

# THE CAMPANILE

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## Pope addresses human trafficking

By Maggie Schoeller '15

In the 48<sup>th</sup> annual Message of Peace, entitled “No Longer Slaves, but Brothers and Sisters,” Pope Francis spoke out about the injustices that people face when they are trafficked and forced into slavery.

Pope Francis delivered his address on January 1 to celebrate the World Day of Peace, held on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, to promote nonviolence and prayer.

Francis spoke out in his address for the rights of people around the world who lack the basic rights that should be reserved for every human.

“Many corporations like Wal-Mart reap huge financial benefits from merchandise made for them by desperately poor people laboring long hours in unhealthy work conditions for pennies an hour,” said Tony Magliano in an article for the National Catholic Reporter. Throughout the world, people face this sort of oppression from strangers and family members alike.

People around the world share the Pope’s passion to end human trafficking and slavery, an issue that has gained prominence and momentum in recent years.

“Tragically, the growing scourge of man’s exploitation by man gravely damages the life of communion and our calling to forge interpersonal rela-

tions marked by respect, justice and love,” said Francis. “This abominable phenomenon, which leads to contempt for the fundamental rights of others and to the suppression of their freedom and dignity, takes many forms. I would like briefly to consider

these, so that, in the light of God’s



Pope Francis speaks out against human trafficking in his annual Message of Peace on January 1.

these, so that, in the light of God’s word, we can consider all men and women ‘no longer slaves, but brothers and sisters.’”

Accordingly, his very first tweet of the new year concerned this topic: “How many innocent people and children suffer in the world! Lord, grant us your peace!” tweeted Francis (@Ponti-

fex) on New Year’s Day. Pope Francis’ concern is that people are not aware of human trafficking because it does not directly affect their daily lives. He calls this “general indifference” an issue that will not resolve itself.

“Yet, even though the international community has adopted numerous agreements aimed at ending slavery in all its forms, and has launched various strategies to combat this phenomenon, millions of people today – children, women and men of all ages – are deprived of freedom and are forced to live in conditions akin

to slavery,” said Francis.

The Pope emphasized human trafficking as a moral and social issue that each individual has a responsibility to try to ameliorate. He is calling for people to consider trafficking when buying goods and to be sympathetic toward those who have been trafficked.

There are many ways that people can combat human trafficking. Pope Francis suggested that people buy fair trade goods and welcome those who have been trafficked with open arms.

Pope Francis also called for justice for those who have been trafficked.

“This immense task, which calls for courage, patience and perseverance, deserves the appreciation of the whole Church and society. Yet, of itself, it is not sufficient to end the scourge of the exploitation of human persons. There is also need for a threefold commitment on the institutional level: to prevention, to victim protection and to the legal prosecution of perpetrators. Moreover, since criminal organizations employ global networks to achieve their goals, efforts to eliminate this phenomenon also demand a common and, indeed, a global effort on the part of various sectors of society,” said the Pope.

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## World protests Hebdo attacks

By Eliza Ewing '16

Last month, two jihadist gunmen assaulted the Paris office of satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, killing 12, following Hebdo’s publishing a string of caricatures of the prophet Mohammed over the course of the summer’s instability in the Middle East. Though in the aftermath of the attack the public overwhelmingly supported Hebdo’s staff and defended its publications -- which have included similarly crude caricatures of Jesus, the Pope and other religious figures -- a discussion has been renewed about what differentiates free speech from hate speech and how much freedom a publication has a right to exercise.

In the United States, hate speech, which is generally defined as speech intended to, “[overtly] threaten, offend, or insult groups based on race . . . religion, national origin, [etc.]” is incredibly difficult to prosecute because our First Amendment is so broad. But in many European countries, France included, this isn’t the case. In order to be considered “hate speech” in America, a court must determine that the speech poses a legitimate threat to its victims; this is called the “imminent danger” test. The French penal code, however, can criminalize anything which publicly defames or otherwise incites hatred against any person or institution.

In 2011, for example, the French court charged a journalist named Eric Zemmour with “provocation to racial discrimination” after he said on television that most criminals were “black and Arab” and that employers had a right to discriminate against employees of that description. The court’s ruling accused Zemmour of having “gone beyond the permitted bounds of the right to freedom of speech,” and fined him more than \$15,000.

On the other hand, in a foreshadowing of the Hebdo affair, a French court was asked in 1989 to consider whether a popular novel, “The Satanic Verses” should be banned because, aside from following a controversial plotline, it contained references which many Muslims found blasphemous -- just like the Hebdo cartoons. The French court ruled powerfully that the novel could not be construed as hate speech because it was not being forced on anyone, nor was it aimed specifically at the Muslim population.

With all this said, it may be obvious that satirical publications like Charlie Hebdo hold a complicated place in French culture. Firstly, satire is a crucial element of French politics: it is a cherished mode of expression and reaction, and a method to question authority and keep authority figures accountable for their actions. Magazines like Charlie Hebdo are not meant to be scholarly --

they’re meant to humanize leaders, question decisions and spark responses to each.

The attacks on Hebdo are just another step in Europe’s growing tension between ethnically European and Muslim communities. France itself has suffered through a lot of turbulence, and even violence, on this front. In the wake of this year’s European elections, in which right-leaning parties won a lot of ground with platforms including expanded control over the immigration and assimilation of Muslims entering Europe, the Hebdo attacks struck a nerve with many. The day after the shootings, anti-Islam protesters gathered in major cities throughout Europe, notably in Berlin, to protest against jihad and immigration policies they believe make it too easy for violent jihadists to enter Europe and become dangerous. More locally, several world leaders gathered in Paris to march in solidarity with the 17 people slain in the Hebdo attack and two other related incidents. The passionate responses to the Hebdo shooting, on both sides, illustrate the conflict we will certainly see more of in Europe in the near future.

At the Campanile, we believe in the power of journalism. We believe that newspapers, magazines and journals, whether scholarly or satirical, spread important knowledge and help a complicated world to understand

complicated, sometimes heart-sickening events like the Hebdo attacks. In corollary, we believe that freedom of speech and of the press is an essential component to informed, and thus successful, democracy; and we believe that when publications, or people, are punished unduly for expressing their opinions, democracy suffers.

Charlie Hebdo is a magazine very different from the Campanile. Its publications are provocative because its essential function is to provoke response, reflection and perhaps even laughter at events it might otherwise be difficult to countenance. It plays a vital role in politics and society: it allows the public to have an acerbic voice in their country’s affairs. The existence of magazines like Hebdo are proofs and pillars of democracy, and Hebdo was totally within its rights in choosing to publish the cartoons it did. At the end of the day, if nothing else, there is no cartoon on Earth which could justify the murder of 12 innocent people.

The attack on Charlie Hebdo has forced the world to contemplate some painful questions and realities. But it is most important, now that free speech is being threatened, that we take full advantage of our freedoms, and talk about these painful realities with an intention to solve them.

## Brann empowers herself and young women

By Grace Hogan '15  
and Eva McGrath '15

“Kan-yah.” Most people struggle with pronouncing it. Born in London and having lived in Trinidad, Montreal and the United States, Khanya Brann has heard just about every mispronunciation of her name.

With a back-story you would expect to see in a TV show, Khanya embraces her unique upbringing. In a world full of teenagers just trying to fit in, she stands out as an activist, an artist and a leader.

Although Khanya now carries herself with poise unlike anyone else, she admits that finding her confidence was difficult.

“The move from Trinidad to Montreal was the hardest. It forced me to let go of preconceived notions of people and to appreciate what’s around me. It helped to broaden my interests.”

New to the United States as a seventh grader, Khanya was eager to embrace American culture. She hoped that an adoption of the American lifestyle would ease her transition into a new school and home.

Khanya enrolled at Norwood-Fontbonne Academy and became the new, “foreign” girl in a class of only 35. Despite this, she dove headfirst into her extracurriculars and academics. Khanya acknowledges that a large factor in her

participating in these activities was a desire to bond with classmates. In middle school, however, she struggled to find the activities that fulfilled her interests and retained the interests she had developed in her previous homes.

When the time to apply to high school came around, Khanya followed her classmates and enrolled at the Mount. After three formative years in this all-girl environment, Khanya knows she made the right choice.

“[The Mount environment] has

a 2013 Cover Girl for the organization. As a Cover Girl, she helped promote Uniquely You through word of mouth and promotional opportunities. At the 2013 annual summit held at Temple University, Khanya served on a twelve-person panel and spoke to the girls about issues that are relevant to the black female community.

“I saw an opportunity to reach out to girls like me,” said Khanya. “We all learn best from people who look like us, can connect with us and empower us to be our best selves.”

This year Khanya took a step further on her path of leadership. She was chosen to be a moderator for a panel at the Still I Rise Summit at Georgetown University. Dedicated to Khanya’s hero, Maya Angelou, the summit focused on issues faced by all teenagers.

“The most empowering thing was being able to share my stories and to have other girls come up to the microphone, share their story and ask for help. That was one of the greatest moments of my life,” she said of the event.

Khanya’s humility as a supporter of Uniquely You is perhaps what is most intriguing. Fellow senior and friend Josie Morocco said, “It is what makes her the perfect activist. When she is supporting something, Khanya is trying to get people involved, without making herself the main feature.”



Brann promotes the Uniquely You Summit with other leaders.

“Over the past couple of years, I have struggled with defining home. I’m trying to break away from the idea that home is just one place. I’m trying to come to terms with the fact that I’ve lived in different countries and I’ve grown up in different countries. So I don’t have one

specific home,” said Khanya.

Through poetry, Khanya has also been able to express her struggles with identity.

“I think my poems about identity are my favorite, even if they aren’t the best. I like that I’m able to express what I’ve been through and what I’m going through internally. It’s a good way to get it out.”

Khanya credits her life experiences, from numerous childhood relocations to her time as a member of Uniquely You, for allowing her to realize that it’s perfectly acceptable not to define yourself.

“I am now proud of who I am. I have learned not to think of myself as less in all the ways society has taught me to: for being a young, black female. I use them to my advantage now, and I am proud of them.”

Between managing a rigorous course load and saving the world, Khanya enjoys expressing herself through poetry and visual art. Sophomore year, Khanya attended a poetry workshop in Philadelphia and immediately fell in love with it. She discovered that art and poetry were the perfect outlets for her self-expression, par-



Brann poses at the Pennsylvania Conference for Women.

ticularly as she comes to a greater understanding of herself and her past.



Brann helps paint a mural at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

given me the confidence to speak up and articulate myself in all situations,” said Khanya. With this confidence, Khanya has expanded into new realms outside the Mount community.

Over the past four years, Khanya has worked with the Uniquely You Summit organization to help black girls uniquely define, discover and become who they are. Khanya has enthusiastically participated in all the organization has to offer, including a leadership series for empowering black women, an editorial team and an annual summit.

Last year, Khanya was named

## Mike Soto: A self-made man, beloved by Mount

By Anna Feinschil '15 and Grace Hogan '15

Miguel Anjel Soto, fondly known as “Mike,” is more than just a prominent member of the Mount community. The beloved maintenance member has triumphed over his life’s challenges and established his cultural identity in a new country.

At age five, Mike emigrated from Puerto Rico. For much of his childhood, Mike lived in the back room of a grocery store owned by his uncle. When he was 14, Mike began living on his own in New York City; the young teenager was solely responsible for acquiring his clothes, shelter, food and entertainment.

From walking dogs to cleaning windows, Mike worked a wide variety of jobs to survive in the concrete jungle. The occupation closest to his heart was grocery shopping for the elderly. Bringing perishables to the elders of his community gave Mike a sense of purpose and a connection to his past.

Living on his own, Mike had limited adult supervision.

“I spent many hours at my local library in order to stay away from the New York gangs,” said Mike. Late into the night, Mike would read countless books and vigorously study.

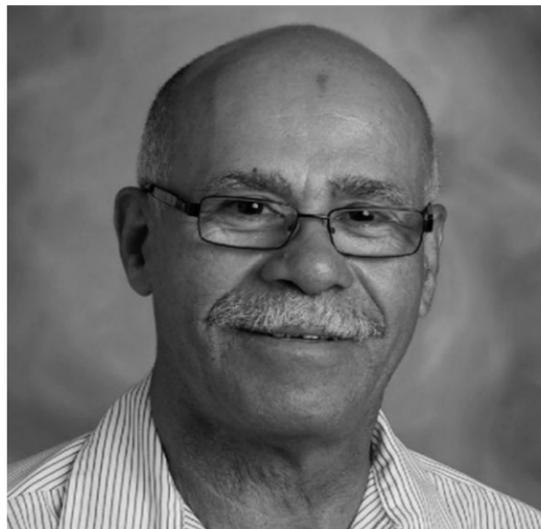
Mike’s interests expanded into literature, history and culture. In his studies of culture, Mike discovered about his own Puerto Rican heritage and fell in love with the art of cooking.

The older he grew, the more eager Mike became to learn how to properly prepare Latin dishes. In the rich flavors and warm meals, he found a sense of comfort and home. A simple rice dish has the power to reawaken memories of family and heritage.

In his exploration of different culture’s cuisines, Mike has discovered that American’s rec-

reations do not capture the time, effort and complexity required in Spanish cooking. As a result, the copycat cuisines lack a depth in flavor.

For example, the spice *safrito*



Mike Soto is always a friendly face at the Mount.

is used in all Puerto Rican stew based and rice dishes, however it is often missing in our American replicas. “The spices of *saf-*

*rito* hold the pure flavor of Latino food,” said Mike.

After the Thanksgiving holiday, Mike worked with his wife, Gloria, and her sisters to prepare for the upcoming holidays.

Together, they created and enjoyed numerous Spanish dishes, selecting their favorites to recreate for Christmas.

For Mike and his family, the Christmas season is a joyous time of celebration. They combine American traditions with those of the Latino culture.

For Christmas dinner, various vegetables and either pork, beef, chicken or goat meat accompanies Spanish rice, *arroz*. According to Mike, “The meats are key in stews and rice dishes. They help create our culture’s unique flavors.”

Especially around the holidays, Mike loves to share his heritage and passion for cooking with his

children and grandchildren.

Despite his hardships, Mike’s past experiences have shaped him into the strong, kind man he is today. Every few years, he travels back to Puerto Rico, reminding him of his true roots in family and tradition.

### Pico de Gallo

One of Mike’s favorite recipes is for Pico de Gallo, a fresh, uncooked salad similar to salsa.

- 2 sprigs of Finely Chopped Cilantro
- 1 Tomato
- Remove the seeds of the tomato and dice them finely
- Diced Red Pepper
- 1 Diced Red Onion
- (If you’re looking for a little heat, add ½ a jalapeno pepper)

Mix with:  
Olive oil  
½ teaspoon of Garlic powder  
¼ teaspoon of both salt and pepper  
Refrigerate the vegetables together but DO NOT mix the oils and seasoning until ready to eat to keep the flavor crisp and sharp

## Weiss takes a chance to act on her dream National Geographic recognizes a student's desire to enact social change

By Morgan Weiss '15

Most little girls dream of becoming a princess, living in a castle with a handsome prince and wearing gorgeous, extravagant gowns.

Me? I dreamt of adventure. I wanted to see the world, and, more importantly, I wanted to change it. My thoughts were consumed by dreams of scaling icebergs in Antarctica and venturing through African jungles.

"You were always playing on our swing-set and thinking of new games where we would get to travel together and you could help animals or people," says my younger sister, Stow.

As I grew older, my games came to a halt; I was too big for my squeaky, wooden playset, and homework occupied the hours that I used to spend traveling the world. I began to forget my dreams for adventure, leaving them behind on the swing-set.

That is, until November 22, 2013.

It was getting late, and I had just finished my homework. I needed sleep, but the new National Geographic was staring at me, tempting me to look inside. I told myself I would go to bed... Right after I skimmed the pages.

As I flipped through the colorful pictures, one particular image

of a young black girl, her skin deeply scarred, caught my eye.

The article was titled, "The War for Nigeria." I turned to the next page and started to read.

For forty minutes I carefully read and re-read each paragraph. I was drawn to the stories about Nigeria's history, tragic terrorist attacks and the heartbreaking journeys of broken families. With each word I felt myself changing, and my dreams of traveling the world that I had as a child came pouring back out of my heart.

I had to do something.

I decided to email James Verini, the author of "The War for Nigeria." After fifteen minutes of blankly staring at my computer screen, not knowing what to say to him, my passion began to speak for me.

"Dear Mr. Verini, my name is Morgan Weiss, and I am a sev-

enteen year old female living in Philadelphia, PA. I thought that

filled with my hopes of being able to travel and help people in third-

world-countries, and questions about how I can help those people now. I don't know what I expected to receive back from him; after all, I was a teenager who had never even left the United States.

Three days later, I received my answer.

I was sitting in the examination room at the doctor's when I randomly decided to check my email on my phone. I had only been there for a checkup, but the doctor seemed concerned about my health when she saw my reaction to seeing that Mr. Verini had responded to me.

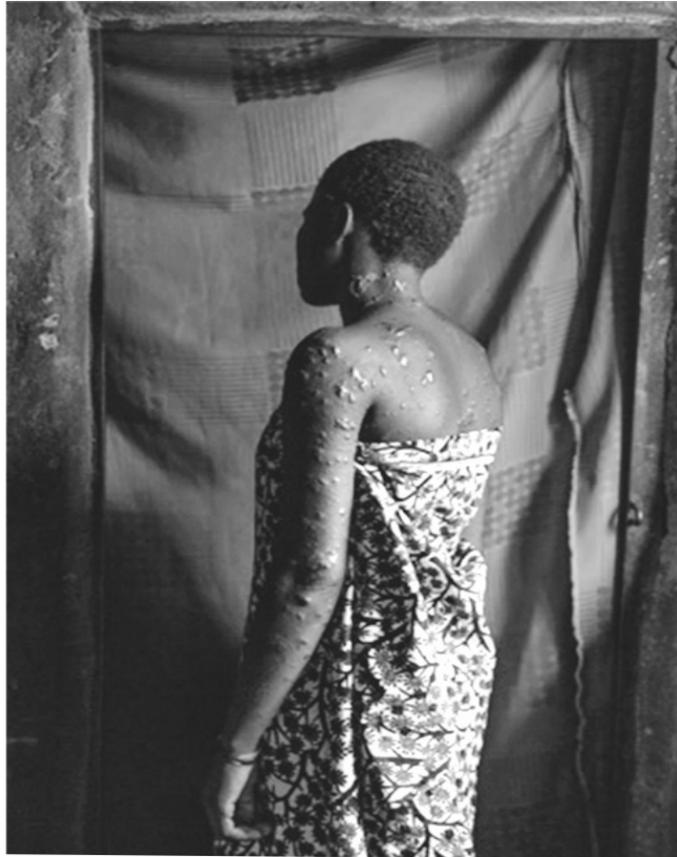
"Dear Morgan, thanks so much for your lovely email. I was very touched by it. So was the editorial staff at National Geographic, to whom I forwarded it. (Indeed,

I'm cc'ing my editor, Ollie, on this email, who was so impressed by your email he in turn sent it on to his daughters, who are a few years older than you.) One hears so much these days about the failures of American high school education and the apathy of your generation . . . so it's heartening to hear from such an articulate, thoughtful 17 year-old."

After almost suffering a stroke from reading the rest of the email, I was stunned once again to receive a letter from National Geographic editor Oliver Payne. He not only supported the kind words and advice from Mr. Verini, but he also told me not to forget National Geographic if I decide to pursue a writing career.

To this day, I am still inspired by "The War for Nigeria" and by the encouragement I was given by National Geographic. I don't think I will ever find the words to convey to Mr. Verini just how crucial his article has become to my identity. His article shed light on so many overlooked issues occurring in Africa, but it also inspired a young girl to remember her dreams and to chase after them.

If I had gone to bed on time on Nov. 22, 2013, I would have never emailed James Verini. Without him, my dreams might still be back on that swing-set.



This young Nigerian woman is the face of the "National Geographic" article "The War for Nigeria."

## Humanity causes the extinction of species

By Emma Diebold '16

Have you ever seen a Tasmanian tiger? Maybe you've seen one in a history text book or in a museum, but never in person. These animals went extinct in the 1930s as a result of hunting.

Soon, many animal species will meet the same fate.

Imagine that your children will never get the chance to see a polar bear, a panda bear or a white rhinoceros. If humans continue to take over animals' habitats, damage the environment, and poach these animals, that may very well be the reality.

There are many species with dwindling populations. One in particular is the white rhino; according to WWF, there were over 2,000 northern white rhinos in the wild in 1960. By 1984, only fifteen individuals remained, and only four of these subspecies are left today. Scientists say that there is a small chance that those four subspecies can increase the population. With this in mind, the extinction of the northern white rhino seems imminent.

What events led to the near-extinction of these once-prosperous animals? Widespread poaching throughout the countries of Chad,

the Central African Republic, Zaire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda has almost wiped out the species. Illegal rhino horn trading is an extremely lucrative business, and this species is especially affected by poaching. Heavily armed

poaching gangs have been killing the animals in droves. Park guards try their hardest to protect the animals but risk their lives in the process.

In 1984, with intervention from the World Heritage Committee, IUCN, WWF and others, the pop-

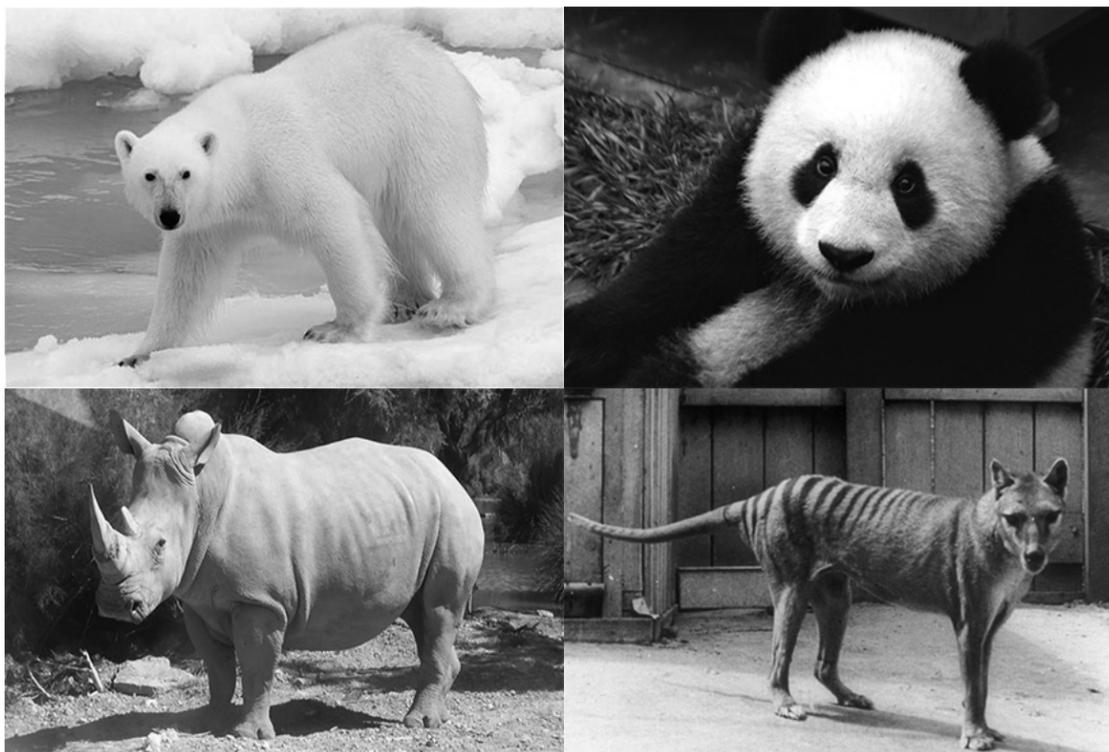
ulation was strictly protected. As a result, the amount of northern white rhinoceroses increased, and by 1993, the population grew to at least 30 rhinos. Sadly, however, the poaching continued, and after an extensive aerial survey of Garamba National Park in the Dem-

ocratic Republic of the Congo in 2004, there only seemed to be 17-22 northern white rhinos left.

The remaining four rhinos continue to live in Garamba National Park. With civil unrest in DR Congo, attacks on the park further damaged the animals' habitat. Thanks to the hard work of the park staff, the remaining rhinos have survived despite the armed conflicts throughout the region. The rhinos share the habitat of the park with elephants, giraffes and hippopotamuses.

So what can we do to help? We can assist anti-poaching efforts by donating to funds that support park staff in protecting endangered animals. Also, we must do what we can to discourage the illegal rhino horn trade and encourage others to help the effort as well.

Even if the northern white rhino population does not survive, there is still a chance that other endangered species can be saved. We cannot neglect and ignore the problem of animals at risk of extinction. It is our duty to protect them and ensure the survival of species at risk. We, as humans, must work to make this planet a better place for all living things.



Endangered species like the polar bear, the panda bear, and the northern white rhinoceros may meet the same fate as the extinct Tasmanian tiger if humanity continues living the way it always has.

## “The Interview” ignites controversy at home and abroad

By Colleen Burns '15

Heated controversy between the United States and North Korea began with the release of a U.S. movie trailer alluding to the assassination of Kim Jong-un, the leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Comedic actor Seth Rogen co-wrote “The Interview” with Evan Goldberg and Rogen co-stars in the R-rated movie with James Franco. The two play journalists who score an interview with Kim Jong-un and are asked by the CIA to assassinate the dictator.

Not surprisingly, Rogen and Franco's ridiculous yet entertaining antics throughout the movie trailer have attracted the attention of the real Kim Jong-un.

Calling “The Interview” an “act of terrorism and war,” Kim Jong-un threatened war if the U.S. allowed the release of the movie, which was initially set to premiere on Christmas.

After spending about 44 million dollars on “The Interview,” Sony producers managed to persuade Rogen to reduce the goriness of Kim Jong-un's death scene in which his face graphically melted off in an explosion.

Rogen, displeased with Sony's complaints, said, “The head explosion can't be more obscured than it is because we honestly feel that if it's any more obscured, you won't be able to tell it's exploding, and the joke won't work.”

Evidently, North Korea does not share Rogen's sense of humor, nor does it allow freedom of speech to its citizens, a right Rogen consistently invokes in this case.

Although a restriction of the movie's release by the U.S. could have posed censorship issues, Rogen must also understand the repercussions of his actions.

Rogen must take responsibility for his choice to create an assassination movie about a real, active,

living human being. Regardless of Kim Jong-un's policies, previous actions and moral compass, a movie depicting his death, while he is still living, provokes serious consequences and controversy.

These consequences and controversy include branding the U.S. with a stamp of terrorism along with instigating war between the U.S. and North Korea.

The speculation of approaching war requires the U.S. government to take initiative as well because they are responsible for the safety of the American peo-

war across the Pacific Ocean is as follows: “Does the release of ‘The Interview’ create clear and present danger, or is the movie simply a comedy seeking a good laugh?”

While the U.S. government failed to answer this question, Sony producers have taken action in response to a group of hackers who call themselves the “Guardians of Peace.” Along with publicizing Sony data regarding specific celebrities, the hackers sent threats in reference to the release of “The Interview.”

“Remember the 11th of Sep-

the threat of a 9/11 style attack, many theaters decided against showing the movie. Sony even decided to cancel “The Interview” completely after U.S. authorities claimed that the group responsible for the Sony hacking was in fact North Korea.

President Obama has spoken about what many are calling a “cyber war” saying, “Well, the cyber-attack is very serious. We're investigating, we're taking it seriously...We'll be vigilant, if we see something that we think is serious and credible, then we'll

Although the U.S. has not presented substantial evidence to prove that North Korea was involved with the attack on Sony, President Obama has placed sanctions on North Korea and has openly stated that the U.S. will launch “a proportional response” aimed at North Korea.

Regarding the proportional response, the White House press secretary commented on the President's Executive Order, “The E.O. authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to impose sanctions on individuals and entities associated with the Government of North Korea. We take seriously North Korea's attack that aimed to create destructive financial effects on a U.S. company and to threaten artists and other individuals with the goal of restricting their right to free expression.”

These sanctions target ten North Korean government officials and three organizations. One of these organizations includes Pyongyang's primary intelligence agency and state-run arms dealer. In addition, President Obama suggested placing North Korea back on the list of state sponsors of terrorism.

A spokesman of the Policy Department of the National Defense Commission expressed North Korea's reaction to the recent sanctions, comparing President Obama to a monkey.

“Obama always goes reckless in words and deeds like a monkey in a tropical forest.”

Additionally, North Korea blames the U.S. for the recent Internet crash in North Korea. President Obama has not responded to either attacks on him and the U.S.

While the purpose of “The Interview” remains questionable, the movie successfully stirred up controversy regarding human rights, the reality of America's governmental authority, terrorist threats and the ethical standards of two different cultures.



Rogen and Franco appear on the controversial “The Interview” movie poster.

ple and the extended protection of debilitated allies. One of these allies is South Korea, a country known for its long-standing rivalry with North Korea.

Under specific situations, the U.S. government can interfere with freedom of speech and avoid censorship issues to ensure protection for the people, and in this case, for allies.

The imperative question that essentially determines peace or

tember 2001. We recommend you to keep yourself distant from the places at that time. (If your house is nearby, you'd better leave)... Soon all the world will see what an awful movie Sony Pictures Entertainment has made. The world will be full of fear,” stated the hackers' message.

After acknowledging the hackers' message, Sony gave permission for movie theaters to drop “The Interview.” In response to

alert the public. But for now, my recommendation would be that people go to the movies.”

Influenced by the public, the President, and the apparent loss of America's first cyber war, Sony producers suddenly had a change of heart and decided to release “The Interview” in select independent theaters, made the movie available online and brought the controversial film to cable and satellite TV.

## “American Sniper” sparks national debate

By Ann Schuck '15

One day after the Internet release of the controversial film, “The Interview,” a second highly anticipated film hit theaters igniting yet another controversy based on differing interpretations of fundamental American rights.

“American Sniper” tells the story of Chris Kyle, a Navy Seal from Texas who is credited with 160 in-combat kills, the most of any single American soldier in history. Bradley Cooper's starring role earned one of the films six Oscar nominations, another of which was awarded in the esteemed Best Picture category.

However, not everyone shares the same view as the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

“The Interview” star, Seth Ro-

gen, likened the sniper to a German World War II marksman picking off his enemies. His tweet only added fuel to the main controversy regarding the film: Was the Iraq War an unnecessary attempt by Republicans to exert American power, or was the war a necessary evil in which heroic patriots defended their country to the death?

Americans nationwide are struggling to understand the consequences

of the aforementioned question. If they were in favor of the war, does that make them xenophobic radicals? And if they were op-

posed to the war, does that make them un-American?

The film's director, Clint East-



Bradley Cooper portrays deceased sniper Chris Kyle.

wood, denies claims that this movie's sole purpose is to glorify a soldier's ability to kill. Eastwood sees “American Sniper” as

an anti-war movie as it portrays the brutal reality of a soldier's transitioning back to civilian life after the war.

After serving four tours in the Iraq War, Chris Kyle made the decision to quit the military in order to save his marriage from the strain that war had placed on it. Shortly after he returned home, Kyle decided to devote his life to helping veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder.

On Feb. 2, 2013, Kyle was shot and killed by a veteran whom he was trying to help adjust back to civilian life.

Compounding the controversy is the immediate and unequivocal issue of finding an impartial jury to try Kyle's alleged killer, Eddie Ray Routh, whose trial begins Feb. 11 and could possibly last two weeks.

The circumstances of Kyle's death (he and Routh were at a gun range) fueled protests from anti-gun advocates, who note that the most lethal sniper in American history could not even defend himself when it truly mattered. At an NRA convention shortly after her husband's death, Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle, rebutted, arguing, “He died because someone wanted to kill him.”

As of Jan. 28, the film has grossed more than \$250 million worldwide and has taken top ranking at the box office for the past two weeks.

## English threatens to eradicate languages and cultures

By Josie Marrocco '15

Language extinction is the most rampant disease on earth, affecting 50 percent of the entire population – and English may be the primary source of this devastating affliction.

There is no doubt that English is now the international, global and universal language. Eighty percent of the world's scientific and technological publications are in English. It is the first foreign language taught in thousands of primary and secondary schools throughout the world, and the computer world of code and programming is composed almost completely in English.

No language in history has ever reached so far internationally.

This omnipresence has put almost all modern languages on the defensive against the English onslaught, as the attraction and practicality of using English words and terms are virtually inescapable. English pours in with computers, technology, trade, sports, music, film and mass culture as a whole.

Many linguists predict that at least half of the world's 6,500 or so languages will be dead or dying by the year 2050. Languages are becoming extinct at twice the rate of endangered mammals and four times the rate of endangered

birds. In the past century alone, around 400 languages have gone extinct, and most linguists estimate that 50 percent of the world's remaining languages will be gone by the end of this century. Some even put that figure as high as 90 percent. Today, the top

ten languages in the world claim around half of the world's population.

Replacing a minor language with a more widespread one may even seem like a good thing, allowing people to communicate with each other more easily.

But according to Andrew Woodfield, director of the Centre for Theories of Language in

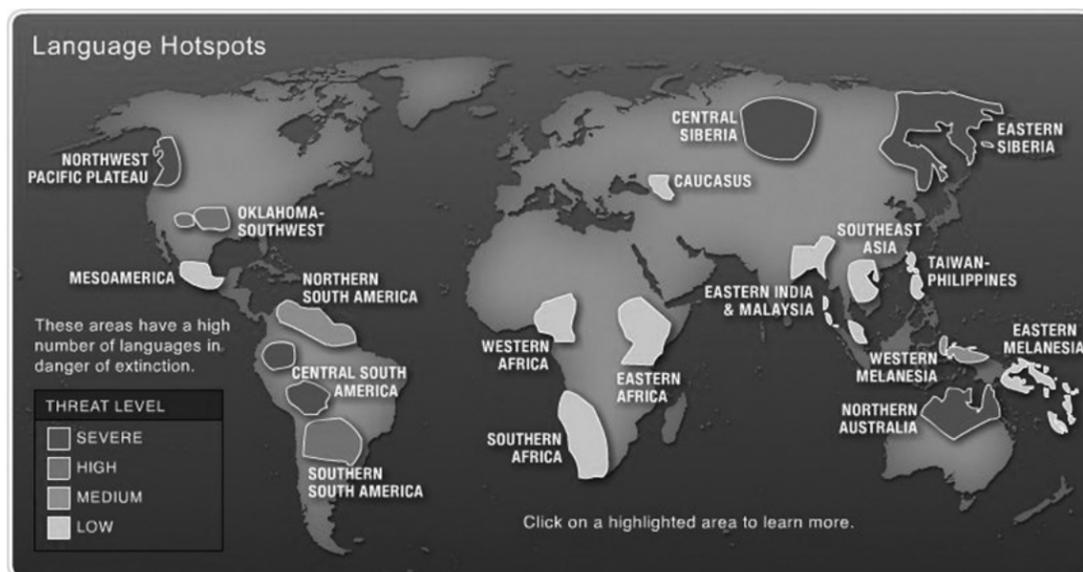
Bristol, England, language diversity is as important in its way as biological diversity. In a 1995 seminar on language, Woodfield suggested that people do not yet know all the ways in which linguistic diversity is important.

“The fact is, no one knows exactly what riches are hidden in-

side the less-studied languages.” Woodfield argues, “[If we don't save endangered languages] then why save endangered plants if they're not medically valuable? We have inductive evidence based on past studies of well-known languages that there will

be riches, even though we do not know what they will be. It seems paradoxical but it's true. By allowing languages to die out, the human race is destroying things it doesn't understand.”

“The main thing that people in the United States need to do,” says LeAnne Hinton, founder of the Native Californian Language Network, “is to recognize when other languages are being discriminated against in some way and to do what they can to stop it. We should remember that most people in the world are bilingual or multilingual. Speaking one language all the time is not the norm.”



Languages around the world face varying levels of risk of extinction.

ten languages in the world claim around half of the world's population.

Although language extinction is sad for native speakers, why should others be concerned? For example, what effect will other people's language loss have on the future of people who speak Eng-

lish? Replacing a minor language with a more widespread one may even seem like a good thing, allowing people to communicate with each other more easily.

“The fact is, no one knows exactly what riches are hidden in-

side the less-studied languages.” Woodfield argues, “[If we don't save endangered languages] then why save endangered plants if they're not medically valuable? We have inductive evidence based on past studies of well-known languages that there will

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## Computational linguists offer leads in Sony hacking scandal

By Amanda Geiser '15

When Sony's computer system was hacked in November, Americans immediately pointed fingers at North Korea; but computational linguists have since uncovered convincing evidence that the hack was not, in fact, the work of Kim Jong-un's anti-America henchmen.

North Korea made its animosity toward Sony known after Sony announced plans to release "The Interview" last June. As a result, North Korea was an easy scapegoat when the cyber attack occurred, not only for concerned American citizens, but also for the U.S. government.

Because the F.B.I. has not released the evidence it claims to have obtained, speculation emerged that the government was hiding any conclusive evidence that North Korea was behind the attack. However, the evidence released was far from conclusive. The computers used in the attack were located in various countries around the world, and the hackers' use of Korean language settings on the computers could have been a clever method of shifting

the blame onto North Korea.

According to a recent New York Times article, there are a few different possibilities that could explain the hack without North Korea's being involved. One idea is that the attack was an inside job, as the hackers seem to have had an intimate knowledge of the inner workings of Sony's computer system.

A more recent theory emerged when computational linguists at Taia Global, a cybersecurity agency, analyzed the few messages that the hackers sent among themselves. Using a complex linguistic analysis of the messages, which were written in broken English, these linguists found that the Sony hackers were more likely to be native Russian speakers than Korean speakers.

The messages that the hackers sent, made up of less than 2,000 words total, included 20 phrases that are not typically used in idiomatic English. The linguists at Taia Global had native Korean, Russian, German and Mandarin Chinese speakers translate the English phrases into their respective languages.

When these 20 phrases were

translated literally, 15 could be commonly used in idiomatic Russian while only nine could be used in Korean, and none could be used in either German or Mandarin Chinese.

Likewise, of the grammatical mistakes that the hackers made in their emails, more would be correct when literally translated into Russian than would be correct in Korean. These findings suggest that the hackers are much more likely to have been from Russia than from North Korea.

This same field of linguistics was used to uncover that J.K. Rowling was the author of "The Cuckoo's Calling," which she published in 2013 under the pseudonym Robert Galbraith. It is evident through this field that language use is nearly as distinguishable as a person's fingerprint, if one looks closely enough.

Computational linguistics only came about in the 1950s, and already computers can process language as a human would. Although it is extremely difficult to pinpoint the source of any cyber attack, the use of this field shows just how advanced computers have become.

## Young boys forced to race to their deaths

Banned for over a decade, the underage camel racing business trades lives of children for profit

By Shannon Hughes '16

The devastating system of human trafficking has now branched into the arena of sports in various areas of the world.

Every year, thousands of boys as young as three years old are taken from their homes to serve as jockeys in prohibited camel races in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Children from all over the Middle East, including Pakistan, Indonesia and Bangladesh, are forced to train and compete in horrible and, in many cases, fatal conditions.

Banned for over a decade, the underage camel racing business consists of unspeakable abuses. Trainers must have the lightest jockey, usually one who weighs less than 50 pounds, to ensure victory. The boys are starved or forced to wear metal helmets so they bleed and lose weight. Electric shock and sexual abuse are common punishments for jockeys who fail to reach the weight requirements.

In addition to the harsh conditions, the race itself can prove

deadly. During the event, Velcro fastens the children to the camels. The ride is so rough that many fall off and are trampled or dragged to death. After the races, the losing jockeys face harsh

punishments from their masters, and those who win fear vengeful attacks from fellow competitors. "A five-year-old rider was beaten to death by other child jockeys last year. But neither he,

nor his six-year-old assailants, were mentioned in media or police reports," said journalist Ron Gluckman.

Returning to their living arrangements, too, is torturous.

master's whips. Those who don't work are chained and beaten.

This practice is horrific, but what is being done to terminate it to save these young boys?

The UAE declared the use of

slavery activists did prompt the UAE officially to ban any rider under the age of 18 and to promise \$2.7 million to help return the boys to their homes. Robot jockeys have also been provided to replace the young boys.

The UAE's weak system of immigration is the main reason the boys are so easily smuggled into the country.

Human rights lawyer Ansar Burney said, "most of the [human traffic] agents could easily get fake birth certificates, passports and even fake parents so the camel [trainers] thought they were brought in with full consent."

Awareness of this horrific system is necessary for these children to be saved. Many of the young boys die from malnutrition, unsafe racing and abusive environments. Once they reach adulthood and are too heavy to race, the child jockeys are sent back to their homes. Forever scarred by their childhood tortures, they are forced to assimilate into a culture of which they no longer feel a part.



A young jockey prepares to race a large camel under brutal and often deadly conditions.

Camps are shared with the animals and have neither plumbing nor electricity, but are surrounded with an ample amount of barbed wire. The victims wake as early as 3 a.m. to the sound of their

camel jockeys under the age of fifteen illegal in 1993, but the law was ignored due to the interest of the wealthy and their donations to the sport.

However, pressure from anti-

## Child brides endure unspeakable cruelty

By Liz DeGroat '16

For many girls in America, a grand wedding day is an event they spend their whole childhood dreaming of.

For some girls in other countries, their wedding day is a day to dread. For these child brides, the idea of marriage is far from the romantic American fantasy. They are often abused and many suffer untimely deaths from these horrid circumstances.

By the year 2020, a total of 14 million girls under the age of 18 will be married to a man who is at least twice her age, according to National Geographic. Some of these girls are as young as five years old.

This practice is especially

common in African countries and the Middle East. According to an article in National Geographic's June 2011 issue, "Too Young to Wed," girls in India will typically be married to boys four or five years older than they are. Often, these marriages are business transactions for families forced to pay off debt. Sometimes, husbands are abductors who kidnap their young victims before claiming them for marriage.

Statistics from PBS show that child brides are more likely to die young, suffer from abuse and long-term health problems, live in poverty, and remain illiterate compared to girls that remain unmarried.

Hooria Mashhour, a Yemen human rights activist, is working

to outlaw child marriage, sighting the case of an eight-year-old girl, Rawan, who died from internal injuries suffered on her wedding night.

Mahhour spoke to CNN saying, "This isn't the first time a child marriage has happened in Yemen, so we should not focus only on this case. . . Many child marriages take place every year in Yemen. It's time to end this practice."

This is not the only case of violence toward child brides. A survey taken by the International Center for Research on Women shows that girls married

before the age of 18 are twice as likely to be beaten, slapped or threatened by their husbands. Some girls even take matters into their own hands.

A 14-year-old Nigerian girl, Tasi'u, was accused of murdering her 35-year-old husband. She did not love the man and her parents forced her to marry him, according to Fox News.

"Tasi'u was a victim of systematic abuse endured by millions of girls in the region," said Zubeida Nagee, a women's rights activist in Kano.

Forced marriage is a large problem all over the



Young girls are typically forced to marry between the ages of six and nine.

world with no clear solution, but there are many organizations trying to help child brides.

The International Organization for Women and Development is a nonprofit organization that brings doctors, nurses and surgeons to a hospital in Niger to perform surgery on women with fistula, a complication during childbirth that causes internal damage. The deadly combination of a young girl's having sex, getting pregnant and going through childbirth when her body is underdeveloped causes at least 25 percent of known fistula cases.

The International Center for Women's Research is also working with the United States to bring more national and international support to end child mar-

riages.

The United States Senate unanimously passed the International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriage Act on May 24, 2012. The legislation authorizes foreign funding to prevent child marriage and to provide educational opportunities to girls in the developing world.

Child marriage is a disgraceful practice deeply rooted in the culture and religion of many countries worldwide. Again, 14 million young girls will become child brides by the year 2020 if the rate of child marriages does not change; guaranteeing them a short life - one filled with pain and suffering.



A child bride looks at her new husband in disgust.

## Slaves bolster Thailand's shrimp industry

Young slave boys are sold, beaten and exploited to supply the western world with shrimp

By Nicole Kochanasz '16

Thailand is home to a new kind of slavery that scars its victims for life.

Young boys in Thailand are sold to boat captains in a new form of trafficking, nicknamed "shrimp slavery," every year. They work in the production of prawns, which are then sold to middle men who sell them to top supermarkets around the world including Walmart, Carrefour, Costco and Tesco.

This kind of slavery is so widespread that it is difficult to determine exactly the number of people affected. The Thai government estimates that of the 300,000 people working in the fishing industry, 90 percent are migrants from neighboring countries susceptible to enslavement.

The need for cheap labor has grown in recent years as a result of labor shortages in Thailand's fishing industry and increased demand for shrimp in the United States and England.

A six-month investigation by

British paper The Guardian revealed that Charoen Pokphand (CP) Foods, the world's largest prawn producer located in Thailand, buys the fishmeal used to feed shrimp from suppliers who use slave labor.

er from Cambodia recalling his experiences in Thailand's shrimp slavery industry.

Another trafficking victim said he had seen other slaves killed execution style. One slave had each of his limbs tied to the

sustain him.

According to the New York Times, the United States has closely watched Thailand's trafficking problem and has warned the country on their inaction for four years. Thailand now risks being assigned the lowest rank on the U.S. State Department's human trafficking index, which grades 188 nations on their efforts to publicly announce and eradicate human trafficking.

Human rights activists believe that Thailand's fishing industry would crumble without slave labor to support it, giving the Thai government a strong motive not to combat the trafficking.

The evidence of human trafficking in Thailand's shrimp market will hopefully persuade major supermarkets like Costco, Walmart, Carrefour and Tesco to refuse business with fishermen or companies that are confirmed exploiters of slave labor. The Thai government also must be pressured to ensure that those trafficking innocent workers are punished and that their victims see justice.



Young enslaved boys in Thailand work in the prawn industry for captains of ships.

Workers who have escaped from slave boats told reporters from The Guardian that they were starved, shackled and sold like property. They recall constant and brutal beatings that came whether or not they were working hard.

"I thought I was going to die. . . They sold us like animals, but we are not animals – we are human beings," said Vuthy, a work-

er from Cambodia recalling his experiences in Thailand's shrimp slavery industry.

Another trafficking victim said he had seen other slaves killed execution style. One slave had each of his limbs tied to the bow of a boat before he was pulled apart at sea. "When I tried to escape, they beat me and smashed all my teeth," recounts 27-year old Burmese fisherman and escaped slave Myint Thein of the day he was sold to a boat captain. They also received countless other beatings from the ship's captain while working 20-hour days with little more than a plate of rice to

## Human trafficking harsh facts

- **14,500-17,500:** estimated number of people trafficked into the United States each year
- **50 percent** of people trafficked into the U.S. each year are children
- **800,000** people are trafficked worldwide each year
- **46 percent** of trafficking victims are used for prostitution
- **27 percent** are used for domestic service
- **10 percent** are used in the agricultural field
- **5 percent** of victims work in factories
- The average trafficker can make **\$150,000-\$200,000** per child each year.
- Each trafficker averages **4-6** girls.
- Human trafficking generates **\$9.5 billion** annually

## Demand for chocolate fuels slave labor

By Madeline Carlton '16

Almost everyone knows that dark chocolate is the most healthful chocolate to eat.

Few, however, know of the "dark" side of the chocolate industry, a side that is anything but healthful for the child slaves used to harvest precious cocoa beans.

Many companies in the chocolate industry are successful only because they use child slaves to harvest the cocoa that will be used in their final chocolate products.

According to The World Cocoa Foundation, western African countries supply more than 70 percent of the world's cocoa and are also home to nearly all of the world's cocoa slaves.

CNN reported that the price of cocoa has been decreasing every year in direct relation to the slavery on cocoa farms' becoming more prevalent. Companies are able to keep their prices low and competitive through their use of slaves, especially child slaves.

CNN's David McKenzie and Brent Swails report, "Slavery in the cocoa fields is different. The children we spoke to in Ivory Coast [Africa] weren't upset.

They weren't chained or locked up. These children know nothing else. They don't know what freedom is – can't even imagine it. They are resigned to their



A young boy chops down a cocoa pod with a machete during a harvest for cocoa beans.

fate because, to them, this is just how it is here."

The work that these slaves do is dangerous. Many children walk around with machetes to chop down the cocoa pod and

then split the pod open to get the cocoa beans, the valuable part of the cocoa pod.

Surprisingly, cocoa slaves come largely from families.

Cocoa slavery is a growing phenomenon, and many families and villages are left with no choice but to use their children. The cocoa plantation owners are paid very little for a product that is in high demand, so they are forced to use their own children as slaves. It is a repetitive and harsh cycle that can only end with the help of the chocolate consumers of the world.

Chocolate is a food adored by a large global population. The world need not stop its chocolate consumption simply because major companies are exploiting child slaves.

Everyone, however, can and should do his or her part by being aware of the child slaves in West Africa and avoiding chocolate produced from this region. Fair Trade chocolate is also said to be produced without the use of slaves, although this fact can not always be verified.

With awareness of this phenomenon, child slavery in the chocolate world can be suppressed.

Cocoa plantations have been in families for decades, and many must put their children to work rather than into school because the demand for chocolate in the world is increasing so greatly.

## Memories of pre-war life inspire children's games

By Christina Knox '16

A group of three young girls sit together outside playing with a dollhouse made of mud and water.

These girls, however, do not play with a typical dollhouse associated with young girls their age. No dream house, no pink dresses, no plastic purses.

This dollhouse consists of simple beds, pots and stoves, symbols of their former lives -- lives not ravaged by war and oppression.

Filmmaker Andrew Berends stumbled upon these three, 11 year-old refugees Madina, Howa and Aziza, playing with an open-aired clay dollhouse in their refugee camp in South Sudan.

According to the New York Times article "Toys of War," Berends traveled to Sudan to document how civil war still clenches the Nuba Mountains. Berends passed through Yida Refugee Camp, situated in South Sudan, en route to the Nuba Mountains.

"I am still disturbed by the images I observed in these children's play and the reality they represent: a war that continues to devastate life and rob children of their childhood," Berends said. "I hope that for them, someday go-

ing home will be more than just a dream."

In 2011, South Sudan became independent from the Republic of Sudan (now North Sudan) after

families and 70,000 other refugees to the safety of Yida Refugee Camp. Located 18 miles south of the perilous border, Yida Camp has grown from 400 inhabitants

to occupy themselves throughout the day.

Although expansive, Yida Refugee Camp offers limited schooling. More than 7,000 refugee children have to find other ways

of their former lives.

When Berends asked the girls if they would make more figures to depict their new lives and experiences in their villages, he was shocked to see the result.

In just one day, the girls crafted more than 100 new figures rendering their new lives. Among the figurines were clay tanks, helicopters, rebels and machine guns. As the girls shared their new additions to their dollhouse with Berends, they relayed horrifying stories of their experiences at their place of refuge.

The girls had witnessed family members murdered by rebel soldiers, had hid in caves while airplanes bombed their villages and had walked for days to escape the fighting.

Madina, Howa and Aziza re-enacted their experiences using the figures, and Berends caught their stories on camera. He then created and edited an Op-Doc, a short opinionated documentary, called "Toys of War," about how the fighting has affected these young girls. The Op-Doc can be found on the New York Times Website and YouTube, where it has about 3,500 views.



The children refugees at Yida Refugee Camp recreate the story of their exodus with clay figures.

decades of civil war. The conflict continues in North Sudan with ground-fighting, aerial bombing and starvation warfare.

Madina, Howa and Aziza fled from North Sudan with their

to 70,000 in just two years.

A supposed haven from the surrounding violence, Yida Camp, like many depressed refugee camps, is a hot bed of domestic violence and the sexual exploi-

to occupy themselves throughout the day.

These three girls spend their time working together to fill the dollhouse with intricate, hand-crafted clay objects, all remnants

## Students in Thailand protest using *Mockingjay* salute

By Maddy Lauinger '16

Peaceful student protesters in Thailand are using a famous gesture as a symbol of the expanding unrest in their country: The *Mockingjay* symbol.

Five Thai students were detained after flashing the salute to acting Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-Ocha.

According to reports, the tensions in Thailand were at an all time high following the coup d'état, in which the national Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) usurped the seat of prime minister Prayuth Chan-Ocha.

Matters were not helped when the NCPO also decided to impress martial law throughout the country in order to retain peace.

This new government infuriated many Thai people who claim that martial law, which includes a curfew, is a violation of their rights as citizens of a republic.

Protest groups are now forming, using the *Mockingjay* symbol to represent their oppression. Many student protesters have adopted the three fingered salute featured in the extremely popular *Hunger Games* movie franchise, based on the book series by Suzanne Collins.

The series takes place in a post-apocalyptic North America called Panem where every year the government holds a lottery-

like event called the Reaping. Two people from each of 12 districts, one male and one female from ages 12 to 18, are chosen to fight to the death in a gladiator-like game, the *Hunger Games*, until there is only one survivor.

The series itself incorporates a lot of political significance: one of its main messages is the idea that just one voice can have a huge effect.

In this series, that one voice belongs to the main female heroine,

Katniss Everdeen, who defies the Capitol and stands up for the districts. More and more throughout the series, people begin to stand up with Katniss and rebel against the Capitol. Katniss quickly becomes the face of the rebellion, the one who inspires people to fight and persevere.

One of the symbols associated with Katniss and the rebellion is the three-fingered salute. The salute was originally used to say "goodbye" and "good luck" to the

tributes reaped into the Games, but it soon developed into a symbol of rebellion after Katniss defied the rules of the Games imposed by the Capitol.

Now, the Thai people are using this three-fingered salute to denote their own rebellion.

So far, this has been a relatively peaceful rebellion, with no outward acts of violence to date.

However, the NCPO is not taking these rebels lightly and

threatened to cancel all screenings of the third movie in the *Hunger Games* franchise, "*Mockingjay Part 1*," in an attempt not to further provoke Thai rebels.

Thankfully, the threat was an empty one, and showings of the movie continued. However, the NCPO continues to demonstrate its dominance by arresting any civilian suspected of rebelling against its order.



Students in Thailand stand in protest embracing the *Mockingjay* symbol.



Katniss inspires hope in the citizens of Panem.

# New-age Disney reimagines old classics

By Grace Hogan '15

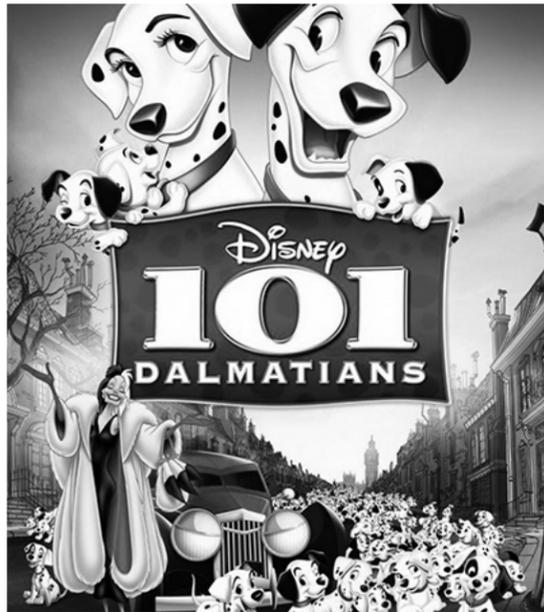
For 78 years, Disney has monopolized children's movies. It's hard to go the movies without being bombarded by previews for Disney films. From hand-drawn storyboarding to 3D computer animation, the classics have been created in a variety of media as animation technology has improved. However, in recent years, the corporation has ventured further into the film scene by producing live-action versions of their timeless classics.

In 2011, ABC, a subsidiary of Disney, developed "Once Upon a Time," a television series giving new depth and interactions to beloved fairytale characters. The new re-imaginings of cherished masterpieces have given Disney access to the one thing that has always eluded the company: an adult market. With many of the live-action movies rated PG and PG-13, Disney is seeking out the teens, young adults and parents who grew up on the animated classics but have "grown out of Disney."

Like any successful enterprise, Disney sought to expand itself each time it achieved success; when an animated film did well, a sequel was produced. Traditionally, these sequels, such as "The Lion King II" and "Peter Pan: Return to Neverland," were box office flops or direct to video releases. Few achieved even half the success of their predecessors; however, because of their audience, content quality was not always important. Children obsessed with Peter and Captain Hook are willing to watch almost

anything that features the characters, and exhausted parents are happy to break up the monotony of re-watching the same film multiple times a day.

With the all but extinction of VHS tapes, Disney began the process of re-mastering original films, such as "The Little Mermaid." As these favorites were redesigned for DVD and Blu-Ray,



several were also re-released in select theatres across the country.

Much of the success of re-releases can be attributed to the large audience. Parents are eager to give their children the same experience of seeing a classical movie in theaters; teenagers want to see if the magic of the movie lives up to their childhood memories.

But with the success of the 2014 "Sleeping Beauty" spin-off "Maleficent," Hollywood is beginning to think live-action remakes have

more of a chance than animated sequels or re-mastered classics. "Maleficent," starring Angelina Jolie, centers on one of Disney's original villains. The film gives a back-story and motives to the one-sided antagonist from the 1959 box-office hit. The spin-off has definitely lived up to its predecessor; in only eight weeks, the film topped 700 million box-

office dollars worldwide. In the eight months since "Maleficent's" release, Disney has released promotional videos for the live-action pictures "Cinderella," "Pan" and "The Jungle Book" and announced the initial productions of "Beauty and the Beast" and "Dumbo."

Developing animated films into live-action productions is not a new concept. Thirty-five years after the release of the original "101 Dalmatians," Disney produced a live-action version of the

film. The live-action film, which was released in 1996 during the heart of the Disney Animation Renaissance, performed well enough to spawn a live-action sequel, "102 Dalmatians," just four years later. Almost 20 years later, Disney is also in production of a live-action spin off centered on villainess Cruella de Vil.

In recent years, more oppor-

tunities to translate animation to live-action have arisen largely thanks to enhanced special effects. "101 Dalmatians" is one of the few Disney films not to include magic, flying and a mythical world. As a result, it was a prime candidate for live-action in the 90s. With the impressive CGI of the 21st century, Hollywood producers have realized that very little of Disney's fantasy is out of reach.

Remakes and sequels are all about comparison. Because

they are largely not an original thought, the new movies are scrutinized for any inconsistencies or flaws. The smooth actions of cartoon characters are portrayed by clumsy actors who cannot fly or dress themselves with the wave of a hand. The outspoken children of animation, often voiced by adults, are replaced by young actors who are closer to an adult's idea of how children speak and act than a child's.

Many hardcore Disney enthusiasts are worried about the magic's being lost in translation. The cartoon world is one of endless possibilities. Birds can dress Snow White, a cake batter can be instantly transformed into a three-tiered masterpiece and pixie dust really does work. In a live-action film, on-screen magic is restricted by hidden wires and green screens.

In addition, many of the live-action films so far have been considerably darker than their predecessors. Directors claim that the darker atmosphere is to help relate to a more mature and realistic audience. Writers are attempting to give live-action characters, both villains and heroes, a greater depth. While this may make the characters more similar to real people, many viewers enjoy the Disney films because they are so removed from reality.

Only time will tell if the live-action remakes stand-up to the magic of the originals. Creators of the Disney films remain hopeful for success because, as Walt Disney said, "Laughter is timeless, imagination has no age, and dreams are forever."

Remakes and sequels are all about comparison. Because

# One Direction launches new global tour

By MaryKate Giarrocco '15

Ever since The Beatles crossed the pond, there has been an explosion of love for British boy bands in America. Emerging on the 2010 edition of "The X Factor UK," One Direction lit the music world on fire.

The band includes five not only handsome, but also very talented young men: four British boys-Harry Styles, Zayn Malik, Liam Payne, Louis Tomlinson- and one Irishman, Niall Horan. One Direction is a diverse group of pas-

sionate vocalists and talented musicians who have come a long way since releasing their first album, "Up All Night," in 2011. Their newest album, "FOUR," conveys the different musical styles that they can play, highlighting each of their individual talents. It draws a variety of people with different musical tastes to listen to the new and improved One Direction.

Ten out of the twelve songs on "FOUR" were co-written by the band members. One Direction was also able to collaborate

with different artists, such as Ed Sheeran and John Legend.

Their first single, "Steal Your Girl," hit the top of the charts as soon as it was released. Taken from the sound of "Faithfully" by Journey, the catchy song explains their love for one amazing girl. The following single, "Night Changes," conveys how quickly life goes by, but no matter how the world changes, true love remains the same.

The rest of the album ranges from ballads, to jam outs, to rock, and even embraces a folk sound.

So, the question is, why was the new album named "FOUR"?

The answer came from a specific member of the band, Niall Horan.

"There were a lot of names floating around, and I just went, 'It's the fourth album, let's call it Four and underline it!'"

Since its release, "FOUR" has helped One Direction prove themselves in the music industry: The mature sound of the album has improved the reputation of the once-bubblegum boy band.

Their next tour, "On The Road

Again," showcases One Direction's new album. Their world tour is scheduled to commence in the beginning of February 2015. It will kick off down under in Australia and end in the boys' home countries, Ireland and England.

Ed Sheeran, who wrote one of the songs on the new album, says, "I'm really happy with the record that I wrote for them. The day after I wrote it I sent it over, and they sound great on it! It's good."



One Direction supports each other after a performance on The X Factor UK in 2010.



One Direction poses on the red carpet at the Brit Awards in 2014.



## The 87th Oscars celebrate a year overflowing with impressive work



By Lia Rocchino '15

The annual Oscars present a glamorous excuse for film buffs and fashionistas alike to spend far too long thinking about entertainment and celebrities. Whether you are the avid film critic, the casual watcher, the one who wants to laugh at the host's jokes or the one just looking for prom dress inspiration, everyone has some kind of interest in the Oscars. But caught up in the whirlwind of award shows, tabloid covers and critical commentaries, it is sometimes hard to buckle down and focus on the true reason for the season.

Though not the most honorable or commendable industry, entertainment does hold real value in society. For centuries, humanity has looked for distractions through storytelling to distract it from the hardships and monotony of day-to-day living. The Academy Awards represent the evolution of this desire, with the addition of some narcissism and just a bit of unhealthy idolization of actors.

The Academy Awards, not officially renamed The Oscars until 2013, began in 1929 with a 15 minute ceremony, 5 dollar tickets and only 15 winners. 87 years later, almost 3,000 statuettes have been awarded across 24 categories to those in all aspects of the industry. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), who sponsor the awards each year, is comprised of a membership reaching upward of 6,000 people, mostly actors, who vote on that year's nominees. Interestingly, the iconic statue the winners take home, nicknamed "the Oscar," actually depicts a knight holding a crusader's sword standing on a reel of film with five spokes, one for each branch of the Academy: actors, writers, directors, producers and technicians.

But who will take home one of these coveted 8-pound statues this year? Last year, host Ellen DeGeneres stole the show with her ordering pizza for some of the biggest stars in Hollywood and her selfie, which is now the most retweeted picture on Twitter with over 3.3 million retweets. The nominees, however, fell a little flat. In contrast, this year's 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards, hosted by Neil Patrick Harris, promise a great show. The nominees include a good many viable contenders, and even the most researched of predictions could fail on Oscar night.

Of the 24 categories in the current Oscars, it is no secret we all watch mainly for the "big 5" of best picture, lead actor, lead actress, supporting actor and supporting actress. This year's categories are especially packed with heart-wrenching films starring

worthy actors giving transcendent performances (just a few words utilized by critics).

Though it is nearly impossible to know the results of the night for certain, there are indicators all throughout Oscar season, the most obvious of which are the Golden Globes and the Screen Actors Guild Awards (SAGs). The Globes, which were held on Jan. 11 by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association and hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, awarded statues to "Boyhood," Eddie Redmayne, Julianne Moore, Michael Keaton (for Motion Picture-Comedy), Patricia Arquette and J.K. Simmons.

Though it may seem like the decisions are set in stone, the Globes are actually far less accurate at predicting future Oscar winners than the average viewer realizes. For the past two decades, the Globes have been correct 91 out of a possible 140 times in the major Oscar categories. The ratio seems pretty accurate from a statistical point-of-view, but taking into account the different structures of the two award shows, it is actually a pretty abysmal record.

By breaking down the main five categories into "Drama" and "Comedy or Musical," the Globes have a much better chance of honoring the future Academy Award winner. In addition to this double chance choice, the Globes also have a track record of choosing the obvious winner. In years where one film truly stands out, it is an easy decision to honor it with all the awards available during the season. During years like this one, though, where the race is less clear, the Golden Globes have a frightfully bad record.

In contrast, the Screen Actors Guild Awards (SAGs) are consistent indicators as to who will take home the Oscar. In fact, last year all four of the SAG Award choices for best lead and supporting actors (Matthew McConaughey, Jared Leto, Cate Blanchett and

Actors Guild. Around 160,000 actors around the world hold SAG cards and vote on winners, but the nominees are chosen by a committee of 2,100 that changes each year.

This year the victors seem to correspond throughout all the major award ceremonies, yet critics are still warning the favorites not to get too comfortable, as a dark horse nominee very well may come out with the greatest prize in film. So though you may have your own opinion on which film or actor deserves the Oscar, here are my personal picks:

### Best Picture: "The Imitation Game"

Watching critically acclaimed films is almost my obsession, yet none that I've seen can even come close to rivaling the brilliance of "The Imitation Game." It tells the true story of Alan Turing, secret World War II hero and inventor of the modern computer who was destroyed by the very country he saved simply because they discovered he was a homosexual. The pain which Turing suffered coupled with the indignation any viewer cannot help but feel after seeing it makes "The Imitation Game" an absolute must-see. The screenplay is masterfully made, the performance by lead actor Benedict Cumberbatch is flawless and the emotions it evokes are true, painful and wonderful.

### Actor in a Leading Role: Eddie Redmayne, "The Theory of Everything"

Any other year Cumberbatch would win this category in a landslide, but in looking fairly at the nominees, Redmayne must come out on top. His portrayal of the deterioration of Stephen Hawking, who suffers from a muscular degenerative disorder called ALS, is done so skillfully that it becomes impossible to distinguish between Dr. Hawking and Redmayne. Especially impressive is the revelation that this film was not shot in

sequence, meaning the scenes were not filmed in the order in which they appear in the movie. Redmayne had to begin each day anew, pinpointing in which exact stage of his digression Dr. Hawking would have been at that time and portraying the physicality of it perfectly.

### Actress in a Leading Role: Julianne Moore, "Still Alice"

Equally as impressive as Eddie Redmayne, Julianne Moore portrays a woman living through the early stages of Early-Onset Alzheimer's disease. Moore had to portray a woman losing her sense of self, while simultaneously remaining completely in control of the character. She was able to portray to the viewer the true horror of this disease in a very minimalist way that takes great skill as an actress. In one stand-out and heartbreaking scene, Moore's character Alice gets lost while jogging, and the viewer can truly feel the terror she feels at her inability to remember.

### Actor in a Supporting Role: Edward Norton, "Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)"

Edward Norton is one of those actors who delivers so consistently that the Academy and viewers seem to overlook him. However, his depiction of Mike Shiner, the impossible-to-work-with actor starring alongside Michael Keaton's character in his self-produced Broadway play, is eye catching. His performance is one that allows his co-stars to shine, which is truly the sign of an extremely talented actor.

### Actress in a Supporting Role: Patricia Arquette, "Boyhood"

"Boyhood" is a new kind of film of which no one in the entertainment industry quite knows what to make. However, lost in the discussions of the brilliance of the simplicity of the idea and the rawness of the screenplay is the performance of the film's adult actors. Ellar Coltrane who plays the lead, Mason, as he navigates his childhood had a tough role to play, yet not as tough as that of Arquette. She had to become a character for twelve years, to embody fully at a moment's notice the personality and life of a divorced mother. The crew of this movie only filmed a few weeks each year, so the ability of Arquette to come back to the role perfectly again and again is truly worthy of acclaim.

Whether you agree with my choices or vehemently oppose them, we can all agree that this year's Oscars are absolutely overflowing with talent. Don't miss the big event hosted by Neil Patrick Harris on Feb. 22.



**OSCAR'S BEST PICTURE NOMINEES**  
 AMERICAN SNIPER  
 BIRDMAN  
 BOYHOOD  
 THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL  
 THE IMITATION GAME  
 SELMA  
 THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING  
 WHIPLASH

**OSCAR'S ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE NOMINEES**  
 STEVE CARELL  
 BRADLEY COOPER  
 BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH  
 MICHAEL KEATON  
 EDDIE REDMAYNE

**OSCAR'S ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE NOMINEES**  
 MARION COTILLARD  
 FELICITY JONES  
 JULIANNE MOORE  
 ROSAMUND PIKE  
 REESE WITHERSPOON

**OSCAR'S ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE NOMINEES**  
 ROBERT DUVALL  
 ETHAN HAWKE  
 EDWARD NORTON  
 MARK RUFFALO  
 J.K. SIMMONS

**OSCAR'S ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE NOMINEES**  
 PATRICIA ARQUETTE  
 LAURA DERN  
 KEIRA KNIGHTLEY  
 EMMA STONE  
 MERYL STREEP

Lupita Nyong'o) went on to become Academy Award winners in March. This year's SAG Awards, which were held on Jan. 25, bestowed "Birdman," Eddie Redmayne, Julianne Moore, Patricia Arquette and J.K. Simmons with statuettes.

The accuracy of the SAGs may be due to the voters in the Screen

## Instagram accounts satisfy foodies



### Host the perfect “Galentine’s Day”



By Amanda Geiser '15

As Valentine’s Day approaches, women and girls everywhere are in desperate need of some time with their female friends. Thankfully, “Parks and Recreation” filled this need with the creation of the best day of the year: Galentine’s Day. As Leslie Knope succinctly states, “It’s like Lilith Fair, minus the angst. Plus frittatas.” Here are a few ways to create the perfect Galentine’s Day this Feb. 13.



1.) Gather your lady friends – family, coworkers, acquaintances and anyone else you can muster. While Valentine’s Day is for romance, Galentine’s Day is about celebrating female friendships.

2.) Have breakfast food – preferably waffles with lots of whipped cream.

3.) Exchange thoughtful, personalized gifts. Some ideas include bouquets of hand-crocheted flower pens, mosaic portraits made from crushed diet soda bottles, 5,000-word essays of why each of your friends is so awesome, gift certificates for facials and needlepoint pillows with your friends’ faces on them.

4.) Share stories, memories and gratitude. On this “ultimate battlefield of female friendship,” it is imperative to engage your friends with tales of the past and to let them know that you value their friendship.

So, on Feb. 13, channel your inner Leslie Knope and embody the spirit of this most wonderful of holidays. Forget about schoolwork, sports and boys and allow the festivities of Galentine’s Day to enrich your life.

By Anna Feinschil '15

For those of us who love food as a second family, social media seems to feel the same way. Recently, there has been a spark of interest on multiple social media sites offering suggestions for delicious meals and popular restaurants that a food lover would enjoy. Instagram offers many different accounts that are guaranteed to make your mouth water. Some are even just down the street!



**@everything\_bagels**

Calling all early birds! This account focuses strictly on bagels and all the ways to make one of America’s favorite breakfast foods. From bagel sandwiches to dessert bagels, this account will make you excited to clock in every morning!

**@huffposttaste**

If your palette is craving something a little more exquisite in taste, check out this account! Huff Post Taste highlights the most delectable and tastiest foodie spots around the United States.

late chip fluffernutter casserole. Food Dessert 1 has you covered.



**@nycfoodphoto**

Visit this food loving account to find the most lavish drinks and the best bites of “The Big Apple!” This account is run by professional food photographers with a passion for food, photography and the art of cuisine. From the best New York delis to spots to get the best slice of pizza, this account will point you in the right direction!



**@jackswifefreda**

This up-and-coming restaurant in NYC has become very popular in 2014. Famous for its delicious yet healthy food variety, this trendy and urban spot in the heart of Soho will be sure to make your mouth water!

**@the\_daily\_bite**

This account will surely satisfy any cravings you may have. Alexa Fleisher travels between California, New York and Florida to provide her followers with the most colorful and tastiest dishes—many at restaurants near you!

**@lindsaymaitland**

This account is simple, delicious and definitely one to follow. Lindsay Maitland is a freelance recipe developer and writer. Every recipe or dish shown on her account is homemade and invented by Lindsay herself.



**@plantbased\_pixie**

Are you a vegetarian? A vegan? No problem! This account provides you with the healthiest and most colorful recipes...and everything is gluten free! Be sure to follow if you just started your New Years resolution or are looking for good and healthy alternatives to classic dishes.

**@food\_dessert1**

Have a sweet tooth? This account focuses strictly on the most delicious desserts around the United States. From chocolate cookie truffles to banana choco-

**@swagfoodphilly**

This foodie account created by former Mountie Megan Dugery and friend Gianna Leflar allows you to take a look at food from some of the tastiest restaurants in Philadelphia. Included are scrumptious pictures and the names of each restaurant in Philly and other cities.

**@philadelphiafoodie**

This favorite foodie account provides insight to the food world of Philadelphia and beyond. Creators Remi Hill and Amanda Soll are sure to hit the best grub spots around the country.

## Embrace your single status on Valentine’s Day

By Katie de Luca '16

When I picture Valentine’s Day, I immediately think of the love and romance that is usually associated with the month of February.

Of course it’s great that there is a holiday centered on sweet notes, hearts and romantic gestures, but who says that love has to come from a boyfriend or significant other?

Why can’t you love your family, yourself and your friends? There are countless ways to have a love-filled Valentine’s Day.

One way to kick the “forever alone” blues is to wear your favorite headband or pair of earrings. You’ll feel confident and pretty even while you listen to other girls gush about their perfect Valentine’s Day plans.

A simple way to help you start your Valentine’s Day right is to treat yourself to a special drink from Starbucks or Dunkin’, or to take a nice warm bubble bath

with special soaps or salts. Just remember – whatever you do, don’t feel guilty that you aren’t doing homework.

If the holiday still has you feeling in a romantic mood, cozv up



with your favorite blanket, your dog, your mom or even good old Mr. Snuggles and stream your favorite Nicholas Sparks movie on Netflix. Tissues are optional, but suggested.

Throughout the day, instead

of being down in the dumps because your Prince Charming isn’t around to sweep you off your feet, make an effort to tell your friends and family that you love them. You can even go around

few extra minutes laughing with friends and maybe even splurge on a cookie.

Feb. 14 should not be all about serious relationships. This holiday certainly doesn’t necessarily have to involve fancy dates or chocolates from your sweetheart, because there are so many other ways to make Valentine’s Day special. Keep your head up and enjoy a little extra chocolate; and if you are in a cute relationship, the rest of us will resume talking to you on the 15th.

To find out what you should watch during your Valentine’s Day celebration, check out this online quiz:

“Which Valentine’s Day Episode Should You Watch” on Playbuzz

your lunch table and tell each girl your favorite thing about her.

On the topic of lunch, stay in the cafeteria or Fontbonne for the entire duration - don’t sneak away to the library or Room 500 to get a head start on work. Enjoy those

www.playbuzz.com/campanile10/which-valentines-day-episode-should-you-watch

# MINI-THON

## 2nd annual Mini-THON encourages students and faculty to dance FTK

*“The months of planning were well worth the chance to enjoy the unity and excitement of that night. We helped change the lives of children fighting pediatric cancer, and that’s a pretty amazing thing to be a part of as teenagers!”*

*-Belin Mirabile '15*



*“It was amazing doing the line dance on stage and seeing everyone holding up their diamonds For The Kids!”*

*-Hannah Tubman '16*



*“At first I was hesitant to donate my hair, but it was a great reminder of what Mini-THON is all about!”*

*-Megan Mc-Paul '15*



### Before...

*“The Mini-THON committee believed in themselves and their vision to support Four Diamond’s pediatric cancer research. They set high expectations and translated those ideas into action.”*

*-Mrs. D’Angelo*



### After...

*“The whole vibe changed for Rave Hour. Everyone seemed to get a second wind, and the energy was contagious. It was an amazing addition to the newest Mount tradition.”*

*-Monica DiLenno '15*

