



FOR EVERYONE IN HAS

WEEKLY SPECIAL!

We offer: Subway, MilkShop, McDonald's,
Drink, Waffle...etc

FROM HAS STUDENT STORE

COME AND PURCHASE!



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2018/2019
Issue 2



thehowler



Photo by Ervin Hsu

HAS Takes On Taipei

Taipei, December (Otis Tsou)

November 30, was a long awaited day for HAS students. The end of semester trip to Taipei. Students would not need to be concerned about their tests or homework on this day. However, we all knew this day was the calm before the storm, as final exams were coming. The trip was a relaxing day for HAS students to put down the pressures of academic studies and just have fun. On the agenda were ice-skating at

Taipei Arena, and walking through Tamsui Old Street.

In the morning, at about 8:15, all of the HAS students who were involved in this activity were all well-prepared for the exciting journey, especially the middle school students. The drive from Hsinchu American



Photo by Ervin Hsu

School to Taipei Arena was about one and a half hours. During the drive, some people were chatting with each other, some were playing on their cellphones, and others were sleeping or resting on the bus. When we arrived Taipei Arena, the cold air and the temperature of the ice suddenly came through our bodies. The temperature inside was about

13-15 degrees Celsius which made our bodies shakes initially. The cost of a ticket, a set of protective gear, and a pair of skates was NT 370 dollars per person. Taipei Arena



Photo by Ervin Hsu

was divided into three groups. First, there were the professional skaters, skating in the center. They had really great body balance, and good skills to make it look effortless. Secondly, there were skaters who skated counterclockwise around the rink. Although they were not professionals, they were still esteemed by the beginners, including me. Finally, there were the novices who fell down and stuck to the boards. I was the best example of this because I only did three rounds during the whole activity. At noon, our lunch, which were sandwiches from Subway, were distributed before we got back onto our buses. There were three different flavors for students to select; tuna, ham, and chicken.

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Teacher Spotlight
Ms. Misha McDowell
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Local & International



Photo by Mr. Max

2018 HAS Science Fair

Hsinchu, December 2 (Ian Hsu)

Science fair is one of the most important projects for students enrolled in science classes at HAS. Students from grades 4 through 12 participated in the fair. The school assigned rooms to the students and they presented their work as individuals or in pairs to teachers and other students. This was an opportunity for students to practice their public speaking in English. HAS also invited parents to come and look at the projects.



Photo by Mr. Max

On November 19th, Hsinchu American School Students and teachers experienced a buzz of excitement and nerves, as they waited for the winners of the Science Fair to be announced. Our winners for high school this year are 1st place: Kelly Loo & Mike Lin, 2nd place: Ariel Chen & Mila Chen, and 3rd place: Wen Chuang & Ian Hsu.

This year's high school science fair winners Kelly Loo & Mike Lin's project was about "How the density of liquids affects the angle of light refraction?" The purpose of this experiment was to find out whether the angle of refraction would be affected by the density of different liquids. This event was a positive experience for all students at HAS because they had the chance to learn about the scientific method and how to conduct research through experiments.

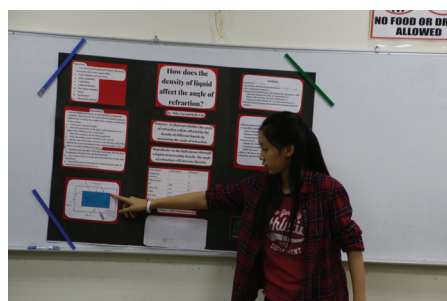


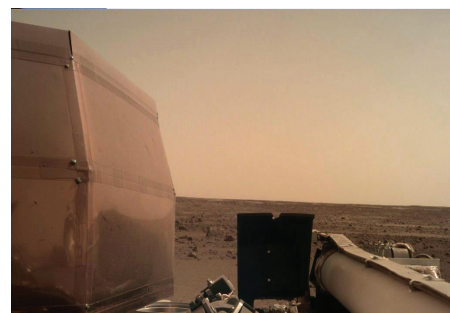
Photo by Mr. Max

A Selfie on Mars

Hsinchu, December 2 (Ian Hsu)

After almost a seven-month journey through space, NASA's InSight lander has safely landed on the surface of Mars. This mission has been considered Mission Impossible because NASA has released the first image of the

spacecraft InSight from the surface of Mars after it successfully reached the planet. This mission was tasked with finding out what's beneath the Martian surface and mapping the planet's underworld. The success of this voyage has made humans realize that technology has taken another big step.



Courtesy of popphoto.com

The entire team of scientist and engineers has stayed together at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. On Nov.26, 2018, they knew the spacecraft had survived and successfully landed on the red planet's surface, when they received information from the lander. The US space agency then tweeted one photograph, showing part of the InSight spacecraft on the Martian surface, with excitement because this was the first selfie on Mars that humans had taken.

After receiving the image signals that InSight sent back to Earth from the InSight's solar panels, known as solar arrays, the team knew that InSight would be able to collect sunlight and recharge its batteries every day from the Surface of Mars. This will allow the mission team to take more photographs in the following days. The success of this project will help engineers to start sending back data to Earth and establish new programs in the future.

Continued...

Taipei Trip

As we ate our lunches the buses travelled about an hour north to Tamsui Old Street. All the buildings here were covered with old-fashions which revealed the feature for the street. Additionally, the street was wholly covered by stores selling food, drinks, and cheap tourist items. We had about one and a half hours of free time, and students were separated into groups of either 4-6 high school students, although there was not any limitation, or middle schoolers who would stay with teacher chaperones. Some students went to the only museum on Tamsui Old Street. Others were interested in playing the small games on the strip, like shooting BB guns or darts, or playing the claw machine. Tamsui Old Street is famous for delicious food. We bought extremely huge ice cream cones and some traditional food that can be found in night markets. Tamsui Old street is famous for treats like fried squid, oysters, iron eggs, and Turkish ice-cream to name a few. All of the food tasted really good and the prices were cheaper than the city. At the end of the free-time, teachers gathered all the students and waited for the buses to come. On the bus, most of the students slept, exhausted from the

A Selfie on Mars

InSight's mission cost \$850 million and is scheduled to run for about two Earth years. During this two year mission, NASA mentions that it may take about that long in order for them to gather enough data to complete their goals, they aim to find out about how Mars was

formed and its deep structures, by mapping its core, crust, and mantle.

Overall, the InSight mission is one of the most advanced missions in human history. This mission can totally change our knowledge over the next generation and allow us to have a deeper understanding of the structures of Mars.

A Great Lesson

helping them, I realised that helping some may not change the world, but it may change their worlds." The stories that were told to us touched our hearts, showing the harsh, cruel world that is affecting people in unimaginable ways. What may seem like a community service event to us may mean the world to them.

Actions speak louder than words.

Ultimate Frisbee

took their second win and finished it in under 30 minutes. The team's future goals are relatively simple, improve on basic skills such as throwing, cutting, and team communication. Impressed by the team's spirit and respect for the students' efforts, the two coaches Mr. Thompson and Mr. Maginn are eager to have more competition with other public schools, so the students can stack up against other talented teams. The HAS frisbee team is still currently recruiting for more people to join.

Camping Club

And last but not least, remember to bring sandals or else you're going to end up like me and a friend having our socks on a stick and drying our feet by the campfire.

As the night approached so did the camper's emotions. After hours of "Truth or Dare", it was time to call it a day. The next morning was really chilly, so we decided to set up a campfire and eventually have a Master Chef cook-off. Later, we drove back to school and unpacked, that was the end of the first camping trip this year.

Singapore

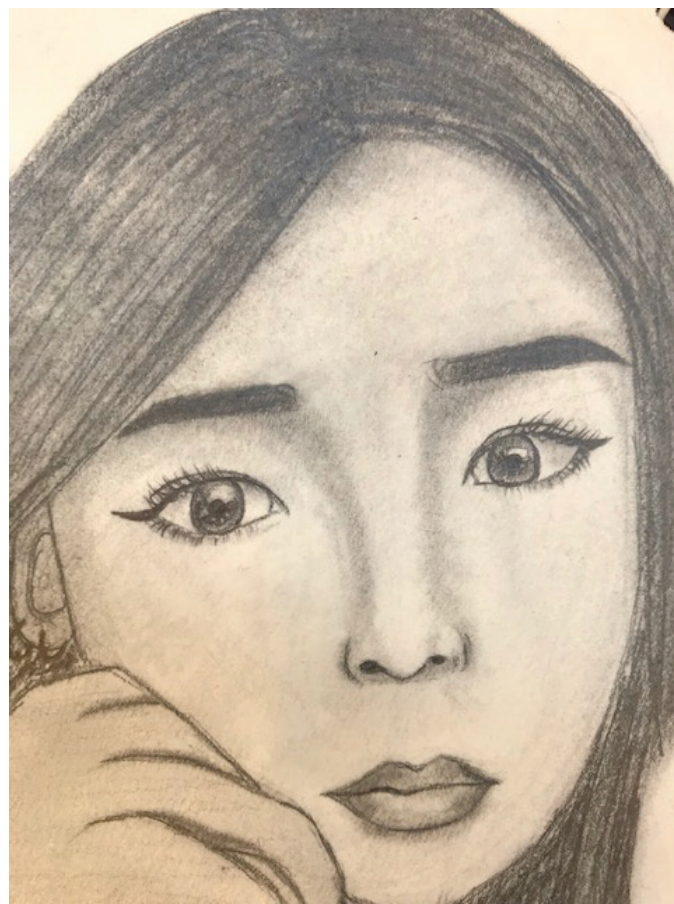
While in Singapore I would also recommend that you see The Super Tree Grove Light Show. The light show is simply mesmerizing and while you watch, a mystical feeling will overcome you. I felt like I was dropped into the world of Harry Potter or something magical! With great food and amazing entertainment, Singapore is definitely a must for your travel list!

Life

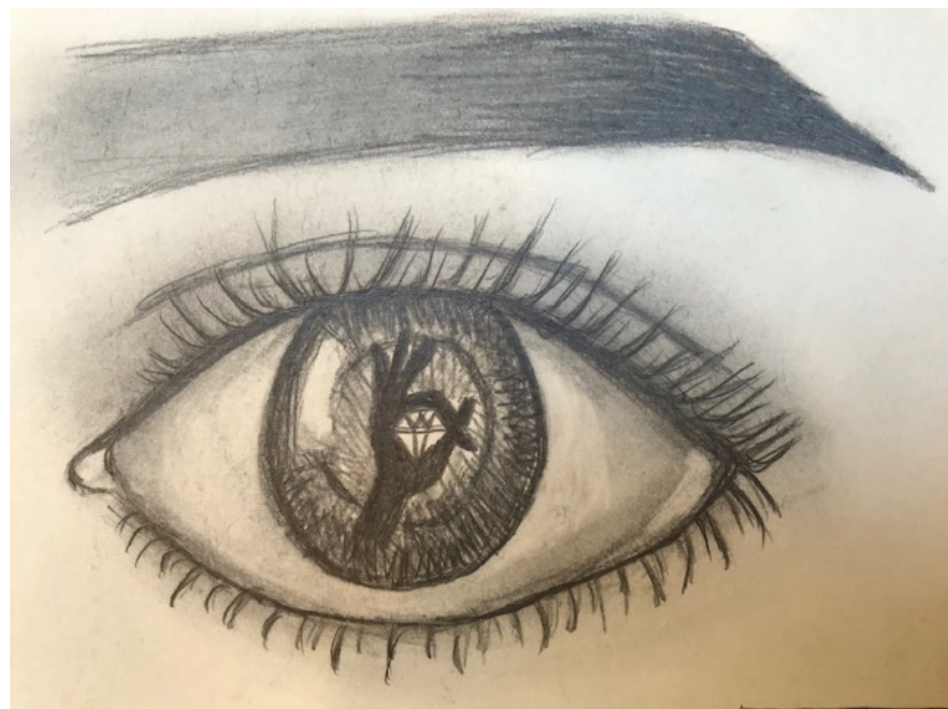
Art & Literature



Christmas Anime by Eric Sung



Self-portrait by Maggie Chen



The Eye by Maggie Chen

Local & International

Editorial

Life for Women in the Time of Trump

Hsinchu, December 4 (Dorris Lin)

There has been a terrifying issue for women since the 2016 US elections. The treatment of women in a world where Donald Trump is in charge. The data from the presidential election suggested clear dividing lines in support of Trump and Clinton in terms of gender, race, education, and age. A majority of women voted for Clinton, while more men voted for Trump, according to the New York Times exit polls, for which 24,537 voters were interviewed. Trump's mostly male political operatives and the supporters apparently enraged over the ascendancy of a woman. In Trump's world, women are property, and women are not supposed to be in front of men.

The times have changed and Trump has not. Women's suffrage has been a constant fight for many years. Society has been improving and women have slowly become equal to men, but Trump has not improved in any of these ways. Hillary Clinton made a choice to pursue a career and a family, and also to fight for women's right and equality. However, Trump is living in a different world than many of us do. He is used to holding power over women with his wealth, his bullying, his employment and his threats of lawsuits. He doesn't know how to listen and defer to a woman, especially in business and politics. He didn't even listen to the suggestions of his campaign manager, who was a woman.

Hillary Clinton was affected by

gender stereotypes during the election. Many of us probably thought it at one point during the election -- If Hillary was a man, she'd be treated a lot differently. Imagine if Hillary conducted herself in the same way as Trump does. It would probably not be acceptable of a female presidential candidate to have a dozen men accusing her of sexual misconduct and to have had five kids by different men. Trump's remark that Clinton didn't have a presidential look. "I just don't think she has a presidential look. And you need a presidential look. You have to get the job done," said Trump. Trump thinks that only men can become the president, and women don't have that presidential look. Hillary Clinton, challenged the stereotype of gender equality.

HAS Students Receive a Great Lesson

Hsinchu, December 10

(Kelly Loo)

It was on Saturday, November 10th, when eight students including myself decided to help out at a church to prepare food for the elderly. In an event where we expected to just gain service hours, a life-long lesson was learned.

We started off by peeling fruit and separating vegetables. Everyone was excited about this. An hour in, everyone was chatting but still doing their job. Another hour passed and there were groans of complaint. Even though everyone was talking about everything possible, with

the occasional shriek when a bug was thought to be found, standing and working for two hours straight makes the body very sore. Well, at least that was the case for me. When we got our break, we were so relieved and relaxed. We complained about how stuffy the room was, oblivious to the people who were suffering every day to provide for themselves, outside praying.

Dinner was ready and we helped to serve the food, with a beeline of people in the queue. The people that we served were at least to say, unique. We took note of their greasy, unkempt hair, the old bowls they were using

(as they had to provide their own bowl), and the simplistic clothes they were wearing. Even though it was my second time volunteering at the church, it was still sickening to see people suffering while we were living extravagant lives, with the benefits of technology, while young people in their early 20s had moved out from home and were struggling to keep their heads above water. There are so many stories of people who lack the social advantages that we have in life, things that we take for granted. As Dana Tils (Grade 12) said, "During my experience

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Sports

HAS beats HIS Basketball Team



Photo Courtesy of Photography Club

Hsinchu, November 27

(Alex Tung)

HAS won! The HAS basketball team defeated Hsinchu International School at home on Wednesday, November 21. The score was an improbable 48 - 29. HAS had a sluggish start at the beginning of the game. However, they came back because of one man, Peter Cheng!! He scored 6 three-point shots (18 pt) continuously without letting the other opponents score any points. Overall, he put in 31 pts, 3 rebounds, 7 steals, and 2 assists. After HAS came back, they switched their defensive formation to a two-three

zone, which worked pretty well. Other standout performances by HAS were from Wen Chung, who scored 8 pts, 12 rebounds, 2 steals, 3 assists, and 3 blocks. Alex Tung, who scored 3 pts, 6 rebounds, and 1 block. Ni Shiue, who scored 2 pts, 5 rebounds, 2 steals and 3 assists, and Otis Tsou & Eric Song both scored 2 pts. Ken, Evan, Sam, Kerdis, Andrew, James, Bill, and Andy also worked very hard during the game. It was a very fun game and it was pretty competitive.

Ultimate Frisbee Overview



Photo by Angel Lin

Hsinchu, December 3 (Wen Chuang)

The HAS ultimate frisbee team completely dominated in their first two games against AST. The final scores were 15-6 in the first game at home and 9-0 in the second game in Taichung. The team is a new club created by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Maginn. It was first introduced as a

club by Mr. Thompson, but now it is more than that. The coaches were surprised by the students' efforts in practice and the amount of team spirit. The team is composed of one middle school student and 12 high school students.

In the first home game, the team wasn't doing as good as they expected. Some players were struggling with their defending. Many points were lost from the absence of defensive play and a lack of communication. According to Mr. Maginn, "Although the game is very positive, it shows where we can improve on, especially on our defense. But the stack works very well." Richard Lin who stood out the whole game and bring the team to win over AST. He made many tough catches and good decisions on the field. Overall, the team brought their first victory to the school and were ready for the next game.

During the second game in Taichung, the team showed up with huge improvements from the first game and played with a brand new strategy - the long throw. Mr. Thompson describes the long throw as a lethal and unguardable way to score. According to the team captain Elvis, "Everyone did very well, all the team members followed instructions from the handler, and they also played aggressively, no one on the field was lazy. I was really proud of every one of them!". All the people on the team contributed to the score. Alex Tung who showed a huge improvement from the last game and proved himself capable of being a good defender. With the efforts on and off the field, the team

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Life

of the particular village, town or city. For hundreds of years, the Guardian Gods watched over their cities.

Over 2000 years ago, the cult of the Cheng Huang originally involved worship of a protective deity of a town's walls and moats. Hsinchu Cheng Huang temple is the highest ranking of all the Cheng Huang Temples in Taiwan. Many visitors and religious partitioner will visit Hsinchu Cheng Huang Temple because it is not just a temple; it is an extensive heritage museum. Hsinchu Cheng Huang temple is an official temple that was ordered by the Guangxu Emperor and was built in 1748.

Some of the special features in this temple are its stone lions, that are located on both sides of the main gate. Unlike other temples that gather local natural resources to build their temples, Hsinchu's material was taken from Quanzhou Yuchang Lake located in China. This material that was used for the lions has a higher quality of stone and the color is the most beautiful of all lions in Taiwan. The lion stone of the Cheng Huang Temple was also the first lion stone ever photographed and used on post cards.

To get the best experience at this temple, visit during Cheng Huang Temple's famous festival called Cheng Huang Festival, which is on July 15th, every year. On this day, an inspection tour is completed around the terrain to exorcise the demons and expel disasters for the people. Additionally, one can experience great food, culture, and the joys of the temple. So, if you

are in Taiwan during this time, take a trip to Hsinchu and you will not be disappointed.

Singapore



Courtesy of lizazepika.wordpress.com

Hsinchu, December 3 (Jeff Lee)

As a full Singaporean I will say that the food is the most worthwhile thing to experience in Singapore. There are delicious dishes like laksa noodles, and sate, and these dishes are pretty common in South-east Asia especially in Singapore and Malaysia. There is no particular store or restaurant that make the best laksa noodles or sate, they are all pretty good. I have been to one spot which tourists and locals would go called Sungei Road Laksa. The laksa that they serve was diverse meaning that they have lots of different flavors of laksa noodles. The most popular one was the seafood flavor because their seafood is really fresh. From my experience this is what I think most people want to try in Singapore.

In Singapore, Hawker centers are also cool places that you can grab food easily that is delicious and inexpensive. Local people always go and have delicious meals in

hawker centers. You can find different delicious dishes from various ethnic groups like laksa noodles, sate, Indian dishes, Hainan chicken rice and crab rice soup...

etc. Hawker centers originally sprang up in urban areas, which are basically around the is-land. I think the best Hawker center is Lau Pa Sat Hawker center, which located right in the heart of the central business district and walking distance from Chinatown and Marian Bay. It is certainly the most popular and biggest, seating up to 2,500. The place is huge so government workers expect to find a vast range of food from all over the world. Prices are inflated a little bit since the last time I was there, and the basic reason is the close proximity to the CBD. However, the prices are around 5-15SGD which is really good compared to other local restaurants. I recommend going after 7PM, because that is when Satay Street opens, which will allow you to have a good time and enjoy your meal at Lau Pat Sat without being rushed or being overcrowded.

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Life

Food & Culture

Cooking Club Makes Beef Tacos



Courtesy of pillsbury.com

Hsinchu, December 4 (Dorris Lin)

Cooking with the students is a great way to educate them about nutrition and food. It brings people together and creates a sense of teamwork and life skills which will bring years of enjoyment in preparing and eating great food. The HAS cooking club made crispy beef tacos and students had a lot of fun making the beef tacos. These crispy beef tacos were filled with seasoned meat, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, and each person was able to add their favorite toppings. It was fun to put together, delicious to eat, and an easy recipe that everyone can enjoy. To make beef tacos, we started with the beef, and sauteed it until it is completely browned. Drained the oil and lower the heat. Add the taco seasoning and a small amount of tomato sauce. The tacos were extremely delicious. Students are looking forward to making more great foods in the future.

Ingredients:

- Olive oil
- ½ Onion (Finely Chopped)
- 2 packs Ground Beef
- Taco Shells
- 1tbs Chilli Powder
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp pepper
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 2 spoons tomato sauce

Instructions:

1. Heat the oil in a large pan over medium-high heat.
2. Add the beef and break up with a spatula.
3. Add the onion into the pan.
4. Cook, stirring occasionally about 5 minutes until the beef is done and the onion is soft. Drain off any excess fat.
5. Add the chili powder, taco seasoning, tomato sauce, salt, and pepper.
6. Add the tomatoes to the pan and simmer for 2-3 minutes.

7. Put the beef into taco shells and add toppings such as lettuce, tomatoes, and cheese. Serve immediately.

Travel

HSINCHU DU CHENG HUAUNG TEMPLE



Hsinchu, November 27 (Jeff Lee)

For centuries, Taoism has been the most popular and influential religion among the Chinese people. It is unique to China and not found in other countries. At the Hsinchu Du Cheng Huang Temple, city of god temple, it is believed that the Cheng Huang will protect the safety and peace of the city. To better understand this aspect of the temple, it is important to know the god, Cheng Huang.

“Cheng” was a mystical leader and is used in the names of many temples because it means “city”. The most known god is Hsinchu Cheng Huang that attracts people from all over the country leading to the largest prayer ritual in Taiwan. This god of the moat and boundary protects most of the city because it was surrounded by a wall for protection. Cheng Huang god is a tutelary deity or deity in Chinese folk religion who is believed to protect the people and the affairs

Club News

Camping Club Takes on the Wild



Hsinchu, December 3 (Ken Su)

On September 10th, while others were sleeping on a bed, tucked in and warmed, the camping club was exploring in the wild. None of them knew what they were about to walk into, but it was their choice to take this path . . . the path of true survivors.

The sun was shining, the sky was clear, everyone thought it was going to be a nice and cozy day; but would

it? A group of students gathered in front of OKmart waiting for their coordinator Mr. Murphy, and Ms. Sonia. Once everyone had arrived the group separated in two groups. The Murphy family drove in their car and the rest tagged along in another student's car. With loud and hype music playing, a one hour trip suddenly turned into what seemed like a 10-minute trip.

As soon as the explorers arrived, everyone contributed their next 40 minutes to putting up the tent. Of course, we didn't spend the whole morning trying to set up a tent. If that were the case then wouldn't be called the Camping Club, we would be called the Tenting Club. Shortly after the camp was set, the team gathered up to do different tasks. In groups of two, one group was responsible for gathering sticks, one group carried the burden of chopping wood and the others were responsible for keeping the fire alive and bringing the food and gear out of the cars.

After an hour of chopping and burning the campfire was finally set up. It was time to start the feast that would eventually last more than 12 hours; or should I say the entire trip. The first dish was roasted marshmallows which lasted about 2 hours, of course, we spent the first 50 minutes sharpening our marshmallow sticks. After a few different ways of eating our marshmallows, the group assembled to start exploring the wild.

There were a few memorable moments to remember from our expedition to the creek near our campground. The first was that one of our dear friends had drowned his butt in the creek, and not learning from his past mistake the same mistake was made again; except this time the pants were completely soaked. The second thing was that when you throw a firecracker, make sure you remember to throw with the hand that has the firecracker, not the one with the lighter.

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Life

Teacher Spotlight

Misha McDowell



Photo by Max Tseng

Hsinchu, November 29 (Ni Shine)

Where are you from?

I was born in San Francisco, but raised in Los Angeles

What is your favorite music?

Tupac

What is your favorite school subject, other than Art?

There is another subject besides Art? LOL! I did not like school that much. I kind of like math because I am good at it, but I don't really like it.

What was one of your most defining moments in life?

I guess being a mom.

If you won \$1 billion dollars, what would you do?

Give it away, because I would rather give that money to young children in developing countries.

If you had a chance for a "do-over" in life, what would you do differently?

Get autographs and pictures from the Kansas City Monarchs (the longest-running franchise in the history of baseball's Negro Leagues) because they are not around anymore, so I would get rich by selling the autographs and pictures.

What motivated you to come to Taiwan, HAS?

Originally, I didn't want to come to Taiwan, I came because my daughter wanted to come. Her father was working here. I came to HAS because I was trying to find a job, and I found one here. I also really like the natural resources here in Taiwan.

Hardware from MMORPG, Choice Award from Windows, and Top Product designation from Game's hardware. The Huntsman elite is the first gaming keyboard that uses light detection to detect your input. This is their newest keyboard switch called "Opto-Mechanical switch". Which gives the keyboard the ability to detect input with the speed of light. It's also harder for the keyboard to stop working unless the light stops working.

With the image above, we can see that this switch has better accuracy, a more stabilized switch, and it has a lifespan of a million key presses. This keyboard also has a lot more functionality than other keyboards. With an extra 4 media keys, it's easier for users to change their sound output. The Huntsman has LED lights on all 4 sides of the keyboard. It includes 38 customization color zones for you to choose from. The elite version also includes a Leatherette wrist rest. The wrist rest is magnetic so it is easy to attach and detach. The wrist rest also includes 20 customization color zone for you to customize the colors of light for each zone.

With the help of the Razer app, you can customize your keyboard input and save it onto the cloud. Some other features of the Huntsman are anti ghosting (which are conflicts due to pressing on multiple keys), gaming mode (to ensure you hit the right keys), on the fly Macro (to secure the sequence of input), switching input profiles, a solid aluminum matte top plate which adds increased sturdiness with a smooth, satisfying touch, and unlocked advanced settings for the Razer app. Finally, the Razer

Technology

Tech Review: Huntsman Elite



Courtesy of razer.com

Hsinchu, December 4 (Mike Lin)

Razer has released their newest product, the Huntsman Elite. It's a high level keyboard that all gamers dream of. This keyboard has won the Techradar Best In Class, Gold level by Extreme Hardware, Golden

Life

Huntsman gives you a 2 year warranty and technological support with a 14 day risk free return.

Top 5 Video Games of 2019



Courtesy of seekingalpha.com

Hsinchu, December 5 (Mike Lin)

Fifth place- The Division 2 (PS4,Xbox,PC) (2019/2)

At launch, Ubisoft's The Division got many things wrong with it. Over time, however, it's evolved into a promising multiplayer shooter title. Tom Clancy's The Division 2 launches on March 15, 2019, and from all indications, it'll be bigger, better, and more polished than its predecessor in practically every way.



Courtesy of nerdreactor.com

Fourth place - Bloodstained: Ritual of the Night (PC,PS4,Xbox,Switch) (2019)

Castlevania is having kind of a moment. Not only did the animated series based on the venerated video game series earn a second season, but there's been a flood of so-called Metroidvania games that owe a huge, huge debt to Castlevania, especially its seminal PlayStation outing Symphony of the Night. And

yet, the video games themselves are nowhere to be seen. The last entry in the franchise, Castlevania: Lords of Shadow 2 came out in 2014. Since then? Silence.



Courtesy of nintendolife.com

Third place - Battletoads.(12/19) (Microsoft)

No one would ever expect another Battletoads game 20 years after it first released. Sadly, we only heard the fact that the game will be released for Xbox, which mean that others platform's won't be able to play this game. So far we don't have many clues on what's in the game, but we know for sure that it has improved in quality from 20 years ago. This game will definitely share a similar game style to the older version, but with an after story version of the game.



Courtesy of theverge.com

Second place- Jump Force (02/19)

Jump Force is a 3D 3 on 3 fighting game that will be released for PS4, Xbox, and windows platforms. It allows you to build your own team. Think of it as mortal combat but 3D. Jump Force also includes many really cool and high quality animations that will shock you when you see it. Jump Force contains

many famous manga characters from different series such as Dragon Ball, One Piece, Hunter, and even Yugioh. With its quality and stylish gameplay, it definitely deserves a second place.



Courtesy of manganime.it

First place- Anthem(EA)(02/19)

The Anthem game based on Bioware will be released for Xbox, PS4, and Windows platforms. Anthem is the studio's most talked about game. Anthem has the style of RPGs builds, online cooperation, and a 3D open world. In the game, you are able to farm for cool/powerful gears, enjoy a cooperation fight against a boss, and it definitely has a good storyline. Although it didn't have the PVP feature, Anthem still comes in first place for upcoming games.



Courtesy of push-start.co.uk



Courtesy of techraptor.net



Courtesy of dualshockers.com