



MANY SIGNS, ONE VISION, ONE COMMUNITY

THE NEWSLETTER OF "47" THE AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH SECONDARY SCHOOL

Volume 1, Issue 2 | April-May 2021

Introduction

Hello, "47" family!

Welcome to the second issue of *Many Signs, One Vision, One Community*, our school newsletter. In this issue, you can find a few new sections, including a celebration of our March and April Students of the Month, a comic relief page, and a staff highlight of our Parent Coordinator, Delta Ortiz. You will also find important updates on the Advanced Placement exam and tutoring schedules. As we enjoy the warmer weather and approach the end of the school year, we hope this information proves useful to you.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please reach out to us directly at the email address below. You can expect one more issue this school year, and then we will see you again in the fall!

With our warmest regards,

"47" Communications Committee

Ms. Helton, Mx. Howard, Ms. Schaeffer, and Ms. Zaken
communications@47aslhs.net

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Deaf History Month

MARCH 13TH – APRIL 15TH

Contributed by Ms. Zaken

March 13th – April 15th is *Deaf History Month*! So, what exactly do we acknowledge and celebrate during this time? It is a time to recognize the accomplishments and triumphs of the Deaf community and Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing individuals throughout history. You might be asking yourself why these dates were chosen to acknowledge Deaf History Month, but there is a reason behind it! The American School for the Deaf—the first school for the deaf in the US—was opened on April 15th 1817. 47 years later, on April 8th 1864, Gallaudet University was founded. This university is the first and only secondary education institution created solely for Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing individuals. 124 years after it was founded, on March 13th, 1988, the first Deaf president of the university was officially nominated—an enormous feat after the Deaf President Now movement. These dates were always significant to the Deaf community, but it all came to fruition on March 13th 1996. On this day, two deaf employees were working at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in Washington, D.C. (also where Gallaudet is located), and began teaching their co-workers sign language. The information spread, more and more people wanted to learn, and what began as some basic sign language lessons, turned into a week of deaf awareness, and then a full month, which eventually became recognized on a national level with the help and support of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD).

Mental Health Awareness Month

MAY 2021

Contributed by the Social-Emotional Learning Committee

May is *Mental Health Awareness Month*! Millions of people across America experience mental health conditions and don't always know how to address them or how to develop healthy coping methods. Since the start of the pandemic last year, taking care of our mental health has become more important than ever. Our Social-Emotional Learning Committee has created a short list of ideas that you can try to give yourself a mood boost! Thanks to Mr. Bridger, Ms. Dunams, Ms. Gregory, and Mr. Mancera!

1. Take a walk around the block (don't forget your mask!)
2. Stretch!
3. Sing lyrics from your favorite song!
4. Splash water on your face!
5. Change your clothes!
6. Solve a [daily riddle](#)! Share your favorites with your friends and family. See if you can stump them!

Students of the Month

MARCH

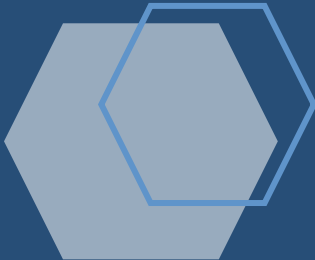
Congratulations to our March Students of the Month!

Velinda Amelco	Ethan Gross	Franchesca Maceo Rosis
Kimora Cancel	Jamirah Hamilton	Franchesca Sanchez
Avianna Daniels	Nadia Hidalgo	Alanis Santiago
Jerry Leon Enriquez (Leo)	Logan Jones	Janiyah Simpson
Jarely Fajardo	Regina Liu	Tahlaiya Thompson
Jessica Hernandez Galindo	Amelia Mendez	Yahelis Vega
Angela Gao	Yanitza Sojo Noel	Katherine Vargas
Sirandy Garcia	Cherrilyn Torres Ramirez	Kiaya Walker
Chelsea Gomez	Naomi Rivas	

APRIL

Congratulations to our April Students of the Month!

Ana Esthiocy Abreu Ortiz	Arianna Olivieri	Amaya Sousa
Heav Dunham	Jessica Paulinomartinez	Anderson Tamayo
Leslie Lorenzo Rodriguez	Raulybel Perez	Cherrilyn Torres Ramirez
Franchesca Maceo Rosis	Natalie Quintero	Nializ Torres
Richard Masaquiza Puin	Ashley Santes	Yahelis Vega
Memory Muchanyerei	Janiyah Simpson	Nanci Zanes Lozada
Alissa Nieves	Tania Smiley	



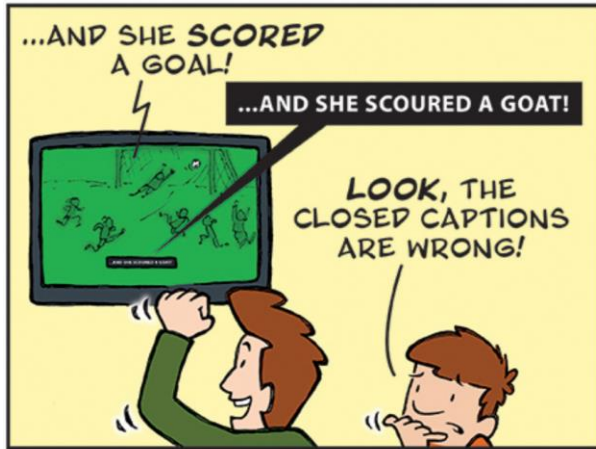
Comic Relief

THAT DEAF GUY

Matt and Kay Daigle, by permission of the artists

THAT DEAF GUY

BY MATT & KAY DAIGLE



THAT DEAF GUY

BY MATT & KAY DAIGLE



SOME JOKES

What does a cloud wear under his raincoat?

Thunderwear!

What do you call a dog magician?

A labracadabrador!

How does the moon cut his hair?

Eclipse it!

Student Contributions

In this issue, we're proud to feature contributions from the following "47" students:

ON MY SKETCHBOOK

By Tahlaiya Thompson '22

The first time I creatively designed my name
Tahlaiya Thompson
without anybody's help
on a blank, but slick page of my sketchbook.
I believe
if I could draw anything I want,
I could draw out my future path for myself.
Pictures becoming scenes, scenes gathering meaning
becoming
movies outside of my eyes
becoming everyday life
written by
Tahlaiya Thompson

DEAR CANCER

By Aaliyah Martinez '21

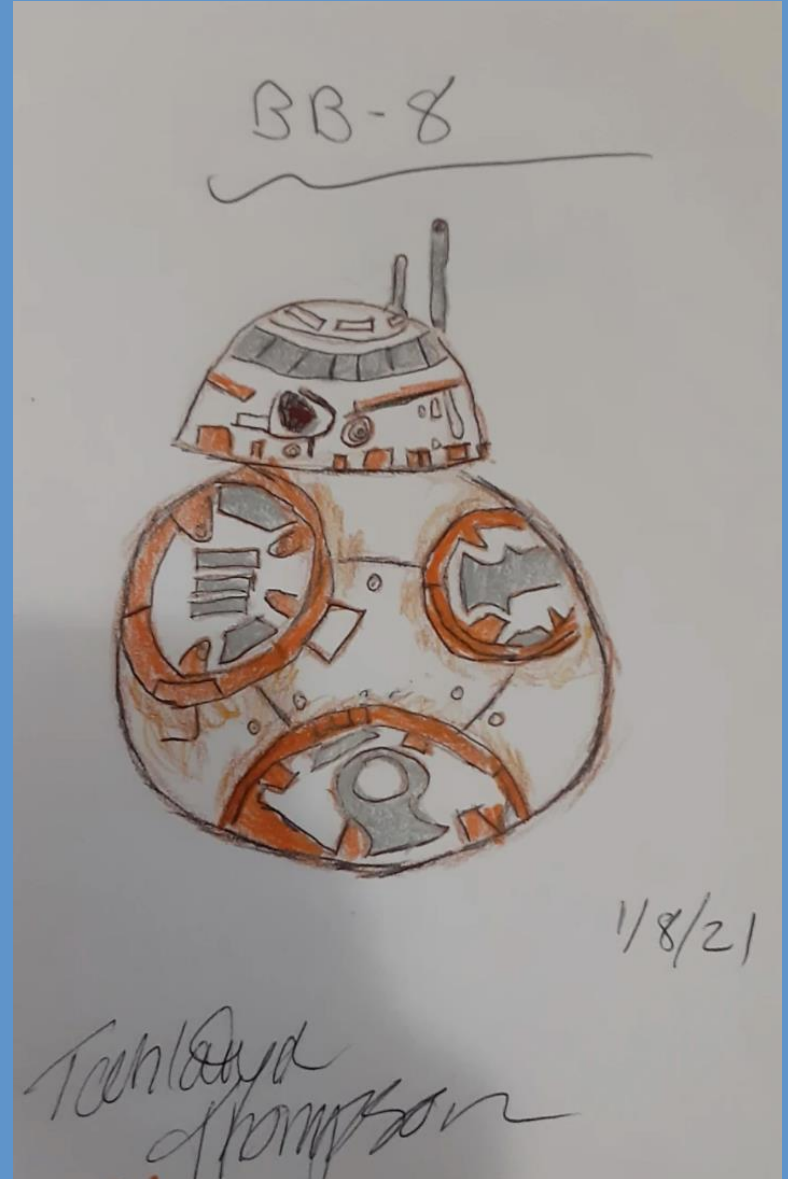
Oh, cancer how devious you are
The way you grip firmly around someone's body and
squeeze and squeeze
till you empty them out of all happy rainbows and sunshine's
while you drain their souls.

Oh, cancer how deadly you are
Caressing others and rocking them to sleep
Telling them that there's no other care in the world while you
kill them

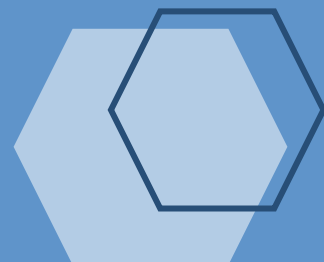
How dare you give hope to then trap hearts in a casket,
chained up, nailed to the ground.

Heavy breathing
Eyes sewn shut
Mouth stapled
Now they are a distant memory

You're smart cancer



Artwork by Tahlaiya Thompson '21



THIS IS NEW YORK (*watch the music video here*)

A song about what it has been like to live through 2020 (and now 2021). Written by the "47" Performing Arts Club. This was previously featured in last month's newsletter, but a music video has now been added!

One tap on the keyboard,
For every single day.
From BLM to Biden's victory,

Whirlwind of wires all by themselves,
Waiting for life to plug itself in.

Pre-chorus:

This is New York,
We move around all the time
We go where the music takes us, we go where the food
takes us,

Chorus:

But now we're Rapunzel,
Stuck in our boxes,
Watching each other
In boxes
In boxes
9 million people
Glued to our boxes,
Together, alone.

Verse:

You think it's like the movies,
It's full with hopes and dreams,
but it's made to tear you down 'til you feel nothin'
Injustice, you see it, you live it
Move on, speak up,
Or it's never gonna change

Pre-chorus:

This is New York,
We move around all the time
Away from the crowds of people,
away from the rudest people

Chorus:

But now we're Rapunzel,
Stuck in our boxes,
Watching each other
In boxes
In boxes
9 million people
Glued to our boxes,
Together, alone.

CODA:

[Spoken]: I'm gonna live here because

[Sung]: This is my place

This is my life
I'm gonna stay here
This is my home
My sanctuary
I'm gonna live my life...

[Pause]

This is my place
This is my life
I'm gonna stay here
This is my home
My sanctuary
I'm gonna live my life...

[Pause]

This is my place
This is my life
I'm gonna stay here
This is my home
My sanctuary
I'm gonna live my life...
Like I want it

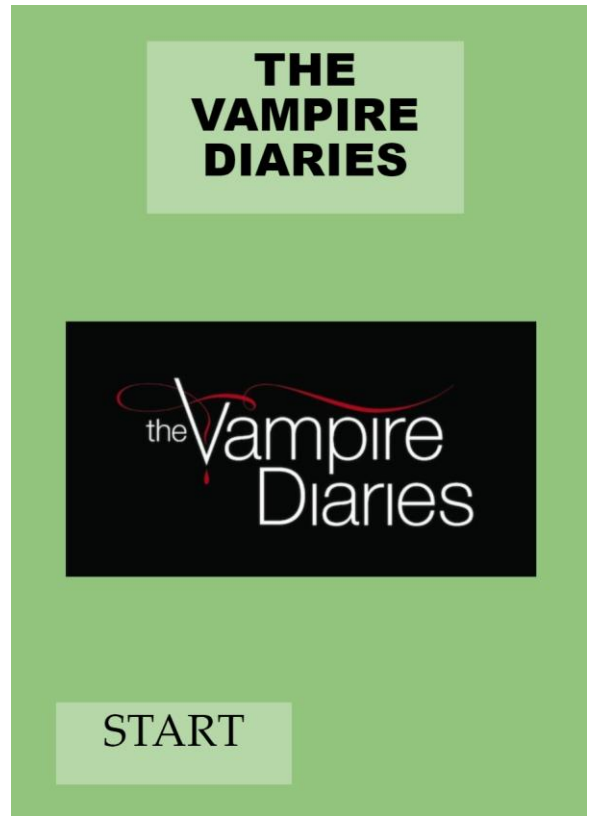
© 2021 Garzon, Perez, Thompson, Coons & Gerstein

APPS BY COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS

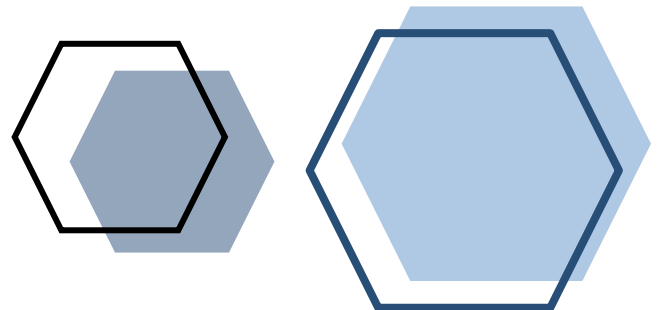
"Benefits of Video Games" by Josaiiah Ramirez '23 (click to open app)



"Vampire Diaries" by Kimora Cancel '23 (click to open app)



"History of Video Games" by Joseph Nieves '23 (click to open app)



Staff Highlight

DELTA ORTIZ, PARENT COORDINATOR

Q1: *Describe yourself in a hashtag.*

#DogLoverForever

Q2: *What is your favorite time of day?*

My favorite time of day is the morning. I love the sunrise because it represents the start of a new day and new beginnings.

Q3: *What is your dream place to visit?*

Ever since I could remember I always wanted to visit Hawaii because it is tropical, beautiful, and warm. It is one of my dreams and hopefully one day my dream will come true.

Q4: *What is the biggest surprise you have had?*

The biggest surprise that I ever had would be when my oldest daughter Tiffany told me and my husband Mike that she had joined the army.

Q5: *Do you prefer vintage or new?*

I am in love with vintage because it has a lot of personality, style and character.

Q6: *If you could win an Olympic medal for any sport, real or fake, what would it be?*

I would definitely win a medal for handball.

Q7: *If you could make a documentary, what would it be about?*

My documentary would be about a woman who struggled in life, was a single parent with six kids, and had a dream about owning a house in Puerto Rico. She was an amazing human being who put others first. She was strong and determined when it came to her children. I believe that I am who I am today because of her. I will always remember her in my heart. She was my Superhero :)

Q8: *If you could choose someone to play you in a movie, who would you choose?*

I would choose my younger sister because she knows everything about me and because she has a good soul.

Q9: *What is one thing that you enjoyed when you were younger that kids today don't get to do?*

One thing I enjoyed doing when I was younger was to use the typewriter. I would type school papers and even type for fun.

Q10: *What is the best advice you have ever gotten?*

It is never too late to learn (nunca es tarde para aprender).



AP[®] Exam Schedule 2021

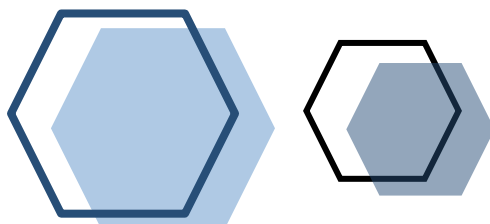
Students with questions should reach out to their AP class teacher(s) or to our AP Coordinator, Ms. G. Johnson (gjohnson@47aslhs.net).

Thursday, May 6	Wednesday, May 12	Monday, May 17	Tuesday, May 18
8:00 AM – AP US History (<i>in person, at school</i>)	8:00 AM – AP English Language and Composition (<i>in person, at school</i>)	8:00 AM – AP Computer Science Principles (<i>in person, at school</i>) 12:00 PM – AP Statistics (<i>in person, at school</i>)	12:00 PM – AP English Literature and Composition (<i>digital, at home</i>)
Wednesday, May 19	Wednesday, May 26	Friday, May 28	Thursday, June 10
12:00 PM – AP US History (<i>digital, at home/school</i>)	12:00 PM – AP Language and Composition (<i>digital, at home/school</i>) 12:00 PM – AP Computer Science Principles (<i>digital, at home/school</i>)	12:00 PM – AP Human Geography (<i>digital, at home</i>)	4:00 PM – AP Statistics (<i>digital, at home/school</i>)

National Honor Society Recruitment

The National Honor Society chapter at “47” is recruiting its next group of inductees. If you were sent a membership application, please know that the deadline is **Monday, May 24, 2021**.

The National Honor Society is a national program recognizing and empowering exemplary secondary school students. Student members embody the four “pillars” of scholarship, service, leadership, and character, and demonstrate those ideals throughout their membership and beyond. Practically speaking, NHS is an excellent activity to include on a resume when applying to colleges and jobs, as well as a source of \$2 million in scholarships each year! Contact the “47” chapter’s advisor, Ms. Jamie (jmorris@47aslhs.net), with any questions.



Tutoring Schedule

We encourage students who need academic help to look for when their teachers offer extra help, as well as when other staff members offer tutoring. Up-to-date information is available on the [After-School Schedule](#). Here are the highlights:

- **Extra Help:** Many teachers offer extra help after school on Mondays (except the first of each month) and Wednesdays from 1:40 to 2:20 pm, as well as on Fridays (Flex Day) from 8:30 to 9:30 am and from 1:00 to 2:00 pm.
- **Tutoring:** Ms. Blackburn, Mx. Howard, Ms. G. Johnson, Ms. Michelle, Mr. Peters, Ms. Shama, Mr. Suel, and Ms. Zaken each offer some combination of evening and Saturday tutoring. Students should reach out to these teachers for more information.

Calendar of Important Dates

For more information, check out the [New York City Schools calendar](#) and [our school calendar](#).

AP EXAMS

Wednesday, May 5–Thursday, June 10, 2021 (*see previous page*)

EID AL-FITR | SCHOOLS CLOSED

Thursday, May 13, 2021

MEMORIAL DAY | SCHOOLS CLOSED

Monday, May 31, 2021

ANNIVERSARY DAY | STUDENTS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Thursday, June 3, 2021, 2021

END OF MARKING PERIOD 3

Friday, June 18, 2021

GRADUATION

Friday, June 25, 2021

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR 2020–2021

Friday, June 25, 2021

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR 2021–2022

Monday, September 13, 2021

