

THE MUDDRAKER

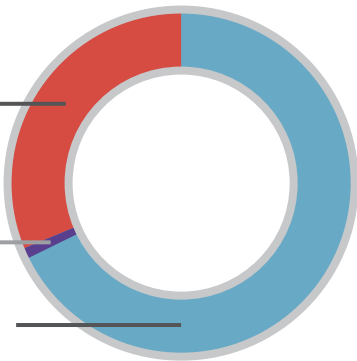
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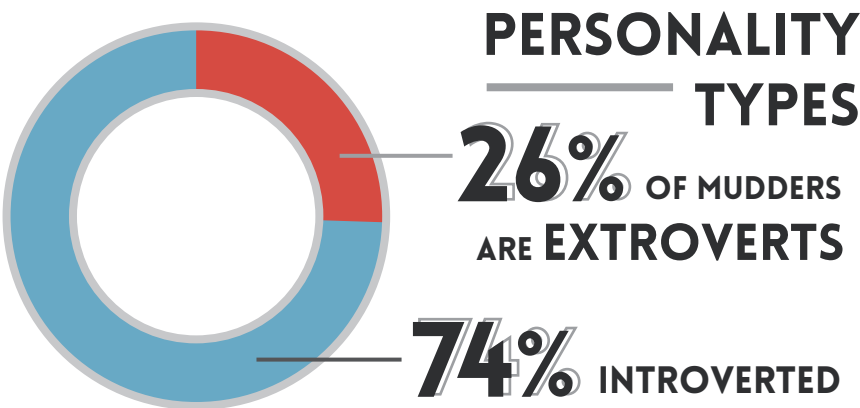
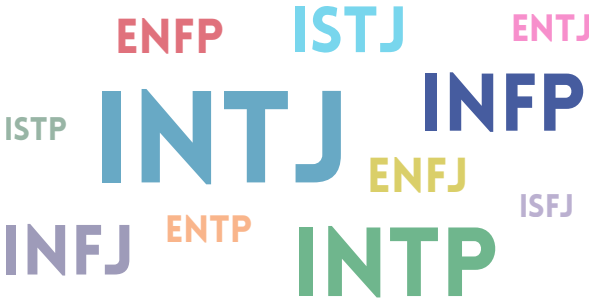
231 STUDENTS
RESPONDED THE MUDDRAKER'S
SEPTEMBER SURVEY ABOUT:

STUDY
PREFERENCES

- 31% PREFER STUDYING ALONE
- 2% PREFER LARGE GROUPS
- 67% PREFER GROUPS OF 5 OR LESS

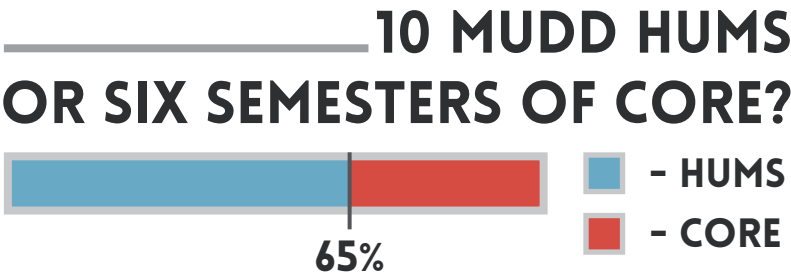


MOST COMMON
MYERS-BRIGGS TYPES



TOP 3 PARTIES

- 1. SINGALONG 🎵
- 2. FUNBALL 🎈
- 3. WET SEASON 🍹



INFOGRAPHIC BY WILLIAM LA

MUDDERS' BEST FRIENDS

|

A GUIDE TO THE DOGS ON CAMPUS
BY MAX MALENO



Lucky - Akita & Labrador Mix
Favorite Food: Anything peanut butter flavored
Favorite Toy: Squeaky Tiger
Age: 4.5 years old
Owner: Danny Ledezma

Otis - Dachshund Chihuahua Mix
Favorite Food: Chicken and Turkey
Favorite Toy: Lamb Chop
Age: 1 year old

*see online article for more!

Owner: Toty Calvo



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GET TO KNOW THE STAFF



Check out our staff picks Spotify playlist to listen to our all-time favorite songs

HUMANS VS ZOMBIES

The semesterly game of zombie-themed tag was Oct. 2-6.

Ben Lehman '19 (right) is ready to engage on a night mission.



A completely candid and not-at-all posed photo of some humans (right) making their way to the Hoch.



Dean Chris (left) becomes stunned after being hit by a sock ball.



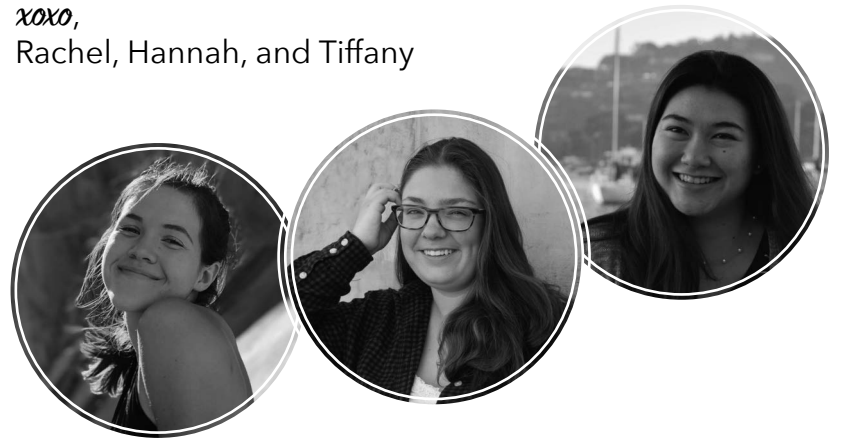
LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Hi there!

We're excited to share the newest edition of *The Muddraker* with you! As you may have noticed, we've changed the look of our paper a bit. With the addition of many new members, our staff is quickly growing and diversifying, and our publication reflects these dynamics. Not only are we working to provide you with more content, but we also are experimenting with new designs and story types. We're even planning a podcast series! With the buzz of new members and new ideas, we as editors decided to take a step back this issue and let the other staff members really shine. We hope you like it and we're excited to share a new year of Mudd with you all!

xoxo,

Rachel, Hannah, and Tiffany



ICE MACHINE CRISIS

a peak into pranks at Mudd

by Sophia Cheng

There is a general opinion that the frosh of class 2022 are a wild bunch full of energy. One of the survey responses predicts that "right now they are wee little spring chickens but in time they will become decrepit turkey vultures like the rest of us." Indeed, some frosh have commented that the upperclassmen are supportive and friendly people who seem jaded.

Some things at Mudd that surprised frosh are the strength of dorm cultures and the amount of freedom they have. The Drinkward frosh this year have been bonding and building the dorm culture through their pranks. Drinkward participated in civil war that involved moving lounge couches to different floors and interdorm pranks such as stealing West's fire pit and South's chess pieces. Becca Blyn (class of 2022) shared her experience in the ice machine prank. She was hanging out with some friends in Drinkward after Singalong at 2 a.m., and they were recruited to steal Atwood's ice machine. It was a difficult task, as the ice machine was next to a few suites and was too heavy to carry, so they first used baking pans to scoop the ice into trash bags. However, the machine could not be easily removed because of the waterline connected. At that point, there was a congregation of concerned Atwood residents, so the Drinkward crew decided to abort the mission. Nevertheless, the frosh do not give up easily. They sent people to scout around and decided to take the West bar back to Drinkward in the end.

If your dorm has not been pranked, you should be on the lookout. Even if you have been pranked, you should still be on the lookout. The enthusiastic, wild bunch may have more in stock for you.

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PROFiles: Professor Albert Dato

Professor Albert Dato has been an engineering professor here at Harvey Mudd College for five years. He was unanimously recommended for this PROFile by *The Muddraker* Staff and Mudd engineering students. He is originally from the Philippines and immigrated to the Bay Area when he was eight, where he lived until moving to Mudd.



WHY DID YOU COME TO MUDD?

I worked as a process development engineer. I thought when I left school, things would be easier, but this was a whole challenge in itself. It was cool to be in this high pressure, demanding environment, working with a team of really capable people, and you learn stuff that you wouldn't learn out of a textbook. I was assigned this project to seek out contamination, and I thought it was really cool, so I moved on to another company which focused on nanoscale contamination.

I did that for a couple of years, and then I started going, you're making great money, family's happy, are you happy? Maybe I'm not, maybe there's something bigger, something greater. It would be cool if I could say I was a professor at an institution that really cared about teaching, that I was actually following my passion for teaching. All of a sudden, I'm like, Harvey Mudd! This is that professor job that I always dreamed about, that I didn't think existed.

WHAT WAS YOUR INTERVIEW LIKE?

When you get an interview at Harvey Mudd College they map out your whole 48 hours. I've gotta be on point for 48 hours because I really want this job. I remember the night before my first day, I get to bed, and I'm not sleeping. I was really nervous for this interview! Next thing you know, it's four in the morning and I'm like, why am I not sleeping?! I did not get one lick of sleep. I bombed two five hour energies and I'm like boom! Let's take it one hour at a time. And then this is how I knew that this was the job for me: at the end of this day of interviews, you've got to give a lecture to the students. I remember when I walked into that room, adrenaline kicked in and I'm like, let's do this. And I gave a lecture and I went, wow that was cool. I didn't think I could pull that off and that's when I noticed, it's that love for teaching that came through.

This is my fifth year now. The number one thing is, I truly enjoy the show. What takes the teaching to another level is when the students want to be there, and they want to learn, and it becomes this cycle of positivity. This is a really special place.

This is one of those jobs where I was excited to be here when it started, but what I didn't anticipate was it becoming more fun as time goes on. It's like, holy crap it's getting more and more fun! Where's this coming from? I didn't anticipate this!

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT?

In E79 we were launching the boats off the dock. You launch like 30 boats and you're like oh I got this. And then my 31st boat that I launched, I kicked it with my feet and all of a sudden I swung around and fell into the water. That was embarrassing because the week of that activity, I was telling my students, it's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when one of you is going to fall in the water. And then I was the idiot who did.

IF YOU WERE STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLAND WITH ONE OTHER ENGINEERING PROFESSOR, WHO WOULD YOU WANT IT TO BE?

Prof. Clark, hands down. That guy knows how to do everything, he's good at everything. And if I'm on a desert island, I'll probably need someone to go swim out there and do something. That guy is like a fish. I need someone that I can just turn to for help.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE MUSIC ARTIST?

Here's the reason why Kanye West is my second favorite, really close to TuPac. I'm a person who wishes he could cry. Crying is the best way to get negative feelings and emotions out of your system. I've cried five times in the last 18 years. Two of those were really big failures in my life. One of them was my wedding. And then the other two times were freakin' Kanye West songs.

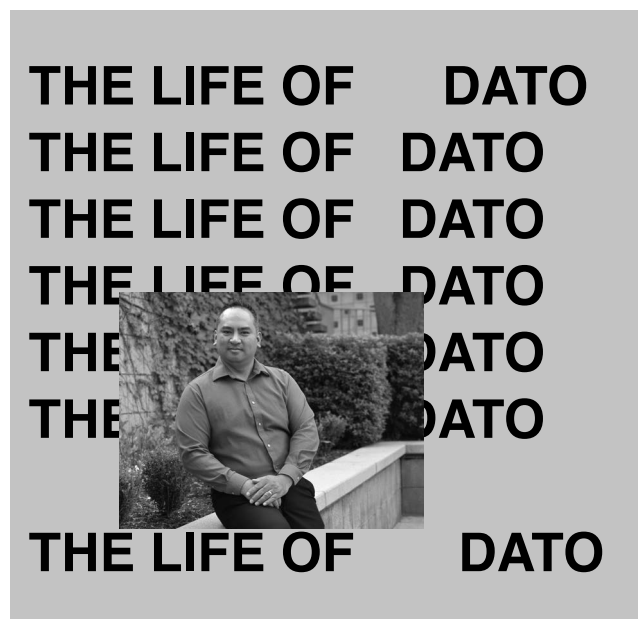
It was the weirdest thing. I was at Berkeley at an electron microscope at 2 a.m. looking at nanomaterials. The song comes on and I go, this is such a beautiful song. And I just start sobbing in my electron microscope. I'm like oh my god this is so cool! and why am I crying? Anyways, Kanye West is the only musical artist to actually make me cry and get all emotional. If there's a 1a) it's TuPac, if there's a 1b), it's Kanye.

DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?

I have a four-pound toy poodle. We went to the Riverside shelter and there was a couple that was holding this cute four-pound dog. I looked at my daughter and said, hey isn't that a cute dog. They were like, you want it? We were like, okay... They plopped it on my wife's arm and then they left. All of a sudden we were like, holy crap we have a dog! It's the coolest dog. The dog chills, it's just happy to be there.

ARE YOU MORE OF AN EXTROVERT OR INTROVERT?

My dream home is this house surrounded by a vineyard, like 200 yards in radius or something. And I just sit there and study stuff and think. I really like keeping to myself when I'm not teaching or anything. I'm more of an introvert, but I can be extroverted by choice.



WHAT WAS YOUR CHILDHOOD NICKNAME?

Like I said, I was introverted as a kid so I would mush my words. And no one knew if [my name] was Albert or Robert, so they just called me Albob. That was my name from middle school to the end of high school. Even to this day, my best friend from eighth grade still calls me that. It feels nice, it's like something from the past that has stood the test of time.

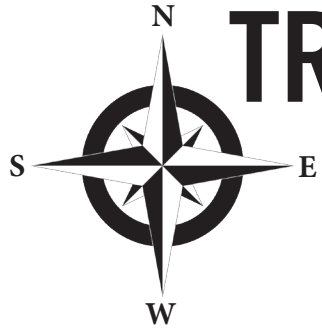
WHAT WERE YOU LIKE IN GRAD SCHOOL?

I hadn't thought I would ever make it into Berkeley. I was like, holy cow, someone messed up with the application, I was probably in the reject pile and they accidentally threw me into the accept file. I had to deal with this weird imposter syndrome, like will I even make it through this PhD program, when everyone around me is like Albert Einstein and I'm just some dude? If I could go back in time, I wish I could tell myself, dude you belong here. Don't let that mess with your thinking and your drive. It took years to learn that. So, if you're at Harvey Mudd College, you belong here. You're here for a reason.

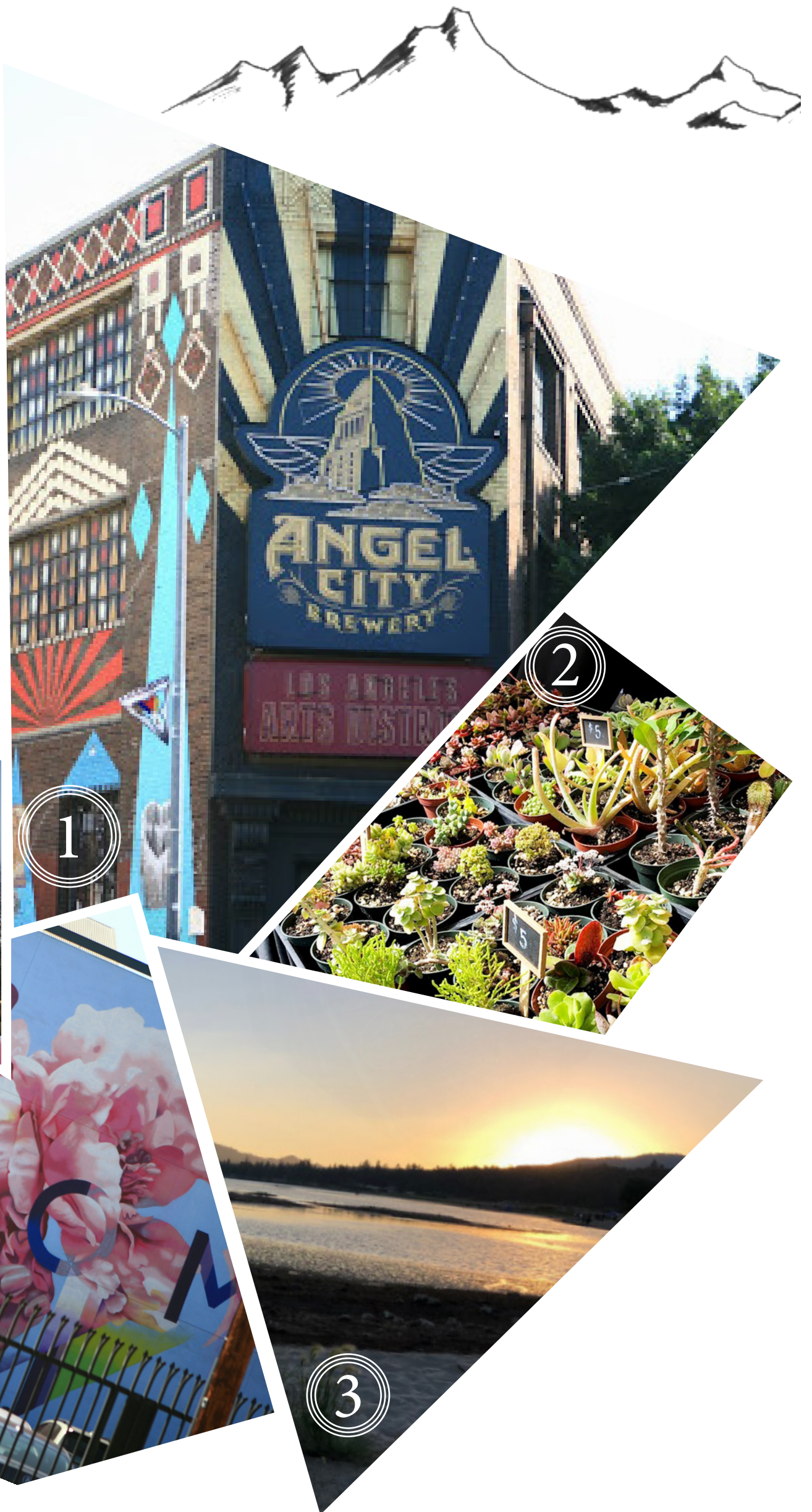
IF YOU HAD TO CHANGE YOUR NAME, WHAT WOULD YOUR NEW NAME BE AND WHY?

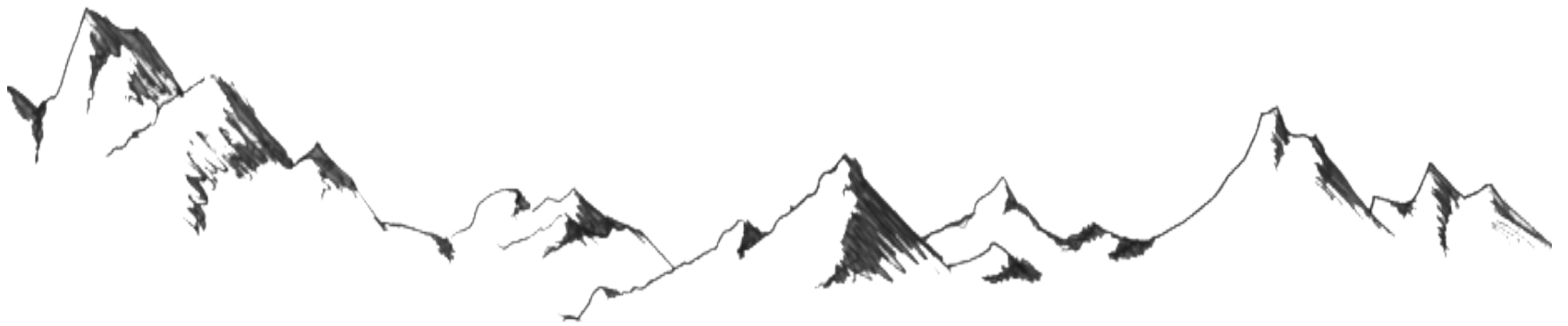
Teddy, short for Tedford. He was the football coach for the Golden Bears when I was a grad student at Cal and it was like the best years of football ever. I'm really passionate about it. Tedford, just because he changed my life.

MUDD TRAVEL GUIDE



Although it can sometimes be hard to find the time to get off campus, Mudd is located in a prime location where there are many cool places to go! Some members of *The Muddraker* staff shared some of their favorite places to go off campus, so hopefully these suggestions are useful if you ever find the need to escape the Mudd bubble. See more online at themuddraker.com for complete reviews!





1

Arts District

One of our favorite spots (and, based on our polls, yours as well!) in DTLA has to be the Arts District-- where gritty industrial buildings are brought to life by vibrant murals and rich graffiti. The classic Arts District experience includes taking a walk down the neighborhood, stopping by Salt & Straw for a fresh scoop of handmade ice cream, and snapping some colorful mural shots (for the 'gram, of course). Just a short walk away is the Little Tokyo Village and Weller Court, both of which are rich with mouth-watering food (and boba).

2

The Village Farmer's Market

On Harvard street, there are booths scattered on both sides of the street. You will find yourself surrounded by a wide range of merchandise, from paintings to honey. The vendors will often offer you a cup of fresh juice or a sample of cheese as you stroll through the street. At the intersection of Harvard and First Street, there is a booth full of succulents. You will likely find the succulent of your dream there. In addition to various shapes, there is also a wide range of sizes. It is not a bad idea to shop for these with a group of friends, as you could usually get discounts if you get more than one plant and it comes down to less than two dollars.

I find the market enjoyable everytime I visit, even as a Claremont local who grew up here. I would definitely recommend this as one of the first stops you make when you explore the village. Also, I would recommend bringing some cash with you when you visit the market to avoid transaction fee for credit cards.

3

Big Bear

Big Bear Lake is a beautiful nature-filled town that has a great mix of hikes, restaurants, and shops to keep you busy for a while. It is one of my (Kyle Grace '21) personal favorite places to go as a nice escape from Mudd. There's a fair number of Airbnbs if you want to spend the night or it's also perfect day-trip material. I would definitely recommend visiting if you want to reconnect with nature and experience the other side of what Southern California has to offer.

4

Little Tokyo/Arts District Top Picks

Boba/Tea - Boteaga, Gongcha, MILK+T, Tea Shot, Midori Matcha
 Sushi - Hama Sushi, Sushi Gen, Kula
 Snacks - Snowya, Mikawaya, Beard Papa's, Salt & Straw, Cafe Dulce
 Misc. - Umami Burger, Spitz, Shin Sen Gumi, Daikokuya, Honda Ya (Mandy met Ryan Higa here!)

THERE'S SUCH A THING AS A FREE RIDE



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Get your Class Pass today at the Connection! All you need to get the pass is your school ID.



Foothill Transit



Visit foothilltransit.org/theclaremontcolleges for more details.

5

Best Boba Near Campus

A few members of *The Muddraker* staff visited Happy Lemon in the City of Industry, CA, which is a 25-minute drive away from campus. We really enjoyed the novelty of the salted cheese series and the refreshing quality of lemon-flavored drinks.

Some other favorite boba establishments near campus include T&Joy, Tocaja, and Tpumps. See full reviews of these establishments by Kyle Grace '21. Sydney Wallace '20, Tiffany Madruga '20, and Athena Paraskevas-Nevius '20 online!

6

Griffith Observatory

This is a great place to go for some free sights in LA. With a view of the city's skyline and the Hollywood sign, this place shouldn't be missed. It is a bit of a walk up to the observatory from where the free parking is, but it is definitely worth the trek. There are a fairly large number of free exhibits within the observatory and some paid ones as well. It's normally a little crowded but worth the trip regardless.



SOUNDS OF THE SUMMER

by Mary Celestin



This summer, it seems, has rolled out more Hip-Hop/R&B albums and EPs than people can keep up with. There were the hard-hitters like YG's Stay Dangerous and Pusha T's DAYTONA. There were smorgasbord albums from the likes of Drake, Nicki Minaj, and Wiz Khalifa. There were soulful successes

from groups like the Internet's Hive Mind and rising stars like Jorja Smith's Lost and Found. Veterans also took to the stage, from the Carters to NAS. Additionally, junior artists launched successful projects as seen in Travis Scott's Astroworld and A\$AP Rocky's TESTING. There were even surprise EPs from Amine and Chance the Rapper and I'm not even naming half of this summer's releases. Summer 2018, it seems, has it all.

It is great to have a summer filled with creative energy from the leading artists of our era. A plethora of summer bops lay at your fingertips; all it takes is turning on your radio or shuffling through an automated Spotify playlist. There's plenty of mainstream music to satisfy one's summer needs. But with that being said, this oversaturation of summer tunes can easily distract from more niche and/or underrated sounds. There was simultaneously a rich world of lesser-known releases this summer that are worth being put onto. To address this disparity I'd like to introduce (shoutout to you if you already know these albums!!!) you to my favorite EP/album of the summer, as well as honorable mentions. They may not be racking up tens of millions of views, but they are million dollar projects all the same. Enjoy (:

The Honorable Mentions for Tierra Whack's Whack World and VanJess' Silk Canvas can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/muddrakermusic>



SILK CANVAS BY VANJESS:

Meet Ivana and Jessica Nwokike: the Nigerian-American soul sister duo (twenty-six and twenty-five respectively). Although they began their musical career with YouTube cover songs, their music is uniquely their own. Silk Canvas is their debut album and a wavy exploration into the ups and downs of love. Rightfully named, it's a silky and eclectic canvas of soothing vocals, rich R&B rhythms/bass, and electronic infusions that give the entire project a futuristic vibe (similar to featured artists Goldlink and Masego). The most standout aspect is how utterly in-sync these sisters' vocals are. The perfect execution of their harmonies is almost unnerving; it's that good. This fourteen track album is definitely a summertime masterpiece, leaving VanJess set to take the R&B scene by storm.



DDD BY AMA LOU:

Ama Lou's EP DDD is a force to be reckoned with. I first heard of her when her thirteen-minute video for the EP showed up on my YouTube feed. Immediately, I was in love and have since watched the video countless times. Conclusively, I'm tempted to dub it one of the--if not the absolute--best music videos I've come across. It's simply superb in terms of thematic content, cinematography, engagement and depth. And the best part is that it all stems from Ama Lou's genius. This twenty-year-old London artist wrote, sang, directed, co-produced, and starred in the short film, which explores a day in the life of a younger in an L.A. crime ring.

Upon looking her up, I found that she first stepped into the music scene in 2017 with two powerhouse singles--both politically charged and lyrically ingenious ("TBC" centering around Black Lives Matter and "Not Always" challenging gender constructs/roles). She's co-signed by Drake (who claims her style to have heavily influenced Scorpion) and Jorja Smith (who she's opened for on tour) and recently performed on the YouTube channel COLORS.

Her genre is R&B/Soul but she pulls from Alternative, Jazz, and Hip-Hop elements, even citing Hannah Montana and High School Musical as inspirations. Her powerful yet lofty voice invokes strong emotional feelings; for me, the opener, "Tied Up", is particularly empowering. The best part: she's verified her own lyrics on Genius and added commentary about the meaning behind her words so you can see just how layered her work is. Be sure to give this gem a listen.

POWER OF THE FEATURE

Features have been influencing the world of music for as long as I can remember. And what better way to understanding the power of the feature than by featuring your classmates' opinions!



WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THIS SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FEATURE? HOW DOES IT ADD TO A SONG?

I think the significance of a feature with respect to a song is that it adds a little something different to the song that the main artist might not have been able to achieve. This can be compared to cooking a dish and adding a few ingredients/spices that aren't in the original recipe that give the dish a nice twist. I also believe that a feature can have a huge impact on the culture -Fabio Amendola '19

NAME AN ARTIST YOU LOVE WHO LAUNCHED THEIR CAREER THROUGH A FEATURE?

The UK artist Dave launched his career in late 2016 when Drake hopped on the remix of his song "Wanna Know" (amazing song btw). Until then he was just a teenager with a ton of potential. He is a skilled lyricist, from his very thoughtfully political "Question Time" to his soft crooning song "No Words." Although Grime hasn't broken into mainstream America yet I am sure that when it does his name will be in the forefront. -Maurice Landers III '21

DOES A FEATURE HAVE TO BE A VERSE?

I do not necessarily believe a feature has to be a verse, but features are not just some broad spectrum. For example, I would not say that Kanye was featured throughout Daytona just because he produced all the the beats for that album. However, if Kid Cudi comes out and just hums for a while and never says a word, then I would consider that a feature even if he never laid out a real verse. -Aaron Trujillo '21



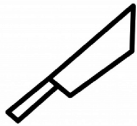
Guide to Horror Movies

by William Teav & Angel Sierra

7

What's your favorite scary movie? Don't have one?

Scary movies just too scary for you? No worries! Just grab some snacks and maybe a pillow to hide behind and we'll show you what the horror genre has to offer. Now the horror genre is broken down into subgenres: slasher, monster, paranormal, and psychological. Each subgenre has its own tropes and ways of scaring you, so if lots of blood is a turn-off for you, stay away from gory horror. But if monsters aren't such a big deal for you, try something from the monster subgenre.



Slasher films are categorized for their antagonist - someone who experiences some sort of past trauma that encourages them to go out and commit these stalk-and-kill moments that are central to the subgenre. Stalk-and-kill moments are usually shown from the perspective of the killer and shows them following a victim, then murdering them. Now the naming of the subgenre is a bit misleading because the antagonist of the story doesn't necessarily have to be some blade-wielding psychopath. It can be some stuntman psychopath driving a car. That's why a movie like *Death Proof* (2007), a movie where the antagonist murders his victims in his death-proof (get it?) car, can be considered a slasher film. It has these scenes of the troubled antagonist stalking and killing his victims.

Monster movies are unique in that there are original monsters referred to as Universal Classic Monsters. These include Frankenstein's monster, Dracula, Mummy, and Wolfman to name a few. There are also sub subgenres for monster movies such as giant monster movies - think *Godzilla* (1954) and *Cloverfield* (2008), and zombie movies - think *Night of the Living Dead* (1964) and *Re-Animator* (1985). The definition of "monster" is also fairly loose, so movies like *Cujo* (1983), where a rabid dog terrorizes a family, can be considered a monster movie. Freddy Krueger, Jason Voorhees, and Michael Myers are all supernatural beings, so it would be easy to categorize their respective movies into the monster subgenre, but they also play out stalk-and-kill moments, which are iconic in slasher movies, so that subgenre would also fit. The lines separating subgenres are blurry, so there exists an intersectionality between the subgenres where one film can belong to different subgenres.

I think that paranormal horror is the kind of horror that a lot of people are more aware of, especially with recent movie franchises like the *Paranormal Activity* (2007) and *The Conjuring* (2013) being so successful. Paranormal horror introduces more of the supernatural elements of horror, and it's here where you'll deal with your ghosts, demons, and possessions. I don't think there is much to mention about this subgenre, other than it is often associated with religious connotations and that subject matter may be more sensitive to some than others.

Psychological horror will like to stay with you long after watching the movie. These movies are often characterized by some sort of unreliability from either the plot, the characters, or some part of the film. I tend to think of these kind of movies as ones where there is more of a sense of being uncomfortable than being scared. Often movies will go a long way in creating this feeling of discomfort. Stanley Kubrick's masterpiece *The Shining* (1980) had characters make turns in hallways that would normally make characters circle their way back to the beginning, but somehow made them arrive somewhere new, and used color schemes in every frame that would evoke some sense of uneasiness from the audience.

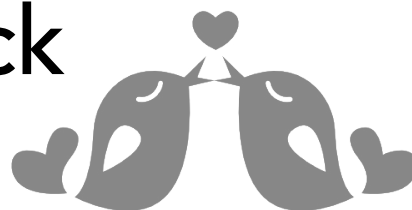


Scary movies can be a difficult thing for beginners to get into, but they can very much be worth the trial and tribulation. There's something gratifying after watching a scary movie that you feel that just can't be attained elsewhere. Whether with friends, family, or by yourself, a scary movie is always fun to watch. Try a few that we recommend and maybe you'll be a horror fanatic yet. 'Tis the season for screams and scares. Watch a horror movie, if you dare.

Rom-Coms Are Back

But Maybe They Shouldn't Be?

by Anuragini Arora



Romantic comedies are supposed to be feel-good movies, right? They have happy endings, cheerful music, cheesy dialogues, and conflicts that can be solved within a couple hours. But a lot of people are starting to question the stereotypes and flawed morality buried in these movies. We have all doubted the feasibility of rom-com storylines and noticed events in them that fight back against our notions of healthy relationships. And it has become extremely important (and rightly so) to represent positive examples of romance and inoffensive comedy and to include people of diverse backgrounds in the genre. So when Netflix released a variety of rom-coms, audiences were watching to see whether Netflix had followed these new rules.

Netflix called its revival of the rom-com genre the Summer of Love with movies like *Set It Up*, *The Kissing Booth*, *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*, and *Sierra Burgess Is a Loser*. And the responses to all these movies were varied and often surprising. They started a conversation.

The Kissing Booth, which was released in May, is about close friends Elle and Lee (and his

older brother Noah) who open a kissing booth for carnival. Elle has a crush on Noah, but she can't tell Lee because they have rules about their friendship. Now *The New York Times* called it "the Movie Hit of the Summer" and *The Insider* called it "an objectively bad movie". Why these two responses? The people who enjoyed it were lost in the umbrella of teenage rom-coms, such as *10 Things I Hate About You*. The people who hated it found that the storyline was sexist with its portrayal of an assault and dealt with problematic, nearly abusive relationships superficially. *The Kissing Booth* is definitely unrealistic and flawed, but aren't all rom-coms?

To All the Boys I've Loved Before, which was released in August, is based on the book of the same name by Jenny Han. The reason it's different is because it generally lacked offensive content and, of course with a Korean-American author, was encouraged to have a diverse cast. Lara Jean writes long letters to her crushes, and when they are mysteriously and accidentally mailed to the corresponding crushes, she fakes a relationship with one of the crushes to fool a

different crush. And yet, according to *Vox*, the villain is "one-dimensional", so even *To All the Boys* could be slightly controversial.

Sierra Burgess Is a Loser, which was additionally released in August, leads to many discussions about consent and healthy relationships. Sierra receives a text from a jock (because he thinks she is another girl, Veronica) and decides to continue the conversation. That in itself is slightly problematic. And afterward, when Veronica is in on the secret, she and Sierra continue to confuse the jock with a few suspicious moments without consent. Even though *Sierra Burgess* explores romantic comedy from the perspective of a girl with a different body type, it is restricted in its quality by its inability to properly address consent and bullying.

So what does this mean for rom-coms? It might mean that we have to suspend our disbelief in order to ignore what is fundamentally wrong about rom-coms. Or it might mean that we have to act to normalize rom-coms with consensual healthy relationships that don't go against all the values we believe in. We can all say that these movies are bad because they have flawed reasoning in relation to consent and healthy relationship, but we cannot sit down and judge them from afar when we make no effort to demand movies that are reasonable in their concept.

Did you know **Midterms** are more important than Presidential elections?

VOTE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

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