



THE COLUMN



www.whsad.org **WHSAD'S EXCLUSIVE NEWSPAPER VOL. 1 ISSUE 4**

Editor in Chief: Antonio Perez

CLIMATE CHANGE

Written by: **Antonio Perez**



Students from WHSAD recently attended the NYC DOE Youth Climate Summit. The summit was centered on the negative impacts that climate change has had on our society and how our actions can either escalate or de-escalate its devastating effects. Multiple guest speakers spoke about climate change and how it has impacted their daily lives.

One particular story that stood out was one of a lady who spoke about Hurricane Sandy. As most New Yorkers know, Hurricane Sandy devastated New York and many communities are still till this day rebuilding from the destruction. Similarly, the MTA's almost 100 year old transit system suffered great losses due to the hurricane and is still trying to rebuild and repair over 6 years later. Homes were destroyed, families torn apart, and belongings forever lost at the hands of the storm. With all this stated it can be said without caution that Hurricane Sandy was a terrible ordeal. Now to put it into perspective what if a catastrophic hurricane like that would happen every 5 years? Due to climate change, hurricanes that used to occur every 500 years are occurring more and more frequently and are reaching a rate at which they could now occur every 5 years!

New York is an extremely dense city and has far too much too lose for the climate change issue to be ignored. The longer we brush off climate change and put it to side, the more vulnerable and likely we are to be struck by disastrous hurricanes like Harvey, Sandy, Florence, etc.

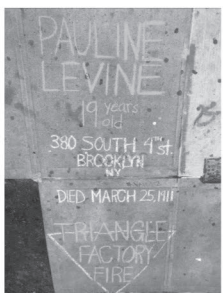
While hearing that may sound like there is no hope, there still is. We just need to work better and harder as a society. Working to overcome climate change doesn't need to be as complex as many believe. Actually, fighting climate change can start at home and/or school. Something as simple as disposing of waste in the proper bins can go a long way or even using your words to empower others to be a voice for change. At the summit, students had the opportunity to attend workshops centered around how we can create change for the better in our communities. Students learned how they can use poetry or art to spread a powerful message to entice others to start taking action against climate change. Reducing, reusing, and recycling can help tremendously in the fight against climate change. Every time food is wasted all the resources that went into producing, processing, packaging, and transporting that food is also wasted! Furthermore, a majority of the uneaten food rots in landfills where it then accounts for almost 25% of U.S. methane emissions. Simply donating leftover food to homeless shelters can help counteract waste and help benefit the community. There are many programs in the city which can help in the fight against waste such as, *Rescuing Leftover Cuisine*, which donates leftover foods from restaurants and or other places, to homeless shelters all across NYC. While climate change may seem like a scary thing to go against, it is not an impossible task and if we work together as a society it can be done.

Ms. Bui had this to say in regards of Climate Change: "Climate change is happening. Unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation out there. Educate yourself so that you have the tool and knowledge to make the best decision for your future."

Ms. Tom the Environmental Science Instructor at WHSAD said: "One of the most important aspects of the high school curriculum – especially for senior year courses – is real world preparedness. For today's students, there isn't anything more relevant than the study of climate change. Many courses have their place, while climate change is in every place. It is in the emissions produced by the buses and trains students travel to school on; the processed paper on which notes are written and books are printed; the manufacturing processes that create the foods served in our lunchrooms; and the air we breathe leaving the building at the end of a long day. If climate change is not taught, it is a choice instead to willfully turn a blind eye to nearly every facet of our existences."

CHALK FOR THE TRIANGLE SHIRTWAIST FACTORY FIRE

Written by: **Antonio Perez**



For the 2nd year in a row, The Williamsburg High School for Architecture and Design juniors/seniors are taking part in Ruth Sergel's living art that commemorates the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire. On March 25, 1911 the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire took the lives of 146 workers, mostly young immigrant women and girls, and began a movement to deal with working conditions in the city. This commemoration is a capstone for the students following a unit of study on immigrant communities at the turn of the 20th century and of the fire. This year our students are commemorating the lives of seven victims, many coming from the same neighborhoods that they live in.

On March 25th, 2019 students in WHSAD joined together to honor the memories of those who have passed. Students visited the houses of those who passed and paved the sidewalk in chalk in memoriam of their stories. We cannot allow ourselves to forget the tragedies that occurred regardless of how long ago. It is important that we remember and honor those from our past because we need to learn from their actions so we can improve. Because of the tragic fire, support of workers' unions was strengthened and, although horrifying, because of the fire, we have learned how to better prepare against catastrophe. Working conditions in factories are now more safe and have to comply by a strict set of guidelines, guidelines that were non-existent more than 100 years ago.



WHSAD AP **Mr. D'amato** had this to say about the chalking event: "When I started teaching in 2007, one of the topics my students were most interested in was the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire because it was young people who were involved in this tragedy. The victims of the fire started a movement in making the city a safer place to live and work in. This year, for the 2nd year in a row, WHSAD students took part in this living memorial to the victims of the fire, and I feel it's important for the students to participate in projects like this because they are keeping the memory and the story of the of the victims alive. Students volunteered to be part of this because they were inspired to participate. Some of the victims lived over 100 years ago on the blocks of the students who charked their names. Art like *Chalk*, by Ruth Sergel, makes people understand the past and if people understand the past we will not repeat the low points in history."



TIMOTHY KEELEYS INTERNSHIP WITH BAM

Written by: **Genavieve Ramirez**

I first started working with Brooklyn Academy of Music back at the end of February. My boss now Patrice had a information session so I went and received an application. The process was very crazy and fun at the same time. I expected just to learn more about the program and just meet new people. I was really excited everyone there was very open to get to know each other. It's very informative and fun, and it's also very busy and productive. If you make a commitment, you must stick to that commitment, and working at BAM has taught me that and so much more. I would return to BAM because I like it there. It's very fun and a safe space where I could be by myself but also interact with peers

AVENGERS ENDGAME

Written by: **Silas Rodriguez**



For the past decade Marvel has dominated cinema by bringing their most popular characters to life on the big screen in a way that entertained fans and non fans alike. Starting in 2008, with the largely unknown Iron Man, culminating into an impressive series of twenty-one interconnected films that have grossed \$18.524 billion dollars in total revenue. However, no film is possibly more impressive than 2018's Infinity War. A movie that quickly became a worldwide phenomenon. Even people who didn't care about the source material were engrossed by the feats that movie accomplished. This not only was a pop culture phenomenon but also a cinematic achievement. I fondly remember seeing it on opening day with my brother and realizing it was something special. This April the much anticipated sequel to that movie is hitting theaters and the pressure to deliver is on. The ending of the last film evoked emotions that are still felt today. The idea that these two movies are an end result of 10 years worth of storytelling (both good and bad) brought audiences together in a way no movie has in recent memory. In a weird way these movies almost feel like the end of something special. Marvel studios is most definitely not slowing down anytime soon, but to see the characters and actors made global icons by these movies and have one final film to tie everything up really makes the experience feel more epic. The atmosphere of the theatre during Infinity War was different from any other movie I remember seeing and that alone made the film unforgettable. Go-

ing into Avengers Endgame, I think it's reasonable to argue that it may very well be the most important film or at the very least most popular of the 21st century. After all the Marvel Cinematic Universe is now being copied by countless studios trying to play catch up to their success. As a fan myself I can't express how astronomically high my expectations are for this movie. And no matter where I go, I can't escape the endless chatter on the internet as well as the countless memes about spider-man. There is no doubt Avengers Endgame is shaping up to be a cultural event that will most certainly be remembered for a long time.

Q & A with E & A

Written by: **Errin Mickels & Ariana Lowery**

Q & A with E & A is an exclusive advice segment for the newspaper written by students, for students. Have any questions or concerns regarding school or your future? If yes, see juniors Ariana Lowery and Errin Mickels to submit your questions.

Q: What are some things that I can do over the summer? Which do you personally recommend?

A: Summer is a great opportunity for you to take advantage of the numerous jobs, programs, and internships available. Last year, I was connected through Ms. Wilson and was able to do a 6-week long internship, and I made connections with people I would have never dreamed of having. This experience is something I will carry with me for the rest of my life because I made meaningful relationships with mentors and other people in the industry. Along with the connections and networking, I also made a reasonable amount of money. You can make upwards of \$2,000 by using your time wisely in the summer. However, in order to make this money over the summer, you cannot be in summer school. Talk to Ms. Wilson, Mr. Auffrey, or your guidance counselor to find out more about programs such as SYEP, Summer Bridge, and more!

**Summer
Youth
Employment
Program**

Q: What are some ways that I can make sure my grades do not slip?

A: So you don't want your grades to slip? Well, we have the greatest advice and tips for you. First off, it's great that you're paying attention to your grades and GPA status. These are very important things in high school and can definitely go a long way, so kudos to you for being a great student. Managing your grades can be difficult, but one way to make sure that they don't slip is by, yes of course, studying. We know that it's weird sometimes to study or you may not know how, but no fear we're here. There are multiple ways to study. You can watch/search for videos on a topic you don't understand or even the class to be prepared for what you'll learn in the future. You can take or improve your note-taking skills so when an interim or quiz pops up you'll be prepared for it. You can also go to tutoring hours to discuss how to take good notes, receive help from your teachers, and ask how you can help. Teachers love it when they know that their students are eager to learn and maintain grades. Another way to make sure your grades don't slip is by CHECKING YOUR PUPIL PATH ACCOUNTS! It's a big chance that if your grades are slipping it's mostly because you didn't know it. Checking Pupil Path is also a big part in keeping your grades in check. One more way of making sure that your grades don't slip is by trying your best and creating a positive attitude. If you come into a room or test day negative, the probability of your grade being bad increases. And that's what we don't want. Of course we all have bad days, but don't bring it out in your work.

PupilPath
by **io education**

STUDENT PROFILES

Written by: Maya Ortiz & Mayra Gomez

WILLIAM CORDOVA - CLASS OF 2022



I believe I was chosen to be the student of the month because I've been working on 3 to 5 projects after school and during school. I finish my class work fast so that I could work on my projects. I'm dedicated to all the projects I get to participate in. I like to work with my peers and see the ideas that they come up with and see how we can work together as a team to create.

DILLON LYNCH - CLASS OF 2020



I really like to share my knowledge. If I know something it seems right to pass it on. That's my philosophy not only in the classroom but also the community. I like to say that I don't give up easily when faced with hard challenges to overcome. I instead use them as opportunities to grow and learn from the past. Through helping others and essentially passing on my knowledge I feel that I can help my community grow and learn as well.

MARLON CORRALES - CLASS OF 2021



In reality, I feel that I do some of my best work in all my classes. I also managed to help many students complete their assignments and remain focused on the culminating task. I always encourage myself to do my best in all my classes, and try as hard as possible no matter the challenge. That is why I also like to help others in class to make sure that they do not give up.

ERRIN MICKELS - CLASS OF 2020



My main goal in WHSAD is to use all the amenities given at the school to my advantage so I can succeed. I join clubs that I know give me the chance to progress in whatever field I choose in the future. On a daily basis I work towards doing my very best in every single class and maintaining a balance. To find encouragement I go to my teachers for answers and self-reflect.

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Written by: Antonio Perez



Ms. Spaziani

Q: What have you learned in your experience at WHSAD that has impacted the way you teach students?

A: That everything is connected. So the things that the students are going through in other classes is definitely connected to what is happening in my class when I'm with them. And the things that I'm doing with them when I'm in that class are definitely interconnected with the things that are going on in all their other classes. So just really recognizing that interconnectedness of what we're all doing all day and how it impacts each other has been something I've learned.

Q: If you weren't teaching at WHSAD, what would you be doing?

A: Teaching somewhere! I mean, I love teaching. I love working with students. I just love helping students to grow, to exceed, to see themselves get beyond what they thought was possible for themselves. To explore new areas of life and learn new interests. And to just reimagine their futures in better ways. I love doing that work.

Q: I know that you are heavily involved with community service, what is it that you like the most about helping the community?

A: It's a couple of things. I think it's really great to meet different kinds of people. I love seeing what other people are doing whether it's from different cultures, different age groups, or even a different side of town. Just the way different people are interacting, and their interests, and their loves, and their personalities. I love meeting new people and seeing how that all converges, and realizing that you're a part of that. Then I think it's really enjoyable to be part of making something better. Being able to go into a space or an environment and be part of that whether it's an afternoon of socializing or revitalizing a park, or helping someone with a problem they're having. Walking away from a situation knowing that you're part of making something better. It's such a great feeling. And seeing that it isn't something that any one person does, it's usually something that is the result of people coming together, and doing it together. I think that that is challenging but especially rewarding.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Thank you Administration for allowing students to have the opportunity to create a paper and have a voice.

Thank you Teachers and students alike for giving **The Column** a chance to flourish and thrive.

COMING SOON

- MAY 9th: Parent-Teacher Conference (Evening)
- MAY 10th: Report Card Distribution
- MAY 16th: SLT Meeting
- MAY 16th: PTA Meeting
- MAY 20th - 24th: Interim Assessment Week
- MAY 27th: Memorial Day (Schools Closed)

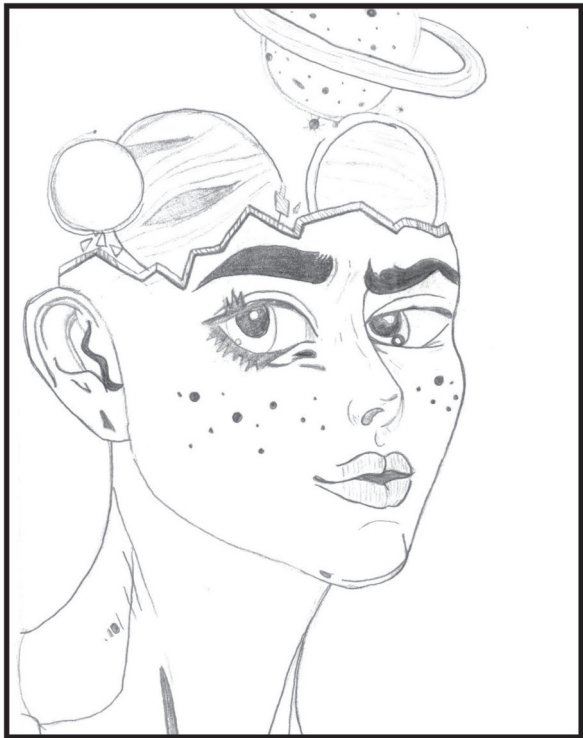
STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

you
the coldness of your gaze
what happened
where did I go wrong
should I have asked you
if I could take it back would I
because
we had something
I wanted more
you wanted nothing to change
now we have nothing
but do you care
because I do
I miss it
the warmth of your gaze

“you” Anonymous



“**GOTHITO**” Benito Montalvo II



“Girl” Marcus Sierra



“DBZ” Diego Sernadas