



Dear SLA-MS Community

Thank you for picking up the first edition of The SLA-MS Inquirer. This is the first ever newspaper for Science Leadership Academy Middle School. In The SLA-MS Inquirer we cover many things. Some of the things that we cover are news, sports, art, and opinion pieces. If there is news about something that someone is interested in, we will include it in this paper. We want this paper to represent SLA-MS.

If you are interested in joining the paper, we would be happy to have new members. We meet on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 in room 203. We'd also love to accept more opinion articles, questions for our advice column, or art submissions even if you aren't interested in joining the newspaper staff. You can email those to Ms. Hilary at hhamilton@philasd.org.

We hope this newspaper can keep our community informed!

From,
The Editorial Board of The SLA-MS Inquirer

Logan Gantz, Nicolo Montalto, Zephyr Brick, Bobby Daly, Rose Guinn, Lyra Hall, Max Kall, Lousia Leary, Mila Thomas, London Touhey, and Lucilia Wang

Welcome, New Teachers!

By Lucilia Wang, Mila Thomas, and Rose Guinn

Ms. Hilary, Ms. Nashedeem, Ms. Greico, and Ms. Duenues are only a few of the teachers who have been here for a year or even more! But, who are the new teachers? There are actually three! They are: Ms. Peoples, Ms. McCabe, and Mr. Powell.

If you want to learn more about them, this is the best article for you! Read on!

Ms. McCabe is the fifth and sixth grade science teacher for the Pathfinder team. She has been a teacher for nine years, but this is her first year at SLA-MS. Plus, she earned two undergraduate degrees. Before Ms. McCabe came to SLA-MS, she taught at Freire Charter Middle School. When Ms. McCabe is not teaching, you can find her hiking, reading, and running!! Before we go to Ms. Peoples, I just want to say that Ms. McCabe has a dog that looks like Scooby Doo named Vanilla Bean!

Ms. Peoples is a Phoenix seventh and eighth grade teacher, born and raised in Philadelphia. After she graduated, she began teaching in the School District of Philadelphia. Before Ms. Peoples came to SLA-MS, she taught at Austin Meehan Middle School! Ms. Peoples enjoys baking, watching TV shows and traveling to different places. Speaking of different places, Mr. Powell was actually from Arizona! Okay, well let's learn all about him, now!

Let's start it off with yes! **Mr. Powell** was from Arizona but moved here (you will find out why later in the article)! He is a seventh and eighth grade math teacher on team Zephyr. On the SLA website, it states, "He has previously had the privilege of teaching 7th-10th grade students over the past decade." And he did all of it in Tucson, Arizona, a few thousand miles away! Before Mr. Powell came here, he taught at Desert View High in Tucson, Arizona. He owns a dog and a cat!

Now that we know a little bit about each of the new teachers, let us dive deeper into what they think about SLA-MS and about the people in it. We interviewed all three of them over the past few days and asked them some simple questions, and now you will see what we asked, what they said, and more if you just keep reading on!!



Ms. Peoples

The new teachers do enjoy it at SLA-MS and like some thing in specific about it. We asked all of the teachers if they liked it and what they like about it here, and even Ms. Kathy! When we asked if she thinks the new teachers like it at SLA, Ms. Kathy exclaimed with a smile on her face, "Oh my goodness. Yes. Because it is very different and most of the kids like being here. Most of the kids enjoy being here so they don't give the teachers a hard time!" Ms. Peoples agrees! She said, "I do yeah! I enjoy the environment, the staff that work here, the students and a project based environment!" For the second question, she claims, "I enjoy the environment and the staff!!" Next, what about Ms. McCabe!! When we asked Ms. McCabe if she enjoys it at SLA-MS, she smiled before saying, "I do, I do, yeah. I really like the project based learning. It isn't like that at other schools. It allows students to do creative things. You can go deep into topics" She felt like she can really dive deep and commit to something she teaches the class. She answered both questions in that one! Mr. Powell said something similar. And, like we already heard, so did Ms. Peoples! For the first question, Mr. Powell remarked, "I do enjoy it! I really enjoy the fact that everyone gets to do so many projects." And his response to the second question just made us laugh. We interviewed Mr. Powell during lunch so, when we asked what he like about SLA-MS, he



Ms. McCabe

exclaimed, "I like that I can be eating lunch, and I can have a whole group of people coming and interviewing me, and that's normal." Well, to leave it on that humorous note, let's go to the next questions!

When we asked what is different from their school and if they like the children and staff, their answers made me smile. We asked Ms. Kathy if she thinks the new teachers like the children and staff here and she said, "I do. I think they fit in with our family." She smiled and then continued, "This is a family, you know that right??!" Next, let's do Mr. Powell and see what he thinks. When we asked what was different about his old school, he claims, "No projects were at my old school, and none of the other teachers talked to each other." We asked him if he likes the children and staff here and he remarked, "Yes, I do. I feel like everyone here has an opportunity to be themselves." Now, what do the other teachers have to say? We asked Ms. McCabe the difference between SLA and her old school and she said "Well, I used to teach seventh grade and now I teach fifth and sixth. They are very different from seventh and eighth graders. You are in a totally different place in your life. I kinda like 5 and 6 more because you guys are like sillier!" She laughed before we asked her the next question. For "do you like the children and staff here, she states, "I do like that this school is very diverse. I like how there is fifth and sixth grade in one class. Fifth can rise to sixth graders and sixth graders can be models for them." And, now for Ms. Peoples. For the first question she exclaimed "My last school wasn't a project based school. The flow was different. I only taught eighth grade!" After she said that, we asked her if she likes the children and staff, she exclaimed, "I do. Everyone is different and has different personalities!!"

Welcome, new teachers!



No Place for Hate

By: Zephyr Brick and Logan Gantz

No Place for Hate is a mission. It's something that we're working towards. Every year, we try to make our school a No Place for Hate school, the committee initiates projects to do every year, in order to prevent hate and bias.

Ms. Sharlean is our schools' guidance counselor, as well as the initiator of The No Place for Hate committee. When Ms. Sharlean was younger, there weren't many programs around anti-bias. For high school, she moved from California to Pennsylvania. The change was huge, especially because she wasn't in a very diverse area so she would be bullied and picked on because of her identity. The racial slurs and biased comments started on the very first day. It wasn't just in school either, she would be walking down the street and someone would yell, "Go back to your country". The sad thing is that this wasn't uncommon. Ms. Sharlean came here, aspiring to make sure the students here could have a different experience and to fight against this hurtful bias because she's experienced it, it's hard and awful.

No Place for Hate is designated to make you feel safe in our school and to minimize the amount of bullying and hate here at SLAMS. It's not just about the committee members but also about YOU! When you stand up against hate and you try to make everyone feel safe, you help so much. No Place for Hate is a lot about commitment, people who are committed and don't quit. You have to make the decision to work towards this goal. As Ms. Sharlean explained, "It doesn't work if you just commit some days, you have to do it everyday, it's an action." It's not just saying things but being an upstander and actively standing up. A huge part of the projects that we do, in part of getting the No Place for Hate banners, is making lasting actions that will impact SLAMS long term.

Ms. Sharlean's been in charge of No Place for Hate since the very beginning of SLAMS, all the way back in 2016! It first started when she heard about the program in 2013. At the time, she was working at a residential treatment facility. When SLAMS started, Ms. Sharlean had already been a part of the program. She used No Place for Hate to help build SLAMS' foundation and handbook. During the first few years of SLAMS, they had a pretty solid organization and structure of No Place for Hate. Then.. COVID-19 hit. In the midst of figuring out online school, there was also a question about how to keep No Place for Hate going. What kind of projects could be possible to do online? How could they recruit members if they can't get to really know a student? You see only their face and work, not how they interact with others. And so much more. During that time No Place for Hate was significantly lessened because they didn't have much of the activities going.

Something that Ms. Sharlean loves about our school is the diversity. People of different races and backgrounds, experiences and identities come together at SLAMS. We are all different in our own ways, we have had different journeys and experiences, a big part of making SLAMS a No Place for Hate school is making sure that "everyone feels emotionally and physically safe". Ms Sharlean believes that when students, and people in general, feel alienated, left out, bullied, or discriminated against, it can have a lasting effect on themselves and their mental health, self esteem, etc. and can be "hard to recover from". When kids feel safe and included, "they're going to feel safe to take risks and do things that you need to do in order to grow". If a student doesn't feel safe, that growth is stunted. That's a big thing that Ms. Sharlean wants to protect. No Place for Hate is a committee, working towards our mission to make our school a safe space for everyone, no matter what.

Clubs To Join!

By Mila Thomas, Rose Guinn, and Lucilia Wang

Wanting to join a club but don't know what clubs there are, what they do, and which fits you? Well, this is the right article for you! In this article, we will talk about some of the clubs at SLA-MS, what they do, and what the people who organize them have to say. And, who knows, maybe you will end up signing up for one of these clubs that is the perfect one for you, giving you a chance to connect and learn!

There are a bunch of cool and interesting clubs at SLA-MS. We're going to tell you about clubs and what they do!

- Newspaper Club
 - This is the club that is bringing you this newspaper that you're reading right now! In this club, you write and publish articles in a newspaper. This is after school from 3:30 until 4:30 and meets in room 203. Sign up with Ms. Hilary. This club is great for writers and journalists. Make sure you are ready to work!

Coding Club

- This club is run by Ms. Martin in room 219. If you like tech, this is perfect for you! You'll learn how to code and all sorts of cool computer tricks. This club meets on Thursdays. You don't have to sign up, you just have to come after school.
- Lit Lab
 - Lit Lab is a club about reading. This club meets in Ms. Grieco's room, 202, on Tuesdays... you'll be able to read and just have a fun time with other students! If you like reading, this is the club for you!
- Math Lab
 - Math Lab is a fun club to learn math. In this club, you learn all about math and can play some cool math games! This club meets on Thursdays in 206, Ms. Ironside's room.
- Students Run
 - Student's run is a running group to practice your running skills. This club is estimated to be starting in the last week of February and is for sixth through eighth graders. It is an athletic team that focuses on long-distance running. You'll get to train and run the Broad street run. All kids who participate get free running sneakers and gear.
- Pokemon
 - In this club, there are a handful of students who play pokemon on computers and phones. This club meets on Thursdays at 3:30 at 205, Ms. Tanner's room.

Ever wondered what clubs didn't work out? Ever wondered what it takes to be shut down? To find the answers to these questions, we interviewed the principal, Mr. Boyle. One club that has been shut down is the Beyblades club. Mr. Boyle said that people stole other people's Beyblades and "that was dumb". He also said that kids playing with toys at school is "just dumb". We talked to another kid who wished to be unnamed, and they said that people would trade Beyblades and then want them back, and the other person would not give it back. They also said that people would get the other person's Beyblade if they won, and if they lost, they would give it to their opponent. Ultimately, it was a mess, and it shut down. So, want to make sure your club doesn't shut down, or just curious about what it takes? Mr. Boyle said that "I have to deal with you until 3:20. If I have to deal with you after 3:20, that club is done." Basically, he means that he has to deal with kids' behavior until the end of the day, and after that, if there is a problem in your club, he shouldn't have to deal with that. So he shuts it down before it causes any more problems. Also, if there is a complaint from a kid or a parent, that club might be done and over with.

Do none of these clubs fit you? None of them fit your interests? Well, that's ok! You can make your own club! All you need to do is follow these simple steps! First, you need to know exactly what your club will be about and find a teacher willing to monitor/help start that club. Once you've done that you'll need to take a survey with that teacher to make sure your club is okay with Mr. Boyle. Lastly, you will need to advertise your club and have at least five people join your club. So if you just want to make a club to fit your personality, just do these five simple steps!

SLA-MS Boys Basketball

By Max Kall

In my interview with Mr. Familia (7th and 8th grade Phoenix science teacher) I asked him and his athletes questions about practice, games, and being on the team in general.

When interviewing Mr Familia I learned a staggering fact, SLA-MS was kicked out of the boys basketball league! Slams was kicked out because of lack of physicals. When you go to the doctor you would get a check up and test your heart rate and eyesight. Then all this information is put on a piece of paper and can show schools, sports teams or whoever is reading it, how well you can see or if you have an abnormal heartbeat. Mr. Familia says “In December the school district was asking for student physicals upon which the Student Athletes of SLAMS (SAOS) on the team did not have. Then because we did not have enough physicals for a roster (9 players) SLAMS could not be in the Philadelphia School District league.”

I interviewed Max- 13 power forward- about what a practice would look like for the team. He said “practice starts with a warm up routine made by Coach Familia. Then we would practice layups and shots, right and left hand. Towards the end of practice we would move on to different kinds of shots and 2,3 or 4 person scrimmages.”

In my interview with Mr. Familia I asked him what the mindset would be going into a game. He said “the mindset going into a game is to stick together, play our best and try hard.” He is saying that the players need to trust each other and try.

At SLA-MS Mr. Familia believes in student athletes. A student athlete, according to Mr. Familia, “is focused on academics first and behaves. The students represents themselves, SLA-MS, and their parents.” This is what a student athlete is and what he expects from his student athletes on the SLA-MS boy’s basketball team.



Photo of boys basketball team in action in a game

Photo taken by Ms. Dom



Photo of boys basketball team in huddle with coach, Mr. Familia

Photo taken by Ms. Ironside

Palm Oil Deforestation

By Rose Guinn

If you don't know what palm oil even is, let alone palm oil deforestation, you're not alone. It isn't that widely known, at least among kids. That's why I'm writing this article. To inform you and others about this problem we all need to know about.

So, what is palm oil? Palm oil is the juice of the fruit of the oil palm tree. There are two different types of palm oil: crude palm oil, and kernel palm oil. Crude palm oil is made by juicing the oil palm fruit, and kernel palm oil is made by juicing the pit of the fruit. Palm oil is in almost everything. Pizza dough, chocolate, cookies, packaged bread, ice cream, instant noodles, and margarine are just some of the foods. Some of the cosmetics are lipstick, shampoo, toothpaste, and moisturizer. Cleaning supplies like detergent and soap also include palm oil. Why? Let me explain in the next two paragraphs.

Generally speaking, palm oil doesn't have any color or taste, so it doesn't alter the food. This makes it even easier for companies to hide it in their products. It even comes by different names. Some of those names are sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium kernelate, sodium palm kernelate, sodium lauryl lactylate/sulphate, hydrated palm glycerides, etyl palmitate, octyl palmitate, and palmityl alcohol palm. They are pretty far from 'palm oil'. Also, it's semi-solid at room temperature, which makes spreads spreadable. It also moisturizes the skin and is sticky, which is good for cosmetics. Finally, palm oil has something called surfactants, which help take away grease and oil from surfaces (like clothing) which makes it great for cleaning supplies.

Specifically speaking, palm oil is in fresh or frozen pizza dough because it stops it from sticking together, it's used in ice cream and cookies because it makes them smooth and creamy, it's used in instant noodles because it pre-cooks the noodles, so all you have to do is add hot water, and it's used in chocolate because it gives the chocolate a shiny appearance and keeps it from melting. Palm oil is in lipstick because it holds color well, and doesn't melt in the heat, and it's used in shampoo because it restores the natural oils of the hair that is normally taken away by other shampoos. Palm oil is used in detergent because, as we said before, they have surfactants, which remove grease and other things from surfaces. Palm oil is also used in soap because it moisturizes the skin, and can remove dirt from hair.

So, why exactly is palm oil bad? It sounds like it helps us with everyday needs. And what is palm oil deforestation? Palm oil might seem pretty awesome, but think about where it comes from. Palm oil's in everything, and think about it, you'll probably be needing a lot of it to supply supermarkets everywhere with foods that have palm oil. So, people need a lot of space to farm enough palm oil—more than Malaysia and Indonesia (where 90% of palm oil is farmed) have, especially with all those rainforests. They're the most biodiverse on Earth. But, farming is farming. Let's cut it all down! And that, my friend, is what palm oil deforestation is. The cutting down of the world's most biodiverse and beautiful rainforests. To huge palm oil plantations. This endangers many species, including the orangutan, the Bornean pygmy elephant, the Sumatran rhino, and the Sumatran elephant.

Yeah, palm oil is pretty bad. But try going a day without palm oil! You're going to find it pretty impossible. We can't take palm oil out of our diet, at least not yet. Also, using an alternative oil will just move the same problem to a different environment. So, we can look for labels that make sure this palm oil is sustainably made. How can palm oil even be sustainably made? We'll get to that later on. The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, or the RSPO, is an organization that encourages companies to be sustainable in their palm oil production. They also encourage companies to be transparent in their palm oil use.

How is palm oil sustainably made? Sustainable palm oil basically means palm oil that has been made with the littlest impact on the environment possible. Trying not to cut into the rainforests, and staying in the designated area for farming.

Palm oil is a giant problem that is hard to end. I just hope that you will do your part by at least spreading the word about palm oil and why it's a big problem. You can also look for the RSPO certification label on the foods, cosmetics, and cleaning supplies that you use. Thank you for reading this article!

The Best Christmas Movie

By: Mila Downey, Edited by Louisa Leary

What is your favorite Christmas movie? Is it Home Alone? Is it The Grinch? Well my personal favorite is Nightmare before Christmas because when I watch a movie I expect five things from it.

One, good plot! The whole point of a movie is to lead up to some type of plot. For instance the plot in nightmare before christmas is this weird bug filled sack with eyes and a mouth is trying to kill Santa Claus and so the main character has to save them.

Two, a good villain. The reason you need a good villain is so the movie doesn't get boring. For example, the villain is really weak and has a weak plan. I hate this because it makes the main character look a little TOO good and can make it get boring. But something you should look for in a villain is that the villain does not turn out to just be misunderstood and turns all goody two shoes in the end. Because half the time the villain just says "oh, I tried to kill your friends but I'm all good now so I don't think I really will try to kill them even though I spent thousands of dollars on trying to kill them.." or something along the lines of that.

Three, THE VILLAIN DOESN'T SAY THE PLOT OF THE MOVIE OUT LOUD!!!! This just makes the villain seem pretty dumb. The only one excuse for this type of stuff is if the villain is being held against their will to tell the truth. Throughout the movie this does NOT happen.

Forth, the main character does not just avada cadabra now the villain's dead. NO, NONONONONO, make the main character at least try!!! In the scene with Oogie Boogie (the main villain) it starts off looking like Oogie Boogie might win BUT just as it seems like it's over for Jack Skellington (a skeleton and the main character) he pulls a thread releasing a cloth covering. The covering falls revealing Oogie Boogie behind a bag of bugs. Without his covering Oogie Boogie falls apart. This achieves my fourth point of the main character actually trying to defeat the villain.

And lastly, the main character is not overpowered. All I have to say is WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS?!?!? This is the most important thing to include in a movie, otherwise it ruins the plot, it ruins the third expectation in a good villain, AND it makes the movie much more boring.

The Nightmare Before Christmas has all of these things! This proves my point that Nightmare before Christmas is (at least) one of the best Christmas movies of all time.



Credit by IMDB

Book Review: Wonder

By: Nicky V. Montalto

Wonder is a book about a boy who goes to middle school... but that's not all. The boy, August also known as Auggie, Pullman was born with Treacher Collins Syndrome. This causes some changes in facial appearance. It made him stand out. From the time he was little, everywhere he went people would stop and stare. He was always homeschooled until he went to middle school. As the book opens, he's getting ready to start school and wondering, what would it be like in middle school. The answer? Bullies, that one kid who can not keep a secret, the monster under your desk, and lots of tough stuff.

Over the course of the book, Auggie gets bullied by a kid named Julian. Julian is a popular kid whom everyone listens to, so Auggie soon finds himself being avoided by the whole school! Auggie met a few people, one of whom became his friend. Auggie will soon learn how to find the right friends and how to stay strong... even when people mistreat him.

In 2017, the movie version of Wonder was released, but I assure you the book is better. The book includes so much detail and extra parts that the movie couldn't. For example, in the book, there was an incident where some 7th grader bumped into Auggie and saw his face. It showed how Auggie and his friend laughed it off. This is a small detail, but it gives it more detail and better pronounces the relationship Auggie has with his friends. The book stands out from others and teaches a lesson that branches out into more than just facial appearance. Today, after a long history, we face racial violence, homophobia, and much more. This book shows that you shouldn't let anyone's identity be a reason to bully or harm them.

This book teaches a lesson by showing what middle school can do to a kid, even with one tiny difference. But, it also reminds us that everyone is different - including you! Wonder can help readers better see how we unnecessarily discriminate and when we do that, we miss out on seeing the great parts of people. I hope you read Wonder. It's a great book with an important message.



Picture from:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wonder_%28Palacio_novel%29

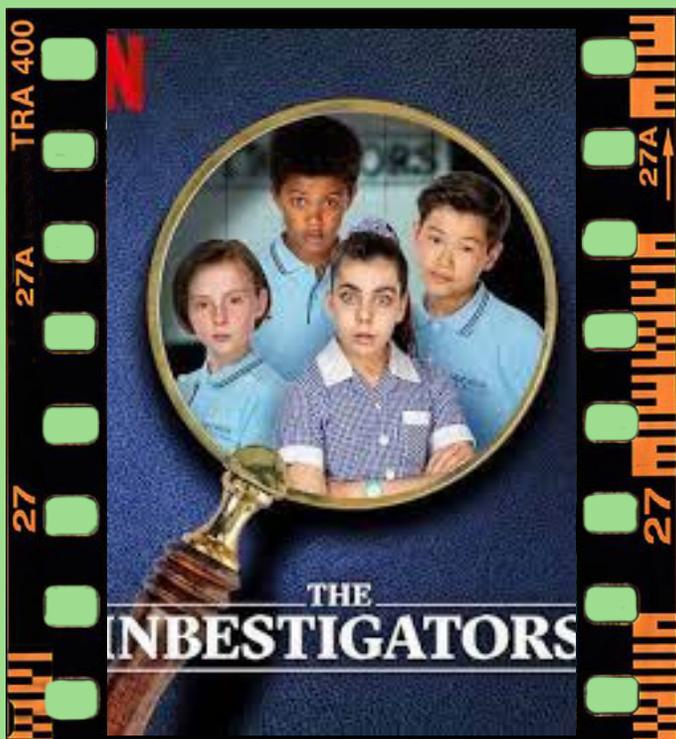
T.V Show Review: InBESTigators

by: Louisa Leary

Have you ever watched the InBESTigators? In my opinion it is one of the best TV shows for kids. The show is ideal for ages 7 to 12. The InBESTigators was first released on June 21, 2019 and has 2 seasons. Viewers watch as four 5th grade kids in Australia run around cracking the cases as they arise. These four kids are: Maudie, a smart kid and a people watcher. She always has a notebook on her that she takes notes in during the cases except for one episode. Kyle, not the smartest of the group but always funny and the main comedian of the show. Ezra, a tech whiz, a smart student, and always trying to crack the cases on his own. Last but definitely not least Ava, a GREAT friend, very creative, and always trying to raise money or help out in any way. Together they not only make a great detective group but a great TV show!

Why is this such a great TV show? One, it has interesting cases that will keep you on the edge of your seat! The cases are exciting and suspenseful but you won't have to worry about lying awake in bed.

The characters are diverse with lots of different interests, but they all share one thing... they want to crack the case! It has everything from comedy to mystery and drama! So next time you are wondering what to watch, hop on to Netflix and check out the InBESTigators!



This is a picture of the characters in the InBESTigators!



This picture was found on FlixPatrol

Legally Blonde

By: Bobby Daly

Legally Blonde is a romance comedy released in 2001 featuring actresses Reese Witherspoon and Jennifer Coolidge. The movie is incredibly funny with lots of surprises. We follow our main character Elle Woods as she gets dumped by her boyfriend after he gets into Harvard Law School. Elle decides she too must go to Harvard Law so she can win back her ex-boyfriend. She creates a ridiculous video about why she should be accepted and it works! Once at Harvard, she finds out that he has a new girlfriend (with brown hair!) who he thinks is much smarter than Elle. So, Elle becomes determined to show just how smart she is. Throughout the movie, she slowly starts to forget about her ex as she becomes more determined to be a lawyer who helps people. The movie includes lots of twists and turns as Elle faces new challenges and takes on a murder case.

Legally Blonde is a hilarious movie, but what are the scenes that are so funny? I chose two scenes to highlight that I believe are the funniest ones. Our first scene will be the "I'm taking the dog, dumb*** scene." This scene shows a character named Paulette (who you will meet later in the film) and Elle getting her dog back from her ex-husband. The second scene I will be talking about is The Bend and Snap. This scene shows Elle teaching Paulette how to do the bend and snap and then it breaks into kind of a song and teaches everyone to do the bend and snap.

After this movie came out a lot of people looked at it as a feminist movie but why? People thought this because this movie shows what seems to be this dumb girly girl getting a Harvard law degree. This movie shows women going to college and getting jobs that are mainly associated with men and are completely male-dominated. This is a hilarious movie and I would completely recommend you watch it.



<https://divinity.uchicago.edu/sightings/articles/getting-serious-about-legally-blonde>



<https://www.indiewire.com/2022/07/legally-blonde-selma-blair-lgbtq-ending-1234744455/>



<https://www.amazon.com/Legally-Blonde-Reese-Witherspoon/dp/B000VCLGBY>

By: Max Kall

Master of Puppets

This is a review of the album *Master of Puppets* by Metallica. Metallica is a metal band that was founded in 1981 and still tours and performs today. *Master of Puppets* is one of Metallica's best albums. In this review I'm looking at four songs: Battery, Damage Inc., Master of Puppets, and The Thing That I Not Be. These songs I am reviewing are some of my favorite songs from Metallica and are the best ones off this album.

Battery

I really like how this starts out. It is a calm strum of an acoustic guitar and quickly transitions to the same tune but on an electric guitar. It quickly goes into a duo with the guitar and the drums. Swiftly after that, James Hetfield (singer) starts the vocals. During the lyrics it feels like the guitar is flying off the walls. Then there is the subtle crash which I think adds a lot of depth to the guitar. Next the song goes into another guitar solo with high notes and it seems like a thrill solo. Then goes back into vocals with the entire band and the sound might make your ears pop. Finally a guitar and drum duo with a guitar riff to end the song. This song has the best transitions between instruments and it uses all its instruments to their full potential.

Master of Puppets

The song (all heard sung by Eddie from Stranger Things!) starts with a strong guitar solo followed by a drum riff joining in. This repeats for the rest of the intro. Then starts the vocals, aligned with the guitar and drums semi-perfectly. One thing that Metallica is known for is their amazing intro and this is one of their best. Then, the best part of the song, the drums kick three times and the guitar riffs three times in unison. The vocals are a little grim but with the guitar and the drums it gives you something else to think about. The vocals go on for a couple minutes and then smooth out onto an acoustic guitar slowly strumming a nice melody with the drums. Then, the guitar joins and makes an amazing soft melody. The

Damage Inc.

Damage Inc, which is part two of Battery, highlights it's drumming, while going easy on its guitar. This is unique for Metallica and this album as they usually use a lot of electric guitar. As a result, this song really stands out. The song starts off with an electric guitar power hum riff. After 30 seconds it goes into a drums solo crash. Then goes into an amazing guitar and drums duo. Then vocals join in and in some parts it stops quickly and the vocalist whispers Damage Incorporated.

After that there is a guitar solo. Then drums join in for around 30 seconds with vocals joining in quickly after that. The song falls to the sea and ends with a soft Damage Incorporated. My favorite part of the song is the crash into silence and I think others will be fond of it too. When the crashes hit everything else is silent. You're left to think about the song even deeper. There are more songs in the Master of Puppets album like: Orion, Welcome Home, and Disposable Heroes. This album is on Youtube and Amazon music. I strongly recommend checking it out.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_of_Puppets

Arts at SLA-MS

By: Zephyr Brick

Dr. Hull is our wonderful art teacher (in 210) here at SLAMS. Dr. Hull's curriculum has a variety of different skills and brings out new perspectives and challenges in her students. Her curriculum consists of 5 projects, Self Portrait, Origami, Color Wheel, Perspective, and ending off with a student's art portfolio. This art portfolio is a slideshow that consists of the student's work throughout the quarter; these slideshows are put on a student's 'Art section' of their overall middle school portfolio. This provides a collection that one can look at and see how someone's art and technique has changed. Every year a student completes these 5 projects but each year it gets more challenging. Whether it's more difficult origami pieces or a different approach to the realism of a self portrait.

Surprisingly, Dr. Hull did not always want to be a teacher, the idea had never even occurred to her. Her passion was being an artist. So, she followed that dream and went to art school. She had decided to graduate with a marketable degree, for stability. She had finished college with a double major and a minor in printmaking, teaching, and art history. Her first job was a waitress, then a house painter. The idea of teaching and being a teacher had never interested her until debt had caught up to her. Having debts and pursuing herself in a risky job, house painting, she was worried about money and hurting herself on the job, then not having health insurance. She decided to make the change to work in the School District of Philadelphia and "never believed that I (Dr. Hull) would be here 22 years later". When she was in school, she went to one of the best schools but it had unsafe and bad conditions. It made her furious. The water fountains produced unsafe water and the building was in terrible shape. She loves SLAMS and we're really lucky to have this building and such amazing teachers and she wants to let the kids here have a good experience in this school. It's her way of making a change, since she couldn't at the school she went to when she was younger.

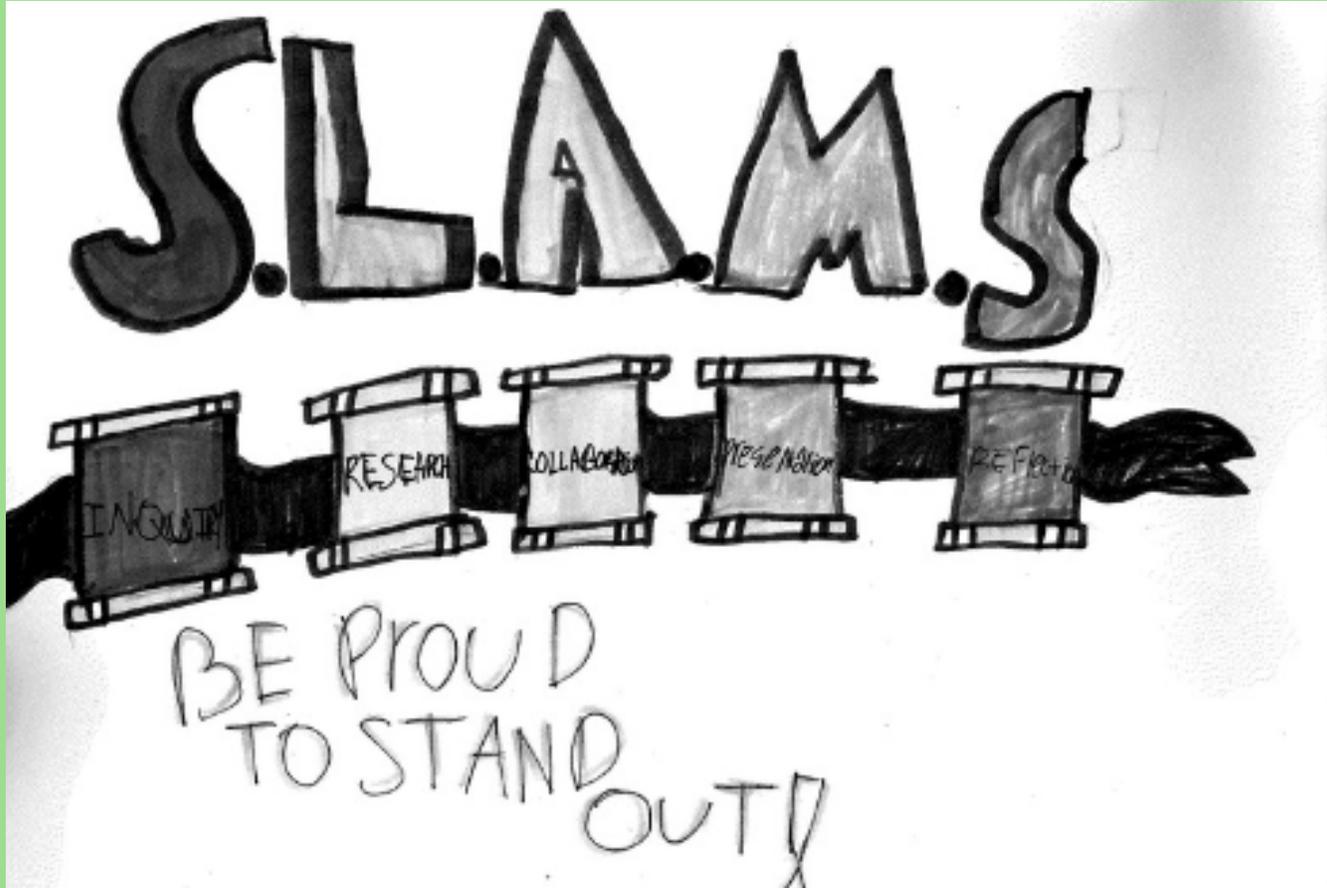
One of her struggles is, "kids that are good at art don't like that it's academic art and some people don't like art class." She wants people to see that there's more to school and academics, to be pushed. She finds joy in hearing kids be happy and seeing them make things they didn't know they could and that's a really special thing about art. For her, it's nice to be around people who are making art. It's wonderful to see how kids work and have a nice classroom to be safe and enjoy making art and being around people.

I asked Dr. Hull what her favorite thing about art was and she said, "SO MANY, too many to name." Overall what she loves about art is the act of creating makes people think that "their experience here is bigger than themselves" and making things that come through us and then out of us. Dr. Hull still does art in her free time. She makes art prints, still paints houses (including her own), and makes art with her son. Her favorite art materials to use are tools. She loves them all but tools are her favorite, especially with printmaking tools (inks, etc.).

Her favorite project to teach is perspective because it shows how to unlock a certain perspective in a person. Dr. Hull is blind in her right eye, things in space, with the perspective project she can make 2d planes 3d, it's like magic to her!

Dr. Hull is an amazing art teacher. Interviewing her, writing this, and overall, learning more about her was a very special experience! Thank you for reading this and make sure to check out the art submissions from fellow students here at SLAMS!

Art Submissions



By: CJ Jordan



Here are art submissions by people in our art community, here at SLA-MS!

If you're interested in submitting art for the next issue, contact London Touhey @ 10014956@philasd.org!

By: Ayinde Hayes

Our Advice for Your Questions

By: Zephyr Brick and Robert Daly (Bobby)

Question:

“How would you tell your teacher WITHOUT your friend yelling at you for being a snitch if they hurt you and refuse to apologize?”

Our response:

If they hurt you, especially after realizing and not apologizing, they're not someone you would want to be friends with. If people are hurting you purposely, of course you should tell a teacher for support. It's a very serious situation and can be complicated, especially if this is someone that you call a friend and will start calling you names. Two things you could do, First, tell the teacher and maybe you might want to break off your relationship with them if they're hurting you without remorse. Second, if you want to stay friends with them (especially because it's a difficult situation), if you don't want them calling you a snitch, you could ask the teacher to deal with it but without saying your name or revealing that you told them.

-Zephyr Brick

Question:

“How do you get a seventh grader that used to hang out with you to stop bothering your other friend that (you) are friends with?”

Our response:

I understand that you might feel like you're being rude or mean when you tell them to go away but if they are seriously bothering you, you should probably just say that or tell the teacher. You could tell them that what they are doing is bothering you and your friend and try to work it out. If you guys have agreed that you aren't friends anymore, I'm not sure why they're still 'bothering you', there might be some miscommunication. If when they are bothering you, they're being mean, I think you should communicate how you feel about that. If things continue to go on, just tell a teacher/adult. You also communicated that they are being mean to you, I don't think that's right. My final say is you should tell an adult. No matter what, please be kind when communicating with them!

-Zephyr Brick and Robert Daly (Bobby)

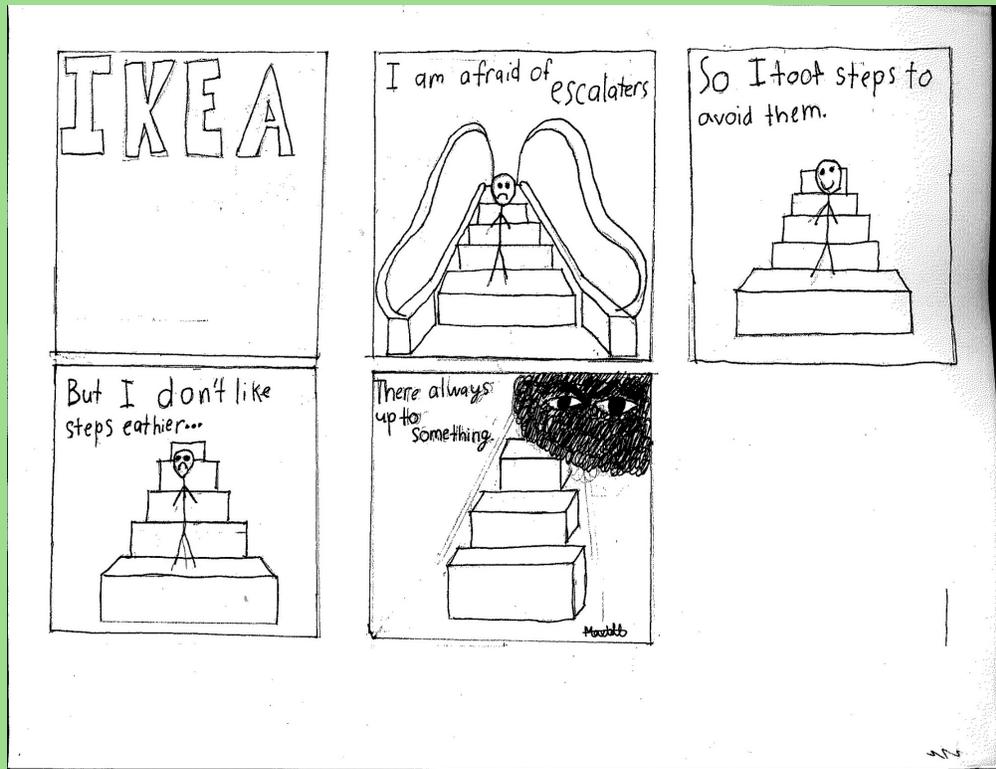
Thank you to those of you who filled them out, hope our advice helped!

If YOU want advice, fill out a form (listed below) and we'll answer it to the best of our abilities!

<https://forms.gle/htk47MJ1QzLwRjrWA>

Comics

Max Kall



A Journey



London Touhey