

THE MUDDRAKER

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HARVEY MUDD

C O L L E G E

Pasadena Campus

How Prank Club’s latest mission went down.

By Michelle Lum, Alina Saratova, and Daniela Sechen.

November 15, 2019

4:30 p.m. Four Mudders enter the Seeley G. Mudd Building of Geophysics and Planetary Sciences at Caltech. They’ve been planted to let the rest of the pranksters into the building when they arrive in the wee hours of the night.

November 16, 2019

1:30 a.m. 30 sleep-deprived Mudders convene in the East Dorm lounge for directions from the prank leaders: juniors Aely Aronoff and Howard Deshong. Frantically gathering tape and blowing up hundreds of gold and black balloons, they prepare for the dramatic annexation of Mudd’s newest territory: the Pasadena campus.

2:00 a.m. Mudders head off to retake Mudd Labs from Caltech.

2:30 a.m. Arrival at Caltech. After scoping out the territory, Aely gives the “GO, GO, GO”. The South Wall, West Wall, Big Seal, Indoor Postering, Balloons, and Lookout teams get to work.

3:00 a.m. Update: Posters are being put up high on Caltech walls, in water fountains, on bulletin boards, and in any other place imaginable (including the infamous Caltech cannon!). Balloons are strewn on every floor of Mudd labs and even stuffed in prof mailboxes.

3:30 a.m. The Mudders spot Campus Security in the building. Initially, there’s panic. But Campus Security doesn’t stop them, so everything is ok.

3:40 a.m. Trying to figure out what the Mudders are up to, Techies crowd around a Mudd Labs entrance. Friendships are made, and some Mudders get personal tours of Caltech dorms.

4:15 a.m. Aely gives the Mudders a tour of Harvey Mudd’s newest acquisition, complete with two large posters that proclaim “Harvey Mudd College — Pasadena Campus,” along with numerous banners that state, “Harvey Mudd is Diverse,” “Harvey Mudd is an Engineer,” “Harvey Mudd is a Mathematician,” “Harvey Mudd is a Chemist,” and, of course, “Harvey Mudd is Happier Than You.”

4:30 a.m. Mission accomplished. A Campus Security officer drives by and waves to the triumphant Mudders. They head back to Claremont — some to Norms, but most to the comfort of their beds.

If you want to join Prank Club, send an email to [prank-l+subscribe@g.hmc.edu](mailto:prank-l+subscribe@g.hmc.edu).



Storytime with Anshul "Yes, I do in fact go to Caltech" Kamath:

“While I was lookout, everything was going quite smoothly, until I saw a herd of around 10 people coming around the corner. Originally, I thought [that] they were Mudd students and that the prank was over. Then, as they got to the corner of the block, they ripped down one of the ‘Harvey Mudd College — Pasadena Campus’ posters, and I realized they were Techies.

They saw me across the intersection and gave me several suspicious looks. Soon after, one of them yelled at me, ‘Are you from Harvey Mudd?’ to which I replied, ‘No... are you?’ (\*cue Spider-Man meme\*) Then one of them came across the street to talk to me, and he bought my alibi (most likely due to the Caltech sweater that I was wearing). He brought me over to the rest of the Techies, and they asked me what house I was from — one final test to see if I was one of them. ‘Page House,’ I said, without any hesitation. They bought it.”



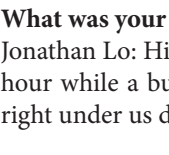
From top to bottom: Katie Johnson (left) and Aely Aronoff pose with one of the banners; two other banners hang proudly in the morning light; the club poses in front of its handiwork.

Prankster Q&A



What made you most proud?

Ruth Mueller: I am proud of our lookout who acted like a Caltech student, and our advance team, one of whom took a take-home midterm while at Caltech.



What was your favorite part?

Jonathan Lo: Hiding on top of a trellis for an hour while a bunch of drunk Techies stood right under us discussing our prank.



How did you come up with the idea for the prank?

Aely Aronoff: Originally, the idea of taking over a Mudd building came from Aech Loar (a sophomore). [Aech] suggested we take over Mudd Residence Hall at Pomona. But as soon as Howard and I found out that Mudd Labs is at Caltech, we knew it had to be there.

2 LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Happy December y'all!

As 2019 comes to a close and the end of a decade draws near, it becomes time to reflect on memories and changes that have shaped our lives both in and outside of Mudd. This month marks the three year anniversary of our first issue with *The Muddraker* and, oh my, what a journey it has been. The first issue we contributed to began as a passion project with a group of close friends and it has grown to this paper you're holding in your hands right now (or scrolling through on a computer). We've undergone so many amazing changes, found so many wonderful and passionate people to involve in this project, and gotten to know dozens of community members through articles or conversations about the paper and we're so grateful for you for sticking by us all this time. We've grown as students, listeners, and leaders through our involvement in the club. *The Muddraker* has become our home away from home and we would not have wanted it any other way.



As the three of us enter into our final semester at Mudd (aaahhh scary!) it's time for us to step back and pass on the torch to wonderful other members of staff we have seen grow over the years. We have had a wonderful journey with you and hope you continue to enjoy *The Muddraker* in future years. Wishing you a happy holiday and a great start to the new decade from our family to yours.

*Signing off with love.*

Rachel, Tiffany, and Hannah

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What is your dorm based on your zodiac sign?

by Alina Saratova

SAGITTARIUS  
(Nov 23-Dec 22)  
LINDE  
Always adventurous, constantly seeking new thrills, very spiritual and in tune with the world as well.

CAPRICORN  
(Dec 23-Jan 20)  
SOUTH  
Very goal oriented and will try their hardest to get ahead. Although they may seem cold and distant at first, once you get to know them, they are more optimistic and outgoing.

AQUARIUS  
(Jan 21-Feb 19)  
OFF-CAMPUS  
Aquarians like to be quirky and in the minority. You are the 2% that lives off campus, and you're proud of it. Go you!

PISCES  
(Feb 20-Mar 20)  
CASE  
Great artists and very attuned to their emotions. Deeply connected with their environment, Caselings are very close with each other.

ARIES  
(Mar 21-Apr 20)  
WEST  
Hyped for life and always ready to burn something down. Classic fire sign. Classic West.

TAURUS  
(Apr 21-May 21)  
SONTAG  
Laid back, hard workers, and prefer to be in stable environments. Sontagues prioritize comfort and like to spend their time chilling with friends and playing board games.

GEMINI  
(May 22-June 21)  
CHOOSE YOUR DESTINY  
Congratulations, Gemini! You are easy going and adjustable, meaning you can thrive in any dorm!

CANCER  
(June 22-July 22)  
GARRETT HOUSE  
If you share a zodiac with the president, you're automatically granted swipe to the house and provided with an endless supply of cookies. \*

LEO  
(July 23-Aug 21)  
ATWOOD  
Strong and loyal. Driven by a strong sense of pride. Atwood always sticks together and has each others' backs.

VIRGO  
(Aug 22-Sep 23)  
EAST  
Systematic, slightly perfectionist, and puts in lots of practice. Maybe that's why they're so good at Smash.

LIBRA  
(Sept 24-Oct 23)  
NORTH  
Extremely sociable and also creative, surrounds themselves in an environment that reflects their taste (such as the wall mural on second floor North).

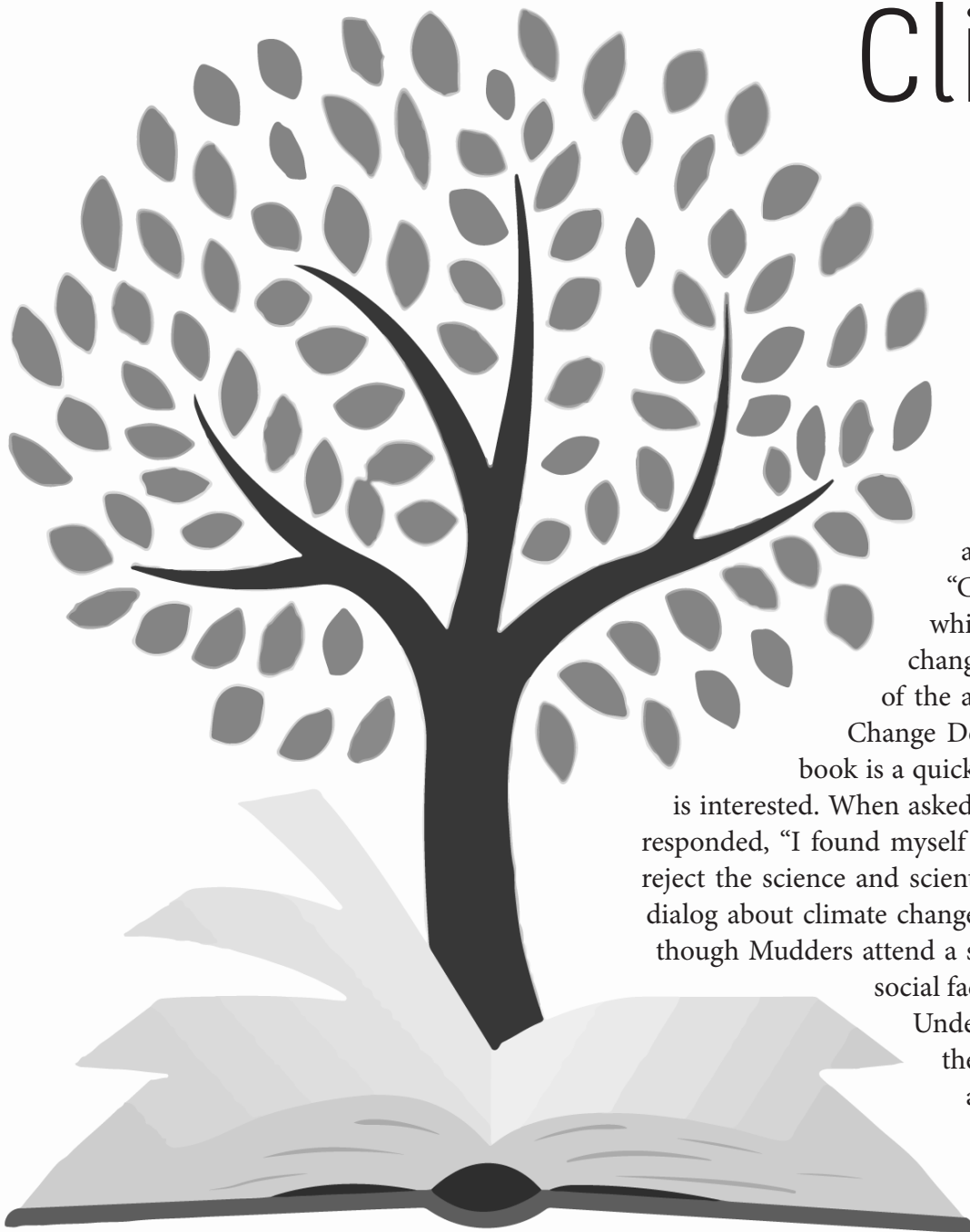
SCORPIO  
(Oct 24-Nov 22)  
DRINKWARD  
Drinkward may seem like it has no culture, but there is some interesting stuff going on in secret. This is much like the Scorpio, who is mysterious on the outside but quite different in private.

\*This claim is based off of one tweet and may not be true. Cancer may not be Maria Klawe's zodiac sign. \*\*Disclaimer from writer: these are solely based on stereotypes of the zodiacs I read at 2 am and experiences that I've had with respective dorms. This is just for funnies.



# Climate Change<sup>3</sup>

by Skylar Gering | book club



Climate Change. Two simple words that inspire existential dread, feelings of hopelessness, and panic about the future. What can one individual possibly do in the face of increasing global temperature and all of the problems that come with it? Chemistry professor Lelia Hawkins decided to start a Climate Change book club to combat climate change ignorance.

Professor Hawkins studied Climate Science at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography and is currently an atmospheric chemist researching air pollution. Last year, Professor Hawkins began co-teaching the class “Climate of Change” with Pomona’s Professor Adam Pearson. This course, which is being offered again next semester, teaches the science of climate change and climate change communication. Professor Hawkins chose one of the assigned readings from the course, “How Culture Shapes the Climate Change Debate” by Andrew Hoffman, to be the book club reading. Hoffman’s book is a quick read and is available in Platt Campus Center Library for anyone who is interested. When asked why she chose Hoffman’s book for the book club, Professor Hawkins responded, “I found myself deeply surprised at how much was known about the reasons people reject the science and scientific consensus on climate change. I wanted to increase campus-wide dialog about climate change, and in particular, about the social aspects of climate change.” Even though Mudders attend a school focused on STEM, it’s still vital for students to understand the social factors that contribute to climate change, such as economics and politics.

Understanding how others think about climate change is key to convincing them to care about it. Harvey Mudd freshman Penny Hernandez, who attended the first meeting of the book club, echoed that sentiment. She stated, “The book club confirmed and broadened my understanding of not just how other students think about climate change, but also how professors and the larger Claremont community think about it.” She also acknowledged that while the book club could be depressing due to the grim topic, it was inspiring to see how much

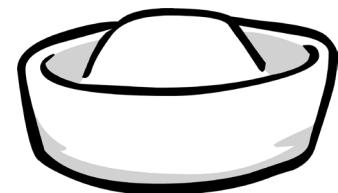
other people care about climate change and she found herself “more motivated to think about all the ways I can help by hearing from other people how much they care about solving this problem.”

When discussing what Mudd can do to combat climate change, Prof Hawkins highlighted the importance of education. She emphasized, “The most important thing students at Mudd can do about climate change is to learn as much as possible--about all dimensions.” Students can independently educate themselves about climate change, or take one of the increasing number of courses available at Mudd or the other colleges in the 5Cs. For example, in addition to Professor Hawkins’s class, Physics Professor Thomas Donnelly is teaching a new class called Climate and Energy next semester that focuses on carbon-free energy sources. Once students are educated about the problems posed by climate change, they can set out to solve those problems in their careers and convince the people in their lives to do the same. As a final takeaway about climate change, Professor Hawkins hopes to spread the message that “It’s real. It’s us. We’re sure. It’s bad. And, it’s not too late.”

## ways to recycle the muddraker



1) actually recycle it

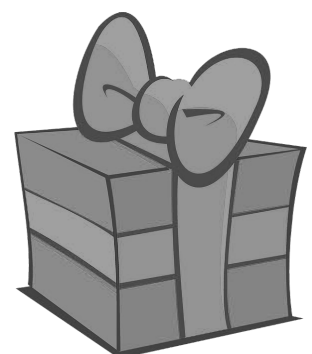


3) make a paper hat



2) bbq fuel

\*emissions are bad for the environment



4) use it as giftwrap

# Professor Bolkema: A PROFile

By Hannah Larson & Kailee Lin

*Jessalyn Bolkema is in her first year as a visiting professor in the Math Department. Her research focuses on coding theory, but this semester, she has been mostly teaching MATH19, a freshman core calculus class. She is a charismatic and fun person who wants to get to know more students, so stop by her office some time and say hello!*

## WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO TEACH AT MUDD?

The math faculty here is amazing and highly involved in the professional communities of mathematics, so I kind of always knew Mudd was this glorious place in the sunshine of California where people were doing really cool things. My first job out of grad school was this tenure track assistant professor position at SUNY (State University of New York) Oswego. I absolutely loved it. My husband has a PhD in chemistry and wanted to be working in industry. There are just not a whole lot of opportunities for that in upstate New York. Southern California was a place that he wanted to be. I was very lucky that Mudd happened to be looking for a math professor. That is the logistical truth of just balancing life and family and career aspirations. I'm really excited to be trying out professor life at a school that has a really special balance of research and teaching and scholarly and creative activity, together with mentoring students. It's a really fun place to be spending some time.

## HOW HAS YOUR FIRST SEMESTER BEEN?

It's been super fun. Super intense. I'm teaching MATH19 (Calculus), which is this experimental trial run of a first semester core math class. So there's an element of the job that has just been like jumping into the deep end of what is the core? What role does it serve? What are we hoping students will get out of it? That's been a naturally really supportive place to be teaching. I'm in constant conversation with other MATH19 profs about how things are going and what we want to be doing and how we're changing things. But it is also like no other calculus class I've ever taught before. The first time I saw the list of topics that we were scheduled to cover in a standard semester in this class, I laughed out loud.

## WHAT IS A TYPICAL DAY IN YOUR LIFE?

I live in LA. Generally, I get up and bike to Union Station. Then, I take my bike on the train, and I take the train out to Claremont. Two days a week, that train leaves at 5:45 in the morning; two days a week, it leaves at 7:25 in the morning. I usually work on research on the train — put my headphones in and think about math. What else do I do in my day? A whole lot of nothing. No, that's not true. I maybe have a Skype meeting with research collaborators, probably text my friends and say, "Have you proved anything today? I haven't proved anything today. Math is hard." Really the biking and the train-ing is the most interesting part of my day; the rest of it is just decorative.

## WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT MATH?

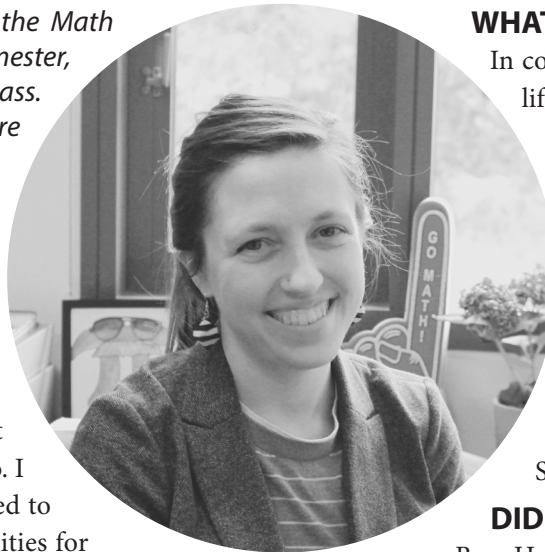
One of my favorite things about math is the group of people who do math. I love the language and culture and the interactions that come with trying to understand new mathematical ideas together with people. I love that math is somehow simultaneously beautiful and sensible and also unexpected and useful and practical. It's more useful than it has any reason to be, for how nice it is, and also none of it's nice until you get to really know it and it clicks. I just love it so much.

## IF YOU COULD TEACH ANY CLASS, WHAT WOULD YOU TEACH?

I would love to teach some sort of seminar class on mathematical culture. Basically, I think I'm interested in how mathematical culture operates, and also on how we can make it evolve to reflect the diversity of modern society better. I think the sort of norms and expectations in the field are fascinating and frequently very opaque and harmful. I would also love to teach a class on houseplants where we learn about them and how to care for them, because I need to learn how to do it, not because I'm knowledgeable.

## TELL US ABOUT YOUR OFFICE. WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING IN IT?

Sometimes, I have Buff Buff the Buffalo — the legendary and mysterious creature. In grad school, we would hide it in somebody's stuff, and then when you found it, you got to re-hide it. There were like eight of us involved and now Buff Buff just gets mailed to people and also snuck into people's luggage when you're visiting them, or when you stay together at a conference. I love my colorful whiteboard markers. I love my dinosaur eraser. There are a lot of treasures. I'm kind of a treasure collector.



## WHAT WERE YOU LIKE IN COLLEGE?

In college, I studied math, studied French, played the cello. My life had a different balance of interests at the time. I was not highly focused. I played in a rowdy folk band with my friends.

Also, for a long time, I thought I wanted to be a high school teacher because I didn't really understand that mathematician was a valid career path or something that was open to someone like me, who, quite frankly, did not strictly identify with the highly focused math, physics, CS prototypical man. I had mentors and role models who were like, "oh yeah you would probably like grad school." Spoiler alert: I did go, and I did like it.

## DID YOUR COLLEGE FOLK BAND HAVE A NAME?

Bear Hug. Why? Because it's a great name. No, there were no bears and we're not particularly huggy. I'm honestly sure it was some like spur of the moment time we were playing at the farmers market, and somebody said, "Hey, what's your band called?" And that someone said, "Bear Hug." I don't know why we were called Bear Hug. I do know that I made us business cards with Sharpies and old library book check out slips.

## DO YOU STILL PLAY THE CELLO?

In theory, yes. In practice, it remains to be seen. These results have not yet been verified in practice.

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF MATH BECAME ILLEGAL?

Math. I would do math in a secret underground society. I would petition the government. I would flee to Canada. I would no longer spend money, I guess. I mean there are so many questions about what happens if math is illegal. Do we stop like having bank accounts and the internet, like as a society? Maybe I'll just be a hermit in a colony of other hermits. I am not cut out for a solitary hermit life.

## WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP?

At some point, I wanted to be a marine biologist, which is absurd because I'm sure I had no concept of what a biologist does, and I don't even love swimming that much. This was a poor choice.

## YOUR WEBSITE SAYS YOU LIKE TO HANG OUT AT AIRPORTS. WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?

I like airports. Some of this comes out of the fact that my husband and I were long distance for a long time. Airport time was part of getting to be in the same place. But in general, I like travel and I like the mystical airport space where you're not really anywhere, and there's not really an expectation for what it is that you're supposed to be doing. You can eat or drink whatever you want at whatever hour of the day. It's just a fun, fun place. I have a great fondness in my heart for Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, in part because I love to root for an underdog, and everybody hates O'Hare, so I love it.

## DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR MUDDERS?

My advice is to take care of yourself. Be thoughtful about what your values are, what success means to you, what you want to do, and do that. Also, go to Nebraska [Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Math]. Also, take my class.

## Rapid Fire

*Do you have a favorite Mudd tradition so far?*

I love the department swag.

*If you grew a third arm, what would you do?*

I would have fewer issues juggling a cup of coffee while biking, so I'm excited about this possibility.

*Do you have any pets?*

The closest we come is that we have a robot vacuum named Robbie. His name is Robbie and I have great affection for him.

*If you were stuck on a desert with one other Mudd prof or staff member, who would it be?*

Shoutout to DruAnn [Thomas], who I would absolutely be stranded on a desert island with because I think she would get us off. Whenever anything needs to happen, you can call DruAnn.

*What is your favorite time of day?*

I enjoy early mornings when you can feel like you're sneaking in to start the day before everyone else is starting their day, which is hard to do in Los Angeles because everything is happening at all times. But morning light, coffee, optimism — it's all very good.



# MEET DON

## A CS 5 GOLD AUDITOR THIS FALL



BY MICHELLE LUM

He's more than 80 years old. He's met Grace Hopper. He worked on the Voyager spacecraft for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). And he's spent the past few months in Prof. Dodds' CS 5 Gold class. Meet Don Stachniak.

If you're a Mudd frosh in CS 5 Gold, you're probably already familiar with Don — he comes more than 30 minutes early to class, and always sits in the third row of Galileo.

Born in 1938 in Chicago, Don grew up playing baseball, and went on to play for the University of Chicago, where he studied physics.

Don began working for AT&T and settled with his wife in Downers Grove, Illinois. At the time, Downers Grove water was supplied by a well, which did not have required fluoridation and flushing systems. Don collaborated with neighbors to purchase the water facility and became a certified water supply operator to bring the water up to standard.

At Bell Labs, Don was in charge of organizing talks for the company's Engineering Week in February 1979. He invited five speakers, the last of whom was Grace Hopper, a pioneer in the field of computer science. She gave talks about the speed of computers — the internet before the internet had even been created; the auditorium was so packed that there was only standing room.

"I have no idea how I got in the committee to [organize the talk]. But I found that to be a lot of fun. I knew what kinds of things my co-workers and I were interested in, so I just focused on what they were," said Don. "And I started calling around to see what kinds of things were available."

Today, Don still treasures his correspondence with Hopper, including a handwritten letter from Hopper thanking Don for organizing the event and for his thoughtful gift.

Handing me the letter that Hopper personally penned to him, Don said, "Here's her letter to me. This is precious. She was overwhelmed that someone would think enough to research what she'd like to do, and to buy a gift for her. All the talks were good. And ending with her was fantastic."

After Bell Labs, Don worked with nuclear power plants. At the San Onofre plant, Don was put in charge of creating a security system for the facility.

Then, Don continued on to operate computers for the Voyager spacecraft's data collection at JPL.

In 1982, Don wrote a paper about acceptance criteria for computers used in nuclear power plants. He also started a company called Security Computer Systems and Associates for plants.

Eventually, in 1983, Don and his family settled in Claremont, where his wife, an avid tennis player, could play while running the study abroad program at Pomona College. When a local high school calculus teacher had a stroke, Don took up his mantle.

"I couldn't retire until my wife retired. There's no way I was going to stay in bed while she went to work," said Don. "So, I had to wait till she retired. I ended up coaching tennis a lot."

Don retired at the age of 75, but that hasn't stopped him one bit. The Claremont Colleges allow those 60 years or older to audit courses for free. Now 81 years old, Don has been auditing courses at the 5Cs for years. One of his favorite courses so far is special relativity. And it was actually a robotic car class with Prof. Harris that inspired Don to take CS 5 to better understand Python.

Don first took CS 5 a couple years ago. But this time, he's doing the homework and tests as well.

"Working with Don has been so fun. He's very sweet and enthusiastic about learning," said sophomore Jenny Wathanakulchat, Don's grutor. "He's fast to grasp concepts and apply what he learns. He's humble and not embarrassed to admit not knowing — one thing that's very inspiring to me. He shows me that learning happens at any age, and there is no shame in not knowing things."

Like many at the 5Cs, Don is amazed by Prof. Dodds, who he calls "Zach" because as Don says, "For one, we're good friends now, and for two, I'm older than he is by a lot."

"Zach's class is beyond incredible. He is so good," said Don. "He spends all his time here. He loaded Python [on my computer at home] so I can run programs on my own. So, here we are. Can you believe that they would let an 81-year-old man do this? Just an enormous credit to this school, and all that they have."

Don hopes students appreciate how fortunate they are, learning from Prof. Dodds.

"His classes are so dynamic. It's relational with the students, and they react to him, and he thrives off of this. He impresses me," said Don. "He's the world's very best computer science instructor. I hope the students appreciate how lucky all of us are to be in the class."

Don is a valued member of CS 5. During a lecture on assembly language and Hopper's advocacy of higher-level programming languages, Don spoke to the class about his experience with her.

That day, he left the class with these words: "This class is a godsend to you. Embrace it."

"I really appreciated that Don was willing to talk to the class about his experiences with Grace Hopper," said Prof. Dodds. "It's often those facets, those unanticipated but very personally relevant facets — in this case, a visitor — that stick with you long after the classes disappear. So, I'm really glad that he was so giving to share all his experiences and thoughts about his current role."

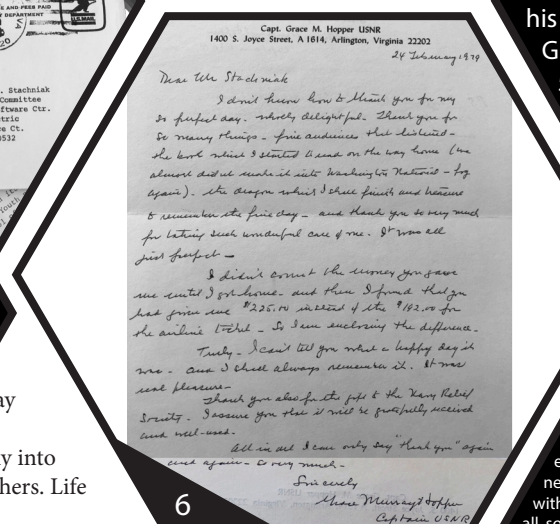
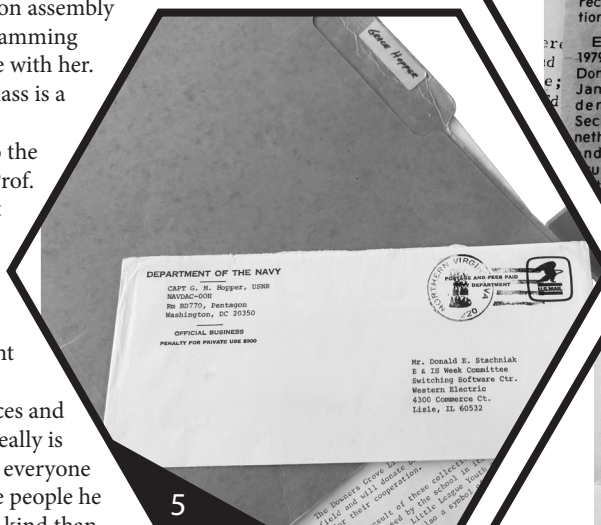
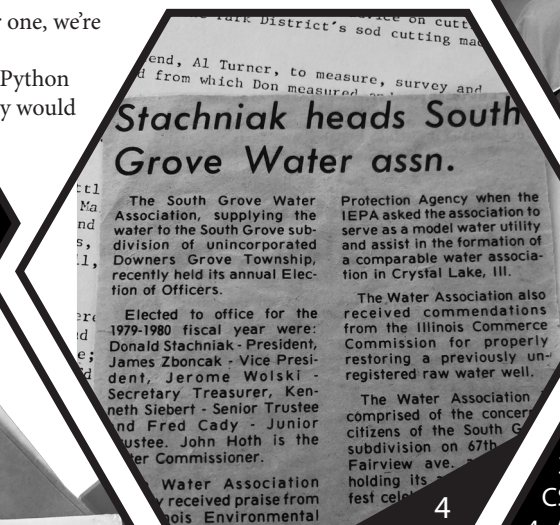
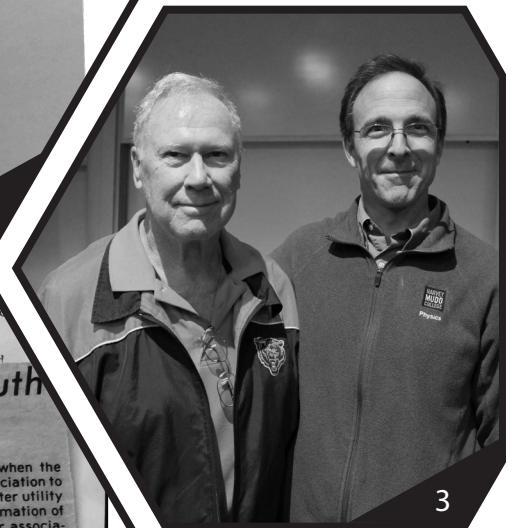
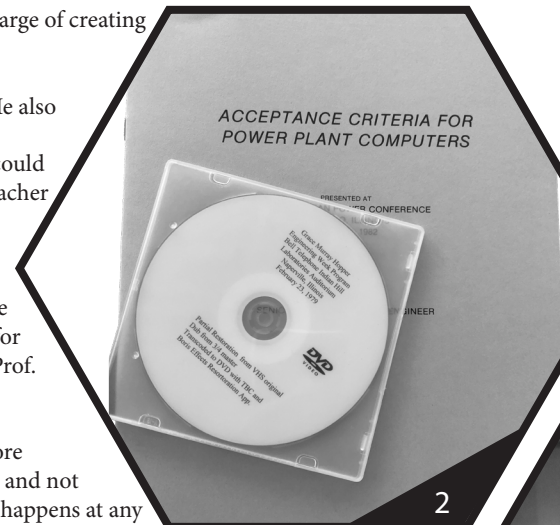
No other CS 5 auditor has had as much involvement with the course and students.

"No [other auditor] has ever shared their experiences and wanted to get as involved with students as Don. Don really is someone who's strikingly generous in interacting with everyone around him. He is unabashedly excited about all of the people he meets. And it's generosity of a much more meaningful kind than material generosity," said Prof. Dodds. "He is very emotionally generous. And that is something that I think Mudd does a good job of, but it never hurts to have more of that in the community."

And Don still very active, enjoying playing pickleball and bridge.

"The chance to meet new people and learn new things — what's not to like! Learning, learning, learning — it's the whole guiding principle. It's just fantastic," said Don. "Every day is fantastic. Every day is a gift to me that I wake up in the morning. I'm just so lucky to be here."

Don's message is probably best summarized through his own words: "Embrace. Indulge yourself fully into whatever interests you, and enjoy it, and share it. Share it with others, and be compassionate towards others. Life is so precious — embrace it."



1. Don sitting in his usual seat in the 3rd row of Galileo.
2. The nuclear power plant manual Don wrote, and a DVD of the Grace Hopper talk from 1979.
3. Don with Prof. Dodds, who teaches CS 5 Gold.
4. A newspaper cutting about Don and his neighbors bringing the Downers Grove water supply up to standard.
5. An envelope from Hopper to Don, on top of Don's folder of his documents about Hopper.
6. A handwritten letter from Hopper to Don, thanking him for hosting the talk.

Message from the Author:  
I was lucky to meet Don at grutoring. Don really is generous. Over fall break, Don entrusted me with a DVD of Hopper's talk. Don also gave me one of his few copies of the Acceptance Criteria for Power Plant Computers paper that he wrote, and even let me read Hopper's handwritten letter in person. I'm grateful to have had Don share these experiences with me. I've loved learning about Don, sitting next to him in lecture and having wonderful conversations with him. And I wanted to share his incredible story with you all, so here it is. Thank you for this opportunity.



by Hannah Larson

I grew up doing theater in summer theater camps and my elementary school's Drama Club. In high school, I discovered tech theater (sets, lights, sound, etc.), and I fell in love, helping out with nearly every show my school produced. I knew that I wanted to continue doing theater of some kind once I was in college. When I arrived at Mudd, I didn't know where or how to start, so I didn't do anything for the first year. Now, in my senior year, with a double major in theater and a job on the electrics crew, some of my favorite memories have come from the Theater Department. It turns out, there are actually a lot of people at Mudd who are also passionate about theater and have found really awesome ways to be involved, at all different levels. I wanted to share with you some of their stories and how they were each able to get involved in theater on and off campus. I interviewed three students: Djassi Julien ('20) is currently taking #MeToo Shakespeare, a literature class at Mudd; Madeleine Kerr ('20) is a physics and theater double major who has gotten involved in theater in many ways, including producing a play, Isaac's Eye, on campus this semester; and Nora Nickerson ('22) has worked on multiple shows, has a job in the theater, and is working on set design and construction for Isaac's Eye this semester.



**Cast and crew of Isaac's Eye (top).** From the top left, clockwise: Dillon Coville, Fiona Plunkett, Kaanthi Pandhigunta, Anna Barth, David Linn, Chris Couto, Nanako Noda, Delaney Cohn, Madeleine Kerr, Jessica Wolf, Nora Nickerson, Laura Gordon.

**Scene from Isaac's Eye (bottom).** Isaac Newton (played by Anna Barth) and Robert Hooke (played by David Linn) converse about science with Catherine Storer (played by Kaanthi Pandhigunta).



## Isaac's Eye

Isaac's Eye, written by Lucas Hnath, is a show entirely created by Mudders, for Mudders and people around the 5Cs. It's a show about Isaac Newton, legacy, and what it means to be human.

**What inspired you to produce/direct Isaac's Eye?**

**Madeleine:** Initially, it was pretty selfishly driven; I was having a pretty rough spring semester and didn't feel like a whole lot was going my way, and so I wanted to change something in my next semester that would reframe my priorities by doing something that gives me joy no matter what. Theatre is that thing for me, so I thought directing a play at Mudd would be super fun. I think the "at Mudd" part was to bring something that was a transformative artform to the place where we could all use a little shake-up of the cycle of interesting but overwhelming work.

**What has been your favorite thing about working on Isaac's Eye?**

**Madeleine:** Mudders work so hard and are on top of their stuff. I don't even have to ask or bring it up, and actors will be running lines with each other, sets will be designed and worked on, lighting cues will be created and executed, equipment set-up and taken down. It feels very professional. The best, best thing has been watching people grow in skill and confidence with their acting abilities, taking risks, being bold and energetic, and pouring their heart into the two-hour rehearsal sessions. I never got the sense from my current actors that they would want to be anywhere else. It is any director's absolute dream. Mudders should definitely do more theatre in general.

**Nora:** The kind of spontaneity of it, and how we really have the freedom to shape what kind of production it is. Like there's communication without the typical bureaucracies and endless production meetings typically associated with theatre, which really allows us to dive into the artistic message instead of being caught up on paperwork. It's Madeleine's vision and leadership that has made this all possible!!!

## #MeToo Shakespeare Class

Prof. Dadabhoy is a literature professor at Mudd who specializes in Shakespeare and offers a few different Shakespeare classes throughout the year. #MeToo Shakespeare, the class happening this semester, analyzes Shakespeare through a contemporary, critical, intersectional feminist lens, according to Djassi! This means that they are analyzing Shakespeare's plays using modern ideas of identity and the notion of an individual having multiple identities - intersectionality. There will be a humanities conference on December 13 from 1:30-4PM in the Drinkward Recital Hall, where students give presentations on different topics that cover both the #MeToo movement and Shakespeare. Come on down and learn a bit more about Shakespeare in the modern age!

**Why do you think it's important to offer Shakespeare classes at Mudd?**

**Djassi:** Since Shakespeare's works are so widely read, performed, and critiqued, they become very powerful lenses through which we can analyze Western society in the past, and understand how society has (and has not) changed since then. Being able to critically assess our cultural and social constructs and their impact on the present is important for everyone, which is why these classes are important for Mudders, especially since many of us will go on to shape the future.

**Do you have a favorite Shakespeare play you've read and discussed in one of your classes?**

**Djassi:** I think the discussion that I've enjoyed the most was the one we had about Much Ado About Nothing. We read the play and watched the movie adaptation starring Denzel Washington. Analyzing the play through the two different media added nuance to our discussion, and the choice of casting, as well as the dialogue in the play, also bring to light the ways in which race is often erased from this area of discourse.

## Pomona Theatre Department shows and work opportunities

**How have you been involved in the Pomona Theatre Department?**

**Madeleine:** I'm a theatre major with the Pomona College Theatre Department. My freshman year I was in UTI (underground theatrical institute), a 5C improv group. I acted in Trojan Women by Charles Mee my freshman spring, assistant stage managed Cabaret the Musical my sophomore fall, and acted in A Midsummer Night's Dream as Snug the Joiner my sophomore spring. I was in Metamorphoses my junior spring, and this semester, I did stage/props crew for Pippin.

**Nora:** Oh boy! I work for Steve [Barr] on the set crew and have taken a bunch of design classes, and I crewed two shows last year (I helped with props/set crew for The Government Inspector and asmed [assistant stage managed] for Metamorphoses). I've helped out with a hang and focus so I've gotten to know Janelle [Asti] and the Sparkies (the electrics crew) through that. In terms of my work with Steve, it's pretty different than my high school shop, but it's been an amazing experience. Steve is a fantastic boss and my coworkers are amazing, so a combination of that and the fun work is why I do it. It's also a great job because every day at work is just so different. Like last Tuesday, my gig was moving a pile of canvas into a dumpster, putting tables on top of other tables, and then carting a pastel blue dentist chair into the basement. Other days it's "paint this thing and when you're done, assemble that 21 foot wall in the center of the shop." It's always a surprise!

## Advice for getting involved in the theater?

**What would you tell someone interested in getting involved in the theater?**

**Madeleine:** Audition for something! Sign-up to do stage crew, or see a show somewhere at the 5Cs and stay behind to talk to the people involved. There are many ways to get inspired to get more involved in theatre at the 5Cs. If you really are interested, you will find a way. There are always introductory-level experiences [classes, shows, projects, etc.] at Pomona each semester, and I always find when I'm doing a show, the rest of my academics and organizational skills benefit from the commitment as well. I would say to take a risk; you're only in college once, and now is the perfect time to try something you wish you would do.

**Nora:** Meet people in the department! I think crewing a show, despite the huge time commitment, is a great way to start because you get to know a lot of the faculty and make a lot of friends with students from other colleges that also do theatre. I've met most of my theatre major friends through crewing shows. I'm trying to connect with a lot of the frosh who like theatre to give them a sense of the opportunities that are out there because I know it was a bit of a struggle to figure out all that stuff while you're also trying to manage frosh core.



# music

article by Mary Celestin | photos by Stella Favaro

The Good Vibes Only Festival was an awesome night of music centered around women of color. The committee consisted of Jane Watts (HMC '20), Eleanor Rackoff (HMC '20), Lorenzo Calvano (HMC '21), Mary Jessie Celestin (HMC '21), Mazda Moayeri (HMC '20), Neeta Rao (HMC '20), Rebecca Wroblewski (HMC '20) and Sydney Wallace (HMC '20). Jane brought the team together in early August to begin brainstorming. Over the semester, the committee worked to finalize all the details, from the location and timing to the performers to all the nitty-gritty budgeting and contracting. Finally, they had a festival under way.

On November 23, 2019, Harvey Mudd's first women of color festival took place in Linde Dorm's Courtyard. Mary Jessie Celestin (maryjessie) opened for headliner TeaMarr, a powerhouse Haitian-American R&B Singer who recently signed to Issa Rae's new record label. The team also brought a second headliner, Klassy, to the stage. Klassy is a lyrical and radical Filipina rapper who has broken racial and gender barriers with her progressive music and social activism. Before the festival, she also participated in FEMUnion's "Navigating a Male Dominated Workshop." The other performers included students and local artists. The student performers were, Cherise (PO '21) and Michaela (PO '21). Mary met two local artists, JQuelz and Morissa, over the summer at open mics in Los Angeles and invited them up to Claremont to perform.

With Sydney (DJ squid) at the turntables and informational booths from KSPC (the Claremont Colleges' radio), the LYBL records (Pitzer's record label), and Vibe (a college app for music), the night was vibrant and hyped. It was a wonderful space for students to come together and celebrate women and music. The committee hopes that in future years, the festival will have larger audiences for the earlier acts, reach out to more of the 5Cs, expand the number of performers, and streamline the organizational process. But for now, enjoy these photos from the festival and soak in all the good vibes.



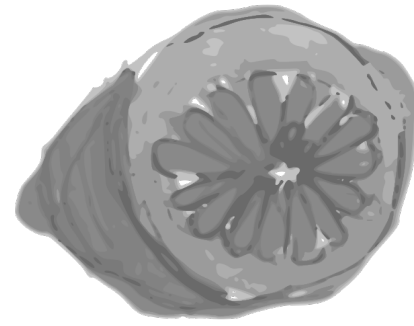
## Pictured Artists:

1. [maryjessie](#)
2. [teamarr](#)
3. [klassy](#)
4. [morrisa](#)
5. [jquelz](#)
6. [cherise](#)
7. [michaela](#)
8. [dj squid](#)



# A PARADE OF LEMONS

Short Story by Mavis Stone



“Today, you can expect San Francisco’s temperatures to vary between 72 and 79 degrees. Around 8:30 a.m., we can expect this season’s first wave of acid rain. Residents are advised to keep plants indoors, and fishermen are required to halt netting until pH levels return to normal.”

As a good friend of mine would quote: “Watching the news nowadays is less than ideal for your health.”

Looking around the new apartment complex was just as depressing. The view of the Bay Area would have been nicer had Kurt and I rented the floor a few decades earlier.

Black carbon waste encrusted the glass wall’s silicone sealing, and a fine layer of grit blanketed the exterior. The view of the Golden Gate Bridge and traffic was indeed a pitiful sight. The bridge, once cloaked with Red Riding Hood’s youth, now stood with tarnished armor ravaged by wolves.

The apartment was a time travel machine itself. It sent me back to the pristine days of my childhood and to places I’d be better off not recalling. The price of nostalgia is not always an affordable one.

But I couldn’t help it. *Everything was a trigger.*

The polished wooden floors and door frames reminded me of the towering trees that once populated Yosemite, a place my family and I once visited on a yearly basis. Every winter, we welcomed the new snowfall and icy roads, but toward the end of middle school, my parents refused to visit. It wasn’t until I was in undergraduate school that I came to learn of Yosemite’s fate.

Food companies -- primarily Betty Crocker -- could no longer obtain canola and palm oil from refineries in Indonesia and Malaysia; and so, they turned to their home country: the United States. The idea sounded utterly absurd, but considering our president at the time, it was only inevitable that the company’s wishes would be granted. Our president had strongly promoted American products and was infamous for dissolving environmental policies. Within a few years, people across America watched as their forests became sites for oil cultivation.

At the time, I wasn’t fully aware of the future awaiting us. It’s not as if I didn’t care; rather, as a child, these were things that I’d classified as “adult material.” Global climate change wasn’t fully implemented into K-12 education at the time, and so I bore no knowledge of it. Anytime the topic arose, my ears immediately perked away. In some areas though -- particularly, progressive green states -- children were

applying their knowledge of climate change and influencing the daily lives of their parents. As for Charlie, however, climate change was an obscure entity she had yet to fully comprehend. Was it actually fear that kept her away from the subject? Perhaps this was the very monster that had been lurking beneath her bed, hungrily staring at her from the darkest realms of her closet.

Kurt had specifically chosen the Bay Area so that we could better focus on our work, but my feeble mind easily acquiesced to the hauntings of the city. Somewhere along the way, the buildings had begun growing into gangly beasts, hiding away the Sun and obscuring the mountains. The snowy caps that once crowned the Central Valley’s mountains could no longer recognize Her Majesty. Instead, the valley’s warm temperatures forced the rain to flood surrounding rivers, hence preventing any accumulation of snow whatsoever. California had once been dependent on this snow for fresh water in the summer, but now, it depended on external sources. Blankets of smog now erased the mountain peaks like watercolor on sodden paper. And topping off the smog was of course its partner in crime: acid rain. Acid rain is a catalyst for mountain erosion, bombarding them so often that they now looked like croissants.

But that isn’t all.

This is just a microcosm of one of the many calamities now afflicting the world.

And like many others, I pursued my own interests instead of working to reverse our sins. My twin brother Kurt and I attended art school and then opened an art studio as soon as we graduated. It was then I decided we needed to somehow make a contribution of our own, and so Kurt and I returned to school to learn business. We now have a chain store called Charlie and Kurt’s.

It’s banal, I know.

But every year, we make generous donations to world organizations that have shown remarkable progress in renewing our world -- particularly in geoengineering. Geoengineering has been long debated due to its unforeseen consequences, but in reality it’s our only option.

“Charlie!”

My thoughts were suddenly disrupted.

I left my spot before the view, slightly satisfied with the breath mark I’d left on the glass wall.

“Yes?”

“Check this out!” Kurt grunted as he tried dragging in the oversized spider plant our aunt had given us for our 28th birthday. He then

tried nudging my blemished bicycle away from the doormat with his foot, so I quickly moved it aside for him.

“Here, Kurt, you should’ve opened the door first...”

“Are you calling me *stupid*?” He joked, carelessly kicking his dirty Converse off to the side. He then lowered the large, leafy plant beside the entrance way before brushing off his dry, callused hands. I couldn’t help but notice the dirt that had accumulated on the leaves from the truck emissions outside. Despite the abundance of autonomous cars in S.F., the trucks still managed to overwhelm the city with all its waste.

“Hey, get that sour look off your face. Otherwise I’ll chop a lemon for you to pucker on. *That’s* something worth getting sour over.” As per usual, Kurt’s jokes failed to humor me. As much as I’d like to ignore him, I can’t. Somehow it feels like neglecting a child.

“Weren’t you going to mention something?” I remind him. Just then, Kurt switches on the entranceway lights. I shut my eyes for a bit before refocusing on my brother. The white walls of the entranceway could be a bit blinding at first. (Kurt had the interior designer model our apartment a uniform shade of bone. I had insisted that blue was proven to be the most calming color, but Kurt was too stubborn to change the modeling plans.)

“Oh yeah. Here, take a look at this,” Kurt grunted as he shut the front door behind him. He held a pamphlet that featured a medical center.

“Where did you get this?” I asked. Paper was rarely used nowadays. It was for this reason that Kurt and I created digital art.

“Oh, someone’s awfully chatty today,” Kurt chirped. Sighing, I began looking through the pamphlet.

“It was tucked beneath the mat,” Kurt explained. “I didn’t look through it yet, it just caught my eye.”

The pamphlet was advertising a research project at UCSF. There weren’t many details on what the project was exactly, but an information meeting was specified. A photo of UCSF’s medical center was featured on the front cover. The sky was a gray-blue, hinting that the picture had been taken recently. I ran my fingers along the sharp edge of the creased paper, taking in the familiar scent of printer ink.

Help us bring more advancements into the world, the pamphlet read.

My heart began to race. This was something new.

...continues online at [themuddraker.com](http://themuddraker.com)



# Koi Fish *by Elena Anderson*

## Reconnaissance

9

The courtyard outside of Galileo is a beloved spot for many Mudders to sit and do homework or just relax in the sunshine for a few minutes before lecture. There's something so calming about watching the koi swim lazily through the tall grass and listening to the gentle splashing of the Venus fountain.

The koi fish are beloved to community members from the committed caretakers in F&M to students like myself, who arrive to CS 5 lecture a few minutes early just to appreciate the koi fish. So, you can imagine my dismay when I began to hear rumors that something had happened to the fish. According to Kevin Kong '23, who first told me, "I saw in a messenger chat that the koi fish had all died. It was tragic."

The next day, the Venus fountain was deserted of fish and swaying grass, ruining its trademark peaceful aura. Then, less than a week later, the plants started growing back and the fountain was repopulated, but not with the same fish I'd come to know and love.

To learn more about the recent issues with the koi pond as well as its general care, I sat down to talk with F&M employee Michael Barber, who oversees the care of the koi and the pond's maintenance. Barber explained that F&M has the koi pond system set up to cycle water into the pond so that there is only 5% fresh water at a time, because tap water contains a higher chlorine concentration than the fish can handle. But when fresh water is added in small amounts, the chlorine levels are manageable for the fish because sunlight gradually turns chlorine ions into a gas, lowering the total chlorine concentration. But, when a valve allowing water into the koi pond failed, an excessive amount of fresh water entered and chlorine concentration in the koi pond reached toxic levels, causing all of the fish to perish overnight. As Barber recounted, "When I came by and the fish were belly-up, I could tell that the water was too high," which would indicate a faulty valve was the issue. He also spoke about the preventative measures they have taken since, reassuring that "when we replaced the valve, we added a backup valve, so we won't have this problem again."

The koi fish are longstanding residents of Harvey Mudd. For the past twenty-seven years that Barber has worked at Mudd, he has been caring for the fish, but he estimates that the koi fish were first donated at least forty years ago. Unfortunately, it has not been the same fish this whole time, despite the fact that koi fish can often live for about 30 years, because there are so many factors beyond F&M's control. Remembering two fish from when he first began, Barber recounts, "We have had some pretty old [fish] though. At Mystic Koi in Upland, where we buy our fish from, they used to have two huge, at least 15-year-old old koi that had been donated by the college. They were named Harvey and Mudd, of course."

But, more often, outside factors shorten the lives of our koi. According to Barber, "Sometimes they get stolen or big birds will come and grab them." He recounted an unfortunate example when, "One time, after Christmas break, we came back and the whole pond was empty," which suggested theft as the cause, since these koi are valuable fish imported from Japan. Since birds are sometimes the culprit, Barber added, "We can't buy small fish because we have one bird that likes to come and sit in a tree nearby, and will grab one of the fish if he can," although "sometimes, if we see him up there, we'll net the pond to keep him out." Barber further explained that, "Other times, we've had the fish flop out, because they become really active and will be racing around the fountain and jumping all over the place during April and May when it's spawning season."

Spawning season usually lands right around graduation, when F&M is especially busy making our campus beautiful for the rush of people, but as Barber explained, "the koi will be making a mess, spraying their eggs all over the place and every once in a while, we'll find one belly-up on the pavement." F&M designed the koi pond with plants growing so that the koi can spray their eggs on the underside of the plants to hide them, which is one of the ways that F&M makes an effort to create a healthy biological ecosystem for

the koi.

Most years after spawning season, many baby koi will hatch, but they don't usually survive long because of the birds. Despite the threat, Barber always gets excited when they hatch. He describes, "In late spring, I'll come to feed the koi and I'll get excited because I see a little flash of color darting around that's a baby." Barber told the story of another time when he got a few excited emails from people asking him about all of the baby koi. But when he came to the pond to investigate, he realized that somebody had pranked them by dumping about twenty goldfish into the pond.

Another important part of caring for the koi is feeding them every day throughout the summer and every two or three days throughout the winter. Barber elaborated, "We have to feed them a special blend of food, because if you feed them junk that doesn't have all the nutrients they need, then their colors will fade." While koi fish are descended from grey carp, their beautiful colors are the features that distinguish them. Barber considers maintaining their colors an important consideration in caring for the koi, adding "I've also heard that citrus is really good for them and helps brighten their colors, so I'm thinking of trying that in the future."

Overall, the koi fish are a unique and interesting feature of our campus, but there are many outside factors that can endanger the koi, such as theft, hungry birds, and mechanical failures. In addition to mitigating the effects of these factors, F&M orchestrates daily feeding and routine maintenance that make caring for these fish an important and difficult responsibility. When I asked Barber if he ever found himself getting emotionally attached to the fish, though, he responded, "Oh, absolutely. We give them all names. They also recognize us, because when one of the guys walks up to the railing over the courtyard, they'll all get excited and agitated, because they think they're going to get fed." He continued, "We've had fish before that even liked being held and petted by one of us." While the koi may be fickle and vulnerable, these beautiful, graceful creatures are valued members of our community for their long legacy as residents of the Venus Fountain, entertaining spawning season antics, and consistent calming presence.

# CONTRASTING OPINIONS

## MARVELOUS MORNING

By Austin Froehlich

Quite simply, the best time to be a student at Harvey Mudd College is from 7 o'clock to 10 o'clock Ante Meridiem, thanks to a few qualities it has that no other time frame can claim.

First, the morning is the time of peak energy. The body is freshly charged in the morning, as it is immediately after spending hours upon hours of resting and recharging the body. The life of a Mudder involves many ups and downs, between the tough homework assignments looming, the lively parties, and more, all of which greatly deplete our energy stocks. Only in the morning can we work with a full energy stock to give.

Also, psychologically, morning proves superior to the other time frames because it is the only clean slate. In the morning, the tone of the day is not set. We do not have to work in the morning under the burden of having a miserable day because it is simply too early to know what kind of day we are in. In fact, without the ability to predict the future, only in the morning can we hope for the possibility of having a special day. In no other time of day do we have more control over setting the tone of our day than during the morning.

At Mudd, mornings are not exactly demanding. The campus is small enough that no more than 10-15 minutes are necessary to walk even from the most extreme end of the campus, Linde dorm, all the way to the other end of campus, the Olin building. Thus, even for the dreaded 8 am classes, even if a quick breakfast is included, a modest 7:30 wake up time is still affordable, which allows plenty of time to acclimate to the new day.

Whether we are enjoying a positive or negative day, neither one stores more promise for the end or even middle of the day than they do for the morning. For positive days, there may not be a point in anticipating enjoyable events if we never actually enjoy them like we would in the middle of the day, but that means that a fraction of what we looked forward to is gone and not guaranteed to ever return. Meanwhile, in negative days, the disasters of the day have defeated at least some of our spirit by midday, but the morning is before the disasters have hit, so we still have hope at that time.

In short, mornings are not positive days or negative days. They are simply days with potential for the most unexpected to happen.

## EXCELLENT EVENING

By Tiffany Madruga

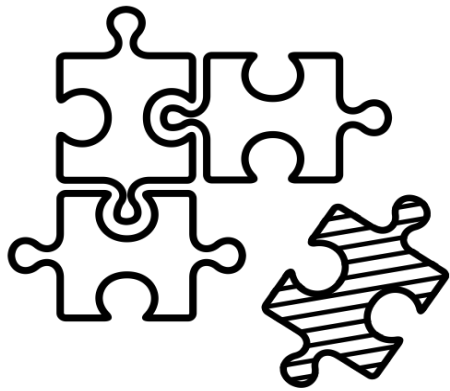
There is a reason why 8 am courses are not well received by students as a whole. Even at a school as physically small as Harvey Mudd College, it can be difficult, if not nearly impossible, to wake up well-rested and perky for the earliest classes in the day. This can be in part from the lack of sleep many Harvey Mudd students receive, but also because the morning is not the most exciting time to be awake.

Our society operates on the proverb, "The early bird gets the worm." There is an inherent positive bias towards those who wake up early — you're never congratulated for staying up until 4 am, but if you wake up a measly one hour later at 5 am, you're regarded as some sort of mystical entity who has their life put together. I have tried again and again to make myself go to bed early and wake up early so that I can be more productive, but against all odds, I can never seem to move away from my night owl behavior. So what is it that draws me to the moonlight rather than the sunlight? At Mudd, the evening provides so much excitement and positive energy that make it the best time to be a Mudder.

When the sun begins its descent and the beautiful SoCal sunset grazes the skies, the atmosphere around campus changes. People are more animated, conversations switch from the bland "what did you get on problem two?" to "is a hotdog a sandwich?," and there is less of a rush to get things done. The sun's reminder that classes and deadlines are near is fading, and students begin to hit a lull. There is more of a focus on learning about each other than on the evanescent problem sets that will disappear from memory in a week. As deadlines pass, students attend extracurricular events such as Wednesday Nighters, a cappella concerts, etc., and there is a greater emphasis on learning more about each other.

Ultimately, the best time to be awake (albeit not for health reasons) is past midnight. Once the moon reaches its peak, something about the surroundings shifts. The air stands still, the few footsteps to be heard are loud and crisp, and a sense of camaraderie forms with those whom you are with. People become more vulnerable and share their deepest thoughts — my most cherished memories have all occurred past midnight. At the end of the day, the people at Mudd are what make the Mudd experience like no other. The night time is the most conducive environment to making memories and bringing people closer together. Even though the day may be coming to an end, lifelong memories begin after the sun sets.

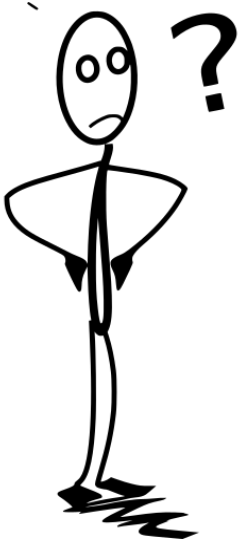
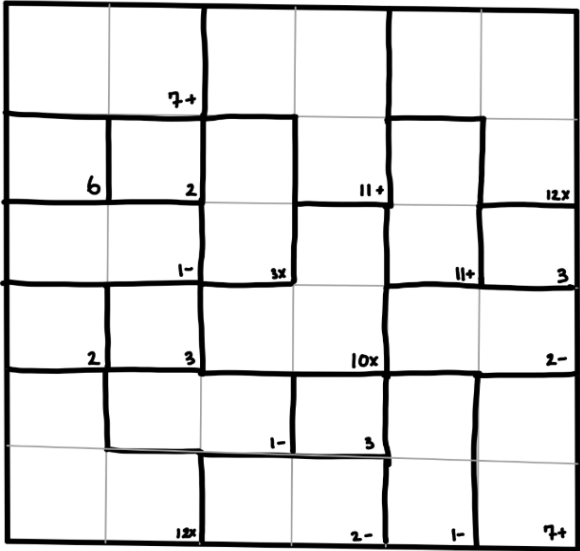




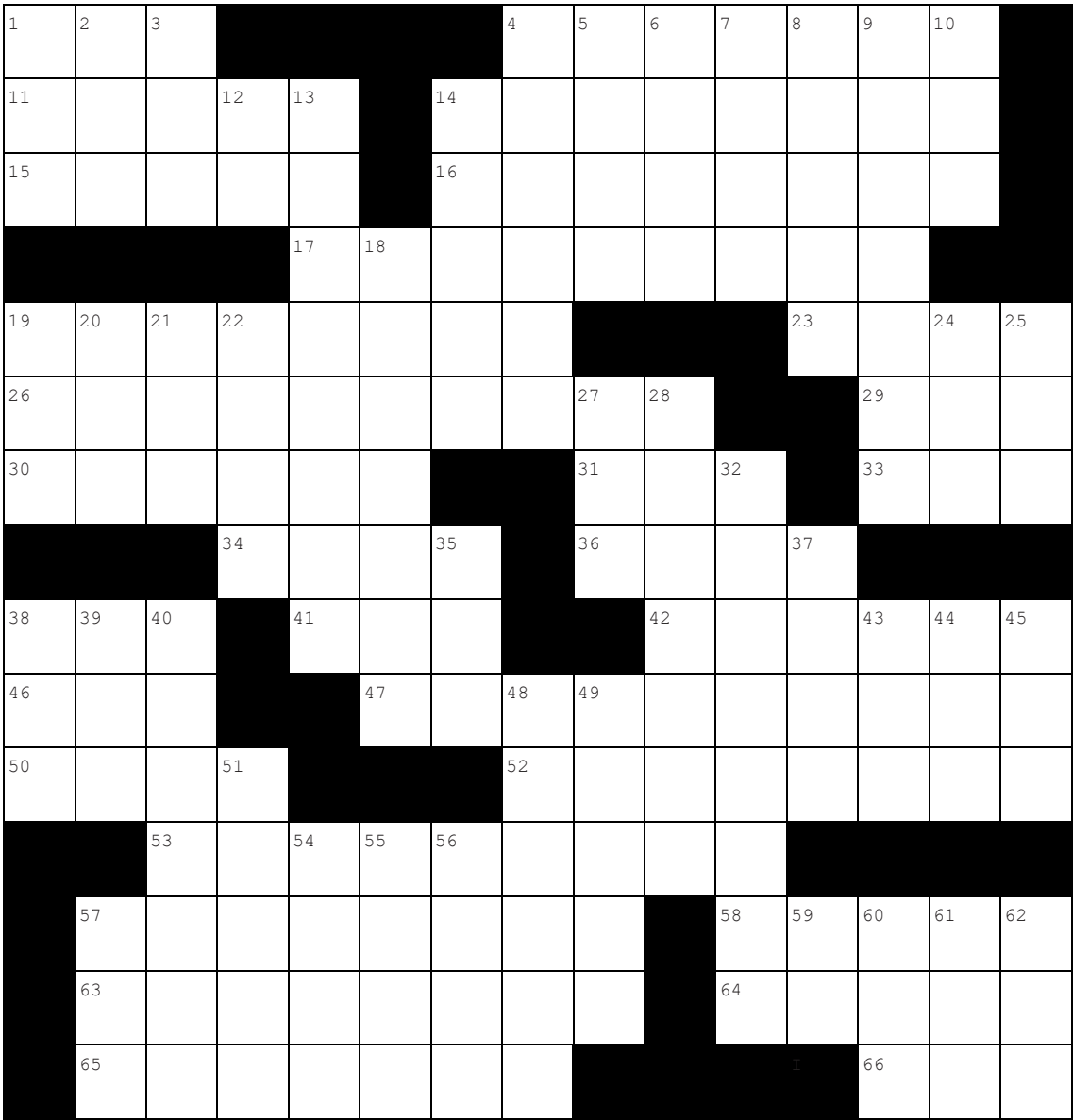
# Puzzle page

by Elizabeth Lucas-Foley and Elise Meike

kenken



crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Pro sports league in U.S. and Canada
- 4 Scream of dismay
- 11 Rises when baked
- 14 Moscow man
- 15 Astronomer Brahe
- 16 Petroleum; antonym of from; visibility, briefly
- 17 What you are looking at, with “the”
- 29 Retired Idahoan track athlete Nicholas
- 23 Depend
- 26 Ahead of one’s time
- 29 “It’s Saturday night!”
- 30 Site of Paint, familiarly
- 31 Toronto FC plays in it
- 33 List of nums.
- 34 One new to gaming
- 36 Tissue between citrus fruit and skin
- 38 Collection
- 41 Sardonic
- 42 Holder for arrows
- 46 Archaic English letter
- 47 Length, as \_\_\_\_\_ the rhino, Robespierre
- 50 Excelled
- 52 What Flat-Earthers deny
- 53 Preventer of roof-climbing at Mudd?
- 57 Some words for a small collection
- 58 After midnight
- 63 Dessert with cookies and cream
- 64 Rapper who performed “Just A Dream”
- 65 See PROFile
- 66 Mauna \_\_\_\_\_

DOWN

- 1 Renowned newspaper company, for short
- 2 Greeting
- 3 Mudd gym
- 4 In the middle of
- 5 Anagram of liar
- 6 “\_\_\_\_-boy!”
- 7 Understand
- 8 Book by Lowry, with “the”
- 9 Female in line for the throne
- 10 Tag variant with socks
- 12 Sound in a library
- 13 Word with due or do
- 14 Zach who teaches a Gold class
- 18 Like a simple distribution
- 19 FCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Na
- 20 With Nori: board game with sticks
- 21 Abbr. for a high point
- 22 High speed particle
- 24 Equals 1
- 25 Airport in Quebec
- 27 Small evil fairy
- 28 Excluded
- 32 Fish from which caviar is produced
- 35 “Later!”
- 37 Bile, to Diego
- 38 Body of water
- 39 Electron Transport Chain, for short (or wi-fi network Claremont-\_\_\_\_\_)
- 40 “He’s \_\_\_\_\_ Gotham deserves, but not the one it needs”
- 43 NRG is to energy as \_\_\_\_ is to video
- 44 \_\_\_\_\_ and flow
- 45 Fermented drink
- 48 “Air Traffic Cont., in other words”
- 49 Glimmered
- 51 Long rod
- 54 Secluded corner
- 55 “\_\_\_\_\_ upon a time”
- 56 500 sheets
- 57 Thingamajig on a keychain
- 59 Abbr. for Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, and others
- 60 Big deer
- 61 Fermented drink
- 62 Artist who recorded Fear of Flying

Answers can be found online at [themuddraker.com](http://themuddraker.com)!

# A Mudder's Guide to Mudd Professors

information collected by Alina Saratova  
infographic by Crystal Yang

What would you teach at Muddwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry?



22.7% Transfiguration  
18.2% History of Magic  
13.6% Astronomy  
13.6% Potions  
9.10% Flying  
9.10% Herbology  
9.10% Defense against the Dark Arts  
4.50% Charms

Is the phrase "ok, boomer" offensive?



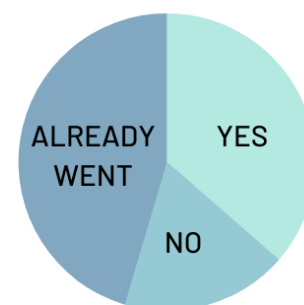
Professors get an average of

## 6.7 Hours

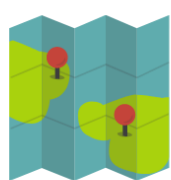
of sleep a night

z z z

Would you consider going to a Mudd Party?



From the choices of nonstandard superpowers...



### 31.8%

would never get lost



### 22.7%

would eat anything and not die



### 13.6%

would be able to use echolocation



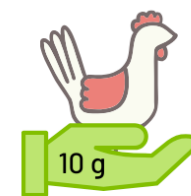
### 13.6%

would have one finger work as a pen



### 9.1%

would charge their phone with their own energy



### 9.1%

would measure things to the nearest gram if it can fit in their hand

## ASK WALLY

Words of wisdom from our favorite wart

**Q: Hey Wally! I was wondering, can you speak to other college icons like the Pomona Seagull, the Scripps Lady, the CMC Deer, or the Pitzer Tree?**

**A:** Yes, I can. The Pomona icon is a sagehen, not a seagull. I can also speak to the trees, and the trees say save the environment, or bad things will happen. Don't say that they didn't warn you.

**Q: How do you balance your stress/time, so you have enough bandwidth left after all of your school obligations to also stay up to date on current events so that you can be an effective, informed citizen?**

**A:** Schedule your free time where you can catch up on current events. A predetermined schedule helps me keep up-to-date on my assignments, and allows me to have time where I can take some time for myself.

**Q: What do I do with my green box that I left a little bit too long with food in it and now I'm scared to open? I don't want to be the [bad] person who makes the wonderful Hoch people deal with it.**

**A:** Get gloves from chem department, tough it out and clean it. I know it's a little disgusting, but I can almost guarantee that you'll never leave food in your green box for a long time ever again.

**Q: Is it a bad idea to take classes with a new SO?**

**A:** Not necessarily, as long as you also make friends and socialize with other people in those classes. It's exciting to be in a new relationship, but make sure to establish boundaries and have some time for your friends as well. If you are worried, you should find a medium and take some classes with and without your SO.

**Q: How do I let people know I'm interested in hooking up with them?**

**A:** Flirt with them, but make sure it is nothing too serious, so they don't catch feelings (or you don't catch feelings). If they don't get the hint after a bit, let it go. Otherwise, get clear consent, make sure they aren't intoxicated and be really honest about your intentions. They'll appreciate it. And as always, remember to wrap it before you tap it. Best of luck!

**Q: How can I pass my classes?**

**A:** It's not that I'm the wrong person to answer this question, but maybe I am. My best advice is to bug your professors at office hours, do those extra practice problems, take notes as you read, show up to class, and remember that it's okay if you don't high pass.

**Q: How can I show my friends I care about them when everyone seems so busy and stressed?**

**A:** Little things matter. Tell them that you appreciate their company, check in on how they are doing, maybe write a small thank you note to them. Remind them that we're all in this together, and it's okay to not be okay at times. On the weekends, try to set some time to spend together to destress.

**Q: I recently got back in touch with someone I used to be really close to, and now it's...awkward. How long before I decide that any attempts at further friendship are one-sided and stop trying?**

**A:** I'm sure that situations like that are awkward at first. After a couple weeks, if you see that they are not putting effort, you might want to stop and see if they do anything. If nothing happens, maybe they're not ready to be friends again. I'm not saying that the awkwardness will be gone in two weeks, but communication is a two-way street. If you guys are trying, it might take time, but as long as both parties are attempting to reconnect, be patient.

**Q: How do I overcome my addiction to boba?**

**A:** Count calories in boba, lock your card, tell your friends to keep you accountable and listen to them, or use sheer willpower.

**Q: I have a huge crush on someone, and I wish I could be better friends with him!!!**

**A:** From personal experience, it can be a little hard, but it's definitely worth it if you two end up vibing with each other. Try to talk to him and be in the same group, but don't be overly clingy. See if there is any reciprocity. It's okay if there is none at first. If you guys have already hung out in the same friend group, then maybe take a leap of courage and ask him to hang out without everyone else, but be subtle about it. Find common interests, but it is also very important to not deviate from who you are. He has to like you for who you are, and if he doesn't, then he isn't deserving of your company. Good luck!

**Q: I feel lonely. I feel like I'm not valuable to anyone here. What can I do?**

**A:** You determine your self value. No one can make you feel inferior without your consent. This can be really hard, but you got here, and you definitely belong here. There are better times ahead. What you can do is schedule some time for yourself, maybe go out and try to connect to your friends or new people. Is there an activity that you really like to do? Do a little bit for yourself, and take some time to rest over winter break. Most importantly, remember to love yourself, and know that other people love you too even though they might not always show it.

**Disclaimer:** The advice given in this column are not the opinions of a professional, just a friend.

