

L O S A N G E L E S

# Leadership Academy

## The Voice



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### Friendship Dance

Today on the 12th of February, LA Leadership Academy will be hosting Friendship dance provided by YPI in the MPR. The doors open at 6pm and free food will be provided. Tickets were sold throughout the week at three dollars for single tickets and five dollars for couple tickets.



### NWEA Testing

At the beginning of the week on February eight to the twelfth, Los Angeles Leadership Academy High School will participate in NWEA testing. As motivation, advisories with improvement in any of the subjects of mathematics, English, and reading will receive a week of free dress.



### FAFSA Day

On Saturday, February 13 YPI hosted a Cash for College workshop for the Seniors. YPI members Presented and helped students apply for their FAFSA. Many students came to participate in the event, resulting in a successful day.



### Children's Hospital Drive

Los Angeles Leadership Academy High school Participated in its second Blood drive this year on the 10th of February. With the participation of many students, the event went smoothly and successfully. The donation of blood will be used to help save many lives.



### Incident Near Griffin Avenue

LAPD responded to a "shots fired" call at 2:12 a.m. on 2900 block of Broadway near Griffin Avenue. According to Los Angeles Times the shooting appeared to be gang related. As LAPD appeared on scene they discovered a 32-year old man shot to death in an unknown Toyota with an uber sticker on it. Officers that responded to the shooting reported an SUV and followed it to the 10 high way in downtown LA. The SUV was finally stopped at 3:15 a.m. according to Peter Bishop. All four passengers were arrested for questioning.



### Gil Cedillo Visits LALA

On Thursday January 28, 2016, member of the Los Angeles City Council, Gil Cedillo, came to visit the students of Los Angeles Leadership Academy. Groups of students took turns at different times of the day to get a chance to what Mr. Gil Cedillo had to say. The California State Senator began with a little history of himself and his family. He then began to talk about the plans that he wanted to do in the future.



## The San Bernardino Aftermath

### What Happened and its Impact

BY STEVEN GARCIA  
Managing Editor

On Wednesday December 2, 2015, Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife Tashfeen Malik, went on a shooting rampage in San Bernardino at a social service center called the Inland Regional Center, then escaped the premises. Earlier that day, it was seen that Farook attended the place for a holiday party, but stormed out angrily, coming back with Malik and opening fire. Officers later discovered that there was also an undetonated pipe bomb.

The numerous weapons were purchased legally from a federally licensed gun dealer. Two handguns were bought by Farook while the two assault rifles were purchased from an unknown entity. According to the Los Angeles Times article, Enrique Marquez, who bought rifles used in San Bernardino attack, had deep ties to a gunman, on December 10, 2015, written by Kate Mather, Matt Hamilton, Richard A. Serrano and Jack Dolan, "Enrique Marquez, a friend of



Farook, bought two of the guns used in the attack. He entered a mental health facility after the massacre."

The attack took the lives of 14 people and left 21 injured. The youngest victim was 26 years of age and oldest was 60.

In terms of them escaping, on December 4, 2015, USA Today's article, San Bernardino shooting: What we know now, written by Anna Rumer, Brett Kelman, Martin Rogers and Jay Calderon said, "After the shooting, Farook

and Malik fled the scene in a dark-colored car. Later, officers following up on a tip rushed to a home, and the suspects fled in an SUV. A police chase and a shootout followed, during which Farook and Malik were killed. The pair were dressed in military-style garb, including tactical gear, and were armed with assault rifles and handguns. Two officers were wounded in the shootout, but their injuries were not life-threatening."

Principle Cynthia Cuprill was continued on page 3

## Quiet In the Audience: Poetry Out Loud



BY ALICIA LOPEZ  
Managing Editor

On Thursday February 4, 2016, students from different school districts gathered at Cerritos Center for Performing Arts to participate in the Poetry Out Loud competition. The Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest was created by the National Endowment for the Arts and

Poetry Foundation. The event took place in the evening from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30.

According to the Poetry Out Loud website, 365,000 students, 9,000 teachers, and 2,300 high schools participated in this event in 2014-2015. Each winner at the state level

receives \$200 and an all-expenses-paid trip, with an adult chaperone, to Washington. There they will compete for the national championship. The state winner's school receives a \$500 to purchase poetry books. The first runner-up in each state receives \$100, with \$200 for his or her school library. Also, a total of \$50,000 in awards and school stipends are awarded annually at the National Finals.

Sandra Sanchez, a senior at Los Angeles Leadership Academy, had the opportunity to engage in this competition and represent LA Leadership Academy high school. On Thursday, she preformed "In Love, His Grammar Grew" by Stephen Dunn and "Hysteria" by Dionisio D. Martinez. Sandra's favorite poem between the

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The Voice  
STAFF

**Editor-In-Chief**  
Sandra Sanchez

**Managing Editors**  
Steven Garcia  
Alicia Lopez

**Photographer**  
Diane Rodriguez

**Staff Writers**  
Ahiesser Aguilar  
Jessica Barba  
Karla Esquivel  
Steven Esquivel  
Rene Gaeta  
Leonardo Mero  
Jocelyn Perez  
Mercy Quintanilla  
Angel Salazar  
Seth Vera

**Faculty Advisor**  
Nicholas Steed

**Advisor Emeritus**  
Al Schleicher

**Printer**  
Gardena Valley News

**Publication Policies**  
The Voice is a student newspaper produced by students at L.A. Leadership Academy. This paper is published to inform, educate and entertain the student body, faculty and members of the community of Lincoln Heights.

Students, faculty and community members with strong opinions are highly encouraged to write a guest commentary or a letter to the editor, which may be published.

Send letters to the editor:  
thevoice@laleadership.org

L.A. Leadership Academy  
High School  
Attn: The Voice  
234 East Avenue 33  
Los Angeles, CA 90031

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Viewpoint

My Thoughts on Debate as a Rookie  
Should you join?

BY SANDRA SANCHEZ  
Editor-In-Chief

Not everything is as simple as it seems. More specifically, debating is not as easy as others may make it seem. For the past year, I have attended almost all of the debate tournaments as a spectator. I was the team's best supporter, I was the number one fan who followed the stars everywhere. This past tournament, after some persuasion I took a chance and decided to actually participate.

You would think that after hours spent watching my sister debate confidently in her rounds, I would have gone into this with a sense of tranquility, but this assumption could be farther from the truth. I didn't share my state of nervousness with anyone because I thought it foolish, but walking into my first round I was a mess of nerves.

By some miracle, I alongside with my team mate made it to semi-finals. I remember walking into that room and immediately wanting to walk back out. I was intimidated by the room full of supporters for the other team, the three judges who looked slightly disinterested, and the other team with their laptops and black ties. Nicole was my team mate that day and we glanced at one another as a sort of acknowledgement of our fear and just walked in there with the "fake it till you make it" attitude.

We didn't make it. After a grueling round, and I use grueling to refer to how it went for us because that other team was extremely well put together, the judges voted all in their favor. They looked impeccable and they debated as one would after weeks of practice, which was there truth.



We on the other hand were barely getting by and I mean this sincerely. The cross-x, which is the part when the opposing team asks questions was brutal, and I honestly found myself scrambling to keep our plan together. We faltered, we made mistakes, and we lost.

Did I want the ground to open up and swallow me up after such a loss? Yes. Do I wish things had gone differently? No. See, this loss, however humiliating I perceived it to be, is something I am glad I was able to experience. I learned more in that debate round than I did in the previous four that I had won. I gained a newfound respect for the members of the debate team who go through this almost every month.

It is easy for people to dismiss the debate program as a silly thing or as something that doesn't require much skill, but I am sharing my own experience to show the error in this type of thinking. As challenging as it was, it was twice as gratifying. I was given the chance to think critically and to argue without interference from an adult telling me what to

say or how to think. I realize that sharing what I felt when I lost may cast a negative shadow over debate as a whole, but like most things, debate has its good and bad things. The main theme here is that the advantages completely outweigh the disadvantages. When I lost, I felt terrible, but when I won, I felt great.

Make no mistake, I will continue to attend these tournaments and I still hold onto this self-given title of the number one fan; but now I will watch with the knowledge that debate is an important skill that deserves my respect for those who actively exercise it. To the debate team and more specifically my sister, I thank you for welcoming me into your world of arguments and speeches of persuasion. I wish you success in every round, but I think that for now I will stay observing. To those who are thinking about debate and to those who think debate is not your thing, I advise you to take a chance and to attend a tournament because it might just be opportunity you need.

Have an opinion?  
Write for The Voice

Submit your opinions to  
the editors at

thevoice@laleadership.org

Upcoming Events

- 02/12-15 Cal Invitational Debate Tournament
- 02/12- Friendship Dance
- 02/19- LALA Boy's Basketball game
- 02/20- Speech Tournament
- 02/22- Physical Fitness Test (9th grade)
- 02/23- Cafe Con leche Con la Directora
- 02/26- LALA Boy's Basketball game
- 03/1- Parents in Action Meeting
- 03/2- LALA Boy's Basketball game
- 03/10- HS Open House/ LALA Founders Day
- 03/11- LALA Boy's Basketball game

LALA'S Basketball Team



The boy's basketball team will have a game on the 12th of February at 7:00pm.

The game will be played at the Lafayette Park Gym located at 625 South Lafayette Park Place, LA. CA. 90057

The Voice Ch-Ch-Ch Challenge

February's Challenge

The first student to completely answer the question: How can you make success accessible?  
Will receive  
A Special Prize

**You Must:** Thoroughly explain your answer to Mr. Steed.  
The first student to explain to the Journalism teacher their answer to the question will receive the prize.



# News & Features

## San Bernardino Continued

shocked at first to be notified that Los Angeles Leadership Academy was also being closed because of the threat. Being a charter school, Ms. Cuprill expected LALA to continue classes because Los Angeles Unified School Districts schools were the ones being threatened, and LALA is technically not a part of that.

When Cuprill first heard about the sudden news, she was unsure of what to do. Her first thought was to keep the school open. As soon as the district told her to shut the school down, she called Juan Zepeda to tell

the kids that arrived at the school early to get some nutrition. Closing down the school meant that most students were not going to be fed.

Cuprill stated that some of the students depend on the meals that the school provides them with, and having to close down the school meant the students were robbed of a meal.

When asked the question of how she felt after the San Bernardino shooting, Ms. Cuprill answered with, "Because of our school being so small, and knowing our students, I didn't think we were in danger."

This assault had a definite aftermath concerning schools and students. When asked the question how he felt after the San Bernardino attack, senior Carlos Castaneda replied with, "I felt more or less the same in regards to my safety, but I was bummed out when I found out that the perpetrators were Muslim because I knew they were going to have more discrimination coming their way after the attack."

### FAFSA: What is it?

BY JESSICA BARBA  
Staff Writer

FAFSA is a form used to determine how much financial aid a student may receive from either the institution of higher learning, the federal government, or from other scholarships, grants, or loans and how much a student's family will be required to pay for college. FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

The FAFSA application is due on March 02, 2016. Anyone can apply online at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov). Whether the prospective student believes he or she will qualify for financial aid or not, the FAFSA must be completed during the college application process after the initial applications to the respective universities have been submitted.

College counselor, Mr. Steve Ortiz mentioned that people should apply because it is a good way to obtain financial assistance for college. He said, "Most people do not have the money to pay for college completely and applying to FAFSA is a way to be able to pay for your studies."

In order to apply, a person must be a U.S. Citizen with a valid Social Security Number.



The person applying must have a high school diploma and be applying to an eligible program. Students cannot have over refund on federal student grants, which means that a student has only been attending school part time and the money the federal has given to the student was not used so the student will have to pay it back. Students cannot be in default on a federal student loan.

Males that are applying must have registered with selective services. Students must not have a conviction for possession of or for selling illegal drugs or for any offense that occurred while receiving federal student aid. In order to keep the money, students must maintain satisfactory academic progress. Simply put, to continue to receive any financial aid, the student must be

passing his or her classes with appropriate grades as defined by the school he or she is attending. Parents are required to provide their tax information, SSN, bank statements, or any other financial document (business, investments, etc.) as required by the FAFSA for that tax year. The application also requires parents to let FAFSA know if the parents are United States citizens.

Something else that is required from parents and students is a FSA ID. The FSA ID replaced the old PIN that was needed from students and parents in order to fill out FAFSA application. All students and parents require one in order to sign the FAFSA application electronically. Without this number, applicants will have to print out the signature sheet and sign the hard copy. This can delay the process.

When applying to FAFSA parents need just one FSA ID and when applying to the Dream Act, a parent will need separate FSA ID for each child. The Dream Act Application is for undocumented students.

Colleges and Universities require the FAFSA because they want to make sure that students are going to be able to pay for college.

## Teacher's Corner

BY MR. STEED  
Journalism Advisor

What is the meaning of success? This question is bantered on so many levels. Is success based on the possession of things? Is it based on power? Can success be counted like the number of followers on Instagram or the number of likes on Facebook? As a teacher in a high school, I cannot tell which measure means the most to any one individual, but I do have a couple ideas that may be of help in determining how success can be made more accessible.

To start, create a Bucket List.

No, I am not speaking exactly of the movie with Morgan Freeman and Jack Nicholson, but then again, maybe I am not too far off from that either. In the movie made by Warner Brothers Studios in 2007, these two men are dying of cancer. They do not have long to live, but they are feeling better after the initial rounds of treatment so they decide to pursue the completion of a list of activities they have always dreamed of doing before they metaphorically kick the bucket – die.

Death, abysmal as it is to discuss, is a certainty.

Life – or to put it more accurately, living life to its fullest, which is my definition of success, is not a certainty. Life requires planning. Life requires work. Life does not just happen. To be a true success, we need to be actors in our lives and not just allow outside forces to act upon us.

Let us take this in steps.

Start with a plan – a bucket list.

Write down everything you could possibly want to do, to see, to eat, to be before you die. Do you want to graduate? From where do you want to graduate: high school, college, trade school, technical school, a military academy, or some other possibility?

Do you want to get married? Do you want to have kids? Do you want to travel? Do you want to run for public office? Do you want to scuba dive? Do you want to create something? Do you want to see stuff? What kind of stuff do you want to see? Where do you want to go? To what type of person do you want to be married? For what office do you want to strive?

Is this not obvious? There are many questions to answer. And, all of those questions are yours to answer. Write your list. Write down one hundred things you want to do, see, or be before your die. Choose to live! Choose to live big!

The other imperative step to success is preparation.

Dream all you want. But, you must also prepare. If you are going to run a marathon, you must train or somewhere along the way you will run out of energy and crash. If you want to be a body builder, you will want to lift weights. I am sure that you already get the idea.

The nice thing is that every student who is reading this is already doing step two. All of you are obtaining an education – true enough that high school fulfills the basic education requirements, but how can anyone possibly obtain anything higher without covering the basics?

So, what is the bottom line?

Make goals and plans! Dream!

Get an education! Train!

Make your dreams a reality!

Carpe diem! [Seize the day!]

### University Spotlight

## Out of State: Kenyon College



BY ALICIA LOPEZ  
Managing Editor

Kenyon College is a private liberal arts college in Gambier, Ohio. It was founded by Philander Chase in 1823, and there are 33 majors leading to bachelor's degrees at Kenyon. Kenyon College is bordered by the Kokosing River and is surrounded by the hills of the Ohio countryside. Despite this, it is just minutes from stores, hotels, and restaurants in the town of Mount Vernon and only an hour's drive from Columbus, the capital of Ohio and the 15th largest city in the U.S.

According to the school's website, the average annual fees and charges for a student attending Kenyon in 2015-16 is approximately \$61,100. This total includes tuition, \$47,220, room, \$5,240, board, \$6,720, and student fees, \$1,920. All students live on campus in residence halls and apartment-style housing. First-year students live to-

gether in a cluster of residences near Gund Commons.

Furthermore, Kenyon offers several types of need-based financial aid to students in the form of grants, student loans, on-campus employment and other loan options for families. About 50 percent of Kenyon's students receive need-based financial aid. According to Kenyon, approximately 65 percent of all Kenyon students receive some form of financial aid: about 50 percent receive need-based aid from College funds and government-sponsored programs, 15 percent earn competitive academic scholarships, and the remainder obtain aid from outside scholarship and loan programs.

Demographically, Kenyon is composed of a 53 percent female and 47 percent male student body with 20 percent African Americans, Asians, and Latinos/Hispanic-

Americans, Native Americans, and multiethnic students. The rest of the 80 percent are Caucasian students. At Kenyon there are 120 student-led organizations, and the average class size is 15 students.

Ninety-nine percent of Kenyon's tenure-track faculty members hold a Ph.D. or other terminal degree, highest on the academic track or highest on the professional track in their field. Also, 89 percent of students graduate within four years. Kenyon's acceptance rate was 24.6 percent in 2014.

About 18 percent of graduates go directly to graduate or professional schools. Of those applying to business and law schools, 99 percent are accepted.



# News & Features

## A Look Into Martin Luther King Jr.

BY **SETH VERA**  
Staff Writer



Monday, January 18 was a day to remember. It was the birthday of one of the most memorable African American heroes: Martin Luther King Jr.

Jim Crow laws were laws that segregated colored people from white people. They lasted from 1877-1954. Dr. King lived from 1924-68. Dr. King was one of the millions of African Americans victimized by those laws (Britannica.com, 2016). He played a key role in the American Civil Rights Movement as well. He fought for social equality for all races in a non-violent way.

Dr. King was first recognized when he and a few other civil rights activists were arrested for leading the boycott of the Montgomery Bus Lines (youthforhumanrights.org, 2016). The reason for the boycott was because in 1955 a woman by the name of Rosa Parks was riding in the front of the bus. She refused to give up her seat to a white man and she was then arrested for violating the segregation laws. Once word spread, a boycott of the Montgomery Bus Lines was formed. On January 30, 1956, Dr. King was at a meeting that supported

the boycott. While he was there someone planted a bomb on his front porch and it blew out all the windows and caused lots of damage to his front porch and house. Thankfully neither his wife nor his daughter were injured in the process.

In the years that followed, Dr. King gave more speeches and protests. He gained more and more followers and more people supported what he was trying to do. His goal was to end segregation laws and to bring peace among all races.

A few years later in 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. gave his most memorable speech that is taught about in most schools, his "I Have A Dream" speech. He envisioned a world where people were not divided by race. He helped people of color stand up and fight for civil liberty and justice.

His movement was so powerful Congress enacted the Civil Rights Act in 1964 that abolished the Jim Crow laws, in the same year Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

(youthforhumanrights.org, 2016). On March 19, 1963 Dr. King led thousands on a march. The march lasted 5 days and 54 miles; it started at the city of Selma, Alabama and went to the capital (kingencyclopedia.Stanford.edu, 2016). The purpose of this march was to raise awareness of the difficulty of black voters, it was to fight segregation and gain civil and voting rights (history.com, 2016).

On April 4, 1968 Dr. King was assassinated outside the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. He was assassinated by a man named James Earl Ray; he died April 23, 1968 by chronic Hepatitis C. The reason why MLK day matters is because of what it signifies. It shows what was fought for and why. African Americans were not the only ones affected by these laws. It was to anyone of color, including Mexicans. So they were as well treated wrongfully. MLK day is a day to remember.

## Heating Up to the Summer Olympics

BY **RENE GAETA**  
Staff Writer

In 776 BC, the first ancient Olympic Games took place at Olympia, Greece. Archaeologists are uncertain what brought the rise of the Olympic Games, but they do believe that they were a direct outgrowth of the values and beliefs of Greek society. The Greeks idealized physical fitness and mental discipline, and they also believed that excellence in those areas honored Zeus. In 392 AD the Games were suspended due to the Roman emperor Theodosius 1, who considered the Olympic Games a pagan festival, ordered them stopped. 1,500 years later, the first modern Olympic Games were initiated by Baron Pierre De Coubertine and took place on 1896 in Athens, Greece. Coubertine believed that the best way to develop the minds of young people was to develop their bodies. After he visited the ruins of ancient Olympia, it occurred to Coubertin that the best way to spread his theory was to resurrect the Olympic Games. He hoped the new Games would bring back the ideals of physical, mental, and spiritual excellence displayed in the ancient Games, as well as build courage, endurance, and a sense of fair play in all who participated.



In the modern era 27 editions of the Olympic Summer Games have been staged: 6 in North America, 16 in Europe, 3 in Asia, and 2 in Oceania. The countries involved are: the United States, Canada, and Mexico in North America; Sweden, Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Soviet Union, Italy, Finland, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, and France in Europe; China, South Korea, and Japan in Asia; and finally Australia.

This year, the Summer Olympics will be held in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil for the first time in history. This will also be the first time the Summer Olympics will take place in South America. On August 5-21, 10,500 athletes from 206 countries will be competing for 17

days in 306 events. 42 sports will be contested including 2 new additions: golf and rugby. Golf will be returning to the Games after 112 years and rugby will be returning to the Games after 92 years. 32 competition venues will be spread across 4 regions of the city: Deodoro, Maracana, Barra, and Copacabana.

The first step in the process of becoming an Olympic sport is recognition as a sport from the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The IOC requires that the activity have administration by an international non-governmental organization that oversees at least one sport. Once a sport is recognized, it then moves to International Sports Federation (IF) status. Once an IF has presented its petition, many rules

and regulations control whether the sport will become part of the Olympic Games. The Olympic Charter indicates that to be accepted, a sport must be widely practiced by men in at least 75 countries and on four continents, and by women in no fewer than 40 countries and on three continents. The sport must also increase the "value and appeal" of the Olympic Games and retain and reflect its modern traditions. There are numerous other rules, including bans on purely 'mind sports' and sports dependent on mechanical propulsion. These rules have kept chess, automobile racing, and other recognized sports out of the Olympic Games.

The motto for the Olympics is "Citius, Altius, Fortius," which means "Faster, Higher, Stronger." Excellence, Friendship, and Respect are the Olympic values. The Olympic Rings represent the union of the 5 continents. The 4-year cycle between each summer games is called the Olympiad. The torch symbolizes the link between the ancient and modern games. Coubertine hoped the Games would turn the tide he saw worldwide of the growing commercialism of sports.

## Speech and Debate: A Debatable Outcome



BY **SANDRA SANCHEZ**  
Editor-In-Chief

Los Angeles Leadership Academy's Speech and Debate team attended their fourth tournament the past 22nd and 23rd of January at Crenshaw High school.

For the first time this year, a team made it to finals. Two other teams also made it to semi-

finals. Senior Brenda Reyes and Senior Joseph Cristobal were the teammates who made their way to finals. Seniors, Vanessa Sanchez and Anel Torres made it to semi-finals, and rookie team MESA made their way to semi-finals as well.

When questioned on how she felt about reaching finals, Brenda Reyes said, "Going to finals was a bit surprising because we had new stuff to work with and we were not 100% sure

of the new evidence, so we made sure to focus on what we did know to ensure we won our rounds and we prepared a bit more."

Brenda Reyes and Joseph Cristobal made it to semi-finals last tournament and improved this time around to reach finals. Questioned on how he prepared differently for this tournament, Joseph Cristobal said, "One thing that I felt I did different is being more confident in what I have to say, as I had to get straight to the point. Also, I'd like to thank Brenda on making a quick change on our strategy as it was a winning plan."

Both team mates have shared that they will be moving on to Varsity next tournament and that they will prepare more for any outcome. Teammates Anel Torres and Vanessa Sanchez will be moving up to Varsity as well for the next tournament.

Additionally for this tournament, two new students attended in the rookie division. Senior Rene Gaeta and Sophomore Nicole. When asked about his experience as a first time debater, Senior Rene Gaeta said, "My experience of the speech and debate tournament was enjoyable. I really liked debating because it gave me that rush to win which was making my heart pound faster and faster."

Questioned on his favorite part, Rene said, "My favorite part was that with each round that was won the next round would get harder and harder. The funny part was that we were winning even though we never took a class of debate. In the end I really liked the experience because debate tournaments allow students to speak their own minds and combine their knowledge with the case they are given."

As for Nicole, she shared that she liked it but that her anxiety was through the roof, "but other than that, it was pretty cool. My favorite part was basically the whole thing. It was a learning experience and I enjoyed it very much."

The debate team fared well this tournament and their next tournament will be a Speech one on the 20th of February.



Immigration Series

New Years Deportation Raids

BY AHIESSER AGUILAR Staff Writer

2016. New Year weekend, 121 illegal women and children were apprehended by federal immigration authorities in New Year's Weekend as part of a nation-wide operation to deport a new wave of illegal immigrants Department Of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson says.

Since last December 2015, The Washington post predicted that between Christmas Day and early January, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) would conduct a series of deportation raids across the country. The raids would mainly target people who had arrived from Central America and those who had recently arrived illegally according to the DHS.

Immigration researchers thought these were just rumors. "I'll believe it when I see it," said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center of Immigration Studies, his doubts were because the thought of the Obama administration doing that was unlikely with the administration's efforts that made the Dream Act possible. Obama made the Dream act possible in December 2010, allowing some undocumented students to apply and receive state-based financial aid and institutional scholarship. Ex-INS Immigration and Naturalization Service agent Michael Cutler was also one to comment saying, "There is no way he [Obama] is going to do it... this is just a publicity stunt," he kept saying that even if it would happen, it would make Obama look ominous and would be in Democratic presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton's favor, according to The Hard Line conservative channel. "It's going to be Hilary talking about when she's president-God forbid, saying you could forget about all these [deportation] operations" was furthermore, stated by Michael in the interview.

The immigrants affected by the operation were living in the states of Georgia, Texas, and North Carolina. The DHS aimed at people from Central America and people who have arrived into the United States since early 2014 according



Photo Credit: John Moore

to the Obama administration. According to the Southern Poverty law center (SPL), the woman and children detained were not demonstrated warrants and were denied lawyers while being detained. These women were forced to sign documents that they could not understand because the forms were only in English and their right to a lawyer denied according to Univision, ignoring the immigrant's constitutional rights. In most cases the transition of deporting illegals after an arrest is a long wait, but to have immigrants put in detention centers can be right away done after an arrest. International law prohibits arbitrary detention. According to Detention watch network, regardless of nationality, allows immigrant Immigration Detention centers look, feel, and operate like jails are cramped. According to the Washington Post, DHS has violated a 1990's consent decree that states any minor taken into custody be treated humanely, and that it is critical for them to be cautious when treating and spacing minors in these centers. According to Univision, kids should not be caged, especially when they have no clue what is going on.

Hispanic Communities and high schools within these communities have started to take action. Maya Angelou Community High-school conducted a rally January 29 to let the South

Central Community what to do in case of getting detained or even during a local immigration raids.

Immigration experts Cynthia Santiago and Noemi Ramirez said the Multi Purpose room was filled with rows of Parents and students that were greatly concerned if an action like such would take place in the Los Angeles area.

The concern from hard working Central American immigrants about being deported is that not all Central American immigrants that arrived after the 1 of January of 2014 are criminals and could not afford to be detained for investigation. According to the DHS, for the 11 million illegal immigrants that stay out of trouble the chances of being deported are 1% and that in comparison to the numerous number of immigrants already in the United States and that they are in full reason to go into immigrant neighborhoods and to make arrest.

Statistics provided by the DHS, show that the number of yearly deportations has dropped by thousands.

Republican front-runner Donald J. Trump promoted the actions. "Wow, because of the pressure put on by me, ICE TO LAUNCH LARGE SCALE DEPORTATION RAIDS. It's about time!" said Trump. Trump is known

as the biggest Anti-immigrant candidate to run for president of the United States, "They're [Mexico] sending people that have a lot of problems and they're bringing those problems with us. They're [immigrants] bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists." were the candidates opening remarks when he officially announced he would run for the 2016 presidential election.

The way he expressed his views has caused him great media attention but at the same time has also damaged his associations he was networking with. Univision and NBC have announced the renouncement of all ties with the candidate including beauty pageants Ms. America and Ms. Universe. According to the Washington post, CNN, NBC, and Univision.

As immigration being a Political issue, Donald Trump will not change his stance that illegal immigrants should be handled with mass deportations and a big wall with doors that would allow for immigrants to enter legally.

While Trump promoted the DHS's decisions, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton opposed the DHS's deed. Hillary called in the Obama administration four days after the raids -asking to stop raids at homes of immigrants from Central America and to provide attorneys for the detained women and children. "Our immigration enforcement efforts should be humane and conduct in accordance with due process, and that is why I believe we must stop the raids happening in immigrant communities," said the democratic candidate. Ironically, in 2003, Clinton stated on the John Grambling radio, "I am adamantly against illegal immigrants" she then stated that the solution for the immigration issue would be to "stop employing illegals", according to The Daily Caller. She then later gave another stated in 2006 to the New York Daily "A country that cannot control its borders is failing at one of its fundamental obligations."

Hillary's views on immigration have shifted from being "adamantly against illegal immigrants" to supporting illegals by calling the Obama administration pleading a halt to the deportations.

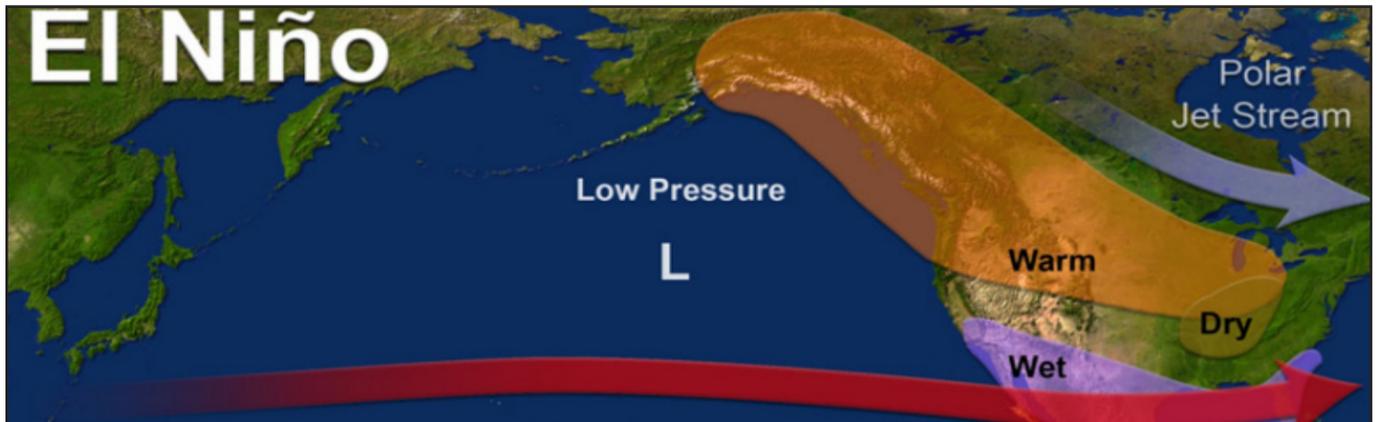
El Niño: The Societal, Economic, and Environmental Impacts

BY MERCY QUINTANILLA Staff Writer

El Niño impacts the society with its heavy weather. El Niño is an irregularly occurring and complex series of climatic changes affecting the equatorial pacific region. During that last El Niño in 1998, the national death toll was 189. The effects of an El Niño are experienced around the world. For example, during 1998, Florida experienced losses in 5 of the 15 catastrophes and 3 of these each caused more than \$100 million losses, according to the National Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society published April 8th of 1998. The catastrophes claimed where flooding, hail, and tornadoes.

The economy was also impacted widely due to El Niño. Property losses were estimated at \$2.8 billion including losses to farmers growing vegetables and fruits in California and Florida as well as to cotton growers in Arizona where it was to wet to harvest. As the environmental conditions of the growing crops deteriorate, the cost of everything will rise. Agricultural losses were about \$650 to \$700 million.

During an El Niño event, the south-east trade winds weaken and so does the amount upwelling in the eastern and central Pacific. With the collapse of the trade winds the oceanic sea surface temperature will rise significantly above normal.



The current El Niño has already reached temperatures of 3 degrees Celsius above normal this has never been witnessed in the history of the planet. The causes of El Niño are currently unknown what is known that we witness this phenomenon every 7-11 years states Mr. Todd Silverstein an environmental science teacher at LA Leadership Academy.

Due to the winter's warmth caused by El Niño a decrease in gasoline prices occurred because the demand for gas due to the warming temperatures will drop. This gas price reduction averaged \$0.25 per gallon. El Niño represented an enormous savings to drivers. With 260 million autos and trucks operating and each using an estimated 10 gallons of gasoline per week, the savings for March to May 1998 amounted

to \$7.5 billion (Changnon, Climatologist, Mahomet, Illinois). Just like the economy, El Niño also impacts the environment.

The lack of winter snowfall and freezing rain led to major reductions in the use of salt on highways and streets in the east, saving money and minimizing environmental impact. El Niño caused severe weather events including; flooding in the South East, an ice storm in the North East, flooding in California, and tornadoes in Florida. El Niño does not only affect one country, but many.

Wetter than normal conditions across the southern third of the country and warmer than normal conditions across much of the northern two-thirds of the country are the common effects of El Niño. El Niño tends to create wetter and

cooler than average conditions across the southern portion of the United States, and warmer and drier conditions across the northern regions. Californians are bracing for what could be an epic winter of rain (Megan Barber). "It's important to note that even a wet winter would be very unlikely to eradicate 4 years of drought."

Since timing the major impact of El Niño is too difficult, the best strategy is to buy food commodities such as sugar, cocoa, coffee, corn, and soybeans (An expert in Advertisement of a Brokerage Firm in October 1997).

When asked how she feels about the upcoming El Niño, senior Elizabeth Ortega said, "It's scary how watching the news, they put more negative thoughts than positive about El Niño."



## New Year's Resolutions

BY ANGEL SALAZAR  
Staff Writer

What is a New Year's resolution? Well, according to dictionary.cambridge.org a new years resolution is, "a promise that you make to yourself to start doing something good or stop doing something bad on the first day of the year", such as opening doors for people beginning from New Years Day.

New Year's resolutions can be given for improving your health, or to stop a bad habit or even to find the one.

So where did people first get the idea for a New Year's resolution, according to the article titled "History of New Year's resolutions: where did they begin?" the custom of setting "New Year's resolutions" began during this period in Rome two millennia ago, as they made such resolutions with a moral flavor; mostly to be good to others. But when the Romans adopted Christianity as its official state religion in the 4th century, these moral intentions were replaced by prayer and fasting.

For example, Christians chose to observe the Feast of the Circumcision on January 1 in place of the revelry otherwise indulged by those who did not share the faith. This replacement had varying degrees of success over the centuries, and Christians hesitated observing some of the New Year practices associated with honoring the pagan god Janus.

So, how did that tradition, which

began over two thousand years ago, come to be what it is now? Nowadays people have forgotten all about the pagan god Janus and all the history that comes with the holiday.

It is now a holiday regarded to be all about celebrating the things a person has accomplished the previous year and all the things he or she will accomplish in the New Year.

New Year's resolutions have become a thing to share on social media like Instagram and Facebook. Students related goals or resolutions such as losing weight and starting fresh with everything, but the main one was, of course, to finish the new school year well.

For example Hicell Lopez said, "My New Year's resolution was to start fresh in school, because I wanted to finish the school year good." LALA's New Year's resolution is to have as many graduates as possible.

So, what is a New Year's resolution? That is for each person to decide. It all depends on what type of person he or she is and what his or her desires are for success.

## Poetry Out Loud Continued

two was "Hysteria," and her favorite poem recited by another person was "Make a Law So That the Spine Remembers Wings" performed by Miriam Sachs.

When asked how she felt about performing at the event she responded, "Strange as this will sound, I felt great. I was nervous the few moments leading up to my poem, but once I said the first word I was comfortable. I remember feeling euphoric when I reached the third stanza of my second poem because it felt natural. I had recited this poem every night and morning leading up to the competition and saying it for the real deal felt nice. When we took a break to eat, I talked to the other students and I learned that they had to go through several rounds in their own districts to make it to the competition, whereas I only had to compete against a few students, so that was an interesting difference."

Sandra was also asked what she gained from the experience, she answered, "I gained confidence in my own poetry, if that makes any sense. Understanding another poet's writings and being able to deliver it with emo-

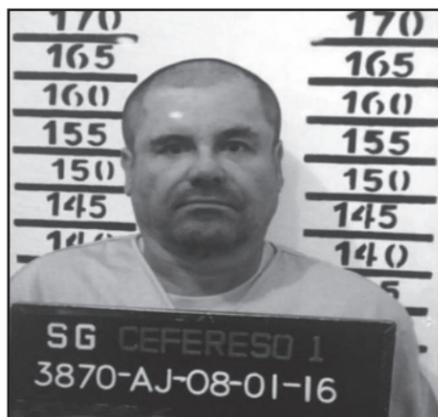
tion and clarity made me realize the potential of my own writings. Due to how comfortable I felt in this competition, I plan on actively participating in Spoken Word poetry in college."

Participants of the 2016 Los Angeles County Competition Finals were: Myra Usmani, Carolina Gracia, Kristina Laue, Aaron Rubanowitz, Portia Whiteford, Prisha Sadhwani, Cennemi Diaz, Sandra Sanchez, India Thompson, Miriam Sachs, Siary Guerrero, Yainyt, Clement Decker, and Patricia Macalalag.

The winner was Miriam Sachs, who performed "Make a Law So That the Spine Remembers Wings" by Larry Lewis and "The Gaffe" by C.K. Williams. Aaron Rubanowitz, who also performed "The Gaffe" by C.K. Williams and "The Novel" by Arthur Rimbaud, was declared runner-up.

## El Chapo Guzman Captured

BY STEVEN ESQUIVEL  
Staff Writer



Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, who was head of the Sinaloa Cartel, which is an alliance of some of Mexico's top capos was often described as the largest and most powerful drug trafficking organization in the Western Hemisphere, was born 25 December 1954 or 4 April 1957. Mexican officials are contesting the exact birth date of El Chapo who was raised in Sinaloa, Mexico. He is considered the number one drug trafficker in the world according to United States Treasury Department as reported by KTLA News on January 8, 2016.

He was on the run for six months, after successfully escaping Mexico's top maximum security prison, according to President Enrique Pena Nieto as reported on TMZ January 8, 2016. He was able to escape by way of an underground tunnel that was approximately a mile long according to the President of Mexico as reported on CNN January 11, 2016. The tunnel led from the restroom in El Chapo's cell to an area camouflaged by trees over a mile away according to TMZ on January 11, 2016. El Chapo, was recaptured on January 8, 2016 according to TMZ facebook status.

According to ABC News, The President of Mexico, Enrique Pena Nieto, tweeted "El Chapo has been captured" on January 8, 2016. Enrique Peña Nieto spoke out worldwide on Twitter stating Sean Penn helped with the capture of El Chapo.

Sean Penn, who met with El Chapo, ostensibly to research for a possible movie, said he was not trying to glorify El Chapo, he was just trying to get an interview to show the truth of El Chapo and nothing more according to the report on CNN dated January 8, 2016.

Sean Penn knew the type of businessman El Chapo was. He had seen videos and pictures of the things El Chapo was capable of doing. El Chapo's reputation as a businessman before anything else made Sean Penn scared and he knew that El Chapo was a person he could not, above all, must not betray according to CNN on January 8, 2016.

Sean Penn had to follow a well prescribed course of carefully choreographed steps, such as using burner phones and secret messages - including encrypted messages on mirrors, as well as meeting in secret in order to be able to talk to one of El Chapo's lieutenants to get the message to El Chapo that Penn wanted an interview. Kate del Castillo ended up being the person who acted as the intermediary between El Chapo and Sean Penn. Kate del Castillo known as "La Reina del Sur" or "The Queen of the South" said that she believed more in El Chapo than in the Mexican government. This was according to her Twitter feed as reported in the Washington Post on January 9, 2016 The Washington Post did not share any information concerning the date on which Penn and El Chapo met.

## Los Angeles to Welcome New Team

BY LEONARDO MERO  
Staff Writer

The city of Los Angeles will be welcoming a new National Football League franchise. After not having a team since 1994, the city will be hosting the Los Angeles Rams. The new addition to the Los Angeles arsenal of professional sports will be located in Inglewood California. The National Football League charges a fee of \$550 million dollars for relocation. There's an alternative payment option of 10 annual installments of \$64 million. It is still unclear what option Kroenke will take. Stan Kroenke is a \$7.7 billion dollar man according to Forbes Magazine, April 8, 2015. He is part owner of the new Los Angeles Rams and various other teams in the sport industry like the Denver Nuggets of the NBA, the Colorado Avalanche of the NHL, the Colorado Rapids of Major League Soccer, the Colorado Mammoth of the National Lacrosse League, and he is part owner of Arsenal F.C of England soccer.

In an interview granted by Kroenke, to NBC News (January 12, 2016, at 9:30 PM EST), he shares his feelings about the trade taking place. "This has been the most difficult process of my professional career," Kroenke said. "While we are excited about the prospect of building a new stadium in Inglewood, California, this is bitter sweet". (NBC News by Mike Florio on January 12, 2016). Stan shared with the media the reasons why the Rams were moving back to L.A. "Unfortunately it is business and any big deals that are made are drastically influenced by the money". (Article by NBC News January 12, 2016).

As everything begins to unfold, the only thing necessary to finalize the process of relocation is the new stadium that will be built in Inglewood California. Speculations about the stadium have started due to the expense. The total cost for building the new stadium is estimated to be \$2.66 billion dollars (Los Angeles Times January 12, 2016, 10:40 pm). When asked about his opinion on the cost of the new stadium Senior William Cabrera said to us "Honestly I



think it's a bad idea, there are people that work day for day just to feed their family in the city, but instead they're deciding to invest in a new stadium, some people are not even interested in football. It's not important at least to me it isn't" Shared William. In reality stadiums are made by contributions to the citizens. The old St.Louis Rams left a stadium saddled with about \$144million in debt and maintenance costs. That all we be covered by the people of St.Louis" (According to Robin Respaut in a post made on Wednesday February 3rd, 2016)

However the stadium will offer over 18,000 jobs to staff, workers, faculty according to a "Los Angeles Times" publication made on January 12, 2016, 6:50 am. As of now, the new stadium will be the most expensive in the NFL and in the history of the city Los Angeles (Los Angeles Times January 11, 2016, 7pm).

Until the new stadium has been completed, the Los Angeles Coliseum will be lending their stadium for the new team to play in the beginning of the season.

As for the new stadium, it will be called the "The Los Angeles Stadium" in Inglewood California, according to The Los Angeles Times (Monday, January 25 2016). The new stadium will be opening its doors for the 2019 NFL season according to the National Football League in a publication made on January 14, 2016 at 2:15 pm.



# Activities Page

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## Valentine's Day: A Brief History

BY JOCELYN PEREZ  
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is the time of the year when people exchange candy, flowers, and gifts. Many people recognize Valentine's Day as the day when they can express their love and affection to one another, but many people don't know how it came to be the holiday it is today.

There were many stories of the mysterious Saint Valentine. Legend says that Valentine was a priest who served during the 3rd century in Rome. He secretly performed marriages for young lovers. Emperor Claudius II determined that single men are more excellent soldiers than those with wives and families; therefore, he prohibited marriage for young men. Valentine contravened Claudius, realizing that this decree was unfair. When Claudius discovered Valentine's actions he sentenced him to death.

Another legend was that Valentine, a prisoner, fell in love with a young girl who visited him during his time in jail. Valentine sent the first ever "Valentine" greeting himself to his love. Before his death, Valentine wrote the young girl a letter printed "From your Valentine." This phrase still continues to be used today. All these stories of Valentine portrayed him as heroic and an important romantic figure.

Valentine's Day occurred when the Christian Church decided to have St. Valentine's feast day

during the middle of February in a way to "Christianize" the celebration of Lupercalia. Lupercalia is a festival dedicated to Faunus, a Roman god of agriculture, and Romulus and Remus, founders of Rome. Although, changing the holiday to celebrate a Christian saint increased the number of Christians who celebrated the holiday, it became outlawed towards the end of the 5th century. Lupercalia was celebrated less by the higher class and the aristocratic. They enjoyed the feast exclusively by the working class. The rich affronted one another by telling each other to attend the feast. By the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius outlawed Lupercalia for becoming a pagan ritual and unchristian. Later on, Pope Gelasius established a Christian celebration in which St. Valentine would be the Patron Saint and declared it would be cherished on February 14th.

Valentine's Day was not associated with love until the Middle Ages. It was believed that at the time, it was the beginning of birds mating.

In 1723, the idea of Valentine's messages became popular and was usually in the form of a written note of a special verse on pretty paper. Valentine's Day began to be commonly celebrated in the 17th century in Great Britain and in the 18th century in the United States.

During the 1700's handwritten notes, small tokens of affection, and gift exchanges were popular. Esther A. Howland, known as "Mother of Valentine" was responsible for popularizing Valentine's Day greeting cards in America. She created the first assembly-line production of Valentine cards. According to the Greeting Card Association, today, an estimated one billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year.

Today, Americans celebrate Valentine's Day by going on romantic dates, spending quality time with each other, and exchanging flowers, love cards, chocolates, and stuffed animals; especially that gigantic teddy bear every girl wants from Costco.

When asked her thoughts and feelings about Valentine's Day and what a perfect date might be, Lizbeth Fajardo, a junior, responded, "I think Valentine's Day is a day of couples where they show how much they love each other."

Moses Gonzalez, a junior, responded, "I think Valentine's Day is one of the most corrupt days because it makes so many people nervous for no exact reason when it's just a regular day really, but it does have a different type of feeling to it because you just feel like something should be different that day."



## Shout-Outs

To: Randy Guzman

"Thank you for always brightening up my day with your beautiful smile and for being so pleasing to look at. You're the biggest cutie around. You know who I am.

From: Anonymous ;)

To: Eby

"I love you when things are wrong, I love you when things are hard and I love you the most when things are the best. You're my Sunday candy. (;

From: SM



Shout out to the love of my life.

-Anonymous

Dear Sister,  
You make me proud. Just don't get caught next time.

-Edwin Banos



You make me smile and I love you. -Anonymous



"I hope you smile everyday."

-Noelia

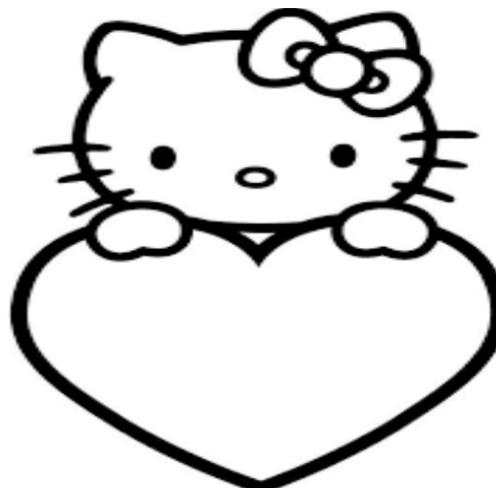


To: Pedro  
"I love you."  
-Anonymous

Shout out to Clarke Kent a.k.a Bernardo Sarmiento



color-me-crazy.org



To Katherine:  
You're my best friend. Never forget that no one will replace you.  
-Hopefully you know who this is.

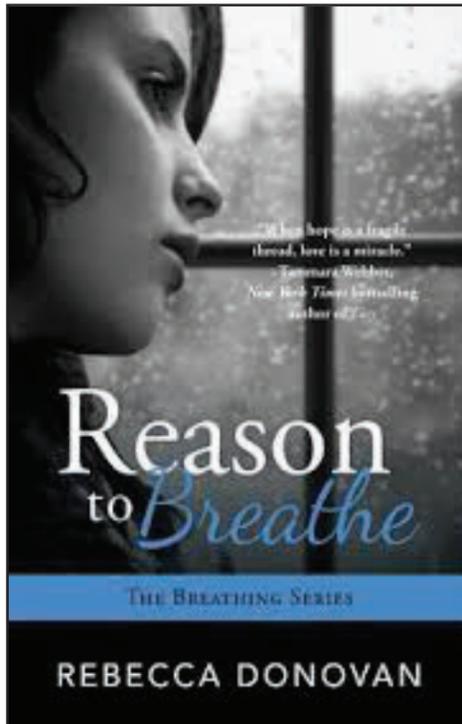


To Jackie:  
I love you from the bottom of my heart, from your boyfriend, me.



## Literature Review

### Reason to Breathe



BY KARLA ESQUIVEL  
Staff Writer

**R**eason To Breathe by Rebecca Donovan tells the story of Emma Thomas. She would much rather be alone than be noticed by the world. She lives with her aunt, who abuses her daily, her uncle who pretends to not notice what is going on, and two younger cousins who are too young to know what her mother does. Emma is counting down the days until she can leave the home her mother has left her in. She has never felt like her mother or family has ever loved her. She does not trust anyone, except for her best friend whom she still is learning to trust.

That is until one day she meets Evan Matthews. He completely drives her crazy: always questioning her, trying to get to know her more. This was not supposed to happen. She was supposed to be the invisible one, the one who no one even bothered to talk to. So why was Evan an exception?

Evan insists on getting to know everything about Emma, but Emma keeps trying to get further away from Evan. The harder she tries, the more she finds herself missing him. She always tries to be the best at academics, sports, everything and that is one thing that Evan admires about her. The only reason why she actually tries to be the best is so she can have a free ticket to college. If she obtains it, she will have a permanent escape from her abusive aunt Carol.

Carol; however, is not letting Emma get the free pass to college that easily. She tries to make Emma's life as bad as possible by constantly abusing her physically. It is so frequent that she makes her wear long sleeves to hide the bruises. Sarah, Emma's best friend, tries hard to give Emma the best high school experience she can give her with the help of Evan.

This is only the first book of a series called The Breathing Series. There are two more books on this series called, Barely Breathing and Out Of Breath.

## Movie Review: The Theory of Everything

BY DIANE RODRIGUEZ  
Photographer



Rating: 4.5 lions out of 5



**W**hat created the universe? Who are we in this vast place? These are just some small questions that come from an even bigger question: Is there an equation that explains everything in the universe? British theoretical physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking seeks this answer at the University of Cambridge while also achieving other acknowledgments and discovering “love” in the process.

“The Theory of Everything” is the story of Stephen Hawking and Jane Wilde. Stephen Hawking is a world renowned English theoretical physicist, cosmologist, author, and Director of Research at the Centre for Theoretical Cosmology within the University of Cambridge. “The Theory of Everything” is a biographical, romantic film telling the story of Stephen and Jane Hawking. The film opens in 1963 at Cambridge University where astrophysics student Stephen Hawking and literature student Jane Wilde have a chance meeting at a party resulting in the blossoming of a relationship.

However, with the progression of the story, Hawking soon discovers that he has a condition called motor neuron disease; also called Lou Gehrig's disease, with approximately two years to live. The pair experiences all the difficulties of any relationship coupled with the exigencies of a debilitating and usually life limiting disease.

The movie plays out their true life experiences told in both a theatrically beautiful and emotionally poignant fashion. While Stephen beats the odds concerning this disease's normally short, two years, prognosis, this does not limit the marital issues with which they deal.

The film is an adaptation of a novel called Travelling to Infinity: My Life with Stephen by Jane Wilde Hawking. It

explains in full detail about her experiences with Stephen and the hardships that they both faced together.

The director of the movie, James Marsh, a British film and documentary director born on April 30th 1963, does an astonishing and remarkable job transferring the events from the book into the film.

With the aid of photography, music, script and dialogue, director James Marsh was able to convey the emotions between Hawking and Jane to the audience by capturing their expressions and frustrations.

In addition, the scenery plays a great part in how the movie progresses and how the protagonists interact with one another within the environment from the spinning stars shown when they are first falling in love to the stolid nature of the Royale Gardens at the end of the film when many issues have been resolved.

Even though the film follows the events of the couple, the film still takes various dramatic liberties with the history it portrays. Some examples would be the details surrounding Stephen and Jane's relationship and how they met.

With its US release in September 7th, 2014 and its release on January 1st, 2015 in the United Kingdom, the film was an international hit earning \$122,873,310 worldwide - most of its profits were from the US and the UK ticket sales.

“The Theory of Everything” received several nominations and awards following its release at the 87th Academy Awards, Screen Actors Guild Awards, and at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards.

Portraying as the couple were actors Eddie Redmayne as Stephen Hawking, while Hawking himself provided the synthesized voice, and Felicity

Jones as Jane Wilde Hawking, both of whom received five Academy Awards Nominations.

Eddie Redmayne won a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor and the Academy Award for Best Actor. Redmayne's interpretation of Stephen Hawking was difficult to execute, but overall very impressive, especially when he began to lose his mobility. His dialogue, actions, makeup, and mumbles all added to the exceptional character development of Stephen Hawking allowing the film to flow smoothly and accurately.

Overall, the film is enchanting, captivating, and emotional as it demonstrates a classic love story with a twist as both man and woman face difficulties and hardships for love.

“The Theory of Everything” gives audiences the real life story that British theoretical physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking faced, despite only given two years to live. However, with the help from Jane, he fights through depression and lives through a marriage that last for 25 years.

“The Theory of Everything” connects the rational theories and concepts of science to the irrational concept of love, proving that love has no certain boundaries.

I highly recommend this film. With a rating of PG-13 and a running time of two hours and three minutes, “The Theory of Everything” earns four and a half Lions out of five for bringing the wondrous and hard life of Hawking and Jane to the big screen, creating a triumphant film.