



The Column

Editor-in-Chief: ANTONIO PEREZ

Summer Internships

Written by: Antonio Perez

Green-Wood Cemetery Profile

Aedan Schoen-Thomas

Q: Where is it that you're working? How was it that you got the position?

A: I work at Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn. I got the job through WHSAD and our wonderful Ms. Wilson. So the way that I got into Green-Wood was unfortunate, but it worked out in the end. By this, I mean that I had originally gotten into Lampworks. But all the manager's left so I got transferred here to Green-Wood. Because of this, there was no interview process.

Q: What were your initial impressions/thoughts of your job on the first day? How has that since then changed/evolved?

A: On the first day I didn't necessarily have any good or bad expectations at all. I obviously knew from what I was told about Green-Wood, and from what I've seen others from WHSAD do here that it was a lot of manual labor. Especially that all the work, for the most part, is done outside in the summer heat. Since then I've really come to love the work that I do here. Especially working with a team to get our job done is always a pleasure.



WHSAD intern, Aedan Schoen-Thomas, working hard to extract a buried headstone from the ground

Q: What is your position at work? What tasks and or responsibilities are placed upon you?

A: At work my teammates and I all do the same job. Although, the specific jobs vary. For example we could be using old maps and data from hundreds of years ago to locate headstones that are possibly buried under the dirt.

Once we locate the headstones by probing with a metal rod, we use several instruments to safely extract the headstones from the ground. After that, we clean everything up and make it look nice and presentable.

Q: How have the skills you've acquired at WHSAD helped you strive in your job?

A: In terms of what I physically do WHSAD hasn't helped me much. Although when it comes to how I interact with my coworkers WHSAD has really come a long way. WHSAD taught me workplace etiquette and how to properly interact at a job site.

Q: What are some difficulties that you've encountered throughout your experience working here? How was it that you were able to overcome them?

A: I really enjoy that in Green-Wood we work outside. Although I enjoy

it, the fact that we're outside and it's extremely hot can become difficult to deal with. We have to take several breaks in the shade and with water more than once an hour to make sure that we don't pass out. The other day it was extremely hot and we weren't even working for a couple of minutes yet and we already had to take a break.

Q: Has your internship at all affected your plans for the future, in terms of career path?

A: I love working with my hands, and I've known for a while that what I want to do is work with my hands. My internship at Green-Wood has further shown me that when it comes to choosing a career I'll definitely go for something that is more hands-on.

Neighborhood Preservation Center Profile

Malachi Mcgarrel

Q: Where is it that you're working? How was it that you got the position?



WHSAD intern Malachi Mcgarrel showcasing the work that he has completed

A: I'm working at the Neighborhood Preservation Center and I got the job at WHSAD through an interviewing process. The interviewing process wasn't really hard, it was basically just asking questions off my resume and that shouldn't really be too hard to answer.

Q: What were your initial impressions/thoughts of your job on the first? How has that since then changed/evolved?

A: I didn't really plan out a depiction of my job on the first day of work, so when I got here, everything was just chill and quiet. Also when I found out that I was working in an office was

pretty cool. I really like my job though and it's an interesting job too based off of what we do. To be very honest with you I wish I was working here longer. And if I was given the opportunity to do so, I would.

Q: What is your position at work? What tasks and or responsibilities are placed upon you?

A: I'm an intern so basically what I'm required to do is answer the phone, answer the door, etc. But I usually write articles for the website and designation reports to the city about landmarks. And basically, the Neighborhood Preservation Center lets other organizations that are not in the Neighborhood Preservation Center come in and rent a space out and use it as they feel appropriate. And basically the designation reports about landmarks in New York City that we write, we have to write those for the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

Q: How have the skills you’ve acquired at WHSAD helped you strive in your job?

A: My experience from WHSAD has helped me out a lot because I've been able to effectively communicate with my co-workers and discuss what it is that I'm doing, and voice any concerns that I have.

Q: What are some difficulties that you’ve encountered throughout your experience working here? How was it that you were able to overcome them?

A: I really wouldn't say that I've had difficulty so far because the job that I'm doing everybody likes it apparently. Because I didn't even know that I was doing that much work and this good of a job. I just thought that I was doing what everybody else was, but they let me know that I was doing more than I really should have, so I didn't really find a difficulty, to be honest, it just came naturally to me. But if there was anything that went wrong or if I had trouble, I would talk to my supervisors and get it sorted out.

Q: Has your internship at all affected your plans for the future, in terms of career path?

A: Yes because outside of what I told you about this organization, it does deal with architecture and I do want to be an architect in the future. So I guess the books here I can read and learn about different types of architecture. And being that we deal with landmarks and looking at different types of buildings we get to see different types of architecture. Because of this, I am learning new things every day.

Art & Truth Written by: Silas Rodriguez

In order for art to have a positive change in the world, does the artist have to present the world honestly and truthfully in their work?

In 2004, the movie, *The Day After Tomorrow*, showed a world where global warming had somehow plunged the entire world into the ice age overnight. Depicting New York City as a frozen tundra overrun by wolves and all sorts of ridiculous threats. The idea of this movie is nonsensical; however, studies showed the film led moviegoers to have higher levels of concern and worry about global warming. This world presented to us was in no way truthful or realistic, but it certainly did have a positive impact.



Image from the June 16th Soweto Uprising in South Africa.

There are many more examples that could prove this point however. In 2016, a documentary called *VAXXED* presented the idea that vaccines were linked to giving kids autism. This has been factually proven wrong; however, the truth that was presented led people to ignore fact and not get their kids vaccinated. This does lead to another interesting question however. For those people who saw this documentary and aren’t aware of the facts, now see it as truth. For others their truth is that there is no correlation between autism and vaccines. Now look at an art form like photography. Although pictures can be altered it may be the

least subjective and most objectively truthful art form.

One perfect example is something like wartime photos. Take this iconic photo of the June 16th, 1976 Soweto uprising in South Africa. A photo that literally changed the world giving people a never before seen look

at the horrors of apartheid in South Africa. This depicts an unbiased in the moment photo of people trying to escape the massacre of a riot. The impact of this came from showing these people living their truth, a truth that was hidden from the world. Regardless of how one viewed the photo, it was hard to argue the facts the photo presented.

In a world where people can often be single minded, we need ways to expand people's views. Part of being able to grow and develop as a person is to always be learning and expanding your views on the world. Without art we might not have a way to do that. Art is the gateway to other worlds and truths whether that’s film, music, dance or literature. None of us would be who we are without the impact of art. Art has inspired revolutions and wars, but also has brought great change throughout history. I don’t think there is a true answer to the question of art having to be truthful as truth itself is subjective.

Understanding the SAT Written by: Jonah Vazquez

What is the SAT?

The SAT is a standardized admission exam offered by College Board in order to provide Colleges with a numerical scale (400-1600) in which they can more easily compare their applicants. The test is comprised of 4 main sections: Reading, Writing, Math without a calculator, and Math with a calculator. Let it be noted that there is also an optional essay that some colleges might require.

This test does **not** measure how smart you are nor does it measure how well you will do in the future. The SAT truly only tests how much you study for the SAT.

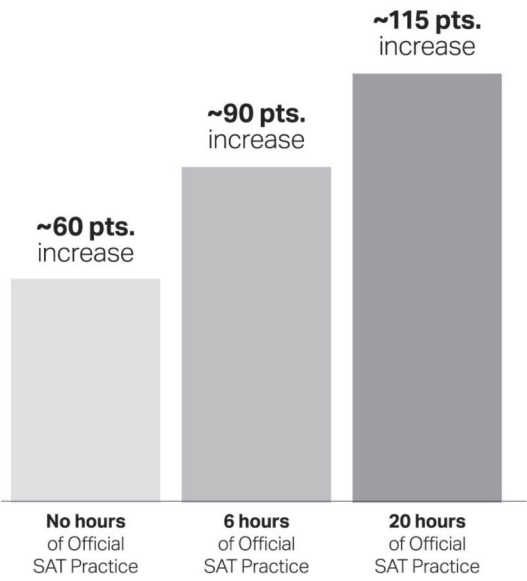
A Breakdown of Each Section.

-Reading: The reading section is the first of the four. This section contains 5 passages and 52 questions total, all to be done under 65 minutes. While it may seem intimidating, with serious studying this section can be conquered. The types of passages in this section will always be the same: Literature, Science, Social Science, and History.

-Writing: The ‘writing’ section is the 2nd section of the SAT which covers your analytical and organizational abilities with grammar. In this section, you have 35 minutes to answer 44 questions. Each passage has 11 questions, for a total of 4 passages. From my personal experience, this is the easiest section to adapt to as far as studying goes.

-Math (No Calc/Calc): The 3rd and 4th sections of the SAT are math, No Calculator and Calculator, respectively. The ‘No Calculator’ section lasts 25 minutes with 20 questions (15 multiple choice and 5 grid-in questions). The ‘Calculator’ section lasts 55 minutes with 38 questions (30 multiple choice and 8 grid-ins). College Board divides the math covered on the exam as: “Heart of Algebra, Passport to Advanced Math, and Problem Solving and Data Analysis.” For those who hate to memorize formulas, you’re given a reference with basic information on the very first page of each section.

-The Optional Essay: The essay portion of the exam lasts for 50



Access to early and ongoing practice matters is key to student success.

minutes. You will be given a reading in which you will read and analyze in order to construct an essay that explains how the author developed his or her argument. Two trained scorers will read your essay and score it out of 4 in Reading, Writing, and Analysis for a combined score of 24 (8/8/8).

Studying For The SAT

Studying for the SAT is especially hard in the beginning. Searching for resources that are reliable is important, but it is also important to have a reliable schedule in which you consistently hammer out your own mistakes. You will not see results immediately. Studying for a week or two may not be enough for some people, but do not be discouraged. Everyone has off days, and everyone learns at a different rate. As long as you dedicate yourself, you will surpass any limits you set for yourself.

There are many good materials for the SAT, but here are some that have worked for me along my journey studying for the SAT:

-Khan Academy

Khan Academy is THE go-to material for those beginning to study for the SAT. It's free! Not many materials you will find will ever offer such a decent quality of prep for free. Khan Academy actually worked in hand with College Board to create a bank of questions that you can use to figure out your weak areas and iron them out. You can also directly link any past exam scores to Khan Academy, and it will work to display what you need to work on according to that exam.

-The College Panda SAT Math: Advanced Guide and Workbook

This book had worked wonders for me considering how I had done on math beforehand. You can purchase this book on Amazon for about 30 dollars. Though to most people that may seem like much, this book is certainly worth it for those willing to read and work through it. It filled in many gaps in knowledge I had before while also providing practice questions that resemble what you might see on the SAT.

Q & A with E & A

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

Q: How can I more smoothly transition from middle school to high school?

A: Transitioning from middle school to high school is a big step forward that every student has to go through. It may feel overwhelming at first,



Don't be afraid to talk to others!

that can help with the adjustment are joining clubs or sports. Being in a club can develop the skills you may use in future classes or in your future career, widen your interests, and help you connect with more people who you have something in common with. Getting to know your teachers, guidance counselor, or upperclassmen can also help you make more connections and give you advice on how to navigate in this new school. Last but not least, remember you aren't alone. There is a sea of students that are being thrown in this new school just like you are.

but it's something that just takes time to get used to. The advice that I wish was given to me in my freshman year is to just relax. Yes you are in a new environment and yes, it may be nerve-racking, but it gets familiar sooner than you think. As long as you focus on your work and set attainable goals for yourself, and have a little fun, this new school will feel like home in no time. Some things to consider

Q: What should I anticipate in my first year of High School?

A: First off high school is whatever you make it out to be. Stress is inevitable but manageable. Three ways to make it through high school especially with it being your first year are: JUST. DO. IT. I know it sounds easier than it seems, but really think about it. When your teacher gives you something, why make a fuss when you can just do it and get it over with and perhaps learn something new that can benefit you in the future. When you have an upcoming test and you don't feel confident in your work or yourself, just go to the teacher during office hours and get reassurance and help. Just doing it goes a long way. It stops procrastination and it makes things go way faster, and I'm thinking that's what you want. I hope that you are excited about your first year as a freshmen in high school. Keep it up! It's going to be a really fun year. Another tip for you is to keep up your grades. Why start off slacking when you could be racking up great grades? In the future you'll regret slacking off because of colleges. Yes they mostly look at junior year, but they also look at your progress throughout the entire time of you being in high school. Another thing, expect to do community service. It's actually fun and even better with friends. You get to make yourself look good and also the school too. Don't be too nervous, everyone is new and doesn't completely know what's going to happen next. High school goes fast so why not enjoy it.

Interview with Mrs. Fields'

Written by: **Antonio Perez**

Q: Since it is your first year teaching at WHSAD what is it that you're anticipating the most thus far?

A: I'm most excited to meet the students. So far I've only had a few interactions with the students but I've been impressed. And I'm excited to meet the rest of my students. I'm also really excited to teach seniors. I haven't taught seniors in 2 years and I enjoy teaching seniors because they're in that almost-adult phase.

Q: Besides being a teacher what are some other aspirations, interests and or goals you have in life? Did you always plan on being a teacher from a young age?

A: I wanted to be a teacher starting when I was 16 years old. I enjoyed high school and I was very inspired by my teachers, so it was an easy choice. I know this is nerdy but I love to read. I'm currently reading *The Brothers Karamazov* and my favorite book so far is *Americanah*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. I'm also a poet and am currently getting my masters in poetry. When I have time, I like to do yoga. Although my son also takes up a lot of time, he is 15 months right now, so he's crazy. My other aspirations would probably be to get my poetry published. I hope to finish my Master's this year and I think I would like to become a yoga instructor.



Mrs. Fields' the Senior English and AP Language & Composition teacher.

Q: Lastly being an English teacher what are words of wisdom do you have for those students who are trying to advance not only their reading skills but preparation for college?

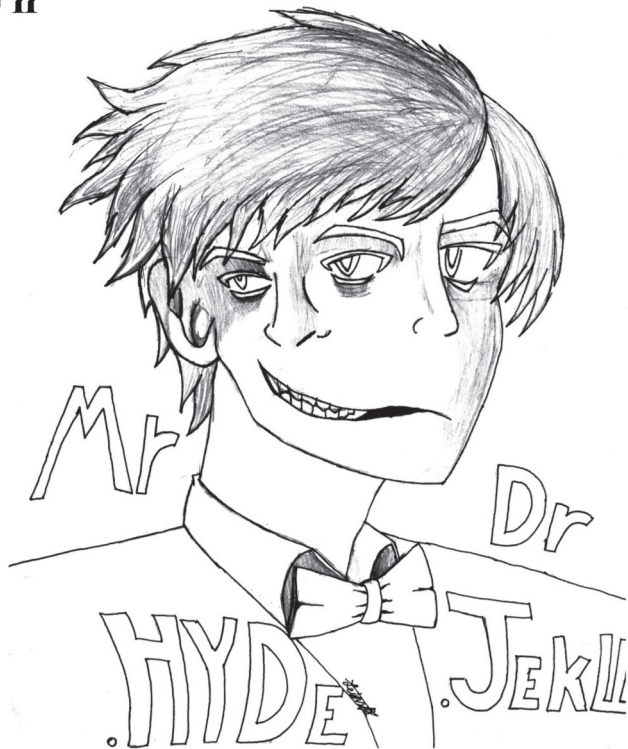
A: You have to read all the time! You have to constantly be reading. Reading things that are interesting to you, reading things that are challenging, reading the cereal box, reading the newspaper! You have to be reading. If you don't read, you will never improve your literacy skills and you will not be prepared for college.

Student Submissions

Curated by: **Benito Montalvo II**



Avril Marlana
Animal Farm T-Shirt Design



Leins Barthe
Untitled

The Gift

The gift of love is beautiful
But one day
They'll be a time where
The gift must be returned
And with the gift
Bears the fabric of our past
Fabricated by the memories we once cherished
But even then
The gift may also hold
String to rebuild
What we lost
That's why
I'll wait for it
The gift of love is beautiful

The Gift
Anonymous

Eyes Through One Mirror

Surrounded by repeating eyes
All staring, a gaze I can't overturn
I hate it, the eyes hurt
I hate it, stop looking
A gaze that sets me ablaze
A burning scarlet engulfs me
I hate it, eyes of discomfort
Eyes of disgust, eyes of disgrace
Yet those eyes are my own

I stare into each mirror
My image is more and more displeasing
These mirrors are whole yet,
Broke, shattered, cracked in me
Enraged, I smash my image
And I look and see myself
In each of the broken pieces of glass
Somehow I feel content
My differences are shown
Separate with one source.

Eyes Through One Mirror
Anonymous
