

The Xavier Post

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**The Newspaper of Xavier College
Preparatory High School**

A.M.D.G.

"For the Greater Glory of God"

Our Mission Statement

Giving Xavier students a way to platform their projects and voices, the Xavier Post aims to bring unity through sharing the ideas of its students. Our number one goal is to infuse our Xavier community with positivity and awareness. We strive to remind the students and community Xavier is a family and we are here for one another.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by
prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let
your requests be made known to God; and the
peace of God, which surpasses all
understanding, will guard your hearts and
minds through Christ Jesus.

-Philippians 4:6–7



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AP Exams Schedule

5/3	5/4	5/5	5/6	5/7	5/10	5/11	5/12	5/13
8 AM	8 AM	8 AM	8 AM	8 AM	8 AM	8 AM	8 AM	8 AM
AP US Gov't/Pol Exam	AP Calc AB/BC Exam	AP Eng. Lit/Comp Exam	AP US History Exam	AP Chemistry Exam	AP French Lang/Cult Exam	AP Span Lang/Cult Exam	AP Eng Lang/Comp Exam	AP Bio Exam
		12 PM	12 PM	8 AM	8 AM	12 PM		12 PM
		AP Physics 1 Exam	AP Comp Sci A Exam	AP Span Lit/Cult Exam	AP World History Exam	AP Psych Exam		AP Chinese Lang/Cult Exam
			12 PM					12 PM
			AP Art History Exam					AP Env Sci Exam

Xavier Athletics

By: Anastasia Popova

The Xavier community and staff has always been proud and passionate about our athletic teams. We have taken all of the best coaches and teachers in order to create the most upstanding, hardworking and diligent athletes the Coachella Valley may ever have. The Xavier community had done a skillful and superb job at achieving just that. Although on March 13 of 2020, things had rapidly changed. While our tight-knit community had remained hopeful as well as positive that things would return to normal and that COVID-19 would be a thing of the past after our two week break, that was not the case. Our wishful thinking was simply not enough in order to prevent a worldwide pandemic. COVID-19 has put a damper on Xavier's sports and athletics. Our athletic department is one of the many pristine attributes that are a part of Xavier and its students and family. While our two week break has turned into over a year of online school and total quarantine and isolation, we have found a way to turn things around. As a community, Xavier has always taken on problems with a smile and made it our priority to resolve it.



Although, an issue brought on by a global pandemic is a horse of a different color. Recently, Xavier has brought back our beloved sports and we are on our way back to our normal life. Our athletics department has always been prideful of our student athletes. While our athletics program is still not fully back to where we were before the pandemic, we have made compromises and come up with solutions that ensure that our athletes still

- continue to be close with their team. Although most teams are not competent fully, practices are still on their correct schedule ensuring that athletes and team members are reminded that they are still a family and the initial total isolation is broken.

Regardless of limited games, competitions and practices, Xavier's athletes continue to be strong throughout the season and are still a family nonetheless.





The Gift of Life: Save a Life in Five Seconds

by William Lawrence

A swab of the cheek could save a person's life; a five-second process could determine whether a person lives or dies. The balance of life and death hangs on the swabbing of a person's cheek.

The Gift of Life is a registry that collects the tissue type of a person's alive, via swab, to determine whether they could be a donor match for someone who is suffering from melanoma, Leukemia, Lymphoma, or other blood-related cancers. The Gift of Life has the "Swab a Cheek, Save a life" program which allows the registry to identify the tissue type of the person getting swabbed. From there, the donor's stem cells are separated from the blood and are injected into the recipient, saving a life.

The process is one-hundred-percent a volunteer's position, so if the donor is matched with someone and they decide they don't want to proceed with the donation, they can opt out of the registry; everything is totally confidential. However,

if the donor wants to continue with the donation, they can continue the process, and save someone's life. Sadly, there is a catch: the Gift of Life program is only allowed for people 18 to 60 years old. So, here is the solution:

My name is William Lawrence, and I am the Student Ambassador for the Gift of Life program here at Xavier. If you want to participate in this cause and save a life, look out for emails in the coming weeks of May for the 5k Awareness Walk/Run at Xavier! We want to get swabs and raise money at this event to support the Gift of Life and help in their mission to end blood cancer. If you are under 18, please join the 5k Awareness Walk/Run, and bring someone over 18 to give a cheek swab sample to be entered into the registry





Student Voices Project

Mr. Lethcoe, coordinator of the Student Voices Project,
interviewed by Matthew Correa

1. What inspired you to start this project?

Student Voices was one outgrowth of a six-month process of discernment for determining what social justice issues need to be addressed in our valley as well as at XCP. The cohort determined that we would like to resource the voices of students toward advocacy for issues that meant a lot to them. After several students attended the virtual Ignatian Family Teach-In this year, many were motivated to share their own stories of marginalization. To provide an outlet for these stories, Student Voices became a place to provide a space for voices to be heard and provide resources for students who are passionate about advocating for a particular social justice issue.



2. What influenced your thought process regarding how to address racial prejudice to our local community?

Jesuits West began offering education and a call to action for Jesuit schools to discern which social justice issues were prominent in their locale. The western province was unanimous in identifying racial justice as the preeminent social justice issue facing us today.

Through training on racial equity, teachers, lay ministers, and provincial leaders from the western province birthed CORE: Collaborative Organizing for Racial Equity. Through this, I became motivated to learn more and be a part of the realization of racial equity. I am glad to say we have taken steps to discuss racial equity in my junior-year theology classes this year as part of the Catholic Social Teaching focus in Gospels in Action.

3. What do you intentionally want to come out of the Student Voices Project? What is your hope for education regarding understanding, healing, and the reconfiguration of certain philosophies within our school system?

Whether our school system or any school system, any nation or non-nation, it doesn't matter; it's all the same goal: to learn to become better listeners, find courage, and regard others with wonder and divinity.

A voice is all a person has (or doesn't have.) Another word for it would be agency. People need to find a place of value and belonging. We all belong to each other, so maybe Student Voices can just be a place where that can be realized- that students feel like they have a voice, belong, and can emerge with more agency than they had before they hung out with the group.

As a philosopher, my nature isn't one that is prone to the type of action, say, a warrior has. I'm more of a wizard. Warriors have strategy and attack plans. Wizards wonder about the universe, experiment with potions, break things, and show up in strange times of need. Both are needed for different things. We have clubs that are warrior-missioned, but I'm not

sure if any wizards ever have clubs. I think in Student Voices we just play with ideas, break things, throw some love and acceptance and listening in the mix, and then let the magic help us have conversion experiences.

4. Do you feel that you would have been able to carry out this project five years ago?

That is a good question. I would say partly. I had entered into enough conversion experiences by then to boil down most of my religious training and education to the action of love. However, if you are speaking of resourcing voices who have experienced racial injustice, then I would say no. I would still say no. I am just learning how to listen, have courage, and be humble with regard to understanding voices of the marginalized or oppressed. I am in no way an expert, or "qualified" to speak to the issue of racism. But as Fr. Greg Boyle put it when asked if "what makes him qualified to work with gang members," he just said, "a pulse." That is how I feel. I just have a pulse, so I am here to engage with this topic and any other topic that is stealing dignity from another person.



Astronomy

The Moon-Mars Conjunction

By: Allyson Frisbie



picture from forbes

The Moon-Mars conjunction is one of the few astronomy events that is accessible to everyone. To see Mars- the only planet visible to the naked eye this month- you should look at the sky about 90 minutes after sunset. Mars will emit a light glow that will be distinguishable from nearby stars. For the best view, find an area with minimum light pollution and bring a pair of binoculars.

Celestial Calendar

April

8/9

Earthshine

Nights

12

New Moon

15/16

Earthshine

Nights

17

Moon-Mars
Conjunction

22/23

Lyrid Meteor
Shower

27

Super Moon/Pink
Moon



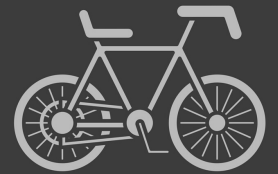
Xavier's Community Garden in Light of Earth Day

By Vanessa Frias

Earth Day has been on the 22nd of April since first being held in 1970. This annual holiday came to be after Senator Gaylord Nelson was inspired by environmental protest during the 1960s. It began as a day to educate students of national environmental issues and grew into what is now a global celebration.

Xavier's Community Garden is going to be created by Common Courtesy to the Planet and Eco Club. They are coming together to create a garden that will give better air quality for the Xavier community. This is going to be created very soon and if you want to join email Vanessa Frias. This would be a great experience and hopefully it will continue through the years. Vanessa's email is vanessafrias@xcphs.org.

- Drive Less: ride your bike or use public transportation



- REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

- Shop Wisely: Buy less plastic and bring a reusable shopping bag.



- Light Bulbs: Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions



- Conserve Water
- Volunteer in community cleanups.





Student Art Feature

Showcasing the artists of Xavier



By Noah Velez

Grade 11



Covid Update

By Rachel McCafferty



According to the World Health Organization on April 20th, Covid-19, an infectious disease spread through saliva and discharge from the nose, has increased in cases on a global scale. This respiratory complicator especially wreaks havoc in the South-East Asian Region, which unfortunately boasts the title of the largest increase in cases in the world. The World Health Organization advocates for the public to get the vaccine while continuing to socially distance, avoid crowds, and wear a mask, due to the lack of knowledge on

the “degree to which the vaccines can protect not only against disease but also against infections and transmission” (World Health Organization). On a more national level, the Office of the Spokesperson, who relays U.S. foreign policy to the public, recently announced that the U.S. Department of State will begin updating Travel Advisories this week, in light of the global increase in cover cases, and health risks imposed by foreign countries. In addition, on April 15, California Governor Gavin Newsom, released the Pfizer vaccine to be available to people age 16 and up.

On campus, Xavier administration has in place protocol to maintain the safety and health of the student body. Teachers must sanitize desks used by students, hand sanitizer is easily accessible around campus, and a mask mandate remains in place. The Xavier community in total is working together to stay safe with the, “when sick, stay home” pledge. With this commitment to the well being of the student body, Xavier was able to transition from online to hybrid schooling, and by the fall, the entire student body will transition to in-person schooling.



THE XAVIER POST

RANKING SOME MUSICALS I ENJOY

WRITTEN BY MARIANA ROBLES

Theatre is a fascinating form of art. It is a physical, emotional, and visual manifestation of personal expression, an art deserving of respect and appreciation, an art possessing myriad styles. If you ask me, theatre should be just as esteemed as athletics. What stage actors go through is just as overwhelming as any sport, perhaps more stressful. Theatre is truly a physical, emotional, and vocal workout. As a fan of musical theatre and the Vice President of Xavier's drama club, I figured I would share a list of just a few musicals I absolutely love a la BuzzFeed because...theatre! Theatre deserves to be appreciated! I am upset that I only have room for 10 shows... but I need an outlet... Now, from amazing to absolute gold, or my favorite, let's begin!

I would like for it to be known that first, these are solely my opinions. Agree or disagree, this list is based on my taste and preferences. Second, as an 'FYI,' most of these musicals in this list are also more contemporary, well-known shows to appeal to younger people.



AMEE ATKINSON AND WIVES, WEST END

10. SIX

Music by Lucy Moss and Toby Marlow

"Six" is perhaps one of the most unique musicals performed within recent years. This vibrant show consists of the six wives of Henry VIII telling their stories in the form of a pop concert. If you couldn't tell from the photo on the left, this show is quite eccentric. The music has strong electronic pop influences and catchy beats which manage to 1. fit the aesthetic, 2. illustrate each wife's personality and experiences, and 3. be humorous. I enjoy this show very much, but it is at the bottom of my list because I do not listen to it very often. It is the type of music that I personally do not listen to frequently due to my own stylistic preferences. Nonetheless, this musical is worth giving a shot! It is truly iconic and screams GIRL POWER!



ALEX BRIGHTMAN AND SOPHIA ANNE CARUSO, BROADWAY

9. BEETLEJUICE

Music by Eddie Perfect

If you told me there would be a musical version of "Beetlejuice" a few years ago, I would not have believed you. To be frank, I might have laughed. Well, the Broadway premiere of this musical in 2019 rocked the theatre world. With powerhouse vocalists Alex Brightman and Sophia Anne Caruso, theatre kids could not have asked for anything better. The music and visuals, like the film, embody the collective chaos of Beetlejuice's mischievous ways, Lydia's angst, and Adam and Barbara's desperation. Though some plot points were changed a bit, the show continues to uphold its central theme: death. "This is a show about death," after all. Personally, I prefer the film much more, hence the lower ranking. Although it is lower on the list, I feel that it should be known that I sing 'Dead Mom' at least once a day. I would honestly love to

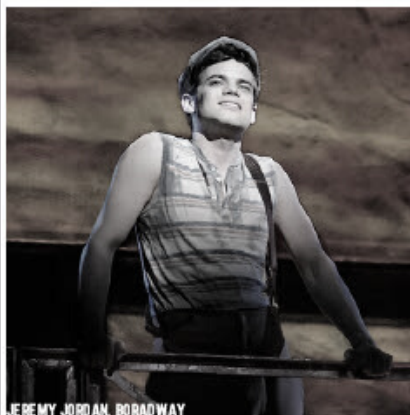


BARRETT WILBERT WEED AND RYAN MCCARTAN, OFF-BROADWAY

8. HEATHERS

Music by Kevin Murphy and Laurence O'Keefe

Where to begin? Murder, romance, and dark humor. "Heathers" is one of my all-time favorite movies, so naturally, this musical piqued my interest. The number of times I sing 'Dead Girl Walking' and 'Seventeen' is actually unhealthy for your friendly neighborhood soprano. This musical, though minor changes were made, truly upholds the angst (and retro) essence that made the 1989 film so incredible. The pop-rock score and Barrett Wilbert Weed and Ryan McCartan's powerful vocals make this musical worth a listen. Though I am a much bigger fan of the film, this ranking is not solely due to its source material being better. I was offended that a terrible TV show like "Riverdale" would ruin this musical... the story! The music! I said what I said. And do not get me started on its aftermath, especially on TikTok.



JEREMY JORDAN, BROADWAY

7. NEWSIES

Music by Alan Menken

Two words: Jeremy Jordan. If you have never seen, listened to, or plain heard of "Newsies," pack your bags and leave. Go to Santa Fe or something. With music written by legendary composer Alan Menken, this musical is based on the Newsboy Strike of 1899. It illustrates the dichotomy between wealthy (and controlling) businesses and working-class youth. Starring Jeremy Jordan as Jack, this is a show everyone should watch at least once. I say watch because it is more fulfilling to actually visualize the show. Why? The upbeat choreography! "Newsies" is a dance-heavy show. If you have Disney+, give it a watch! Fair warning, 'King of New York' will be stuck in your head for a while, you will fall in love with Jordan, and the dancing will leave you in awe. And honestly, I prefer the stage musical over the movie version.



LIN MANUEL MIRANDA AND ENSEMBLE, BROADWAY

6. HAMILTON

Music by Lin Manuel Miranda

Upon hearing the opening line of 'Alexander Hamilton,' everything stops and I prepare for what's to come. 'Satisfied?' I will rap my heart out. Anything Eliza sings? I am ready. This is another unique work of musical theatre repertoire. If you have never heard of, listened to, or seen this musical on Disney+...just why? This musical incorporates hip-hop and R&B elements for a modern retelling of the founding of the US, which revolutionized the face of theatre. With captivating music, minimal set design, symbolic choreography, and a diverse cast, "Hamilton" is one of Lin Manuel Miranda's best works. The personification of death, the bullet, is just immaculate. Starring Miranda as Hamilton, the show also features powerhouses Phillipa Soo and Leslie Odom Jr. For the record, Eliza is actually a dream role of mine.



KYLE SCATLFFE AND RAMIN KARIMLOO, BROADWAY

5. LES MISÉRABLES

Music by Alain Boubill and Claude-Michel Schönberg

Words cannot express how incredible this musical based on Victor Hugo's novel is. This is a classic and if you have never listened to it, you are missing out. It is a beautiful story about redemption, rebellion, and morality. If 'Red and Black,' 'Do You Hear the People Sing?' and 'One Day More' do not make you want to sing your heart out... are you okay? Now as a theatre fan, we all know that the 2012 film adaptation is not the best. The original London cast is the best. That aside, this show has captivated audiences since 1985 with its human and emotional storytelling. From Colm Wilkinson, the original Valjean, to Ramin Karimloo, this musical will continue moving audiences for years to come. I will always be a fan of Enjolras and Eponine. Considering I still have "PTSD" from doing this show, this show is number 5.



DREW GEHLING AND JESSIE MUELLER, BROADWAY

4. WAITRESS

Music by Sara Bareilles

This is quite literally one of the sweetest yet most heartbreaking musicals I have listened to and had the privilege of seeing on tour. Based on the 2007 film, "Waitress" tells the story of Jenna, a pregnant waitress (and baker) in an abusive marriage who falls for her doctor. As one of my all-time favorite musicals, I sing 'What Baking Can Do,' among other songs, almost daily. This underappreciated musical is both heartwarming and sweet with Sara Bareilles' catchy songs and Jessie Mueller and Drew Gehling as the romantic leads. If you need another reason to listen to it, this is the first Broadway and West End musical to have women in the top creative team spots. Still not convinced? Two words: Keala Settle. The only reason this musical is ranked at number 4 is for aesthetic purposes. For the record, Jenna and Dawn are two other dream roles of mine.



REEVE CARNEY AND EVA NOBLEZADA, BROADWAY

3. HADESTOWN

Music by Anais Mitchell

"Hades" is one of the most beautifully staged and written musicals. Anais Mitchell's folk opera intertwines the myths of lovers Orpheus and Eurydice and of Hades and Persephone. The show's primary plot is centered on the story of Orpheus' journey to the underworld to save Eurydice. The music, minimal staging, set design, costumes, and overall aesthetic really do it for me. It matches my aesthetic. It is absolutely stunning. Eva Noblezada and Reeve Carney's angelic voices with the accompanying cast create such an enchanting environment that audiences are left entranced by the time it ends. If you know you know: Orpheus' song and Hades in 'Hey, Little Songbird.' It is also worth noting that Eurydice is another dream role of mine...and 'Flowers' is actually one of my go-to karaoke songs.



MICHAEL ARDEN AND CIARA RENEE, PAPERMILL

2. THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME

Music by Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz

When it comes to Disney, people think of happily ever after's. Not this musical. Based on Victor Hugo's novel and the music of the Disney film, this is the most underrated musical on this list. This tragic, gothic story is about humanity, morality, and the abuse of (religious) power. Starring Michael Arden as Quasimodo, this hauntingly beautiful work of musical theatre repertoire is perhaps some of Menken and Schwartz's best work. 'Someday' and 'Finale' haunt me every time. What I admire most aside from the music, is its minimalist staging and set design. It makes the show that much more brilliant and the symbolism much more significant. It is just beautiful. Though I love the Disney film, I prefer the musical much more because of its darker tone. Give this underrated masterpiece a listen or watch the bootleg at Papermill on YouTube.

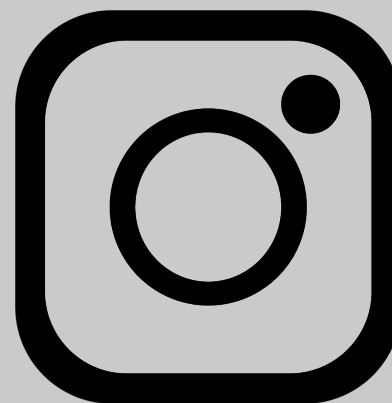


RAMIN KARIMLOO AND SIERRA BOGGESS, ROYAL ALBERT HALL

1. THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

This is my favorite musical and Andrew Lloyd Webber's best work. Say what you want about it, this gothic musical based on Gaston Leroux's novel is one of the most extravagant and complex shows. The aesthetic, staging, costumes, story, and music are exquisite and right up my alley. I cannot emphasize enough how much I love this musical. I mean, I could write an entire essay analyzing Erik's (the Phantom) character. Since 1986, "Phantom..." has made thousands fall in love with theatre and Webber's work. It's no wonder why this is the longest-running musical on Broadway. Though I absolutely love Michael Crawford and Sarah Brightman and the rest of the original London cast, the Royal Albert Hall 25th Anniversary production starring Ramin Karimloo (LOML) and Sierra Boggess is my favorite version. This musical is truly the music of the night. Christine Daae is also my ultimate dream role. Finally, if you like or prefer the 2004 film with Gerard Butler... why? Please tell me why.



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