



# MANY SIGNS, ONE VISION, ONE COMMUNITY

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

Volume 3, Issue 4 | January 2023

### Welcome Message

Hello, "47" family!

Happy January! Welcome to this year's fourth issue of *Many Signs, One Vision, One Community*, our school newsletter. In this issue, you'll find celebrations of recent events, work by students, student of the month awards, articles by staff, updates by staff committees, and highlights of Ms. Schaeffer and Ms. Schwartz. At the end are announcements of upcoming events and a calendar of important dates coming up soon in the school year.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please reach out to us directly at the email address below. We'd really like to know what you want to see. Otherwise, we'll see you for our next volume in February!

And for students: best of luck on Regents exams—we're all rooting for you!

Warmly,

#### "47" Communications Committee

Ms. Hadley, Ms. Entin-Wald, Mr. Harrington, Ms. Helton, Mx. Howard, Ms. Jordan,  
Ms. Megan, Ms. Schwartz, Velinda Amelco '23, Santiago Montealegre '25, Evelyn  
Pomavilla '23

[communications@47aslhs.net](mailto:communications@47aslhs.net)

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# Recently

## METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART FIELD TRIP

*December 6, 2022*

Students visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, engaging in workshops and guided tours, and roaming on their own, exploring the many dimensions and collections the museum has to offer. Students were given guided tours by museum specialists in the morning, viewing pre-selected works of art, discussing them within groups and working through philosophical notions together. Later in the morning, students took part in studio-centered workshops with art instructors, utilizing collage and found objects to create unique sculptures that were based somewhat on the students' comprehension of the artworks they had viewed earlier. In the afternoon, students were able to roam the museum on their own, exploring the depths and immense collections in the Met. Afterwards, students had lunch at various eateries, hung out, laughed, and then headed home on the subway.



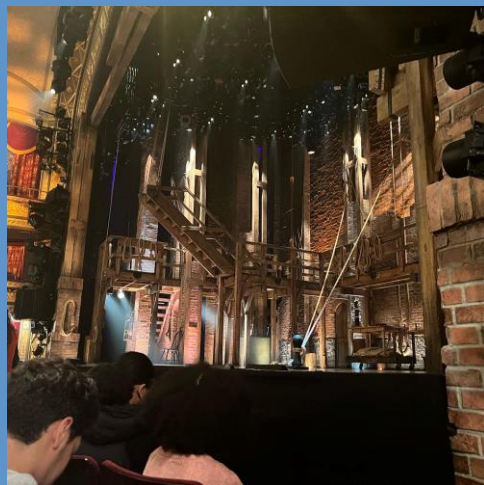
## HAMILTON FIELD TRIP

*December 8, 2022*

This fall, students in the 10th and 11th grade worked on a project sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Student projects followed the example set by Hamilton the Musical, by Lin Manuel Miranda. They were tasked with researching an individual or event during the Revolutionary Period in American history and then creating a performance piece to present the details of their chosen topic. Their hard work was rewarded with the opportunity to see Hamilton on Broadway with hundreds of other high school students from around the city.







## BIOBUS FIELD TRIP

*December 15, 2022*

On Thursday, December 15th, our school was visited by the Biobus. Living Environment and Earth Science students got to each spend a period on the bus to learn about cells, organisms and ecosystems while using research grade microscopes. Some highlights included seeing some single celled organisms such as bacteria and protists swimming around, getting to feed algae to a microscopic daphnia, watching gastropods slide along an elodea plant, viewing students hair fibers and cheek cells, and seeing a tardigrade munch on decomposing algae. It was a fun and interesting experience for all. Students practiced their pipetting skills, focused the microscopes, and asked great questions to further their learning and scientific understanding of cells and ecosystems.





## AVATAR FIELD TRIP

December 20, 2022

Digital Art and Film students went to the movies to see *Avatar: The Way of Water*, on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. Students have been working on digital artworks in the Adobe Creative Suite throughout the semester, and have been directing and producing short films. Seeing *Avatar* on the big screen offered a unique chance to witness the combination of the methods and techniques they have been utilizing the past semester taken to extreme professional heights. It was inspiring, and many students were very moved by the picture, both by its visual complexity, and its well-executed plot. Students were able to relax, enjoy themselves, and also stay connected to the work they have been producing and contemplating. It was a grand afternoon for all.



## TALENT SHOW

December 21, 2022

On Wednesday, December 21, with the support of our Arts Partner, Third Street Music School, we had our first school Talent Show since pre-Covid! Geo Mendoza gave us Frank Sinatra stylings, Alyanna Martinez moved us with WYD?. Melissa Ramirez Diaz, Adia Rhodes Garcia, Itzel Bravo, Yeilin Bravo, & Vianetty Ramirez showed off their moves to Just That Girl, and Ms Helton wowed the crowd with Easy On Me. For the final act, Jada Grimes directed a scene from *The Wiz*, expertly performed by Isangy Hernandez, Marcos Matamoros, Joey Nieves, Christine Jefferson and Shanell Duran. Our fabulous tech/production crew worked behind the scenes to make the magic happen: Amelia Rosado, Carla Rosario, Mariyah Shomo, Dainard Ortiz, Britany Brooks, Asha Gadsden & J. Simpson. Students who are interested in being part of our spring show can drop in to the Performing Arts Club, now meeting on Wednesdays, or contact Ms. Gerstein at [lgerstein@47aslhs.net](mailto:lgerstein@47aslhs.net).

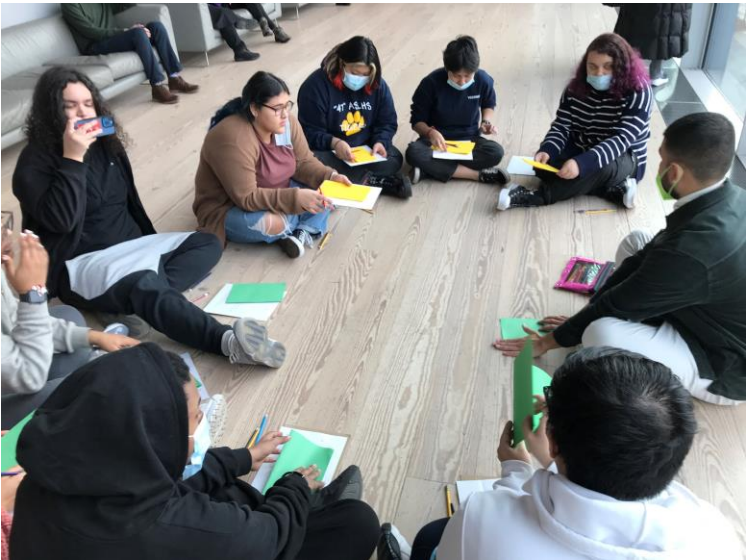


## WHITNEY MUSEUM FIELD TRIP

January 11, 2023

On Wednesday, January 1, 2023, art students took a trip to the Whitney Museum where they acted as critics, while visiting two exhibits with a museum educator. They studied *Edward Hopper's New York*, observing paintings and sketches while learning about his oeuvre, capturing the changing skyline, light, and neighborhoods in NYC. Students made connections to

gentrification and the ever-changing cityscape that they live and learn in. After spending time sketching details from a few paintings, students moved on to the next exhibit, *no existe un mundo poshuracán: Puerto Rican Art in the Wake of Hurricane Maria*. In this exhibit, students explored how material, identity, and politics intersect through art that describes the way artists and their communities changed after a devastating natural disaster. Part of the discussion the students had was how objects and buildings change their meaning after artists transform those sites of destruction into modes of creation.

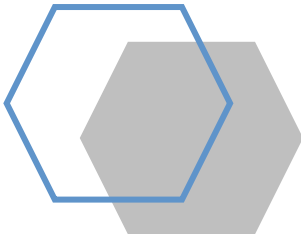


# Students of the Month

## NOVEMBER 2022

Congratulations to our November Students of the Month!

Salvatore Ahmed	Jason Gonzalez	Arianna Olivieri
Ronald Arevalo	Justin Hernandez	Justin Peralta
Britany Cruz Brooks	Logan Jones	Miguel Reyes
Jennifer Canturencia	Nicole Leal	David Santoni
Julenny Delossantos	Leo Leon	Mariyah Shomo
Jontaye Dillard Riley (two classes)	Connor Li	Nadira Toro
Isabella Ferguson	Ace May	Briana Toledo
David Galvez	Consuelo Monsegur	Isabella Vega (two classes)
Max Gomez	Joshua (JoJo) Nunez	





# Student Work

## STUDIO AND MULTIMEDIA ART



Ace May '24



Ace May '24



Amariah Emanuel Tyler '23



Ashley Tovar Flores '25



Devonay Burgess '23



Dylanie Polanco '25

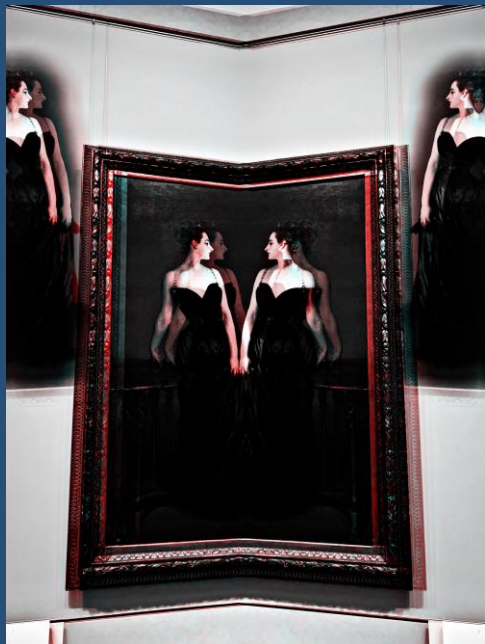


Emely Galeana '23



Franchesca Sanchez '23





*Franchesca Sanchez '23*



*Geovany Mendoza '23*



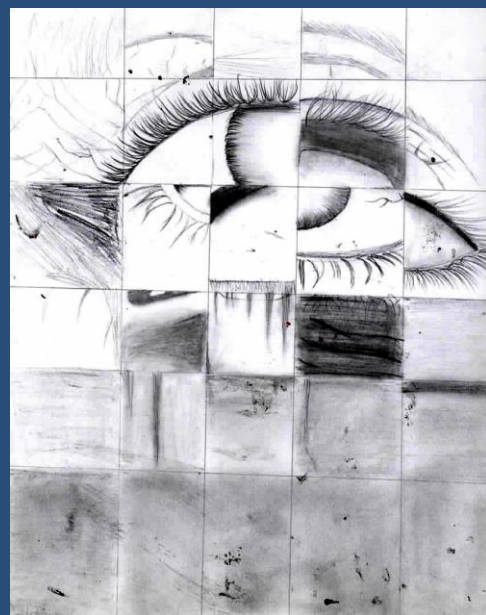
*Isabella Gimenez '23*



*Franchesca Sanchez '23*



*Geovany Mendoza '23*



*Jencelyn Rosado '24*



*Franchesca Sanchez '23*

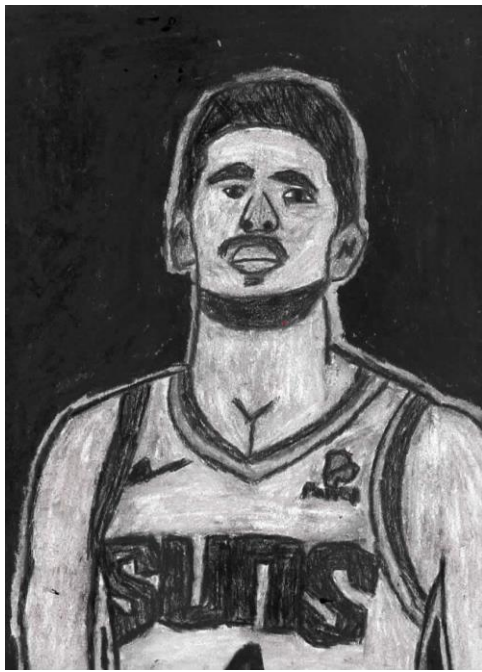


*J. Simpson '23*



*Jenske Moise '23*





*Justin Hernandez '26*



*Lexa Morales '26*



*Matthew Carino '24*



*Justin Peralta '24*



*Lexa Morales '26*



*Naomi Rivas '24*

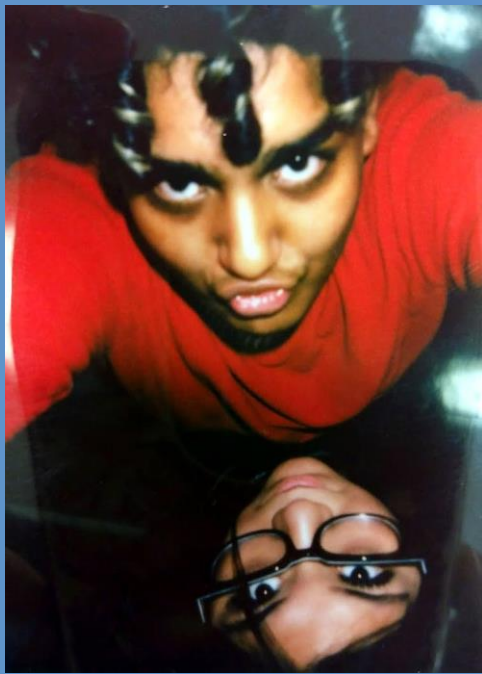


*Naomi Rivas '24*



*Matthew Carino '24*

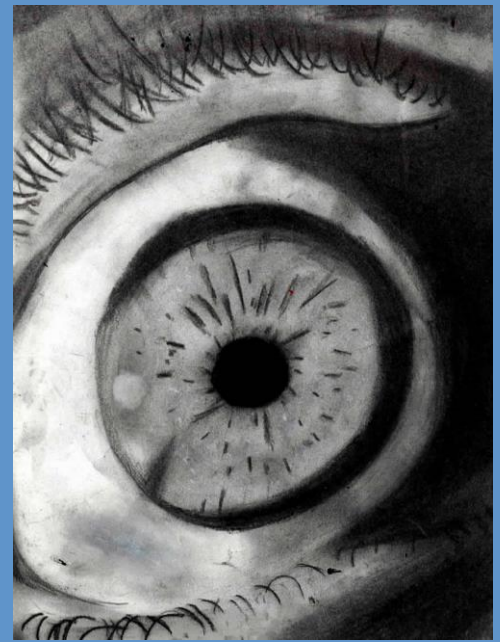




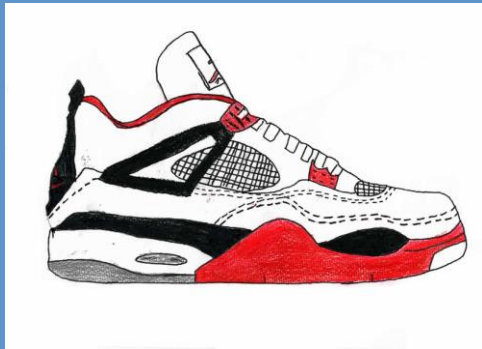
*Santiago Montalegre '25*



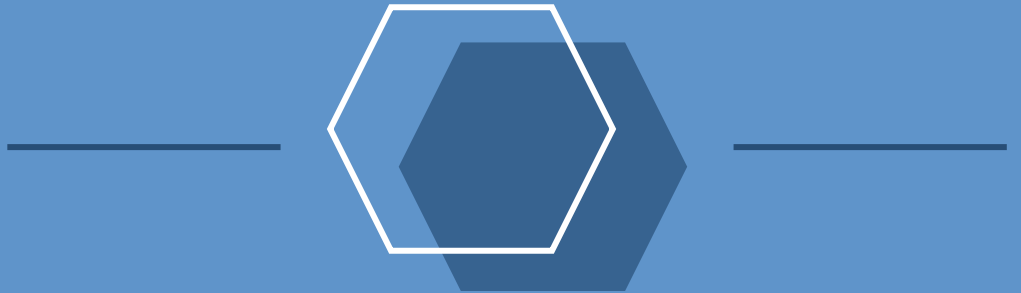
*Sophia Duran '23*



*Unique Ramos '23*



*Sherlly Piedra '24*



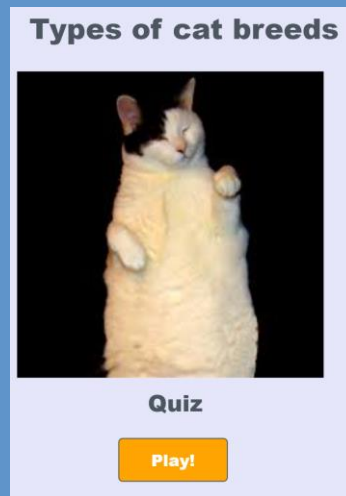
## APPS BY COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES STUDENTS (CLICK TO OPEN)



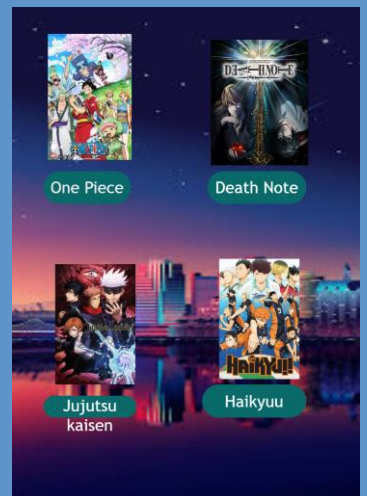
*Aidan Disla '25*



*Amy Jimenez '25 &  
Leonardo Arroyo '25*

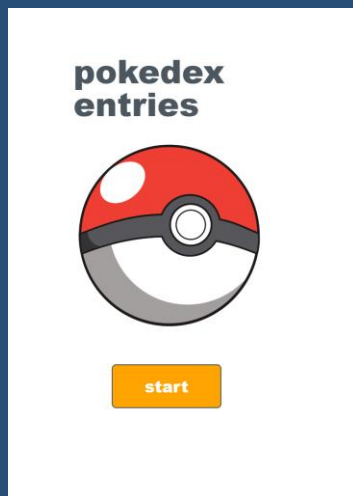


*Anyaa Joseph '25*

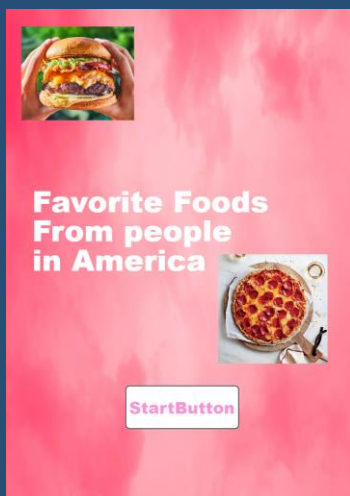


*Arisbeth Lezama '25*

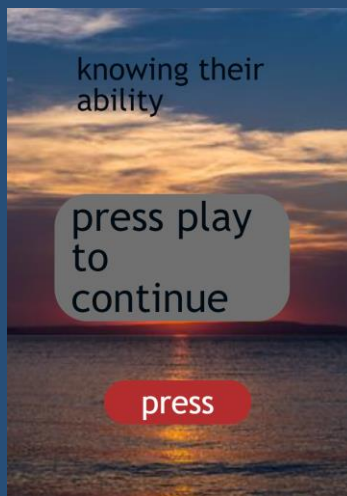




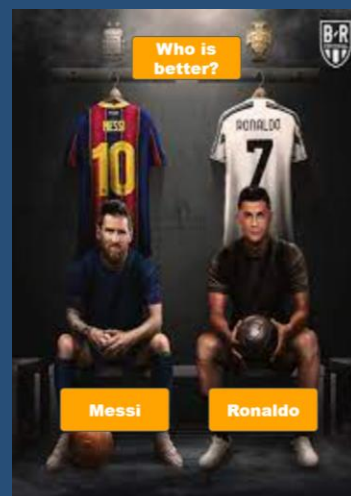
Brian Morales Torres '25



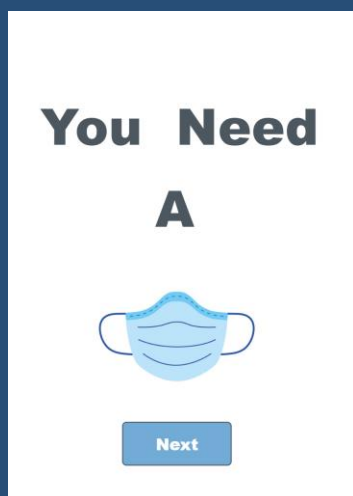
Consuelo Monsegur '25



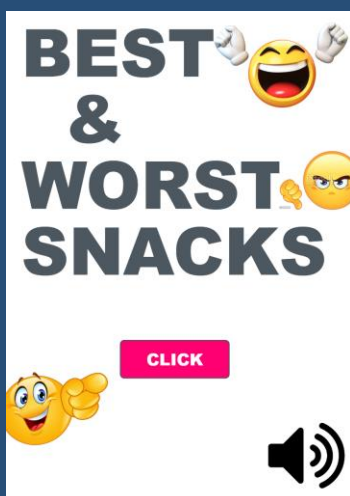
Jennifer De Dios '25



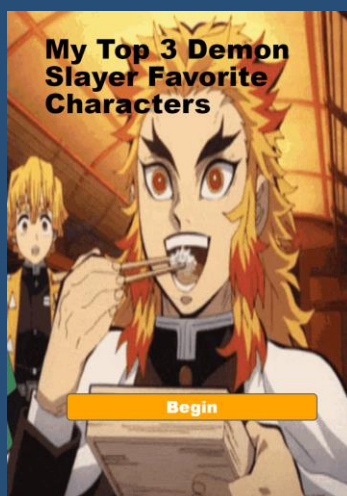
Marcos Calel Alvarez '25



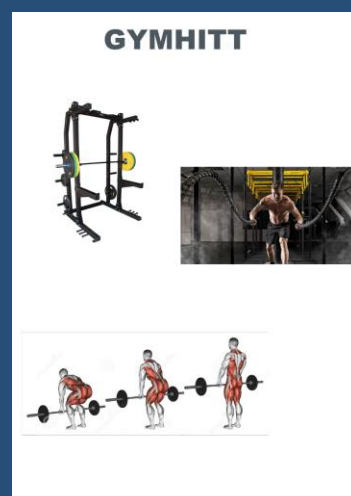
Briana Toledo '25



Daisy Comonfort '25



Joshua Nunez '25



Marleny Ordonez '25



Christopher Leon '25



Emmanuel Larios Juarez '25



Kevin Martinez '25



Nicole Leal '25





Reily Munoz Morales '25

Samantha Perez '25

Viktoria Kiss '25

Xochitl Rodriguez '25

Rodney Wilson '25

Sebastian Cortes '26

# Articles

## REGENTS EXAMS AND NYCDOE ASSESSMENTS

This year, January Regents exams will be held on Tuesday, January 24 to Friday, January 27, 2023. In addition, 9th and 10th grade students will be taking a required New York City Math and English Assessment late in the same week. Students should not attend school unless they are taking an exam. Invitations have already been handed out to students. Here are the exam dates and times in general:

Tuesday, January 24	Wednesday, January 25	Thursday, January 26	Friday, January 26
9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am
English Language Arts	Geometry	Global History and Geography II	Earth Science
1:15 pm	1:15 pm	1:15 pm	
Living Environment	Algebra I	Algebra II	



## BASKETBALL TEAM UPDATE

After Wednesday night's (January 11, 2023) 59-48 victory over Inwood Campus, the ASL and English Tigers stand at 10-2, good for second place in the Manhattan B III league. They've yet to face first place West End Secondary School (they'll meet Wednesday, January 18 at the ASL and English Gym), and by the way the team has been playing, it should be a great game and a great opportunity, as the Tigers are a strong, highly skilled, and close-knit group led by head coach Matthew Gold, assistant coach Derrick Martin, and team managers Egypt Boyd, Skye Williams and Sole Williams. The Tigers have come a long way since last year's season, their first season of basketball since 2015.



"Last year we were told we had a team in November and had to get organized rather quickly," Gold said. "Coach Martin and myself did not really know where to start. However, this year we had a definitive plan going into the season and it has shown! The team camaraderie is also much improved, and for the most part that has helped us keep our morale high even when the games are tough!"

The Tigers play an up-tempo style led by brothers Elin (30 ppg) and Ethan Gross (18 ppg). The duo are a high-flying, above the rim playing pair, and put immense pressure on both sides of the court. The team as a whole have a balanced and dynamic system, with players like Cameron Adams (6 ppg, 7 rpg), Albijon Rexhaj (4 ppg, 8 rpg), and sharpshooter Justin Hernandez (8 ppg) making it tough for opponents to find ways to slow the team down. The whole roster is full of players who would start and see lots of playing time on most other teams, emphasizing the team's depth and talent. They believe in the vision Gold has laid out for them.



"Defensively we usually play a 2-3 zone with the goal of keeping the opponent away from the rim and forcing them to shoot from long distance," he noted. "Every player is well versed in the 2-3, so it is not really player dependent. On offense, we attempt to run what is called 'motion' with the goal of working to get our teammates open either with back cuts or screens off the ball."

The Tigers are supported by a strong and enthusiastic community of students and teachers. Every game the chairs are filled (as much as they can be) to the max, with fans emotionally and spiritually invested in the team.

"As a whole, Coach Martin and I are very appreciative for the support we have received from everyone at 47," Gold explained. "The staff, administration, students, and parents all take time out of their lives to come to the games and cheer or congratulate us on our game the day after. It is not something we take for granted and it really keeps us motivated."

The team has 8 remaining games, so be sure to show your support and perhaps catch a game. This is a very talented and fun bunch to root for.



## PSAT & SAT CORNER

*Contributed by Mr. Kevin Peters*

The SAT & PSAT are sooner than you think. Both tests will be given at “47” on March 22. It is only a little more than two months away. Here are some information about the structure and format of the test.

The SAT contains 3 sections, although some sections are broken into multiple parts.

- Reading
- Writing & Language
- Math (No Calculator & Calculator Sections)

The SAT format includes 154 questions. While most questions are multiple choice, some math questions will require you to write/bubble in a numerical answer.

### The Reading Section

- 52 multiple-choice questions
- 65 minutes
- Students will read passages or pairs of passages (literature, historical documents, social sciences, and natural sciences) and answer questions based on the passages.

### The Writing & Language Section

- 44 multiple-choice questions
- 35 minutes
- Covers grammar, vocabulary in context, and editing skills

### The Math Section

- 58 questions (broken up into a 20-question No-Calculator section and a 38-question Calculator-allowed section)
- Some questions are multiple choice, others require students to bubble in a numerical answer
- 80 minutes (25 minutes for the No-Calculator section; 55 minutes for the Calculator-allowed section)
- Covers algebra I and II, geometry, and some trigonometry

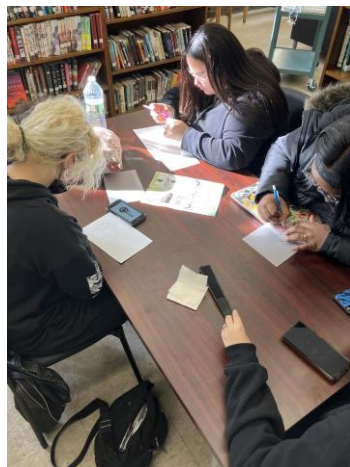
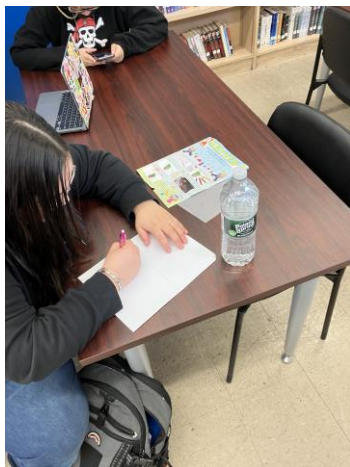
## LIBRARIAN'S CORNER

Remember Shrinky Dinks? Students had some maker fun in the library during their lunch periods on December 20th. Shrinky Dink sheets were available as students' creative ideas unfolded and they planned out and refined their designs to make keychains, charms and more. The items were then baked and transformed. Stay tuned for more Library Maker Lunchtimes every month and see Ms. Stephanie with ideas for what sort of Maker activities we should try out for our future Library Maker Lunchtimes.

Our librarian, Stephanie Entin-Wald, has put together new [reading recommendations](#); students can borrow books in the Library or borrow ebooks and audiobooks in the Sora app. More information is available on the [library website](#).







## WHAT'S GOING ON IN STAFF COMMITTEES

### *Celebrations Committee*

Currently the Celebrations committee is working on end of the Year awards. These aren't your typical academic awards either. We're talking, Artfully Creative, Aspiring Author, The Difference Maker, and Spectacular Sportsmanship to name a few. It's time to remind our students that they are more than just a grade or a number and that we recognize their talents and gifts. We are also planning how we can celebrate Black History Month in February.

### *Communications Committee*

The Communications Committee at 47 works to stay in contact with students and families, and keep our school community connected and informed about the various events, news, activities and happenings at 47. We publish a monthly newsletter such as the one you are reading now. In addition, we send out a smaller weekly email with the upcoming important dates and brief overviews of anything significant that happened that week. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to drop us a line at [communications@47aslhs.net](mailto:communications@47aslhs.net).

### *Social Emotional Learning Committee*

The SEL committee is in charge of planning advisory lessons, and community building activities within the school. On the morning before Winter Recess, students participated in Community-building circles and constructed posters where they evaluated their past year and considered who they wanted to be in the coming year. In the afternoon, students built crafts in a crafting room, played ASL/Deaf culture Jeopardy, watched various films, or competed in the Winter Chess Tournament.

### *Student Activity Committee*

**What we have done:** This past month we held two big events. The first was a schoolwide Classroom Door Decoration contest in which teachers, with the aid of some of our most creative and helpful students, competed against each other to create beautiful and extravagant holiday and winter themed doors.

The winner of the door decoration contest was Mr. McDermott and Ms. Cendy in room 313 with a glowing 3-D Frosty the snowman. Second Place went to Ms. Helton and Mr. Grippa in Room 401 for light-up Charlie Brown and Snoopy themed doors, and finally in third was room 402, Ms. Zaken, for a signing starbucks holiday themed pun.



The other event was a five day holiday season themed Spirit Week held between December 19 and 23 and included some great spirit themes: including "Cozy Pajama Day" on Tuesday 12/20, "Twin Day" on Wednesday 12/21, and "Ugly Sweater Day" on Thursday 12/22.

**What we are working towards:** Currently we have five upcoming "Voice Off" periods planned for January and February to boost our usage of ASL in all of our classes. We are also focusing primarily on a week-long celebration in February toward Black History Month and to the Black Lives Matter Movement. Plus we are hopefully planning a Valentine's Day or Winter-themed dance just before break in February! We cannot wait to share more info with you all once we get closer to these events!

## Comic Relief

### THAT DEAF GUY

*Matt and Kay Daigle, with the permission of the artists*





# Staff Highlights

## MS. MARLA SCHAEFFER, AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER

Q1: *What is your favorite way to spend a day off?*

**Reading all day by a big window with a cup of hot chocolate during the winter or ice coffee during the summer.**

Q2: *Where's the next place on your travel bucket list, and why?*

**I would love to go to Italy. I love cities, art museums, and spending time outside. I think Italy would have everything I was looking for in a trip.**

Q3: *If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?*

**Pasta! Pasta has so many possibilities between sauces, vegetables and meat. I don't think I'd get bored of pasta.**

Q4: *What's your favorite season and why?*

**Autumn. I love going on long walks on a cool, beautiful day. I also really enjoy watching college football.**

Q5: *What is something people are surprised to learn about you?*

**Two things always surprise people: firstly, that I am a twin and secondly, that I started learning ASL in college.**



## MS. ANYA SCHWARTZ, MATHEMATICS TEACHER

Q1: *What is your favorite way to spend a day off?*

**My favorite way to spend days off is relaxing and reading, probably in bed with a face mask and a couple candles lit (#selfcare). I also try to practice baking or cooking when I have the available time.**

Q2: *Where's the next place on your travel bucket list, and why?*

**One of my best friends just bought a house in New Orleans, so I'd really love to go visit them there!**

Q3: *If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?*

**If I had to choose something actually nutritious, a bagel with cream cheese and lox. If it's something that could magically make me feel really good even if I ate it all the time, definitely crème brûlée.**

Q4: *What's your favorite season and why?*

**My favorite season is spring! My birthday is in May, and I love seeing flowers bloom and the skyline turn pink with cherry blossoms. There's also a very particular feeling when school is winding down, but it's not quite summer yet, and it reminds me of when I was in elementary school in the best way.**



**Q5:** *What is something people are surprised to learn about you?*

**I've slept on the bottom of the Grand Canyon! It was a two-day hike, and even though the Canyon is known to be a desert, it hailed the entire second day.**

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## Upcoming

### OVERNIGHT COLLEGE VISIT

We are in the process of planning an overnight trip to visit three colleges upstate in late March. We are hoping to visit SUNY Oswego, Ithaca College, and Binghamton University, but this may change. The tentative dates are March 29th and 30th.

Please note that to be eligible for this trip, you must meet the following requirements:

- Regularly on time and present in school.
- Behavior and conduct that aligns with the expectations outlined in the student handbook
- Currently passing all classes
- Complete your SAT (11th grade) or PSAT (10th grade) on March 22nd

Students who attend this trip may be asked to pay a small fee to participate. Students will also be required to submit a signed permission slip at a later date. More information will be shared as it becomes available. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Severin or Ms. Johnson.

### ARTS PROGRAMS

#### *Pratt Young Scholars Program*

##### **What is Pratt Young Scholars?**

**Pratt Young Scholars** is a need-based, three-year scholarship program providing instruction in art and design with college preparation to motivated high school students. Through innovative and challenging studio experiences in the Institute's youth programs, this scholarship provides students with the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue advanced studies in art and design.

##### **Eligibility?**

- Students entering 10th grade in the 2023-2024 school year are eligible to apply if they:
- Attend a New York City public school;
- Demonstrate an interest in art and design;
- Are academically prepared, highly motivated, and have demonstrated persistence;
- Commit to attending classes on Wednesdays after school and Saturdays for three years, as well as July summer programs (no exceptions!); and
- Meet the household income [eligibility requirements](#).

##### **How Do Students Apply?**

Submit an [online application](#) and provide the following documents:





- A copy of their most recent report card;
- One letter of recommendation from an art teacher, guidance counselor, or school administrator;
- A personal statement; and
- Three images of artwork saved as JPEGs.

Visit this website to learn more about the program and application process. Applications are due by **March 1, 2023**.



### ***Summer Arts Institute***

Summer Arts Institute is a free, four-week arts program for New York City Department of Education public school students entering grades 8 through 12 in Fall 2023 (students currently in grades 7 through 11). This intensive program is held at Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in Astoria, Queens. Summer Arts Institute is administered by the NYCDOE's Office of Arts and Special Projects.

**Program Dates:** July 5 – July 28, 2023

Students can major in dance, theater, instrumental music, orchestral strings, vocal music, film, or visual arts. The program is designed for students at an intermediate or advanced level of study in their discipline. The daily schedule includes studio work and experiences with professional artists. In the studios, students develop and improve their technical skills and creative expression in their art form. Time is dedicated to rehearsals, attending professional performances, visiting arts venues and exploring careers. The Institute culminates with an exhibition and performance showcasing the students' work.

Admission to the Summer Arts Institute is by application and audition. Students may apply and audition for only ONE studio.

**Student Application Period:** November 7, 2022 – January 20, 2023

**Virtual Audition Period:** November 21, 2022 - February 3, 2023

For more information and to apply, visit <https://tinyurl.com/SAI2023Application>.

## **Reminders**

Each student has [a Google account](#), and each caregiver can [create a Family Link account](#)! Student access their gradebook using these accounts and report cards post there. All students received their login information in school and parents can get their information by contacting the school. Please contact Ms. Delta ([Delta@msd12.org](#)) for help getting set up!

Having trouble with one or more of your classes? Students have access to one-on-one and small group tutoring with teachers. Tutoring is available during lunch or after school. Check out the [tutoring page](#), or reach out to your teachers directly to set something up!

# Calendar of Important Dates

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

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY | SCHOOLS CLOSED

Monday, January 16, 2023

## END OF MARKING PERIOD 3

Monday, January 23, 2023

## REGENTS EXAMS AND NYCDOE ASSESSMENTS

Tuesday, January 24 – Friday, January 27, 2023 (see [article](#))

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND

Monday, January 30, 2023

## SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

## JUNIOR DINNER

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

## MIDWINTER RECESS | SCHOOLS CLOSED

Monday, February 20 – Friday, February 24, 2023

## CAREER DAY

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

## SAT AND PSAT SCHOOL DAY | 10TH AND 11TH GRADERS ONLY

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 (see [article](#))

## FAMILY CONFERENCES

Thursday, March 24, 2023

