

INSIDE SI

c/o Lauren Yu '27

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Creativity in All Corners of SI

Farrah Almajdalani '27, Genevieve Arcenio '27, Bear Vida '27, Lauren Yu '27 — Editors-in-Chief

Art takes many forms here at SI. From classes, to clubs, to athletics, students thrive in a creative and collaborative environment. We've taken time to highlight how this creativity manifests at St. Ignatius.

Art Clubs

Out of the over 170 clubs at SI, many promote creative self-expression and foster communities of students with shared interests. No matter what form of art you are passionate about, there is a club for you at SI!

For students who love drawing, SI has the Architecture Club, the Cartooning Club, and the Digital Artistry Club. Each club allows students to bring their imaginations to life, whether it is through designing their own buildings, illustrating stories, or creating art in a digital format. For students who enjoy writing, the Women's Youth Writing Association (WYWA) provides a space where students are encouraged to use their writing as a method for identity exploration, advocacy, and fostering unity. For students who are into the performing arts, SI has the Polynesian Dance Club, Classical Music Club, and Jamming Jamboree.

For students who have fun making crafts, SI has the Art, Apparel, and Accessories Club, Creative Liberty, and the Crochet and Sewing Club. The Art, Apparel, and Accessories Club allows members to experiment with various modes of artistic expression, including t-shirt and tote bag designing, bracelet making, and painting. At Creative Liberty, members have the chance to make their own scrapbooks and journals. The Crochet and Sewing Club teaches students how to sew and crochet so they can make their own projects and give back to the community by donating pieces to local organizations.

For those who want to learn more about photography, there is the Digital

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c/o @lifeatsi on Instagram

Students in Ms. Calalo Berry's dance elective perform their version of "Thriller" on Oct. 31st.

Art and Creativity

FEATURE

In this issue, we explore how art and creativity impact not only our community at SI, but also the world that we live in. At SI, we see art all over our campus, whether it is through dance, music, photography, drawing, acting, writing, and more. Art helps us to spotlight the unique talents and express the diverse voices of our school.

Creativity and art hold special significance as the age of artificial intelligence brings the question of what is uniquely human. Whether used to preserve culture, reduce stress, or drive social change, art remains a constant connection between humans across the world.

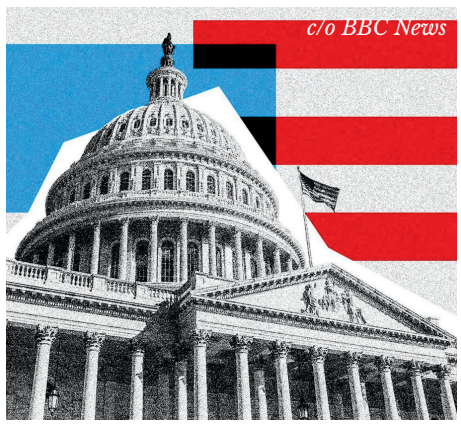
Our world is constantly changing, especially with the election that has just happened. SI, how will you use art to promote change in the world? We hope you enjoy this issue, SI!

America Votes: 2026 Midterm Elections

Finley Wolfgram '28 — Associate Editor-in-Chief

The Nov. 3rd General Midterm Elections marked the most expensive in United States history. Political fundraising has reached over 15 billion dollars, surpassing the 11 billion spent during the 2024 election cycle. The elections decided all members of the House of Representatives for the next two year term and 35 out of the 100 members of senate for their next 6 year terms. During this election cycle, the Trump Administration has been at its highest disapproval rate of 60% according to an NBC poll.

Republicans achieved control of the House and Senate in 2024. However, many seats were in play this year. Out of the 35 seats in senate that were decided this election, 13 were Democratic seats and 22 were Republican seats.



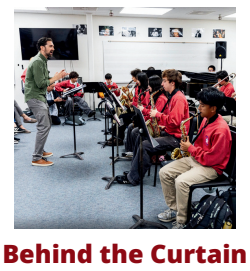
c/o BBC News

California Voters had much to consider this 2026 season. Concerns of AI regulation, skyrocketing prices, women's rights, and welfare have impacted how people will cast their ballots.

Although results from the election were not available at the time we went to print, here is

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Appreciating Soft Sculpture: The New MOMA Exhibit

Avery Sullivan ’30 Contributing Editor

While envisioning a sculpture, most will imagine grand, heroic warriors of stone, recognized by their strong physique and large scale. The Romanian sculptor and photographer, Constantin Brâncuși, challenged this style of sculpting and started a whole new creative era of sculpting in the 20th century. His work is currently on display at the SF Modern Museum of Art

Despite facing financial and personal hardships throughout his early life, Brâncuși supported his large family by crafting many household items through traditional Romanian woodcarving. While grieving the passing of his father, he fled from home and worked various jobs to support himself, including being a waiter at a small restaurant. There he carved an intricate violin out of a crate in the short period of two weeks, which impressed his employer so deeply that he



c/o New York Times

Brâncuși’s sculpture “Mademoiselle Pogany”

funded Brâncuși tuition for Craiova School of Arts and Crafts.

Brâncuși graduated with honors and continued his education at the National School of Fine Arts in Bucharest. Though he was offered a stable job teaching calligraphy and drawing, Brâncuși endured a 1,200 kilometer journey to continue his education at École des Beaux-Arts. He briefly worked as the assistant of Auguste Rodin, a well-known French sculptor, but left only a month later because “nothing grows under the shadow of a great tree.”

Brâncuși had his break into the mainstream art world after winning his nation-wide lawsuit against the US government for taxing his sculpture, “Bird in Space,” claiming it was simply a mess of kitchen utensils and hospital supplies.

Some of his most famous pieces include “Sleeping Muse,” a bronze sculpture depicting the head of resting muse, and “Bird in Space,” a marble sculpture tracing the movement of a bird. Brâncuși’s abstract sculptures, including Bird in Space and Maiastra, will be on display from October 25, 2026 to February 27, 2027.

Dance Captains Leave Their Mark on SI History

Lulu Keegan ’28 Contributing Editor

After four years of football games, rallies, competitions, late rehearsals, and countless hours together, Giovanna Napier and Lia Allred are spending their final year on SI’s Drill & Dance team. As captains, their roles have gone far beyond performing. They have choreographed, led rehearsals, supported their teammates, and helped create the team younger dancers will continue after they graduate.

For Giovanna, being a captain has never meant being above anyone else. “I still view myself as a regular teammate,” she said. Even while taking on the responsibilities that come with being a captain, she has made an effort to stay connected with everyone on the team. When she graduates, she hopes to leave behind “transparent and honest leadership,” and help keep the strong Drill bond alive.

Lia has seen firsthand how much work goes into the few minutes the SI community sees on the field. The team starts learning dances in July, and spends weekends and evenings cleaning every detail of their routines. “We are making sure we are all moving at the exact time and in the same way, down to the angle,” she said. That work becomes especially meaningful at Bruce-Mahoney, when the entire SI community comes together to watch. For Lia, it is “the most nerve wracking for sure, but we have the most fun with it.”

Still, some of their favorite memories have nothing to do with being onstage. Giovanna will always remember the team’s huddles before performances—everyone nervous, dancing around, hyping each other up, and getting ready to run out together. Lia remembers traveling to the CCS Championship her sophomore year, performing in the pouring rain while wearing ponchos and layers. These moments show the part of Drill that can’t always be seen from the stands: the people.

When looking back on her final season, Giovanna hopes to be most proud of seeing how much the program has grown. She has watched Drill evolve since its first competition during her freshman year, moving up in rankings, trying new competitions, and building a reputation of its own. Being able to see that progress — and knowing she was part of it — is something she will carry with her.

For Lia, it comes down to one thing: love. “I’m proud of the love I poured into the team,” she said. After four years, every football game, Bruce, rally, and competition feels different because it is her last. She wants to leave knowing she gave everything she could to the team and to the people who made these four years so special.

For both Giovanna and Lia, their final season is less about the fact that they are leaving and more about what they are leaving behind: a team they love, memories they will carry with them, and younger dancers who will keep Drill moving forward.



c/o Bowerbird Photography

Giovanna and Lia dance their last Bruce Mahoney volleyball game.

The VMAs’ Long-Awaited Return

Victoria Filipov ’30 Contributing Editor

This year’s MTV Video Music Awards took place on Sept. 27th and was an event to remember. Hosted by Snoop Dogg, it was held in LA’s Peacock Theater and drew 8.43 million viewers nationwide.

Madonna was the most nominated and awarded artist this year, winning seven out of her thirteen nominations for her song “Confessions II - The Film” and her duet with Sabrina Carpenter “Bring Your Love”. She tied with Lady Gaga’s 2010 record for most nominations for an artist in a single year.

Taylor Swift shocked audiences with her music video for her newly released song “Patient Zero,” which premiered at the Music Awards. She also won Video of the Year for her song “Fate of Ophelia”. This year’s Song of Summer was “Hate That I Made You Love Me” by Ariana Grande.



c/o inmusicblog.com

Taylor Swift poses with her VMAs award onstage.

Viewers also enjoyed many performances by their favorite artists. Madonna was the opening performer; it her first VMAs performance in 23 years. Following Madonna was Raye, who sang the beloved song, “Where Is My Husband!”. In tribute to the lovely Dolly Parton, Kacey Musgraves sang “I Will Always Love You,” which warmed the hearts and filled the eyes with tears of the millions of viewers.

Over the years, artists have come and gone, but musicians like Madonna, Taylor Swift, and Dolly Parton don’t die out. Instead, they evolve with their audience, continuing to produce music that becomes the songs of a generation.

Sneaking "Behind the Curtain"

Jasmine Yan '29 Contributing Editor

On October 26th, 2026, many people, including propsective eighth graders, stepped on to St. Ignatius campus for *Behind the Curtain*, where students got to experience a variety of fine and visual arts, such as orchestra, band, choir, stage crew, dance, costume crew, drama, and photography. Students had the opportunity to witness the raw creative process in action. The rehearsal featured every bit of SI's Fine and Visual Arts Program. The mistakes, corrections, and teamwork demonstrated a true artistic performance for the audience.

Starting in the Piazza, students saw displays of photos, structures, and physical art. In other areas of campus, band, orchestra, and choir members worked through live warm-ups, tuning and refining pieces in real time. Actors also ran through scene rehearsals and director notes, while stage crew demonstrated how lighting, sound cues, and set changes are operated throughout the performances. Dancers performed their choreography and stage spacing, while expressing their energy through facial expressions.



Mr. Green leads Jazz Band through a song.

> "The most important part is helping eighth graders picture themselves playing in our orchestra next year!"
> - Oliver Tran '27

Here is what some seniors in the performing arts had to say. "The most exciting part is helping eighth graders picture themselves playing in our orchestra next year," Oliver Tran '27 shared. Mika Cinco '27 added, "The most exciting thing for me is showing them how fun rehearsals are. Some of the dances we do are really serious, but when you go to rehearsal you can see that we are all really close. The community that the incoming frosh sees is really nice because you can't always tell from our performances!"

The open rehearsal technique signifies teamwork, problem-solving, and the hard work that is hidden behind every performance. This event reveals that excellence isn't something that happens by magic on opening night; it is forged through repetition, constructive feedback, and mutual trust among classmates.

SI Choir and Orchestra Light Up St. Ignatius Church

Genevieve Arcenio '27 Editor-in-Chief

On the evening of Wednesday, November 4th, SI parents, students, and faculty gathered in St. Ignatius Church to watch the SI choir and orchestra perform in a fall candlelight concert. The groups performed Iluminare, a five-movement SATB piece composed by Elaine Hagenberg. The concert explored the themes of journeying from darkness to light and from confusion to hope and peace.

The concert started out with *Splendor*, a hymn by Saint Ambrose on the arrival of light. Next, an octet performed Caritas, a text by Hildegard Von Bingen about love. The full choir joined together again to sing Nox, a combination of a Roman Catholic mass



Illuminare Concert Poster

Kyrie and a poem by Aurelius Prudentius Clemens about darkness and chaos.

Next, the choir performed Munera Pacis, a hymn by Pope Gregory and John 14:27. The choir and orchestra left the audience with a sense of peace by concluding the concert with *Iluminare His* from the "Canticle of Zechariah."

Members of the choir and orchestra were proud of all of the hard work they put into preparing for the concert. Gia Song '27, a member of both SI's Mixed Chorus and Orchestra shared, "As someone who only joined in senior year, I regret not joining sooner! I can feel myself improving every day and the joy of performing is unmatched."

Asia Takes the Stage!

Luca Colant '29 Contributing Editor

Eleven countries. Eleven songs. One stage. On November 14th, Asia will be united by music for the first ever Eurovision Asia. From emotional ballads to empowering anthems, each country has brought their own unique story to tell on the stage. Who will rise above the rest and be the winner of the inaugural Eurovision Song Contest Asia 2026?

Eurovision Asia 2026 will be the first to have only Asian countries participating. Those countries are as follows: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam. All of these countries have already selected their songs and artists that will represent them on November 14th, 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand. Since this is the inaugural Eurovision Song Contest Asia, fans are to expect the unexpected. There will be big stages, powerful voices, and cheering that echoes throughout the city.

What even is Eurovision? Eurovision, while being more streamed than events like the Super Bowl, is highly unknown in America. It is a contest where countries approved by the EBU submit a song and compete against other countries. Songs are then performed and judged by juries from each country and by fans voting online.

The highest combination of these scores on the night of the Final results in the winner of that year's Eurovision Song Contest.

While each of the selected songs tell their own unique story, these are two of the songs with the highest odds to win Eurovision Asia. Malaysia is bringing to the table "Bluest Sky" by sensational artist Aina Abdul. It is a power ballad infused with both English and Malay and is about love, heartbreak, grief, and balancing the uncertainty of a troubled relationship with the hope that the deep sadness will eventually pass. Aina Abdul is a native Malaysian artist who is most known for her powerful vocals and over the top theatrical performances. She is no stranger to awards as throughout her music career she has gone from winning Best Vocal Performance multiple times to ranking very high in other music competitions. CARMELLE will represent the Philippines with her song "Sobra-Sobra" which is an empowering anthem about how women



Aina Abdul performs "Bluest Sky."

shouldn't make themselves smaller or dim their own light because others think it is too bright. Be your true self, because other people's opinions don't define your worth. "Sobra-Sobra" is truly an anthem made to celebrate Filipina women and their self worth, star qualities, and over the top personalities. CARMELLE is a fan favorite going into the competition and is pretty much guaranteed a top spot if not first place itself. Sophomore Jesse Jane Lee 29' states, " I really hope that my country wins and I hope that this makes the Philippines get more attention."

ALAS Showcase

Vicky Marchetti ’28 — Managing Editor

On Saturday, October 24, 2026 at 6pm the annual ALAS Showcase took place at St. Ignatius College Preparatory. ALAS is the Association of LatinX Students. The theme was “Una Tierra, Muchas Historias: One land, Many stories, One community.”

The theme highlighted different cultures and traditions, bringing students, families, friends and guests together to celebrate LatinX culture throughout the evening. Performers were able to celebrate their culture in many different kinds of ways.

Gabriel Limo, a junior who is the Co-President of ALAS emphasized, “it was so much fun to come together to celebrate our culture.” There was poetry, singing, a lot of dancing, and art. The food was also a way to celebrate LatinX culture.

The theme was significant because it demonstrated the significance of how even though people come from different backgrounds, and have different stories, people still come together as one community.



The showcase ends with confetti and laughter.

Photos c/o Bowerbird Photography



Skirts swish in a beautiful celebration of dance.



ALAS performers celebrate together.



Students enjoy the showcase and hold flags proudly.

Cultural Poems Help us Connect

Geraldine Segura ’27 — Managing Editor

Since graduating from Father Sauer Academy, I have participated in the middle school’s Hispanic Heritage Month as a poet. The poems I write range from Peruvian heritage to dedicated stories for family members I cherish daily.

Poems of today are significant to people of many cultures, especially at SI. If you have attended affinity events such as the ALAS Showcase,PASKO, or BSU Showcase case, you would have heard SI students recite poems that are important to them or original poems they wrote.

Cultural poems bring a sense of connection for students, whether through remembering ancestors, reflecting on the barriers of their affinities, or thinking about the savory foods of their cultures. In short, poems are a way for someone to connect to their history and inner self.



ABOUT THIS POEM: “Los Manos” is a reflection poem of my experience with my Tia Felicidad. I remember her through the times we’d hug, hold each others hands, and knowing that she cared a lot for me.

“Los Manos”

We hold each other,
the young and old
Hands that have felt
different things

Mine covered in pencil
dust, red marks on my
hand from holding my
trombone

Hands left unheld,
‘til

The hands that created
Cusco’s most
beautiful textiles
and carefully
constructed for you
and I

Ones that held laces
and sewn in designs
of Perú’s polleras,
already holding hands
that will wear the next

Hands wrinkled of age,
covered in the powder of
alfajores and the
savory condiments

for our meals, hands
that held
chicamorada and Inca
Kola bottles

clinking in ¡salud!
to a cheerful night

Ay, cariño,
hold my hand and
never let go

We hold each other,
the young and old
Hands that have felt
different things

but we too
aren't different, but
rather whole

Best of the Best: Is it Worth Watching?

Radhika Saha ’28 — Managing Editor

What makes a dance movie stand out? For *Best of the Best,* it is the mix of South Asian culture, college drama, and competitive dance in a story about friendship and ambition. Starring Maitreyi Ramakrishnan and Priyanka Kedia, the film puts Bollywood-fusion dance at the center of the story.

One of my favorite aspects of this movie was definitely the choreography. The dances blend traditional Bollywood moves with modern contemporary styles. I enjoyed how unique each routine was, while still paying homage to South Asian culture. Not only was the dancing good, but the music and costumes were enjoyable as well.

However, what makes this movie stand out is how it uses dance to drive the story. Best of the Best reminds viewers that dance is one way to express your identity and emotions without saying a single word.

For South Asian viewers who are a part of affinity groups on college campuses, it’s refreshing to see these influences highlighted rather than being a subplot to a Hollywood movie.

Maitreyi brought a lot of personality to her character. One of the best parts of this movie was seeing their friendship grow. Both characters go through some struggles finding what they want, and it’s interesting to see how ambition can affect relationships.

Priyanka was wonderful and really sold the authenticity of their friendship. There were some plot holes and certain arguments that could have been rolled back, but the girls’ performances saved some of the movie’s cliche scenes.

Overall, *Best of the Best* has its flaws, but its choreography and focus on South Asian culture makes it worth watching.



Maya and Anjali dance to a beat in Best of the Best.

If you’re interested in dance movies or want to see South Asian experiences represented on screen, it’s worth giving this one a watch. I’ll leave the best performances for you to discover yourself.

Magis SoCal Tour

Geraldine Segura ’27 Managing Editor

Over the quarter break, October 15-18, SI Magis students had the opportunity to tour select SoCal colleges on a fun excursion! The tours included iconic schools like UCLA and USC.



Students enjoy a sunny day in SoCal on the Magis tour.

> I thought it was really helpful experiencing college life and the processes of applying to different college programs told by Magis alumni.”
>
> - Carl Henry Paredes ’28



Students admire UCLA’s beautiful campus.

> I really enjoyed Chapman’s campus and what they had to offer in terms of social life, hands on learning, research, and of how small each class is.”
>
> - Colby Sy ’27



SI students fight on at USC!

> Taking a closer look at all the beautiful colleges SoCal had to offer was truly a fun and eye-opening experience! Thank you so much, MAGIS!”
>
> -Jesse Jane Lee ’29

Celebrating Diwali at SI

Radhika Saha ’28 Managing Editor

The Asian Students Coalition (ASC) and St. Ignatius Parents Asian Club (SIPAC) joined together to celebrate Diwali, the Festival of Lights on October 21st. Students and families enjoyed an evening of delicious food, henna, diya painting, mandala coloring, and dancing.

Naina Paul Mulye ’27 said, “My favorite part of Diwali is the dance lesson towards the end of the event. We teach everyone traditional Indian dances, and it’s so fun to see everybody so excited to immerse themselves into a new culture!”

Celebrated by millions worldwide, Diwali represents the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. The event introduced members of the SI community to South Asian traditions while creating opportunities to connect outside the classroom. Through hands-on activities and cultural experiences, the celebration highlights the importance of sharing traditions and bringing people together.







ASC and SIPAC members pose in a vibrant array of colors.



Students enjoy delicious South Asian dishes.



Diwali attendees celebrate through community dance.

A Glimpse into the Wildcat Experience

Genevieve Arcenio ’27 Editor-in-Chief

Throughout September, October, and the beginning of November, SI hosted prospective 8th graders from middle schools around the Bay Area. The Wildcat Experience gives 8th graders the opportunity to be a Wildcat for a day and experience campus life firsthand.

Each 8th grader is assigned to an SI student ambassador who shows them around campus and answers any questions they may have about the academics, activities, and community at SI. Keira Sorenson, a senior admissions ambassador shared, “Serving as an admissions ambassador helps me to appreciate all the aspects of campus, even the ones I don’t usually get to see.”

8th graders who are touring SI are able to attend classes and interact with current teachers and students to see if SI is the right fit for them. The admission team also provides a tour of the SI campus to the parents of prospective 8th graders. As the Wildcat Experience tours begin to wrap up for the school year, we hope that prospective 8th graders enjoyed being able to see what SI is all about and we wish you the best of luck in the high school application process.

> Serving as an admissions ambassador helps me to appreciate all the aspects of campus, even the ones I don’t usually get to see.”
>
> - Keira Sorenson ’27



Admissions ambassadors prepare to meet with prospective 8th graders.

Bellyflop! SI's 2026 Splash Competition

Dhruv Noronha '29 Contributing Editor

We've seen many great Fun Fridays this year, with an event taking place every Friday, unlike last year. One of the most entertaining and exciting events took place on October 9: the annual belly flop competition.

The competition was a huge success, featuring plenty of cool flips and hilarious flops. This yearly tradition always draws a large crowd, with the entire pool deck filled with students and faculty eager to catch a glimpse of the action. I can't recall recall a Fun Friday with such an incredible turnout.

Sophomore Michael Flyash spoke about his times competing in the event: "It was a great way to bond with your fellow classmates, best fun Friday of the year!" This was his second time, and he encourages everyone to participate at least once during their time at SI.

If you've never seen the belly flop competition, we recommend checking it out next year, or even participating yourself!



Parker Stuart '28, the winner of this year's bellyflop competition, holds up his trophy.

Inside Wildcat Nation: We've got Spirit! How About You?

Zahra Sayed '28 Contributing Editor

Screaming Reds. Deep Blues. A wild and welcoming...jungle? Do these themes seem familiar? In preparation for home games and the Bruce Mahoney, campus is transformed with decorations, posters, and school spirit. But behind every themed hallway and spirited Friday is a team of students and faculty working to bring these ideas to life. So, what exactly goes into the process of preparing our campus for game day?

Jeff Glosser, our Assistant Principal for Student Affairs, explained the multi-level process involving Student Council and Wildcat Nation, two groups that work together to keep school spirit alive.

Planning begins months before the actual games. Wildcat Nation schedules meetings as early as May and August to brainstorm and select themes for the upcoming year. Once the school year begins, members come to campus every Sunday to decorate, creating the atmosphere students see throughout the week. From encouraging posters to themed decorations, Wildcat Nation is responsible for transforming ordinary school spaces into something students can get excited about.

While Wildcat Nation focuses on decorating, Student Council takes charge of planning the activities that bring students together. From tailgates before games to Fun Fridays during the school week, Student Council plans various activities that gives students opportunities to participate in school spirit. During Spirit Week, these efforts become more noticeable, with themed activities for students to get involved.



Wildcat Nation poses infront of "The Cat Head."



Blue and Red smoke fills the air during the "USA"-themed football game.

Of course, building excitement does not stop at decorations and events. Social media also plays a major role in spreading the word. Mr. Glosser noted that, "both social media teams have been amazing this year." With students creating content for SITV, Tiktoks, and Instagram reels, these teams help bring the excitement beyond campus decorations. Mr. Glosser also emphasized his support for Amelia Kovacevich and Zoe McCulloch, who are in charge of the marketing, creating, and distributing flyers to promote upcoming events.

Although students may only see the finished decorations or attend the events, each one is the result of a careful planning and collaboration. As Mr, Glosser explained, "It takes sophisticated, well planned, orchestrated ideas to get us to the game days, and we just hope the student body gets excited, likes the themes, and shows up."

The next time you walk through a decorated hallway or attend a home football game, remember that school spirit doesn't just happen. Many of our peers are dedicating their time to weeks of preparation, decorating, and bringing ideas to life on campus.

Setting the World Aflame at Prayer Service

Amanda Oberto '27 Managing Editor

On Tuesday the 20th, SI students and faculty gathered for our first prayer service of this school year. The gym was dimly lit with a flickering fire, tents, and camping chairs gathered in a circle, where students and teachers gathered (in chairs and in tents) to discuss "Magnify Dignity," our school theme for the year. The service focused on storytelling, what it means to truly know someone, and where AI falls short in knowing one another.

The service opened with a video of different students and faculty discussing how to understand community members and using AI to find out the reasons behind peoples' actions, exploring how AI can't truly explain an individual - only learning their stories can. Music Ministry delivered a beautiful, campfire-esque acoustic "Set a Fire" to start the service, and ended it with a powerful rendition of Brandi Carlile's "The Story."

The student leaders, including Lia Allred '27, Dylan Dunn '27, Molly Meinhardt '28, Jordan Sui '28, Colton McKie '27, and Karina Barance '27, discussed dignity in the lens of the Parable of the Good Samaritan, in a casual, conversational setting. Touching reflections given by Cora Gallegos '28 and Mr. Triguero focused on individuals who are meaningful in their lives, especially after they had learned these individuals' stories.

As AI continues to play a bigger and bigger role in our lives and our communities can't help but change, this prayer service served as a reminder of our dignity, that while inherent, needs to be emphasized and nurtured, especially through listening to and sharing stories.



Student leaders and faculty sit around a paper fire in camping chairs while telling stories.



Student leaders pose together after the service.

A Closer Look at the History and Development of Clue

Amanda Oberto '27 Managing Editor

Many SI students have made the connection between SI's theatre department's upcoming production *Clue* and the well-loved boardgame. However, most are unaware of how *Clue*, from board game to movie to play to musical, has developed through history since 1949.

The creator of the boardgame, Anthony Pratt, came up with the idea reminiscing on his days playing piano at English country estate murder mystery parties, where he'd observe the dramatics, taking mental notes. During WWII, he revisited these ideas and created the boardgame with his wife stuck inside during air-raid blackouts. His original boardgame had ten characters instead of six, and included a shillelagh (a traditional Irish wooden walking stick, club, or cudgel) and hypodermic syringe as weapons. From adopting a cartoon style in the 60s to gaining a spa and a home theatre in the 2000s, *Clue* has adapted to historical and pop culture developments throughout time.

When the Boardgame developed into a movie in 1985, it adopted a new theme: McCarthyism. The movie was released during Reaganism and the rise of Christian conservatism, and has a morality to it that's easily tied to this political movement. For example, the policeman tells the group of sinful individuals who are suspects for murder that "souls are in danger," which might be influenced by religious morality. Moreover, the movie looks back at the McCarthy era, referencing the red scare with the recurring line "Communism was just a red herring," which means that the red scare was a threat used to distract people. This perspective on the red scare reflects the historical distance which allowed creators of the play to portray the Red Scare critically.

Colette Rush '27, playing Ms. Scarlett,, spoke to the presence of communism in the play, "They all think that the reason they're there is because they're being accused of communism because it's happening in the midst of the Red Scare." Mr. Green is gay and has to hide this from the government because in the movie and the real life 1950s, homosexuality was thought of as a national security risk. The movie develops the board game into a historical reflection whilst simultaneously maintaining its originality.

Excitement is growing in anticipation for SI's play version *Clue*, a new development in *Clue's* continuous journey through pop culture and history. Rush mentioned how the cast is approaching its historical nature, saying, "We had to do this whole history lesson the first day of rehearsal." As SI's Theatre Department handles the historical themes of this play intentionally, it'll be exciting to compare SI's production with all of *Clue's* earlier adaptations.



c/o Cluepedia

A recent cover of Clue, The Classic Mystery Board Game.



c/o BBC News

Anthony Pratt's wife Elva designed the Cluedo board and its original 11-room layout.

The Work Behind the Mystery: SI's "Clue"

Gaby Lee '29 Contributing Editor

A mysterious death, a mansion full of suspects, and a group of characters with plenty to hide set the scene for SI's upcoming production of *Clue*. Based on the classic board game, the play follows a group of guests as they try to figure out who is responsible for a murder. As secrets come to light and suspicions grow, things quickly get more complicated. With a mix of mystery and comedy, the production brings the familiar game to the stage.

With opening night approaching, the cast and crew have spent the past three months getting ready for the show. For Gino Kasper, who plays Colonel Mustard, one of the best parts of the role is the humor his character brings to the story. Kasper describes Colonel Mustard as someone who tries to seem "manly and intelligent," but is actually "pretty stupid." The difference between how the character sees himself and how he comes across is what makes him so entertaining to watch.

Playing Colonel Mustard has also presented some challenges. Kasper explained that portraying someone much older and from a completely different era has required him to approach the role differently. Still, rehearsals have had plenty of memorable moments.

While working with a stage combat director, the cast learned how to safely fake different action scenes. "We learned how to fake getting slapped, choked, our hair pulled, shot at, and even flipped onto the ground," Kasper said. Kasper also said that being part of the production has taught him how to collaborate with other actors



c/o Bowerbird Photography

Cyrus Lo '30 and Jack Bennett '28 share a candid conversation on stage.

in such a complicated show. He hopes for audiences to see what the cast has been working on over the past three months and hopes his character will get plenty of laughs.

Behind the scenes, Bridget Biggs and the stage crew have been working to bring the setting of the mystery to life. Biggs explained that "everything has so much thought behind it," from the set design and the props to the lighting, sound effects and cues. The set also includes "spinning walls and secrets hidden throughout," adding details audiences can look forward to seeing. Biggs said that putting on the show is a team effort, and she gave a shoutout to the stage managers, who know the production "inside and out" and have put in a lot of work to keep everything running smoothly.

From building the set to coordinating all the details backstage, many people have had a part in bringing the show together. As opening night approaches, Biggs is excited to see this hard work come together and for the SI community to see the finished show.

Clue runs November 11-20 at Bannan Theater. Students can check the SI website for performance dates, times, and ticket information.

CREATIVITY

Continued from Front Page

Art Clubs (Continued)

Film and Photography Club. Club leader Max Kuo ’27 shared, “The photography club provides students with a creative space to cultivate their artistic vision through visual storytelling and capturing meaningful moments from unique perspectives. Through workshops, photography competitions, and collaborative learning, they can exchange creative insights, develop their optical skills, and explore photography as a medium for self expression and communication.”

Multimedia Design

St. Ignatius offers a variety of art courses to fulfill its art requirement, including Multimedia Design, where students step into the world of professional multimedia production. Throughout the course, students explore photo editing, video editing, and music production, learning how these tools can be applied to real-world careers, including marketing and other creative industries.

The class is incredibly collaborative, allowing students to share their projects and film videos together. What makes this course particularly unique is its exploration of how artists can distinguish their work from AI-generated content. Students learn to use the latest AI tools to enhance their projects, but still recognize that AI alone cannot replace the creativity and thought that go into producing meaningful art. The course embraces the future of digital media and still remains grounded in the creative process.

Senior Simon Lim shared, “I enjoy learning instrument effects in Premiere Pro and sharing my work with my classmates.” Through hands-on projects and collab-oration, Multimedia Design allows students to connect with their peers and use technology to shape the future of art.

Dance

Art is not limited to physical works crafted by hand. It can also take shape through movement, rhythm, and expression. At SI, students have several opportunities to explore dance as an art form, whether through the athletic Dance and Drill Team, the performing arts-based Dance Workshop, or a dance elective.

Tali Makstman, a senior who serves as the Dance and Drill Team’s Varsity Administrative Lead and participates in Dance Workshop, described the welco-ming environment that makes dance at SI so meaningful: “Dance Workshop is an incredibly supp-ortive and welcoming community where dancers of all experience levels can participate. I’ve been able to connect with dancers across different grade levels, and Ms. CB makes everyone feel valued. From choreographing routines to organizing the Senior Showcase and coordinating costumes, she puts so much care into creating an environment where we feel supported and loved.”

Senior varsity Dance and Drill member Faye Florendo described a similar sense of encouragement within Dance and Drill: “It’s an encouraging environment where we’re always pushing each other to grow and celebrating one another’s progress.” Whether performing at athletic events and competitions with Dance and Drill or preparing for performances in Weigand Theater through Dance Workshop, SI students find opportunities to develop their skills, experiment with movement, and express their creativity. Though the two prog-rams offer different experiences, both demonstrate how dance brings together athleticism, artistic expression, and collaboration.

Robotics

Although we usually think of creativity having to be related to visual arts, robotics represents a type of creativity revolving around ingenuity and execution.

Robotics was officially introduced to the SI community in 2015, when a science teacher and a handful of SI students came together to enlighten SI to the endless creativity robotics provides. SI’s renowned team, also known as Team 5924, now competes in high-level invitationals though a league known as FIRST Robotics (FIRST is an acronym for “For inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology”).

Mr. Murphy has been the Co-Moderator of 5924 since 2016; he explained, “That’s how this all got started. Kids were interested in competitive robotics.” A dedicated member and the Competition and Team Readiness Lead, Raith Roland ’27, noted that, “Robotics sparks an intense drive to always be the first to come to a solution, but it also creates an environment where it’s accepted to learn from other teams’ curiosity. This openness to learning from the community makes the entire activity so much more fulfilling.”

The team is looking forward to competing in an invitational in Madera, CA this month!

Art at SI Supplies More Than a Canvas

Eva Kempf ’29 Contributing Editor

In a school day filled with lectures, assignments and exams, art offers students a different way to learn. At SI, visual arts classes give students the opportunity to learn and experiment with new mediums.

SI’s visual arts program has grown significantly since the 1970s, with teacher Katie Wolf helping to expand the school's offerings. Today, students can explore a range of disciplines, including studio art, photography, sculpture, and art and architecture.

Through each project, students have the opportunity to explore different techniques, work on unfamiliar materials, and learn from mistakes. The process encourages patience and problem-solving, as students make decisions about how to bring their ideas to life.

By experimenting with different approaches, students can build confidence in their abilities while discovering new ways to approach creative challenges.

Ava Siegel, a current sophomore at SI who’s taking art for the first time, explained, “While it’s a structured period, it allows for creative freedoms and liberties.” She added that “the calm environment that art class fosters helps alleviate my other stresses.”

This balance between structure and independence allows students to experiment, take creative risks, and discover new ways to express themselves. Unlike assignments with one correct answer, artistic projects to make individual choices and develop their voices through their art.

Ultimately, art at SI offers more than an opportunity to develop artistic skills. It gives students room to express themselves, find moments of calm during a busy school day, and discover the value of creativity beyond the classroom.



Students craft meticulous detail using paintbrushes in Studio 108.

Art to Make You Smart: Healthy Daily Art Practices

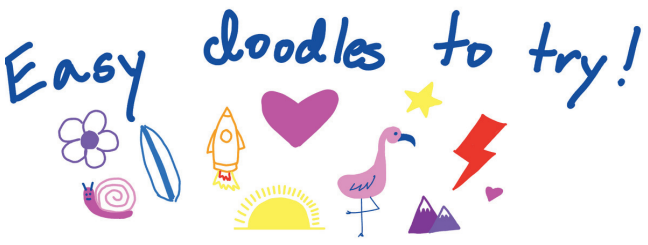
Finley Wolfgram ’28 — Associate Editor-in-Chief

“Doodling shmoodling!” The simple art of the doodle is overlooked despite how it can hold the key to improving cognitive function.

Mr. Calac, one of SI’s Physics teachers, encourages his students to doodle during lectures. Famously, Harvard Medical School published a report that proved doodling helps learners retain 30% more knowledge after a lecture. Doodling fires up the left side of the brain which is associated with creativity while the lecture fires up the right side of the brain which is associated with logic. By forcing this duality, the brain can create stronger connections between neurons.

Doodling is also a therapeutic tool used to calm the brain and release anxiety. Penny Baker ’28 shared that “Doodling helps me focus in class and it gives me a moment to detach from the outside world and meditate.” Putting pen to paper with no expectations or requirements lets creativity flow. It allows the brain to relax by releasing chemicals like dopamine and by dropping cortisol levels. If you have high cortisol, go doodle!

Doodling is a mini exercise for the brain, like pumping your creative muscles. Grab a handful of fun colors with different texture markers and pens, set aside five minutes, and see what designs you can conspire. See how you feel and take note of what happens to your grades, because most likely, both will improve.



c/o Finley Wolfgram

An Interview with Ms. Katie Wolf: 50 Years at SI

Charlotte Furey ’28 — Contributing Editor

Ms. Wolf has been working with SI for 50 years, but where did her art career begin?

At SI Ms. Wolf teaches Art and Architecture, Sculpture, Art and Nature, Sacred Symbols and Studio Art. She focuses on finding the creative spark in each student through the creative process. To do this, she teaches students basic skills so that they can better visually communicate and she has them practice. Many of her students will recognize her common phrase: “this is an art practice. The more you do, the better you get.”

Ms. Wolf grew up in a creative household with an architect and engineer father and a mother who sewed all of the clothes, curtains, and other necessities for the family. She recalled when she was a girl, building a sailboat in the backyard with her brothers. She liked having the ability to “take whatever’s around and do something creative with it.”

Going all the way back to when she started teaching at 17, Ms. Wolf first taught twelve-year-olds at the Randall museum. She then started at Santa Clara University as a biology major. After learning that wasn't a fit for her, Ms. Wolf switched to a fine arts degree and became Santa Clara’s first student with a Fine Arts major.

Afterwards, Ms. Wolf went to the San Francisco Art Institute for graduate school and then started exhibiting as a professional artist. She worked with Ruth Asawa in public schools in San Francisco for 5 years including Alvarado Elementary and Anza Vista. SI then invited her to work at SI painting sets for the theater department. After realizing that the students at SI did not have any art classes, Ms. Wolf advocated to start art classes for the students at SI.

Ms. Wolf still works on her own art practice and exhibits her work. She also continues to work on her own curriculum, adjusting it to each of her students' needs. She noted that her students are what keep teaching so interesting. Ms. Wolf loves learning from her students how to be a better teacher and learning their perspectives on things.



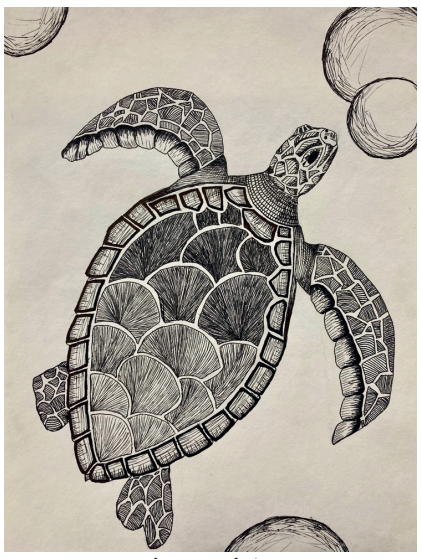
c/o siprep.org

Ms. Wolf starts SI’s art program in 1977.

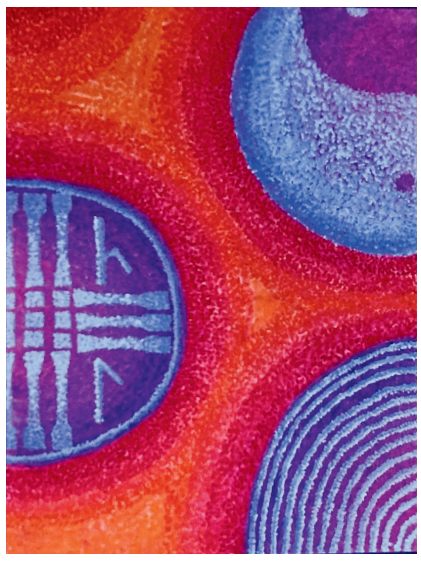
Studio 108 Pieces Featured at Behind the Curtain

Heather Yee ’27 — Associate Editor-in-Chief

> “Ms. Wolf has created a space for students of all skill levels to develop their own art practice. I enjoy the freedom she gives us in the studio to use a variety of materials and experiment with new styles.”
>
> - Skylar Chung ’27



Miya Yee ’27



Blake Ibanez de Opakua ’27



Skylar Chung ’27



Lesley Gabriel-Novoa ’27



Hannah Tran ’27



Vievon Coleman ’29

The Ultimate SI Snack Tier-List Part 2

Maxwell Gines ’28, Elliott Ko ’28 Contributing Editors

This month’s edition of SI’s snacks!



Email us with any additional feedback at: mgines28@siprep.org or eko28@siprep.org.



Pita & Hummus (B)

Although this snack may not be the flashiest player on the court, it is a solid role player who never fails to show up. The pita bread and hummus is a hearty snack that can keep you satisfied until lunch, and is relatively healthy, which we cannot say for all snacks on this list. This player has been a great addition to the Snack Shack!



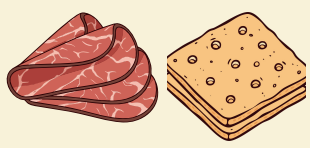
Veggie Straws (B+)

This is our most fun snack! You can blow in these, eat them horizontally, and share them with friends. Sometimes it feels like the bag can last the whole class (especially if your teacher doesn’t allow them). Despite having the word veggie in them, these sticks are actually loaded with sodium and fat, and lack any type of health benefits normal veggies give you.



Hillshire Charcuterie Board (C+)

“The salami cheese and crackers are a good combo,” asserts Jayun Yoo, ’28. However tasty, this snack is very costly and it includes high sodium, ultra-processed ingredients, and high saturated fats. Although delicious, the cost and unhealthiness makes it a mediocre choice.



Three-pack Muffins (D)

Just three muffins? While the muffins do taste good, the quality of the snack does not outweigh the quantity given. For the price you pay, receiving only three muffins feels disappointing, especially for those looking for a filling snack to satisfy their hunger. The small portion size makes it difficult to justify the purchase.



Interpreting the Beauty of Stories

Nora Shaskan ’27 Managing Editor

Storytellers since the beginning of time have used their artistic skills to comment on the world and promote wisdom, but the true beauty of fiction comes from the audience's interpretation of such tales. Some value the creator's intentions over individual interpretation, but I argue liberal analysis is what makes the study of stories so interesting; without diversity of thought, our creative world would have died centuries ago, losing relevance to people’s lives.

In my Cine Mexicano class, a film class instructed in Spanish, we analyze the movies we watch with two categories in mind— la creación and la interpretación. La creación refers to the creator’s intentions for the story, the message they’re hoping to convey through their craft; la interpretación, translating to the interpretation, is how each individual experiences the arc of the story and applies the lessons they’ve learned to their personal lives.

For example, the underlying message of the Catholic parable of the Good Samaritan is about caring for others despite the group they belong to; however, compassion looks different in the context of each individual’s circumstances. Not everyone’s interpretation of even the most studied stories will be the same because our diverse points of reference greatly affect how we extract meaning.

There is no accurate or inaccurate way to approach literature or film, and that I believe is the true beauty of storytelling— the freedom to interpret and draw unique conclusions without feeling trapped in one way of thinking.

An LMU film professor told me once, “Everything has already been done. What hasn’t been done is your interpretation of it.” This means that originality is seeing what others haven’t noticed before, not just inventing something revolutionary. Our



Depiction of The Good Samaritan by Eugène Delacroix.

unique minds admire and draw inspiration from the smallest details otherwise overlooked by the majority of viewers.

Without freedom of interpretation, we as people could not independently grow and learn from the stories’ messages. Additionally, the creative industry wouldn’t constantly refresh every time a new member of society offers their view of the world’s stories.

Exploring Ancient Egypt at the De Young

Mabel Henspetter ’29 Contributing Editor

San Francisco’s de Young Museum added a new feature to its plethora of art exhibitions. On August 1st, the museum introduced the new exhibition “Treasure of the Pharaohs.” As you enter the room, you are met with gold masterpieces, scarabs, and mummified remains around every turn, each of these intricate designs backed with a complex story dating back more than 3,000 years.

One of the more notable pieces I saw was Queen Ahhotep ll’s sarcophagus. She was the wife of Pharaoh Kamos and ruled with her son in the mid 1500s. During my visit to de Young’s exhibit, I noticed her sarcophagus is anointed with intricate patterns, and her beautiful almond eyes are made more vivid with the help of the blue kohl lining her lids.

She was modeled after many goddesses, including Hathor, Isis, and Nut; hence the feather patterns, the vulture and cobra adorning her torso. Gold-encased flies hang from her pendants, the highest military honor one can receive.

Egyptologist Zahi Hawass noted, “The necklace immortalized Ahhotep not only as the mother of a pharaoh, but as a queen who inspired and led Egypt in times of war.”

Not only is this one of the most beautiful and renowned art pieces kept within the walls of the de Young currently, but she also stands as a symbol of power and grace as she adorns the wall directly across from the entrance. I highly recommend taking a trip to the de Young Museum and allowing yourself to be



Coffin lid of Queen Ahhotep II.

transported 3,000 years ago, to the time of Ancient Egypt. There’s still time to go since the exhibit will be open until January 31st. So go check out the “Treasures of the Pharaohs” before it's gone!

Is Street Fighter Worth Watching?

Connor Kam '27 Contributing Editor

Video game adaptations have always been pretty hit or miss, and *Street Fighter* is no exception. While I didn't exactly grow up on the franchise, I've played my fair share of Street Fighter on my Nintendo Switch when I was younger. Because of that, I was pretty excited to see how the game would translate to the big screen.

One of the more enjoyable parts of the movie was seeing the characters from the games brought to life. Characters like Ryu, Ken, Guile, Blanka, and my personal main, Chun-Li, were all recognizable, and it was cool seeing their personalities and fighting styles adapted into live action. The movie also featured some surprising casting choices, including 50 Cent as Balrog, which I definitely wasn't expecting. Even without being a die-hard *Street Fighter* fan, seeing these characters on the big screen was a really cool experience.



The Street Fighter game is adapted into a movie.

As for the actual story, I thought the writing was a bit messy. At times, it felt like the movie was trying to juggle too many characters and plotlines without really developing any of them. The main villain, Bison, was a little over the top and predictable, but I didn't think it took away from the story. His exaggerated personality fit the overall tone of the movie, which never seemed to take itself too seriously. While the story could have been more polished, I think the movie accomplished what it was trying to do: bring characters from a video game to life.

Where the movie really stood out to me was its action and visuals. The fight scenes were on point, and I thought the CGI was well done. One of my favorite creative decisions was how the movie would occasionally switch between live action and an anime-inspired animation style. Thi made certain scenes more memorable. Considering how much of the *Street Fighter* franchise revolves around its characters and fighting, I think the movie did a great job at capturing that aspect of the games. I was expecting an entertaining video game adaptation, and for the most part, that's exactly what I got. The humor worked, and the action kept me interested. The movie managed to hold my attention throughout the whole movie, which is something I can't say about every video game adaptation.

While the movie certainly has its flaws, I think there's a difference between a movie being great and simply being enjoyable to watch. *Street Fighter* might not have the strongest writing or the most developed characters, but its action, humor, and visuals make up for a lot of those shortcomings. I would definitely recommend the movie to *Street Fighter* fans or anyone who grew up playing the games. Don't go in expecting anything groundbreaking, but rather a fun movie that brings iconic characters to life. For what it's worth, I think the movie delivers exactly that.

Art is Society's Subconscious: Why Do We Glorify What We Condemn?

Aryana Lau '29 Managing Editor

We condemn obsession in reality, yet call it romance when it appears upon our screens. We advocate for mental health awareness, yet idolize the tortured genius. We denounce violence, then admire its depictions in media. Why do the very things we reject in everyday life become so fascinating when transformed into art?

Vincent Van Gogh has become the embodiment of the tortured artist, his suffering often discussed alongside his artistic genius. His struggles have become part of the story through which society remembers his paintings. We admire the beauty of his work while romanticizing the pain associated with its creation. Yet suffering itself is rarely something we celebrate outside of art. Why does it become fascinating when attached to a celebrated artist?

> "I believe that society is inherently prejudiced. People pretend to understand art, but often rely on famous names to decide what is valuable."
>
> - Emily Pick '29

Maybe this contradiction extends beyond art itself to how we decide what deserves appreciation. We claim to value creativity and originality, but how often do we judge a work before knowing who created it? I asked Emily Pick '29, "Do you think people judge art differently depending on who created it?" Emily responded, "I believe that society is inherently prejudiced. People pretend to understand art, but often rely on famous names to decide what is valuable." An unknown artist might create something extraordinary and receive little recognition, while a famous artist's work is immediately treated as meaningful. If we allow reputation to shape out judgement, are we truly appreciating the art itself, or simply the name attached to it?

Art is society's subconscious, exposing the contradictions we refuse to acknowledge. We often allow an artist's reputation to shape our judgement. If art reveals what society admires, fears, and excuses, perhaps the real question is not what art says about the world, but why we judge the same things differently depending on how they are presented.

Outside SI

Fleet Week: A Dazzling SF Tradition

Aiden Regan '29 Contributing Editor

Imagine you're out for a stroll on the edge of the San Francisco Bay. The sky is a brilliant blue against the gleam of Golden Gate Bridge in the distance. Then - a roar sounds from above. Planes shoot above you in uniform, smoke of red and blue trailing behind them.

Fleet Week is an annual celebration in San Francisco that honors soldiers serving in the United States Armed Forces. It consists of a parade of naval ships, neighborhood celebrations, and most famously, military jet demonstrations, headlined by the Blue Angels. Recently, from October 4th to 12th, 2026, the tradition of Fleet Week continued, and the Blue Angels dazzled our Bay Area sky once again.

Fleet Week began in 1981 under SF Mayor Dianne Feinstein. Feinstein originally established the celebration due to her desire to honor America's sailors and sea services. However, as the years passed, the demonstration also became a source of wonder, nostalgia, and national pride for the inhabitants of the Bay Area. The Blue Angels, specifically, draw over a million spectators from the Marina Green to the Embarcadero.

"I still remember the first time I saw the Blue Angels," said Abby Kerbleski, Class of 2029. "It was so mesmerizing and fun to watch how uniformed they were. I always look forward to when they come."

As the area waved goodbye to the festjvities, the anticipation for next October grew in the atmosphere.



The U.S. Blue Angels fly in uniform over San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Continued from Front Page

a breakdown of some of the issues that impacted the vote.

Republicans' Goals

- Republicans are promising tax cuts and increase in defense spending
- The party wants to keep complete control in the house and would need to win 218 seats in the House of Representatives
- Republicans need to win 19 out of the 35 seats in the Senate to maintain control of the senate .

Democrats' Goals

- Democrats are predicted to gain control of the House and Senate to restore balance of power between the Executive and Legislative branches of government
- If they take control, they promise immediate action to improve health insurance and Medicare
- Democrats need to win 17 out of the 35 seats in the Senate to take control.

Major Local Elections

California voters will determine a new Governor to replace Gavin Newsom and San Francisco voters will determine who will take over Nancy Pelosi's position in the House of Representatives.

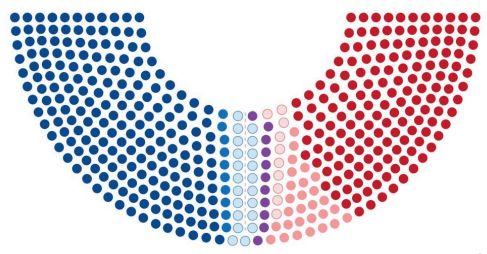
Candidates for Governor include former US health secretary and former state attorney general, Xavier Becerra, and former advisor to the UK prime minister and former FOX news host, Steve Hilton. Candidates for the spot in the House of Representatives are the both democratic Scott Wiener and Connie Chan.

Student Perspectives

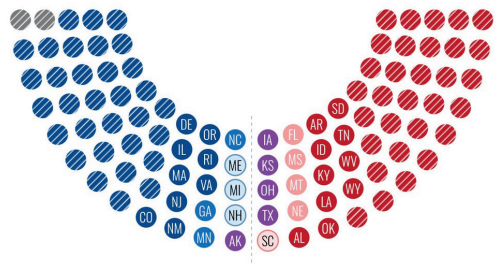
Many seniors will have the opportunity to vote in the upcoming midterm elections. The senior class Constitutional Law addresses election issues, and students also can join politically-focused clubs like Young Democrats and Young Americans for Freedom. However, Penny Baker '28 said, "I feel our school isn't educating eligible and curious students about the midterm elections, and I wish there was an easier way to learn about what is happening in the general world." One way to get informed was to check out the Arrupe Center posted resources about the election props, candidates and more.

If you are interested in election updates, check out local newspapers like the *SF Chronicle* or *SF Standard* for more midterm election results.

> "I feel our school isn't educating eligible and curious students about the midterm elections and I wish there was an easier way to learn about what is happening in the general world".
>
> —Penny Baker '28



c/o NBC



Predicted Senate and House in 2026
Purple means "Toss-ups"

Trump Cancels Plan to Livestream Fort Hood Shooter's Execution

Nula Johnson '28 — Contributing Editor

"We'll make sure that people are able to watch it. That it's public. Because people need to understand that there's serious consequences for these types of things," Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said while explaining his idea of a public live-streamed execution.

The case involves Nidal Malik Hasan, convicted of killing 13 people and injuring 32 others at Fort Hood, a military base in Texas, in 2009. Hasan was convicted by a military jury in 2013. President Trump had initially agreed to broadcast his execution over a livestream. This drew national attention, with many criticizing the situation.

Supporters argued that it could help discourage future violence. However, lawmakers from both sides of the political spectrum, as well as many religious leaders shared criticism, questioning whether this was necessary or even appropriate.

On October 15, Trump reversed his decision. Many SI students have different views on the issues. Junior Kaitlyn Kirk said, "I don't think it is ethical for executions to be publicized and promoted as a livestream," regarding whether or not she believes executions should be broadcast publicly. She continued on to say, "The live-stream makes someone's death feel like entertainment."

Hasan's execution is scheduled for December 3rd.

> I don't think it is ethical for executions to be publicized and promoted as a livestream. The livestream makes someone's death feel like entertainment.
>
> —Kaitlyn Kirk '28

The Bay Area Braces for Super El Niño

Heather Yee '27 — Associate Editor-in-Chief

With the anticipation of a record breaking super El Niño this winter, possibly the strongest one on record, flood preparations are well underway across the Bay Area.

El Niño is a climate pattern occurring every two to seven years influenced by wind pattern shifts in the tropical Pacific. While trade winds typically blow from east to west, pushing warm water to Indonesia and Australia, they change direction or weaken during El Niño years, causing a buildup of warm water in the east.



c/o SF Chronicle

San Francisco drivers plow through flooded roads in 2022.

Water in the eastern Pacific ocean warms up around the equator and this unusually warm water evaporates into the atmosphere, releasing heat from the ocean into the air. These conditions bring heavy flooding to some parts of the world and dry droughts to others. It also causes warming to global temperatures because of the heat that the ocean water radiates, and can elevate sea levels.

In California, El Niño brings especially wet winters. The predicted record-shattering severity of this year's storm prompted San Francisco's Mayor Daniel Lurie to declare a state of emergency, in order to ensure the highest possible preparedness against flooding. The declaration allows San Francisco to access El Niño preparation services quicker and grants Mayor Lurie the ability to reallocate funds between departments to best address the emergency. Public Works has also upgraded sewers and drains across the city, reducing flood risk.

Areas particularly vulnerable to flooding in the Bay Area include the runways at SFO and Oakland airport, Highway 37 in the North Bay, and the eastern approach of the Bay Bridge. Homes and businesses and San Rafael also have an elevated risk of flooding because many lie below sea level and sit right at the shore.

Sophomore Jasmine Yan '29 expressed wonder at El Niño's effects, sharing, "We witness stunning environmental changes living on the coast as these rivers deliver a shocking amount of rainfall to our communities." She further noted that the measures San Francisco has taken to prepare for the upcoming conditions are "important to ensuring the safe functioning of our city's infrastructure."

This year's super El Niño foreshadows an even more unpredictable future in regards to the global climate, as temperatures shift further towards extremes.

More Than Just a Ranking: Field Hockey's Success

Nula Johnson '28 Contributing Editor

Ranked #2 in California, our women's field hockey team has had an outstanding season so far. They've established themselves as one of the top teams in our state, and even reached as high as #7 nationally. This impressive record speaks for the team's competitive spirit and chemistry, giving SI an unbeatable reputation. Behind each win is a team that relies on every single player's talent.

Led by Colgate commit Storey Lewis '27 and UC Davis commit Maggie Magnano '27, the team is overflowing with skill. Lewis is ranked 24th in the nation, with over 150 career points scored, while Magnano holds it down on defense, supporting the team with her speed, agility, and strategic mindset. These two captains have helped lead the Cats to an outstanding 16-1 record and a 12-0 league record.

Field hockey demands constant communication, quick decision-making, and trust between teammates. From defending penalty corners to connecting passes throughout the midfield, every single player has a role in keeping the team's competitive spirit alive. Working together to move the ball into the attacking circle and creating scoring opportunities while staying organized is no easy feat, despite how flawless these Cats sure make it look. This team cannot only hit the backboard and score goals, but also defend their own. Led by senior Stella Strain in goal, the Cats keep their own goal clean. Strain has over 25 career saves; her defensive skill is beyond impressive.

Coming off an exciting 1-0 win against rival St. Francis on Monday, October 19th, the Cats stand at #1 in league play. Beyond their standings and ranking, these Cats value their team bond and chemistry over all else. To operate consistently at a high level, connection on and off the field is essential. When asked why she thinks SI field hockey is such a strong program, especially this season, Caitlyn Hughes '28 explained, "We are, above everything else, a sisterhood and really value putting each other before ourselves." Hughes demonstrates how these girls are selfless players, which helps them perform so positively. Thinking more about how SI is different from other field hockey programs. Hughes went on to explain, "What separates us from other schools is all the hard work we put in each week. We go the extra mile *literally* and focus on connecting both on and off the field."

Hazel Stang '28 and Maisy Brown '28 agreed, with Stang saying, "SI is a combination of skilled and athletic girls. We have really skilled players but also focus on moving and passing for each other," and Brown emphasized the team's cheering every game. She said, "We're always hyped and have a bunch of fun cheers for pretty much every moment of the game, always lifting each other up!"

Together, these girls explain how this program values their strong team connection and impressive athletic ability to keep up their great run. Come out and support your very own lady Cats at their home of Fairmont Field!


c/o Paul Ghiglieri

Maggie Magnano '27 maintains control of the ball.

The Women's Volleyball Cats Deliver

Colton McKie '27 Managing Editor

Nothing says "dominant" quite like the SI Women's Volleyball team in the Bruce Mahoney Series. Since women's sports were first introduced to the Bruce Mahoney Series five years ago, women's volleyball has consistently amazed the crowd. With a sold-out SI student section and hundreds of SI families in the stands, the pressure was on for the Cats to perform. Following a Fall Sports Rally earlier in the day, the tone was set, and SI knew it would be a tough matchup.

The atmosphere was as intense as ever, and the fans stood eagerly awaiting the first whistle. Early in the first set, momentum stalled on both sides. The Cats desperately needed help from their whole roster, and they got it. The dynamic duo of Neve Harlan '27 and Eileen Pfeffer '27 swung momentum in the Cats' favor by the end of the first set, but Sacred Heart's defensive prowess proved formidable as they took the first set. The Wildcats immediately put the first set behind them and took care of business in the second. The Cats tied up the set quickly and never looked back. After a gritty second set, Dance and Drill kept the crowd engaged and rowdy.

The third set proved to be their toughest yet, as the Irish and Wildcats exchanged points left and right. The teams rallied, and the crowd stayed engaged every second. After a series of back-and-forth kills, both teams were tied at 26 points. The Cats needed a spark, and Nevada Reno commit Eileen Pfeffer '27 delivered. With consecutive kills, the Cats took set three in dramatic fashion.

Even though SI swung momentum in their direction, the match isn't over until the final point. After back-to-back aces from the Irish early in the fourth set, the Wildcats took a timeout. When outside hitter Soraya Steger '28 was asked about the final set, she said, "My team really thrives under pressure. This game comes with nerves along the way, but we used those nerves to showcase how resilient we are and have been all year." At this point in the game, the SI crowd was feeling nervous. Every time the Cats scored once, the Irish scored two of their own. It felt like an inevitable fifth set was coming, until the Cats tied it up at 16 apiece.

After that point, both teams stayed neck and neck until the Cats found their footing. Then on consecutive kills, SI won the fourth set and took the game 3-1. An impressive all-around performance helped secure a 2-0 lead in the Bruce-Mahoney series against Sacred Heart Cathedral.


c/o @sivolleyball on Instagram

The volleyball team celebrates after a hard fought victory.



c/o @sivolleyball on Instagram

The student section holds up copies of InsideSI at the game.

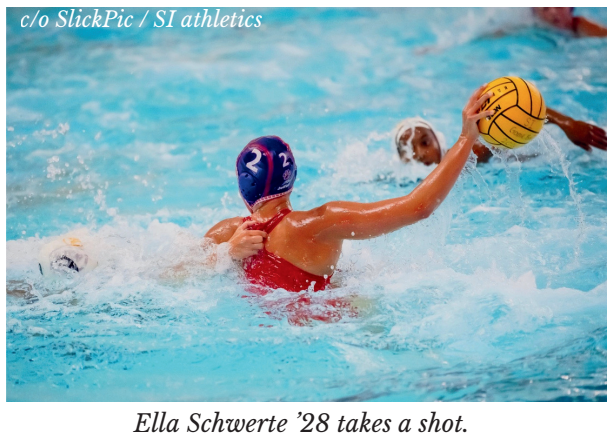
Catching Up With Your SI Water Polo Teams

Spencer Gregory '27 Contributing Editor

As the fall sports season comes to an end, the SI Mens' and Womens' Varsity Water Polo teams have competed against schools throughout the Bay Area and beyond. Both teams have faced tough opponents this season but have also had some great victories along the way.

The Women's Varsity Water Polo team has had a strong season with a 13-10 overall record as of October 27. This includes several important wins against league opponents, including Archbishop Mitty and Menlo School. Against Menlo, the girls were able to pull off a close 9-7 victory.

The team has also played well in tournaments, defeating schools like Aptos and Garces Memorial at the St. Francis Tournament. They also won against Valley Christian with a buzzer beater by junior Cami Lee. She shared, "The game meant a lot to the team because winning it ensured our place as second in the league for the first time in SI history. Everyone played really well and it was a super exciting senior night, especially with everyone who came to support. We're looking forward to WCAL playoffs next week and I hope we can end the season on an even better note."


c/o SlickPic / SI athletics

Ella Schwerte '28 takes a shot.

Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 13

Men's Varsity has had a more difficult season, holding a 7-17 overall record as of October 27. However, the Wildcats have still had some impressive wins throughout the season. In October, the boys defeated Granite Bay 20-12 at the Jesuit Classic Invitational. The team also traveled to Southern California during quarter break, where they were able to win back-to-back games against Grossmont and Villa Park at the Steve Pal Memorial Tournament.

With the regular season coming to an end, both teams are now preparing for the playoffs. Both the Men's and Women's teams are looking ahead to CCS after some tough battles against top WCAL teams.

Although the teams have had different results this season, both have continued to compete against strong opponents and will continue to be a great representation of SI's strong athletics and sportsmanship.



Benjamin Elson '29 denies a shot at the goal.



Dylan Dunn '27 attempts to regain possession of the ball from his opponent.

The Victorious Purple and Black

Mario Beard '27 — Contributing Editor

After an exciting Game 1 victory, the Golden State Valkyries suffered a setback in Game 2 of the WNBA Finals, falling 79-65 to the Atlanta Dream at Chase Center. The loss tied the WNBA Finals at 1-1 as both teams continue fighting for their first championship. The series went on to be one of the most exciting ever with a Game 7 thriller at Ballhalla aka the Chase Center.

The Valkyries opened the series with an impressive 68-64 victory on Saturday, October 17. Gabby Williams led Golden State with 26 points, while the team's strong defense held Atlanta to just eight points in the fourth quarter. The comeback win gave the Valkyries an early advantage and showed why they have become serious championship contenders.

However, Game 2 told a different story



Gabby Williams shoots a 3-pointer.

The Valks started strong, taking a 21-18 lead after the first quarter, but Atlanta quickly responded.

The Dream took control in the third quarter, outscoring the Valkyries 21-9 and building a lead Golden State couldn't overcome. Atlanta's Angel Reese dominated with 30 points and 16 rebounds, while Gabby Williams struggled offensively, finishing with 14 points on 3-for-15 shooting. Despite efforts from Golden State's bench, the Valkyries struggled to find their rhythm and couldn't close the gap in the fourth quarter. Following games three through six, the Valkyries proved themselves to all the doubters.

Games 3-6 were equally hard fought, and the final Game 7 matchup occurred Sat., October 31st. Both teams played with passion, and there were multiple lead changes in the game with the Valkyries emerging victorious! Gabby Williams was named Most Valuable Player of the series.

San Francisco may have found themselves in the midst of yet another dynasty. In just their second season, the Valkyries made an impressive run to the finals, and fans are looking forward to what will come next. When asked about the season, Ollie Firth '27 said, "It's pretty cool to see how far the Valkyries have come in just their second season. I never would've thought they could've made it this far." A parade to celebrate the championship was scheduled for Wed., November 4th in San Francisco.



On Thursday, October 29th, the SI community wore black and purple in support of the Valkyries.



SI Staff sport their Valkyries pride together.

Swept Away: Dodgers' Spending Spree Hits Wall in Milwaukee

Joseph Keegan '27 — Contributing Editor

For 363 days, the Milwaukee Brewers had only one game on their minds, and that game came on Oct. 15th at Dodger Stadium where they won the National League pennant.

The Brewers completed a four-game sweep of the two-time defending champion Dodgers in the National League Championship Series, winning Game 4, with a 6-4 score. They headed to the World Series for the first time since 1982. Although the Dodgers led in each game, they lost all of them, a situation that has never occurred in Major League Baseball history. Los Angeles left 24 runners on base and managed only 11 runs throughout the series, while Milwaukee's bullpen achieved a remarkable 1.33 postseason ERA. After Los Angeles's loss, former National League MVP Freddie Freeman remarked, "Sometimes you just lose."

The main takeaway is that the Dodgers lost, but it is also important to know who beat them. When Los Angeles started the season, its payroll was about $411 million, while Milwaukee, a small-market team, spent only a fraction of that and finished with the best record in baseball for the second year in a row. This year they went on to win the World Series.



The Brewers celebrate after winning the first ever World Series title in franchise history.

The issue is now at the heart of the next collective bargaining agreement for the coming season. The MLB owners have suggested introducing baseball's first hard salary cap, setting a limit of $245.3 million to begin in 2027, together with a floor of $171.2 million. The Dodgers and seven other teams that have spent heavily would then have to reduce their payroll by a total of $578 million. Most owners claim the cap will prevent teams like those in LA from buying championships, while players argue the Brewers have shown a cap isn't necessary for a thriving league.

Neither side is going to give in. Since the current labor agreement ends on December 1, the owners are expected to lock out the players the following day if they don't reach an agreement. This action would halt all signings and trades and could put spring training in jeopardy.

During the World Series, the Brewers beat the Tampa Bay Rays, another team with a low payroll. As for the Dodgers, the major issue this winter isn't who they'll sign; it's whether they'll be allowed to. As this year's World Series shows, money can't buy everything!

Fall Sports Update

Colton McKie ’27 and Dominic Vicino ’27 Managing Editors

Men’s Water Polo has grinded throughout the year and played their hearts out.

Record as of 11/1: 7-18



“We are coming off a great tournament in LA, and now we’re looking forward to our games during playoff season.” Dylan Dunn ’27

Women’s Water Polo has played in some tight games this season and looks forward to the playoffs.

Record as of 11/1: 14-11



“The beast has been unleashed... For the first time in SI women’s water polo history, we finished the regular season in 2nd place!” Ella Schwerte ’28

Women’s Tennis is keeping up their good form as they head into playoff season.

Record as of 11/1: 17-7



Women’s Tennis players look ahead to their next match.

SI Football has seared the grid iron, cooking up opposing defenses all season long.

Record as of 11/1: 7-2



SI’s captains lead the charge.

The Flag Football team continues to impress throughout their excellent season.

Record as of 11/1: 14-7



Flag Football regroups together after a touchdown.

Women’s Golf has been exceptional and is ready to make an even bigger statement.

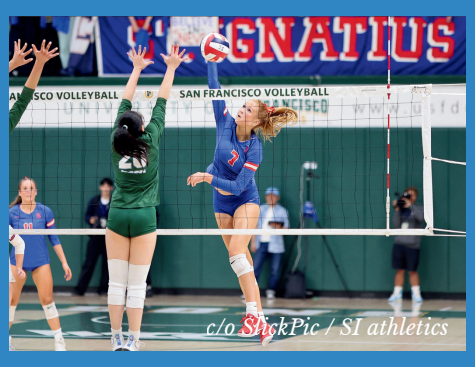
Record as of 11/1: 8-1



“Becoming WCAL Chmapions has been such a rewarding experience after all the hard work and dedication from everyone on this team.” Sofia Gates ‘28

The Women’s Volleyball team is crushing it as they look ahead to CCS Playoffs.

Record as of 11/1: 26-11



“Our fight and determination along with our team chemistry are fueling a dominant year.” Maddie Luceno ’27

The Field Hockey team has continued their dominant season, including a successful trip to San Diego.

Record as of 11/1: 17-1



“We’ve had an amazing season and recently made program history as undefeated league champions! We’re excited for what’s in store for us this November!” Storey Lewis ’27

Cross Country



The Wildcats look to start off the race strong.

“So far the season has gone well, the team overall has been doing great! The varsity girls team is crushing it, beating SH at our league meets, and we got super close to beating St. Francis! The team is getting ready for WCAL 3 on November 4th. Go Cats!” Lucy Evans ’27



Bella Riesenfeld ’29 and Eliot Marsh ’28 look to cross the finish line.

Memes of the Month

Connor Comolli ’27 Managing Editor



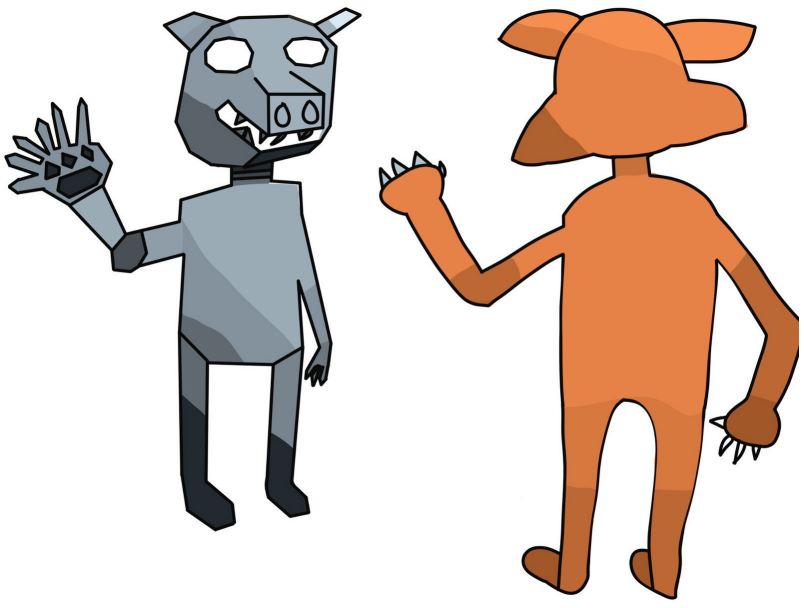
Creepy Crossword

Mason Wong ’27 Managing Editor



Why Not?

Zachary Zevas ’29 Contributing Editor



Quick, easy, efficient, what’s the problem?

ABOUT THIS CARTOON: “The problem with AI art is that a lot of people ignore that AI steals from artists and don’t see anything wrong with AI art. ‘Why not?’ That is why the cat-bot has no pupils: It’s soulless.”
- Zachary Zevas ’29

Cats in Costume

Genevieve Arcenio ’27 Editor-in-Chief



Papa Smurfs



Coach Holmes and Coach Gunter



c/o Genevieve Arcenio ’27

Flamin’ Hot Cheetos



No. 2 Pencils



c/o Genevieve Arcenio ’27

The Plague Doctor

Inside SJ

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