

L O S A N G E L E S

Leadership Academy



The Voice



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Newspaper serving the Lincoln Heights community since 2008

September 2015



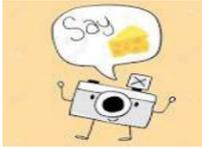
HS Students Went Camping

High School students, Mayra Leon, Mariana Ruiz, and Estefhany Hernandez are three of a group Of LA Leadership Academy Students who attended A 7 day/night camp. They learned to embrace The Mexican history and the connection between How they fought for land that the U.S took. They attended small classes on varied subjects, but all focusing on the Mexican Society.



Picture Day!

Los Angeles Leadership Academy held it's yearly Picture day, Students were Called up by electives until Every single person had Their picture taken. ASB Members Laura Torres and Maria Galraza along with Principal Cynthia Cuprill kept the day running Smoothly. Students who were out of uniform were Given a green polo to use. All in all picture day was a success,



New Gym

Los Angeles Leadership Highschool has a new gym. Over the summer YPI Coordinator, Henry Mendez and Helen Took the time to set up the equiment in what used to be the PE locker rooms. The gym is open everyday after school, except for Saturday and Sunday. YPI has it available from when school ends to six PM.



Back to School Night

A few weeks in and LA Leadership Academy Hosted it's annual back to School night. Teachers and Students alike stayed late Decorating their classrooms For the incoming parents. ASB held a small fundraiser. They sold hotdogs and refreshments at the event.



ASB is a Class This Year

After a year of after school Meetings, ASB is a class this Year. Ms. Snchez is this Years advisor for her 6th Period leadership class. Led by Student Body President Maria Galarza, the class is off to a great Start. Their first event(selling food at back to school night) was a success,



POSSE Possibilities Senior Scholarship Opportunity

BY SANDRA SANCHEZ
Editor-In-Chief



Four year, full tuition leadership scholarships. Los Angeles Leadership Academy nominates two students to apply for the POSSE Foundation. This year, seniors Omar Robledo and Laura Torres were nominated to apply for POSSE.

Established in 1989, the POSSE Foundation is a scholarship program that awards students of merit and in need a full tuition for all four years of college. The students who are awarded with the scholarship are grouped into a posse with other selected students attending the same college.

To be eligible to apply to POSSE a student must be a senior in their first term in highschool, must be nominated, and he/she must show leadership and academic promise. Once a student is nominated he/she will move on to Round one of interviews. If the student advances past all rounds of interviews he/she will be awarded the scholarship.

According to The Posse Foundation's website, the foundation uses a Dynamic Assessment Process to select their finalist.

“In a three-part process, including large group and individual interviews, Posse staff and university partner administrators ultimately select a diverse group of 10 students for each college or university, thus forming a Posse.”

When asked about the interview and what occurred Omar Robledo said, “In the interview I spoke to students most of the time rather than the actual POSSE members. The interview was basically all the students playing little games and the POSSE volunteers would record everybody's move.” Questioned more on the details of the interview and the type of questions asked Omar Robledo explained, “They were not questions but games like the following: building a tower off of straws with one hand and tape in the group, walking like an animal, making a skit about a subject, and holding a discussion about a given topic.”

Contrary to the multiple students nominated to apply in previous years, this year

only two students were nominated. When asked how students are nominated YPI Coordinator, Henry Mendez had this to say, “One of the things I looked at was how the individual student changed from when I first met them. I counted academics and their involvement with YPI.

Mr. Mendez explained that YPI has a direct partnership with POSSE aside from the one between the school and POSSE. It is because of this direct partnership, that he was able to nominate only two students.

When asked about how she felt about being nominated, Laura Torres said, “I'm extremely grateful that I was nominated and given a shot at this scholarship. If I don't receive it I will still be eternally grateful with the person who believed in me and allowed me to experience this.”

Of the two initially nominated, Laura has been selected to move on to the second round on POSSE. Her following interview will be on the 15th of September.

LALA Attracts New Students

50 New Students to be Exact

BY BRIANNA VEGA
Staff Writer

50 new students began this school year at Los Angeles Leadership Academy high school campus.

The hallways and classrooms are now crowded, but the advantages are rather gratifying. More teachers are teaching on this campus and more supplies are available for education. Students are dividing in their opinions over whether the increased students population is positive or negative. Anahi Gutierrez, a senior, responded to the

question “Do you feel like the education they give here will get you to college?” by answering, “I don't. I think the classes are ok, but I think they can be more challenging.” Senior Beverly Pesquera responded to the question “Are you comfortable with how many people in this school?” by saying, “Honestly I am not comfortable with it because we are too many and we hardly fit in here in lunch and nutrition we can't walk around that much because it is crowded

and everyone tries to make their own little groups. There's no path ways and it makes us look like cows trying to get in corrals.” Ulysses Montes a member of the member of the class of 2017, responded to the question question by responding. “I mean every school education, majority should be taught in order to be high school prepared, like their main goal should be college, so im guessing what they are teaching us right here should be for graduation and going to

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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:
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National Scholastic Press Association

Viewpoint
Origins of Coffee

BY KATHERINE UMANA
Special to the Voice

It is one of those things you can't help but wonder how it was discovered. When you think of milk and the process that goes into getting milk, you ask how did they go upon discovering that? The same goes for coffee beans, how were they discovered? According to one of Al's guesses, it could have been that someone ate the bean and had enough energy to clean their house and everybody else's too. Although it sounds probable, that is not exactly how it happened. Legend states that goats ate the beans and their owners found that they could not sleep. Coffee beans are caffeinated black or brownish beans that are found in red round berries. We will go over the origins of coffee, where it is most produced and consumed, and how there are different types for different flavors.

"According to legend, coffee was discovered in Ethiopia when goatherds noticed their flocks stayed away all night after feeding on coffee leaves and berries" (World Book 755). Coffee has spread around the world as a result of this. According to the National Coffee Association, they production of coffee began in the Arabian Peninsula. They made coffee houses that turned into popular places for gatherings. When Europeans began traveling, they returned with stories about the "black bitter drink". Coffee at that time did not have the fame it had in Arabia. The Europeans who opposed the drink were skeptical and referred to it as "Satan's Drink". Protests against the drink were held in the name of religion. It

then made its way to the United States and became the new trend after the Boston Tea Party made tea less popular.

With the spread of coffee to different parts around the world, the top leading countries began to produce it. In connection to the chart in the World Book Encyclopedia, the top three countries leading the coffee production in 2001 were Brazil, Vietnam, and Columbia. Thirteen years later and they are still producing the most coffee. According to the World Atlas, in 2014 Brazil produced a total of 5,997,719,935 (Nearly 6 billion) pounds, Vietnam produced 3,637,627,326 (Nearly 4 billion) pounds, and Columbia produced 1,653,466,966 (Nearly 2 billion) pounds. With the supply there is a demand. World Atlas provided the top ten countries that consume the most coffee. The top three nations per person are: Finland with 9.6 kg, Norway with 7.2 kg, and the Netherlands with 6.7 kg consumed daily.

Coffee beans are roasted in different ways to obtain different flavored coffee. "Roasting is a heat process that turns coffee into the fragrant, dark brown beans with which we are most familiar. Before being roasted, the beans were stored green, a state in which they can be kept without loss of quality or taste. Once roasted, however, they should be used as quickly as possible before the fresh roast flavor beings to diminish" (National Coffee Association). According to the article Roasting Types by the National Coffee Association, there are four types of roasting. They are: light (Light brown in col-



Image of coffee beans obtained from flexport.

or, milder coffee variety), medium (Known as the American roast because it is preferred in the United States), medium-dark (Bittersweet aftertaste), and dark (Very bitter).

Overall, coffee is spread around the world with countries both producing and consuming it. It comes in many flavors due to the method of roasting it undergoes, and contrary to what sounds probable, it was not discovered by a person who cleaned a room fifty times. It was instead a result of goats trying to get their bellies full.

Have an opinion?
Write for The Voice

Submit your opinions to
the editors at
thevoice@laleadership.org

Upcoming Events

- 9/11 Movie Night with YPI
- 9/18 Fall Dance
- 9/18 ASB Elections
- 9/22 Childrnø's Hospital/ ASB Blood Drive
- 9/25 Movie Night with YPI
- 9/29 Cafe Con Løchø Con La Dirøctora

YPI EVENTS



Movie Night with YPI on the 11th on 25th.

The Voice Ch-Ch-Ch Challenge

September's Challenge

The first student to answer the clue will receive:

Special Prize

Clue: What is significant about today?

The first student to tell the Journalism teacher the answer
will receive the prize



News & Features

New Classes: Some AP's and Other Electives

BY RENE GAETA
Staff Writer

The Los Angeles Leadership Academy has many new classes creating opportunities for those who want to study in different areas: Statistics, Marine Biology, AP Calculus, AP Studio Art, Environmental Science, Psychology, Spanish 3, and Physics are all new classes. Students who have felt that there were not enough classes to choose now have variety.

Mr. Silverstein, who teaches Environmental Science and Marine Biology, is thrilled to be teaching subjects he loves to interested students. Silverstein stated, "I hope to go on field trips with my students in the future and share the passion of my studies with them." Mr. Silverstein is known to be the joyous and wildest teacher students might know. Another teacher who teaches a new class is Mrs. Titchenell who teaches Statistics to seniors. Titchenell joyfully explains, "I am excited to teach Statistics in order to help teens succeed in real



life problems." Mrs. Titchenell is known for her overall kindness.

Even though there is excitement for the new classes that have been added and those still to come, an issue has arisen. Brenda Reyes, a senior at LALA, stated, "There needs to be more language and culture study classes." Another student, Maria Galarza, spoke out, "I love the new classes, but there needs to be more AP classes and if they're going to have a class then come

through with it such as Psychology."

Teachers need up to ten students in a class so if there are not enough students, a course must be cancelled, such as Physics this year. If students fill classes, then no more courses will be cancelled. Even if classes get discontinued, new courses may be available in the upcoming years.

Remodeling

Cafe 1, Cafe 2, and Classrooms Too Get a Makeover.

BY VANESSA CALI
Staff Writer



Within the school year of 2015 there has been a variety of changes made at Los Angeles Leadership Academy High School to redesign the schools environment. The remodeling was made in the summer of 2015 for the entering students of fall 2015. In the two cafes located on the first floor there are new furnitures. Some other locations that were remodeled were the classrooms/all painted white, workout room(collaborated with YPI), in progress sound proof language lab for students to practice their English without any interruptions ,and last but not least, one of the boys restroom has an additional stall that was not there before. "We will continue remodeling and adding new stalls for the restrooms"

quoted our principal.

August 21,2015 I had interviewed our principal Ms. Cynthia Cuprill based on the school remodeling. I asked Ms. Cuprill what was the reason for remodeling? she responded with, "I feel that people's behaviors change depending on their surroundings and I also think that if students have a place that feels like a college environment they'll behave like scholars, that is our goal". When questioned Ms. Cuprill what the budget was? She answered, "I just gave Rodger Lowestein some options and he would decide what the budget was". While on the subject of the budget, Ms. Cuprill mentioned the generous donations of our founder Rodger Lowestein.

Besides the topic of the budget, I also questioned about some complaints from the majority of the teachers. They were concerned about loosing the colorful walls in the classrooms. Ms. Cuprill answered with a reasonable response "Because we were spending a lot of money on different gallons of paint with everyone wanting different colors...". She was avoiding the cost of the paint when it came to repainting. She came to a conclusion with painting the walls white it will involve less money.

New Students

BY BRIANNA VEGA
Staff Writer



college." Another Junior, Sergio Vera, when asked how comfortable he is with the number of people in this school, replied, "Yeah, it is pretty small, coming from a big high school.it is way better because the teacher gives you more attention rather than just giving you to the class work and telling you just do it." Sophomore Daniel Reyes said about the school, "Its big and different." Freshman Jazmin Olvera, when asked about the new student, said "It's ok, like well not everybody likes new kids coming in, but I'm pretty sure by the end of this semester everybody is going to be ok with it."

Freshman Nyah Garcia responded to the question whether she was comfortable with so many new people, said "kind of because everybody is tall and I'm tiny so it makes it hard for me to get to Places." When asked "What are the positive impacts in bringing new students to the school?"Ms. Cuprill said, "Well saying of the major goals with bringing new students is diversity. We don't really have diversity on our campus. Most of our students are Latino and we need to bring students from different ethnicities. We don't have diversity i would want yet even with the new student." when asked about the opportunities that the school has with more students, she said, "the more students we have, the more funds the school gets from the state because the state pays for every student we educate. So every time you come to school, it is a day we get paid for you being here and that money goes to books and teachers, and for the building. every time a student is absent is a day of money we lose and so that's about \$200 a day. Having students come to school gets us new technology. That is how we got three more computer carts."

In response to the question concerning changes to accommodate the new students, she answered, "Yes, we had to get new teachers which is still in process. And also we had to change the counseling room back into the little office because now we need it as classroom, we had to make schedule changes because the classroom were overfilled. We have to keep the classes small, and we had to make changes so that the classes remain at 25 kids or less. So all of that has affected the start of school, but i think at the end it will be ok."

Politics of Today

BY JESSICA BARBA
Staff Writer

Politics according to the dictionary is the practice or profession of conducting political affairs. Creating an environment of consensus in public affairs is the purpose of our political process. Our government is a democratic republic, which means that we elect people to represent us to make the decisions that run our government and protect our country. We call ourselves a democracy because we are the ones who decide every four years who is going to be our new leader.

Every four years we elect a new president as the head of the executive branch of government. Every two years we vote for all the members of the House of Representatives. The senators serve six-year terms and every two years one third of the senate comes up for election. It is important for all eligible people to vote when elections occur because this is what continues to make us and keep us a democracy.

Presidents are elected every four years, but it is possible for a president to run

again and be re-elected for a second term. By law, a president may only serve a maximum of eight years or two terms. Barrack Obama, has been president for six years and his presidency will come to an end January of 2017.

There are many people from different parties who have already confirmed running for president in November 2016. Some of the people who are running and are very much talked about are Donald Trump, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Bernie Sanders.

Hillary was Secretary of State for the U.S. Bernie Sanders, according to "The Hill" has made economic justice the focal point of his career, has inspired a lot of young people, and has drawn the largest crowds of any candidates of with party.

November 2016 will be the next presidential elections. Who will you be voting for?

Who is Running for What?

Politics

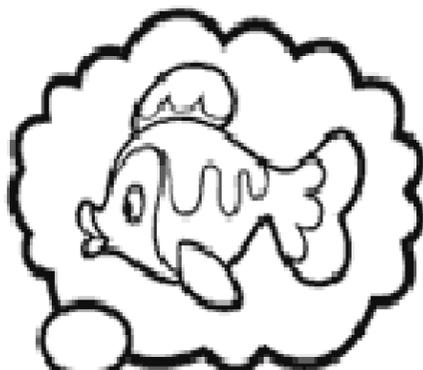
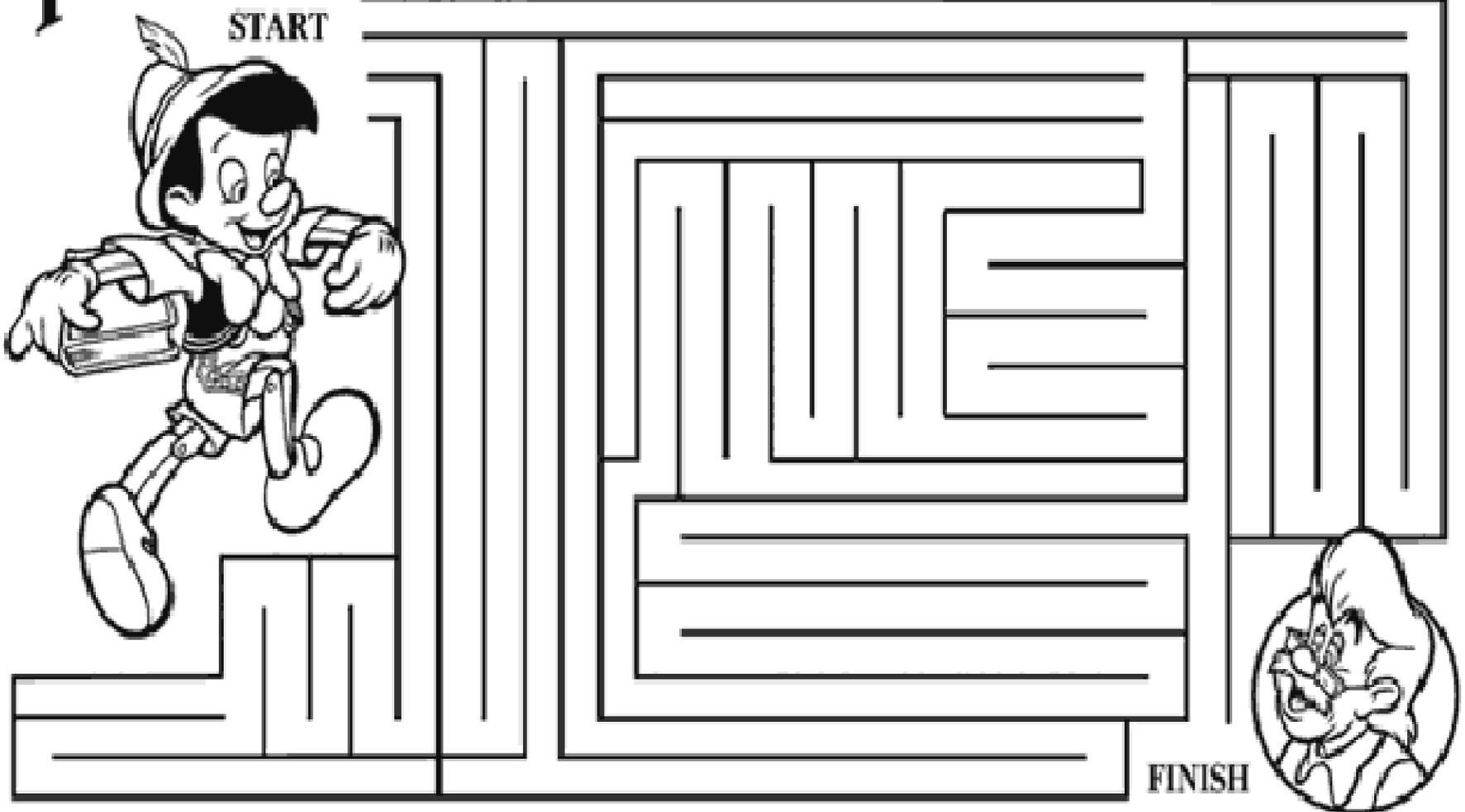


Activities Page

Back to School

NAME: _____

Pinocchio can't wait to get home to see Gepetto. Help lead him home.



Figaro is dreaming about his next meal. What is it?

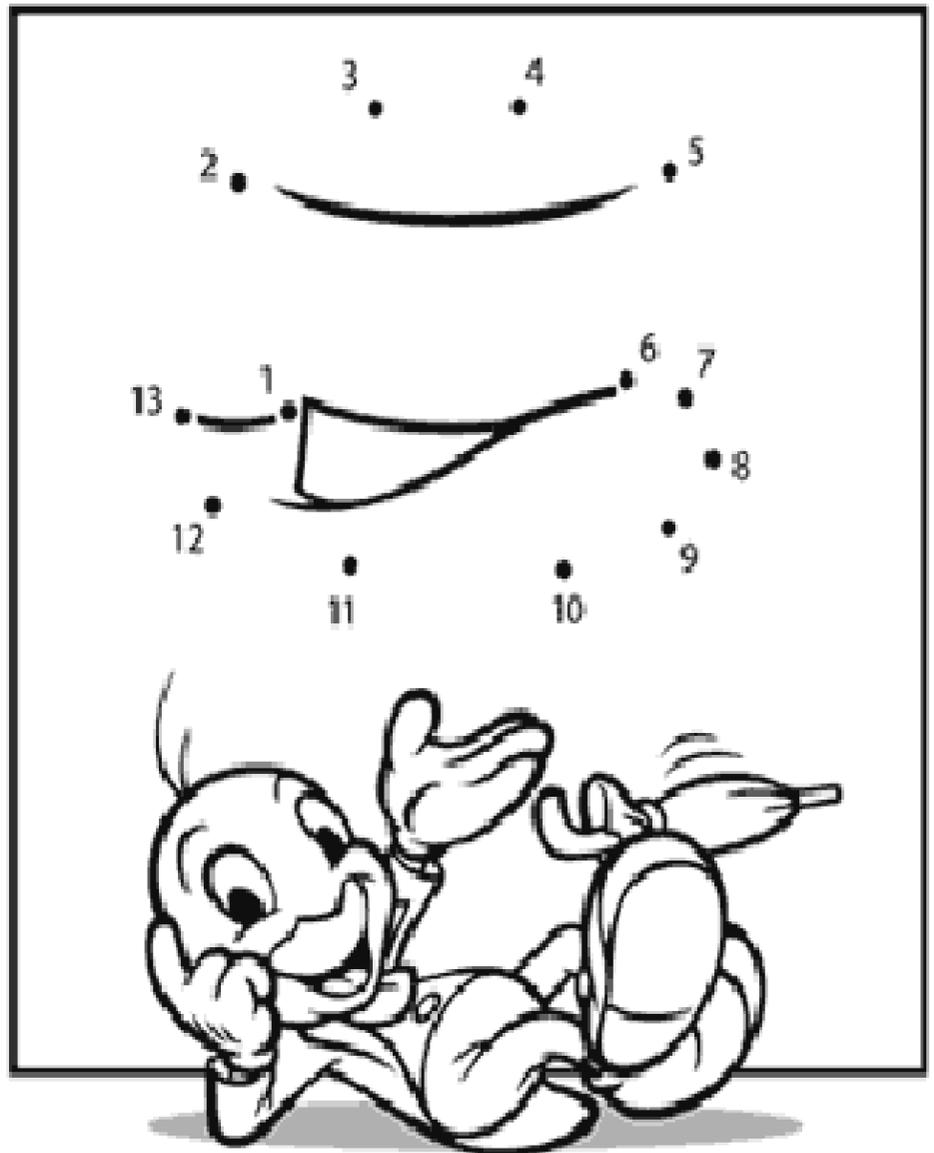
Hint:

You can connect the dots below and spell out the word.



Answers: Fish

Jiminy is missing something he wears everyday. Connect the dots to find out what it is.





Activities Page

NAME: _____

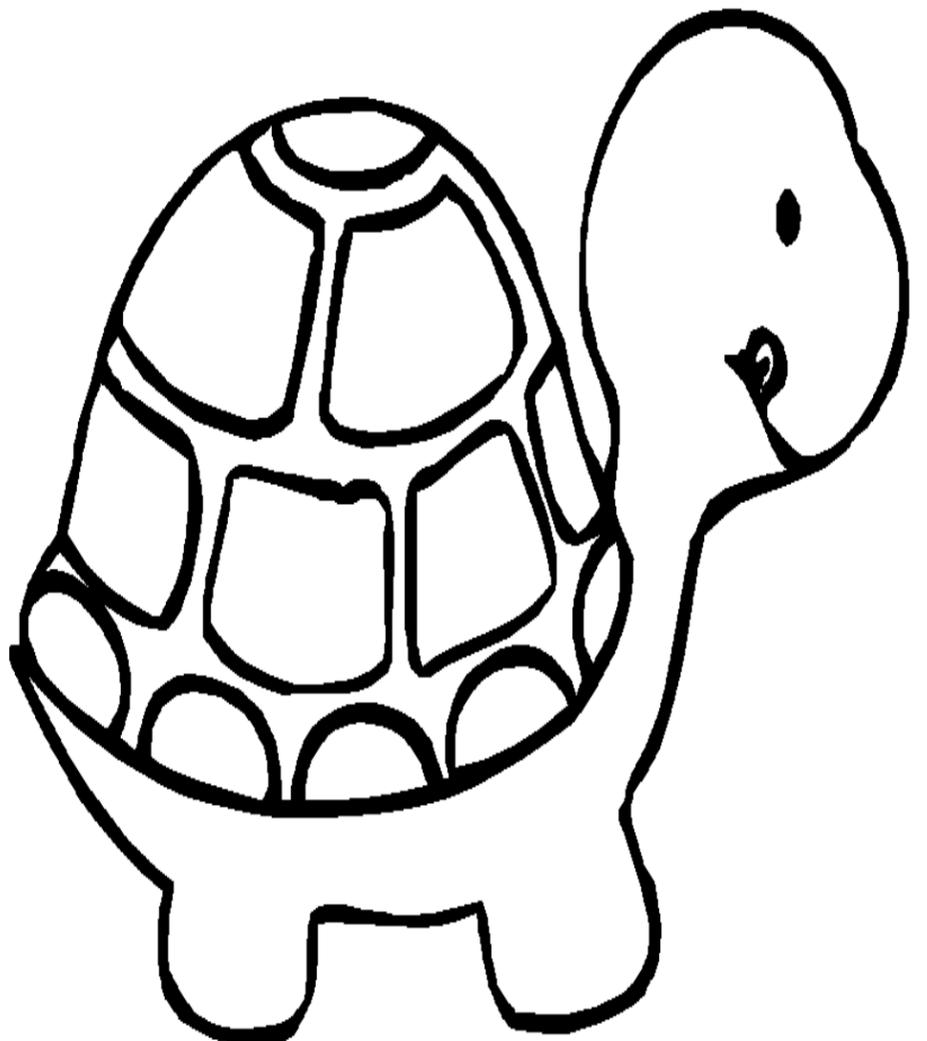
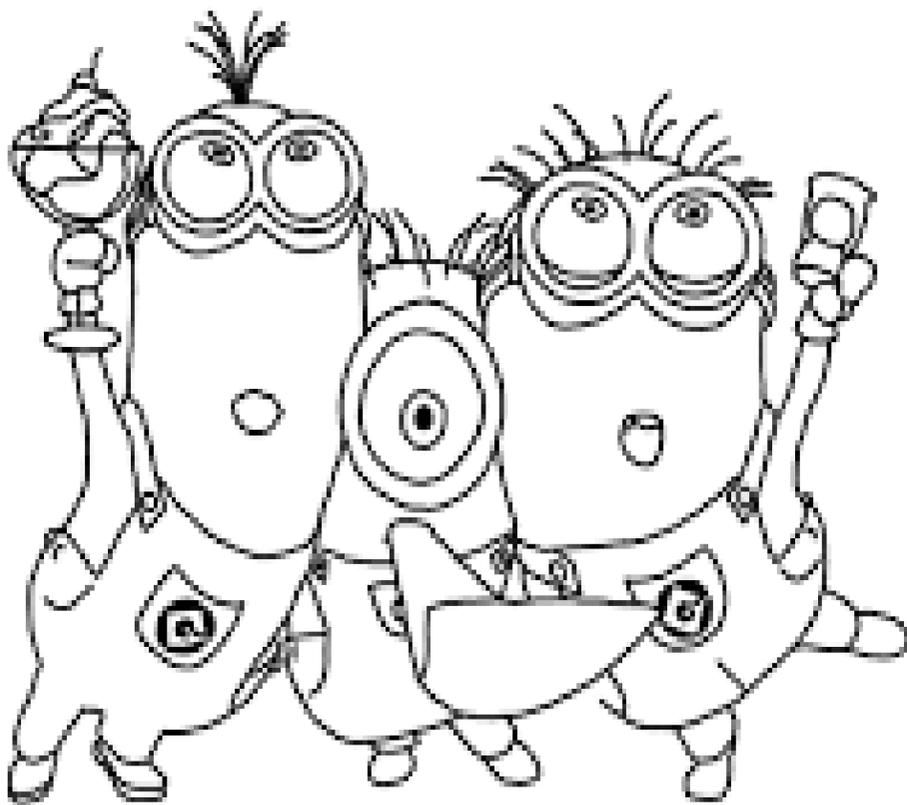


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News & Features

Sports Teams to come to LA

BY **RANDY GUZMAN**
Managing Editor



According to National Broadcasting Company, or NBC, last years Super Bowl became the most watched event in American TV history, averaging 144.4 million viewers per minute on NBC's Sunday Night Broadcast.

Taking this into consideration, it seems astonishing that Los Angeles, the center of the second-largest media market in the United States, fails to have an NFL team.

The 2014 NFL season marked Los Angeles's 20th year without an NFL franchise, outrunning Oakland for the longest duration in the modern era that a former NFL city has lacked a franchise.

Fortunately, three teams have been rumored to be preparing a move to the city of Los Angeles in as little as 12-24 months, according to NBC reports.

Rumors were confirmed when on January 30, 2015, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell held a press conference two days before Super Bowl XLIX.

In his press conference, Goodell stated that multiple teams had expressed an interest in relocating to Los Angeles, but that the league had made "no determination" about any particular team moving to Los Angeles in the future.

4 months later, on April 2015, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said on Good Morning America that though the league was looking at three possible teams to move to Los Angeles, the Raiders, Rams, and Chargers, at most only two would make the switch.

St. Louis Rams owner Stan Kroenke announced plans to build a stadium in Inglewood, on the site of the old Hollywood Park racetrack.

The San Diego Chargers and the Oakland Raiders then responded with a proposal for a shared stadium, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Fast-forward to August 11, 2015 to a meeting that occurred in Chicago. Here NFL owners discussed the timeline regarding the planned move for two teams to Los Angeles.

Sam Farmer, Los Angeles Times NFL writer said that the league revised a schedule for accepting applications for relocation. "The current window for relocation applications in mid-January through February," Farmer stated.

Nonetheless, he said that some in the league even believe Los Angeles could know it is getting a team by late December.

For now however, uncertainty still floats over which team will make its return to Los Angeles.

Expectation has grown for Angelinos, as they could have a team as early as in the upcoming 2015-2016 season. Notwithstanding, as Sam Farmer put it, "for now, it's less football and more crystal ball."

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

"I think she is the heart of LALA. You go to her if you need any answers about the history, culture, and procedures of LALA. She puts a smile on your face every time you see her." This is what Ms. Jimenez had to say when asked what she thought about Office Manager Clerk, Gloria Vasquez.

Gloria was born on the 14th of May in the year 1985. She was raised by immigrant parents from Guatemala and El Salvador. She grew up with four other sisters in a small city of Los Angeles called Pico Union.

When asked about her childhood, Gloria responded with, "As a child I attended Carpenter Elementary which is located in Studio City, my parents were not confident in the schools near my area so they decided I needed to have more of a diverse opportunity. This was the best decision my parents made I was able to have many learning experiences that shaped me who I am today. I later on attended two more schools in the valley Millikan Middle School and Granada Hills High School."

Gloria went on to finish school at Belmont Highschool. Afterwords she attended community college for two semesters and earned her Associates Degree from Pierce College. She is currently enrolled in Azusa Pacific Univeristy, where she is working towards her Bachelors in Psychology.

Along with her school work, Ms. Velasquez has a full time job here at Los Angeles Leadership Academy. She has been with LA Leadership Academy for nine years and

The Heart of a Lion Gloria Velasquez



Gloria Velasquez

plans for many more.

Officially, Ms. Velasquez is the Office Manager. Although, she is in charge of more than just office jobs. She takes care of student attendance, enrollment, and school purchasing.

A normal day for Ms. Velasquez is full of last minute jobs and hectic scheduling. When asked about this she said, "I have a thousand things on my agenda and I narrow it down to the most important like atten-

dance, student and teacher needs and most importantly office management and assist Mrs. Cuprill with upcoming projects or urgent matters."

Faced with many problems, Ms. Velasquez still tries to have a smile on her face everyday. Asked about Ms. Velasquez, Junior Kimberly Guerra said, "She is always helpful and she is there when you need her."

New Teacher Say Hey to Ms. Lindsay

BY **STEVEN GARCIA**
Staff Writer

Peta Lindsay is one of the newcomers that have joined the teaching staff at Los Angeles Leadership Academy. She passionately and happily teaches the classes of U.S. History and Government. Ms. Lindsay graduated from Howard University with African-American Studies and History as her two majors. Her love for History concluded with her teaching History as a career. Since her mother taught African-American Studies at Howard University, she was heavily influenced by this to not only attend the college but to also double major with African-American studies as her major. In high school, Ms. Lindsay took anything that involved reading, writing, and speaking with a giant smile.

As an activist, Ms. Lindsay found this school and loved the message it brought to the students. If she were not teaching, Ms Lindsay would most likely be participating in many more activist groups than she is now. She expressed her view on the importance of teaching politics and the government to students, "I think that History and Social Studies in general are not a spectator sport. We are not meant to just watch and learn History. It all depends on you and what you do. It is important to think of yourself as a historical actor. You're not just passively watching, but the things that you do can change society."

Though she does not get a whole lot of



free time since she is a teacher, Ms. Lindsay does actively participate in activists groups such as Black Lives Matter. As a teacher, Peta does have high standards, but is willing to find that balance. The things she demands the most is for a student to always try; and when she sees that effort, she is able to work through the situation with anyone. When asked what advice she has for success in college, "Go to office hours. Participate a lot in class. And, build that relationship with your professor." Senior Brenda Reyes gave her feedback on the class, despite her absence in the first week of school. Although she has had little interaction with the teacher, Brenda feels comfortable with the class and the teacher. So far she enjoys Government and finds it

interesting. When asked the question about whether the teacher makes the class fun, Brenda said, "I think it can be fun for me personally, because I enjoy talking about government." She believes the class will be more fun as the school year advances. Junior Andrea Solis shared her opinion on the U.S. History class. Andrea enjoys this class and always sees Ms. Lindsay display a smile to the class. When asked the same question, Andrea responded, "Ms. Lindsay tries to make the class fun as much as possible so everyone can learn. Some people say that you can't mix fun and learning but she [Ms. Lindsay] makes it possible." Andrea also declared that Ms. Lindsay is an easy person to talk to. "So do not be hesitant if a question needs to be answered."



News & Features

Distracted Driving

BY **SETH VERA**
Staff Writer



Many people around the world have been in a vehicle where the driver was distracted in some way. According to the Centers for Disease Control, in their article "Injury Prevention and Control: Motor Vehicle Safety"- 2014, "Distracted driving kills nine and injures hundreds on a daily bases, and costs taxpayers billions per year."

The money spent on the negative results of distracted driving could be spent on something that could benefit the economy or the community, but instead is spent on making innocent people whole who are injured by others, who do not know how to demonstrate responsibility when driving.

"I have been in a vehicle where the driver was distracted in some way and almost put our lives in danger" stated an anonymous source.

There was a Pew Survey conducted on teens- November 6, 2009. It asked whether any have been in a vehicle where the teen's life was put on the line by a distracted driver. 40% of all teen respondent said they have been in a car while the driver was distracted in a way which put their lives in danger.

"I've been in multiple occasions where the driver put my life in danger" stated another anonymous source. "We almost hit another car because my mom decided to call her friend," stated an anonymous source.

18% of all fatal car crashes were caused by texting and driving according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). That is texting and driving alone. According to MADD

research, every day people drive drunk at a rate of almost 300,000 times a day, but less than 4000 are ever caught. And in 2011 over 1.2 million people were arrested for drunk driving.

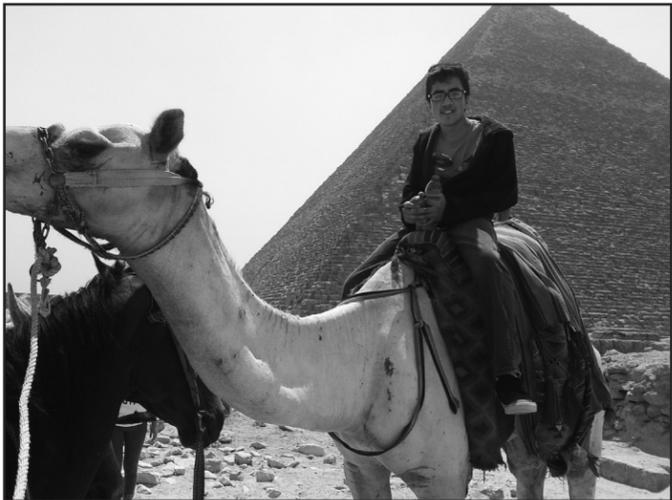
As the years go by, those numbers are dropping. Percentages have been slowly dropping since 1982. The percentage of alcohol related deaths in 1982 was at 60%. As years went on the percentages got lower and as of 2010, the death percentages were at a 31% - Alcohol Alert (2010). So in a course of 29 years from 1982, deaths have decreased by 29%.

Study Abroad

BY **RANDY GUZMAN**
Managing Editor



Diane Rodriguez in Japan.



Steven Garcia on a trip to the Pyramids in Egypt.



The Los Angeles Leadership Academy tradition of studying abroad once more continued. Five, now high school seniors, took the opportunity to study in another country this past summer. The students were able to attend school, learn new languages, experience unique lifestyles, and visit local hotspots thanks to the American Field Service, or AFS, program.

Diane Rodriguez embarked on a trip to Japan, Brenda Cecilia Reyes spent her summer in Thailand, Omar Robledo went from the streets of L.A. to country of France, Steven Garcia and Ashley Marquez both enjoyed what the country of Egypt had to offer.

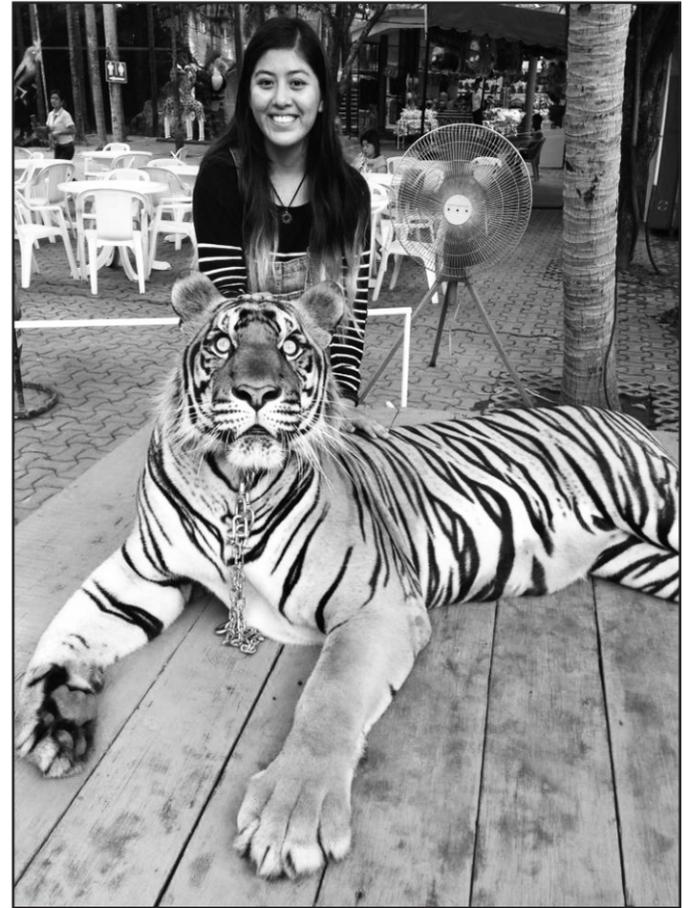
While there senior Steven Garcia enjoyed the city of Alexandria in Egypt to the fullest. During his 30-day stay, he went to school for about 8 hours, 5 days a week. On his free time, he was able to go to places like the Pyramids of Giza which he described as "very hot, but worth the trip." Garcia, while there, experienced Ramadan first-hand in the churches and streets of Alexandria, "they would have speakers announcing, sometimes even the prayers of the day." Surprisingly enough, Garcia did not have a culture shock.

He stated that his trip to Egypt was very much like when he visited Mexico. "All in all, Garcia loved his trip to Egypt, "this [studying abroad] was a one-time experience everyone should take advantage of."

Omar Robledo also came speaking wonders about his stay in France, in French of course. A trip he had been telling everyone about months before the trip was made, was one that did not disappoint. Upon his return, his classmates and teachers found him understanding and speaking French words and phrases like a native.

Comparable to Robledo and Garcia, Marquez's, Rodriguez's, and Reyes's trips overseas were experiences they will never forget. To many, this opened their eyes to wider horizons, encouraging them to make plans to travel abroad in the future. They undoubtedly returned to the city of Los Angeles with many stories and a new view of the world.

Omar Robledo with friends in France.



Brenda Reyes in Thailand.

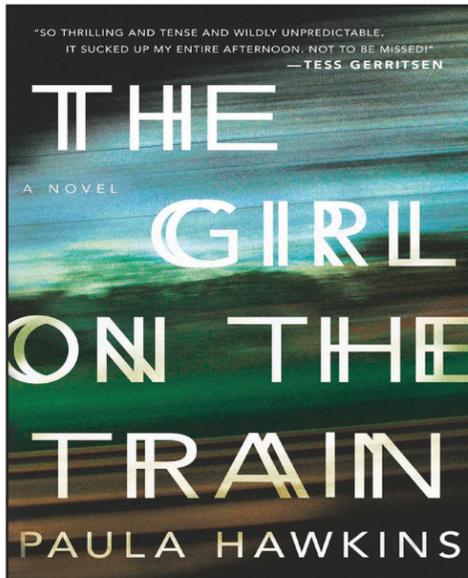


Ashley Marquez with her host family in Egypt.



Literature Review

The Girl On The Train



BY KARLA ESQUIVEL
Staff Writer

The book, *The Girl On The Train*, by Paula Hawkins, has received praise for how amazingly the author displays the plot, characters, and setting according to the *New York Times*. Janet Maslin from *The New York Times* said, “*The Girl on The Train* has more fun with unreliable narration than any Chiller since *Gone Girl*.”

USA Today has even called it “... the next *Gone Girl*.” The story has three narrators but the main one is Rachel.

On many book reviews, like *nytimes.com*, they describe Rachel to be unreliable. Rachel is “drunk throughout most of the story.”

“One day, she thinks she sees something that she wasn’t supposed to see.”

Rachel always takes the train even though she was fired from her job. She is constantly calling her ex-husband even though she knows he already remarried.

On her train ride, she sees a couple who she thinks are the perfect couple. One day, she thinks she sees something that she wasn’t supposed to see. As you know, she is mostly drunk throughout most of the story.

Throughout the story, I kept on wanting to know even more every chapter, page, word. Even if I didn’t read *Gone Girl*, I can say that *The Girl on the Train* has many action, mystery and much more.

The many narrations really fit into the story. This novel deserves it praise it has received for making it an epic thriller.

BY MR. STEED
Faculty Advisor

A Day to Remember: 9/11



Piece in the 9/11 Museum, “No Day Shall Erase You From The Memory Of Time”.

This Patriot Day is when we commemorate the 14th anniversary of the largest single act of terror yet perpetrated on American soil.

Fourteen years ago, at 8:45 am Eastern Standard Time (EST) an American Airlines Boeing 767 loaded with 20,000 gallons of jet fuel crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center near the 80th floor. At first, most everyone thought that this was a tragic accident caused by pilot error. As news cameras and televised and radio news anchors and hosts speculated and watched with deep concern as the ignited fuel burned the plane and the tower, another Boeing 767 owned by United Airlines crashed into the south tower of the World Trade Center at 9:03 am EST.

Both planes had departed Boston’s Logan Airport that morning.

With the crash of the second plane, those of us standing in the cafeteria of Syteline’s offices

in Columbus, Ohio took a collective gasp. As I stood there, tears formed in my eyes and fell uncomfortably down my face. I tried to brush them away quickly lest anyone else should see that I was weeping. My concern was baseless. Everyone was weeping. We had been attacked.

Over the next few hours, we saw the towers telescope to the ground while the world watched. We later learned that a plane had departed Reagan National Airport in Washington, DC only to have been forcibly crashed into the Pentagon; and that another plane, which was being flown toward the Capitol Building by terrorists was forced to the ground and crashed in Pennsylvania by a brave contingent of passengers intent on stopping the terrorists.

We were in shock for days. All air travel over the United States was halted for over a week. People were stranded.

Crisis conditions were in effect in major

metropolitan areas, especially New York.

As the shock wore off, America demanded answers and action.

Firefighters everywhere were hailed as heroes along with their compatriot police officers who had risked their lives to save those in the towers. Over 3,000 people died that day including the brave rescue workers.

This last May, I stood looking into the inverted fountains that occupy the places where the foundations of the towers stood. As I looked into those holes and read the names of the dead, which had been cut into the metal railings, I wept again. When I saw the names of the brave rescuers, I wept anew.

We are now in the 14th year of the war on terror begun by those events.

Today we remember the heroes, the victims, and the day.

Movie Review: Pan’s Labrynth



BY DIANE RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

Guillermo del Toro, a Mexican Film director, has written, directed, and produced many popular films. Some of his popular works have been: *Hellboy*, *Pacific Rim*, and most recently, *The Book of Life*. However, *El Laberinto del Fauno*, the translation of *Pan’s Labyrinth* into Spanish, is a dark fantasy film with much imagination and adventure.

The motion picture begins with the telling of a fairy tale about a princess who lived in an underground kingdom, but has always dreamed of the human world. However, she escaped from the kingdom and when she reached the surface, her memories were erased. She forgets who she is and eventually perishes due to the harsh conditions of the world above. Although, the story and events take place in Spain in 1944, five years after the Spanish Civil War, it revolves around a little girl named Ofelia. Ofelia’s true identity is that she is the reincarnation of the deceased princess. She must go through three tasks, given to her by Pan who she meets in the labyrinth, to complete before the full moon to acquire immortality and to return to her kingdom. Ofelia faces many struggles in completing the tasks, this is because she must face mythological creatures, fear, and loss. However, the ending is unexpected and filled with disbelief.

The movie does a fantastic job of connecting fantasy to reality. The film is a very dark, twisted fairytale, but it still maintains a hint of innocence through the protagonist. The viewers, get to see the harsh truth of reality, despair, and

longing throughout the story. In an interview between Guillermo and Marcus Leshock, an Emmy Award-winning journalist and television host, Guillermo stated that, “It’s a fairytale for a grown up...It’s a good way to describe it.” The director acknowledged that the film has its twisted moments, however, it also has its amazing childlike adventures. He called it a “sister movie-” to another film that he has directed called, “*Devil’s Bible*.” Although “*Devil’s Bible*” takes during the Spanish Civil War and “*Pan’s Labyrinth*” takes place after the war, they both include the themes of brutality and innocence. “It’s what happens to children in war-...so thinking about it, I thought it would be a movie where you could create a fantasy world that was real and sometimes as scary, or as dangerous as the real world,” (-Guillermo del Toro-).

Since the story revolves around a little lost princess, we are given a child’s view of how cruel and cold the world can be. The setting in which the movie takes place, portrays the world as colorless and cold since there are not any warm or bright colors. She lives in a place full of colors with blue, green, pale, and gray, but this changes when she is completing the three tasks; then all around her the scenes change into vivid colors and fictional scenery. According to the interview between the two men, while Mr. del Toro described the movie poster, he said, “The movie is full of embryony or sort of a “placenta.” It’s full of like child-baby images. It’s because I think the girl is reborn at the end of the movie,

into her own world. And also because most of the fantasy world, I think, she would dream of, is really going back to the belly of her mother, and when you see the movie the colors in the magical world are scarlet and golden, very internal almost visceral colors and the rest of the world is this color: blues, and greens, and pale, grays, and stuff like that. So the real world is far more cold and uninviting than the fantasy world.” This supports the theme of “birth” or “rebirth” into the movie, since the Ofelia is reborn twice; once in the human world and then into her real home, the underground kingdom.

Though the film is rated R for mature audiences, I highly recommend this film for all to watch. Despite the fact that the movie is in Spanish, it is worthwhile. There is sadness, love, horror and violence that all lead up to the climax and the unsightly demise of Ofelia that will leave the viewer crying and asking, “Why?” In all, “*Pan’s Labyrinth*” gets a rating of five lions out of five. It is a masterpiece full of wonder and creativity that must be watched.

