

# YouthLINE



APRIL 2017

**Cultivate Our Young Minds**

Laugh Out Loud  
This National Humor Month

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR  
ASTRONOMY WEEK?**

Children's Book Day

Introducing:  
**Monthly Disney Truth**  
**Monthly Fables**

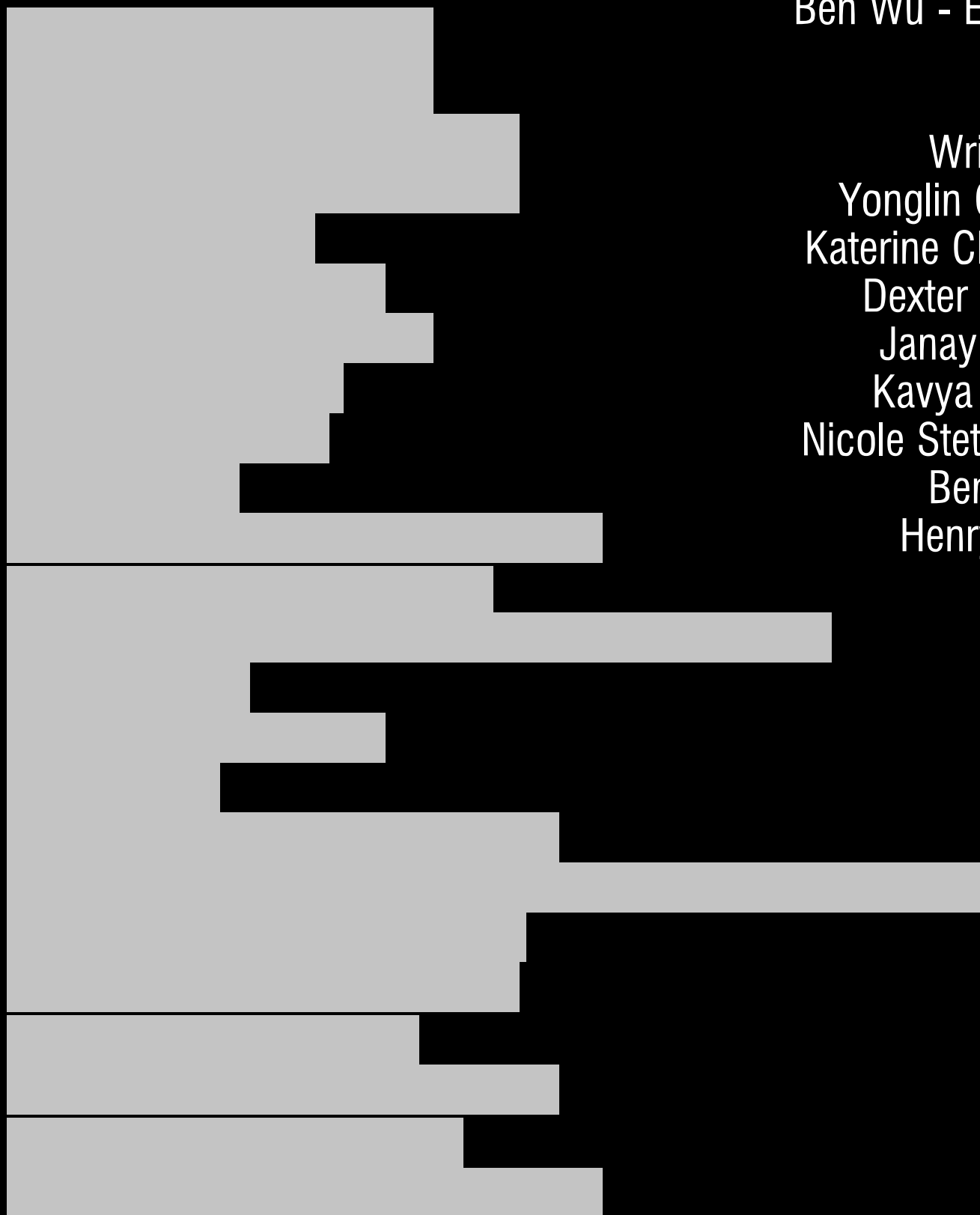
**ENCOURAGE  
A YOUNG WRITER**



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we are FREE



# By Ben Wu

in the District, outnumbered two to one by free black residents. In order to free them, Congress paid slaveholders an average of \$300 per slave. In result, the congress paid \$5,400 in 1862, which is worth nearly \$150,000 in current day value. This day marks as the starting point in slavery emancipation - a long-held goal of abolitionists. Moreover, The Congress also offering freed slaves \$100 if they wanted to voluntarily leave the U.S. Soon, President Lincoln proposed the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet in the summer of 1863 and many of them found it unappealing and was worried that the Proclamation might sound too radical. President Lincoln did not give up and showed his firm commitment to the necessity and justice of the Proclamation to the cabinet. And after the victory at Antietam, Lincoln finally persuaded his cabinet to support him. Four years later, after the Civil War ended and the 1865 ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, slavery was officially abolished nationwide.

President Lincoln considered the Emancipation Proclamation the most important aspect of his legacy. "I never, in my life, felt more certain that I was doing right, than I do in signing this paper," he mentioned. "If my name ever goes into history it will be for this act, and my whole soul is in it." On January 4, 2005, legislation was signed to make Emancipation Day an official public holiday in the District of Columbia. It is also celebrated in other places in the US, the emancipation of slaves is celebrated in Florida (May 20), Puerto Rico (March 22) and Texas (June 19). So, if you're running behind on your paperwork, or just hoping to hold onto your money a bit longer, you've got a few extra days this year thanks to President Abraham Lincoln.

# *Louisiana Purchase*

*Kavya Seth*

April 30th is the 214th anniversary of a momentous occasion in US history- the Louisiana purchase. One of the biggest land transactions in history, France sold the massive Louisiana territory of 529,280,000 acres to the US. It was purchased for \$15 million, so about 4¢ an acre (\$309 million 58¢ an acre adjusted for inflation.)

This was a very good deal for the US and a very bad deal for France. The territory encompassed many rich natural resources, like ores for precious metals and fertile farmland. However, the effects of the purchase were not just economic. It nearly doubled the size of the United States. The vast new amount of land was the impetus for several important expeditions, like Lewis and Clark's famous journey. It was also significant from a political standpoint. With the signing of the treaty that conferred the rights to the land over to the US, the French essentially ceded their control over North America, abandoning their only colonial stake in the new land.

However, there is a darker side to this story. In reality, the land of the Louisiana Territory was not France's to give nor America's to take. It belonged to the Native Americans who originally lived on there. Many consider the history of this country to be a proud one that highlights the merits of individuality and freedom. They often forget that their liberty was founded and built at the expense of another people's.

# DO MATH EVERYDAY?

All throughout our school lives, math has often been a topic that intrigues some, and frustrates others. We see it as a basic part of our education that may not ever help us in life and we just have to take it. However, math helps us with a lot of things we take granted. Counting change or finding the square footage of a house all revolve around numbers and ratios. That's why President Reagan created Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month for April.

Mathematics is the science about numbers, their values, and spaces. Although we think that math will never help us with our daily lives, it's actually the opposite. Computer science, economics, medicine, and space exploration are all based on mathematics. We all have some sort of computer at home and we all have taken medicine at one point or another. Small things like using a thermometer to find the temperature or counting the amount of items one has in a shopping cart all starts from learning numbers in school. Engineers use more complex mathematics to solve equations and find how much area or volume something takes up. These little parts of math they help engineers build phones to cars. Without math, we would not have the basis for these topics and would be unable to apply it to everyday problems.

Statistics is a branch of math that involves collecting and looking at large amounts of data or numbers. Statistics or stats, is a way for analysis to gather data and make interesting discoveries from them. Lots of graphs and percentages we get are from using stats in everyday life, analyzing daily things we do and relating them to an average. These mathematical topics help us relate how many people have a type of disease or the performance record of a product. Without math in our lives, many technologies that we take for granted would not exist, let alone improved upon to further benefit our lives.

Dexter Hom

# TAKE A BREATH, AND THINK ABOUT IT.

Stress is a common problem that affect all of us at some point in our lives. Stress is a state of mental or emotional strain or tension resulting from adverse or very demanding circumstances. Sometimes it is challenging to pinpoint when we are under stress or if something is bothering us. Depending on the person, there are different ways of coping with stress. In our daily life, there are many things that can cause stress. Stress could come in both ways; it could be either physical, such as fear of something dangerous, or emotional, such as worry over your family or job. The first thing to better cope with stress is identifying what the reason behind the stress is.

## There are 3 types of stress:

- Internal Stress: When you put pressure on yourself making you feel even more stress. For example, when you start worrying about things for no reason.
- Environmental Stress: The kind of stress that is cause by the things that surrounds you, such as noise, pressure at work or among family.
- Fatigue and Overwork: This type of stress is created when you let little annoyances build up over a long time and take a toll on your body. For example, when you are working too much at work or even at school.

Teen Health and Wellness

800-784-2433 (SUICIDE HOTLINE).

*Katerine Chung-Chen*



The background of the entire page is a composite image. In the upper half, a person's arm is raised with a clenched fist, showing red-painted fingernails. In the lower half, a woman with blonde hair is smiling broadly, her face partially obscured by the text. The overall color palette is dark, with shades of purple, blue, and teal.

## Off-Color Humor

Off-color humor is a term used to describe humor about things generally considered unacceptable to make jokes about. It comes in many varieties, but the two main colors are:

Black humor is humor that makes light of taboo or offensive subjects. It is related to gallows humor, but is distinguished from it in the sense that black humor is about anything offensive or politically incorrect, while gallows humor is specifically about death.

Blue comedy is a type of comedy that is risqué and profane, usually sexual in nature. This meaning of the word blue, while now antiquated, has existed as far back as the 1890s.

Now that you know more about the different types of humor, you may be able to better determine what makes you laugh, and what the humor you like says about you. Are you optimistic or self-deprecating? Risqué or relatively tame? For the sake of making friendships or shaming enemies?

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# Hubble Space Telescope Launch:

Like the Columbia, the Hubble Space Telescope was also launched into LEO nearly a decade later, on April 25th, 1990. It has since become extremely famous, if not the most famous telescope in the world; its images are instrumental in demonstrating to the public the vast beauty of space and the merit of astronomical exploration.

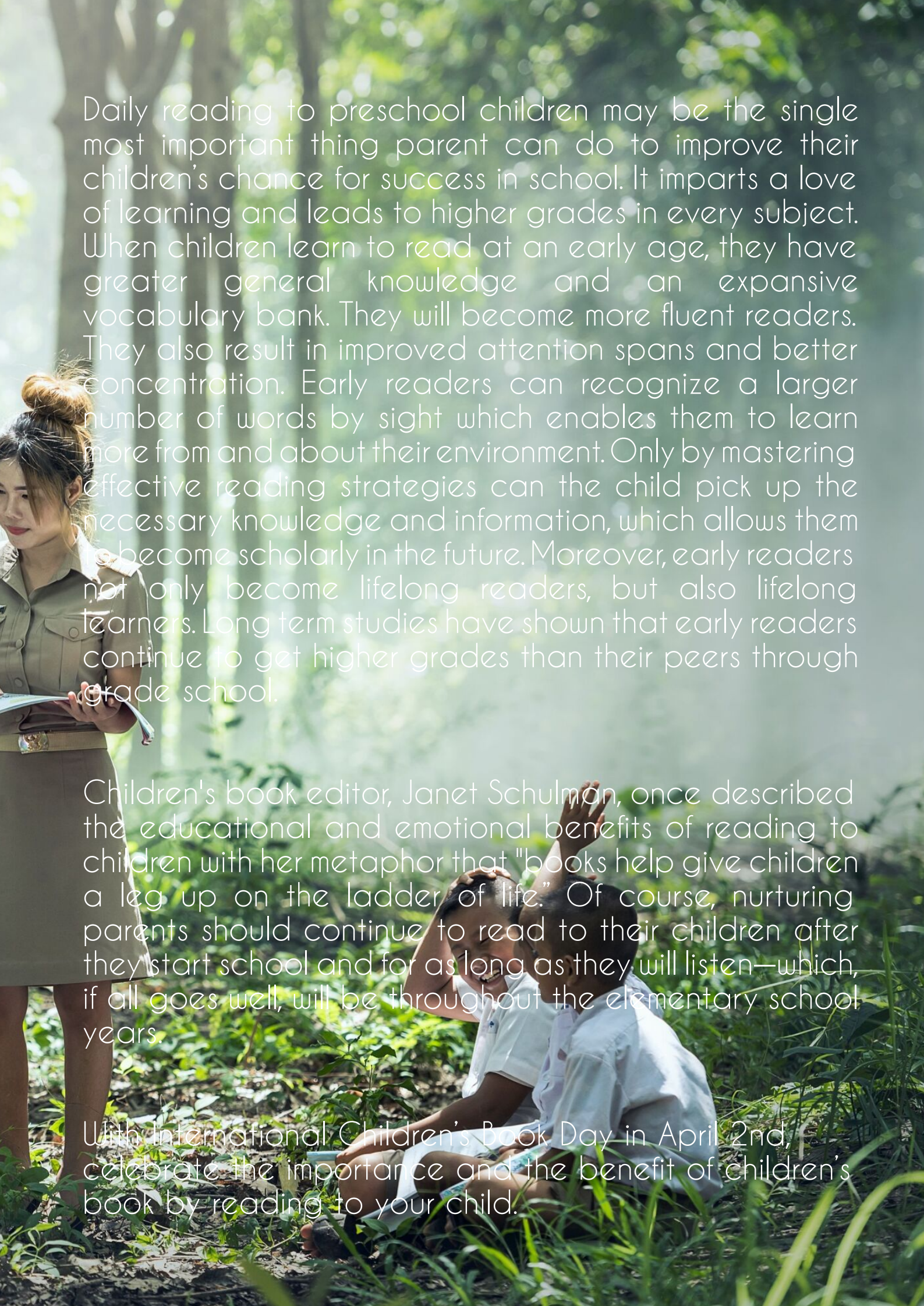
Named after the astronomer Edwin Hubble, the HST was launched by the space shuttle Discovery. Over the years, there have been many expeditions to the telescope to repair it, run diagnostics and update its machinery with more advanced telescoping technology. Currently, the Hubble Space telescope has 6 instruments:

- The Wide Field Camera 3 (WFC3)
- The Cosmic Origins Spectrograph (COS)
- The Advanced Camera for Surveys (ACS)
- The Near Infrared Camera and Multi-Object Spectrometer (NICMOS)
- The Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph (STIS)
- The Fine Guidance Sensors (FGS).



John W. Young (left) and Robert L. Crippen (right), crew of the Columbia's maiden voyage

*Bibliophile*

A woman in a school uniform, with her hair in a bun, stands on the left holding a book. Two children, also in school uniforms, are sitting on the ground in a garden, looking at a book together. The background is a lush green garden with trees and plants.


Daily reading to preschool children may be the single most important thing parent can do to improve their children's chance for success in school. It imparts a love of learning and leads to higher grades in every subject. When children learn to read at an early age, they have greater general knowledge and an expansive vocabulary bank. They will become more fluent readers. They also result in improved attention spans and better concentration. Early readers can recognize a larger number of words by sight which enables them to learn more from and about their environment. Only by mastering effective reading strategies can the child pick up the necessary knowledge and information, which allows them to become scholarly in the future. Moreover, early readers not only become lifelong readers, but also lifelong learners. Long term studies have shown that early readers continue to get higher grades than their peers through grade school.

Children's book editor, Janet Schulman, once described the educational and emotional benefits of reading to children with her metaphor that "books help give children a leg up on the ladder of life." Of course, nurturing parents should continue to read to their children after they start school and for as long as they will listen—which, if all goes well, will be throughout the elementary school years.

With International Children's Book Day in April 2nd, celebrate the importance and the benefit of children's book by reading to your child.

“Mirror, Mirror, on the wall, who’s the fairest of them all?” We all recognize the mantra from the famous tale, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. However, the most recognized version of Snow White from Disney is actually edited to be water-down and “fancier” version of the uncomfortable historical events. Snow White was first published in 1812 as part of the collection of the tales from the Grimm Brothers. Many rumors say that Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs existed ever since the Middle Age. It has been passed down for centuries and in 1937, Disney reached out and created their own version of Snow White. That version has since been made popularize around the world because of its romance and happy ending. But, the truth behind the actual Snow White story is darker than what you think it is.

As most of us know from the Disney version, the evil step-mom hated how her step-daughter is prettier than her; so, she tells one of her huntsman to kill her in the woods and bring back her heart as proof. He couldn’t follow through, so he tells her to run away and never return. Snow White escaped, and she falls in with seven friendly dwarves. The step-mom finds out and sneaks her a poison apple. Snow White goes into a coma until a handsome prince kisses her and wakes her up and they live happily ever after. Also, the Evil Queen dies by falling off a cliff. That’s the pretty version that most of us remembered. It’s nothing on the Grimm’s version, though, where the step-mother accepts a crueler fate. The queen was invited to Snow White and her prince’s wedding and when the queen arrived, she was tortured by being forced to wear a hot iron shoe and was made to dance to death in front of the wedding party.

A stylized illustration of a woman with dark hair and red lips, wearing a purple top, holding a large, shiny red apple. The background is a soft-focus green and yellow, suggesting an outdoor setting. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

There are also some theories about the origin of the tale. In 1994, German historian, Eckhard Sander published the *Schneewittchen: Märchen oder Wahrheit?* (Snow White: Is It a Fairy Tale?) and revealed the story that the Grimm brothers inspired from. According to Sander, the traditional components to the Snow White tale can be found in the real life story of Margarete von Waldeck, who was the countess of Philip II of Spain. Margarete was forced by her step-mother, Katharina of Hatzfeld to move away in the age of 16. Moreover, Margarete fell in love with who later become Phillip II of Spain. Margaret's father and step-mother disapproved and Margarete mysteriously died at the age of 21 by poisoning.

Many rumors around Snow White is actually darker than you think. Some even points out that the prince is actually the Grim Reaper of death taking Snow White to the heaven. It just gets darker as you research more about it.

*Ben Wu*

# THE MONTH OF ROCK

Rocking out and listening to guitar solos has been a part of the music for the past half century. The guitar has been an influential part of culture whether played by famous artists like Elvis for concerts or celebrities like Adam Sandler to serenade girls in their movies. Guitar is relatively easy to teach on a beginners level and it has become one of the most popular portable instruments in the world. In 1987, April became a month to celebrate guitars and to promote guitar-based products around the world. During this time, it's a great time to learn about guitars and to look into different guitar products and accessories.

The guitar has cloudy origins with pictures of people playing instruments resembling guitars as far as Babylonian times about three thousand years ago. The earliest known occurrence of an instrument called a guitar is in the 1200's, when the Spanish used the Guitarra Latina and Guitarra Morisca. These instruments had the framework of a modern guitar with multiple strings and two points of attachment like any chordophone. In the 1600's the baroque guitar started becoming popular in multiple countries: Spain, Italy, France, and Portugal. Today, the guitar is becoming increasingly attractive to newer musicians. About 2.5 million guitars are bought each year in the U.S. alone.

During the month of April, guitar companies, GAMA and NAMM, promote their products as a way to express their interest and spark ours in guitars. The two types of guitars they promote are acoustic and electric guitars. The difference between the two is quite vast. Acoustic guitars are hollow and let sound vibrations to enter the instrument and multiply the sounds coming out. Electric guitars are filled with electronics and use magnets that record when the metal strings are strung and makes those sounds come out of an amplifier. With guitars, many accessories are like picks and tuners are optional, but help musicians play better.

So, take a moment, appreciate your guitar, and rock out.

*Dexter Hom*

*dogs! cats! hamsters! birds! and rats!*

April 11<sup>th</sup> is National Pet Day, a day for appreciating our pets! Whether you have a dog, or a cat, or a lizard, or any animal at all, this day was made for giving them a little more love than usual.

According to data from the latest pet owners survey by the American Pet Products Association, 81% of pet owners are aware that owning a pet can be beneficial to their own health.

You can do the following to help out or show some love:

- Adopt a pet from your local shelter or rescue organization.

Volunteer at your local shelter and offer to care for the animals.

- Donate blankets, food and toys to a favorite animal welfare organization.

- Have a National Pet Day party and celebrate all your pets!

Pet Owner's Independence Day is celebrated on April 18, 2017. It's a holiday for all of those who have pets. If you are a pet owner, be proud and celebrate yourself on this day! You should do this by taking off the day for work and send your pet(s) to work in your place pets. Enjoy the life by switching into a pet's perspective by sleeping and eating all day long!

Nicole Stetsyuk

# IGNORE ME AND YOU WILL SEE

Watched by billions and loved by thousands; Phineas and Ferb, an American animated musical comedy television series created by Dan Povenmire and Jeff "Swampy" Marsh and transmitted by Disney. This animated TV Show launch their first episode on August 17, 2007, and sadly, their last on June 12, 2015. For those who have never heard of or watch this show before, here's a little summary. Phineas and his stepbrother, Ferb, are determined to make every day of their summer vacation fun. They've tried building a full-scale roller coaster, becoming musicians, building a backyard beach, and traveling back in time to meet dinosaurs and other crazy things. Phineas is a confident genius and Ferb is a quiet but also brilliant kid. Meanwhile, their older sister Candace is tattling on them to Mom and Dad, though she can never seem to catch them in the act.

But I'm here to tell you the true story behind this TV Show.

DISCLAIMER: these are just rumors but they will make sense once you finish reading it. So according to Spanish Wikipedia, back in 1993 in Russia, a girl with mental issues named Candace was born. When she was a kid, her parents got divorced; her father left the house, leaving Candace with her mom. Her mother never took care of her properly. Years after, her mother got married again and had two babies. Both of them were boys, they named them: Phineas and Ferb. Phineas had some little issues too, he suffered from hyperactivity. While Ferb had mental retardation making him unable to talk. Years past and Candace still felt empty, she was always sad because her mother never paid attention to her.

When Phineas and Ferb reached to the ages of 12, Candace started to tell about her brothers' "amazing adventures" in an attempt to get her attention. Everyday was a different story. She will always say that Phineas and Ferb are building something huge in the backyard. And like the TV Show, every time her mom goes to the backyard, there was nothing. Candace's mom got tired of all these lies, she thought Candace had mental problems. She hired a doctor named Heinz Doofenshmirtz. Candace didn't like him at all because he will subscribe her really strong medications that will made her feel even worst. Appointment after appointment, she started telling stories of Dr. Doofenshmirtz to her mom. She will tell her how evil he is and all the machines that he built to take over the world. By 2007, the Flynn family received terrible news. Candace killed herself in the bathroom, leaving behind a diary with her brothers adventures.

There's also another theory of Phineas and Ferb. It goes like this...

When Candace was a little girl, her parent got divorced; leaving her with her mom. Her mom decided to move to Danville to start a new life where she met a guy that she ended up marrying. A couple years later, they had a baby. His name was Phineas, who along with him they had another baby named Ferb. Growing up, both of them were really smart; especially Phineas. When Phineas reached middle school, he was bullied a lot in school because the other kids thought he was too nerdy. Phineas could not take that anymore so he decided to take his life.

Ever since that day, the Flynn's lives changed forever. Ferb was traumatized that he went crazy and wouldn't talk to anyone. This affected Candace the most. She couldn't stand the fact her brother was gone. Candace start to build an imaginary world where he was still alive and played with her other brother Ferb.

*Katherine Chung-Chan*

# **ADVICE FROM A GRADUATING SENIOR,**

# Jandy' Lee

make as many A's appear on your transcript, because in the end it is worth it. The higher your GPA, the more money schools are willing to give you. For those worried about paying for school, I recommend private colleges. Although they are known for being expensive, they are also known for providing students with impressive transcripts impressive amounts of money. So, during this year, just remind yourself this, "my grades are worth more than mere admiration of my peers and parents."

You should also be studying for the SAT. Although it is offered all throughout Senior year, you can take it at the end of Junior year as well. This is highly recommended because you can allow yourself to see your strengths and weaknesses. This will better prepare you for the retake, so that you can score higher. Your test scores also play a huge role in the amount of money given to you. The higher you are able to get your score, the more money they will be able to give you. Do not procrastinate on signing up because you want to be able to take the test at a school of your choosing.

As a senior, you have to be aware of so many things as soon as the school year begins! You must make sure that you write down all of the important deadlines for the schools that you are interested in. If they pass you by, then you simply lose out on that opportunity. If you are one of those students who are very sure about what they want to do, then you should definitely apply for the early admissions application of your chosen school.

# *Children in the Office*

Work Day in New York in 1992. The first event took place on April 22nd in 1993 and has ever since been celebrated on the fourth Thursday of April. The day is generally scheduled on a day when most children in the United States have school. On this day teachers are given the materials to allow career exploration and discussion about careers into the lessons on the day before or after the event. Although not officially extended to boys until 2003, most companies and businesses that participated had already been allowing both boys and girls to partake in the experience and usually renaming it to, Take Our Children To Work Day.

In the United States, we continue to celebrate this event, although not many schools continue to take part in it. Generally schools hold other events in place for students to gain knowledge on the different work fields and be able to talk to people who work in them, such as Career Day.

Have you ever partaken in Take Our Daughter and Sons to Work Day?

Nicole Stetsyuk

# Tax Day

The season has arrived, not spring, not summer, but tax season. It's that time of the year when you have to start paying your taxes for services that you may not even want or never asked for. The process is lengthy and confusing - unless you hired someone to do it for you, in which that case, it's pretty expensive. In particular, you might question what right does the government have to take money from you, the money you that never consented to paying. In that case, we have to trace all the way back to 1862 when Abraham Lincoln instituted American taxes to help pay for the Civil War. However, the tax was repealed ten years later. But in 1894, Congress enacted a flat rate Federal income tax and was ruled unconstitutionally the following year by the Supreme Court due to the direct tax not being apportioned according to the population of each state. Taxes took a long time before it became part of the constitution under the 16th Amendment in 1913. And ever since then, you start hearing our nation groan.

We hate it but we still have to do it. But, where does our money go after turning in our taxes. Turns out the U.S. Treasury divides all federal spending into three groups: mandatory spending, discretionary spending and interest on debt. Mandatory spending refers to the budget that must be set aside for certain programs or initiatives as set forth by the government or governing authority. Most of the mandatory spending budget goes to social security and medicare. Discretionary spending refers to the portion of the budget that is decided by Congress through the annual appropriations process each year and most of its budget goes to military, government, and education. Now that you know where your money goes, you might feel less guilty.

Doing taxes is a confusing process and if your budget is low, you have to DIY (do it yourself). To do so, you have to install a tax software through the IRS website. Popular tax software includes programs like TurboTax (from \$39.99), TaxACT (from \$25), and H&R Block (from \$39.95). All three programs provide free versions for people with simple tax needs. Even with the softwares, you still required tons of patience and brain cells in order for you to complete. If you have a great budget and you don't want stress or if you earn over \$200,000 a year, you can hire a tax preparer to file for you. The only professionals qualified to help you are tax lawyers, CPAs, and enrolled IRS agents. Price varies depending on where you live and how complex your taxes are.

Whether you want to hire someone or do it yourself, you got to do it sooner or later.

Many of us might remember that Tax Day is on April 15th. Oddly, the first Tax Day was on March 1st in 1913, after the passage of the 16th Amendment. In 1918, Congress pushed the date forward to March 15th, where it remained until the tax overhaul of 1954, when the date was again moved ahead to April 15th. But however, this year's Tax Day is on April 18th. Why? April 15th and 16th is on a weekend, which the tax deadline is always postponed when it falls on a weekend or legal holiday. April 17th, not a monday, but Emancipation Day, the day marked as Abraham Lincoln signing a law to free slavery in Washington, D.C, and this day celebrated legally. Under the tax code, legal holidays in the nation's capital affect the tax-filing deadline across the nation. So, it's postponed to Tuesday, April 18th. No more delays! Filed you files in ASAP before you get hit with a failure-to-file penalty, which starts at 5% of however much you owe, and maxing out at 25% of your tax bill. So do it ASAP.

Ben Wu

## *Monthly Recipe:*

Thanks to taxes being due, April might be tough; however, when it comes to food, it's fantastic. April is the season where it's no longer the spotlight for root vegetables but the highlight season for fresh veggies and sweet strawberries. I mean, who can resist the deep, juicy sweetness from strawberries. Every bite of it brings you joy.

With summer coming up, enjoy this fresh recipe. Actually, sit tight and wait for summer together. (By the way, you can go even further by buying fruits from your local market or even pick your own fruits.)



## Directions:

1) Preheat oven to 350 degrees. On a lightly floured work surface, roll out puff pastry to a 12-by-16-inch rectangle. Transfer to a parchment-lined rimmed baking sheet and trim to make a neat rectangle. Freeze until firm, 10 minutes. With a fork, prick pastry all over. To prevent pastry from rising, top with a sheet of parchment paper and stack another rimmed baking sheet on top. Bake until light golden, 20 to 25 minutes.

2) Meanwhile, in a food processor, combine 1/4 cup pistachios and sugar and process until pistachios are finely ground. Sprinkle mixture on pastry, leaving a 3/4-inch border. Bake until pastry is deep golden and pistachio mixture begins to turn golden, 15 to 17 minutes. Roughly chop remaining 1/4 cup pistachios. Remove sheet from oven; arrange strawberries on pistachio mixture, overlapping slices. Brush berries and border with jam and sprinkle chopped pistachios on border. Serve warm or at room temperature.

*BentW*

# Easter

Many people associate Easter with brightly colored eggs, baby animals like chicks and bunnies, and pastels. And many more associate it with a religious holiday. But what on Earth do these conflicting narratives have to do with each other?

## WHAT DOES THE EASTER BUNNY HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

- In ancient times, rabbits were believed to be hermaphrodites. Because they could theoretically reproduce without losing their virginity, they became associated with the Virgin Mary.
- Rabbits can give birth to a litter while still pregnant with another, a phenomenon known as superfoetation. This is one of the reasons they can reproduce so quickly, and why they came to be associated with fertility.
- Since spring is the time birds lay their eggs and rabbits give birth to new litters (both be examples of reproduction), those images became associated with fertility as well.
- Spring in general is a time of rebirth, as the weather is finally optimal for trees to grow their leaves back and bloom, as well as animals to return from hibernation.
- Eostre is a Saxon goddess of spring and the dawn. The apocryphal belief that the hare is her sacred animal became popularized in the 1800s. Easter and bunnies became closely associated.

## WHY EGGS?

- During Lent, the week before Easter, it is forbidden to eat meat, eggs, and dairy. However, chickens still lay eggs without regard to human holidays. As a result, the eggs would have to be boiled to prevent them from spoiling. Eggs boiled in hot water with flowers dyes the eggs various colors. In particular, red was used to represent the blood of Christ and green was used to represent the new foliage of spring.

## WHY CHOCOLATE?

- The modern chocolate you're familiar with (known as "eating chocolate") wasn't invented till 1847. Even after its invention, chocolate makers couldn't get it to be molded in the complex shape of an egg. Once that was accomplished, chocolate eggs became very popular, considering how much more delicious they are than their real counterparts. However, the decoration of real eggs remains a very important part of traditional Easter celebrations in many European countries.

Whether you celebrate Easter for religious reasons, just for fun, or not at all, we can all agree that it is a holiday formed from a diverse array of beliefs and cultures.

# It's all right if all a

In recent years, Autism has become more apparent in our communities. About one in every sixty-eight children, about 1% in the total population, are diagnosed as autistic in one form or another. Due to the recent spike of autism, the National Autism Awareness Society has rose up to explain autism and how we are all affected by it. For the past-quarter century, Autism Awareness Month aimed to spread awareness and acceptance for people living with autism.

Autism is a spectrum condition that affects a person's social interaction abilities. Most people affected do not have great communication skills and often do not want to communicate with others. Being a spectrum disorder, autism can be minor or affect patients to a major extent. Some people may not have any noticeable signs of autism while others need help to manage this condition. Many people with autism typically show signs of this condition when they're infants, either not making sounds at around one-year-old or not being able to say one-word phrases at two. There are other symptoms, but since it's a spectrum disorder, the signs for autism aren't exact. Only about ten percent of people diagnosed with autism have a distinctive characteristic that can be associated with their condition. The other ninety percent of patients don't.

For this month, the National Autism Awareness Society encourages us to learn more about autism and how we can help. Accepting people with this condition is a first step, but being able to understand and live with them is another thing. From this month-long awareness, we want to encourage everyone to recognize that people with autism are still people. Just like any other, they benefit our society. So this month of April, recognize the problems of autism and learn to accept people who live with it.

DEXTER HDM

# help the children

The Week of the Young Child is celebrated from April 24th to April 28th. It's an annual event celebrated and sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children to commend early learning, young children, their teachers, and families. Each day in the week is reserved for a different topic. This week recognizes childhood programs throughout the community and how they benefit the youth. This year, the week-long holiday is here to promote music, art, leadership, family and healthy eating. Here are the days: Music Monday!, Tasty Tuesday, Work together Wednesday, Artsy Thursday, and Family Friday.

The Week of the Young Child just so happens fall during National Child Abuse Prevention Month. They have the common theme of helping children. Initiated in 1983, National Child Abuse Month is an annual observance in the United States dedicated to raising awareness and preventing child abuse. In 2016, President Barack Obama stated that every child should have a chance to succeed to grow up in a safe, stable environment, free from abuse and neglect. The purpose of National Child Abuse Prevention Month was to encourage people to rededicate themselves to playing an active role in preventing child abuse as well as posing positive action on children and their family's well-being. The definition of child abuse is "all forms of physical, emotional, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent which can harm the child's future of their health, survival, development or dignity." A 2014 report showed that about 646,000 children were victims of abuse or neglect and about 1,580 died from abuse and neglect. Abuse is plaguing our society and we are all responsible for stopping it.



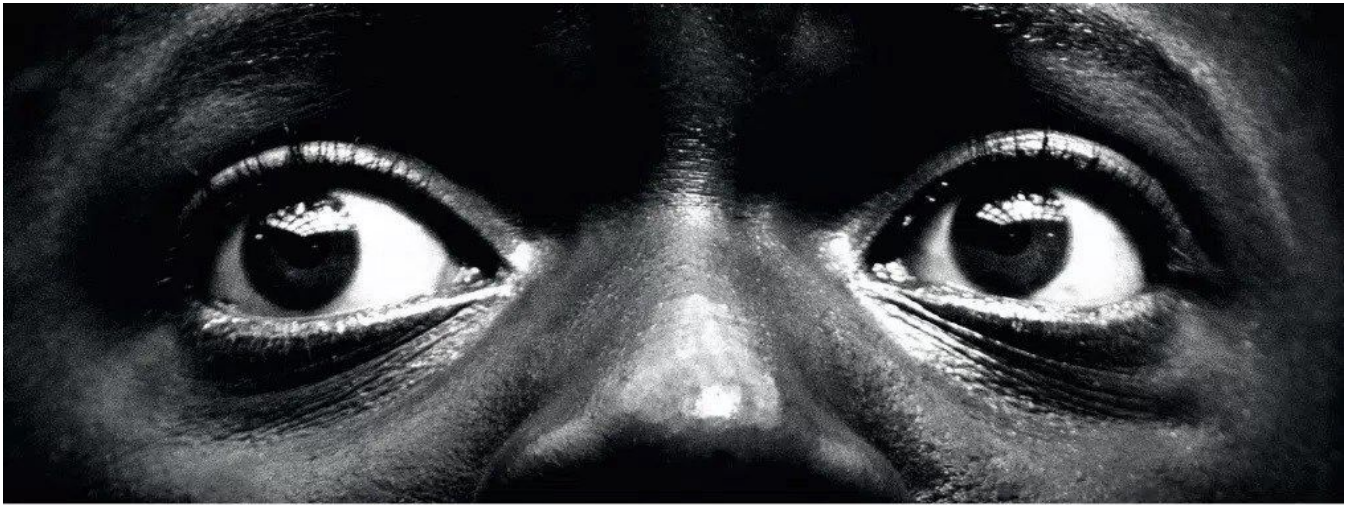
tree planting, their mission is “to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees.” In the foundation, there are programs such as Tree City USA. The goal of the program is to show the importance of urban forestry. This environmental conscience eventually led to a different holiday, Arbor Day.

Arbor Day is celebrated differently in some countries because people have to find the perfect climate and the suitable planting season. On the first Arbor Day, people planted about 1 million trees. It all started with a Nebraskan journalist, J. Sterling Morton. He first advised his readers to take of trees, and then, he eventually proposed "Arbor Day", an official tree planting day, at a State Board of Agriculture meeting. Nebraskan Governor, Robert W. Furnas approved the proposal in 1874.

The actual date of Arbor Day has been moved several times. When it was first made official in 1874, it was observed on April 10th. Then in 1885, it was moved to April 22nd, Morton's birthday. But as of now, the most common day to celebrate Arbor Day is the last friday of April; and this year, it happens to fall on April 28th.

Earth Day is for highlighting worldwide problems, but Arbor Day focuses on trees only. Both of these days help the earth and remind us to care for our surroundings. Earth Day spreads awareness on the big scale while Arbor Day forces us to go small and appreciate a single thing, trees.

Henry Xie



# GET OUT

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JORDAN PEELE

YouthLINE's movie of the month is none other than comedian, Jordan Peele's, masterpiece Get Out. This horror-thriller has generated a buzz of confusion and discussion for the American public to obsess over. Get Out is unlike the average horror movie and innovates a new kind of fear to instill in the mind. Instead of leaving the viewer afraid of a "scary monster", it leaves them afraid of reality. Get Out forces those who do not see their own faults to look in a crystal-clear mirror of reality.

Get out addresses race and depicts lots of racism, but it is not in the way we typically see it in Hollywood. The white people saying these racist things to the black protagonists are not overtly racist in their own eyes. Instead of saying horrible things like, “N\*\*\*er, monkey, or Blackie”, they overwhelm the protagonist with many racist compliments. They make several comments about black mens’ physiques being better than average because of their “genetic makeup”, gush about their admiration for black celebrities like Tiger Woods, smugly state that they voted for President Barack Obama, and love to bring up their amazing grandpa who came second to black athlete, Jesse Owens.

This was sure to hit home for many middle to upper class white Americans. They may genuinely feel that they are not racist because they voted for Obama or like black celebrities that they see on television or in sports. But, what they do not realize and what Jordan Peele seems to be saying is, “Liking black famous people and admiring black culture does not make you close to the black community if you cannot see the humanity in an actual black person.” What that means is that loving Kanye does not mean that you can correctly socialize and relate to a black man from Chicago. There is more to relating to people than supporting them indoors away from their actual neighborhoods and company.

Get Out wins the audience's hearts through its blatant honesty and forthrightness on the topic of modern racism and what it means to be black in the 21st century.

*"I will never let go, Jack."*

*"I'll never let go."*

*"I will never let go, Jack. I'll never let go."*

*"Near, far, wherever you are*

*I believe that the heart does go on*

*Once more you open the door*

*And you're here in my heart and my heart will go on and on"*

Does this song sound familiar to you? Yes, you are right! It's from Titanic. Every time we hear "Titanic" we immediately think about the cliché love story of Jack and Rose. For others, it's one of the longest romantic movie they have ever watched. Before the movie was created, the RMS Titanic was a British passenger liner that sank in the North Atlantic Ocean at 2:20 a.m. on 15 April 1912, after colliding with an iceberg during her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York City. The massive ship, which carried about 2,200 passengers and crew, had struck an iceberg two and half hours before.

The Titanic was designed by the Irish shipbuilder William Pirrie, and was supposed to be the world's fastest ship. It spanned 883 feet from the stern to the bow, and its hull was divided into 16 compartments. Because four of these compartments could be flooded without causing a critical loss of buoyancy, the Titanic was considered to be "unsinkable". After stopping at Cherbourg, France, and Queenstown to pick up some final passengers, the massive vessel set out at full speed to New York City.



However, just before midnight on April 14, the RMS Titanic started having troubles. The compartments got filled with water and it pulled down the bow of the ship. Because the Titanic's compartments were not capped at the top, water from the ruptured compartments filled each succeeding compartment, causing the bow to sink and the stern to be raised up. Two hours later, the Titanic broke in half. And at about 2:20 a.m. on April 15, the Titanic sank completely.

More than 1,500 people sank and died with the ship due to the shortage of lifeboats and the lack of emergency procedures. According to the History Channel, less than 800 people survived. Most of them were either women and children. A number of notable American and British citizens died in the tragedy, including the renowned British journalist William Thomas Stead and heirs to the Straus, Astor, and Guggenheim fortunes. Edward John Smith, the captain of the RMS Titanic, died as well when the ship sank on its maiden voyage. His body was never found nor half of his crew.

Katerine Chung Chen

# THE EARTH SHOOK, THE SKY BURNED, AND THE BLOOD DRAINED

"In every direction from the ferry building flames were seething, and as I stood there, a five-story building half a block away fell with a crash, and the flames swept clear across Market Street and caught a new fireproof building."

"There was a thin column of smoke rising slowly up into the sky, high up into the sky. We tried to rescue people but the heat of the flames pushed us back."

"Kissed my mother good night and she said, 'Be sure you say your prayers before you go to bed.' Little did I know, at that moment, that I would never see my family again."

This were words of the few survivors of the horrific event of April 18, 1906. This year, 2017, marks the 111th anniversary of the Greatest Earthquake and fire of San Francisco. At 5:12 a.m. San Francisco was struck with an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 that cause more than 3,000 deaths and destroyed about 80% of the city. The earthquake only lasted less than a minute, but its immediate impact was disastrous. It ignited several fires around the city that burned for three days and destroyed nearly 500 city blocks. This event is remembered as one of the worst and deadliest natural disaster in the history of the United States. Even though the greatest impact of the earthquake was only in San Francisco, it also inflicted considerable damage on several other cities. These include San Jose and Santa Rosa, the entire downtown of which was essentially destroyed.

So far, there were about 375 deaths reported, partly because hundreds of fatalities in Chinatown were either ignored or unrecorded. Till the day of today, the total amount of death is still unclear, but there's an estimate of 3,000 death. According to records, most of the deaths were from San Francisco, but about 189 were reported elsewhere in the Bay Area. Out of a population of 410,000, between 227,000 and 300,000 people were left homeless. Neighborhood like the Golden Gate Park, the Presidio, the Panhandle, and beaches between Ingleside and North Beach were full of tents.

As damaging as the earthquake and its aftershocks were, the fires that broke out were even more destructive. Leaving San Francisco's brick buildings and wooden Victorian structures totally devastated. It has been estimated that up to 90% of the total destruction was the result of the subsequent fires. Within just three days, there were over 30 fires caused by ruptured gas mains that destroyed approximately 25,000 buildings on 490 city blocks.

Here's an interesting fact, one of the largest of these fires was accidentally started in a house on Hayes Street by a woman making breakfast for her family. This came to be known as the "Ham and Eggs Fire".

*Katherine Chung Chen*

# Stay Away from Your Electronics for Once !

The month of April is perhaps the most celebrative of literature and written works. It is the National Turn Off the TV, Read Month, and also the National Poetry Month.

The second week of April is National Library Week, dedicated to our forgotten treasures. We often forget the beautiful qualities of the safe space of a library. One of our most valuable and yet least appreciated treasures are libraries. With the technology market booming, it is more convenient for young readers to read and find books online. That means that the actual visits to libraries are declining and visits to Amazon and Kindle stores are rising. Other than English class, a lot of youth are keen carrying around paper books, let alone reading frequently.

Dovetailing with its second week is one of the many themes of the month itself: Turn Off the TV and Read. This spring, try to spend less screen time and more book time. Immerse yourself in a fictional world or inform yourself on current events with a newspaper or magazine. For example, the one you're reading now! We still recommend you to tune in for our weekly show, though.

The month of April celebrates not only prose, but also poem. A perfect way to celebrate National Poetry month is to attend a local poetry slam at Youth Speaks in our very own San Francisco. Maybe you'll even feel inspired to write your own poetry.

*Jarvis Lee*

# Write it All

Writing? Why is that important? I know my staff dreads the moment I assign them more articles. Yes, writing long essays may be a drag now, but listen, it has its benefits. Take Encourage a Young Writer Day for example, it's a day dedicated to inspiring youth to write. On this day, we shine the light on this tedious task of writing. As great as it is to commend adults for typing up their reports and praising them for doing what they're paid for, it's even better to applaud the youngsters that are writing.

Here's a problem that we all encounter when trying to write—writer's block. I've actually heard that the best way of getting over a writer's block is to keep writing. Similar to artists not knowing what to draw sometimes, great writers don't always know what to write about. So, remember to be patient with your fellow young people and suggest a topic if they're having trouble figuring their next award-winning piece.

Just like Dory who wants you to keep swimming, I want you all to keep writing. You are young. You have years ahead of you. Make up silly three-line poems. Write love letters. Start your memoir. Life is all about habit. You start young, and you will continue to the day you die. Although Encourage a Young Writer Day only falls on one day, there's no reason you shouldn't spur a child's love for writing any other day of the year.

- YONGLIN CHEN, EDITOR IN CHIEF

# PHOTO SOURCES

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### **Tax**

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### **Easter**

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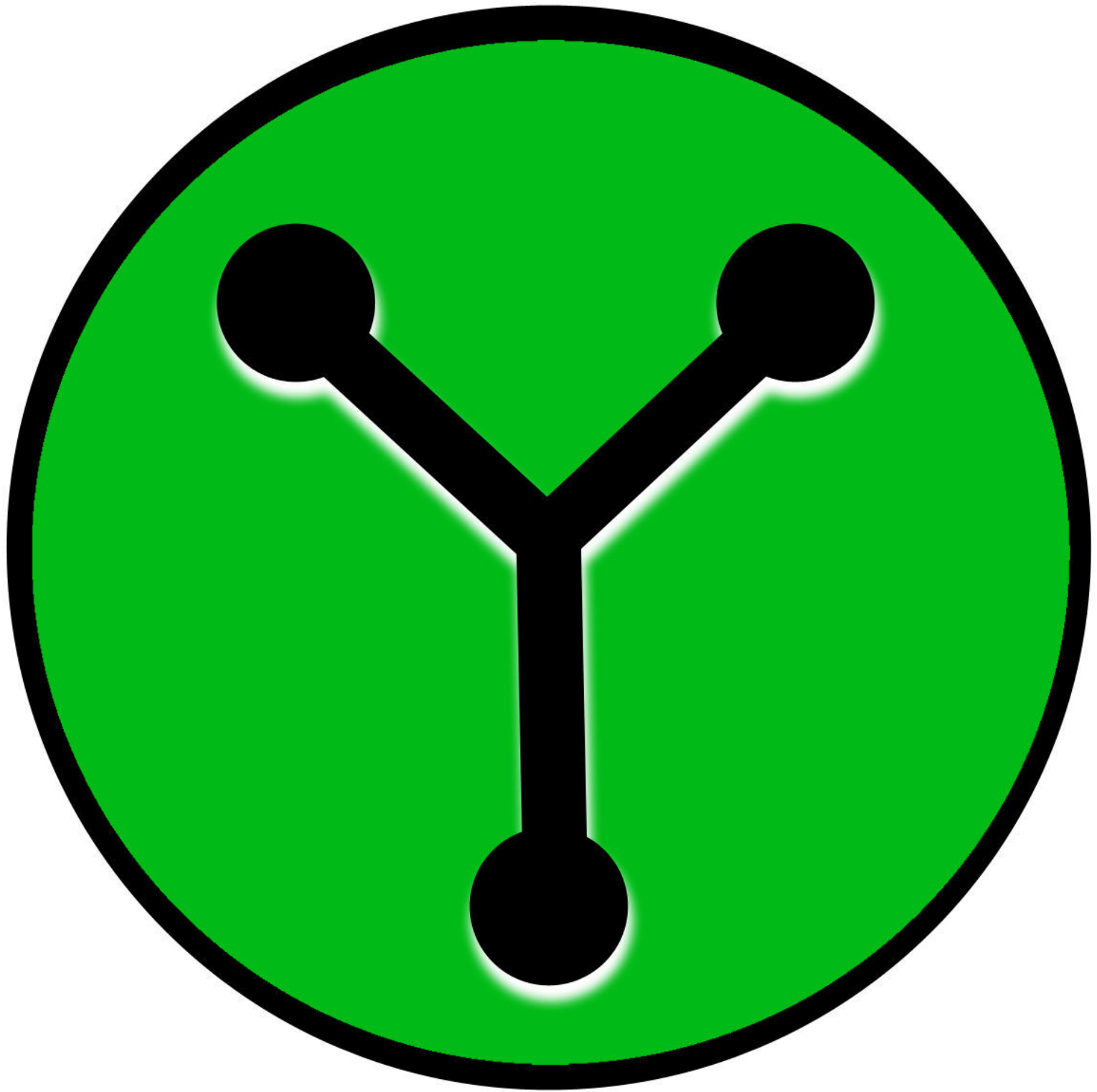
### **All About Literature**

<https://static.pexels.com/photos/88734/pexels-photo-88734.jpeg>

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THE SCOOP



YOUTHLINE