

THE MUDDRAKER

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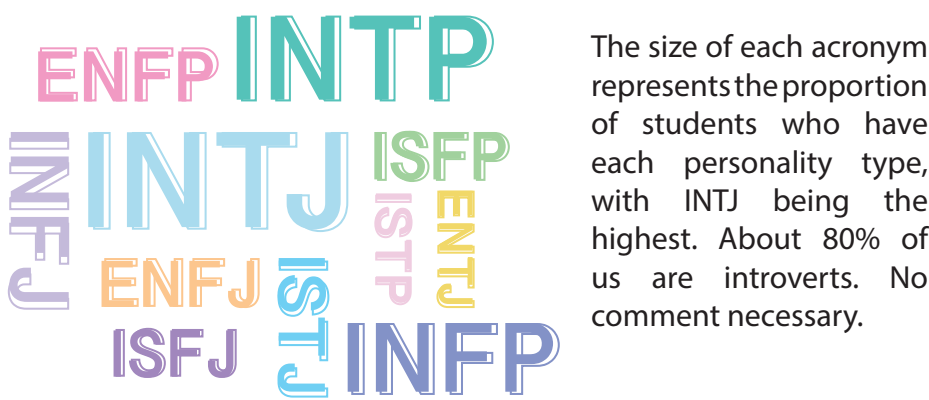
november 2021

MEET THE CLASSES OF 2024 & 2025!

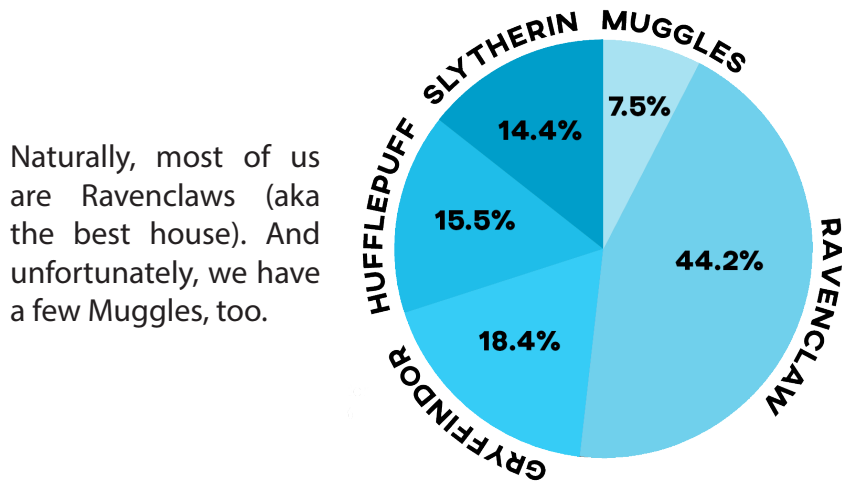
Hey Mudders! It's Avani, Saya, and Shivani here.

We took a poll of the Class of 2024 and 2025 on the most important metrics — and we're here to share those results from the 177 respondents.

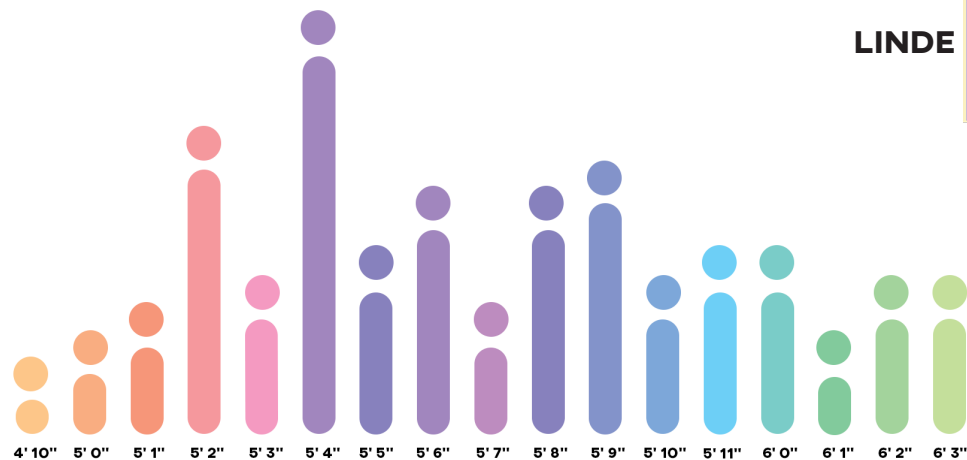
WHAT'S YOUR PERSONALITY?



HOGWARTS HOUSES



HOW TALL ARE YOU?



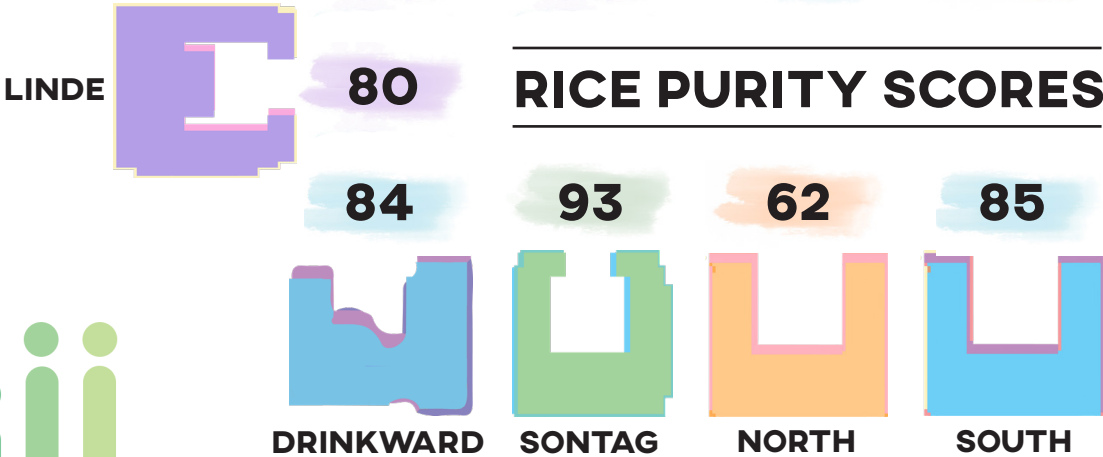
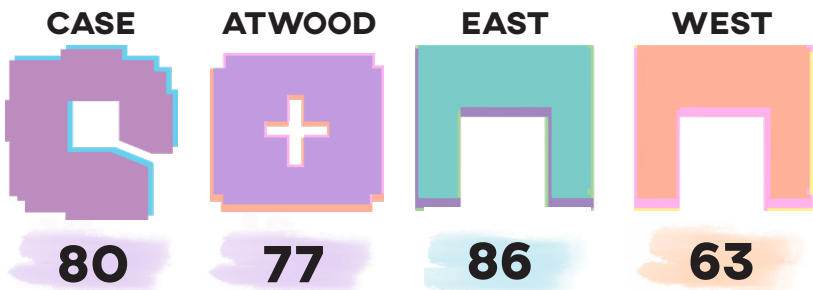
We're a short school. Those two people taller than 6'3" are carrying us.

Do you think nerds are shorter than average? Is that a thing?

HOW DO YOU TAKE NOTES?



As avid Goodnotes enthusiasts, we were *extremely* disappointed that Notability beat out Goodnotes by 2% (but that means we have potential to catch up). Not gonna lie, we specifically scouted out people we know use Goodnotes to take our survey and we still lost smh...



Now, for the only section of the results people care about.

The results supported our hypothesis — that North and West would be the least pure and that Sontag and East are the purest.

What do you think of the classes of 2024 and 2025? We should take this survey again in our senior years and see how the results change!

letter from the editors

Dear readers,

Welcome back to campus! We're so excited to be back at Mudd, and also to be bringing you a print issue of *The Muddraker* again. We hope you've also been enjoying these first few weeks back on campus, and we look forward to many more to come.

In this issue, you'll find a Q&A with Prof. Bush about coronavirus (pg. 3), a tour of our new computer science building (plus a Q&A with Prof. Groves about the McGregor Makerspace!) (pg. 4), and the backstory behind how three juniors revived the HMC Skate Society (pg. 5).

Flip through to read about some of this year's Clinic projects (pg. 6), as well as furry creatures around campus (pg. 9). If you're looking for a reason to procrastinate, we also have the perfect crossword puzzle for you (pg. 10).

There's a lot to discover in these pages. Hope you enjoy reading!

Happy fall,
Michelle & William



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Interested in joining *The Muddraker*? To sign up, scan the QR code to the left.

hello from THE MUDDRAKER EDITORIAL BOARD



MICHELLE LUM - EDITOR IN CHIEF

Hi there! I'm Michelle, and I'm the Editor-in-Chief of *The Muddraker* this year. I'm a junior majoring in CS + Media Studies. I love playing tennis, baking, and listening to audiobooks. I'm obsessed with carbs — Panera's honey wheat bread in particular — and I'm also building a collection of light blue things! Check out Humans of Mudd, my project featuring Mudders, on Instagram (@humansofmudd), Facebook, and the website :)

WILLIAM LA - SENIOR ADVISER

Hi friends! I'm William, and I'm the Senior Adviser for *The Muddraker*. I'm a CS & Media Studies major in the Class of 2022. I love listening to music, messing around in Adobe products, and staring at interior design. I'm also open to new music recommendations. I'm really excited for what's to come with this E-Board lineup! There is a lot we still have to figure out, but expect new article types, fresh layouts, and much more from the future of *The Muddraker*!



WAVERLY WANG - CHIEF OF DESIGN

Hi! I'm Waverly, and I'm one of the Chiefs of Design at *The Muddraker*. I'm a CS and Media Studies major in the Class of 2023. I love drawing and creating hand-drawn animations. The dream is to become a Disney animator. In my "free time" at Mudd, I love playing piano, playing violin in the Claremont Concert Orchestra, watching Harry Potter movies, and reading film reviews. Check out my art blog: <https://waverlywang.wordpress.com/>.



DANIELA SECHEN - CHIEF OF DESIGN

I'm Daniela, and I'm a junior CS-Math major! My hobbies include lifting weights, aggressively staning Taylor Swift, and rating teriyaki chicken (check out @chicken_teriyaki_rate on Instagram). In addition to being a Chief of Design at *The Muddraker*, I'm co-captain of the 5C club field hockey team. And contrary to popular belief, I do like cake.



KATHERYN WANG - CHIEF OF BUSINESS

Hey everyone! I'm Katheryn (she/her), and I'm the Chief of Business for *The Muddraker*. I'm a junior double majoring in Engineering and History at Scripps. I've recently started plogging, which is jogging and picking up litter (it's a PE class at Pomona! [and also better than ultimate frisbee]). Just so that it's *out* in the open, I love cake.



RUBY FOXALL - WEBMASTER

Welcome! I'm Ruby Foxall, and I'm the Webmaster at *The Muddraker*. I'm a junior double-majoring in Physics and Public Policy at CMC, aka HMC Southwest Campus. In my spare time (when I have any), I read anything I can get my hands on. I've had a really good time working on the new website this past year and I hope you all enjoy our content in its new format! Check out <https://themuddraker.org/> :)



ALINA SARATOVA - MANAGING EDITOR

What is up gamers, my name is Alina Saratova, and I am Managing Editor at *The Muddraker*. I am going to major in Math and Computer Science, and I'm in the Class of 2023. Outside of *Muddraker*, I am part of the Prank Club and Sunrise Movement. When I am not drowning in homework, I enjoy playing my instruments, playing board games, and reading random Wikipedia articles. Follow me on Insta (@asaratovaxx) and Twitter (asaratovaxx)!



A Chat With Prof. Bush About COVID-19



Many Harvey Mudd students know Prof. Bush from frosh biology (Biology 52), where he enthusiastically uses different diseases to explain biological concepts. *The Muddraker* talked to Prof. Bush to get his take on the state of the pandemic, the college's COVID-19 policies, and more.

What do you think the long-term behavior of the coronavirus pandemic will be?

There's uncertainty about that. I think one important fact that we know is that the mutation rate of SARS-CoV-2 is lower than that of influenza, at least influenza A. That's encouraging. With influenza, we have to get yearly shots because influenza evolves quickly enough to evade the immune system on a year-to-year or every couple of years basis. So, the lower mutation rate of coronaviruses suggests that

maybe in the long run SARS-CoV-2 won't be evolving as quickly as influenza does.

There's also some uncertainty about whether [SARS-CoV-2] will stay in the human population, but it seems likely that it's going to become endemic, meaning that it's going to be with us for the long term.

Now, the mutation rate is lower. But the thing is, right around the time of a pandemic, when so many people are being infected, there are a lot of opportunities for mutations to arise. It's also true that when the virus first arrived in the human population, there were lots of opportunities for it to mutate. Upon arrival, a virus has many avenues that it could go down that might be productive evolutionarily.* And so it seems to be discovering things. There are many mutations in the Delta variant. Clearly, the Delta variant is much better at being a coronavirus in the human population than the original strain was. Right now, we're seeing a sort of first [wave of] evolution at the beginning, with lots of variants arising. But in the longer run, it will not evolve that fast.

I haven't gotten enough into the literature to know for sure. I still want to learn more before I definitively have an opinion, but my quick take is that it may continue to be bad for a while, but in the longer run, it won't be as bad.

The people who are suffering most right now are the people who are not vaccinated. Eventually, either most people will have been vaccinated or will have gotten a version of it. That's going to make a difference too.

But COVID-19 will still exist?

Probably. It just seems unlikely that we could get rid of SARS-CoV-2 completely. There are other coronaviruses that circulate in humans, endemically, and they quite possibly began this way. There are a few cold viruses that are coronaviruses. They may have started in a pandemic, a hundred years or more ago, and we just didn't really notice because it was a while ago. At that time, people wouldn't have known. There would have been no way to distinguish that from a flu. I'm not sure that there'd be any way to distinguish it if we didn't have molecular methods.

That actually relates to my next question. There were about 100 years between this pandemic and the last big one in 1918. Do you think there will be another 100 years before the next one?

I don't know. We'd be lucky if that's the case. It's hard to say. I think that gives you a sense of the rough frequency, but of course, it's probabilistic. And so we could be unlucky and it happens in 20 years. Hopefully, we learned something, so we can handle it a little bit better.

And what do you think about Harvey Mudd's COVID-19 policies?

My take is that Mudd is a pretty safe environment. Universal vaccination, universal mask wearing, and weekly testing for students seems to be a very effective combination. So far, it's been going pretty good. The number of cases is not large. I have a nine-year-old daughter who is not vaccinated, so of course I'm concerned about her, but I'm much more worried about her getting it in school than I am about her getting it from me.

Last year, the pandemic got a lot worse in the winter. Do you think that will happen again this year?

I'm not sure — this is really a question for an epidemiologist. I think that behavior matters a lot in these things. I have read about the Delta outbreaks in India and in Britain. One of the characteristics of the Delta outbreak there was it came down very quickly after it peaked. And I think that's the result of people changing their behavior rapidly.

It doesn't seem to be working that way in our country, or certainly not in Los Angeles County. I think the response in California has been pretty good, and it's never gotten nearly as bad here as it did in many other places. LA County seemed to have been on top of things relatively early and probably prevented worse things from happening by reinstating the mask mandate somewhat early. So I think they've done a pretty good job. Nevertheless, it's a little disappointing that even though we're on the downside of the peak and it's getting better, it's not really getting better all that fast. So it could very well go up again. It's hard to know, because there are different factors to consider — including how behavior changes as things get better, where people then readjust and start doing more risky things again.

I'm hoping that, at least for the spring semester, we can have even more normal lives. For the college, it makes a big difference that we have students and in-person classes. I think that's a victory. There are certain aspects of normal life that would be nice to have again, like going to the dining hall. I'm hoping that in spring we can at least move towards more normal things, such as having in-person [biology faculty] meetings which we're not having right now.

Last question: how do you think COVID-19 has changed how we view communicable diseases?

Before COVID-19, in Asia, there was a cultural convention of wearing masks during flu season. That was a common thing, and it'd be nice if wearing masks became a more standard or acceptable thing to do during the winter, in cold and flu season. If that became more common, it would probably help us at Harvey Mudd. People get sick a lot here, because they don't sleep enough. Traditionally, the Harvey Mudd community has lots of colds and things going through. We should get more sleep. But wearing masks wouldn't be a bad thing, either.

Masks are a small price to pay. I'm doing a seminar class where it's students and me talking a lot with each other. Of course, it's sometimes hard to understand people with a mask on, but much better than being on Zoom. So, I'm happy. Even with the masks on, I'm happy.

Interview By Natalie Couch

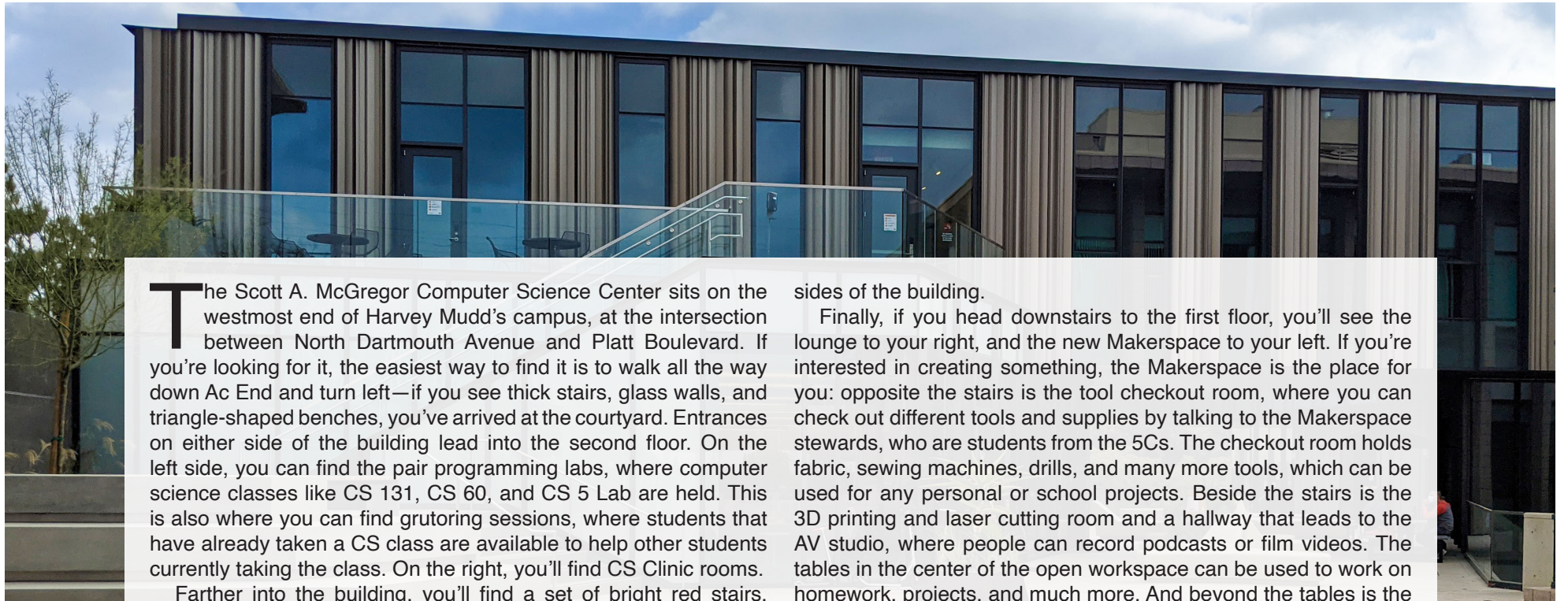
Photo Courtesy of Harvey Mudd College

** Freshmen will learn about this in Bio 52.*

WELCOME TO MCGREGOR

Mudd's new computer science building and makerspace

Article by Emilynne Newsom, Photos by Mikayla Mann and Amy Zhong



The Scott A. McGregor Computer Science Center sits on the westmost end of Harvey Mudd's campus, at the intersection between North Dartmouth Avenue and Platt Boulevard. If you're looking for it, the easiest way to find it is to walk all the way down Ac End and turn left—if you see thick stairs, glass walls, and triangle-shaped benches, you've arrived at the courtyard. Entrances on either side of the building lead into the second floor. On the left side, you can find the pair programming labs, where computer science classes like CS 131, CS 60, and CS 5 Lab are held. This is also where you can find grutoring sessions, where students that have already taken a CS class are available to help other students currently taking the class. On the right, you'll find CS Clinic rooms.

Farther into the building, you'll find a set of bright red stairs, which go down to the first floor and up to the third. If you're looking for a CS professor, you'll want to head up to the third floor, where their offices are located. Or, if you're looking for a space to work on particularly tricky p-sets, there are two open study spaces with chairs and whiteboards there as well. On the third floor, you can also find a conference room and the Worster Research Lab. Two bridges cross over the courtyard for easy access between both

sides of the building.

Finally, if you head downstairs to the first floor, you'll see the lounge to your right, and the new Makerspace to your left. If you're interested in creating something, the Makerspace is the place for you: opposite the stairs is the tool checkout room, where you can check out different tools and supplies by talking to the Makerspace stewards, who are students from the 5Cs. The checkout room holds fabric, sewing machines, drills, and many more tools, which can be used for any personal or school projects. Beside the stairs is the 3D printing and laser cutting room and a hallway that leads to the AV studio, where people can record podcasts or film videos. The tables in the center of the open workspace can be used to work on homework, projects, and much more. And beyond the tables is the welding space, the soldering station, and a door that leads outside, where the spray painting booth is on your left.

Since the Makerspace is one of HMC's newest projects, Mudd's vision for the space is still being shaped. See what Jeff Groves, a professor of humanities at Mudd and the inaugural director of the Makerspace, has to say about the Makerspace and where it's going.

Q & A: Explore the makerspace with Prof. Groves



Q Tell us about yourself and your role in the Makerspace.

A My name is Jeff Groves, I'm a professor of literature at the college and have been for 34 years. I have served in lots of administrative positions, including Dean of the Faculty for five years, and I am now serving as the inaugural director of the Makerspace, which is the most fun assignment that I've had. I'm responsible for generally overseeing the space, working with the Makerspace manager, working with the stewards to make sure everything is moving forward and, most importantly, working with advancement to raise money for the Makerspace. We're trying to endow much of our operation, so we're actively raising money from outside organizations, from alums, friends of the college, that kind of thing.

Q How do you envision this place being run, and what do you want the Makerspace to be?

A It's really important to me that this be a student-centered organization. There's a fairly large literature about makerspaces, and in the literature, there's a lot of discussion about how you make a student-centered Makerspace, a student-run Makerspace work, and the key aspect of that, the studies seem to suggest, is to create community, and to build a team of student leaders who can then work with other people to build that community in the makerspace itself. So, it's not unlike what the Hive has done very successfully, just down the street at Pomona. They have built a really vibrant community over the six years or so that they've been in place, and we hope to do the same thing. But

that can't be a top-down thing where the faculty or the administration says, "Build a community." It needs to be something that evolves organically out of the students who maintain this space.

Q What are you most excited about when it comes to the Makerspace?

A I'm excited about the kinds of reactions. Before we had any of the tooling out, when this was just an open space with some furniture in it, when I brought the summer stewards for the first time, there was just this kind of, "Oh my God, this is going to be so great." That excitement on the part of students is what excites me. I want this to be a place that students want to be in at all times of the day. This should be one of the most popular spots on campus — people should be hanging

out here, they should be making here, they should be doing their homework here. It's a place for the Harvey Mudd community of makers. It's a place where they can see what each other are doing.

Q Where would you find the safety quizzes for the Makerspace, and who would you contact about them?

A You can walk right in [the Makerspace] and you can use the QR codes [to find the safety quizzes]. You can contact one of the stewards, and they will help you figure out how to do that. The stewards are in here from 1 p.m. until 11 p.m. on most days, and the hours are posted online. The stewards are here to help people gain access to the space and access to the equipment, so we encourage people to take the safety test whenever they're ready.



Scan to read the full Q&A!

SKATE SOCIETY



By Daniela Sechen

Thanks to the revival of HMC Skate Society, the Mudd “roller skates from hell,” as a 2019 DataMatch survey affectionately dubbed them, have made their return.

Jawahar Madan ’21 ran Skate Club in 2018 and planned to bring back the club in his senior year. Those plans fell through due to the pandemic, but last spring, Jawahar encouraged junior Amani Maina-Kilaas to take over as president.

“I was learning freeskate tricks and going to Jawahar for tips, so we would talk fairly often,” Amani said. “One day, he said that Dean Chris found some skates around campus and wanted to make sure Skate Club got them, so I should definitely talk to him when I got back.”

To help restart the club, Amani recruited juniors Trenton Wesley, who he occasionally skated with during freshman year, and Eugene Gao, whom he had taught to skate over spring break. “I knew they were good riders and would be interested in helping others,” Amani said. “Also, this way, we could still skate together even if no one showed up!”

But Mudders did show up—there are 95 members on the HMC Skate Society email list, an estimated 40 to 50 people came out to skate during the club’s first four sessions, and 38 Mudders participated in the club’s bulk freeskates order from JMKRIDE, which drove the price down from \$140 to \$85 per pair. (Look to the circle below to learn more about JMKRIDE.)

“The goal of the club is pretty simple: to provide a nice and supportive community for people who want to skate.” Amani especially aims to reverse the “skill drain at Mudd,” where skaters graduate without passing on their knowledge to the younger classes.

To Trenton, the most rewarding part of the club is watching the new skaters improve. “It brings me mini tears of joy every time I see a member learn how to ride in a straight line or go uphill.”

Interested in learning how to ride with HMC Skate Society? Join their mailing list, skate-society-l.

Group photos by Alina Saratova. Bottom left photo courtesy of JMKRIDE. Bottom right photo courtesy of Amani Maina-Kilaas.



Top: Skate Society poses with their new wheels.
Bottom: Jeff teaches a Mudder how to get started.

What is JMKRIDE?

Despite the daunting price tag, Amani recommends that skaters of all levels buy from JMKRIDE, since the difference in quality between a pair of JMKs and a \$30 pair off Amazon is “very noticeable.”

Even more, by ordering your skates from JMKRIDE, you directly support a Mudd alum! The freeskate company is co-owned by Jeff Milling ’17. After delivering Skate Society’s bulk order to campus, Jeff hung around to help members assemble their new skates and learn to ride.

Scan the QR code to the left to check out the YouTube video from JMKRIDE’s visit to campus.



Yep, one of those Harvey Mudd banners—but Jeff is the freeskater in the picture! He and Amani proudly show it off.

CLINIC PROJECTS

by Shivani Manivasagan and Avani Anne

Among the college's academic offerings, Harvey Mudd's Clinic Program may be one of the most valuable opportunities for Mudders to gain professional experience and apply their knowledge in the real world.

In 1963, Harvey Mudd created Clinic, a capstone project program unique to Mudd in which groups of four to five juniors and seniors work with organizations to solve real-world problems. Over the past 58 years, students have collaborated on 1,867 projects in partnership with 563 sponsors. Each project aims to have an impact on the world, and some have even gathered attention from reputable publications; for example, the Injectable Bandage Project (2014) was featured in the Smithsonian Magazine and the Nanocomposite Research Project (2020) was reported on by the Cambridge University Press.

While Clinic began with engineering projects, it has expanded to include projects with focuses in computer science, math, physics, and a combination of other disciplines. Spotlighted below are a few Clinic projects that students are working on this year!

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND MATH: IMPROVING THE DETECTION OF EMAIL-BASED CYBER THREATS

Emily Chin '22, Meg Kaye '22, Skylar Litz '22, Keizo Morgan '22, Dana Teves '22
Advisor: Professor Stone | Company: Proofpoint, Inc.

This year, one Computer Science and Mathematics Clinic team aims to create a system better equipped to detect advanced email-based cyber threats. Currently, our inboxes have filters in place to detect suspicious wording in emails (for example, "click this link to win prize money" or "buy Bitcoin"). However, hackers have been evading these filters by using foreign characters or fonts that resemble English letters, like a Russian backwards 'e' (э) in place of an English 'e'. As a result, neural nets trying to detect these spam threats are thrown off.

The cybersecurity Clinic team aims to address this problem using natural language processing (NLP) techniques, and they hope to lay groundwork for research in the field. This semester, the team's goals include creating a testing system to simulate different threats, establishing metrics for how to measure if a model does well against these attacks, and running models using their testing system.

"I loved the NLP class I took last semester, so this project seemed like a good extension of what I learned in the class," said project manager Meg Kaye '22. "Also, being the project manager has really helped me for professional life in terms of improving my communication skills and staying on top of everything."



ENGINEERING: USING HOLLOW GLASS MICROSPHERES (HGMS) TO RESTORE ARCTIC ICE

Gracie Farnham '22, Gracey Hiebert '23, Olivia Hockley-Rodes '22, Diana Contreras '23, Zooey Mezmarich '23
Advisor: Professor Lee | Organization: Arctic Ice Project



An Engineering Clinic team is exploring one strategy to mitigate the effects of climate change: using hollow glass microspheres (HGMS) to increase the reflectivity of Arctic ice. By covering specific areas of the Arctic with HGMS — a type of fine, sand-like glass — it's possible to help restore melting ice and decrease the rate at which Earth's temperature is increasing.

Last year, the students working on this project ran models on the effects of fluid mechanics on the dispersion of HGMS. This year's group, however, plans to run laboratory experiments to explore what happens to HGMS after they are released into the environment; for example, how they interact with water or degrade over time.

This initiative is also a Global Clinic project, a category of Clinic projects through which students can develop solutions to global issues. Through the Arctic Ice Project nonprofit, the team is partnered with a group in Norway performing biological testing on HGMS. Overall, both groups are working to ensure that HGMS do more good than harm to the environment before deploying them.

By the end of the year, the Mudd team hopes to design and run several laboratory testing procedures, publish their findings, and present at conferences.

"I see myself entering a field related to environmental engineering, so it's nice to have gotten to try that through Clinic before entering the workforce," said team lead Olivia Hockley-Rodes '22, who also worked on this project last year. "And it's been really helpful to get experience with project management, communication with our liaisons, and delegating work within our own team."

BEHIND THE SCENES

Clinic is made possible through the hard work of many HMC staff, including professors who work as Clinic directors and Clinic advisors. Colleen Cox, the Assistant Vice President for Sponsored Research and Projects, coordinates with Clinic directors to facilitate the recruitment of projects.

The work of Clinic directors goes on behind the scenes all year; these professors are currently making phone calls to new companies to hopefully form a relationship with them for future Clinic projects. Between March and May, directors get companies to commit to projects for the upcoming school year. A list of projects is finalized by the time summer begins. Around 40-50% of Clinic-sponsoring organizations continue to work with Harvey Mudd for the next year, and the remaining 50-60% of next year's projects are in partnership with organizations that the college has not worked with before.

During the summer, descriptions of the upcoming year's projects are sent out to students, who then have the opportunity to rank their choices. A majority of students end up working on their first or second choice projects. Once school starts, students begin meeting with their teams, Clinic advisors, and company liaisons. While a lot of research is done individually, students meet several times a week to discuss their progress, delegate tasks, and update their liaisons. As the year progresses, students prototype and design their projects.

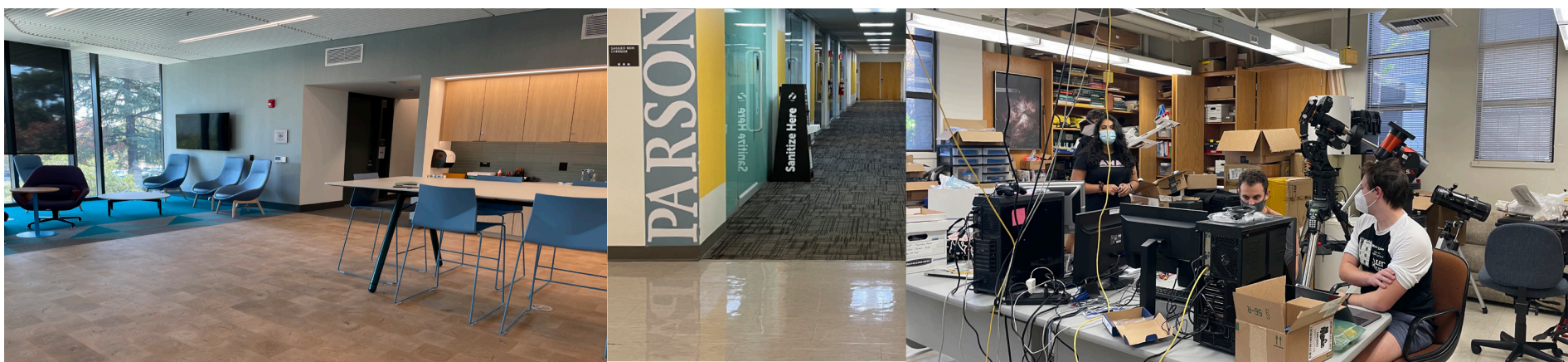
The culmination of Clinic is Projects Day, when students present their projects to other students, professors, liaisons, and sponsors. It is an occasion for the broad exchange of ideas, where people learn from others' work and the impact of that work on our society.

THE EVOLUTION OF CLINIC OVER TIME

While Clinic started in 1963 with just engineering projects, it has now expanded to include projects in computer science, math, physics, and a multitude of other disciplines.

Throughout the years, Mudd has made additions to Clinic to ensure that it continues to support the college's mission statement. In 2005, Mudd added Global Impact Clinic projects through which students can help solve issues that impact society on a global scale. In 2018, Mudd introduced Social Justice Clinic projects, where students work with organizations to address issues impacting people. While there are typically only a handful of these projects, Mudd is working to increase the number each year.

"The essential format of Clinic has remained the same all these years, but when I was a student here, there were only a few projects to choose from," said Prof. Yong '96, a Clinic director and advisor. "The most exciting part now is that because Clinic has grown so dramatically, there are many more options available to students." In the Computer Science and Math program, students got to choose between 28 different Clinic projects!



Photos by Avani Anne, Saya Kim-Suzuki, and Michelle Lum.

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND MATH: DEVELOPING A SCHOOL SEARCH SYSTEM FOR LA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Henley Sartin '22, Catherine Jang '22, Elizabeth Song '22, Jennifer Zecena '22, and Macy Mills '22

Advisor: Professor Talvitie | Organization: Los Angeles Unified School District



Another Computer Science and Math Clinic team has a social justice focus for their project; they are trying to simplify the school search process for families in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). With over 600,000 students and 700 schools, the LAUSD offers many different schools through which students can explore their interests. With all these choices and the abundance of information available, the current LAUSD school search system can be very complex for parents to use.

To address this, the Clinic team aims to facilitate the child-to-school matching process by creating a guided search tool with step by step questions allowing parents to receive a feasible, reasonable, and relevant list of close match schools along with the ideal pathways for applying to and enrolling in those institutions. While the Clinic group is mainly working with the LAUSD on logistics right now, they hope to have a prototype ready by the end of next semester.

"I'm really interested in education, so this project was one of my top choices since it felt the most aligned with helping the community in that aspect," said Henley Sartin '22, the team lead. "I feel that it's really important to invest in our kids, and one way to do that is to help parents figure out the best place for their kid."

ENGINEERING AND PHYSICS: USING DRONES TO DETECT RADIO SIGNALS AT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

Nandini Garg '23, Noah Haig '22, Domenico Ottolia '22, Harry Sanchez '22, Sean Wu '23

Advisor: Professor Gallicchio | Organization: MIT Lincoln Lab (for U.S. Marine Corps)

In another Clinic project, engineering and physics majors are working for the MIT Lincoln Lab, producing drones that can map out radio signals emitting from a location. The MIT Lincoln Lab will give these drones to the U.S. Marine Corps who intend to use these drones when setting up base while out on missions to ensure they don't emit any unintended signals and reveal their location to someone who is monitoring radio signals.

To build this apparatus, the Clinic team has branched into two groups: one group is developing the radio detecting system, and the other is building the drone. Using techniques related to software-defined radio, the radio team is currently developing directions for computers based on the radio signals different antennas receive. On the other hand, the drone team is experimenting with trainer planes purchased over the summer to ensure that the electronics for the drones are functioning properly.

After both groups complete their portions, the team will assemble the radio-receiving gear on the drones and test the final product. The team's goals are to fly the drones manually this semester and fly them autonomously next semester.

"One of my favorite aspects of Clinic is the independence," said team member Noah Haig '22. "Our advisor has been a great source of help, but we also do a lot independently. It's very much like working at a company, where you're responsible for your own work."



CLINIC VS. THESIS: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Clinic isn't the only senior capstone project option for Mudders. While all engineering and computer science majors must do a Clinic project, students majoring in other subjects (math, physics, biology, and chemistry) do Thesis instead, which usually entails working with a professor on a research question. They also have the option to join a Clinic project instead of Thesis if they wish.

While Clinic and Thesis both seek to make progress on an open-ended question or issue, the main differences between them are that Clinic is designed to be a team project and also involves students collaborating with a company, which adds another level of engagement and connection to the outside world that a Thesis project might not have.

There are certainly advantages to both Clinic and Thesis, and choosing which one to do is a highly subjective decision. For example, a math student might choose Thesis over Clinic if they have a more research-focused mathematical question they want to pursue.

"There's a common misconception that if you plan to go to grad school you should do Thesis, and if you're going to work in industry you should do Clinic," said Prof. Yong. "Both experiences prepare you well for both options. When I was a student at Harvey Mudd, I did Clinic as a math major, even though I was going to grad school, because Clinic is so unique."

And while there are similar Thesis project programs at other colleges, Clinic is truly unique to Harvey Mudd. It's a great opportunity for students to get a taste of working life, experience the cultures of other organizations, and have their work translate to real-life action and impact.

"Many students these days tell us that they really care about the impact of their work on society," said Prof. Yong. And Clinic projects — especially those that have a social justice dimension to them — help students make a positive impact.

For a list of all past Clinic projects, scan the QR code to the right.



To read about several successful Clinic projects, scan the QR code to the right.



Devon Overbey

Mudd Musician Highlight

3,751 monthly listeners



Hello! I don't really know how to write an article so I'm just going to start off by introducing myself :) My name is Devon Overbey, and I'm a "super" sophomore here at Harvey Mudd studying physics/engineering (I haven't decided yet). My goal is to lead a major research company that aims to progress space exploration after (maybe) going through a dual PhD /MBA program in Theoretical Astrophysics and Business. Additionally, I would really love to get involved in nonprofits throughout my life and use science to make the world a better place. In my free time, I love to take photos, write music, and most importantly spend time with the people I love. But that other stuff isn't what I'm writing about! I'm writing about music!

Creating music is one of the things that makes me happiest, and music, much like food, is meant to be shared. My musical journey began when I started learning violin when I was 10. I learned the upright bass about a year later. When I was about 13, I taught myself guitar and piano and began learning music theory. From there, I was in the string orchestra all the way through high school.

All of this happened around the time that I discovered The Beatles — which was life-changing. I fell in love with writing music and creating new ideas. In high school, I started dabbling in composition and eventually fell in love with writing classical music as well. I started writing a symphony sophomore year of high school and finished it just before the summer started before junior year of high school. I was really inspired to hear it performed, so I gathered a group of people who played the instruments I needed, and before I knew it, I had a full symphony. Those were some of the best days of my life.

My junior year of high school, I started working on an idea for a concept album, but life sort of got in the way, so I didn't work on most of the album or music until just before freshman year of college, when I started writing like crazy and trying to finish the album before school started. But when summer ended, I just didn't feel like the album was ready for release.

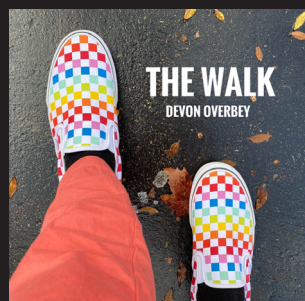
During my freshman year, I wrote a number of new songs that featured my friends from Mudd and the other 5Cs, with the intent on adding those songs to my first album. Those experiences, which included late nights in Mudd's Jam Society room, were among some of my favorite memories on campus, and I'm thankful for what I experienced with these awesome people. I finalized the album over winter break and finally released the 20-song-long multi-genre concept album, "The Walk" on Feb. 13, 2020. Around that time, I began digging into the music marketing industry so I could learn what I could do to share my music with the world. I started making playlists

and promoting those playlists using social media platforms, teaching myself about advertising, and mostly sharing my music with people.

Little did I know that a lot of things would be changing in the coming months.

As COVID struck the nation and shut school down, I felt really lost, as did many of my classmates and much of the world. I turned back to writing music to cope with everything around me. Over the summer, I lost my internship, moved home, and most of my plans fell through. During this time, I strove to improve myself and my craft as much as I could. I started writing music constantly, teaching myself marketing, working on my mixing skills, and even making music videos! During this time, I wrote what I think are some of the best songs I've ever written.

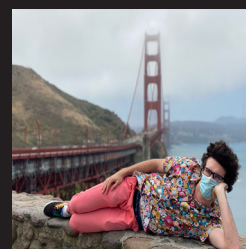
As sophomore year of college was supposed to start up, I spontaneously took a year off to give myself a chance to do things that I couldn't while taking classes. My year was filled by visiting national parks and traveling through most of the wilderness in the U.S. I started my year off by visiting the Pacific Northwest during the worst of the wildfire season, and fell in love with outdoor travel. During my time at home, I continued to write and create music videos inspired by my travels. And by Dec. 10, 2020, I had released my second album, "Wildfire." I consider it to be one of my best works, and substantially better than my first album.



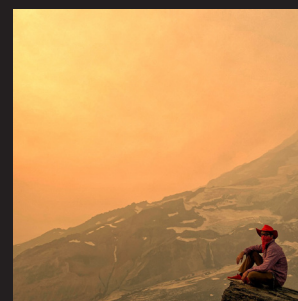
The Walk

"The Walk" is a concept album about the journey of a man throughout his life. Each song depicts a different milestone on this journey. The Walk expresses sentiment from childhood hardships to questionable decisions in college to reflective moments as time passes. "The Walk" features a symbolic, impressionistic rendition of a variety

of styles and genres, including nods to my inspirations in various forms of art, science, and humanities. "The Walk" is intended to make the audience aware of its humanity — everything about my first album was intended to be symbolic, from lyrics and music, to the song titles, and even to the release date. Song titles like "Over Now," "The Storm," or "Solitude" reflect the more heartbreaking, troublesome changes in life, not only in terms of romantic love, but other life transitions like going off to college, moving far from home, and saying goodbye to the way things used to be. The song "Isn't it Nice?" is actually intended as a sort-of sequel to the Beach Boys song "Wouldn't it Be Nice?" from the perspective of someone who grew up, got married, and had children of their own. From heartbreaking feelings of nostalgia to more lighthearted and even comedic styles of music, I intended to encapsulate what it means to be human. The album includes numerous forms of lyricism and musicality from vague, pop-like, electronically-based tunes, to focused indie acoustic ballads. Additionally, multiple guest artists make appearances on "The Walk," bringing their own unique colors and styles to the picture. "The Walk" has a loose basis in my own life, including thoughts, ideas, concerns, and hardships I faced as I matured. While not everything is the same, I definitely created myself as a character in some ways — or at least mimicked my thought patterns.



Layout by Waverly Wang



Wildfire

"Wildfire" was a much more cohesive album with more focused and modern composition, mixing, and style. While the genre didn't stray too far from the rather broad scope of indie/alternative, the styles reflected a plethora of impressionistic renditions of modern and classic artists from different styles.

Some songs were written with pretty comedic elements, while others were much more serious in tone. The album actually features two of my first songs: "Reasons" and "You." The album includes Alternative Rock, Indie Folk, LoFi pop, Indie R&B, Bedroom Pop, Shoegaze, Dream pop, Indie Hip-Hop, and even experimental rock. While no two songs from this album are truly alike, they blend together and fit in their places and transition really well.

If you'd like to listen, that would mean the world to me! I would recommend listening to "Wildfire" or any of my singles, rather than "The Walk," since they're much shorter and have better mixing and mastering.

Most of my music is available on all major streaming services under the artist name **Devon Overbey**. Additionally, my playlists are on Spotify and Apple Music, under the account name **Devon Overbey Music**. I hope you enjoy my music! Thanks for sticking around :)

Photos courtesy of Devon Overbey

Semi Reasonable Tips for Stressed College Students

by Alina Saratova

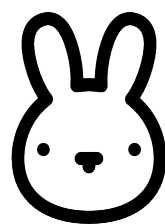
- ☐ Aim to get at least x extra hours of sleep per week. This goal may change, but getting more sleep can have a great effect on your mental and physical health.
 - ☐ Take charge of your mental health. This may mean exploring therapy options if available or separating yourself from a bad situation. I definitely recommend therapy and having someone help you process your emotions in a healthier way.
 - ☐ Every time you leave for class, aim to take out 2 pieces of trash and put away/tidy up 2 things. This 2x2 rule has been helping me do things in small chunks without feeling too overwhelmed.
 - ☐ Eat a good snack! Food releases endorphins. My favorite snacks include:
 - Mac and cheese from the Hoch, but also from the Cafe
 - Stroopwafels from Trader Joes
 - Cream cheese muffin from the Cafe
 - Pink lemonade
 - Dried banana slices
 - ☐ Make a playlist with an unhinged title. Studies at MIT have shown that this boosts serotonin levels by up to 63%.
 - ☐ Make a friend from a different dorm!
 - ☐ Plan a day off. You know when you tell yourself you'll get work done and then do nothing most of the day and feel bad about it? Just take the day off! You deserve it, and you then can come back refreshed and be a lot more productive.
 - ☐ Adjust your expectations. A lot of Mudd students like to beat themselves up for not doing well enough. As long as you are doing your best, the rest does not matter.
- “ Success comes from knowing that you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming. - Coach John Wooden, UCLA basketball coach who led his team to winning 10 times in 12 years. His pyramid of success technique was great for basketball but could also be applied to life in general.
- ☐ Change up your study space! Outside benches, Honnold Mudd library, or off-campus cafes are great places to study with friends.
 - ☐ Draw something fun on the whiteboard outside your door. These are great for demonstrating artistry, hot polls, or fun facts about yourself.
 - ☐ Finally, please give yourself the love, support, and care you deserve.



PETS ON CAMPUS



FAQ Online



GREG THE BUNNY

*Fast facts from Greg's owner, Helen Chaffee '23!
Contact Alina if you want your pet to be featured in a future issue!*

OWNER

My name is Helen, and I'm a junior physics major living in Drinkward! I have lived with animals my entire life, so I only lasted about a month into freshman year until it became impossible for me to get by without being an animal caregiver. That responsibility is part of my identity, and it doesn't feel correct to come home without having a litterbox to clean or a creature to comfort. Greg is from the bunny bunch rabbit rescue in Montclair. I volunteered with them during sophomore year after I adopted him. They do amazing work with small mammals!

AGE

He will be 4 years old around January! We don't know for certain since he's a rehomed rescue. Rabbits live about 10 years!

HABITS

He sits next to my feet when I'm working at my desk and nudges my shoes when I'm not petting him enough!

FUN FACTS

He is litterbox trained and clicker-trained, meaning I can train him using simple food rewards when I have the time to do that consistently lol. Right now he can touch his nose to the end of a rod, which is the precursor to agility training! His favorite foods are dandelion greens, fresh hay, and dried sugarcane!

Created by Kishore Rajesh

1. Laugh
4. Mudd Building
8. Stoichiometric Measurement
13. A place to find minerals
14. Western necktie consisting of a cord and a clasp
15. Skeletal Element of Sea Animal (anagram of CREELS)
16. Sheet for animation (abbr)
17. "Somebody once ____ me"
18. Op 84 of Beethoven (anagram of MONGET)
19. Glottal Stop in Arabic
21. P in MPH
22. New York Art Building
23. Old Dinosaurs?
25. Al, George's opponent
26. Wedding vow (2 words)
27. Mudd Building
30. ____ Z, or Zoomers
32. Prefix for earth-saving devices
33. A Gaul or a Briton, for example
34. Beginning of something
37. Shopping rides for children
40. Drowned river valley
41. Fraction
42. Remove stitches, maybe
43. Orly from Ace Attorney
45. Before, poetically
46. Female sheep
47. A cold camper: "I ____ ____"
50. Extraterrestrial Ship
52. Online Sibling, maybe, or a Rapper with a fake feud with Charlemagne da God
54. MA Alcohol Brand alluded to in Hamilton (abbr)
55. Tree liquid
56. First name of alias of "Chocolate Rain" creator

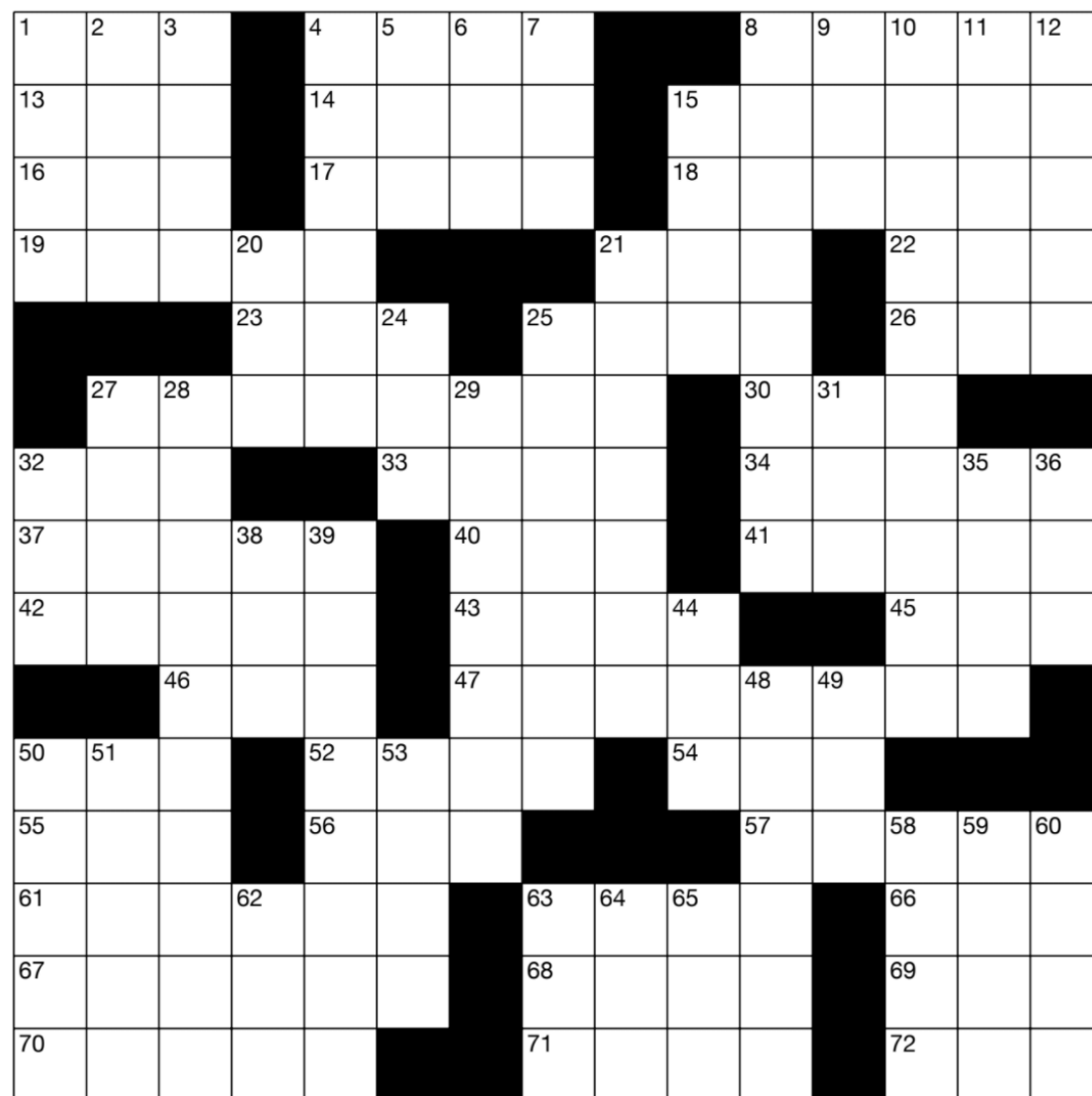
57. If Sacha Baron Cohen traded a T for a K
61. Odd, in a sense
63. Season of tricking
66. What a Barcelona resident might say to get your attention
67. Pikachu Illustrator Card, for example
68. Plant gel
69. Short period of time (abbr.)
70. Mudd Building
71. Picobot in an empty field
72. Classical MAP Kinases (abbr)

1. Mudd Building
2. L x W
3. Steering wheel at front of the ship
4. Get
5. British Toilet
6. Sick
7. Silent Approval
8. Mudd Building
9. Species of amphibian
10. Town in Mass
11. Gained (Misspelled)
12. int a=3; in java means integer a is _____ 3 (2 words)
15. Prophet
20. Unseeable part of galaxy (abbr)
21. Toll for medieval era bridges
24. Mudd Building
25. Mudd Building
27. What one does to a QR code
28. A clichéd western
29. Colony of water birds
31. Bambi's Aunt
32. Pirate competitor of UNC
35. How a Dublin resident would

refer to their country
36. Walking digit
38. Specialist mage in D&D
with control of wind, fire,
earth, and air (abbr)
39. Full of saccharine
44. Unwanted on computers
48. Aesop's stories

49. Type of entrepreneur
(abbr)
50. Pull a William the
Conqueror
51. Beacon on lighthouse of
Alexandria, perhaps
53. Netherlands town, or short
of jokes?

58. Thorny bush
59. The day before mañana
60. Mudd Building
62. Examine
63. Cooler papparazzi
64. Pub's liquid
65. The Mariana Trench
compared to Everest



choose your pet! *here's a selection of the pets you might see around campus*



Red Wine and His Hands

A short story by Claire Boege

Victoria Oxley did not do what most famous women do when they catch their husbands cheating. She didn't scream or confront him. She didn't go to the tabloids or the news. She didn't undergo a messy divorce or a messier reconciliation. At first, she did so little about it that her husband didn't even know she had caught him.

But that was only at first.

Because at first, she was numb. Then she was shocked. And then she was hurt. But not jealous. Never jealous. Jealousy was unattractive.

She toyed with telling the women that Malcolm was married. She did not. She would not let him hurt them. Betray them. Not like he had with her. She would not allow it. They would be protected.

But how?

It was a question she pondered between takes of "Wrong About My Husband." In her trailer, sitting on the red velvet couch, running a finger down the script. In the dressing room with its dull yellow lights that buzzed lowly and flickered every few minutes. How could she protect them from Malcolm? As long as they lived, they would probably never escape his memory. They would always remember the pain his lies caused them. They'd remember it as long as they lived.

As long as they lived. Now, that was an idea.

It was a shelved idea, for the next month or so. She went to the studio and filmed her scenes, but it got harder and harder to smile at the camera. Harder to remember the lines. Harder not to scream everything she wanted to say at Malcolm, instead of what she was supposed to say. Harder not to mistake Adam for him. She tamped it down behind mascara she could not let run by crying. Behind lipstick she could not risk smudging.

Don't be jealous. It's unattractive. Remember, they need *your* help.

She chose arsenic in the end. It reminded her of her movie. The suicide her character commits at the climax. And it's not a horrible way to go. If Hollywood has any reality to it.

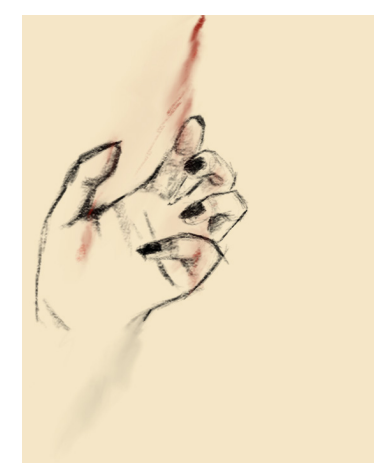
What is reality in Hollywood?

.....

Rebecca was a sweet woman who looked a good deal like Victoria, with the same chocolate locks, even if Victoria's were more ringlets than waves. The same ivory skin, the same sapphire eyes, the same heart-shaped face.

She tried not to be hurt by that. She wasn't entirely sure she succeeded, but at least Rebecca will never experience that pain. She'd make sure of it.

They became wonderful friends over coffees that Victoria "spilled." It was as easy in real life as it was on set. They sat in a little cafe with an oceanfront view. Gulls cawed and the waves crashed. Victoria fielded all of Rebecca's questions about being a celebrity and adjusted her sunglasses in the hope no one else would recognize her. She took a sip of her latte, and asked, "Have you met anyone special recently, Rebecca?" because she had to make sure that this was the right woman. The woman she was supposed to be saving.



Illustrated by Waverly Wang

And as they sat beneath the green and pink striped awning of the cafe, as the sun moved across the sky and cast long shadows on the ground, as their coffees grew cold and their pastries

d i s a p p e a r e d ,
Rebecca described

Malcolm perfectly. Victoria was numb first. Then she was shocked. Then she was hurt.

Rebecca described his broad shoulders and his big hands. His black hair and green eyes. His strong jaw with its slight stubble. And then she told Victoria stories of her relationship. Victoria's hands trembled on her cup and nearly spilled her coffee because...

It was their first date. The same place for their first kiss. Even the same pick-up line. She'd never known it was possible to feel so cold under the sun.

For a moment, she doubted what she had come there to do. And then Rebecca said, "He's basically perfect. He's always so careful about my feelings. I can't imagine him doing anything that could possibly hurt me."

Neither had she. Her resolve hardened. Malcolm would not hurt Rebecca.

Victoria smiled and stood up from the wrought iron cafe table. "I'm going in to get another latte. Would you like one?"
.....

She found a news article on her phone a few hours later when she checked it between scenes, makeup and hair dabbing at her face and spraying at her curls. "Local Woman Consumes Arsenic. Police Baffled."

Malcolm was in a bad mood when she got home. She knew it was because Rebecca was safe from him. That did not make dinner any less tense; Malcolm stabbed every bite hard enough to scrape the plate. He turned off her favorite soft jazz and drank a lot more wine and whiskey than he usually did. The air smelled of it.

She asked him about his day. He threw his glass at her head. It shattered against the wall and left a dripping red trail across the cream paint.

She paid the cleaners extra the next morning to forget about the glass fragments they had to pick out of the grey carpet. Both she and Malcolm pretended the red stains didn't exist.

Victoria put on a little more makeup before she went to work. Her plans, the blood, the secret, they were all worth it if it meant those other women wouldn't hurt like her.

.....

"Her plans, the blood, the secret, they were all worth it if it meant those other women wouldn't hurt like her."

.....

Malcolm reminded her that he was filming a sex scene at work over breakfast, a light breeze from the open window behind him stirring his hair. When she frowned, he reminded her that jealousy was unattractive. She smiled at him. "I'm not jealous," she assured him, patting his arm. "I know it's just work."

It wasn't just work. Not unless he intended to break into the porn industry, or unless all "make out for authenticity" practice had to happen off set. She was pretty sure Haley knew Malcolm was married.

That was alright. Victoria would help her too. Malcolm wouldn't remain faithful forever.

She couldn't decide if what he had done hurt more than the numbness that had followed it. It hadn't even been a day since Rebecca died.

Did action movies even need sex scenes?

It took longer to befriend Haley. Victoria and Haley were very different people. But she managed, invited Haley back to the house on a night when she knew Malcolm would be busy with Andrea. They sat in the living room, the scent of wine filling the room as they shared a bottle of a nearly black red.

She watched as spots of color appeared on Haley's cheeks the more she drank and the way her hands would move with increasing flare, spilling the wine on the white couches she and Malcolm used to entertain company. She watched as Haley drank the glass that would save her, jazz winding through the room and white curtains fluttering in the breeze.

The clock ticked on.

Five minutes.

Ten minutes.

She let her gaze roll around the room, unable to keep her attention on Haley's rambles about her husband. Her eyes caught on glittering awards that her husband had earned. The fern neither of them seemed able to keep alive. She took another sip of her wine, letting the slightly sour taste sit in her mouth for a moment. She let herself contemplate the next woman she would protect. The last. Andrea.

Twenty minutes.

Twenty-five.

"I don't feel good," Haley said. The glass made a clinking sound as it was set down on the coffee table.

Victoria did not move.

"I said I didn't feel good," Haley said, putting a hand to her stomach.

"No," said Victoria. "I wouldn't expect you to."

There was something worse about watching her protection take effect in person instead of hearing about it later. Victoria's fingers went white around her glass and she reminded herself that this was necessary, even as she turned her face away. Haley needed this to happen. *It was to protect her.*

Haley's head smacked onto the glass coffee table. Victoria took another sip of wine and forced herself to stay still.

It was to protect her.

Haley's legs kicked the table. The thuds covered up the jazz.

Her head hit the floor. Her blood smeared the carpet.

It was to protect her.

She threw up. It had red trails in it. The stink of it made Victoria reach for one of the lavender sachets on the window sills.

This was to protect her.

Haley went still. The front door clicked open. Malcolm was home. Two hours early.

He saw her first. "YOU!" he roared. "YOU RUIN EVERYTHING! Andrea told me to get out of her house because she found out I was married to YOU!"

She could smell the alcohol on his breath even from where she stood. She took one step back. Two. And then she stumbled over Haley's arm.

Malcolm caught the motion. His eyes went to the body on the floor behind her. Victoria knew the moment when he recognized who it was.

She turned and ran.

"VICTORIA!"

She made it as far as the dining room before he grabbed her by the arm and slammed her into the blood-red wine stains on the cream wall. He put both hands around her neck. She choked, clawing at him. Hands, eyes, face. He did not let go.

She couldn't breathe. She had never seen him this angry before. She couldn't breathe.

He was going to kill her.

"Malcolm. Please. Please." Her feet kicked against the ground. A piece of glass the cleaners had missed stabbed into her foot. The jazz echoed in the dining room. The chandelier hung silently above the table.

Malcolm did not remove his hands.

Her chest heaved, lungs straining. A ringing started in her ears. It wasn't in sync with the jazz.

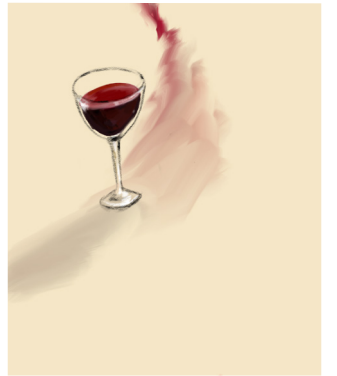
Her eyes blurred. Black dots danced behind her eyelids.

She had at least protected two.

His hands tightened.

Hers went limp.

Next morning's paper went out with the headline: "Lead Actress in 'Wrong About My Husband' Was Wrong About Her Husband: A Sordid Tale of Affairs and Murder."



HUMANS OF MUDD

interviews and photos by Michelle Lum

find us online @ humansofmudd.wordpress.com
instagram: @humansofmudd
also check out our facebook page!

ANNEKA NOË '22



"I've been a Muchacho since spring of frosh year. I'm really relieved to be back on campus. When school went online, it was really hard to plan virtual events. I even found myself disengaging a bit; it just wasn't the same. At school, we have so many resources that we can use to plan really engaging events for people. I'm super excited about a new event that we did a couple weeks ago: water balloon dodgeball. We got a great turnout and ran out of water balloons before the hour ended, which we were not expecting.

I always volunteer to run Paint Night. Tonight, I'm painting a landscape. I have three other paintings hanging in my dorm that I did at previous Paint Nights, and they're all landscapes, so I'm sticking to the same theme. I find painting really relaxing. I'm in a theater crafts class, which focuses on scenic design. It's a two-hour class where we paint these big flats and drill things together. We just finished learning how to paint cobblestone, and now we are moving into painting brick. We're learning to use different textures, create new layer paint and add highlights and shadows to really allow things to pop off the page. It has opened up a whole new perspective on painting technique to me.

I think this class only happens at the 5Cs once every two years, because the people who teach it aren't full-time professors; they are asked to come in and teach classes every once in a while. But it's a really awesome class, probably my favorite class I've taken during my time here. The class combines two things that I really love: theater and getting to work with my hands and create things.

Planning events is super fun, but running events holds a special place in my heart because I get to see the impact on the community and I also get to make jokes into a mic. One of the things that is important to me about my career is to be able to see the impact of my work on people's everyday lives, and create experiences for people. Being a Muchacho has allowed me to do that here at Mudd."



ELLA BLAKE '23 & MAKENNA PARKINSON '23



"Being back with the swim and dive team has been the most exciting thing about being back on campus."

"Definitely. The team has been really fun. It's been a lot better socially. You just feel like you're a lot closer to your support network. It's really nice. Also, classes are just a lot better when they're not on Zoom. I feel like that's an understatement."

"And we start practice tomorrow, so that's exciting. We're winter season. So, our first meet is around Oct. 23 or 24."

"Over quarantine, pools were closed for a while, at least where I was living. So, I was just doing a lot of YouTube workouts at home, whatever I could do. Swim and dive is kind of hard to do without a pool.

But Makenna and I were living together at one point, and the pools were open. Makenna was diving once a week, and I was able to swim a little more often, because they let people swim more than they let them use the diving boards. But I definitely didn't swim as much as I would have liked to.

Some traditions will have changed a bit. For instance, we used to eat dinner together every night after practice, and that's a little challenging when we can't eat at other dining halls. So, it may mean that team dinners become Mudd team dinners. But that's definitely something I'm looking forward to. There's a good number of us here at Mudd: there are two swim suites in Linde, plus a handful of people scattered around the other dorms.

I've just overall been super impressed with how positive everybody is for the most part. I think people are just really happy to be back on campus, and I like seeing Mudders supporting Mudders — it's really cute."

EDWARD JACOBS '22



"I was actually not a big fan of rocketry or spaceflight, at all, for most of my life. But in February 2018, Elon Musk launched his car up into space. That changed my life, and rocketry slowly became a bigger and bigger fascination of mine.

When I got to Mudd in August 2018, a senior named Roger Hooper was running MARC at the time. I asked Roger if I could join, and he was really great about bringing me on as a frosh who didn't know much. From there, my interest in rocketry just grew exponentially.

I'm really interested in making rocketry a permanent fixture at Mudd — because one of the big problems with Mudd is that we all have a lot of work to do, and the club will go through phases where there are a lot of people who are very interested, and then they'll graduate without passing on the experience to another year of people, so the club dies. The big organizational changes MARC is making are structured on making MARC a permanent thing that happens every year. These smaller rockets are a fixture that students work on every year, but we also have an advanced team rocket, and we want to build a big rocket every year to submit to a competition.

Building a rocket is definitely not something that takes a lot of time — that's one of things I want to stress. You don't need any prior experience, and building one of these takes about five hours over two or three sessions. You can do that whenever you want during the semester, and there are lots of people here to help you.

I think rockets are cool. I fell in love with rocketry because it's very much hopeful. And there's been a renaissance in aerospace in the last five years that is calling a lot of people to join the field, as we look to putting people on Mars and things like that.

If there are people who think rockets are cool, and they want to talk about space or whatever, we're in the Makerspace every Sunday at 5:30, and I invite anyone who's interested to stop by."

MARC is short for the Mudd Advanced Rocketry Club. MARC is building a big competition rocket that they'll be launching out of New Mexico next summer, and they also host monthly launches for smaller student rockets. If you're interested in joining, the club meets every Sunday at 5:30 PM in the McGregor Makerspace.



If you're interested in being featured on Humans of Mudd, contact Michelle at milum@hmc.edu!