

Pathfinder

NOVEMBER 2024



YEARBOOK SUPERSTARS



Mel Uribe (12), Gianne Ortiz (11), Sienna Castillo (12), & Valerie Villalobos (11)

Mrs. Mendoza would like to recognize four outstanding yearbook students. She said, "They are really dedicated to putting all of their effort and time into the yearbook! These students have poured hours during and after school to capture the best photos and stories! Throughout the years they continue to be hard working students that have received big roles in the yearbook." Each of these superstars has been in yearbook for three years. Mel Uribe (senior) is this year's Story Editor. Gianne Ortiz (junior) is the Editor in Chief. Sienna Castillo (senior) is the yearbook Business Manager. Valerie Villalobos (junior) is the Sports Editor.

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

In 1990 President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution that designated November as National American Indian Heritage Month. The purpose of setting apart this month is to encourage people to learn about the contributions and cultures of the Indigenous peoples of North America. There are several Golden West students who have Native American heritage and participate in local community events.

GOLDEN WEST CHOIRS HAVE BEEN BUSY!



It has been a very busy Fall season for the Golden West Choirs. Mr. Raheb gave an update on everything they have been participating in. "We participated in Sing Loud-Sing On! Workshop (9/27) with 400 Tenors and Basses, Nothing But Treble Workshop (10/4) with 700 Sopranos and Altos, COS Fall Invitational (10/10) with 6 Central Valley choirs and COS, the 5th annual Back in School Car Show (10/12) with over 184 classic and modern cars, Fall Sing (10/23) our annual concert under the stars, the Fresno City College Fall Invitational (10/30) which was a three day event with over 80 choirs participating, and lastly we performed the National Anthem combined with the El Diamante Chamber Singers for the Battle for the Saddle. The choirs are preparing for their holiday concert on Friday, December 13 at Visalia First Presbyterian Church. That concert will feature the GWHS choirs and student soloists singing songs of the season."



GW choir students at the Fresno City College Fall Invitational (picture top right) and Nothing But Treble Workshop (picture bottom right)

EL DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is an important cultural holiday celebrated in many Spanish-speaking countries around the world. México has a long tradition of celebrating this holiday on November 1st and 2nd. Remembering and honoring loved ones who have passed away is the focus of the holiday. A popular tradition for Day of the Dead is creating an altar (ofrenda, in Spanish) in honor of deceased loved ones. The altar often includes pictures, candles, figurines, food and other things that were cherished by the person during their life. Spanish classes at Golden West read about the holiday, watched videos, and created class or personal altars.



Personal shoebox ofrendas made by Ms. Acevedo's Spanish 1 students



Hip hop dance students in action during their 4th period class (pictures above and to the right)

CLASS SPOTLIGHT: HIP HOP DANCE

Hip hop dance class is in its second year at Golden West. Students were really interested in hip hop, and Miss Martin advocated for it to become a class. Students see many performing groups and want to push the culture of hip hop in our school and community. In the class, students learn old school hip hop trends, wacking and voguing, break dancing, tutting, house, and much more! Miss Martin said, "It has been so great bringing this class to Golden West and we hope to do more performances!" The hip hop class is 4th period and students are currently working on popping and locking.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: OUTSTANDING AVID & VIRTUAL ENTERPRISE

Kimberly Tena (senior) is an outstanding student in the Virtual Enterprise Academy with a 3.6 GPA. Mr. Felsted said, "Her diligence has earned her CSU admission, and Kimberly is in the enviable position of discovering which university best suits her future goals." (picture below on the left)

Mr. McCaw recognizes Jacky Morales Gaitan (senior) as a fabulous AVID student. He described Jacky as a "humble, hardworking, and very intelligent student who keeps a low profile but an intense focus on her learning." (picture below on the right)



UPCOMING: WINTER SHOWCASE, DECEMBER 5TH

The music for the show is from the "Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular," a holiday show performed in New York at the famous Radio City Music Hall featuring the Rockettes. Jazz Band and Orchestra will play all the music live while dancers from the Performance and Advanced Dance classes perform student choreographed pieces. Don't miss it!