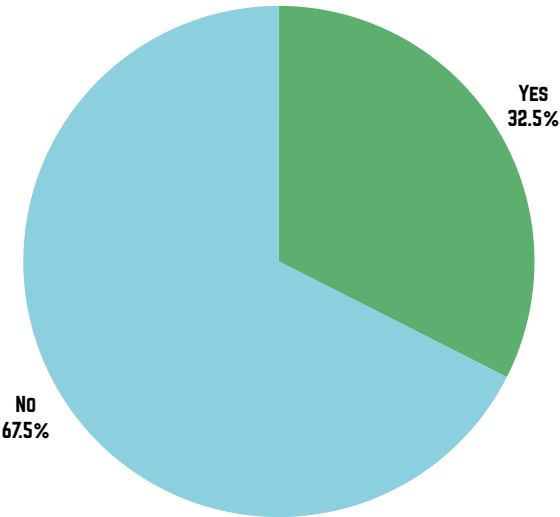
The final SF Mayoral Debate held on September 19th, 2024 included the four candidates above.

PROP K (SAN FRANCISCO)

CLOSING THE UPPER GREAT HIGHWAY AND TURNING IT INTO AN OPEN RECREATION SPACE.

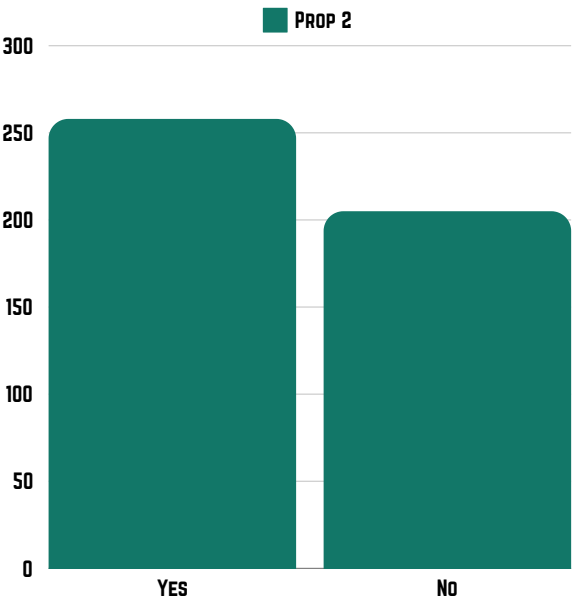
Inside SI chose the following propositions because they may have an impact on members of our SI Community.

See Page 9 for Pros and Cons of Prop K.



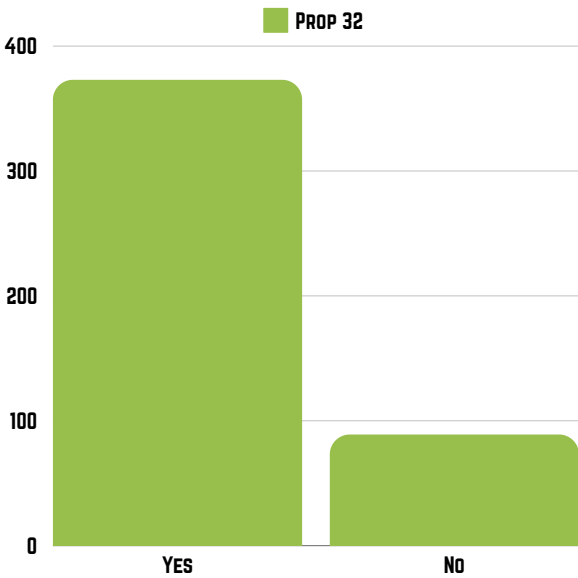
PROP 2

ISSUING \$10 BILLION IN BONDS TO FUND PUBLIC SCHOOL REPAIRS AND UPGRADES.



PROP 32

INCREASING THE STATE MINIMUM WAGE TO \$18 AN HOUR.



Shay Moriarty '25

SAN FRANCISCO'S MAYORAL RACE

Editor-In-Chief

Inside SI reached out to four of the major San Francisco mayoral candidates via email with a short questionnaire. Here are their unedited responses. Check out the next page 12 for an extended interview with mayoral candidate and SI alum **MARK FARRELL!**

What would you say to young people who want to pursue public service?


“Serving your community is the highest form of service you can give. I grew up in a community with a lot of gun violence, gangs, and drugs. It was a struggle. But I channeled my situation, perspective, and experience into making changes to help the type of people I grew up with. Every decision I make now as Mayor is about ensuring that people still have the opportunity to ascend to be Mayor if they want to, or achieve their dreams, whether that’s affording a home, getting a good job, or being able to raise a family here and afford to set down roots and stay here.”

Photo c/o Mission Local

What is your vision for San Francisco?

“My vision is to create a San Francisco that works for everyone, with affordable housing for all, that serves kids, parents, and families, with safe streets, beautiful parks, and a new downtown neighborhood that brings residents and tourists together in a re-imagined downtown. I would also love to see Bay FC build a new soccer stadium in San Francisco, so we can have NWSL women’s soccer and the WNBA’s Golden State Valkyries side-by-side in our city, creating civic pride and inspiration for every little girl in our city who dreams of becoming a professional athlete.”

London Breed attended Galileo High School in San Francisco.



What would you say to young people who want to pursue public service?


“If you want to make a difference, start by getting involved wherever you can—whether it’s joining student council, volunteering in your community, or helping others in any way. Public service is about stepping up and working to solve the problems you see around you. My advice is to stay curious, listen to others, and don’t be afraid to get involved, even in small ways. Whether you’re organizing a school event or volunteering at the S.F.-Marin Food Bank, those experiences can have a big impact and lead you to bigger opportunities to help your community.”

Photo c/o Daniel Lurie

What is your vision for San Francisco?

“My vision for San Francisco is a place where everyone can feel safe and have opportunities to succeed. I want to make sure people have homes they can afford, and I want to bring back the fun and energy that makes this city special. I believe we can solve big problems like homelessness and make San Francisco a place where people want to live, work, and enjoy life.”

Daniel Lurie attended University High School in San Francisco.



What would you say to young people who want to pursue public service? How did you get into politics?


“I would tell young people to get involved in any way you can. I caught the bug for public service early and knew I wanted to be a public servant. One of my first jobs when I was 18 years old was working for a local city council member. I got the opportunity to shadow him going door to door to talk to every single voter he could to earn their vote. He taught me the value of public service and I knew at that age that I would run for office one day. It is never too early to start getting involved.”

Photo c/o Safai's Campaign Team

What is your vision for San Francisco?

“After six years of City Hall corruption and mismanagement, with crime and homelessness on the rise, we need effective, progressive leadership and accountability in the mayor’s office, to get San Francisco back on track. I know we can make San Francisco safer for all of us and bring an end to our humanitarian homeless and addiction crises while staying true to our progressive values. San Francisco can be a place where everyone has a home and meaning in their lives, where our kids grow up in safe, vibrant, welcoming neighborhoods, with good schools and affordable housing so they can stay in San Francisco and thrive.”

Ahsha Safai attended the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School in Boston.



What would you say to young people who want to pursue public service?


“To do care about people.”

Photo c/o SF Chronicle

What is your vision for San Francisco?

“A diverse, caring, affordable city.”

Aaron Peskin attended Berkeley High School.



FROM ST. IGNATIUS TO CITY HALL: MARK FARRELL '92

Lucas Liang '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Mark Farrell '92 still remembers his Kairos retreat. "I don't want to blow it for the non-seniors, but it was definitely a formative part of that [SI] experience," Farrell told *Inside SI* in a sit-down interview.

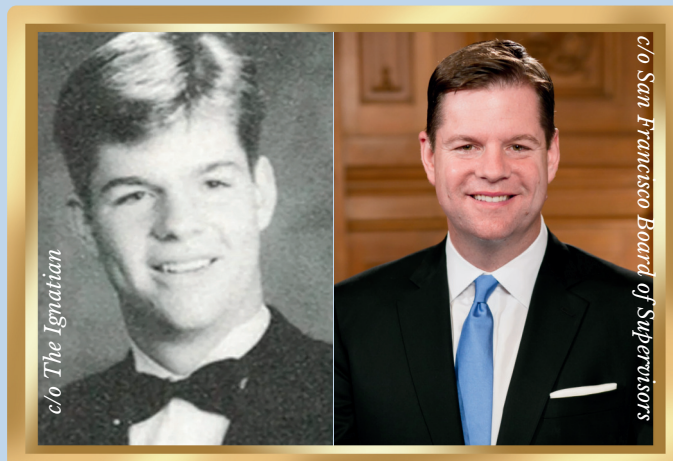
Now, the former member of the Board of Supervisors and interim mayor is trying to take those SI experiences back to City Hall as mayor. If he wins the November 5 election, Farrell would be the second SI alum to ever be elected mayor of San Francisco. The first and only elected mayor from SI, George Moscone '47, was known as "the people's mayor" for opening up City Hall to Black Americans, Asian Americans, and gay people. Almost fifty years later, Farrell, the former supervisor for the Marina and Pacific Heights, is running another radical campaign with one of the most moderate platforms in recent memory for a major San Francisco mayoral candidate.

"My vision for our city is a San Francisco that's safe, with clean streets, a growing economy, vibrant neighborhoods, and a focus on families once again," Farrell said. To realize this vision as mayor, Farrell plans to increase police staffing, clear all large tent encampments, and give tax breaks to companies that mandate their workers return to downtown offices at least four times a week.

But to implement these proposals, Farrell will have to emerge victorious in a crowded field. The major candidates in the race are Farrell, incumbent Mayor London Breed, nonprofit founder and Levi Strauss

heir Daniel Lurie, and Board of Supervisors President Aaron Peskin. Breed, Lurie, and Farrell are all considered moderates by San Francisco standards, while Peskin is running on a progressive platform. All of these candidates are Democrats.

Breed, who has been mayor for the past six years, has, according to Farrell, "completely failed our city."



Mark Farrell '92 in his SI senior portrait (left) and his 2015 official portrait (right).

"When I left City Hall in 2018, I never thought I would run for office ever again," Farrell noted. But Farrell said he wanted his children, "to be proud to call San Francisco home" and to move back after college.

For Farrell, elected office didn't come naturally. Born to an Air Force pilot father and a German immigrant mother, Farrell grew up in a flat in the Marina near the then-Presidio Army Base, where his parents could enter to eat and shop cheaply. Farrell went on to live a childhood typical of many SI students. He

played sports while attending Stuart Hall forgrade school and then SI for high school. While at SI, Farrell learned the Jesuit values that are still taught to students today. But Farrell told *Inside SI*, "I never thought [those values] would manifest themselves in elected office."

This year, however, the mayor's race seems to be lacking in those Jesuit values. The candidates have been hurling accusations of corruption, incompetence, and deceit in an all-too-common display of the nastiness of San Francisco politics.

Still, Farrell's message to SI students about pursuing public service was simple. "You can take a leadership role making a difference in people's lives," Farrell told *Inside SI*. "Don't sit back and get into the fight for what you believe in."

Four days out from the election, polls point to the mayor's race being a pure toss-up. Farrell, Breed, Lurie, and Peskin are all in a neck and neck sprint to the finish. For Farrell, "The opportunity to . . . write a new chapter in San Francisco is incredibly exciting."



George Moscone '47's and Mark Farrell '92's portraits hang together on the first floor, red side at SI.

VANCE VS. WALZ FACEOFF

Farrah Almajdalani '27

Contributing Editor

On October 1, 2024, Republican Ohio Senator JD Vance and Democratic Minnesota Governor Tim Walz took the stage for the vice presidential debate hosted by CBS News.

Vance and Walz debated topics including foreign policy, reproductive rights, housing, immigration, and healthcare. According to a CBS News poll, 42% of debate watchers felt that Vance won, 41% felt that Walz won, and 17% considered the debate a tie.

Once a Trump critic, Vance seemed composed during the debate. Known for his controversial statements and indifference towards Ukraine and other American allies, Vance has criticized Vice President Harris, stating that she has not made dramatic improvements for the country during her time as vice president. On the other hand, to some, Walz seemed less

confident on stage, but he also criticized the opposing party's presidential candidate, stating that Trump is a liar who rejects unfavorable truths.

Vance and Walz refrained from personal attacks, instead focusing their criticisms on the policies of each other's running mates. For example, Walz stated, "I agree with a lot of what Senator Vance said about what's happening—his running mate, though, does not."

Both agreed that the current issues of the housing crisis and gun violence need to be addressed.

Vance attributed the surge of fentanyl, gun problems, and the housing crisis to illegal immigration. A large part of the debate was about abortion. Walz expressed his view of abortion as a human right while Vance saw it as states' rights issue. Another main takeaway of the debate

was when Walz claimed that he misspoke about the number of times he was in Tiananmen Square. Walz said he had traveled to China around 30 times; however, a Harris campaign spokesperson said it was closer to 15 times. Later, Walz described himself as a "knucklehead" and said that at times he can get caught up in the moment. As a result, Vance replied by saying Walz should be more honest to the American people when he misspeaks.

A key moment of the debate was when Vance dodged a discussion surrounding the events of January 6. In addition, Walz

brought up Trump's reaction to his 2020 election loss, to which Vance responded, "I'm focused on the future."

Mr. Dan Devitt, a history teacher at SI, shared his opinion on the debate and said, "It was clear that JD Vance had a successful strategy in appealing to Midwest voters that prize civility over polarized ideological opinions. He was very clever in agreeing with Walz on certain policy issues."

At the end of the debate, the candidates shook hands and left the stage, leaving with a civil and friendly tone.



JD Vance (left) and Tim Walz (right) greet each other on the debate floor.

Photo c/o Politico

THE EFFICACY AND EVOLUTION OF ADVOCACY

Claire Somsouk '26

Contributing Editor

Advocacy has long been a powerful tool for enacting social change. As Mr. Vergara, a U.S. Histories and Cultures teacher, stated, “The study of history is the study of human nature.” By reflecting on past movements, we can gain insights into human tendencies and develop humility regarding our shared faults. Understanding advocacy through a historical lens allows us to measure the effectiveness of various methods, revealing valuable lessons learned from both successes and failures.

Throughout history, advocacy has taken many forms, with notable movements highlighting its evolution. The abolition of slavery, for instance, utilized a range of methods. Figures like Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass exemplified both direct and indirect action, illustrating the diverse ways individuals can contribute to social reform. William Lloyd Garrison’s publication, *The Liberator*, played a crucial role in raising awareness about slavery, emphasizing the importance of the press in advocacy work. Today, social media platforms quickly bring attention to contemporary issues; for example, the #MeToo Movement showcased the power of digital advocacy and the impact of public discourse.

In the movement for India’s independence, Mohandas Gandhi used the method of civil disobedience, demonstrating how nonviolent movements can garner public and international support.

This approach was later adopted by Martin Luther King Jr. during the American Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. King’s peaceful demonstrations, such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the March on Washington, were instrumental in gaining public sympathy and support for racial equality.

The history of advocacy contains lessons that remain relevant today. By studying the evolution of advocacy methods, we gain insights into human nature and the complexities of societal change. Each historical movement has left a legacy that informs modern strategies, emphasizing the importance of grassroots efforts, strategic messaging, and adaptability. We should strive to learn from historical events, using them as a guide to inform our actions and inspire meaningful change in our communities. In Mr. Vergara’s words, understanding history is essential for learning about ourselves and shaping a better future.



Protesters during the Civil Rights era advocate for equal voting rights and the dismantling of segregated spaces.

POLITICS AND PODCASTS IN THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Sierra Murphy '25, Kate Quach '25, Shay Moriarty '25

Editors-in-Chief

Continued from Page 1

episode was definitely more serious, but it helped me learn more about topics within the upcoming election,” said Maddie Murray '26. Viewers interpreted Harris’ appearance on the podcast to primarily motivate more Gen-Z and millennial women voters.

However, this episode also received a lot of backlash with comments calling Cooper, “politically inexperienced,” and that as a podcaster she has “ignorance of fundamental issues.” Although Alex Cooper doesn’t have experience in politics or in politically affiliated media, her audience is mostly women who are directly affected by the pressing issues that are determined by this election. By going on this podcast, Harris opened up her ideas and plans to many young female voters who might not have been interested in her campaign before. Alex Cooper questioned Harris on very relevant topics, asking her how she would try to take concrete actions to better help the security of women’s rights if she were elected. These conversations that Cooper and Harris gained traction online, with many clips from the podcast going viral on TikTok and other forms of social media.

With podcasts, the leading candidates of the 2024 Presidential Election have reshaped the idea of what a “normal” interview entails, changing how future political candidates will campaign to younger American audiences.



Kamala Harris speaks on Alex Cooper’s podcast (above). Donald Trump recently was a guest on Joe Ragan’s podcast (below).

WOMEN IN POWER

Michael Cinco '27 and Skylar Chung '27

Contributing Editors

Since this issue’s feature is power and advocacy, let’s talk about some of today’s most influential women in power internationally.

Claudia Sheinbaum, a 62-year-old Mexican scientist and politician, was sworn in early October as her country’s president. She earned over 35 million votes, which is the most for any Mexican presidential candidate in history. President Sheinbaum holds a PhD in engineering and has worked in the world’s fight against climate change, including creating the Climate Action

Program in which Sheinbaum made efforts to reduce waste and gas emissions, while working simultaneously to develop renewable sources of energy. She is also working to create new green spaces and reforest Mexico City.’

Another influential woman in power is Kaja Kallas. Kallas was the Prime Minister of Estonia from 2021-2024, and is currently the leader of the Estonian Reform Party. She is a leading advocate for Europe amidst the war in Ukraine. Kallas has led efforts to support Ukraine through its conflict with Russia by sending them aid

through military and humanitarian resources. She has also been an advocate of gender equality and LGBTQ+ rights. Kallas also championed gender equality through employment, education, and healthcare. Kallas helped with the gender pay gap reduction, domestic violence laws, and promotion of women in power and instated the implementation of the EU Gender Equality Strategy.

Addressing why it is important that little girls grow up and see women in power, Heather Yee '27 noted, “It’s important because it gives them a reason to strive for power and their rights, which shows that women can do anything!”



Claudia Sheinbaum and Kaja Kallas are powerful women in politics.

PUMPKIN CRUMB CAKE MUFFINS

Josie White '28

Contributing Editor

Pumpkin crumb cake muffins are the perfect cozy treat for the fall season. The original autumn muffin reaches the next level when a layer of pumpkin spice crumble is baked on top with a sweet maple icing drizzle.

The recipe only takes 35 minutes to complete and is nut free, making it the ideal choice for sharing with family and friends. SI freshmen students Esme Hing and Presley Hsieh stated that the treats taste like “a fall crumble cookie, but on steroids and in muffin form” and that “the pumpkin spice gives you that warm feeling of the beginning of fall.”

Whether an SI student is looking for a delicious, easy-to-grab October muffin, or wanting to escape the world with some cozy afternoon baking, this recipe hits the spot.

Ingredients:

- 1 and ¾ cup of all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon of baking soda
- 2 teaspoon of ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon of store bought or homemade pumpkin spice (receptive below)
- ½ teaspoon of salt
- ½ cup of canola or vegetable oil
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup of packed light or dark brown sugar
- 1 and ½ cups of pumpkin puree
- 2 large eggs
- ¾ cup of milk at room temperature

Crumb Topping

- ¾ cup of all purpose flour
- ¼ cup of granulated sugar
- ¼ cup of packed light or dark brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon of store bought or homemade pumpkin spice (receptive below)
- 6 tablespoons of unsalted butter, melted

Maple Icing (optional)

- 1 and ½ cups of confectioners’ sugar
- 2 tablespoons of pure maple syrup
- 2 tablespoons of milk



Instructions:

1. Preheat the oven to 425°F (218°C). Spray a 12-count muffin pan with nonstick spray or line with cupcake liners. This recipe makes 15 muffins, so prepare a second muffin pan in the same manner. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl, whisk the flour, baking soda, cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice, and salt together. Set aside. In a medium bowl, whisk the oil, granulated sugar, brown sugar, pumpkin puree, eggs and milk together. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients, then fold everything together gently just until combined and no flour pockets remain.
3. Spoon the batter into liners, filling them almost full.
4. Make the crumb topping: Whisk the flour, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and pumpkin pie spice together. Using a fork, lightly mix in the melted butter until crumbs form. Don’t over-mix. Spoon crumbs evenly on top of the batter and gently press them down into the batter so they’re snug.
5. Bake for 5 minutes at 425°F (218°C) then, keeping the muffins in the oven, reduce the oven temperature to 350°F (177°C). Bake for an additional 16-17 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Allow the muffins to cool for 10 minutes in the muffin pan as you make the icing.
6. Make the icing: Whisk all of the icing ingredients together until combined and smooth. Drizzle over muffins and serve warm. Cover tightly and store at room temperature for 1-2 days or in the refrigerator for up to 1 week.

IT’S GILMORE GIRLS SEASON - LET’S ACT LIKE IT.

Sadie Eggert '26 and Dara Lewis '26

Contributing Editors

It was on October 5, 2000 when fall changed for the better. *Gilmore Girls* was first released in the most fitting season of the year. Whether you are watching with your mom, sister, or friend, there's no denying that watching will fill your fall cravings. The show is filled with nostalgic elements and themes of family friendships, making it the ultimate comfort show. It will keep you intrigued and entertained all year long, whether it's due to Rory's never ending romantic adventures or Lorelai's out of pocket humor, you'll never want to turn it off.

Feeling bored this fall season? Want an excuse to show up to an event in your pajamas? Craving a good sweet treat? This is your sign to throw your very own *Gilmore Girls* watch party! Here's everything you need to know. Feel free to invite your friends, and if you're feeling on theme, invite all of your friends' moms too! Make sure everyone comes in their comfiest pajamas and coziest Uggs, and be sure everyone brings their fluffiest blankets.

This picture-perfect night wouldn't be right without a snack. There's nothing that pairs better with watching *Gilmore Girls* than snuggling up in a blanket and having a warm, delicious cookie by your side. This cookie would most definitely be “Sookie approved,” as it is the perfect combination of a cinnamon roll and coffee cake. What more could you want?



Gilmore Girls Coffee Cake Cookies

CINNAMON DOUGH:

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 1/2 cups flour (325 grams)

STREUSEL:

- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 – 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- pinch of salt
- ICING:
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tbsp milk
- splash of vanilla

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. To make the dough, combine the butter, oil and brown sugar. Mix for a couple minutes until it is smooth. The mixture should be lighter in color and fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla and mix again. Add the remaining ingredients and mix until just combined.
2. To make the streusel, combine all the ingredients in a bowl and mix with a spoon or your hand. Start with 1/3 cup of flour. The mixture should stick together, but should also crumble when you run it through your fingers. If it isn't crumbling, add 1 tbs of flour until it crumbles.
3. Using a large cookie scoop, scoop a ball of dough onto a lined baking sheet. Using the back of your cookie scoop or your fingers, make an indent on the top of the dough. Sprinkle a couple tablespoons of the streusel on the top of the cookie, into the indent.
4. Bake the cookies at 350 for 10-12 minutes. While they are baking, make the icing. Combine the powdered sugar, milk, and vanilla in a small bowl and whisk until it's smooth and runny. Once the cookies have cooled slightly, drizzle on lots of icing! Enjoy!



Gilmore Girls Character Snookie, head chef and baker of the show.

SPINE-CHILLING CINEMA IN PSYCHOLOGY

Julian Ozaeta '25

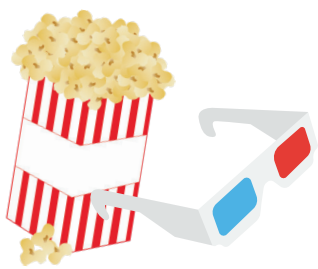
Managing Editor

Has a school assignment ever made you tremble in fear? Earlier this school year, juniors and seniors in Mr. Eric Castro’s course, Social-Cognitive Psychology, were tasked with a project relating to the material they were learning about at the time—only it did not entail a presentation or poster, like one might expect. With five points on the line, students had to watch the scariest movie they could find, experiencing for themselves the topics being discussed in class: sensation and perception.

Mr. Castro’s “Scary Movie Project” asked students to first watch the film and then go straight to sleep; the next day, they had to write about the psychology of their experiences. In addition, Mr. Castro suggested for everyone to choose a movie that truly frightened them—and for the most daring students to unlock the nearest door while they were watching. Students chose a variety of movies: *Us*, *Terrifier*, *The Silence of the Lambs*—the list goes on.

Two seniors recalled their experiences of paying full attention to the terrifying scenes on their TVs. “The movie *M3GAN* was scary to watch completely alone, and I don’t like scary movies,” stated Addison Low ’25. “So, I tried to pick the least scary one.” Zoe Omar ’25 described her project: “I watched the movie *Long Legs* for my [psychology] class. I would say that I was most scared when music started to play and build up my anticipation for something bad to occur, especially when they first introduced Long Legs.” She continued, saying, “[W]hile I was watching the movie, I definitely felt a lot of anxiety and fear.”

Psychology students indeed had varying experiences with horror, but there is no doubt that everyone was spooked in some way by the cinematic elements of their chosen film. And, with scary movies in full effect this time of year, perhaps you could attempt to sit through the most frightening film to you!



Photos c/o IMDb

THE SEASONAL SHOWDOWN

Riley Hartnett '26

Contributing Editor

As the leaves change color and fall comes into full force, fierce debates arise about the best time of the year. In the battle of seasons, there’s never only one right answer, but responses seem to be tied to an even more important question: What’s Starbucks’ best seasonal flavor?

Starting August 22nd, autumn lovers proudly declare their loyalty to pumpkin spice. Despite it still being August, and thus summer, these fall enthusiasts emerge in full force. For many, this drink embodies the essence of fall—crisp days, cozy sweaters, and the crunch of orange leaves underfoot. Serafina Spink ’26, a loyal pumpkin chai advocate, said, “Starbucks is only worth getting in the fall. The pumpkin spice adds a flavor that isn’t present in any of the other seasons’ drinks.” It’s sweet, warm, and pairs perfectly with a crisp, autumn day. It is essential for a walk in the fall.

As autumn fades and the days turn icy, the winter lovers take the stage. For them, nothing beats the Christmas season and the peppermint flavor that comes with it. The cool, minty flavor, mixed with chocolates, creates a beverage as festive as winter decorations and twinkling lights. Winter defenders

insist these drinks bring warmth to the coldest days. Helen Plam ’26 revealed, “The peppermint hot chocolate is the perfect mixture of mint and sweetness. I can feel its warmth run through me with every sip.” The bold combination of flavors will warm anyone



Image c/o enjoyorangecounty.com

from the inside out. I bet it would even melt the Grinch’s frozen heart.

After months of gray skies and rainy days, some

cannot wait for something cool and refreshing to pair with the spring and summer warmth that follows. A common favorite at SI is the Strawberry Açai Refresher.

It seems every girl has a love for this sweet, fruity drink. The vibrant flavors reflect the blooming flowers and warmer days. Spring loyalists argue this drink goes with every season. Dara Lewis ’26 is among this majority. She said, “The drink goes perfectly with any day. During the long school days, I can’t wait to walk my dog to get a refreshing drink from my local Starbucks, and a pup cup for her.” This drink perfectly embodies the season of renewal and the feeling of a fresh start. The intense heat of the spring and summer months calls for something cool and invigorating, like a tea or refresher. Summer lovers argue that nothing tops a cold drink on the beach with friends, or when on a shopping spree.

There may never be a clear winner in this serious debate. It’s clear though, that for many, the seasons are more about the weather; they’re about everything that comes with it. Whether you’re a pumpkin defender or refresher lover, the changing seasons are something everyone looks forward to. So, what’s your favorite season—and Starbucks drink to match?



THE DOWNFALL OF SEAN “DIDDY” COMBS

Amanda Oberto '27 and Lauren Yu '27

Contributing Editors

“I decided to embrace the entrepreneurial spirit of my father, but in an honest way... in a legal way.” Although Sean Combs (P Diddy), speaking at Howard University’s commencement ceremony in 2014, seemed inspiring in his message, the recent accusations about him prove this statement a complete and upsetting lie. Recently, his house was raided and he was incarcerated. This has revealed a web of corrupted power, and correlates closely to the abuse many celebrities experienced during the 2000s.

The allegations first began with Cassandra Ventura, Combs’ former partner, accusing Combs of sexual, physical, and mental abuse. In May of 2024, video footage of Combs physically abusing Ventura was released to the public, dating back to 2016. Since the footage has been released to the

public, Combs has come forth to share an apology video on Instagram, stating, “I was disgusted when I did it. I’m disgusted now.”

Since Ventura’s accusations, Combs has been accused of various illegal activities with five civil lawsuits, all of which he has denied. On March 25, Combs’s homes in Miami and his Holmby Hills estate in Los Angeles were raided. Combs was arrested and charged with racketeering, sex trafficking, and the transportation of prostitutes across state lines.

Combs’ power, fame, and business empire insulated him, up until now, from any consequences of his violence and abuse. He quickly rose to fame in the 1980s, and his music record’s net worth was estimated at \$130 million.

According to the US Attorney’s Office,

Combs has been involved in and/or caused forced labor, arson, kidnapping, and bribery, dating back to the early 2000s. Combs has gotten away with these acts for far too long due to his power and influence in the music industry.

For many years, Combs was in a position of fame and power—surrounding himself with influential celebrities. His power protected him from consequence for a long time. As the disturbing truths about Combs finally come to light, the question is raised: how do we hold power in check?



Sean Combs in New York City in 2017.

SPACEX’S HISTORIC LEAP

Adriene Barki '26

Contributing Editor

On October 13, 2024, SpaceX took a big step forward in its mission to revolutionize space travel through the successful test flight of its Starship spacecraft, with the first-ever catch of a Super Heavy booster. Launched from the company’s facility in Texas, the event demonstrated not only Starship’s vast capabilities, but also its advancements in reusability, an essential aspect to SpaceX’s goals.



The Mechazilla arms catch the Super Heavy Booster.

The test marked the first time a Super Heavy booster was caught mid-air by the launch tower’s robotic arms, otherwise known as “Mechazilla.” This achievement is crucial for making the Starship a fully reusable spacecraft in order to reduce costs for future missions. SpaceX’s engineers were able to successfully execute a precise catch, further enhancing their vision of sustainability.

During the flight, the booster separated from the Starship as planned and began its descent. The booster performed a controlled landing before being guided into the arms of the launch tower, a complex process that requires precise coordination of propulsion, guidance, and timing.

As a privatized space organization, SpaceX’s additional goal is to reduce the price of space exploration. Launches into low Earth orbit had previously been extremely expensive, which made creating new technologies and exploring further out into the galaxy difficult for SpaceX. However, innovations, such as self-landing

boosters and the newly-tested ‘Mechazilla’ arms, have led to these costs dropping dramatically. The success of this catch was key for SpaceX’s advancements as they continue to develop Starships for future missions.

The public’s response to this SpaceX launch was filled with excitement and anticipation as this marks a significant step for the future of Space exploration. SpaceX enthusiast and SI student Michael Cole '26 reacted to this event, stating, “Watching SpaceX develop at such a rapid pace as I’ve grown up has been fascinating. For the most part, a lot of companies stay stagnant. Like, the iPhone just adds a new camera every year! But real, new technology that is improving at an exponential rate is rare to come by, and I think that Space X is a clear example of this.”

If innovation continues at this rate, it will not be long until humanity can call itself an interplanetary species.

THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE MILTON

Heather Yee '27

Managing Editor

Late at night on October 9, Category 3 Hurricane Milton made landfall on Florida’s western coast in Siesta Key, a city about 70 miles away from Tampa. As the storm cleared its way through central Florida, Milton left behind a trail of vast destruction across the state, with its 120 mph winds causing power outages, fallen trees, and billions of dollars in destruction.

As of October 21, the death toll has reached 33; however, local search and rescue teams have been successful in evacuating the majority of residents from their homes via boat and kayak. Before Hurricane Milton made landfall, its powerful winds spawned many tornadoes, causing a record number of tornado warnings. These were the leading cause of death and damage, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Over three million homes and businesses were left without electricity, and

it took more than two days for many of them to have power restored. In addition, Hurricane Milton brought record levels of rain to the state — about 12-18 inches in a day in some areas. City streets and low-lying areas were most heavily impacted by these floodwaters, which caused further destruction and panic for Floridians.

The devastating Hurricane Milton came as residents of the southeastern U.S. had just begun to recover from the effects of Hurricane Helene, which hit Florida’s Gulf Coast just two weeks prior on September 26. Sherina Wu '27 has been keeping up with the latest on Milton through social media and commented, “I send my deepest thoughts and prayers to all those who have family and friends there who have been directly affected by both Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton.”

As the state continues to recover from its second hurricane in just two weeks,

Florida residents continue to maintain a strong sense of resilience and hope.



Flooding in Tampa, Florida from Hurricane Milton.

GOING FOR THE SWEEP: VOLLEYBALL SPIKES IT HOME

Lilly Eugster '25

Managing Editor

In one of the most exciting Bruce-Mahoney matchups, the Saint Ignatius women's volleyball team staged a remarkable comeback, securing a five-set victory after falling behind during the first two sets. The annual rivalry game, rich in tradition and intensity, showcased both the skills of the athletes, and also their grit and determination in the face of adversity.

From the opening whistle, Sacred Heart Cathedral came out strong, taking the first two sets with momentum. The Wildcats, led by captain Elise Lau '25, found themselves struggling to match the energy of their opponents. "We were stressed out in the beginning," said Lau '25. "We knew we weren't playing to the best of our ability in the first two sets."

Despite the early setback, the Wildcats did not back down, and instead came to play even harder. As the players headed into halftime, it became clear that something had to change. The break proved to be huge for the team's success, giving them an opportunity to regroup, and tap into the resilience that has defined them and their season.

During halftime, we really came together as a team," Lau added. "We knew we had to leave everything on the court if we wanted to turn this game around.

The Wildcats took control of the third set, battling for every point and rallying the crowd behind them. With each serve, block, set, and kill, the momentum slowly shifted in their favor, and with the loud remarks of Wildcat Nation and the student section behind them, they began to dominate the court.

By the fourth set, Saint Ignatius was seemingly unstoppable, and with the Wildcats now commanding on the court, and Sacred Heart Cathedral struggling to maintain their early pace, the match was tied at two sets apiece, setting the stage for a dramatic final set.

The energy inside the gym was electric as the teams entered the fifth and deciding set. Every point was contested fiercely, but the Wildcats' determination never wavered. They rode their wave of confidence to finish the

match strong, sealing the victory in a tense, hard-fought final set, and clinching another thrilling chapter in the Bruce Mahoney rivalry.

The comeback win highlighted the team's perseverance and unity. "In the end, we were really proud to come together during halftime and work as a team," said Lau. "This win is a testament to our bond and the hard work we've put in all season."

With their heads held high and spirits soaring, the Saint Ignatius women's volleyball team celebrated a well-earned victory, working their names in Bruce Mahoney history and proving that no obstacle is too great for the women's volleyball team.



First ever Bruce Mahoney Volleyball Game 2021.



Girls prepare to dominate the Bruce Mahoney 2024.

HISTORY OF THE BRUCE MAHONEY TROPHY

Leena Feeley '25 & Logan Mitchell '25

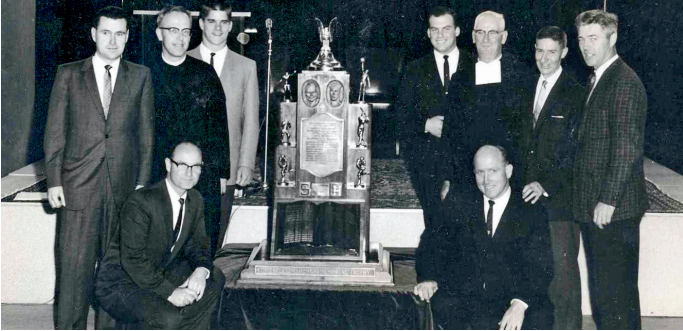
Contributing Editors

As we anticipate the big Bruce Mahoney football game taking place on November 1st, we are reminded of the rich history of our rivalry with Sacred Heart. The rivalry began in 1893, during a Saint Patrick's rugby game in Central Park. It is the oldest high school rivalry west of the Rocky Mountains and the oldest Catholic School rivalry in the nation.

Although the schools have been competing since then, the Bruce Mahoney Trophy was not inaugurated until 1947. The trophy was named after Lieutenant Bill Bruce, an alumnus of Saint Ignatius, and Jerry Mahoney, an alumnus of Sacred Heart, who both enlisted in the United States Navy during World War II. After flying more than 50 combat missions in Europe, on April 14, 1943, Bill Bruce was killed in an airplane crash while training new pilots at the Naval Air Station in Pasco, Washington. Jerry Mahoney was killed on February 5, 1945, when the merchant ship on which he was serving was sunk by a German U-boat off the coast of Ramsgate, Kent.

In 2021, after much discussion, SI and SH joined to change the rules, adding girls volleyball and basketball to the tournament. The SI women's teams have dominated the court with multiple volleyball and basketball wins over the last three years.

As we look forward to the next game, we're expecting a turnout that is comparable to the 10,000 people who came in support of the teams in 2023.



The Bruce Mahoney has a very longstanding history at SI.

BAY AREA OLYMPIC ATHLETES IMPRESS

Connor Lewis '25

Contributing Editor



Amit Elor won the Gold Medal for Wrestling at the 2024 Olympics.



Sabrina Ionescu takes on the Paris Olympics court.

One of the most exciting events of the summer was one enjoyed by people worldwide—the 2024 Paris Olympics. The Olympics showcased the country’s best athletes, but also the Bay Area’s best athletes.

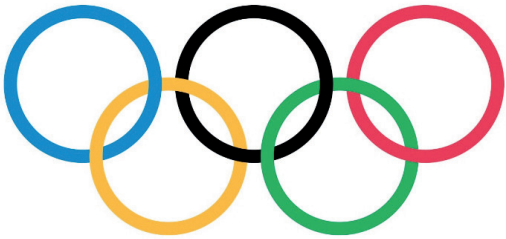
One of the Bay’s most successful Olympic athletes in Paris was wrestler Amit Elor. Amit grew up in Walnut Creek where she started wrestling at four years old. She also attended College Park High and famously won the CIF state championship in 20 seconds.

Amit’s journey wasn’t all glory, though. In 2018, her older brother Oshry was shot in Pleasant Hill. She overcame her grief and dedicated her athletic commitment to her brother, going on to win two world championships. In 2022, disaster struck again when her dad passed away from COVID complications. Despite these tough losses, she still showed up for her country to win gold in the Paris games, dedicating the win to her dad and brother.

San Francisco native Alex Massialis also competed for the U.S in fencing in Paris.

Massialis said, “San Francisco is a huge part of my identity. I’m extremely proud to be from San Francisco and I loved growing up in the city.” Massialis went to Drew School in SF and still shares an apartment with his sister in the city. In Paris, Massialis made it all the way to the round of 16 and competed in a team fencing medal match.

Lastly, basketball players Chelsea Gray and Sabrina Ionescu made the Bay proud in the 2024 Olympics, closing out the Paris games with the U.S’ final gold medal. Gray grew up in Manteca and went to St. Mary’s high school in Stockton, but she still today feels tied to the Bay, saying, “the Bay raised me, for sure.” Ionescu grew up in Walnut Creek and was a four-year varsity starter at Miramonte high school, where she was a McDonald’s All-American.



OARS UP: WOMEN’S CREW

Julia Pellegrini '26

Contributing Editor

Women’s rowing has kicked off the fall club season strong after just competing in their first regatta down in Sacramento at Head of the Port. As an undersized scholastic team competing against massive clubs, the team placed impressively. The women’s U19 varsity eight placed 4th overall, the second eight placing 8th overall, and the two novice boats placed first and second. These results lead to a promising rest of the fall season as the team prepares for their upcoming regattas in Sacramento and Seattle.

The rowing team is an inclusive community that welcomes everyone to the team. As a sport that is very physically demanding, it unlocks athletic capability and mental strength. The difficulty of the sport brings the team together, creating interdependence. Sophomore Martina Monroe noted that “[she] values the people

most” because of the support system that the rowing team offers. It is a community that lifts each other up, as a sport that relies on showing up not just for yourself, but the rest of the team. A boat can’t win a race if one girl doesn’t buy in, which is what makes rowing so special.

The Saint Ignatius working team embodies all of these qualities, and every year, it grows as athletes work to fill the footsteps of the people ahead of them. This year’s team is already showing promising signs. D-1 bound coxswain Sofia Filice '25 said she could “see this team building connections with each other and a concrete set of standards that will continue on for years after [she] graduates.” The team strives to carry out the legacy of its seniors, with the ultimate goal of placing at nationals. Given the hard work and motivation of the entire team, there is a hopeful outlook of achieving this goal as the work put in during

will only lead to a stronger spring season.



Women’s Crew race at a regatta.

FIELD HOCKEY FLIES TO MICHIGAN

Chloe Fisher '26

Contributing Editor

St. Ignatius’ Varsity Girls Field Hockey team traveled to Ann Arbor, Michigan over quarter break (October 10-13) and played against some of the best teams in the country. The girls started their adventure when meeting at the airport at 3:30 am, ready to go across the country and start the next chapter of their season. Just a few hours after the plane landed, this enthusiastic team took to the field facing the best team in the state of Michigan.

Playing their hearts out, the SI team and Pioneer High School ended in a tie. This was a great achievement for the SI players as it moved them up in the rankings. The next day, the team received the honor to play on the University of Michigans’ professional field hockey turf and then watch a game after. Your SI women’s Varsity Team won against Dexter at UMich, and a couple hours later, the Michigan team won against Ruckers! After all of the wins the team got a tour of the campus, with was a highlight of the trip for many of the players. By the

third day, the team had bonded in a way that made the girls better teammates and competitors.

Senior and captain Meaghan Manning recounted, “I have never been prouder of the effort and mindset my teammates brought to the game. We faced the top competition in Michigan, and together, we built something stronger than just a team.”

Freshman Hazel Stang affirmed this sentiment, saying, “I loved our trip to Michigan because it provided a time where

I could really get to know all of my teammates and it helped me immerse myself in the team atmosphere.” As a member of the team, I agree, and will say that this trip led to the strengthening of friendships and improvement on teamwork.



Field Hockey celebrates a victory in Michigan.



Varsity Field Hockey tour the University of Michigan.

SPORTS UPDATE

Nick Luongo '25 & Lilly Eugster '25

Managing Editors

MEN'S WATER POLO

Record as of 10/28: 8-12



Brooks Taylor '25 reads the defense with the ball in hand.

Men's Water Polo looks to close out the season strong, with the final regular season game of the year on October 26 at home.

WOMEN'S WATER POLO

Record as of 10/28: 10-14



Eliza Harlow '25 assists the next goal.

The women's team is made up of 16 girls, 11 of whom are seniors. They have significantly improved since the beginning of the season, winning by one point on Saturday to Harker.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Record as of 10/28: 19-12

The girl's season is going well for having only 6 returning players and a team of 15. They have really grown as a team with skill and creating an environment where everyone is comfortable and open to growth



Varsity Women's Volleyball leads the SI Fight Song after their comeback win.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Record as of 10/28: 9-2

Women's Golf played a successful 2024 season. As they celebrate the ending of their regular season and gear up for WCAL and CCS tournaments, the team maintains their drive to practice and encourage one another on the course.



Stevie Umali '27 lines up her next putt.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Record as of 10/28: 19-4

Women's Tennis motored through the season with a win against SHC 10/22nd. CCS will start Nov. 16th.



WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Current ranking in the League as of 10/28: 4th Place

SI Cross Country prepares for WCAL Finals, which will be held on November 6. Make sure to ask a runner about their viral tiktok @alvengers



MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Current ranking in the League as of 10/28: 2nd Place



At the WCAL meet on October 17, Trey Wright '25 placed third individually among all Varsity Boys. John Hollister '25 placed first for JV boys.

FOOTBALL

Record as of 10/28: 6-2

Varsity Football prepares for the Bruce Mahoney game at Kezar on November 1.



Jarious Hogan '25 runs hard downfield.

FIELD HOCKEY

League Record as of 10/28: 12-4-1

Varsity Field Hockey celebrated their Senior Day on 10/18.



"I felt very loved and appreciated, a feeling I will always remember when I think of that day" - Maddie Evangelista '25

FLAG FOOTBALL

Record as of 10/28: 3-6

The Flag Football team played its final game of the season on October 29 against SHP at Fairmont.

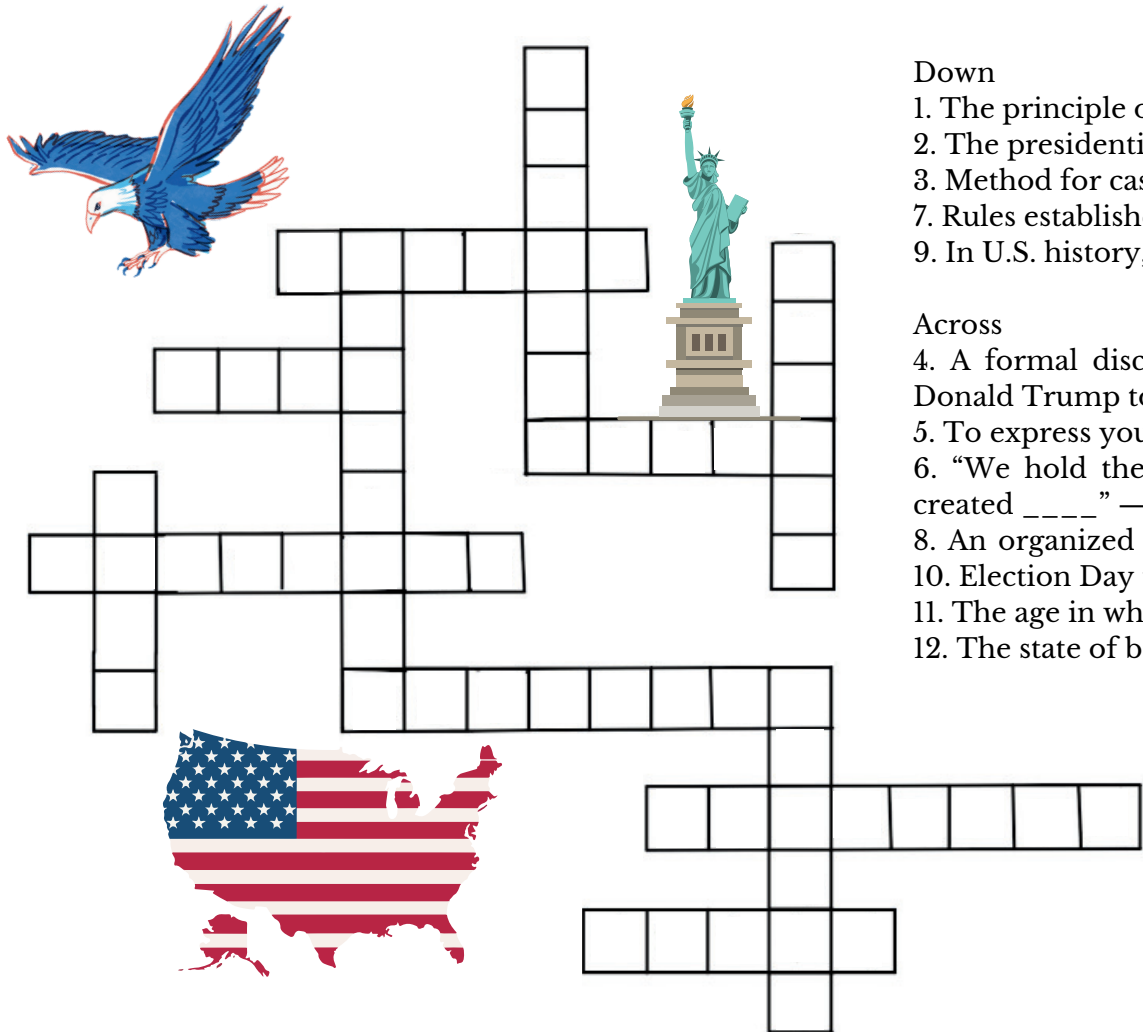


Emma Burry '28 remains calm in the pocket and prepares to throw downfield.

CROSSWORD: POWER PUZZLE

Ava Chiappari '26

Contributing Editor



- Down
- The principle of fairness, “liberty and ____ for all”
 - The presidential _____ occurs every 4 years
 - Method for casting votes (in writing or electronic)
 - Rules established by the government
 - In U.S. history, we learn about unalienable ____
- Across
- A formal discussion about politics that Kamala Harris and Donald Trump took part in last month
 - To express your choice in an election you cast a ____
 - “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created ____” —Jefferson
 - An organized effort made by candidates to influence voters
 - Election Day takes place in this month
 - The age in which you are legal to vote for president
 - The state of being together and in agreement

STRANDS

Rini Saha '25

Contributing Editor

Find hidden words and uncover this issue’s theme!

TODAY'S THEME

Power and Advocacy

T	H	L	Y	T	T
E	G	I	R	E	A
L	H	C	G	E	B
G	E	A	R	T	Y
E	N	C	I	H	T
V	H	A	T	C	G
O	C	R	I	T	N
C	A	L	S	R	E

__ of 7 theme words found.

- How to Play:
- Bubble **theme words** to fill the board
 - Find the “**spangram**.”
 - (The **spangram** describes the puzzle’s theme and touches two opposite sides of the board. It may be two words.)

Ms. Were-Wolf



Mr. Jacko-lantern



VOLUME 73 ISSUE 3
NOVEMBER 2024

EDITORS IN CHIEF: Shay Moriarty '25, Sierra Murphy '25, Kate Quach '25

ASSOCIATE EDITORS IN CHIEF:

Evelyn Conboy '26, Lucas Liang '26, Jordan Liu '26, Annika Watkins '26

MANAGING EDITORS: Sophie Barsoian '26, Evie Chen '26, Cassidy Chew '25, Sienna Cline '25, Evelyn Conboy '26, Madison Dela Rama '27, Lilly Eugster '25, Lucas Liang '26, Jordan Liu '26, Nick Luongo '25, Tai Morganson '26, Ava Murphy '25, Zoe Omar '25, Julian Ozaeta '25, Alex Salentine '26, Annika Watkins '26, Janice Yan '27, Heather Yee '27

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: Camille Pyo '26, Aida Artasheyan '28, Connor Comilla '27, McCann O'Brien '26, Emily Peterson '28, Rini Saha '25, Alexander Goldberg '26, Bobby Mullin '26, Nora Shaskan '26, Farrah Almajdalani '27, Beatrice Sopko '26, Claire Somsouk '26, Michael Cinco '27, Skylar Chung '27, Josie White '28, Dara Lewis '26, Sadie Eggert '26, Leena Feeley '25, Riley Hartnett '26, Amanda Oberto '27, Lauren Yu '27, Adriene Barki '26, Connor Lewis '25, Julia Pellegrini '26, Chloe Fisher '26, Ava Chiappari '26, Donovan Wu '25, Joey Ng '26, Mason Wong '27, Aiden Tran '27, Logan Mitchell '25, Genevieve Arcenio '27

LAYOUT: Kate Quach '25, Sierra Murphy '25, Shay Moriarty '25, Evelyn Conboy '26, Lucas Liang '26, Jordan Liu '26, Annika Watkins '26, Lilly Eugster '25, Nick Luongo '25, Sienna Cline '25

BENEVOLENT CENSORS: Ms. Carole Nickolai
Ms. Jacqueline Boland
Ms. Jamie Lundy