

# News



# Torch

Lighting the Way to Torrance High School Since 1922

## THS LIGHTS OUT FOR 2019



Photo Courtesy of: Grace Chun

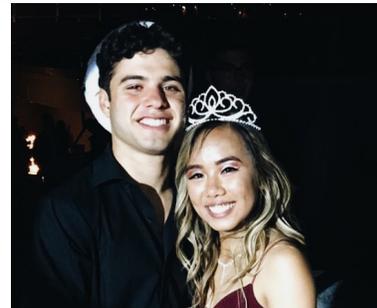


Photo Courtesy of: Alice Lee

### NIGHT OF A 1,000 LIGHTS

BY ALICE LEE

The Torrance High School Graduating Class of 2019 shared their last dance with their peers at the Wallis Annenberg Building in Los Angeles during the evening of June 8. The theme was “A Night of a Thousand Lights.” The building provided an open atmosphere with high ceilings and an open roof, which predicated an “outdoors vibe.” The venue centered a massive fountain and a water wall feature. The second floor graced attendees with a sumptuous garden under the nocturnal sky, or “a thousand lights.”

The cuisine included bread, pasta, salad, and soda presented on tables adorned with white lanterns and flowers. Dancing was not the only source of entertainment. There were two rooms:

one for the free photo booth along with the candy section (arguably the most popular accouterment); and one for the professional photographers memorializing the event.

Prom takes years to plan. Senior Class President Andrew Santamaria said, “Planning prom was a lot of work. Aside from choosing colors, the theme, and the song, it really took the whole council to put everything together.”

Essentially, it incorporates the fundraising the classes complete over four years of high school. The more funds they generate, the less expensive the tickets. When asked what he was looking forward to the most, Andrew mentioned he was “excited to see the decorations and all the students having a great time.” Nothing can compare to the memories his class is cultivated.

At 10 o’clock, Mr. Jones and Ms. Gonzales announced the 2019 Prom King and Queen, Eric Suarez and Patricia Balderas! (APPLAUSE!) The prom court danced the night away to “Party In the USA” by Miley Cyrus (AGAIN!) with all the attendees cramming sweets in their mouths. The students’ faces shone like so many lights in the sky.



### RALPH BREAKS THROUGH THS

BY ALICE LEE

Torrance High School’s first Movie Night occurred at 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 9, in the Zamperini Stadium. This event was planned by the Associated Student Body and there was no admission fee.

The movie Wreck It Ralph Breaks the Internet was featured and the attendance was better than expected, even though the date was changed three times. The weather and various sporting events delayed the viewing.

Students guarded themselves with blankets because of the inclement weather. For Movie Night, ASB rented a screen and a projector which was set up in mid-field on the Home side.

Attendees sat in the astroturf in small huddles to stay warm. Tacos, popcorn, and candy were sold for class profit; each class made approximately \$100. Snacks and conversations were shared as dark

Zamperini Field soon lit up with laughter and smiles. Despite the chilly night, around 200 people attended for entertainment and relaxation.

Mr. Jones explained the event’s success: “I didn’t have any expectations,” Mr. Jones said, “considering it was our first Movie Night.” His biggest concern was the timing because ASB scheduled the event around students’ hectic schedules.

With a few alterations, Mr Jones added that, in his opinion, “we had a great turnout!” Students from other schools also joined their THS friends to enjoy Movie Night.

ASB President Chris Eguchi regarded the school wide event as “great,” and hopes other Movie Nights will be in THS’s future. He stated, “I think the event went really well.” However, THS students don’t need a movie to have a good time together.

### ASB 2019-2020

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YEARBOOK REP.- NICOLE SAKIGAWA	TARTAR KNIGHTS- MIHIR MENON	TARTAR LADIES- GRACE CHUN
NEWSPAPER REP.- ALICE LEE	KIWINS- ALI TUBISHAT	
SENIOR CLASS PRES.- VINCENT CABRERA	JUNIOR CLASS PRES.- WILLIAM YEO	SOPH. CLASS PRES.- WILLIE RO
SENIOR CLASS ACTIVITIES- KEALA FITISEMANU	JUNIOR CLASS ACTIVITIES- JENNA IRASUSTA	SOPH. CLASS ACTIVITIES- DEVIN PEREZ



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## TURN THE PAGE!

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<p>STUDENT LIFE PAGE 3</p> <p><b>Did you know about our shortened summer? Go find out on Page 3!</b></p>	<p>ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p><b>THS Athletes received scholarships! Read about it on Page 8!</b></p>
<p>SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PAGE 4</p> <p><b>Read about the experience of our foreign exchange students on Page 4.</b></p>	

## THIS STUDENTS STEM OUT IN COMPETITION

BY MOMO NAKANISHI

STEMANIA is an all-girls event sponsored by the Torrance Education Foundation empowering girls to pursue a career in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The competition took place in the small gym on April 22 with ten teams. Participants demonstrated their skills through a rigorous challenge against students from Madrona Middle School.

The event was Roman themed. Event coordinator Ms. Nazia Rashid mentioned this year's event was a little different. Ms. Rashid said, "We had three mini challenges but this year we had one big challenge." This challenge was to build a Roman chariot that can carry one member of the team, using cardboard, duct tape, and PVC pipes.

Working in groups of three, the participants built the chariots within a time limit by employing their knowledge and skills. They then raced them across a basketball court with two members pulling the "charioteer" in the chariot.

Many participants, including Senior Divya Nair, enjoyed being able to focus on a single challenge: "I learned that even when I'm frustrated, I've got to keep persevering and not give up."

Many chariots reached the finish line while others fell apart along the way. Regardless, the students were able to improve their skills in STEM and learn the erstwhile lessons of time management, teamwork, and perseverance. Ms. Rashid said she "wished" she could have given the students more time to build their chariots.

However, Sophomore Brenley Koepf asserted, "I liked how you had to work together to accomplish the goal in the certain time limit." Brenley claims that the time limit was a perfect addition to the difficulty of the challenge. It also strengthened the collaboration between team members because each member needed to contribute in order to finish in time. The challenging aspect of this event fueled the students' interest in STEM.

Overall, the event achieved its goal to empower young women in STEM and to create an environment in THS where girls can share their love for STEM. "I believe the event went really well!"

Ms. Rashid concludes, "I think the students learned a lot and had fun which makes it a successful event!" Most students plan to demonstrate their abilities in STEM during the Boat Regatta next fall.



Maja Rist (12), Bernardo Breto (11), Armin Taeobi (11), Margaux Escudier (11), Antonio Branca (12), Nicola Chiarani (12), Ulrick Sparbo (12), Maria Isabelle Buset (12), and Isabel Krebuehl (10)



Aedan Hamilton (12), Henry Weisse (11), Imani Jolivet-te (12), Jack Arroues (12), Madison Albers (11), Keala Fitisemanu (11), Selah Zamora (10), Daenah Sy (9), and Savannah Waters (9)

Photo courtesy of:  
Margaux Escudier

## LET'S EXCHANGE STUDENTS

BY MARGAUX ESCUDIER

Thanks to the student exchange program, Torrance High School hosted 23 students from nine different countries, including Brazil, Italy, and Norway to attend our school. Several will receive their high school diploma with the class of 2019 at Zamperini Stadium for graduation.

Rarely can exchange students choose a particular school, but these fine students chose THS specifically. Senior Maria Isabelle Buset from Norway chose California because of the weather and the beach. She said, "I wanted summer all year long and to go to the beach whenever I wanted." Who can blame her, coming from Norway?

Some choose Los Angeles for the beach, sun, and city, but others chose THS for itself. It takes months of procedures and medical appointments to be in the program; it took me 10 months to finish the inscription process and to get my visa.

But it was worth it! Foreign students come here to improve their English and learn more about the country and its culture. Maria added, "Everything is new and you learn to be independent...a break from everything at home is something I really like!" Being an exchange student gives you maturity and independence.

Schools differ from a country to country, but American schools are unique because of their extracurricular activities and classes. Every student wants to experience things like prom and graduation.

The Senior exchange students will receive the same diploma as the other students and may continue their studies in the US if they wish. And every exchange student can attend prom.

No one knows what to expect when you leave your home country for a year. Junior Armin Taeobi from Germany said the hardest thing he has been through this year was "changing host families" because of conflict or problems. Each student receives guidance from a local coordinator.

Host families and students are usually friendly and open minded. Maria opines, "The thing I like the most is you get to meet many new people."

I encourage anyone to live this experience, to go abroad for a year. It has been one of the best years of your life. You learn so much. You will never regret it.

As the school year comes to an end, it is time to appreciate every moment with our new friends before its time to say goodbye, and the miles are long.

## SPRINGING TO CIF

BY LITZY TOLEDO

The Torrance High School athletes in the Spring of 2019 had an eventful season. Many have qualified for California Interscholastic Federation preliminaries, and others have won championships.

The THS Boys Volleyball team experienced a win in league with the youngest team to enter CIF. They were able to score the first round and lost the second. The team tied for third in San Pedro and won the league title.

The Division 5 softball championship peaks on May 28. Our softball team remains in CIF and are playing their 4th championship game since 2008. The team was able to overcome pertinent difficulties.

Some Track and Field team students qualified into CIF preliminaries. In distance running, both Junior Angela Arrellano and Senior Kira Farnham made CIF for the first time. Arrellano qualified by completing the 3200 meter league championship, while Farnham qualified by completing 1600 meters. In shot put, Junior Adrianna Valenzuela qualified for CIF, and was scouted for a college spot.

Pole vaulting Seniors Patrick Gidaya and Amanda Herbert qualified for CIF for their second consecutive season. In the long jump, Senior Garrett Kasai won league event champion for the first time. Senior Micaiah Scott also won long jump league event champion for the third time. Micaiah also qualified for CIF Finals.

The following athletes from the swim team made it to CIF: Adam Hashimoto, Armando Mendoza (11), Ethan Tom (12), Andy Gasset (10), Jason Buengten (10), Alexis Vasquez (10), Ariana Marquez (11), Julie Shiroma (12) and Jericah Pangan (11). Several golf team participants also made CIF: Aimee Uchida (11), Mai Takahashi (10) and Johnny Son (11) were one of the Top 20 players in League.

And, baseball had an eventful season by winning the Pioneer League Championship. Tartar Athletes continue to dominate in competition all over the South Bay. That's what Tartars do - they conquer! Congratulations to all our stupendous seasoned students!

## CATCH THE STARS OF THS

BY MARGAUX ESCUDIER

"Peter and the Starcatcher," was directed by Mr. Hovis and performed by the Torrance High School Theater Department in the auditorium from May 16 to 19.

This play tells the backstory of how a nameless, angst-ridden orphan became the immortal Peter Pan. According to the New York Times, the production also conveys the primal human urge to defy gravity, or to fly.

Mister Hovis believed the play was a perfect fit for the cast. Junior Keala Fitisematsu, who played Teacher, said, "The whole cast was the highlight of the

show for me." Mr. Hovis also commented, "everyone is familiar with the story of Peter Pan." It is a universal concept.

The audience experienced a variety of songs, dances, magical scenes, and laughter while sailing through the seas to the magical world of Starstuff. Junior Andrew Mills said, "I thought it was a very good show. It was very interesting to watch." Most were not privy to the Peter Pan backstory until they saw this play.

The cast "far exceeded my expectations," Mr. Hovis said, considering the late start of rehearsals and the teacher's absence.

Keala affirms rehearsals were challenging because of time constraints, but she adds, "Everyone put forth their best effort, had a bright attitude, and wanted to make it the best show."

Keala describes the cast as a family, very kind and welcoming. The theater department also hosted the TheaterFest on May 31, where any theater student acted or directed a particular scene or was trained as technical crew.

Keala invites everyone to "take part of the lovely star stuff theater has to offer!" Joining theater was the best decision of her high school experience, and it could be yours, too!

British writer and philosopher Iris Murdoch was quoted, thus: "The theatre is certainly a place for learning about the brevity of human glory." Life, it would seem, is also brief.

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Mrs. Phoonphiphatana, Rina Matsumoto (12), Elaine Gomez (12), Ada Franco (11)

## WANDERLUST GOT US

BY HURNICA VICENCIO

The Torrance High Fashion Club sponsored the “Wanderlust” Fashion Show on Wednesday, May 15. The show consisted of students from Ms. Phoonphiphatana’s Fashion club and class. Ms. P. has prepared her students for this very special day, where they have the opportunity to present the designs they have worked on all year.

This was Ms. P.’s 11th fashion show, and many students are glad as she keeps the tradition going with jewels of modern and old fashion fused in fabrics.

Fashion Club President and Senior Rina Matsumoto has been a part of the club for four years. “Wanderlust was amazing!” Rina said with passion. “Every designer was able to showcase their designs beautifully.” It takes patience and time to organize this event.

Rina enthusiastically expressed her gratitude, saying, “I still cannot believe my four

years in the class is coming to an end. I still remember being a clueless freshman. I’m going to miss the support from Ms. P and my classmates.” Rina has left an impact at THS and will be continuing her education at Cal State Long Beach in the fall studying, of course, fashion.

Senior Chidinma Azinge thoroughly her first fashion show. Chidinma has her own brand, The Groovy Crew. Her brand is successful, selling items nationwide. She was thankful to include her personal brand into the show and “enjoyed seeing everyone’s finished products because everyone worked so hard.”

It’s heartwarming to see the student designers being recognized for their talent and time. There are so many talented people at our school, and it’s important for them to be known not only as themselves, but also for their expertise. Well done, Fashion Club!



Kiersten Sandoval (12)

**Fashion Photo Courtesy: @ThsFashion\_19 on Instagram**



## ART PALOOZA

BY MOEEZ QURESHI

Everything Art - ceramics, photography, art, music, and visuals - all came together as the Night of the Arts was held in the library and the auditorium on May 29. Students, parents, and faculty gathered to relish eye-catching presentations by the fine arts’ students. The band and the choir filled the venue with groovy grooves and spectacular singing.

The Night of the Arts is the highlight of the year for the Fine Arts Department, where every art student has their work displayed. The event proved to be so voluminous, it needed two separate areas of concentration. It was splendidly amazing, for the distance traversed between venues acted as a buffer for contemplation. Both areas were never left unoccupied.

The Night of the Arts was planned by the Fine Arts Department, who collaborated with Mrs. Fox for set up and use of the library. Ms. Rivera did an excellent job planning the event and consid-

ered it “an honor to showcase so much talent.” Ms. Rivera added it was a proud moment for the students and “their great effort during the year to make Night of the Arts successful.”

From cartoon characters to historical figures, students used their creativity to take these elements to a new level and mold them to their liking: beautiful scenery and abstract techniques were displayed in photography flair; clay pots and vases were shaped in unique forms, and; paintings and photographs were being sold for domestic appreciation. There were many different moods and emotions being expressed through physical and visual representation.

Junior Ashley Ramirez retorted: “I loved seeing all the different art and how creative people can be. Everybody in the art show is very talented.” There was much talent to go around that night. These students work diligently so their accomplishments are a sight to behold by the public.



Andrew Davis (10)

**Photo Courtesy: Jean Lee (10)**

## CLASSICAL ELECTIONS

BY PHOEBE LIN

Tie-dye shirts, key-chains, and social media posts were overflowing during the week of May 20 to 24 when Torrance High School’s annual race of class council elections began.

A frenzy of campaigns flurried as candidates rushed in preparation for speeches on Friday. More people ran for class council elections than ever before as opponents vied to gain voters.

Students were wearing campaign T-shirts, lanyards, pins, and signs as they became living slogans for their candidates. Key-chains, medallions, highlighters, erasers, and ChapStick were handed out during campaign week. Social media became key in promoting candidates, as accounts flooded with campaign photos.

On May 29, the following results were posted: Sophomore class: Willie Ro, President; Iain Han, Vice President; Justin Oseo, Treasurer; Natalia Brar, Service League Representative; Katie Kim as Secretary; Devin Perez, Commis-

ioner of Activities; Kelli Chong, Inter-Club Council Representative, and; Mia Fernandez, Commissioner of Publicity.

The Junior class looked like the 2020 Dems with 24 candidates: William Yeo, President; Arman Baglione, Vice President; Vivian Kim, Treasurer; Ryan Carter, Service League Representative; Kira Shibuya, Secretary; Jenna Irastusta, Commissioner of Activities; Danielle Eguchi, Inter-Club Council Representative, and; Emma Lee, Commissioner of Publicity.

Many of the Senior Class Council positions went unopposed: Vincent Cabrera, President; Michael Welsome, Vice President; Mark Wisman, Treasurer; Andrea Amaya, Service League Representative; Jake Martin, Secretary; Keala Fitsemanu, Commissioner of Activities, and; Daezsa Rae Passion, Commissioner of Publicity. The results for the Senior Inter-Club Council Representative has not been posted. Congratulations to all our elected officials!

## WHERE’D SUMMER GO?

BY JESSICA TANG

In a debated decision for the 2019-2020 school year, the Torrance Unified School District has decided to follow neighboring districts and move the school calendar up one week before Labor Day.

Students will have to report on Monday, August 26, rather than the traditional Thursday. Seniors will not be affected, but Juniors and below (and teachers) will be.

The TUSD School Board made their decision on three main points: to help with the instructional calendar, allow for increased preparatory time for standardized testing, and give students the opportunity to take summer classes.

When Torrance starts traditionally, other districts are already far ahead in classes. A few weeks of teaching can make a big difference, especially for Juniors.

Nationwide, standardized testings like the SAT, ACT, and the APs are taken on set dates. This means TUSD students have to increase the content rigor for equity.

There is still the same amount of teaching days 180. How-

ever, there will be 29 total days off for the new term, three more than the traditional calendar. Thanksgiving break will take a full week, and there will be at least one day off per month.

THS Activities Director Mr. Jones adds, “I like the fact that we will be in school when football games are being played. Whether or not you like football, going to the games is a social event, which helps to excite school spirit.” Summer internships and classes are also easier to get into with the new calendar.

Next year, students will finish school on June 11, 2020, one week earlier to make up for the earlier start. This means this summer will be “shorter” by two weeks. Some staff and students are concerned about the anticipated summer heat.

The South Bay area is known to have humid and long summers, so starting earlier will mean warmer classrooms. THS will have to persevere until the cooler Fall season sets in. School may start earlier, but you can still have a safe and enjoyable summer!

## ITS OWN REWARD

BY MOEEZ QURESHI



**Photo Courtesy: Moez Qureshi**

On May 22, Torrance High School’s auditorium was filled with proud parents, students, and esteemed faculty members, as the 54th Annual Achievement Awards were held.

The awards honor students who have accomplished goals and excelled in specific subjects and classes, such as mathematics and athletics.

The event was MCed by Commissioner of Academics Kenichi Morofuji, who said the Achievement Awards are an important event where students are “recognized for their outstanding work in class.” A student must be nominated by a teacher to receive an award.

Educators ensure student progress is noticed for the work they have achieved. Teachers want to celebrate their students’ efforts and reward their hard work with a night of applause and smiles.

As parents, family members, and friends entered the auditorium, they were greeted

with a warm welcome from respective Tartar Knights and Ladies, who helped serve commestibles and hand out programs. The patrons noticed a lovely array of impatiens, begonia, zinnias,



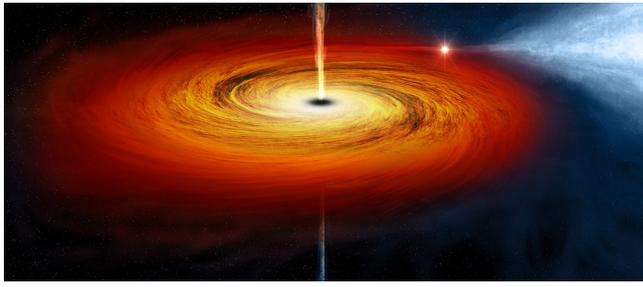
and marigolds positioned by the art students of Ms. Heflinger and Mrs. Rivera.

The event soon began with the recognition of scholarships for graduating seniors announced by the school’s counselors. The most notable award was the Teacher of the Year, which was given to Ms. Taraneh Karim, the AP US History teacher.

The Achievement Awards are a very prestigious occasion which exemplifies the true essence of Tartar Pride. The event helps to recognize the school itself and shows how skilled students are in various categories.

As Scottish essayist and historian Thomas Carlyle once said, “Every obstacle is simply a course to improve a person’s achievement muscle.” Tartars got muscle.

Photo  
courtesy  
of:  
NASA



## PICTURE FOR A GENERATION

BY NATALIA CORRALES

Long ago the thought of a black hole actually existing was only beyond everyone's imagination; the very first image of a black hole was captured on April 10, 2019.

A once impossible task became one of the greatest accomplishments of this generation, thanks to two hundred scientists and researchers across more than 20 countries.

The Event Horizon Telescope is a massive array of telescopes connected over a global network that utilizes advanced imaging techniques and electromagnetic wave data to document this historical event.

Being 53.3 million light years away, the galaxy Messier 87, is home to the the black hole that holds a mass greater than our sun by 6.5 billion times. Einstein's theory of general relativity finally proven at last!

The director of the Event Horizon Telescope program, Sheperd Doleman, told the House of Science, "[t]he look on

the face of my colleagues when the first images appeared on computers will never leave me: it was astonishment, wonder, pride, awe and humility".

This is only the tip of a much bigger iceberg as Doleman says, for this is only the beginning of expanding our knowledge of the unknown universe that has always felt so far away.

Doleman declares the next action is to record a live video of the black hole and increasing the amount of telescopes and radios to further push just how far they can see into space.

The fact that a black hole, which can pierce an entire galaxy or disrupt a star formation, was captured on a telescope is truly remarkable.

Never believe that the impossible can stay impossible, because you never know what you can be capable of.

## IN GOD WE DIE

BY ANDREW GERGES

Religious persecution is on the rise all over the world. A shooting occurred at the Po-way Synagogue in San Diego. Three were injured and one was killed after alleged shooter John T. Earnest attacked the center with an assault rifle.

The action put a dismal cloud over the Jewish Passover, one of the Judaism's important holidays. Earnest entered the synagogue and shot at the rabbi and the congregation. Before the rabbi was hurt, attendee

Lori Kaye jumped in front of him, sacrificing her life. Three were injured including the rabbi and an eight-year old girl. The shooter's gun jammed and he made his escape only to surrender to the police later.

Hundreds of people from the Po-way-area organized a vigil for the slain that night. President Trump contacted the rabbi and

family, condemning the attack. Earnest was charged with one count first degree murder, three counts of attempted murder, and fifty-four counts of a hate crime. Earnest awaits his sentencing in San Diego and may face the death penalty, according to Fox News.

Thousands across America voiced their condolences for the families of the victims. Governor Newsom tweeted, "Hate continues to fuel horrific and cowardly acts of violence across our state... It must be called out." These killings occurred in the wake of several churches in Sri Lanka being attacked on Easter Sunday, killing over 300 people.

Students at THS were understandably saddened by the news of the attacks. Sophomore Nikaela Rodriguez believes that "Leaders will have to react with more than just condolences. Something's gotta change." Others believe no one should be attacked for worshiping their God.

Armed Forces Parade

Photo courtesy of: Ashley Mercurio



## AMERICAN PARADE

BY EDUARDO BENITEZ

The City of Torrance has once again treated us to a very American parade with this year's Armed Forces Day Parade. Spectators gathered around the streets of Crenshaw and Torrance to view the annual celebration of our freedom and rights.

This is the 60th year that the City of Torrance has hosted the parade to honor the nation's military. Every year features one branch of the military, and this year focused on the Navy.

The Armed Forces Parade was held on Saturday, May 18, beginning at 1:30 pm at Crenshaw Boulevard and traveled one-mile west on Torrance Boulevard to Madrona Avenue and approximately ended around 3:30 pm. A high-ranking member of the honored service is invited to serve as Grand Marshal.

Other schools had partaken in the parade as well. Schools like North, West, And South Torrance High School appeared with their band and colorguard

group to perform and display their talents to all spectators. Even the mayor of Torrance, Patrick J. Furey, as well as other politicians, made a special appearance within the parade as well.

After the parade, the community enjoyed other festivities, including exhibits and two free concerts by military bands. The celebration also carried over to the Del Amo Fashion Center parking lot, where citizens enjoyed military displays, including aircraft, vehicles, and support equipment. The military concerts were from 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm on Friday in the James Armstrong Theatre.

By the end of the parade folks dressed in continental clothing with a small platoon firing muskets into the air for one last performance. This year had marked the 60th grand year of the very definition of an American parade. Torrance has once again done itself with this extravagant and patriotic parade.

## MEASLES IN AMERICA

BY EDWARD MERCURIO

Measles is a highly contagious virus which has rejuvenated recently. In 2019, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

has considered placing infected people on the national no-fly list to prevent contagion.

The LA Times reported the number of measles cases in America is over 900 and continues to grow.

This is the highest number of cases reported in a year since 2000. According to CNN, measles outbreaks have been primarily occurring throughout 23 states.

Within these states, an increasing amount of people have applied for non-medical vaccine exemptions.

State health officials have increased vaccination drives and awareness programs while issuing vaccination orders under the threat of fines to parents of unvaccinated children and the closure of schools allowing unvaccinated children.

Additionally, the

CDC has considered placing infected people on the national no-fly list to prevent contagion.

The LA Times reported California legislators passed a bill in 2015 eliminating all but medically required vaccination exemptions in response to an outbreak originating in 2013 at Disneyland.

In April, UCLA and CSULA quarantined over 1,000 students and faculty members after reports of measles originating from the campuses.

The CDC states the measles virus is severely contagious and spreads primarily through coughs, sneezes, and proximity to infected individuals.

Measles causes severe fevers and general illness with a spotted rash a few days later. If you have these symptoms, please see a medical professional immediately.



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## TOO CLOSE TO HOME

BY KAMILLE MOSQUEDA

At approximately 3 PM on June 3, a man was shot at the Del Amo Mall in front of the Finish Line shoe store near the food court. The man was bleeding from his neck while bystanders attempted to render aid, according to the Daily Breeze. The victim was taken to the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and is expected to survive. The mall was on lockdown for the rest of the day as officers and police surrounded the area, deeming the situation was not an "active shooting," as the suspect targeted one man.

On Tuesday, officers were in an apartment complex on Carson Street and Madrona Avenue, knocking on every door, alarming neighbors, CBS Los Angeles reported. "The apartment they were searching [...] we share a wall with them. They were yelling for quite a while [...] nobody was coming out," said resident Nash Hurtarte. As of this publication, the suspect has not been found and the Torrance Police Department believes he fled the mall. He is described as a Hispanic male with a shaved head, age 20-25, wearing a black shirt with checkered shorts. If anyone has any information about the suspect, please call the Torrance Police Department at (310) 328-3456.



Photo Courtesy of:  
USA News

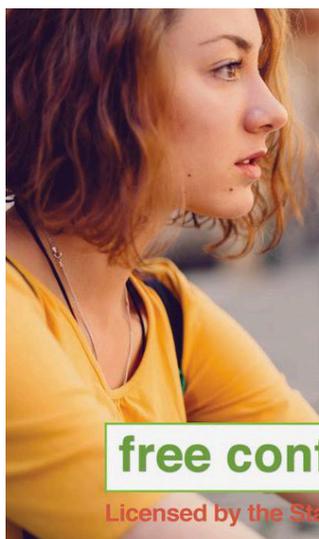
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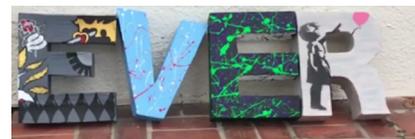
# ARTISTIC TARTARS

BY CHARLENE CAVE

Every year I strive to inspire everyone who walks by the letters. This year, I chose one of my favorite quotes to live by. I teach art, but I also like to think that I help my students with self esteem as well. I try to spread the idea that you should be proud of who you should never allow people to dull your sparkle!

- Aja De La Rosa

Art Teacher/Yearbook Advisor



ART 1  
Eugene Ko  
(12)



ART 4  
Lily Li  
(12)



# CLASS OF 2019!

By Natalia Corrales (11)



CERAMICS 1  
Joanna Villanueva  
(12)



PHOTO 1  
Alyssa Madrid  
(12)



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“72% of water is me, so if you like water... you almost like me.”  
- Edward Mercurio

**“School tot me how to spel.”**  
- Sean Tandoc

“Always be yourself. Unless you can be a panda, then be a panda \*panda emoji\*.”  
- Kaitlyn Orque

“Don’t try to fit in this world when you’re meant to stand out.”  
- Uiani F.T. Coleman

“Reality is often disappointing.”  
- Eric Cook

“Eating french fries is like wearing crocs: you know you shouldn’t, but your life is pretty much over anyway.”  
(Jim Gaffigan)  
- Nicholas Leivers

**“It matters not what someone is born, but what they grow to be.” (A.D.)**  
- Joanna Villanueva

“Wass good y’all. Hope you had a blessed Senior year. Yeee, let’s get it.”  
- Daniel Martinez

**“School is hard. Life is too. But it was fun. I’m high/low key glad that stressing over high school homework is over. Here comes college! :)”**  
- Imani Jolivette

**“I knew exactly what to do. But in a much more real sense, I had no idea what to do.”(Michael Scott)**  
- Logan Sharkey

“You can’t open up the story of my life and just go to page 738 and think you know me.”  
(Arin Hanson)  
- Alan Parra Delgado

“Today is gonna be the day that they’re gonna throw it back to you. But who’s they?” I don’t know...”  
- Kamille Mosqueda

“Warriors blew a 3-1 lead. Lebron is the GOAT.”  
- Shivam Kumar

“Senioritis is no joke...”  
- Ricky Vizeana

**“Everything we try to achieve takes courage.”**  
- Gabriell Bagtas

“Don’t follow your dreams, follow me on Instagram. @Dyllan.p16.”  
- Dyllan Perez

**“Whether you think you can or think you can’t, you’re right.” (Henry Ford)**  
- Chris Eguchi

“Your drill is the drill that will pierce the heavens.”  
(Simon the Digger)  
- Jullian Alcaraz

**“Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.”**  
- Jaden Sanchez

“So, an Englishman, two Japanese school kids, an Egyptian, a Frenchman, and a dog walk into Egypt to fight on immortal vampire...”  
- Noah Meadows

“#54, 3, 2, 1...and I’m out! XD”  
- Ana Rodriguez

**“Pain is temporary, Victory is forever.”**  
- Juan Martinez

“I see lots of sleepless nights, coffee breaks, and salty tears in my future.”  
- Pearl Lee

“High school will be 10x better if you find some bros to ball with.”  
- Erika Ramirez Salazar

**“The more things change, the more they stay the same.”**  
- Patrick Gidaya

“I can’t believe you actually thought that text was from me. It lacked all nuance, my signature mocking tone, and was utterly devoid of emotions.”  
- Aedan Hamilton

“I meant to write this quote earlier, but procrastination made me wait.”  
- Cristian Rodriguez

**“Pressure is a Privilege.” (Billie Jean King)**  
- Semal Durrani

“A gem cannot be made without a little a pressure and cannot be polished without a little friction from a gem.”  
- Ruby Navarro Montes

**“Raise your head, you’re a genius.”**  
- Nanami Endo

“The Costco food court, Subway, and Taylor Swift are underrated in today’s modern society.”  
- Anthony Chang

“It was tiring, filled with Goombas, boring, and fun.”  
- Andrew Herrera Herrera

“Try to be the best but you will not be because I am the best.”  
- Elliut Medina

“Take time to discover all options for your future career, you might end up enjoying something unexpected.”  
- Raam Patel

“The only quote I didn’t have to put in MLA format.”  
- Riley Zink

**“I can do this all day.” (Steve Rogers)**  
- Luis Beltran

**“Chocolate vanilla swirl with cookie crunch please! P.S. Join KIWIN’s.”**  
- Hanna Garcia

“Awwww man, here we go again.”  
- Edwin Colon

**“I learned to put everything you have into the work you do throughout high school, because it all pays off in the end.”**  
- Micaiah Scott

“I’m gonna go stand outside. If anyone asks, I’m outstanding.”  
- Siergo Figueroa

“A finger cannot lift a pebble.”  
- Hamin Kim

**“There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind.” (C.S. Lewis)**  
- Mya Trombley

“Thank you, Frank Ocean...”  
- Liam Chok

“It was all over, \*SNAP\* just like that.”  
- Chaeyoon Syin

**“Success is not measured by the end result, but rather the journey it took to get there.”**  
- Kelli Nakamura

“I spent four years of my life in the fashion room.”  
- Rina Matsumoto

“Soy milk is just milk introducing itself in Spanish.”  
- Ryan Say

SENIOR SPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

BY ADRIANNA VANZUELA

Some Torrance High School Senior athletes were granted athletic scholarships in early May are about to change. For instance, Senior Abdul Ahmad received a \$100,000 basketball scholarship from the University of Northern Alabama.

Abdul replied, "I feel honored, blessed, and excited." Abdul continued saying he was most excited about playing at the Division I level and "making my family proud." THS basketball coach Sammy Brittain said Abdul's opportunity is "well-deserved," and he is going to do "great things."

Senior Amber Lyons received a full ride scholarship from Doane University athletic department for softball. Torrance High School has had a long and successful history with softball. Amber proclaimed, "I feel so honored and proud...all of the hard work that I have put in has paid off."

Softball coach and history teacher Mr. Don Glavich, "I am very proud of [Amber's] accomplishments and excited to see her continue playing in the future." Amber will undoubtedly wind up in the Tartar Hall of Fame, if we had one.

Senior Elizabeth King, in her own words, "received a \$17,000 scholarship to California Lutheran University." She earned this in November with an acceptance letter for golf and academics. "I am very happy and grateful," Elizabeth said. She is excited about playing golf, making new friends, and pursuing her passion in environmental science.

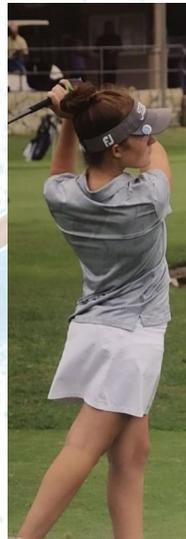
PE teacher and golf coach Ms. Sharri Carr who is the PE teacher and coach said, "Elizabeth has grown in her self confidence as she improved as a golfer." That is the character building young girls need for success in life.



Senior Amber Lyons



Senior Abdul Ahmad



Senior Elizabeth King

POPULAR PRODUCT REVIEW

BY KAMILLE MOSQUEDA

It's 2019, and teenagers at Torrance High School are raving about the latest products that make them look more fashionable or enhance their lives somehow. The following are just a sampling of many of the products most teens are aware of and may be worth purchasing.

**AirPods:**

Airpods are popular because they are wireless headphones, period. I personally adore them because you don't have to untangle any wires from the headphones included with the phone. The connectivity makes it easier to listen to music or call someone a reasonable distance away from your Apple device. If you desire a stress and tangle-free life, as well as "flex" on everyone and not "speak broke", AirPods are the right choice for you.



**Clout goggles:**

Clout goggles are purely for the aesthetic effect, and, of course, "clout" (influence or power). Originally known as "Kurt Cobain sunglasses", the iconic white sunglasses have a retro look to them. I had the luxury of trying on clout goggles at a store in the mall, and they seem like regular sunglasses to me. It was not tight at all and there was a clear view of whatever was in front of me at all times. I do not think these are worth actually getting, unless you want to be a "walking meme".



**iPhone X:** The iPhone X has multiple variations, like the XS and its bigger version, XS Max, but I'll keep things simple here by reviewing the original iPhone X that came out in 2017. It's the first line of iPhone that lacks a home button, with users instead having to swipe up to go to the home screen. There is also Face ID instead of Touch ID, and Animoji, customizable emojis you can make talk with the same technology as Face ID. If you want to get used to not having a home button to prepare for future iPhone lines, or are just looking for a change, consider getting an iPhone X if you don't have one.

**Pop socket/ring stand:** A pop socket, ring stand, or anything that can help support your phone whether you have shaky hands or if you set it down vertically or horizontally is akin to a camera tripod. It is very useful for wanting to watch something on Netflix but don't want to keep your phone flat down on the desk, or if you are trying to take a picture with your phone over the edge and you want to guarantee it won't slip right out of your fingers and into the infinite void below. Any stand to help support a phone is useful if you really need it. Otherwise, just make sure not to drop your phone over Niagara Falls.

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KING OF THE KAIJUS

BY EDUARDO BENITEZ

Emerging from the depths of the trepid seas, Godzilla earns his royal title in this monstrosity of a summer blockbuster, Godzilla: King of the Monsters. Directed by Michael Dougherty, Godzilla: King of the Monsters follows Dr. Emma Russell (played with demure by Vera Farmiga) as she attempts to return the balance of nature by unleashing these massive titans, also known as kaijus, one by one.

Something goes awry as King Gid-rah - a sinister, three headed kaiju-looking monster - releases all the behemoths before Dr. Russell can

release them individually. And the mayhem ensues.

The gigantic monster battles are nothing short of spectacular, each one more vicious than the last. The humans, like most movies of this genre, are uninteresting and lifeless, and the subplots are as tedious as an AP class. The acting, though stilted, can't compare with the writing, which lays out impossible situations, improbable interactions, and jokes falling flatter than a plasma screen.

Of course, critics had their own opinions on this film, like Matt Zoller Seitz, from RogerEbert.com, saying, "Its errors fall mainly under the heading of failing to get out of its own way, and its imperfections are compensated by magnificence." Oliver Jones, from Observer, added, "The classic face-off arrives in an emotional vacuum rather than an earned catharsis; the big fight never feels like a payoff." Regardless, the film must be experienced on the big screen, so don't waste time if you want to partake of this retailored classic monster flick!



Photo Courtesy of: Collider

NEWS TORCH STAFF QUOTES

Kamille Mosqueda (Senior)



"Even though this was my first year at News Torch, I've learned so much from it. I've bonded with the class and club members and learned the basics of journalism and what it means to be a reporter. I would recommend News Torch to anyone who's looking for an extracurricular activity that's worth their time."

Charlene Cave (Senior)



"I wish I joined News Torch earlier. It helped me grow in my writing and gave me new friends to bond with. If you're planning to join News Torch, go for it! You learn how to work on the paper from working out layouts to writing articles. It's an experience like no other."

Margaux Escudier (Foreign Exc. Student)



"As an exchange student I have learned so much from News Torch. My English improved considerably as well as my writing skills. It also gave me perspectives on the newspaper production world and its jobs. It was such a pleasure to work with the crew and come to A132 every day. Wishing the best to next year's crew!"

Adopt a pet!

By Alice Lee



**Crystal**  
19-03352  
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Female

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I'm the biscuit-making, ankle-rubbing, lap-warming kitty known as Crystal. I have a heart of gold and am one of the friendliest cats you'll ever meet, so stop by and check meowt today; I know you'll fall in love!



**Kaleb**  
19-01870  
6 Years Old  
Pit Bull Mix  
Male



Available at the *spcaLA PD Pitchford Companion Animal Village and Education Center*  
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Long Beach, CA 90815  
562-216-2542

Looking for that special someone? Look no further! My name is Kaleb and I would love to find my forever home. I've been practicing basic obedience while at the shelter. Come meet me and I'll show you what I've learned!

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