

# MILLENNIUM VOICE

“Tell me and I forget; teach me and I remember; involve me and I learn.” Ben Franklin

## **Sculpting Today’s Artists, by Michael Perez**



**Shailene Segura, Foliage**

Recently, our school had the privilege of hosting our Winter Art and Talent show, and within the art show, 14 of the pieces of student art showcased were honored with National Scholastic recognitions! Dalia Perez was awarded a Gold Key for a piece titled “Awareness.” Three of our students were awarded Silver Keys: Angel Cruz for “Like Father Like Son,” and Shailene Segura for “Reality” and “Hanging.”

Many of our students also received Honorable Mentions: Dalia Perez, Edwin Morales (2), Shailene Segura, Tiffany Stewart (4), Andrew Whyte, and Chantanae Wilkerson. Gold Key winner Dalia Perez

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# Millennium News

Everyone is talking about the new NYC DOE cell phone policy. On this page and pages 3 and 4, you will find important documents, including the Parent Consent Form.

## **SCHOOL BASED POLICY OF MILLENNIUM ART ACADEMY FOR USE OF CELL PHONES, COMPUTING DEVICES, PORTABLE MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEMS, AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

Starting March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 students are permitted to bring the following electronic items to school: 1) cell phones; 2) laptops, tablets, iPads and other similar computing devices; and 3) portable music and entertainment systems, such as iPods, MP3 players, PSP, and Nintendo DS.

### **A. Cell phones, computing devices, portable music, entertainment systems, or any other electronic device may be used as set forth below:**

#### During the school day:

- Cell phones, computing devices, portable music, entertainment systems, or any other electronic device must be collected by the school when students enter the school building and stored in a designated location until the **END** of the each students' school day.
- No device will be returned until the end of the student's school day unless the student has parental permission to leave early, and this is confirmed by the school via a telephone conversation with parent or guardian.

#### During after-school, weekend-school, and school-sponsored programs or activities:

- Cell phones, computing devices, portable music, entertainment systems, or any other electronic device may not be turned on or used while on school property.

### **B. Shared space in campus schools**

- Cell phones, computing devices, portable music, entertainment systems, or any other electronic device may not be turned on or used while on school property.

### **C. The use of cell phones, computing devices, portable music, entertainment systems, or any other electronic device at school is subject to the conditions below.**

1. Students who use cell phones, computing devices, and/or portable music and entertainment systems in violation of any provision of the DOE's Discipline Code, the school's policy, Chancellor's regulation A-413, and/or the DOE's Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy (IAUSP) will be subject to discipline accordance with the guidance interventions and disciplinary responses set forth in the Discipline Code.

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### **D. Confiscation and return of electronic items**

Students who: 1) Do not turn in cell phones, computing devices, portable music, entertainment systems, and all other electronic devices to be stored; 2) Are found to be violating the school base policy; 3) Are disrespectful to school staff concerning collecting, holding, and redistribution of cell phones, computing devices, portable music, entertainment systems, and all other electronic devices may face the following measures (not necessarily in this order, depending on the nature of the violation):

- Confiscation of item and return at the end of day
- Confiscation of item and returned following parent conference
- Suspension of privilege to bring item to school
- Revocation of privilege to bring item to school

### **E. Miscellaneous**

- Millennium Art Academy is not responsible or liable for any missing, misplaced, lost, stolen, or damaged device.
- All students who are on time in the morning will have access to the VIP line to store and retrieve their devices.
- Students who come in late (because of the collection of their device) will be interfering with the staff work day. As such, if this occurs 3 times or more in a given month, the parent or guardians may be required to come in order to retrieve the device.
- All devices will be returned immediately following the school day. This will continue for 20 minutes after the school day has ended.
- Any electronic recordings are explicitly not allowed in order to protect student and staff privacy.



## Parent consent form

## MAA Introduces Zonta International

## Montefiore Free Clinic Opens On Stevenson Campus

Millennium Art Academy is happy to announce our partnership with the Montefiore School Health Program. The health center provides students with emergency care and first aid for minor injuries, physical exams for school, sports or working papers, confidential mental health counseling and stress reduction, immunizations, asthma care, and much more. The clinic will be open during school hours. Students do NOT need to be insured to be seen at the clinic. However, the clinic must have a parents' consent before a child can be seen or treated at the clinic. Consent forms are available in the main office.

Should you have any questions feel free to contact Ms. Melendez or Ms. Pozo in the main office or at 718-824-0978.

## Maha Shivratri

by Diana Roopnaraine

Have you ever thought about not eating meat, fish, or eggs for a whole nine days? Well, this Hindu holiday is called Maha Shivratri . It was on February 17 this year. This holiday is different from other Indian holidays. Each Indian holiday has its own religious service, rituals, and food. During Maha Shivratri, we bathe twice before going to church to do a Shiva puja, which is a special type of prayer.

Maha Shivratri is also a great festival celebrating Shiva and Shakti, two of the most important Hindu deities. Both the North and South Indians celebrate it on the same day.

The picture below shows Lord Shiva, the destroyer of all evil. Devotees of Lord Shiva observe the Shivaratri Festival by following the prescribed rituals with sincerity and devotion. All through the day, devotees abstain from eating food and break their fast only the next morning, after the nightlong worship. Ritual bathing of Shivalinga in the numerous Shiva temples by Shiva worshippers, mainly women, is another significant feature of Shivratri customs and traditions. Devotees strongly believe that ritual worship of Lord Shiva on the auspicious day of Shivaratri blesses them and absolves them of past sins.

In the second picture, Shiva wants us Hindus to do a big celebration on his day, and pray to him to let him destroy all the bad in people, take out the bad luck and change it to good luck , and prevent people from doing

Millennium Art Academy is proud to introduce Zonta International "Z Club." The Z Club is an all girls' youth group organization which provides opportunities for our youth to develop leadership skills, explore career alternatives, and improve international understanding through service projects and advocacy. Young people are given an opportunity to interact and work together with experienced Zonta sponsors to better their society and the world by gaining an understanding of their school and community and by developing an international awareness.

To sign up for the Z Club see Mr. Guy in room 190 at lunchtime.



change it to good luck , and prevent people from doing horrible things.

Lord Shiva is important to us because he created our world; we pray to him to ask for blessings. During Maha Shivratri my family and I go to church, sing, and talk about how important Lord Shiva is and why. We shower him with petals, feed him, and even put on plays about Lord Shiva, who is played by an actor. These are some of the best plays I've ever seen. Then we ask him to give our blessings and let the evil out of the world.

In conclusion, it's really good to celebrate and learn about new cultures so that way you are prepared about our culture, life, and what we do.

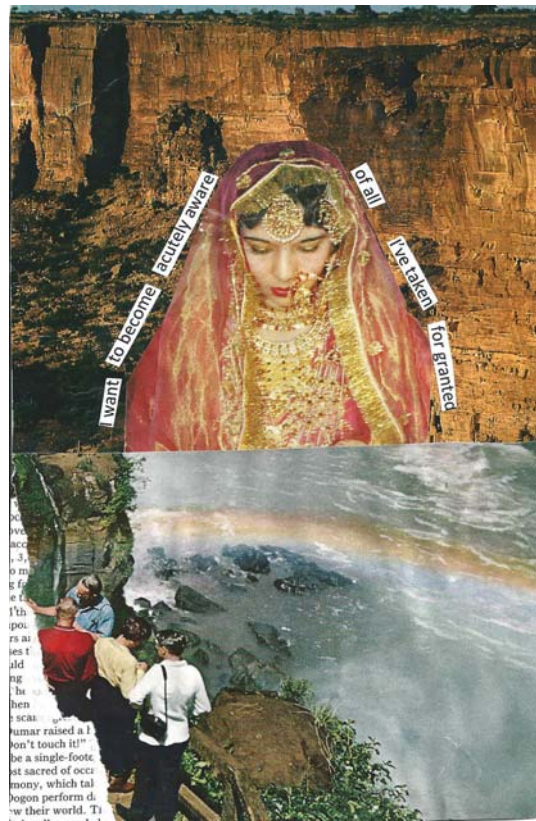
was rewarded with the highest honor of all. Her Gold-Key piece, "Awareness," will be exhibited for two months at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, with the opening reception on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. There will also be a ceremony at the New School on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015, for both the Gold and Silver Key winners. Congratulations to all of the students awarded recognitions! Let us rejoice as a school that we're receiving national attention for our success cultivating students and leading them to their paths of artistic achievement!



**Shailene Segura, Hanging, National Scholastic Silver Key Award**



**Chantanae Wilkerson, Hair, Honorable Mention**



**Dalia Perez, Awareness, winner of the prestigious National Scholastic Gold Key Award**



**Tiffany Stewart, Don't Ask Me Again, Honorable Mention**

## Movie Review: Taken 3 Takes on the World, by Susan Hawkins and Trevor Allen



*Taken 3* is an action/drama film, which is the third and final installment of the movie series. The movie series has been filled with many different conflicts and lots of characters. *Taken 3*, a movie with action-packed drama to start off the new year, was released on January 9th. The story goes: Ex-covert operative Bryan Mills (Liam Neeson) and his ex-wife, Lenore (Famke Janssen), are enjoying a reconciliation when Lenore is brutally murdered. Bryan is framed for the crime and flees, with the CIA and FBI in hot pursuit. For the last time, he channels his rage and particular set of skills into hunting down Lenore's real killers, taking his revenge and protecting the one important person left in his life: his daughter, Kim (Maggie Grace).

This movie is directed by Olivier Megaton, produced by Luc Besson, and the screenplay is by Robert Mark Kamen and Luc Besson. *Taken 3* is a movie that you wouldn't take kids under fifteen to see because of all the shooting and foul language. There are so many reasons to see *Taken 3*. There is so much action and attention-drawing drama, your eyes wouldn't leave the screen. Don't listen to people who say this movie is boring! Go to *Taken 3* and make your own decision!

## Movie Review: The Boy Next Door

By Sydne Warren and Azariah Escobar

*The Boy Next Door* is a 2015 American thriller directed by Rob Cohen and written by Barbara Curry. This film stars Jennifer Lopez, Ryan Guzman, John Corbett, Ian Nelson, and Kristin Chenoweth. Jennifer Lopez plays a high school teacher named Claire who is getting a divorce and has a one-night stand with a younger neighbor, who develops a unsafe obsession with her. The movie received many negative reviews from film critics, but stars Jennifer Lopez as Claire Peterson. *The Boy Next Door* performed well at the box office, grossing over eight times its original budget. In our opinion, this movie has everything you can ask for: romance, suspense, and drama. The film was trying to market toward women and Latinos. Jennifer Lopez made her largest Hispanic press tour to date in Miami promoting *The Boy Next Door*. She hoped that the film would appeal to Hispanic markets, because it featured two Hispanic leads, which she stated may not have been possible if a big studio had produced it. In our opinion *The Boy Next Door* is a movie you can see over and over again and not get bored from it. We recommend it to MAA.



## MAA Art Show, by Andre Ogando

On January 14, 2015, Millennium Art Academy students showcased their award-winning artwork in the semiannual Art and Talent show. Students helped to prepare the walls of the school, spanning from the main hallway, all the way through to the English teachers' area. Students had to cover the walls with blue paper and prepare mounting for all the artwork, in frames or directly on the wall. Advanced portfolio and independent study students in Ms. Blau's class got to create their own "walls" and sections within the show, to highlight their bodies of work. I personally worked on a wall, showcasing my portfolio pieces created for the past four months. Some of the works in the art show recently won recognition in the regional NYC National Scholastic art competition (see the cover story). The students who won Silver and Gold Keys will be celebrated at a ceremony in March at the

New School in Manhattan, and the Gold Key winner will have work displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, March, April, and May.

The night of the Art and Talent show was a huge success! There were a record number of parents and visitors from the community that attended the opening of our exhibition. People even purchased pieces of art from the walls of the school! Many have said that this is the best art show the school has had so far! There was a wide array of materials and styles shown in this exhibit, and students were able to "speak" through their artwork.

Being a part of the art show this January was a personally rewarding experience for me, because I was able to see how much I had improved since last year. I also felt that it was special because I was part of an exhibit that showed how talented the students of MAA really are.

## Video Game Review: Prepare to Evolve

by Tavon Peterson

From the makers of *Left 4 Dead* and *Borderlands* comes *Evolve*, an innovative title pitting four hunters against one monster. The catch is that they are all player-controlled. The hunters are rather self-explanatory. You have the assault, the heavy hitting Powerhouse that brings the pain with mini-guns, flamethrowers, shotguns, and mines. Then there's the trapper, who makes a personal arena and traps the monster. Carrying decent firepower, they also have a variety of tools to track the monster, from sound spikes and tracking darts, to a monster of your own. The medics do more than heal their team; they can open the weak points on the monster with the sniper, slow it down with a tranquilizer gun, and even raise the dead. The support is the most varied of the hunters' abilities, which range from sentry turrets and aerial nukes to rail guns and UAVs. Since they are capable of extreme offense or defense, they can cover for any gaps in the team.

But the star of the show is the monster. You play one of three massive monsters with one goal, destruction. The Goliath is the brute, preferring to smash you into the ground with charges, rocks, and flame breath. The Kraken likes to leave mines and strike from afar with powerful lightning. The Wraith can duplicate and go invisible, preferring to slowly pick you off one by one.

Now there are flaws in the game. Glitches and bugs are few, but the main problem is that there is little content, with only five game modes and no campaign. They do intend to give more content in the future. *Evolve* is currently available for \$60.

## Valentine's Day, by Aiyishia Daugherty

Do you know the history of Valentine's Day? For most people, Valentine's Day is the day to spend time with your significant other and share chocolates in heart-shaped boxes. However, there is more to the Valentine's Day story than that. Formerly known as "St. Valentine's Day," this holiday is named after an early Christian martyr and dates as far back as the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Valentine's Day may have its origins in a Roman holiday, Lupercalia. It's also said that St. Valentine defied the Emperor Claudius by performing marriages for young lovers. When the authorities found out, Claudius sentenced Valentine to death. It's also said that Valentine died helping Christians to escape prison, and that during his own imprisonment, he sent a love letter—the first Valentine greeting—to a young girl he had fallen in love with. The letter was signed "From your Valentine." It is this story that inspired the holiday we know today.





## Fun Facts, by Dominique Singleton

Did you know Nazis were very fond of J.R.R Tolkien, writer of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of The Rings*, even though he wasn't really fond of them? Or how about this: getting a job at the Apple store is much harder than getting accepted to Harvard University. Welcome to Fun Facts; this article will be about random facts about random things you probably didn't know.

To start off, the Nintendo gaming company is 125 years old. It first started off as a card and toy manufacturer of the same name. And the first D-Pad (which is short for "directional pad") was made for a Nintendo game. Developers decided to have a cross shape for easier control on two-dimensional movements. Another Nintendo fact is: have you ever realized that Kirby looks angry in his box art? But that's actually just how he looks in America. In the Japanese box art of Kirby, below left, he doesn't look angry at all. Compare this with the American version, which has angry, arched eyebrows. But honestly, arched eyebrows aren't going to make us forget about Kirby's undeniable adorableness. If you want to know more fun facts about Nintendo just go on Google/Bing and search fun facts about it. One website where you can find fun facts is at [www.mashable.com](http://www.mashable.com).



Another fun fact in popular media is the Oscar statue. Have you ever wondered what is the Oscar statue even supposed to be or who is he even modeled after? Well the Oscar statue is a knight rendered in Art Deco style holding a crusader's sword standing on a reel of film with five spokes. Also it was modeled after actor Emilio "El Indio" Fernandez, who was reluctant at first. Art director Cedric Gibbons, one of the original Academy Members, hired Fernandez to pose for the statue. Want to more know about the Oscars? Go to the Wikipedia page for The Oscars and you will find much more information about the origin.

One last fun fact of the day is that a school in Stockholm, Sweden, makes playing Minecraft a must! The Viktor Ryberg School introduces Minecraft to encourage children to develop their thinking. "It's their world and they enjoy it," said Monica Ekman, a teacher at the school. Wouldn't it be amazing to go to school just to get lessons on how to play video games? I think Principal Guy should consider this.

## Softball Team Prepares for the Spring Season, by Carmen Diaz

"Hustle!" That is just one of the phrases that you hear at softball practice. Mr. Ouimet, the 12th-grade English teacher at Millennium, leads the softball team. As a softball player, I can tell you that he is one of the most hard-working coaches that I have ever had. He makes every minute of our practices count. He works with everyone, as long as they are putting in effort. He is very committed to the team. He consistently guides us and gives us advice about things we should do. He is a wonderful coach who cares about individual players as well as the team.

During practice, there is mainly a lot of running. It's all about paying attention and working hard. We catch, we throw, and we bat. But it's not just basic throws and batting! He challenges us, he makes us work for that ball with certain drills. We always start out practices by stretching and running for a certain amount of time. Then, depending on the day, we do drills like ground balls, overhand throwing, or batting. The main key to being a part of the team is being able to work hard in these practices. The girls will always treat you with respect. They will give you advice and always cheer you on at practices. There are many girls at these practices who have a good sense of humor and will automatically welcome you to the team.

Come to one of our practices and see for yourself how fun the experience can be and if you do come be ready to work hard!

## Valentine's Day Dance, by Diana Roopnaraine

On February 13 2015, the PBIS held a Valentine's Day dance for grades 9-12. There were lots of snacks, drinks, friends, and mostly couples. We had fun dancing to the top songs that we all love to dance to, like the Cupid Shuffle, Danza Kuduro by Don Omar, and many hit songs. There was a doughnut eating contest and Erica Perez and I watched Kellie Ortiz and cheered her on. Eleventh-grader Alicea Joseph won this difficult contest, and we all congratulated her. After that, it was time for the couple's dance, and then the Best Couple and Cutest Couple contests. The winners for Cutest Couple were Anthony and Angie, and the winners for Best Couple were Nahidur Rhaman and Ashley. This dance was the best dance I've been to—it's great to have a good time and see others having a good time. Before we left, we had one last dance. Ms. Pozo was enjoying herself and we all danced together. I will never forget that awesome night!

# Poets' Corner

## Love, by Crystal Miranda

I'm so happy now I don't feel alone any more  
I'm happy when you are around  
I can't believe I found love I'm finally happy  
I'm feeling complete, no one is perfect but to me  
you are  
You are the sun that shines in the day  
You brighten up my sky in the night,  
but yet love is like a battlefield you try to protect  
the one you love from anyone else



**Unknown**  
by Deja Juarbe

## Hurt, by Susan Hawkins

Heart in pieces  
Mind is scrambled  
Who am I?  
Being everywhere but nowhere  
Being without you is right, but wrong in my mind  
My life, soul, and mind? GONE!  
Where am I?  
Seeing you happy, makes me happy . . . not really  
Seeing you smile, and it's not me  
And I'm not jealous, I'm not.  
I just want everything back  
I can't handle seeing you  
I love you  
I miss you  
I need you  
I want you  
Where are you?  
In another girl's arms, instead of mine.



**Character Shaming**  
by Aiyishia Daugherty

**Millennium Voice Staff**  
**Millennium Voice Staff**  
Ms. Imman, Advisor

**Trevor Allen**

**Nahidur Rhaman**

**Aiyishia Daugherty**

**Diana Roopnaraine**

**Carmen Diaz**

**Dominique Singleton**

**Azariah Escobar**

**Sydne Warren**

**Susan Hawkins**

**Cameron Williams**

**Crystal Miranda**

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