

# ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831

## THE TRUTH ABOUT AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

By Sophie Byerly and Faith-Carmen Le, **STAFF WRITERS**  
Photo by Ashley Branson, **PHOTO**

In response to years of institutionalized racism and discrimination, the U.S. government adopted affirmative action legislation to ensure equality in education and employment. Colleges and universities quickly followed suit, implementing policies to increase enrollment of women and racial minorities. Affirmative action reaches out to underrepresented groups and does much to ensure their success. Yet, in today’s world, affirmative action has become mistakenly synonymous with race-based college admissions. In November 2014, Harvard was sued for allegedly discriminating against

Asian-Americans. Harvard then filed a motion in 2016 to dismiss this lawsuit. However, just a few months ago, a federal court rejected Harvard’s motion, bringing affirmative action into the limelight once again. The students’ lawsuit echoes the complaints of many college-bound Asian-American students, who claim that the Harvard admissions office unjustly discriminates against them by giving preference to other minorities whose grades and standardized test scores are lower

than theirs. This opposition references an argument that has existed since the conception of affirmative action in the 1960s: affirmative action simply combats racism with more racism. However, this viewpoint demonstrates a fundamental misunderstanding of affirmative action’s purpose. Rather than seeking to discriminate against white or Asian Americans, affirmative action aims to encourage and facilitate the participation of historically underrepresented groups in higher education.

“At its core, affirmative action recognizes the importance of the context in which students achieve. Differences in [context] can put minority students at a significant disadvantage.”

At its core, affirmative action recognizes the importance of the context in which students achieve. Differences in socioeconomic status, cultural values and family situations can put minority students at a significant disadvantage before they even reach college. By attempting to account for these differences, affirmative action helps colleges look past the surface of students’ achievements and encourages underrepresented minorities to reach higher. Amid the controversy of affirmative action, we must pause to remind ourselves of its original goal: to establish equal opportunities for students of all backgrounds.

Affirmative Action up close pages 6-7



**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IN ACTION:** Seniors Jojo Liang, Jake Cusick, Ahmed Abdalla and Evan Patel (left to right) discuss the Common Application.

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**NEWS**

Learn more about this year’s unique Rotary Jog-a-Thon! Warriors ran across Fullerton to fundraise for polio research.



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**LIFESTYLE**

This year’s Homecoming is a masquerade, but how much do you really know about its rich history?



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**FEATURE**

From donning Day of the Dead makeup to celebrating the iconic Frida Kahlo, Warrior model Diana Santiago brings life to her culture wherever she goes.



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# Warriors run at annual Rotary Jog-a-thon

The recent Rotary Jog-a-thon featured fun Halloween activities to raise money for polio research through sponsorships.

By Tiffany Kim  
STAFF WRITER

Sprinting to raise money for both their clubs and polio research, Warriors participated in the seventh annual Fullerton Rotary Jog-a-thon at the Fullerton Union High School stadium Oct. 21.

Unlike previous years, this year's event directly followed Fullerton Rotary's first Pumpkin Run for Reading, a five-kilometer run co-sponsored by local charity Orange County United (OC United) that collected money and books for local schools. The Pumpkin Run started from the Fullerton Trails and ended at the stadium, where the Jog-a-thon began.

The event, which was open to the general public, also included performances from local schools' musical groups, a fun zone with prizes, opportunity drawing raffles, local vendors and a silent auction.

Students were fortunate to receive pledges from many people, families and organizations. Companies big and small, from Chevron and St. Jude Medical Center to local dentist's offices, sponsored some of the over 1,200 students who ran in the community event.

The large sum of money raised by Jog-a-thon participants, which totals \$240,000 over the last six years, reflects the community's philanthropic nature, Fullerton Rotary Jog-a-thon Chair Dan Ouweleen said. In fact, of all participant schools, Troy has been the lead fundraiser at the event for the last two years.

"[The Jog-a-thon] is for a good cause and it's an easy fundraiser for students," Ouweleen said. "That's what we're all about—to help the local schools, clubs and students make money and give back [to the community]."

Jog-a-thon is distinctive in that it requires less preparation compared to student-run fundraisers like boba sales, Warrior Cheerleading Captain Samantha Place, who ran in the event, said.

According to Place, Warriors' participation in the Jog-a-thon demonstrates their unique dedi-

START



MICHAEL ZHANG

cation to helping those in need, as proceeds directly benefit polio research.

"Troy is special in that sense," Place said. "We might have the good academics, but I feel like [we] are so much more than that. All of the people from Fullerton had a pink streamer to tie around

your arm to show that we weren't separate schools, but that we were part of a community. It was super fun and uplifting, and it was clearly important to the people [attending.] I don't feel like [Warriors] go so much for themselves; [they] do it more because it goes towards [a good cause.]"

FINISH



## The Wizarding World of Troy: Blasted Boggarts by Irene Yoo





# Theater Ensemble to perform “Tartuffe”

The production features a complex plot that intertwines love and revenge in a delightful comedy.

By Katie Nguyen  
STAFF WRITER

Showcasing its melodramatic skill, Theatre Ensemble will perform its first play of the year, “Tartuffe,” in the Thomas Moore Auditorium Nov. 8, 9, 16 and 17. Written by French playwright Molière, the play revolves around Tartuffe, who is infatuated with a married woman, Elmire. To woo her, Tartuffe schemes to scam Elmire’s husband out of his money and status. However, Tartuffe’s trickery fails, and Elmire’s family is left to cope with the troubles that Tartuffe has wrought upon their lives. “Tartuffe” was chosen to be the first play of the year because it highlights the diverse skillsets of the Ensemble, Technical Director Soham Patel said. This year, 80 more students joined the Theater program—60 technicians and 20 actors. Because of the group’s larger size,

actors do not need to take on both technical and acting roles as they have in the past and can focus on developing their characters, Kylie Powers, the actress who plays Elmire, said. “[My role] is one of the first roles that I’ve played the female heroine,” Powers said. “I’m usually the bossy character, but in the play, Elmire is the one constrained by society.” While the costumes reflect the opulence of Baroque-era France, the play still revolves around the humorous dialogue, which the audience will enjoy, Powers said. “Welcome to the French Shakespeare, ladies and gentlemen!” Powers said. “This is going to be such an interesting set to build because it’s in [the] French Renaissance, so [we have] a lot of nice details.” Senior Kera McKeon is looking forward to the audience’s reaction. “I really want the audience to have fun,” McKeon said. “Take a break from the stress of Troy. Kick back, relax and laugh.” Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are \$7 with ASB and \$10 without.



IDA KAZERANI

**LIGHTS, CAMERA, LAUGHTER:** Cast members Brian Royston as the nobleman Damis, and Kylie Powers as the lovely Elmire listen to Chloe Perez as Madame Pernelle criticize the characters’ lack of morals in Theater Ensemble’s “Tartuffe.”

## Alt-right speaker at CSUF impacts Troy bell schedule

The plan anticipates a controversial speaker’s appearance at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) next Tuesday. By David Hou  
NEWS EDITOR

District administration is implementing a minimum day schedule for the Warrior campus as well as La Vista and La Sierra high schools Oct. 31 in response to conservative provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos’ “Troll Academy Tour” appearance at CSUF on the same day. Yiannopoulos, a figure aligned with the “alt-right,” has previously spoken or attempted to speak at controversial events, including the “Free Speech Week” in September at the University of California, Berkeley, which ultimately was cancelled following

a spate of massive protests. District administration made the decision to close the schools early in cooperation with the Fullerton Police Department (FPD) and the City of Fullerton. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. and takes place at the Titan Student Union, which is directly across the street from the affected high schools, including the Warrior campus. Nearby schools, including Acacia Elementary School, are also closing early for the day as a safety precaution. The minimum day schedule will shorten class periods to 41 minutes each and after school sports and activities at Troy will be curtailed by 3:00 pm. FPD has also been in contact with state and federal law enforcement authorities to ensure there are adequate resources to protect students and local residents.

Class	Start	End	Min
Period 0	7:16	7:57	41
Period 1	8:02	8:43	41
Period 2	8:48	9:29	41
Period 3	9:34	10:15	41
Break	10:15	10:25	10
Period 4	10:30	11:11	41
Period 5	11:16	11:57	41
Period 6	12:02	12:43	41

## Warrior Robotics team broadens organization

The student group is developing its media and graphic design teams to boost student interest. By Alina Choi  
STAFF WRITER

Expanding student opportunities in technology, the Warrior Robotics Club has integrated new Media and Graphic Design subdivisions into its competitive teams. The Robotics team implemented these changes in anticipation of Warriors’ participation in the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, or FIRST, Robotics Competition (FRC) to be held next March and April. The Media team will be producing a short documentary that will be submitted for the Chairman’s Award, which is presented to teams who strive to positively impact their schools and communities, President Koichi Takara said. “Although the main topic [for the Chairman documentary] is the same every year, we change [our film] to showcase how much better we’ve gotten [and] the difference between [us and the] other teams,” Takara said. Being part of the Media team provides members taking the International Baccalaureate Film Standard or Higher Level classes or those interested in pursuing a career in filmmaking an opportunity to gain experience producing quality content and building their

portfolios. According to Media Head Sarah Kung, students can keep track of their film-related activities while projecting a positive image about the Warrior Robotics Team in the FRC. “Not only does [the Media team] act as a live resume for Troy students in film and media, [but it also shows] that we are really active in the FIRST community [by demonstrating] what we do on a daily basis,” Kung said. “We now have production and social media teams, providing opportunities [to join Robotics] to students interested in film and media.” Outside of preparing for the competition, the Media team also handles club marketing through social media accounts to keep members, sponsors and fellow students updated. Beyond the creation of a new team, Warrior Robotics has also expanded its existing Design team to incorporate a new graphic design branch. The changes within Robotics allow members to not only perform better in the FRC and other competitions, but also explore other fields of technology and experiment with different skill sets, Takara said. “Our slogan this year is ‘More Than Robots,’” Takara said. “I’m excited about the fact that we’re not just [making and programming] robots [but] expanding in ways we never thought possible, providing [students] with opportunities and motivation to join the club.”

### UPDATES

*Warrior places in international fencing competition*

At the USA Fencing October North American Cup, sophomore Eric Iwamoto took the Bronze medal in Division II Men’s Sabre. The four day event began on Oct. 13 and was held in Anaheim.

*Band and Color Guard place first at state band championships*

The teams placed first at the Circle City Classic on Oct. 21 at Centennial High School. Competing in Division 6A against three other regional high schools, Warriors’ score of 79.1 exceeded that of its competitors by several points.

*FBLA to attend leadership conference*

On Oct. 28-29, Warrior Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members will participate in the Leadership Development Institute in Ontario. Attendees will engage in student-led workshops in public speaking, resume building, professional etiquette and more.



# Leo Club hosts pancake breakfast

Joining forces with a local church, Warriors connected with the homeless at the event.

By Malika Pandey  
STAFF WRITER

Making a difference in the local community, the Warrior Leadership Experience Opportunity (Leo) Club participated in its first Feeding the Homeless pancake breakfast Oct. 21 at the Fullerton First Methodist Church.

During the two hour event, club members distributed pancakes and visited the guests attending the breakfast.

The youth division of the service group Lions International, Leo Club aims to provide youth with opportunities for development and service as members of the community. The organization launches community service projects directed towards its various focuses, or areas in which it concentrates its efforts, which include poverty, environment, education, health and hunger.

As part of its efforts to combat hunger, the Warrior Leo Club offered members the opportunity to participate in the church’s bi-monthly pancake breakfast. The club decided to add the event this year because of members’ interest in aiding the homeless community.

In early September, the Ana-



ASHLEY BRANSON

**MADE WITH LOVE:** After going through the buffet line, Leo Club Co-President Aanvi Jhaveri takes prepared plates to a table to be served to guests at the Feeding the Homeless pancake breakfast.

heim City Council declared a state of emergency in response to the city’s growing homelessness crisis, specifically the number of encampments near Angel Stadium. Recognizing the need to address Orange County’s growing homeless population, Co-President Aanvi Jhaveri felt Leo

Club had to help the community however it could.

“This [event] is a way to help [the homeless],” Jhaveri said. “I feel very grateful to have the opportunity [to give back to the community].”

According to Co-President Kelly Nguyen, the club will par-

ticipate in the pancake breakfast again because it provided members the opportunity to directly connect with the community, a major objective of the club. The breakfast helped students form a more personal connection to a cause than at a typical service event, Nguyen said.

According to Jhaveri, attendees have sought to be more considerate in their daily life.

“Many people aren’t able to [talk and interact] with homeless people,” Jhaveri said. “I want [participants] to look at homeless people not as separate from us, but as a part of the community.”

## The Troy Difference

is about excellence, lifelong preparation, and community.

### TEAM TROY gifts by the numbers

**183**  
AVID Students impacted by the AVID Mentor Program

**\$5,000**  
Mentors work one-on-one with students to guide them successfully into honors & AP courses

**27**  
Students received scholarships from PTSA for their college futures

**\$2,700**  
To students who made an impact on Troy during their four years

**30,000+**  
Hours spent in the Library during extended hours before and after school

**\$6,400**  
Student access to a safe and supportive environment is vital to our Troy culture.

**100%**  
of Teachers attended multiple trainings by Digital Literacy Coaches

**\$6,000**  
Trainings to fully integrate 1:1 Chromebook into the curriculum

**2,685**  
Students will enjoy Library upgrades

**\$15,000**  
Upgrades in furniture, moving towards the larger vision of the Troy Commons

**440**  
Troy Tech Students impacted by Pre-Internship Coaches

**\$12,000**  
Coaches assist in securing internships and support students during summer work.

**2,685**  
Students benefited from new furniture in 500 Building

**\$10,000**  
Spaces for collaboration and relaxation are a part of a larger vision for the Troy Commons

**3,860**  
Volunteer hours from our awesome Troy families

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# OVER LOOK

Make sure you're not missing out on the best releases from non-major label artists today. Here are three sentence reviews of three albums released in the past three weeks!

By Christopher Lee, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR




WOLF PARADE

CRY CRY CRY

Cry Cry Cry  
- Wolf Parade

Pre-blog rock bands like the National or Clap Your Hands Say Yeah have been having their best year since 2005, and it is fitting that Canadian indie rock darling Wolf Parade joins in on the party. “Cry Cry Cry” is a project more pragmatic than anything the band has released ever before, creating a new sound from the spastic peculiarities that filled their earlier albums. Expect some excellent, existential crises inducing songs from the newly middle-aged. 7.8/10



The Ooz

- King Krule

Archy Marshall is an enigma of an artist, recording under a variety of aliases from Zoo Kid to King Krule. Every album so far indicated his quick development as an artist, but “The Ooz” is his declaration of maturity, a nauseating 66 minutes of controlled chaos. The album makes its point, not with one definitive sound, but with an innumerable variety of musical styles as well as distinctive textures, all of which serve to present the Krule King. 9.3/10



DESTROYER

ken

ken  
- Destroyer

As one of the most evocative songwriters of his generation, Dan Bejar of Destroyer brings to the table an undeniable noir-esque sleaziness with “ken.” His lyrical work on the record isn’t particularly narrative, nor is it engaged with the self; though this is a revolutionary approach in modern music, it still does an excellent job of evoking all the right emotions. Listen to both “ken” as well as 2011’s “kaputt” to hear the smooth connoisseur at work. 8.1/10

# AN ART MOST UNAPPRECIATED



Clockwise from top-left: “Pan’s Labyrinth,” “Edward Scissorhands,” “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” and “The Wizard of Oz.”

In an era where computer-generated imagery reigns supreme, it is ever more important to appreciate the special effects makeup artists that set the scene for anything from “Guardians of the Galaxy” to Knott’s Scary Farm.

By Jois Talla, STAFF WRITER

Some of our favorite characters in movies and television wouldn’t be what they are today without the use of special effects (SFX). Recently, computer-generated imagery (CGI) has come to the forefront of SFX technologies, creating fantastic worlds and distorting ordinary features to the point of being unrecognizable. But long before computers, the film industry had been producing incredible movies solely using makeup. As an audience, the public tends to overlook the raw artistry of special effects makeup and how far it has come since the beginning of cinematic history.

Since the twentieth century, SFX makeup has transformed our favorite actors and actresses into monsters, supernatural entities and other surreal characters. However, prior to the 1930s, the lack of professional cinematic cosmetics left actors to do their own makeup. This gave Lon Chaney—known as “The Man with a Thousand Faces”—a unique advantage. Chaney, both a talented actor and makeup artist, used wax, greasepaint, wigs and false-teeth to portray famous characters in films like “The Phantom of the Opera” (1917) and “The Hunchback of Notre Dame” (1923).

Chaney’s eerie appearances were beloved by fans and critics alike, and the films’ popularity led Universal Studios

to produce more serious horror movies. These frightening films were the start of a movement of movie monsters that would inspire many makeup artists, beginning with one Jack Pierce.

The former head of Universal’s Cosmetics Department, Pierce was an avid follower of Chaney’s art, and invented various methods himself. Though it wasn’t until the late 1930s that Hollywood popularized the easily applicable foam latex appliances, Pierce was using his arsenal of innovative techniques to bring now-classic movie monsters to life. His iconic design of Frankenstein’s monster took six hours to create, most of the time spent layering cotton and collodion (scarring liquid) to create the headpiece. And though the monster in “The Mummy” (1932) appeared for only a brief second, that unforgettable moment in cinematic horror was worth the eight hours spent placing the bandages onto the actor.

However, SFX makeup innovations in film weren’t recognized in Hollywood until Rick Baker was awarded the first ever Academy Award for Best Makeup and Hairstyling through his work in “An American Werewolf in London” (1981). The famous werewolf movie features a grotesque scene that displays the excruciating transformation of man-to-werewolf. The scene shows every hair follicle, cracked

vertebrae and unnaturally elongated bone, and the effect was done solely with makeup and animatronics.

Although modern movies today rely heavily on CGI, makeup remains critical in making actors look authentic to the world around them. Recently, movies and television series like “X-Men: Days of Future Past,” “Lord of the Rings” and “The Walking Dead” have used a combination of CGI and SFX makeup, allowing for more realistic imagery that immerses the audience.

However, the extent of SFX makeup isn’t just limited to the screen. Six Flags’ Fright Fest, Knott’s Scary Farm and Universal’s Halloween Horror Nights transform their actors into spine-chilling characters, and even Disneyland’s Halloween Time recreates its movie villains with SFX makeup. Often, the makeup artists are given half an hour to complete an actor’s look, and despite the short time frame, the characters that roam the park still look frighteningly realistic.

Learning SFX makeup techniques has become easier than ever thanks to the Internet. With effects ranging from a gunshot wound to a decomposing face, SFX makeup can bring a basic Halloween costume to the next level of fright. So whether it’s for the screen, the scare or the special occasion, SFX makeup is the sure-fire way to bring art to life.



# Affirmative Action

The Opinion page staff presents a more comprehensive look at affirmative action.

Compiled by Julianne Kim & Lex Park, **OPINION EDITORS**, articles by Faith-Carmen Le & Sophie Byerly, **STAFF WRITERS**, photos by Ida Kazerani & Michael Zhang, **PHOTO**, graphics by Tu-An Nguyen & Phoebe Um, **GRAPHICS**, and images courtesy of Google Images

## is it hurting or helping?



the answer is  
a little  
complicated.

### Tracing the History of Affirmative Action

Originally, the idea of race-conscious admissions was developed by former Harvard president A. Lawrence Lowell in 1922: however, his intention was not to benefit minorities. Rather, he wanted a predominantly white Protestant population at Harvard, which was threatened by a growing number of high-achieving Jewish students. According to the New York Times, Lowell claimed the large Jewish student body would “ruin the college,” and set out to reduce Jewish enrollment at Harvard. As a result, Harvard stated admissions would be based on the “character and fitness” of students rather than academics, allowing the admissions committee to limit Jewish acceptance.

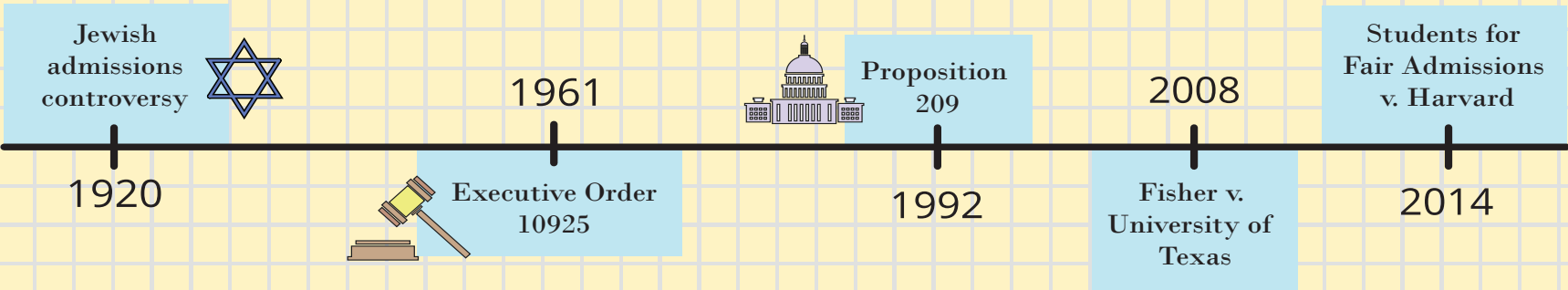
Affirmative action was truly formalized in the 1960s, when racism was brought to the forefront of society by activists. Faced

with pressing protests over discrimination in America, President John F. Kennedy passed the 1961 Executive Order 10925, which states that government contractors must “take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, creed, color or national origin.” Thus, this order officially launched the term “affirmative action.”

In following years, more colleges and universities began adopting affirmative action related policies in their admission processes, facing opposition from students who felt disadvantaged due to the policy.

Numerous lawsuits have been filed against affirmative action by students who have contended that the policy is unfair. In particular, Proposition 209 was passed in California because many claimed the policy was discriminatory and granted preferential treatment to Mexican and African Americans. Consequently, universities could not implement affirmative action when accepting students.

More recently, in 2008, a number of white students argued before the Supreme Court that the University of Texas (UT) denied them admission because their Caucasian race would not promote student diversity. In 2016, the Supreme Court ultimately ruled in favor of UT, but emphasized its affirmative action policies must be more strictly evaluated so race is not a measure to diversify the student body.



**Affirmative action means predetermined ethnic quotas.**

Though some mistakenly believe that colleges admit students of certain ethnicities simply to fulfill a count, the Supreme Court ruled in 1978 that racial quotas are unconstitutional. Ethnicity can be one factor that college admissions officers examine, but their final decisions are never solely based on ethnicity. Furthermore, colleges are not even allowed to consider ethnicity in admissions unless they have proven that other strategies, such as lowering requirements for test scores, have not increased diversity.

### ..... Bustin' Myths .....

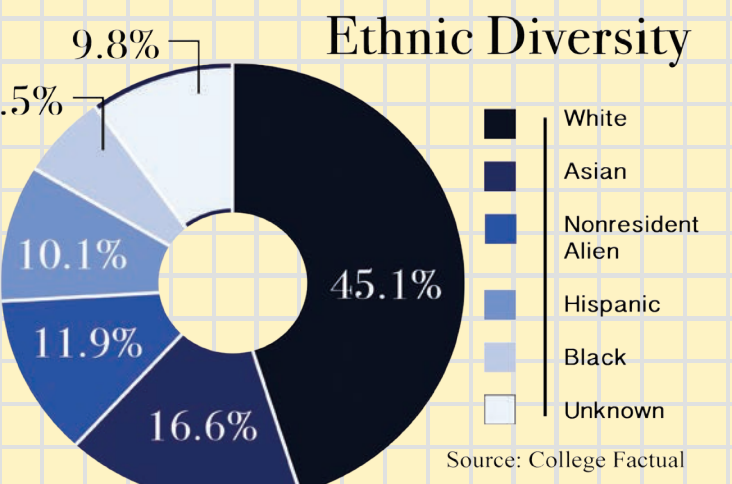
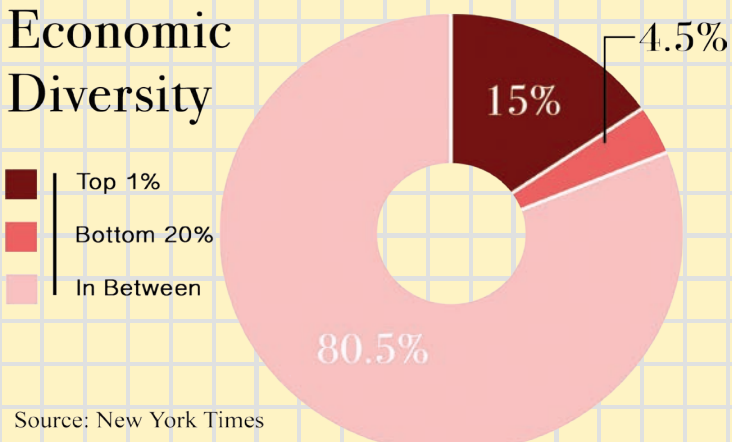
**It's no longer needed since minority enrollment has already increased.**

Clearly, racism is still a prevalent issue in America. After removing affirmative action, the UC Berkeley and UCLA populations of African Americans significantly reduced to 3 percent within two years of the policy's removal. Although minority enrollment has recently increased, eliminating affirmative action will simply cause the minority population to drastically reduce, taking away the effects of a beneficial change.

**Affirmative action helps only African Americans.**

False! Affirmative action extends beyond one ethnicity. Many groups of people face academic barriers. To combat this inequality, affirmative action aids students who face systemic racism and sexism, which may hinder their access to higher education. Through affirmative action, underrepresented groups including women, Native Americans and Latinos have increased representation at many institutions of higher learning.

### Breakin' Down Harvard's...



Specifically, the discrimination lawsuit asserts that the university limits the number of Asian-Americans admitted to maintain student population diversity. The movement is led by the nonprofit group Students for Fair Admissions and spearheaded by legal strategist Edward Blum. Notorious for advising on landmark racial discrimination cases such as the 2008 UT case, Blum has adamantly voiced that white students are disadvantaged by the admissions policies of certain colleges. However, Blum's decision to stand behind Asian-Americans for the Harvard lawsuit has shifted the focus of affirmative action from the com-

plaints of white students to those of Asian-Americans.

Blum's organization has also established the website [harvardnotfair.org](http://harvardnotfair.org), which provides students rejected by Harvard with a platform to relate their grievances. According to the nonprofit group, higher-achieving Asian-American students were unfairly denied admission—while the school accepted lower-achieving African American and Hispanic students. Instead of affirmative action, they suggest “race neutral” policies, which consider socioeconomic background while boosting financial aid and scholarships.



### the FUTURE



Although affirmative action attempts to equalize the playing field of academic admissions policies, the Harvard lawsuit does highlight its unintended consequences. But giving up on affirmative action would only be reversing progress. As the University of California (UC) system demonstrated when it abandoned ethnicity-conscious admissions in 1998, the absence of affirmative action is detrimental to many minorities' enrollment rates. Twelve years after the UC system banned affirmative action, Hispanics accounted for only 11 percent of Berkeley freshmen, despite constituting 49 percent of the college-age population in California. By removing affirmative action, colleges could be edging underrepresented racial minorities out of higher education. How-

ever, the backlash against affirmative action does signal that it may need to be amended. Though it may seem to increase racial diversity, affirmative action does not always ensure socioeconomic diversity. According to research by Derek Bok, a former president of Harvard, 86 percent of African-American students in highly selective colleges are middle or upper class. Perhaps, shifting the focus of affirmative action from ethnicity to socioeconomic status could provide a more diverse student body.

Either way, the Harvard lawsuit serves as a reminder that affirmative action as we know it faces an uncertain future. Major changes in the way affirmative action addresses the nation's current demands may be on the horizon.






# Behind the Masquerade Mask



Homecoming is traditionally celebrated with over-the-top outfits, polished hairstyles and carefully posed photos. But one element about this year’s dance renders it particularly memorable: the masks.  
Read on to learn more about the essence of the masquerade mask.

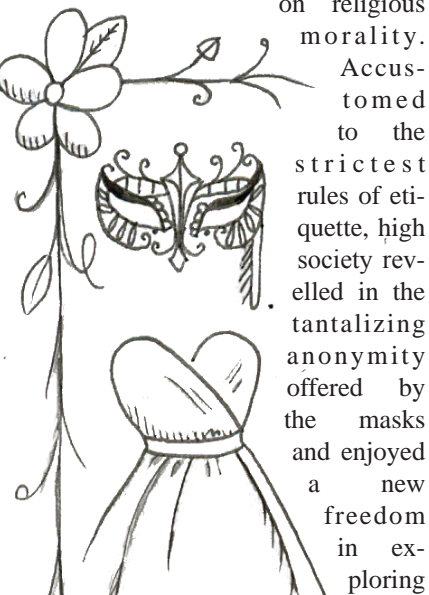
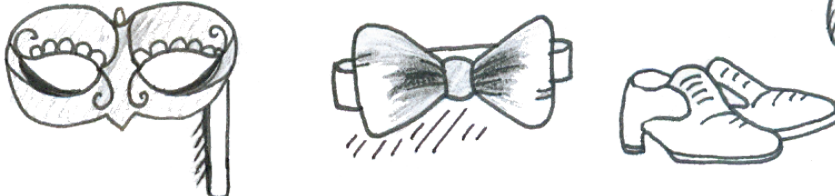
By Ariana Chow & Angelica Sano, ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR & STAFF WRITER, cartoons by Irene Yoo, CARTOON, and photos courtesy of Etsy



Beloved film favorites “Romeo and Juliet” and “A Cinderella Story” highlight the masquerade mask’s attention-grabbing audacity and ability to spice up blasé, stale party ensembles. Yet, as prevalent as the masquerade motif may be in modern pop culture, the concept itself is rarely recognized for its rich history. Considering the mask’s thriving presence in romance genres, it’s a wonder as to why its origins are so often disregarded.

The abstraction of the masquerade originated in late 15th century Italy as a popular theme for weddings, balls and coronations. The pageantry and elitism found in the earliest masquerades gave birth to the mask tradition—a crusade against the Middle Ages’ emphasis on religious morality.

Accustomed to the strictest rules of etiquette, high society revelled in the tantalizing anonymity offered by the masks and enjoyed a new freedom in exploring



the taboo realms of scandal and vice that resulted from Renaissance secularism.

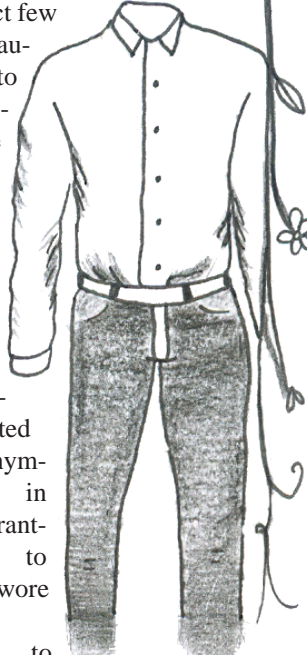
In a world where social media invariably puts people’s lives up for display, it’s almost refreshing to remember that there was a point in history where privacy was so coveted. Though seemingly counter-intuitive to our modern values, the masquerade mask was a useful way of keeping identities and secrets away from prying eyes. If the publicity became exhausting, party-goers could simply don their masks and disappear swiftly into the crowd.

As the age of masquerade balls arrived in the 16th century, the tradition began to resemble the one we know today, brimming with dancing, gossip and drama. By this time, masks were being made with velvet or clay and decorated with feathers and colored beads. This development eventually led to the first semi-public masquerade ball, eventually sparking a trend in London. As the tradition spread, so too did the popularity of the masquerade.

The masquerade mask also signifies a significant part of African culture. According to the 1997 Festival of American Folklife Program Book, masks were generally worn by men to symbolize strength and valor—qualities then thought to be exclusive to men—during the Nigerian Ofrima Masquerade. Men, who were often determined to stress their masculinity, would chastise local troublemakers, send positive messages during nerve-racking events and mourn the dead. While wearing the masks, they were considered sacred;

and the select few with the authority to wear masquerade masks were granted the highest levels of prestige. Just as the first masquerades granted people anonymity, masks in Africa granted respect to those who wore them.

Contrary to popular belief, history tends to be the unpaved road to truth—and the masquerade is no exception. By only recognizing it as a party theme, we soil the nuance of the “masquerade.” It is important to appreciate the masquerade’s roots and implications and to truly value this underappreciated tradition. So before getting dressed and heading to Homecoming, take a moment to unmask the truth behind the masquerade.



HOMECOMING 2017  
UNMASK THE NIGHT  
OCTOBER 28  
7:30 P.M.

## Fashion Feature

Check out Oracle’s inside look at the most stylish kids representing campus chic.

By Ariana Chow, ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR, and photo by Michael Zhang, PHOTO



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“My fashion style is predominantly reflective of and influenced by my religion, Islam. I’m Muslim, which requires me to dress modestly. I know my boundaries in terms of clothing and work hard to communicate my style within them. When I pick out my outfits, I center around what top I want to wear. If I’m wearing a dress, I’ll throw on some leggings. Black or navy pants work well with darker tops, and light wash jeans pair perfectly with boho chic, brighter outfits. From there, I just accessorize!”



# Timeless Beauty

Strutting confidently down the runway at the Metropolitan Fashion Week and the Hollywood Forever Cemetery, senior Diana Santiago brings her Hispanic culture to life through modeling.

By Charlis Clark, STAFF WRITER



Cartoon by Lucy Lee,  
CARTOON EDITOR

Photos courtesy of  
Diana Santiago



With intricate floral designs and bold strokes of color painted on her face, senior Diana Santiago is a living embodiment of art. The allure of the runway has never failed to mesmerize Santiago. Each costume she modeled is unique; she takes on an entirely different persona every time she steps on stage. Whether she's celebrating Frida Kahlo or Día de los Muertos, it's Santiago's Hispanic heritage that ties all her looks together.

When she was younger, Santiago was not the outgoing woman she is today. Shy and insecure, she slouched to avoid drawing attention to her notable height. But when she was invited to her friend's fashion show in middle school, her eyes were opened to a new world where her height was something to be proud of. With that image in her mind, she signed up for modeling classes. Be yourself, she was told. "I want to be myself, and I'm a different person [when I model]," Santiago said. It was a life-changing moment in Santiago's career when designer Richard Soltero asked her to model his Hispanic creations at the Metropolitan Fashion Week. Wearing a dress decorated with a portrait of Frida Kahlo, the revolutionary female Mexican painter, Santiago adopted the strength and passion that Kahlo herself was famous for. Despite her countless photo-shoots, none have impacted her more than the annual

Día de los Muertos festival, a Latin American cultural celebration of deceased loved ones, held at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery in Los Angeles. There, the flowery designs of her skull face paint connected her to others at the cemetery, reminding her of her culture that has been passed down for centuries. "[Modeling] helps me understand my culture better," Santiago said. She had become one with her culture—one with the art. "Life is short, and I think everyone should take the opportunities given to them," Santiago said. "Modeling definitely shaped who I am today."



**WORK OF ART:**  
Senior Diana Santiago was featured on Hispanic TV in her Frida Kahlo dress.



# Pageant Perfect

In glittering dresses and traditional Korean gowns, seniors Iris Kang and Claire Hyon showcased the final product of months of hard work at the Miss Hi-Teen Korea beauty pageant. The end result? A newfound appreciation for their Korean culture.

By Jenny Tran, **STAFF WRITER**, and photos by Hannah Ro, **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**, and courtesy of Claire Hyon

Wearing evening gowns one minute and traditional Korean dresses the next, seniors Iris Kang and Claire Hyon discovered the flexible definition of the word “beauty.” After months of preparing for the Miss Hi-Teen Korea Pageant, the duo’s efforts finally paid off at the 44th Los Angeles Korean Festival Oct. 15 when Kang was crowned third among eleven contestants and Hyon received a honorary award sponsored by the Los Angeles City Council. From dancing to upbeat music to playing cultural songs, the girls were not

only evaluated on their physical appearance but also their self-expression and talent. Unlike traditional beauty competitions, this pageant allowed Korean-American students like Kang and Hyon to explore their cultural roots. The pageant program consisted of a group dance to K-pop hits, evening gown and Korean Hanbok promenades, speech test and talent show. True beauty is often interpreted as being comfortable in one’s skin, and this is exactly what the pageant was looking for. Redefining the concept of ideal beauty, Kang and Hyon expressed their natural beauty when they were interviewed with no makeup on. When Kang was asked, “What is the most important between money, power and

fame?” she responded that fame is the most important as money and power are not permanent assets, but joked that good health is above all. Hyon was asked, “What would you introduce about Korean culture to a friend of a different ethnicity and why?” She humorously replied that she would like to introduce her friend to *miyeok guk*, a Korean seaweed soup traditionally served on birthdays. Kang performed a rendition of “Serenade to Spring” on the flute, while Hyon opted for a contemporary hip hop routine to Tinashe’s electro-R&B hit “2 On.”

Kang and Hyon were able to keep in touch with their Korean identities as they wore the traditional Korean gown. “I think [wearing the Hanbok] reinforced a new appreciation for my culture,” Hyon said. “It made me proud to be a Korean, and I learned to love my culture even more than ever.” As they swayed to popular K-pop hits during the group dance, Kang and Hyon stepped out of their comfort zone, and the whole pageant experience became a moment of realization of their own true beauty. Walking away with a newfound confidence, Kang fostered her empowering voice and polished her flute skills. For Hyon, her dream of dancing in front of a

crowd came true, and she discovered a new side of herself. “Physical appearance can be beauty in that it creates attractiveness,” Hyon said. “But for me, it’s more about character. Understanding and putting others before oneself is pure beauty in my eyes.” “I feel a lot more confident now,” Kang added. “I was nervous in the beginning, but [after it ended] I felt a bit empty.” Truly, Kang and Hyon have found beauty in themselves—and also in their Korean culture.

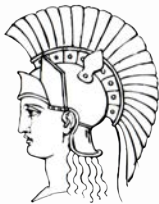
“Understanding and putting others before oneself is pure beauty in my eyes.”  
**Claire Hyon**  
*Senior*



**DANCING WITH HEART AND SEOUL:** Seniors Iris Kang (far left) and Claire Hyon (fourth from right) perform a sassy dance routine to K-pop group Twice’s hit single “Signal” with nine other pageant contestants.



# ASK THE ORACLE



What’s the Oracle without an Oracle?

By Ashley Fan & Hannah Ro, EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

**Q:** What should I do if my parents’ opinions on college don’t match mine?

**A:** Compromise. Once you’ve researched colleges in depth (not just the academics, but also the student life), have a conversation with your parents about your college fit. For example, your parents may be insistent on Columbia University because of its weighty name, but you may not fit well with its core curriculum requirements or the hustle and bustle of Morningside Heights. On the other hand, your parents may have some type of first hand experience that serves to be in your best interest. In the end, if you can’t convince them about your college fit, apply to a few of their preferred colleges while applying to your own choices as well.

**Q:** Is Troy worth it?

**A:** This is really a matter of perspective, but consider this: If not Troy, where else? Though student life at Troy may be stressful and difficult while you are here, you can be sure that you are reaching your maximum potential. Troy is unlike most American high schools, and it is ranked high for a reason. Here’s the bottom line. Troy’s competition may give you a disadvantage when getting into college. But once you’re actually in college, Troy will have prepared you well, putting you ahead of other first years. Would you rather peak academically in high school or college? If you answer college, then Troy will definitely be “worth it.”

**Q:** Can you recommend methods for studying smarter not harder?

**A:** Use acronyms or alliteration whenever possible to memorize foreign language vocab or APUSH terms. Or, while studying, associate each term with a wild, unforgettable image, which will help them stick in your mind. Study in bursts: Take an intermittent 5-minute break per each 20-minute section. Set your phone to “Do Not Disturb.” If you struggle with self-control, you can download mobile applications that encourage you to stay off your phone, such as Forest. Forest grows one virtual tree while the app is open, and no other apps can be opened to prevent killing the tree. TL;DR: Time management and strategic studying are going to be your best friends.

**Q:** Anti-Homecoming ideas?

**A:** If dressing up and spending hundreds of dollars on a single night isn’t your cup of tea, anti-homecoming is a laid-back alternative. Location, attire and friend groups are all up to you, giving you complete freedom to plan the perfect night out. This year, Homecoming will be near Halloween. Knott’s Scary Farm is the go-to spot for a night of spooky thrills. Downtown Disney is the ideal place for a fun day of childhood throwbacks at the Lego Store or Build-a-Bear. If you’re looking for something more unconventional, try crashing odd places like Ikea and thrift stores for unique photos.

Got a burning question? Ask the Oracle advice column here:  
[goo.gl/PHZkRu](http://goo.gl/PHZkRu)

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# Warrior football fumbles, capitulates to the Highlanders

Despite a display of grit and resolve, the Warriors failed to subdue La Habra.

By Jason Choi and Joshua Kim  
STAFF WRITER & SPORTS EDITOR

Even with tenacity on the field, the Warrior football team (2-0-6, 1-0-2) ceded to the La Habra Highlanders 0-47 Oct. 13.

Entering the first quarter with eager competitiveness, the team quickly conceded a touchdown to the Highlanders. In prompt retaliation, senior Cole Thomas headed a 35-yard dash into opponent territory. Senior Matthew Ozeki leveraged his height to intercept a low Highlander spiral, then dashed 40 yards before being forced out of bounds. A Warrior offensive drought prompted the team to concentrate its efforts on defensive plays, clogging the line of scrimmage.

However, repeated failures to penetrate La Habra’s defense did little to stifle the Warriors’ spirited second-half attacks. Showcasing incredible athleticism, Thomas intercepted a Highlander pass, rushed down the field and executed a spectacular leap over the opponent cornerbacks. Looking to post points on the board, senior Mitchell Sima threw a bull’s-eye long pass into the end zone, which junior Payton



ASHLEY BRANSON

**DROWNING IN A SEA OF BLUE:** Pulling away from an opponent’s restraining grip, senior Cole Thomas darts through Highlander backfield in a valiant drive to gain yardage.

Kim caught and bolted 20 yards in return, zigzagging through the defense before getting dog piled. In the end, the Warriors’ well-intended attacks resulted in no points on the scoreboard, and they went down in defeat.

A major factor contributing to the Warriors’ loss was the team’s uncharacteristic slowness, varsity coach Michael Echaves said.

“La Habra also had very athletic, open-field runners who were able to outpace us,” Echaves said. “Once they got through our defensive wall, we were unable to catch up to tackle them. This led to a lot of unchecked

touchdowns.”

The team also had to cope with the loss of a strong lineup of senior stars in May, Echaves said.

“We lost seniors like Josiah Norwood and Skyler Taylor,” Echaves said. “This created a large gap in the team. However, new star players like Cole Thomas are quickly filling in that hole. I’m confident that in no time, that gap will disappear.”

This loss initially stunned the team, but the team has grown and bonded as a result, Sima said.

“This [loss] only makes us work harder,” Sima said. “Even though this season isn’t going the

way we wanted it to, we’re fine working without our star players. We’ll persevere and continue to work hard.”

Undeterred, Echaves hopes that his players will continue to show as much perseverance and dedication as they did in Friday’s game.

“Even though the score gap continued to widen, none of my players showed any sign of giving up or defeat,” he said. “I’m very proud of them for that. One of our core values is to ‘own our response,’ which means to control the way we respond to events. It was good to see some of this exemplified on Friday.”

SEE YOU AT CIF

GIRLS GOLF

League MVP Sherilyn Villanueva looks to head six talented Warrior golfers at the team Divisional Championship Oct. 30.

CROSS COUNTRY

Led by senior captains Johnny Choi and Derek D’amelia, cross country looks to fight past injuries at CIF Nov. 11.

GIRLS TENNIS

The Lady Warriors tennis team aced their division, sweeping league matches, and look to make a statement at CIF Nov. 1.

VOLLEYBALL

With a dominant 7-0-3 league record, Warrior volleyball will attack CIF Oct. 31 with the same vigor as they have all season.

BOYS WATERPOLO

Topping the league with a flawless 6-win record, the Warrior water polo squad looks to flood the competition at CIF Oct. 31.

warrior to watch

W2W

KAYLEE KANG

◆ TENNIS VARSITY ◆

★★★  
3-star

48<sup>th</sup> in CA

Tennis Recruiting

MVP  
2015, 2016

Freeway League  
Doubles Champion  
2014, 2015

All league  
2014, 2015, 2016

Freeway League  
Singles Finalist  
2016

50<sup>th</sup> in Girls  
18s Singles  
[USTA]

FAVORITE SERVE

Duece-side-  
flat-down-  
the-T

FAVORITE SHOT

Dropshot

GRAPHIC BY TU-AN NGUYEN, PHOTO COURTESY OF KAYLEE KANG

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