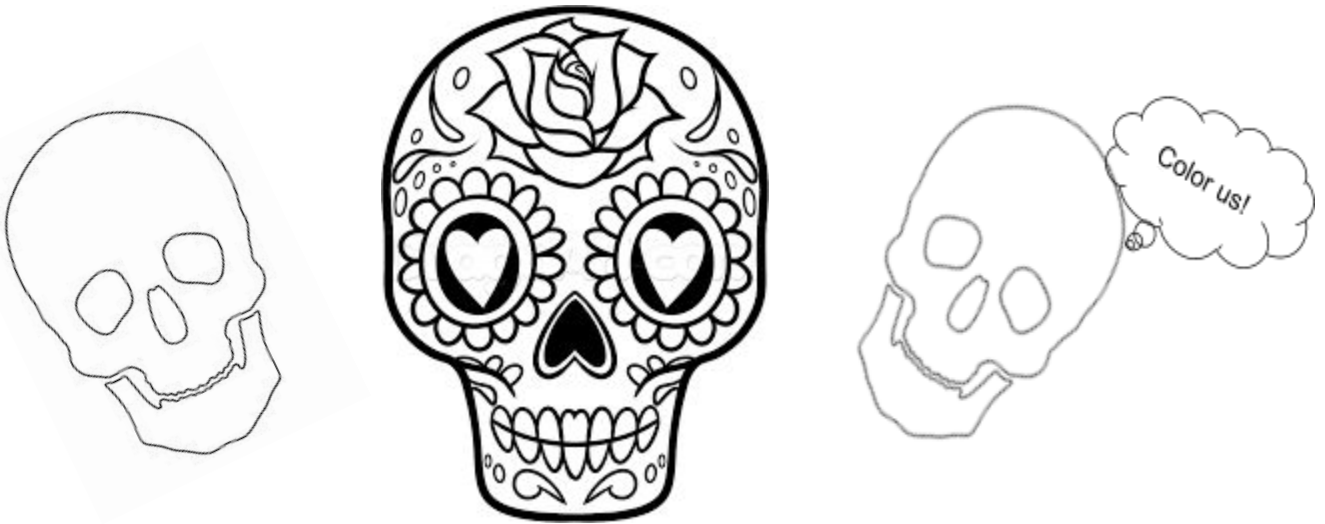

The Scuttlebutt

Garfield's Student Newspaper

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Fall Issue



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Elisa Fonseca

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NOTE FROM THE EDITORS:

Hey nerds, Elizabeth here!
Rodolfo and I would like to
introduce you to a new
addition to our Scuttlebutt
family! Elisa Fonseca, is a
Pisces who loves long walks on
the beach and she just so
happens to be our new senior
editor!!!! She has a lot of
new ideas that we HOPE to
incorporate in future issues.
She's a smart one :)

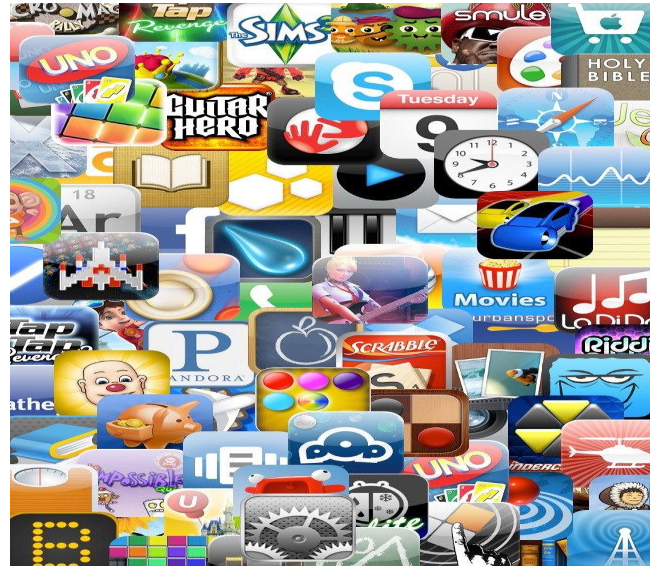
Startup Preliminary Advice

Recently, a new technological dream has emerged that has captivated the fantasies of young people today-- making a startup in Silicon Valley and earning billions after a week. Although it is not illegal to daydream about discussing technology with Elon Musk or Jeff Bezos, it is important to be cautious about how you utilize time. This is important especially in young adults, as their energy is at its peak and opportunities are offered at every corner. This article is by no means meant to puncture a dream, but instead serve as a reminder to what it means to be a true startup.

Whether it be starting a nonprofit or building the next Twitter, in order for a project to truly succeed it needs 100% dedication. Time is an innovator's worst fear because a giant company may already be planning to release a different and more prestigious version of your idea the exact day you thought of it. Since people tend to either procrastinate or develop a disinterest in the project, merely starting a project will never be enough.

The hardest part of succeeding is finding the perfect idea. There are millions of applications on Google Play and the App Store, though not many of them are admired. This is due to the numerous apps that have the same exact idea. There are plenty of versions of an app where a character is running and

dodging obstacles in order to survive. Some of these games become fads and indeed receive a lot of money because these games pay heavily to appear in advertisements.



However, when you are a solo entrepreneur with no budget to pay for advertisements, this is simply not an option. There is a difference between getting something that works and making fast duplicates of it versus an actual innovative idea, which is necessary to keep in mind when thinking up a unique approach. Peter Thiel, the co-founder of PayPal, calls for this different way of building successful startups as "vertical progress" because you are starting scratch with 0 ideas and building it into 1, going up an imaginative progression graph. Meanwhile, making duplicates of an already-established idea is called "horizontal progression" due to getting an idea and recreating it numerous times.

Ultimately, you get to decide whether to dedicate your resources and time to achieve a goal. It is important to avoid **(Cont. pg 3)**

dreaming of becoming Bill Gates but to aspire to have your idea out there and tag your name with it.

Next time you decide to start budgeting and recruiting for your ideal startup consider the time and the quality of ideas you have along with your project. As for cautiously

taking steps to ensure project success, I recommend applying to competitions to showcase your project in order to receive stipends to exponentially build your budget.



Dia de Los Muertos Festival

By: Nicole Arceo

On Sunday October 28th, 2018, I got to go to the city of Downey where a Dia de Los Muertos festival was hosted by the Downey Theatre. A variety of vendors came to participate for the popular Mexican holiday and I was able to see the huge impact it had on the Downey residents and many people coming from far away. The event was full of children, adults and elders who came to admire the artwork done by the city and the community. Many young girls and older women were dressed in colorful traditional *Jalisco* dresses. They painted their faces like the *calaveras de azucar* and wore the bright *cempasuchiles* around their head. The music at the event came from one band that made parents and kids dance. The festival had a second stage where mariachi bands played and folklorico dancers from adult groups to school programs danced. All the vendors made their art pieces specifically to represent Dia de Los Muertos and also incorporated pop culture references. For example, *Coco* was as big a part of this event as it was big in the Mexican community in 2017, and vendors made it their priority to recreate the famous details in the groundbreaking movie in their products. Almost everything was handmade and it was a great accomplishment for a seller to see their stuff being sold to customers. Places next to the event like The city of Downey Library hosted movies and activities for young children where they decorated sugar skulls, crafted them with paper, and learned how to make luminarias. Traditional **(cont. Pg 4)**

Altars were displayed and were done to show respect to the host's family. The event is hosted once a year and it gets bigger and bigger with more diversity and stronger ties to the Mexican community each year. I recommend this event in the future for anyone who feels like getting more in touch with their culture.

ScuttleTunes

Listen to some new songs this season with the "ScuttleTunes Playlist" on Youtube, songs suggested by students!

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhLfseunMGmSlqRqnxsk6rEDA23dHw_WJ

Automatic Stop- The Strokes
"I listen to this song all the time. I like the upbeat yet mellow tone."
Hit songs by artist: "Someday", "Last Nite", & "Soma"

After the Storm- Kali Uchis
"This one reminds me that you just have to be there for yourself."
Hit songs by artist: "Tyrant", "Get You", & "See You Again"

Sweet Creature- Harry Styles
"I love this song because Harry is a big role model of mine and has brought so much love and happiness into my life."
Hit songs by artist: "Sign of the Times", "Woman", & "Kiwi"

Amor de Siempre (mariachi version)- Cuco
"This song is by an artist who takes pride in his Mexican culture and uses English and Spanish in most of his songs."

Hit songs by artist: "Lover is a Day", "Lo Que Siento", & "Lava Lamp"

For Elise- Saint Motel
"I like listening to this song because it was inspired by Beethoven's muse, which is super interesting to me."
Hit songs by artist: "My Type", "Puzzle Pieces", & "Cold Cold Man"



Teacher Interview Series

Mr. Chavez

Room: 726

Please state your name and occupation (C: is Chavez)

C: My name is Thomas Chavez and I am a social studies teacher here at Garfield High School.

How do you describe yourself?

- I like to consider myself pensive and reflect what students bring.
- Tall, although I feel I'm shrinking.
- Also, enthusiastic, I hope my students know I'm having a good time in class so that they can feel that they could have a good time.

What made you want to become a teacher?

C: I was a student here at Garfield in 1988 and I had a positive experience. I always felt that it opened up opportunities like Acadeca, advanced classes, and I've always wanted to work in education in dealing with issues of learning and subject matters like history. And I've always thought that it's punishment for ditching class in college. *laugh*

Can you explain what MECHA is and what it means to you?

C: MECHA is the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán which is a student group that has historic ties to Garfield High School and the 1968 walkouts. It is dedicated to encouraging Chicano students to pursue higher education and go to college with a sense of purpose, as well as historic and cultural pride of where they come from. It has been a positive experience to learn what I could do for my community. I've been the sponsor since 1999.

What is it like teaching at Garfield High school, given the legacy of the walkouts?

C: It's a strange feeling. What helps me is thinking back to when I was a student and questioning on what I would like to have done. I always try to incorporate that into my class. It's also inspiring because I met leaders from the chicano walkouts like Sal Castro, and Moctezuma Esparza when I got the opportunity to go to the Chicano Youth (Cont. pg 6)

Leadership. Conference as a student. This keeps me grounded and reminds me why I'm here and to continue to want to be here at Garfield. I can't imagine myself teaching anywhere else.

What would you be doing if you weren't a teacher?

C: Something to do with government or as an attorney in the legal field. I've always preferred to be a part of being a city hall municipality. When I got out of college I actually sent an application in hopes of a position. But teaching became an actual career path and the pay is better *laughs* with benefits!

Have you ever thought of running for office?

C: I have thought about it. It's something I always keep as an option because I've had family be in office or run for a position. It's something I wonder if I could balance with being a teacher. There are candidates with my name so sometimes I'll steal their signs once their election is over. (It's a jooooooke.)

What have you seen change within the students at Garfield?

C: I think of who we are as students and what we do as a community has remained the same. There are more challenges today than when I was a student. Now, students are concerned about student loans, having a job, and are concerned over things like the environment, politics, and the economy; it has caused students to be less optimistic.

What's your favorite thing as a teacher?

C: The students themselves. They're interesting, fascinating and I don't think they realize how much they inspire teachers. I know that no matter what happens, good or bad, during the day a student is going to make me laugh. I really enjoy that. I started thinking about it, and I realized that I have the opportunity to introduce students to the world and tell them about major events and how the world has been shaped. Now, as a government teacher I get to be the last person to tell students about government, history, and their rights and responsibilities as citizens. I feel honored to be a part of that phase in someone's life.

*pause - we're processing what you've said and that it's nice to see teachers care about their students that much

C: I thank Academic Decathlon for forcing me to give speeches
laughs

(Cont pg. 7)

What is your biggest pet peeve?

C: Grading! *laugh* It's overwhelming to grade so many papers and having large class sizes. Another is when students don't react as excitedly to a lesson plan as I had thought. It's a little disappointing. And when students don't write their headings, it drives me crazy. AND ACADEMIC CHEATING!

What do you do outside of class?

My biggest hobby is playing guitar. I actually play in a death metal band. At home I also have my dogs who I don't walk as often as I should but I spend time with them. I also recently got into gardening and growing tomatoes because they just taste GREAT.

What is something you want your students to leave your class more with?

The rights and responsibilities as citizens and that they can accomplish anything they want to accomplish. I want them to know that I was in their same position and was able to do things like get a law degree, pass the bar, and become a teacher. They can do that and more. I want them to appreciate current events and their community. I hope that I give them enough practice and the necessary tools to finding the answer to a question because they are capable of doing what they set their minds to.

Are there any last words of advice to your students?

It might be a bit of a cliché but I really do believe in the concept of lifelong learners. I want my students to know that once you're done with your education it doesn't mean that you're done learning. The next phase in their lives is deciding what to focus their attention on. The next thing is application, I want my students to hopefully do something they want to accomplish whether it be education, activism, or family. The best thing is when I see my students become dedicated parents and emphasize education for their children. My past students have worked in politics and I appreciate that some of them still pay attention to the news and understand what's going on in our politics because of my class. It's still apart of their lives even though their profession is completely different.

**Let us know who you would like to
see interviewed next!**

sas_scuttlebutt@yahoo.com

Thirty Hour Coffin Challenge

By: Julianna Sandoval

Six Flags St. Louis is celebrating 30 years of screams with the Fright Fest 30-Hour Coffin Challenge! In September, Six Flags St. Louis offered people the opportunity of a lifetime. The ability to lie down in one of the coffins for 30 hours, and receive \$300 and a season pass. The offer went viral.



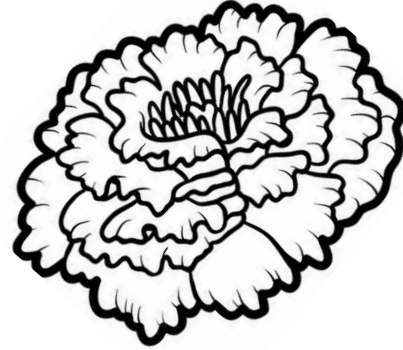
More than 45,000 people applied and Six Flags selected six. All of them took on the "30-hour coffin challenge" this past weekend and made it to the end. The coffin was approximately twenty-eight inches wide, which made it difficult for the six contestants to feel comfortable in the coffin. Not only was it the size of the coffin that made it impossible to be comfortable but in addition, it was made out of wood planks. Contestants were only allowed to use their phones for

thirteen minutes, every hour. They also had a six-minute break which allowed them to stretch or go to the restroom. However, the difficulty of this is that the restrooms were far away, so the contestants had to sprint in order to get to their coffins on time. Six Flag employees also gave them challenges they had to accomplish. For example, one of the challenges was to go inside a haunted house and take a picture with one of the Halloween characters. If they accomplished these challenges, they would earn an extra minute or two with their breaks. In another challenge, contestants had to stay in their coffin with a tarantula inside. At the end of it, Six Flags employees revealed the tarantula was fake – but the contestants were shown a real one to fool them. This challenge may seem easy, but can be quite difficult if you have lots of people looking at you or pointing flashlights at you while you're trying to take a nap. You also have to worry when midnight strikes which is when revelers swarm the park for its raucous, Halloween-themed "Fright Fest." And, even in the early hours of the morning, employees noisily tested the park's machinery before it opened for guests. In order to become a contestant, you must be 18 years or older, cannot have any medical conditions that would make lying in a coffin for thirty hours a risk to health or well-being, **(Cont pg. 9)** must sign a waiver at check-in, and

bring a pillow and a sleeping bag. Six Flags will provide "slightly used" coffins, meals, phone charging stations, and random terrifying visits by Fright Fest Freaks. Additionally, anyone who gets out of their coffin for no reason will be disqualified. At the end the person who survives will win three hundred dollars, a 2019 Gold Season Pass, an Express Haunted Maze Pass, and last but not least, their coffin.

However, if there is more than one person who survived the thirty hours, a raffle will occur. If you can stay still for 30 hours, this competition is meant for you. But don't worry you won't be alone...Six

Flag's freaks and the darkness will keep you company.



Marigolds guide the spirits to their altars using their vibrant colors and pungent scent during Dia De Los Muertos



Dia De Los Muertos in the U.S.

By: Edward Marquez

Thanks to the very popular Disney movie Coco, many people have been exposed to the lively and colorful holiday of Dia de Los Muertos or the Day of the Dead. This holiday had originated in Mexico but was introduced to the region by Spanish conquistadores and because of this, Dia de (Cont pg. 10) Los Muertos is a profound combination of both indigenous Aztec rituals and

Catholicism. This allows the Catholic church to celebrate this beautiful and wholesome holiday as well.

But Dia de Los Muertos is meant to *celebrate* the lives of our deceased loved ones, not to mourn them or be saddened by their passing. We celebrate their lives with festivals and offerings such as foods, drinks, music and other activities that the deceased enjoyed while alive. In Mexico, death is recognized as a natural part of the human experience that every single person on Earth will go through at one point or another. During the Day of the Dead, the dead are awakened from their perpetual sleep and allowed to take part in the festivities with their loved ones. Family is extremely important in Mexican traditions and this is why Dia de Los Muertos is celebrated so passionately.

Dia de los Muertos is also celebrated here in the United States due to the fact that there are so many Mexican-Americans that have lived here throughout American history. Some places that celebrate the Day of the Dead in America are San Francisco, Los Angeles, North Carolina and even Alabama. If you want to experience one of the many Day of the Dead celebrations then head over to Olvera Street here in Los Angeles for a 9 day celebration which ends on November 2nd. Dia de los Muertos is a beautiful celebration to honor the lives of our loved ones and it allows us to be close to them once again.



