

November 2021

Standley Middle School



What We Are Thankful For

Maya Bailey, Brooke Gibson, Isabel Oseguera
Staff



"I'm thankful for my life and chicken." -Damien Elwood



"I am thankful for the world we live in and my friends." -Kael Bolas



"I am thankful for the time I have to complete my activities." -Nydia Grubbs



"I am thankful for my family and friends." -Even Turley



Oktoberfest



Staff

Students from the University City community came together for the annual Oktoberfest put on by Educate to raise funds for the UC schools. There were plenty of games and challenges, including the Principal's Challenge. Everyone had great fun. See page 7

Thanksgiving Break



What are you doing during Thanksgiving break?

Joelle Frazier and Frida Ramos
Staff

A dashing smell of pumpkin spice in the air. A cold fall breeze that hits you. Summer has ended. Time to start wearing warmer clothes. Having a slice of pumpkin pie after your thanksgiving feast. A warm pumpkin spice latte to enjoy the mood. How do you spend your thanksgiving? Let's ask some students.



What do you like about Thanksgiving?
"I like to stuff myself." -Kylie Wang

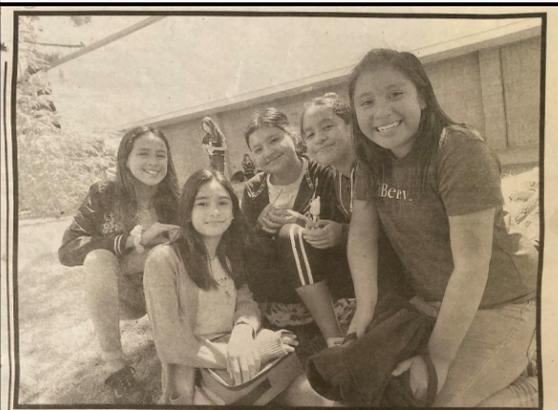


What do you like to eat for Thanksgiving?
"Mac and Cheese, turkey, cranberry sauce." -Jrue Frazier



What do you like to do for Thanksgiving?
"Eating." -Kevin Palacios

(picture below by Kaho Nakamichi)



The picture on the left is us, Perla Salceda, Abby Osornio, Emeraldal Salceda, Maria Diaz, and Nathalia Ramirez in 6th grade on the cover on the Standley Newspaper and the picture on the right is us now, in 8th grade, our last year in middle school.

Back Then, and Now

Abby Osornio
Staff

There is a lot that has changed and a lot that has stayed the same. One of the biggest things that has changed is that now we are in a pandemic where we have to wear masks most of the time.

Some advice that we would give to the 6th graders that we have learned in the past is to always be aware of the people you hang out with and surround yourself with because some people really change. Make sure to also have fun and make friends that you think you can trust. Never make rumors about anything or anyone because it will always be a bad outcome for you.

There's not much to talk about for 7th grade because for most of us, we were doing online school for the majority of the school year or even the whole year.

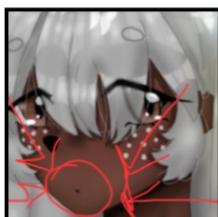
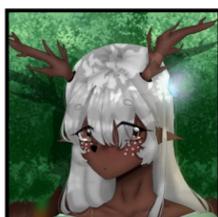
In sixth grade we didn't really think about the fact that we will be going to high school soon but now going to high school even sooner and we actually think about it a lot.

"I'm nervous but also excited to be able to have a fresh start at a new school and have a chance to make new friends and make good impressions." -Abby Osornio

A lot has changed during these past 2 years. Something that has changed is that at the start of 6th grade we had no idea that there was going to be a pandemic just a few months later. Some advice is to make every moment in 6th, 7th and 8th grade count because it flies by really fast.

Some advice is to always keep your head up, make sure to have friends you can trust, don't have friends that always talk bad about you or make fun of you, make sure to find the right people to hang around with and honestly just have fun and enjoy middle school.

"Just thinking about how I'll be heading to high school soon. I'm nervous but excited at the same time I'm ready to explore a new campus and learn new things and make new friends." -Natalia Ramirez



WINTER FASHION



whats the winter fashion this year? we gathered some students to tell you about what they think!



Stores:

- Hollister
- Zara
- Brandy Melville
- H&M
- Tilly's
- Zumiez



Colors:

- grey
- white
- blue
- green
- brown



perfect matches!



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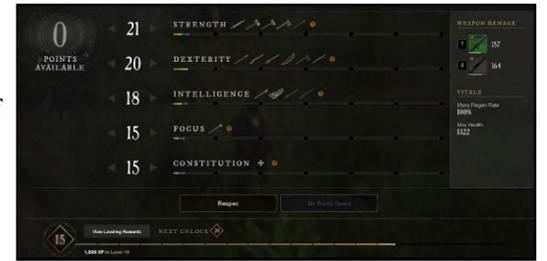


Amazon's new MMORPG is great, but how long can they keep it up?

Benicio Toruno Dailey
Staff

New World is the new kid on the MMORPG (Massive Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game) block, joining the likes of World of Warcraft, Destiny 2, and Final Fantasy XIV (14) Online. New World cleverly blends in aspects from each of these games and creates an exciting and fun world with tons of characters and new places to explore. Created by Amazon Games, New World is looking to make its mark in the MMORPG genre.

After you select a server and create a character, your ship crashlands (it's literally the World of Warcraft opening, if you chose Alliance) onto Aeternum, an island that flows with magic that heals and brings back the dead, but can also create destruction. Right off the bat, New World makes a great introduction with beautiful landscapes and an incredible soundtrack. The soundtrack sets an adventurous mood, and when you enter combat with an enemy, a quick drum note will play letting you know you are about to fight. After walking through the tutorial, you get your first taste at combat in New World. The combat system will be familiar to fans of the Dark Souls series. There are many weapons in New World, each with their relative strengths and weaknesses. You only have two weapon slots, but the possibilities are endless as you level up and improve your weapons along with attributes such as strength, dexterity, intelligence, focus, and constitution. Each of these attributes contributes to a certain part of your character and weapons. For example, constitution improves your overall health while strength allows you to deal more damage. There are tons of different builds and combinations for you to experiment with.



After you finish the tutorial quests, you advance to your first major location, Fort Windsward. The map is separated into different sections, but you start out in Windsward and its central fort. You get your first experience with NPC's who have differing personalities and can be enjoyable to listen to, even if the dialogue may get bland later on. You also get to choose your faction of choice. Factions are groups within the game that each have their own mood or feel. The Marauders give off a medieval knight/crusader feel and are essentially the budget, independent military. The Syndicate are a creepy, knowledge seeking faction that resemble a Harry Potter extremist group. The Covenant are warriors who fight for the rights and justice of struggling souls. They are driven by their faith in the light of the Spark, which I'm guessing is the thing that gave Aeternum its magic, which makes the Covenant a religious group, kind of. Factions don't impact gameplay too much, but you do get exclusive missions and are identified as a member. If your faction controls a certain territory, you also get a tax discount when in that territory on mostly everything.

The factions of New World. From left to right, The Marauders, The Syndicate, and The Covenant

Around this point is when I started to notice big problems within New World. First off are the quests. The quests can be very enjoyable but sometimes they are WAY too long. You usually have to walk anywhere from 650 meters to nearly 2 thousand meters. And when you finally get to that location, you usually have to go right back to where you started. And if you have a mission where you have to find certain resources or hunt certain animals, you better pray to the RNG gods (Random Number Generator, basically an algorithm that the game runs to determine random events) that you get the animal or resource you want. In later quests, you are travelling between tons of different regions and areas so much, you are probably going to want to use the fast travel system. Fast travel can only be used at shrines. All major towns have one shrine within the city's walls and there are some shrines hidden around the map. However, the system requires a currency to use known as Azoth. Azoth can be acquired through missions where you can get around 100-250 Azoth. You can also get smaller doses of Azoth by killing enemies, but it is usually at random. The problem with this is the cost of Azoth. The farther the shrine is from the shrine you are at, the more Azoth it will cost. Also because you will be using it a lot, completing one mission will barely give you any Azoth to go to your next mission and back. While it is not too big of a problem, it is annoying and could use some fixes. There are more minor problems in New World, but these felt worth mentioning. If Amazon remains committed to New World and fixing its current problems, the game could live for a very long time.



Find a faction of like-minded adventurers.
Want to claim territory and direct the development of a settlement? Push back the Corrupted and the Lost? Unveil the secrets of Aeternum? Then you'll want to join one of the great factions of Aeternum and head into the wilds. Choose your lot with the Marauders, the Syndicate, or the Covenant to gain access to player companions, join the struggle for territory control, and find fellow travelers for your journeys in Aeternum.

In conclusion, New World is a great game. The world of Aeternum is beautiful and fun to explore and the combat/weapon system is filled with near endless possibilities. Quests, while lengthy and tedious, can be enjoyable and the main storyline is filled with characters each with their own unique personalities that make them fun to listen to. Even if the game has many problems in its current state and some vital features are missing or unconfirmed, it's a great start and all depends on Amazon's willingness to continue development and to maintain a healthy community.

, with stamina allowing you to dodge and block enemy attacks while draining the stamina bar simultaneously. The combat system is engaging and accessible, but leaves more to be discovered and mastered as your progress in the game. Leveling up will allow you to unlock new weapons, collect experience points to be applied to customizing your stats and your fighting style.

Call of Duty Cold War...

Christian Ruiz
Staff

Cold War was made on November 13, 2020. The game had lots of hype and people were excited. The biggest thing was zombies since black ops 4 zombies was terrible they haven't had zombies for sometime in hope for it to be better. It came out and people were disappointed and mad. They were so mad for the multiplayer but the zombies was alright not good or bad it didn't meet the expectations though. Famous streamers and youtubers headed back to Warzone but 'cause of cold war everything was laggy and then the guns were broken in Warzone which caused another problem. People said they were never going to hype a game every again. They were mad and wanted to play a game not related to Treyarch or Activision. Most people were just going to buy the Cold War items that come out. People said this was a waste of their 60 bucks and were telling everyone to not buy this game and play Warzone because it was better and it was also free. They used Cold War as a way to level up weapons and to get camos not by grinding and wasting time but by using their unlock tool which is a hack. Call of Duty saw what was happening seeing less money and people leaving. Then a miracle happened. They added anti cheat and after a year, people were happy and people think this will make the game fun.



Meta Human Review

Is it as good as they say it is?

Ben Clarke
Editor

Recently the gaming company Epic Games has released two things. One is the early access to Unreal Engine 5, and early access to Meta Human. What are these? Well Unreal Engine is a game engine made by Epic games. It uses C++ and Unreal Engine blueprints to make games. Epic has actually made some of their games using unreal such as Fortnite or Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six. Meta human is a new platform which allows you to make photorealistic humans. Right now early access is on a browser. They say Unreal Engine 5 and Meta Human will be compatible. I will review the Meta Human and see how good it is.



Meta Human is currently only on browsers, which is fine. I'm sure it will soon be its own application. First are the pros. The application lives up to the hype. You are able to create incredibly realistic humans. There are also many customization options. You can change someone's irises, or give a kid a beard. I do like the way you can make an old person younger, but I will discuss that more later. The hair moves pretty well, they could make it better but it's still pretty good. The most important thing that they added is sculpting. They give you default characters but if you want to make your own character, you can sculpt one into whoever you want. It is pretty difficult to do so. The characters overall are very realistic. Now the cons. It is on a browser. Which is not a big problem since it is early access, but I figured I would just throw that out there. Depending on the computer, it can be laggy. The trailer, I believe, was a bit misleading. The way they showed it as "super easy to use!" Which is true but not as easy. They showed things that were not in the early access and only in the final version. Which is fine, it was a release trailer. But it was for an early access application and I need to at least have some cons. Early access can get kind of boring. It is not compatible with Unreal Engine yet so there is no use for creating these people except because it looks cool. Overall, this is a very good engine and I'm sure we are all excited for its full release.

2021's Best Tv Show Squid Game

Pedro Mogollan
Staff

The squid game is the best TV show of 2021. The show is about a guy (Seong Gi-Hun) from Korea that is in debt and cannot pay it. He spent all of his money on gambling mostly horse race gambling. One day a mysterious man gives Gi Hun 100,000 won or about 84 US Dollars for winning a children's game against him. The guy also gives Gi Hun a business card inviting him to play other children's games for 48,000,000,000 Won or about \$40 Million US Dollars. There are 456 players and if you get eliminated you die. Only the best will be victorious. I definitely recommend you go and watch it.



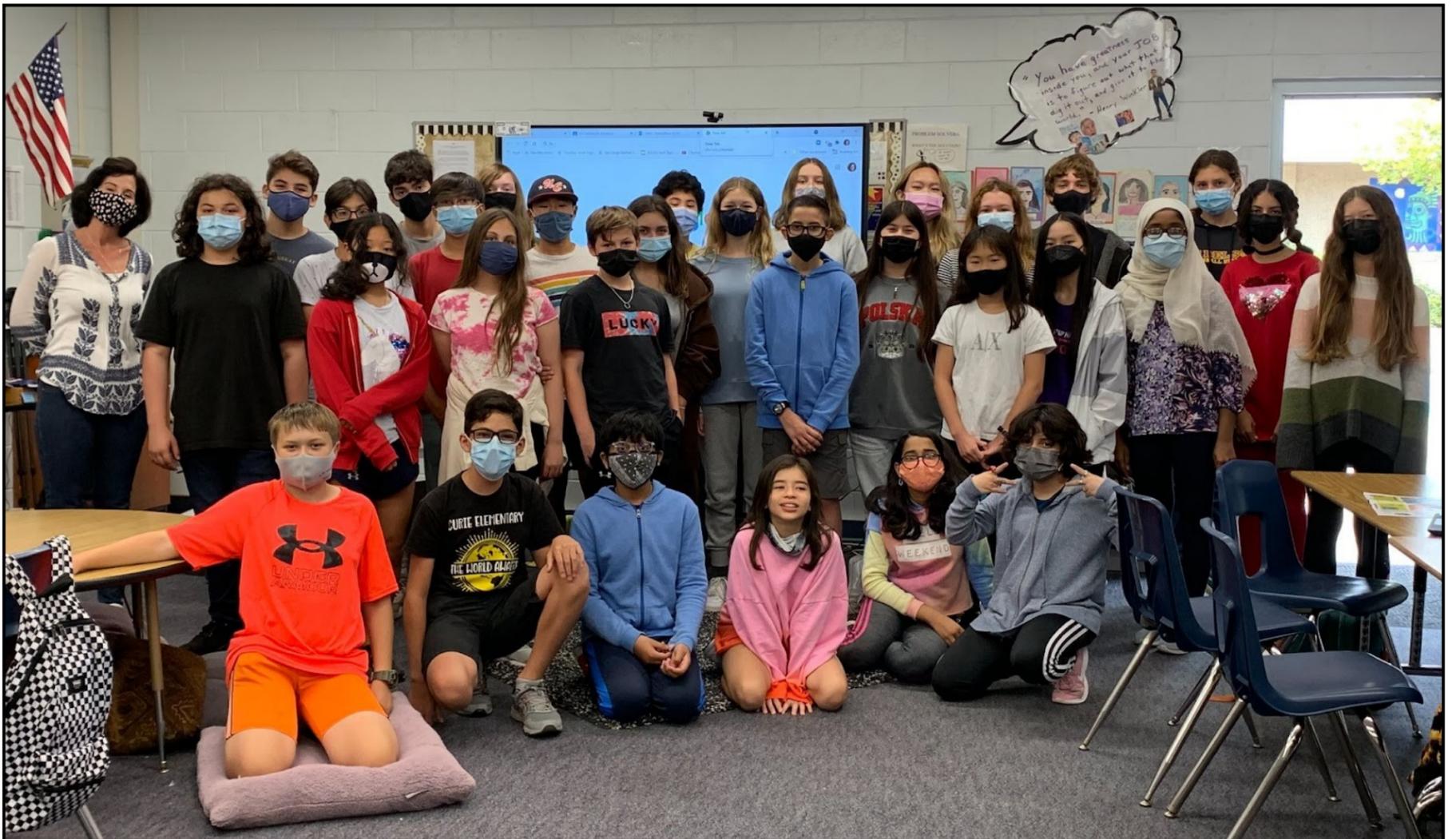
Ghostbusters Afterlife

Frida Ramos
Editor

Prepare yourself for an interesting ride with this movie.

Ghostbusters Afterlife is a 2021 upcoming movie. The movie takes place after the first Ghostbusters movie in 1984. The movie is about a single mother moving to a different town with her two children, when they discover that they have a connection to their grandfather's legacy (the original ghostbusters). The film has some of your favorite actors, Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Finn Wolfhard, McKenna Grace, Sigourney Weaver, Paul Rudd, and Ernie Hudson. The film seems like a good Halloween/Thanksgiving movie. So if you seem interested in this film, go watch when it comes out, November 19.





Debate Members include: Antonio Carrera, Travis Cortopassi, Varsha Cuzon, Mikacia Ellen, Zaira Hernandez Alonso, Afia Hossain, Lydia Huang, Emma Huber, Mila Keres, Ashvika Khare, Natalie Koussa, Sophia Lay, Connor MacLeod, Roberto Monge, Luis Moran, Injin Park, Ingrid Peters, Keigo Pilette, Sanskar Sharma, Naomi Shim, Daniel Siguenza Peralta, Iva Simic, Ezekiel Smith, Gabriella Smith, Megan Thomas, Melania Vilayphone, Nourhan Waly, Jassem Wifak, Madison Yang

It's Debatable

Malcolm Solt & Elizabeth Tansey
Staff

Should America have left Afghanistan? Can peace be brought to Afghanistan? That is the question the debate team is working to figure out. In the debate team they learn about important topics around the world. They will get a topic to learn about and start researching about that topic. They will share their ideas with each other. Eventually they will get together and start debating. We have interviewed some people from the debate team and asked them a couple questions.

1. What is our favorite part about this club?
2. What are you looking forward to?
3. Why is debate important to you?



"I like that I can talk openly. I look forward to starting a new debate topic and I like expressing my feelings." - Ashvika Khare (not pictured)
 "I like being able to talk physically and emotionally without being judged and I look forward to learning new things. I like looking at other people's perspectives on things." - Natalie Koussa (pictured, right)
 "I like talking, arguing, and debating. I look forward to discussing unusual topics. I think it important to know how to argue and debate correctly." - Ezekiel Smith (pictured, left)
 The debate Club meets in room 602. Ms. Leezy is advisor.



Virgin Galactic

Austin Johnstone
Staff

Have you ever dreamed of going to space but you don't have to be a certified astronaut? Guess what you can but with some money! The company is Virgin Galactic, Virgin Galactic was founded in 2004, its first space flight was in February 2019, the project carried three people, including a passenger, on VSS Unity VF-01. It was a success and 2 years later On 11 July 2021 company founder Richard Branson and three other employees rode on a flight as passengers, marking the first time a spaceflight company founder has travelled on his own ship into outer space. Also Guess what!, Regular paid passenger service flights are scheduled to begin in 2022 after two more test flights have been completed!



But sadly failure happens before success. At 10:51 PST 31 October 2014, the fourth rocket-powered test flight of the company's first SpaceShipTwo craft, VSS Enterprise, ended in disaster, as it broke apart in mid-air, with the debris falling into the Mojave desert in California. 39 year old copilot Michael Alsbury was killed and 43 year old pilot Peter Siebold was seriously injured. Following the crash of VSS Enterprise, the replacement SpaceShipTwo named VSS Unity was rolled out on 19 February 2016. Another flight in February 2019 carried third crew member (1 in the passenger cabin) for the first time

The White Knight Two is a special aeroplane built as the mother ship and launch-platform for the spacecraft SpaceShipTwo and the uncrewed launch vehicle LauncherOne. The mothership is a large fixed-wing aircraft with two hulls linked together by a central wing and On May 22, 2021 Mothership Eve was used to carry VSS Unity to a launch altitude of 44,000 feet. So would you try this out, i would but it is your choice.

New Librarian

Welcome!
Peyton Marchie and Jensen Landrey
Staff

Mrs. Dowling is excited to be at a new school and she is looking forward to teaching students how to easily access information online and in person. Her hobbies depend on the season. In the winter, she goes to the desert and rides motorcycles with friends and family but in the summer she likes to go on boat rides. Ms. Gates thinks Mrs. Dowling will be a perfect fit for Standley.



Battle Royale

Ctrl-c Ctrl-v
Noah Boutler
Staff

Battle Royales are being juiced so much at this point people realize that every Battle Royale game is just a copy and paste. For example, Fortnite was one of the most notable Battle Royale games and was a pretty good concept. It went away from the usual realistic shooter games of the time and went for a more simplistic design kinda like Team Fortress 2. Then Pubg came and was a nice competitor to Fortnite in the Battle Royale genre, plus it was a modern take on Battle Royale. Then, other games started milking this trend for example: Cod Warzone, Fall Guys, IO games, Creative Destruction, Battlefield Firestorm, ect.

And these games with updates also became terrible. Fortnite became a sweaty hole and some of the skins became unfair. Warzone never changes its map and the player base is also a sweaty hole. Pubg just died like it became lootbox Heaven,



biggest game in existence, and somewhat pay to win. And in my opinion the gameplay is boring. All you do is collect weapons and run to the final circle for an hour and get third because everyone is sweating. And in Warzone, all there are are campers on every roof. Fortnite now is just running in a final circle of bots, that's all and

it gets so boring. Over all, Battle Royale games have aged like milk and they die either due to bad updates or people realizing that it is pay to win and unfair.

Art



Kaho Nakamichi



Anouk Babin

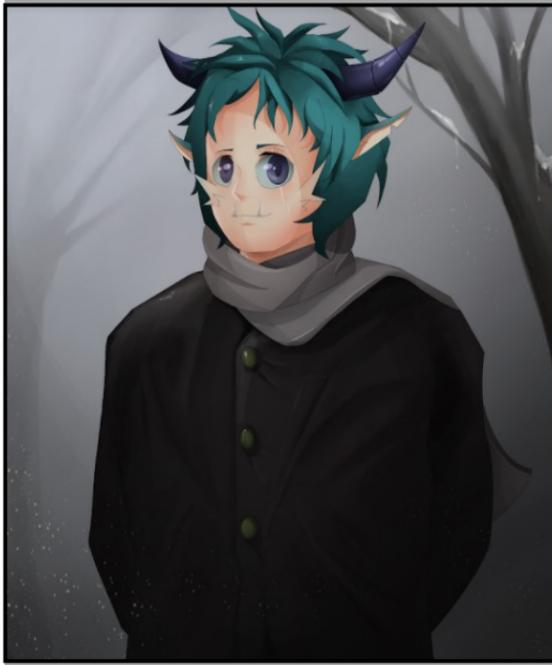


Heebin Chae
(above)

Mark Singleton
(right)



Hana Fitzenz



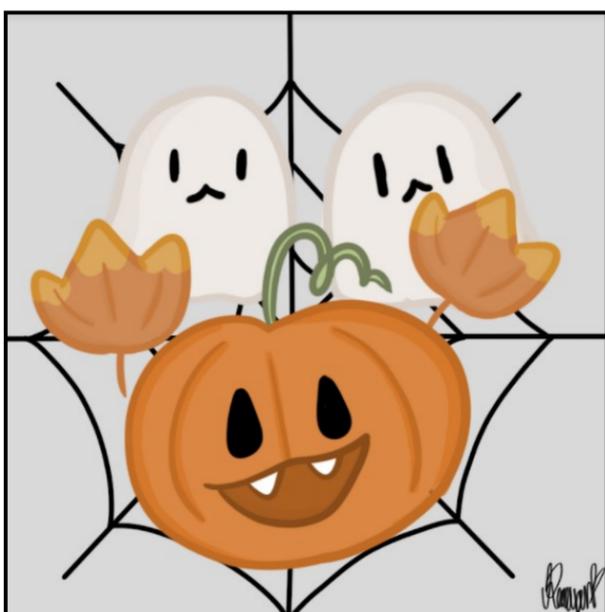
Art Classes

Day of the Dead Skulls Joelle Frazier Staff

For the day of the dead the stanley art students are celebrating it by painting skulls, and it's not just painting the skulls just to paint it, we are painting them as one of the five griefs which are; denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance, for the skulls you have to pick one of the grief and try to represent what you have chosen. We're painting skulls the different stages of grief because when you lose something, not just someone you go through all five stages some longer than others and painting the skulls is to represent how it feels to be in one of the stages of grief.



In Mrs. Juergens Spanish classes, students created Dia de Los Muertos artwork.



Reagan Grado (left), Heebin Chae (above)
Olivia Bowen (far right)



Oktoberfest



