2025-2026 SY

Thorntonian

Issue #8

The Official Newspaper of T.F. North High School

December 16, 2025

Anahi Martinez, Editor-In-Chief

My Last Christmas As A Kid

EDITORIAL

This Christmas is unlike any other normal Christmas, and I'm sure that most seniors can agree. This year, something changed. It's our last year before we officially grow up. This Christmas, I'm stuck between the adult I am becoming and the kid I once was. The weather is colder, the lights are dimmer, and the tree is shorter than I remember. As the year approaches its end, the thought that there is no "next year" anymore becomes more frequent. The realization that every memory we create is now just a moment we won't be able to get back. There have been countless times throughout the year when I find myself experiencing something for the very last time, and I stand there thinking about how we won't all be in the same place like this again. The anticipation I once felt as a kid awaiting Christmas is similar to the anticipation I feel about my impending adulthood. I am no longer the child asking Santa for Littlest Pet Shops or video games; no, now I am the young adult looking up gift ideas for incoming college students. The letters I used to write to Santa have turned into letters to colleges. Every year around this time, I feel a sense of hiraeth, and I wish Christmas felt the same as when I was a little kid. I remember saying things like "I can't wait to grow up," which I now recognize as one of the dumbest things I could have ever said. As a senior, it's completely normal to feel this way, especially as we reflect on the past and prepare to face many life changes. We should be able to acknowledge the sadness, all while focusing on making new memories and enjoying the remaining time we have left with one another here at T.F. North.



The seven newest SHS inductees include America Lopez, Roxanna Araujo, Diana Coronado, Kimberly Hernandez, Ariadne Cervantes, Evelin Ulloa, and Benjamin Perez

Story and photo by Jaylani Sanchez, Staff Reporter

Newest inductees join Spanish Honor Society

On December 10, the Spanish Honor Society held its annual fall induction ceremony in the upper cafeteria at 5 pm to welcome new members. The new inductees included juniors America Lopez, Diana Coronado, Kimberly Hernandez, sophomore Ariadne Cervantes, and seniors Roxanna Araujo, Evelin Ulloa, and Benjamin Perez. The Spanish Honor Society was founded in 1953 by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. It is a national and international academic honor society for high school students enrolled in Spanish and/or Portuguese classes. These students were honored for showing and proving a deep personal interest in the Spanish language. Jasmine Aguado, a T.F. North graduate from the Class of 2016, inspired the sponsor, Ms. Galvan, to establish a chapter of this society in 2024. Galvan honored her in a sweet, sentimental speech, along with a video of people describing who she was as a person with one word that was put together by the members. Presidents Valeria Meraz and Dalia Morales began the ceremony with welcoming the inductees' families, teachers, and everyone else who were present. Then, secretary Liliana Sanchez gave a short summary of their chapter's namesake, Jasmine Aguado and performed a poem "Bilingue" by Alma Flor Ada. After, Morales began the candle lighting tradition by lighting the first candle, which was shared down to each member. Meraz followed by leading them in reciting the oath. They were then honored with their medal and certificate. Before closing out, Galvan performed a poem called "Un mensaje de tu niña interior" by Selena Rios for all members. The new members expressed their joy in being inducted as SHS members. "I felt very happy and honored. My hard work paid off, and I am excited to see what we can all contribute towards SHS," said Coronado. "It's such a privilege because it is [only] the second year of having this club. As almost one of the firsts, I feel really proud of myself in being able to show my heritage and know my roots more," added Araujo. Galvan expressed her appreciation and pride in her growing group. "There is so much I can say about this group of students. Some, I have known three years and others less, but they make it seem as if it has been forever. Each of these students has impressed me in many ways but more importantly, have had a great impact in our school and community...now that we need it more than ever," said Galvan after the ceremony.



Christmas Cookies
Cris Flores
Need dessert ideas for your holiday party? Take a look at our newest cookie recipe.
page 7

Worst Christmas Songs
Alexa Baker
Check out TFN staff & students' ranking of their least fasvorite songs.
page 9

Gift Wrapping
Florah Dismuke
Struggle with wrapping? Take a look at a step-by-step tutorial to help out this Christmas season.
page 10

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor can be sent to our social media handles or thorntonian@tfd215.org.

I just wanted to express how I enjoyed that in the newspaper, the editors mentioned how holidays are often looked at only for the gifts and how expensive they can be, when not everyone is blessed with that fortune. It's good to spread awareness that not everyone has the same luxury as others might have. Growing up, you realize there will always be people criticizing others for what brands they have or what they can afford, but that shouldn't be a reason to bring anyone down for what they have. Holidays should be about creating memories with those you love and bringing joy to others, not about gifts that don't compare to the value of a person who gives them out of love. People shouldn't be viewed differently because of their financial situation, instead, we should be grateful for another year to celebrate, since some people don't get another Christmas. The newspaper shows a great representation of how we should never judge others for where they come from but for who they are at heart, because that's what holidays are truly about.
Naleny Rosales, sophomore

Thank you Celeste Caballero for sharing your story, "Spreading love for the holidays." I found your story quite relatable, too. Sometimes I, myself, would feel silently judged by the way people look at me when I tell them the small amounts of gifts I received on Christmas Day. So your story did indeed flash a bit of Déjà vu in me. I hope that people can take your story to heart and think twice before making unnecessary comments about the gifts people received on Christmas or about anything else in general. Also, I admire your confidence in sharing this story, as well. I don't know about you, but I struggle a lot with telling people about the truth about myself. So the fact that you were able to do it so flawlessly is something that I'll always admire. I hope, no, I KNOW good things will come your way because there's always a light at the end of the tunnel. I hope you have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Camilia Winburn, sophomore





Upcoming Events

Dec. 22-Jan. 2 Winter Break
Jan. 5 No School Teacher Institute Day
Jan. 6 Classes Resume
Jan. 19 No School MLK Jr. Holiday



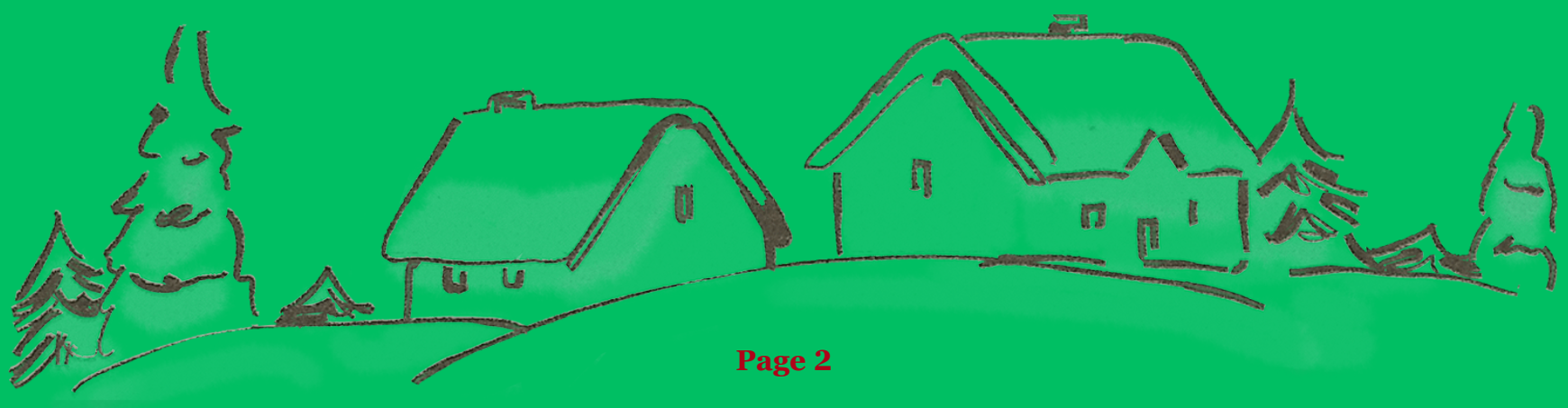
2025-2026
Thorntonian Staff

Staff Reporters:
Monica Aceves
Alexa Baker
Celeste Caballero
Florah Dismuke
Cris Flores
Maritza Gonzalez
Na'Yanna Green
Jaylani Sanchez
Alejandra Vazquez-Nevarez
Malayah Whitted
Amare Wilson

Editorial Board:
Lizbeth Solorio, Jefa de redaccion
Anahi Martinez, Editor-in-Chief

Faculty Advisor:
Mr. Joseph Stephan

Established in 1925, the Thorntonian is produced by the Advanced Journalism students of T.F. North High School. It seeks to provide an open forum for all members of the District 215 community. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of District 215 unless otherwise noted.



T.F. NORTH MINI METEOR PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

NOW ENROLLING: PLAY-BASED, 3-DAY-A-WEEK PRESCHOOL FOR AGES 3–5!

Nov 4th 2025 - May 7th 2026

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:40 AM – 12:15 PM

Wednesdays: 10:05 AM – 11:15 AM

One time payment of $75

Interested?
Scan the QR Code to apply,
or contact Katie Oberman
for any questions.
koberman@tfd215.org
708-585-1091

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

Story by Alejandra Vazquez-Nevarez, Staff Reporter

Senior board visits WonderFest at Navy Pier

On December 13, 2025, the Class of 2026 had the opportunity to participate in the senior trip by going to the Winter WonderFest at Navy Pier that Senior Board planned. The seniors departed from T.F. North at 9:00 am and spent their day at Navy Pier until 4:00 pm. Students were able to pick from two activities in advance. Flyover Chicago was $15, and the Winter WonderFest was $20. Ice skating was offered, but students had to pay at Navy Pier. Students could also shop and walk around if they wanted to. The Flyover Chicago was at a dedicated time of 10:45 am, and students were held in two 35 count groups and a separation time of 15 minutes. Both groups went into a room that instructed what was going to happen, then into a second room which gave the perspective of the lives of many others living in Chicago. It had visuals of the people who built Chicago, and without everyone's differences, Chicago would probably be boring. "The Flyover Chicago ride was such a fun experience. At a glance, it seemed questionable because it was a small space, and I wasn't sure a ride would fit inside. Yet as soon as we entered, it was like walking into a new dimension. It told the story of Chicago through music and beautiful remarks, also while showing the struggles and how every city isn't perfect. It was such a unique way to showcase the different parts of Chicago and embrace every ethnicity. The ride itself was very fun, [with] sharp turns and water splashing. I had the time of my life. I truly felt like I could fly. I really enjoyed it and recommend it to everyone," said senior Isabella Rosales. "Before going on the Flyover Chicago, I already had a high expectation because I've been on something similar in Wisconsin. While it was fun and entertaining, especially watching my friends do something they've never done before, it was also an educational experience for me. Living in a world where you wake up to find negative things on social media that happen in your area, you honestly forget how artistic and historic Chicago is. Just watching the view of Chicago, I remember how beautiful my city is, and how much I've been missing out on, nature-wise," added senior Venicia Guiterez. The other activity that seniors could have done was the Winter WonderFest which consisted of many activities such as ice skating, though students paid before hand the Winter Wonder Fest ice skating was separate for another $10. "The Winter Wonder Fest was a fun event to go to for a senior trip. Being there made me feel like a little kid again, feeling all the joy from being with my friends and trying new things. My favorite part was ice skating and the rides. The ice skating had me laughing so hard as my friends were struggling or actually surprised that they could skate," said Cristina Rios.



Cristina Rios stands smiling with her pair of skates before going on the ice.
Photo Credit: Jaylani Sanchez, Staff Photographer

TFN dance team wins first place in Michigan competition

Story by Malayah Whitted, Staff Reporter

On December 14, 2025, the varsity dance team for T.F. North competed in Grand Rapids, MI at the Dance Team Union Region Competition. There were many emotions going into the competition. A portion of the older girls were yearning over the former dance members who graduated in 2025 but were excited for their first competition of their season. Antanise Williams explained, "I feel nervous, but not at the same time, it kind of feels different doing this competition without the seniors from last year." Additionally, the Captain, Diamond Dean, said, "I always have faith in the team no matter what, but I am a little nervous for everyone as a whole because this is a new team. I always think positively and hope for the best results." The dance team competed in a Hip-Hop category. Their rountine was fast-paced and full of energy. It required good stamina, footwork and organized arm motions. "We dealt with some minor issues such as two dancers not being able to perform. But everyone took good adjustment to the new formation changes last minute," said the Captain. After two months of long practices, the girls were sanguine about this new routine, relying on one another to win. The team finished in 1st place. "I think we did pretty well, but as always, improvements can be and should be made for next time," said My'Iana Qualls.



Back row: Nia White, Malayah Whitted, My'Iana Qualls, Adrianna Davis, Antanise Williams, and Diamond Dean. Front row: Zow Davis and Amiyah Spence.

Story by Na'Yanna Green, Staff Reporter

TFN travel plans over winter break

Junior Idris Adewale is traveling to Columbus, Ohio, for the holidays. He participates in a program that changes locations annually. Idris has some excitement about the new experience, especially due to dealing with colder weather compared to the usual warmer destinations he has traveled to like Florida. Even though he has traveled during various Christmas breaks, he has never been to Ohio. He is looking forward to seeing one of his closest friends in Columbus who attends the university.

Sophomore Ty'anna Anderson is traveling all the way across the U.S.A. to California for the first time during Christmas break. She is excited to see decorations like trees and lights and mentioned that the trip is a family tradition, with the family visiting a different state each year. Ty'anna does not have family in California but is looking forward to experiencing new celebrations and foods.

Ms. Biggs, one of TFN's science teachers, is traveling to Tuscan, Arizona for the holidays to visit family and take part in sightseeing. Unlike Chicago, she adores how Tucson allows outdoor meals and unique decorations like lights on cactuses. The weather in Tucson is ideal for hiking, which is a favorite family activity of hers. This is the farthest Biggs has traveled for the holidays, with her previous trips having been to Florida. She recommends Tucson for its various landscapes, including deserts and mountains.

Junior Kiara Gardner is indecisive on her travel destination for this holiday season, considering either Hawaii or the Dominican Republic. She expresses a desire to experience tropical beaches and is curious about the local holiday heritage, looking for a change from American practices.The trip is most important for her as she has family ties to both locations and wishes to visit Honolulu and Maui Valley. Additionally, they express a desire to contribute to the community by spending money there.

Sophomore Fashawn Lewis is traveling to Jamaica for Christmas and New Year's, which is a tradition of his family's to celebrate out of town. They visited Cancun last year and are going to Jamaica this year to correspond with his brother's birthday on January 5. Fashawn is looking forward to the hot weather. He is also interested to see how they celebrate Christmas in Jamaica as he has not experienced it before. He considers the time spent to connect with his family as special, and their favorite travel destination for Christmas has been Mexico so far.

Senior Jimarian Graham is planning his first holiday trip out of town, to Cancun, Mexico. He is excited to experience different holiday traditions and weather, but is also nervous about the long flight and hopes for pleasant interactions with the locals. Jimarian is looking forward to trying traditional foods and seeing the main attractions for himself, rather than hearing about them from the opinions of others. He wishes to have many new experiences with the rest of his family.

Ms. Murawski is planning to travel to Cabo, Mexico, for the holiday season, joining her boyfriend and his friend for a tradition they've maintained for the past decade. The trip is special because it is her first major trip with her new boyfriend and includes activities like boating and socializing. Murawski is particularly excited about attending the Art Fair in San Jose, which showcases local artists and cuisine, creating an active street party. While it's not a traditional holiday practice, her holiday tradition is to travel to warm destinations to escape the cold temperatures here at home.

Junior Levar Johnson is traveling to Virginia to visit family. He expresses his excitement about seeing family members, including aunts, a sister, nieces, and nephews, and looks forward to experiencing Virginia's local attractions, such as malls, schools, and foods. Levar also enjoys the joy of giving gifts and spending time with his family during the holidays.





Christmas Cookie Recipe



Usually on Christmas night, people like to watch movies, open gifts, or hand out gifts. Something that they probably haven't thought of is making Christmas cookies from scratch. If the family's bored and hungry then making Christmas cookies can be a great activity for everybody. With how simple it is, anyone of any age could make some. All you need to make these cookies are a few household items.



Ingredients:
1 Cup of Unsalted Butter
¾ Cup of Sugar
¼ Teaspoon of Salt
2 Teaspoon of Vanilla
2 Tablespoon of Flour
1 Egg
Chocolate Chips
Sprinkles



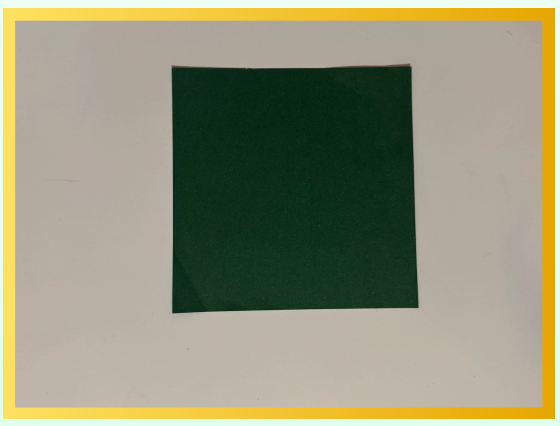


Directions:
Mix butter and sugar until combined
Add egg then mix
Add vanilla then mix
Add salt then mix
Add flour and combine until a soft dough forms
Add your dough into a piping bag
Make a cookie shape with your dough onto your tray
Let your batch bake for about 15 minutes at 350°F
Melt your chocolate chips
Once are out and cool, dip your cookie halfway in chocolate
Add sprinkles onto the chocolate area
Let your chocolate cool and harden, then enjoy!

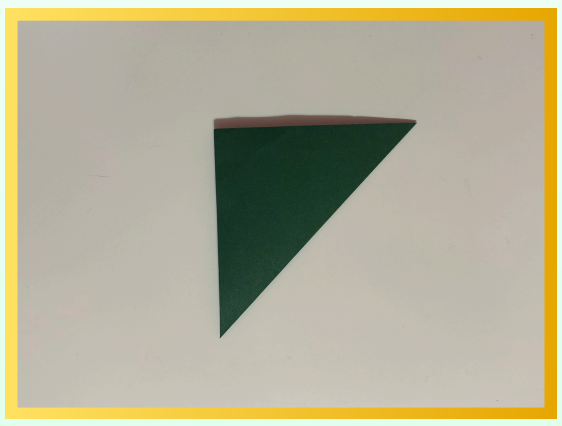
Origami Crafts for the Holidays

There's nothing better than to do some fun origami crafts for the most festive time of the year, Christmas. Fold your way into the holiday with these 2 simple and easy origami ornaments:

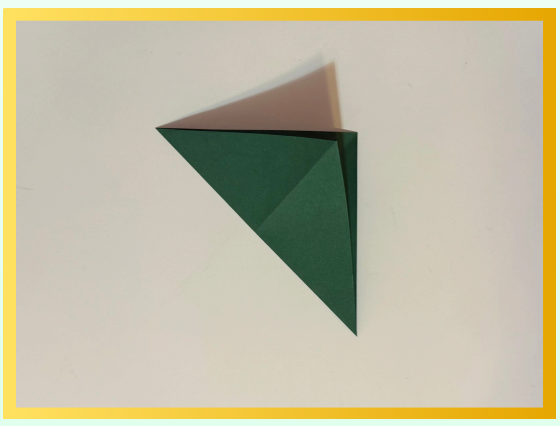
Fluted Diamond Ornament



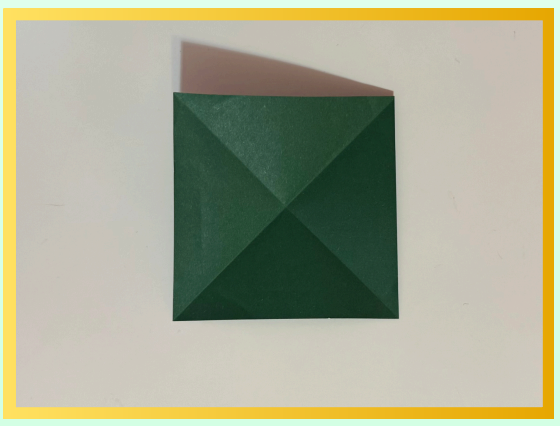
Step 1: Start with a 6x6 (or any square) sheet of paper.



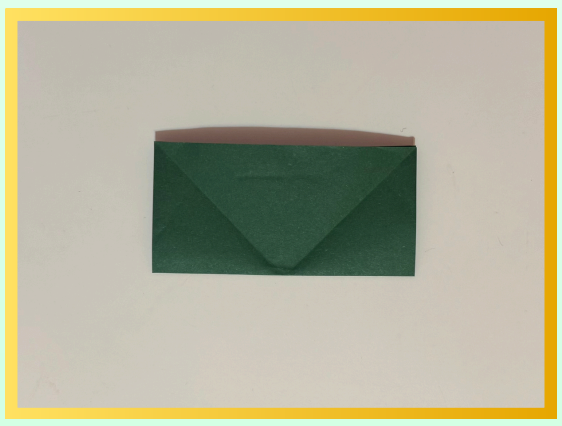
Step 2: Fold from one corner to the other.



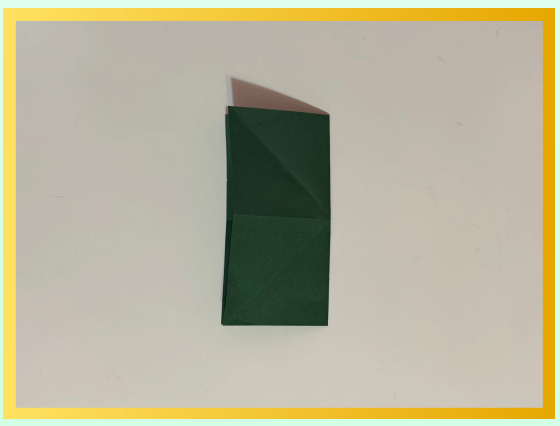
Step 3: Unfold it and fold it on the other side.



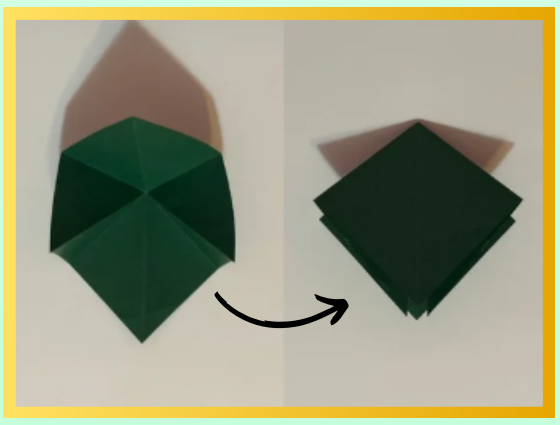
Step 4: Unfold.



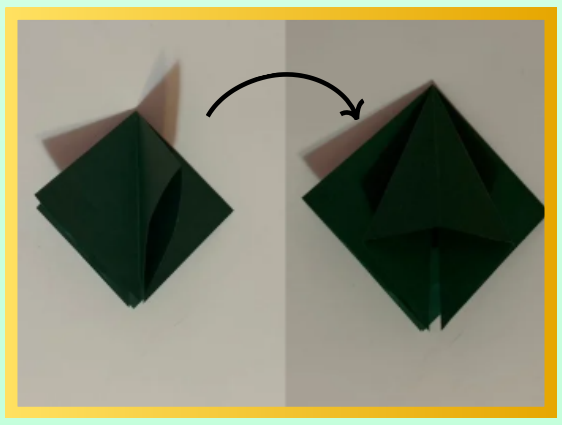
Step 5: Fold it in half then unfold.



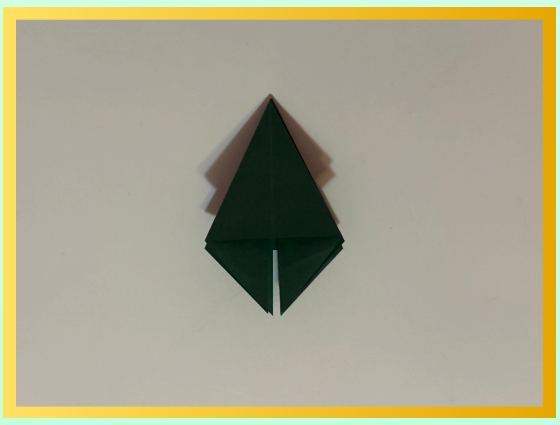
Step 6: Fold it the other way then unfold again.



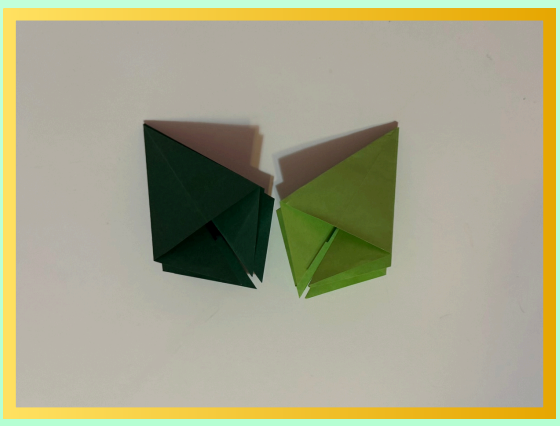
Step 7: Gently lift the sides and fold it towards you. It should look like a wide diamond like in the photo.



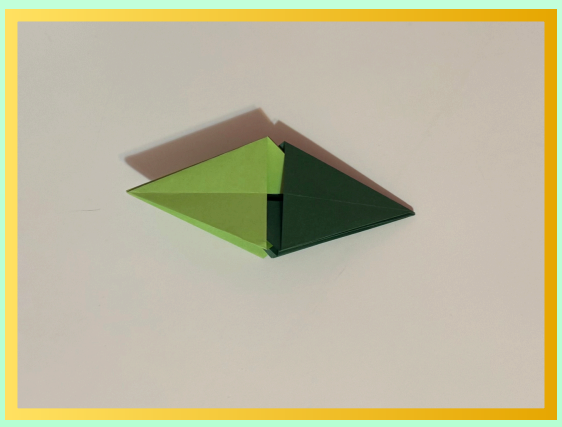
Step 8: Lift one layer from the left side and press it down. The top layer should look like a kite.



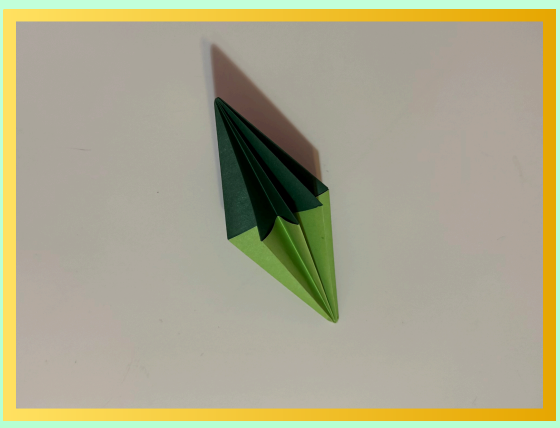
Step 9: Flip the right half of the kite and repeat step 7 on every layer.



Step 10: Repeat steps 1 to 8 on a separate sheet of paper.

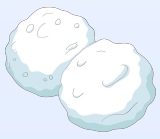


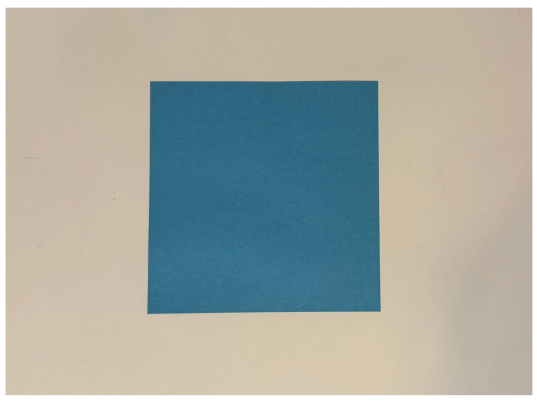
Step 11: Take the two sides and put them together by tucking in the flaps from one side into the other's pockets.



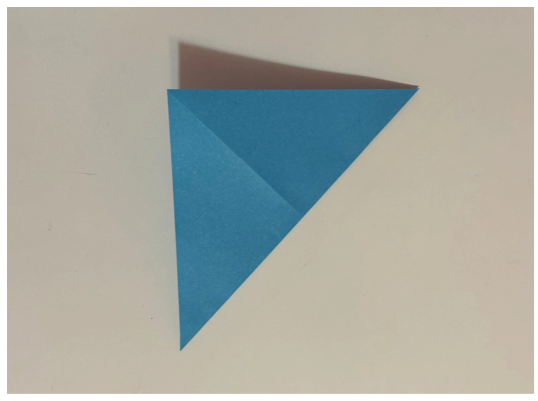
Step 12: Once they're all in place, you're finished.

Origami Craft for the Holidays Part 2: Snowball Diamond Ornament

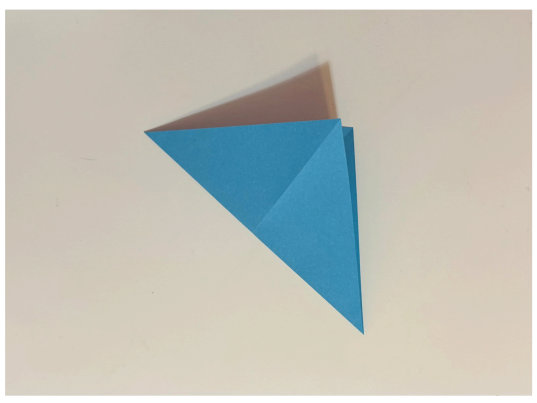




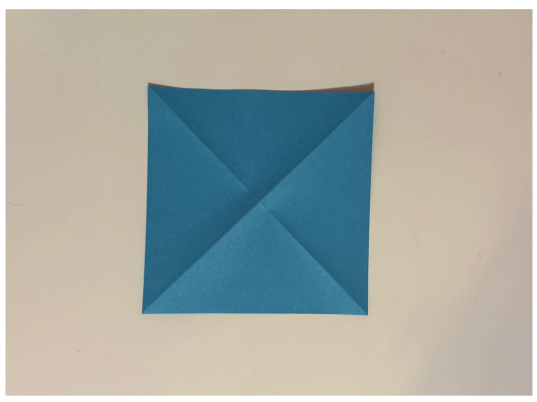
Step 1: Start with a 6" x 6" (or any square) sheet of paper.



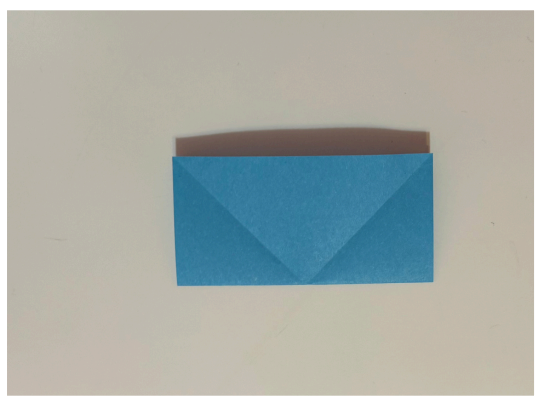
Step 2: Fold from one corner to the other.



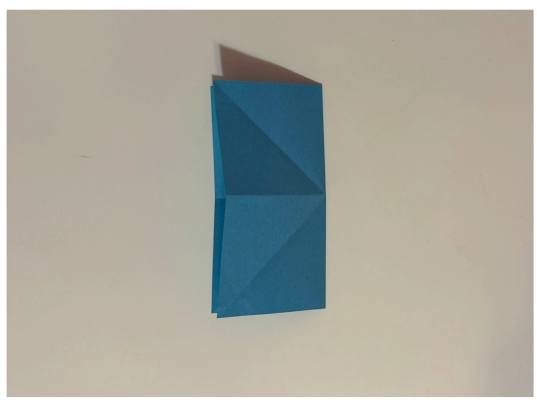
Step 3: Unfold it and fold it on the other side.



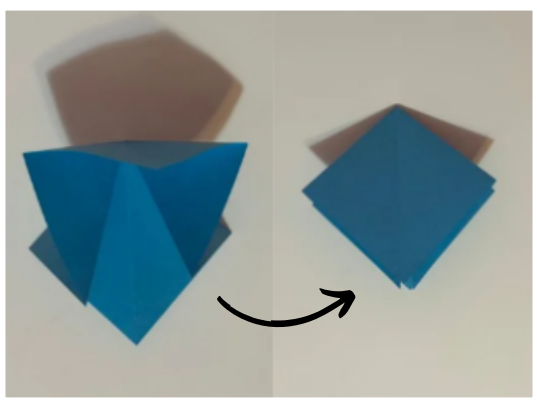
Step 4: Unfold.



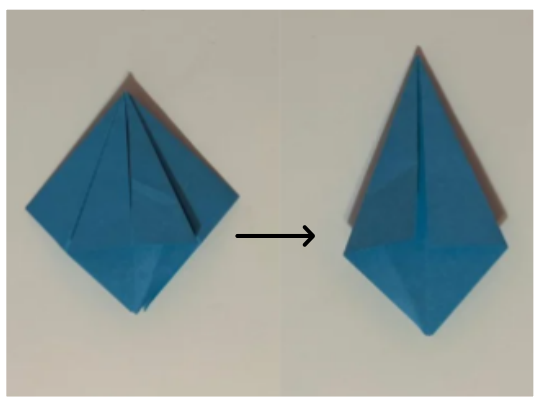
Step 5: Fold it in half then unfold.



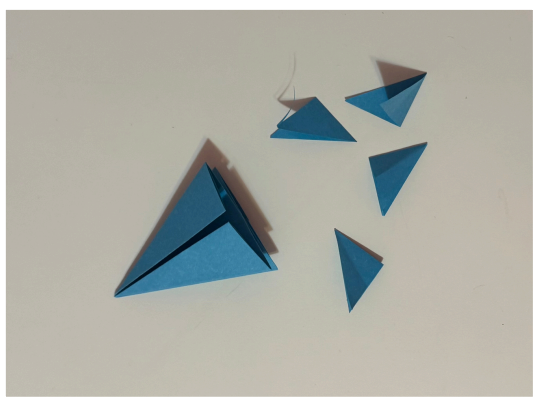
Step 6: Fold it the other way then unfold again.



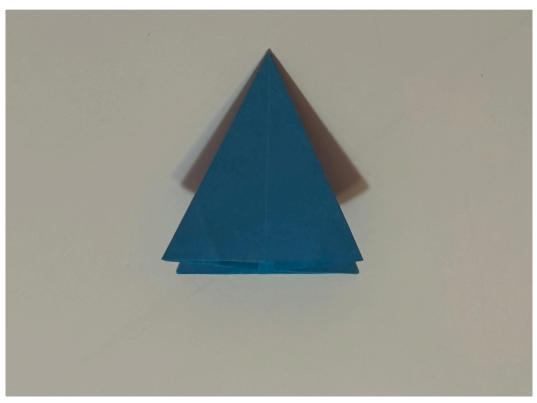
Step 7: Gently lift the sides and fold it toward you. It should look like a wide diamond like in the photo.



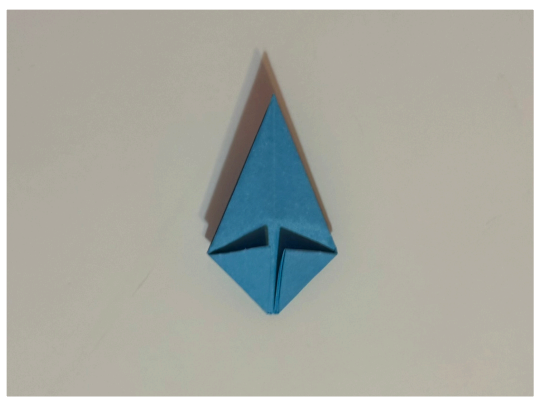
Step 8: Turn it so the opened side is facing toward you and fold the left and right side of the flap like so. The do it again on the back side.



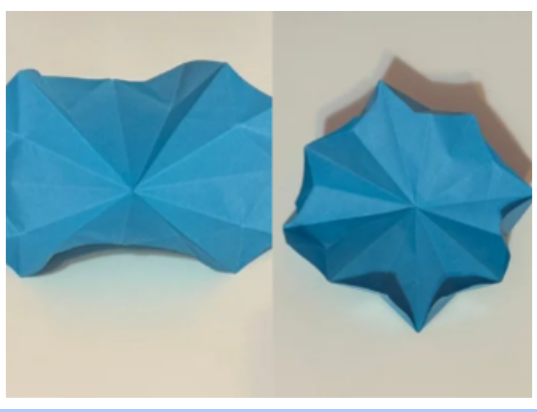
Step 9: Cut off the end.



Step 10: flip the right side flap over.



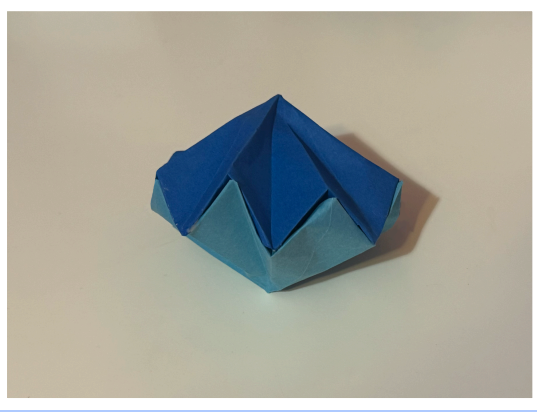
Step 11: fold the corners.



Step 12: Unfold the fold the corners inward.



Step 13: Repeat the steps from above so you'd have the other side of the ornament.



Step 14: Put glue on the corner parts that you folded inward and glue the two sides together. Then you're finished.

What is your LEAST favorite Christmas song?

"I really don't like 'All I Want for Christmas Is You' because it's just so overused, and they play it every year," said freshman Treasure Oyekunle.



"I don't like 'Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer' because it's just an annoying song. It's a little catchy, but not in a good way. It's not loveable," said Mr. Longo.



"I don't like 'All I Want for Christmas Is You' because Mariah Carrey yells too much in the beginning," said sophomore Jason Sharp.



"I'm gonna say 'All I Want for Christmas is You' because it's so overplayed, and I don't like the singer," said junior Saul Raygoza.



"I hate 'All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth' because I feel like it's really annoying," said senior Kayla Warren.



"I hate 'Christmas Don't Be Late' by Alvin and the Chipmunks. That song is so annoying," said senior Venicia Gutierrez.



"I don't have a least favorite Christmas song, because I mean, who does, right? But I do hate Chris Brown's version of 'This Christmas.' He has too many riffs, and the original just sounds better and feels better. His version just agitates me,"
said Ms. Emerson.



"When I was a kid, we used to have to sing at church, and I hate singing in front of people–and the song we had to sing when I was in Sunday School was 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas,' and I hate that song with all of my soul,"
said Ms. Isberg.



"I don't like 'Carol of the Bells' since it scared me so bad as a kid," said freshman Justice Pointer.



PRACTICE GIFT WRAPPING *with me!*

Do you also struggle with wrapping gifts for Christmas? Don't worry because you are not alone! Come practice gift wrapping with me with a quick, easy step-by-step tutorial on wrapping gifts for this holiday season:



Step 1: Place the gift in a box and position it in the middle of your wrapping paper.



Step 2: Bring one side of the paper over the box to estimate how much you need.



Step 3: Bring the other side of the paper over box and tape it over.



Step 4: Fold and tape the top part of the paper down.



Step 5: Fold and tape the bottom part of the paper over the top part.



Step 6: Fold the triangular corners of the wrapping paper over the top and bottom part and do the same thing on the other side.



Step 7: After you repeat step 6 for the other side, flip your gift over and you're done!



HOLIDAY WATCHLIST

CURATED BY ANAHI MARTINEZ, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

1



2



3



4



5



Email your suggestions for our watchlists to thorntonian@tfd215.org.

Be sure to use your school email address and include your first and last names and your grade. Adding your Instagram handle is optional. Only school-appropriate suggestions will be accepted.

Advertisement



December Spirit Week



12/15-12/19

Monday: Jolly Jammies



Come to school cozy and festive! Rock your favorite Christmas PJ's - or any comfy pajamas. Stay warm, stay cute!



Tuesday: Movie Magie

Dress up as your favorite character from any Christmas movie - classic, funny, or festive. Show off your look!

Wednesday: Fa-La-Lannel



Come festive by wearing your favorite flannel. Winter vibes, warm fits, and holiday spirit all in one!



Thursday: Ugly Sweater

Wear your funniest, wildest, or most over-the-top holiday sweater and show off your festive spirit

Friday: Holiday Colors



Show your class spirit! Staff - Black, Seniors - Gold, Juniors - Green, Sophomore - Red, Freshmen - White

Happy Holidays

Story by Celeste Caballero, Staff Reporter

Students learn to process grief with help from Ms. Chavez

Grief is love with no space to go. It sits inside your mind and heart, rewiring the person you once used to be. People go through losing someone, but losing a parent/parental figure can be harder than most. It causes shut downs in people and can make students lose focus in school. Being a student who struggles with grief, my grief group at the school really helps me out. The parent grief group is run by our social worker, Ms. Chavez, who is incredibly engaged with the students and gives them more than enough support. Many students go for support and comfort, which is provided and offered to those students who are in need. “For me, personally, the grief group has definitely changed the way I cope. When I first joined, I was very quiet and every time my dead parent would be brought up, I wouldn’t take the conversation very well. I feel like now I am more open and accepting of telling people and expressing myself to others. Ms. Chavez is amazing, and I go to her more than most. She helps students in any way she can, either with methods, talks, [or] candy. She will show she cares and her genuine concern for you through anything possible,” shared a student from the group. Ms. Chavez’s impact on the students who go through their grief has a very big influence on the students’ minds. Many students who struggle with grief usually feel very alone, and she created a space where they did not need to feel like that. It really helps students regulate and learn their emotions instead of pushing them away or hiding them. Another student from the group said, “From my experience, it shows you how to cope with bad habits and stuff. With like smoking and drinking, I cut back on that stuff I struggled with. I just feel like it helps with our emotions. Ms. Chavez makes it easier because she is very reliable and she listens and is there.” Other students and I go so we can try to process our grief emotions, progress, and relationships with those around us. Things can get a bit complicated when grieving, and your dynamics with people will change. After losing a parent most of us have become the opposite of ourselves and who we used to be. “It helps me calm down and really think about the stuff I'm doing. Just being with other people in the hallways knowing I see people from group, I know they just like me and what it’s like to lose a parent,” said one of the group’s members. It helps take weight off of ourselves with what we go through. Going through grief at such a young age and having to do school can be hard to manage. Mental health in school is extremely important, and the grief group allows students to express themselves. “Group helps us with stress and trying to understand what has happened with our parents. It just helps us grieve and express our feelings. Ms. Chavez is always there for you and will keep it real with you, or just be there to comfort you,” said another student. There are so many different benefits from going to grief group. My favorite are the connections that are built. Students bond because we all know the struggle, and we aren’t here to judge. The connections help you understand your grief on a different level than having to go through it alone. Another student added, “I think the grief group affects the students who go and participate. I am a student who participates, and it has gotten me more comfortable. For kids who don’t like therapy and talking one-on-one with someone, others listen to the stories we share that can be relatable to each other. And it gives us the opportunity and idea that you can communicate with what you go through. I love that Ms. Chavez does group for us. She is like a superhero for these kids, and she understands. She knows what it is like even when she had both of her parents. She has been there since day one. As much as she is here for us, we are here for her, too, because she knows what it is like as well.” Hearing the other students' stories about our parents can be relatable. I realized that not all of us talk about the harder things in life like death. I understand it’s deep, but it is real. Many, many people worldwide go through grief. Whether it is a family member, friend, or pet. We are taught the different grief types and how it affects us because it isn’t just one emotion or feeling. Grief has no time limit or age on it. Anyone can experience loss in many ways. There are things such as grief bursts which are just random outbursts that can be caused by very simple things that you wouldn’t even think would be connected. Being in a grief group makes it less lonely. Another anonymous student said, “Grief groups have an impact on students such as myself, very positively. It helps us open up and talk about how we really feel. It lets us know that we aren’t the only one going through it, and that we have a community. Ms. Chavez's impact is also very positive. She is a listener and is there when you need her. She takes time out of her [day] and schedules [time] just to be here sitting with us because not many people will do that. Especially with high school kids talking about just what they have been through traumatically. She also touches on key things to help us break down our walls or shells.” When someone can take time out of their day to show up and make it known they are present can make darker times slightly brighter. Having a space to be comfortable with those who are similar to you makes you feel less of an outcast. Everyone processes their grief differently. It's not just students who experience grief. Our staff does too; it comes in all different forms. Knowing someone is going through a similar experience does make it easier. “Grief group affects the TFN population in a positive way. It helps students realize that they are not the only one who has suffered this tragic loss of a parent. The meetings I have gone to over the years, students find strength within each other, even when they have different stories. Just students having each other around one another is a very positive thing,” said Mr. Anaclerio, who has worked with Ms. Chavez supporting students. “It’s been about 12-15 years since Ms. Chavez approached me. She found out my dad passed away when I was in high school, and my older sister had recently passed at the time. She asked me if I would be willing to go to the grief group...The first meeting I walked into the room was completely packed, there was nowhere to sit and it was overwhelming to see that. What she does in those meetings that I have attended is incredible work. She will ask if I can help with students who I have. At the start of each semester, I tell them I had a loss and about the grief group. Students should not fight that battle alone, so I recommend students to her. It must be overwhelming for her sometimes with all the different hard stories, but I know what she does is helping students improve their lives,” added Anaclerio. As a student who had him, when he spoke about his experience and talked about our grief group, it made me feel more connected to the school itself. In our group we do special events together, and we bond over the things that seem hard. It is hard to open up on some things but being together gives us strength. Without Ms. Chavez, we wouldn’t have these opportunities to take care of ourselves. She makes it easier to remember to take care of yourself and your mental health.



Students from Ms. Chavez’s grief group decorated Christmas ornaments at a recent meeting. Photo credit Celeste Caballero

Anahi Martinez, Editora en Jefe

Mi última navidad de niña

EDITORIAL

Esta Navidad es diferente a cualquier otra Navidad normal, y estoy segura de que la mayoría de los estudiantes de último año estarán de acuerdo. Este año, algo cambió. Es nuestro último año antes de convertirnos oficialmente en adultos. Esta Navidad, me encuentro entre la adulta en la que me estoy convirtiendo y la niña que fui. El clima está más frío, las luces brillan menos y el árbol es más pequeño de lo que recuerdo. A medida que el año se acerca a su fin, la idea de que ya no habrá un "próximo año" se vuelve más frecuente. La conciencia de que cada recuerdo que creamos es ahora solo un momento que no podremos recuperar. Ha habido innumerables ocasiones a lo largo del año en las que me he encontrado experimentando algo por última vez, y me quedo pensando en que no volveremos a estar todos juntos en el mismo lugar. La emoción que sentía de niña al esperar la Navidad es similar a la emoción que siento ante mi inminente adultez. Ya no soy la niña que le pedía a Santa Claus juguetes o videojuegos; no, ahora soy la joven adulta que busca ideas de regalos para estudiantes universitarios. Las cartas que solía escribirle a Santa se han convertido en cartas para las universidades. Cada año, por estas fechas, siento una nostalgia profunda y desearía que la Navidad se sintiera igual que cuando era pequeña. Recuerdo haber dicho cosas como "No puedo esperar a crecer", lo cual ahora reconozco como una de las cosas más tontas que pude haber dicho. Como estudiante de último año, es completamente normal sentirse así, especialmente al reflexionar sobre el pasado y prepararnos para enfrentar muchos cambios en la vida. Debemos ser capaces de reconocer la tristeza, al mismo tiempo que nos enfocamos en crear nuevos recuerdos y disfrutar del tiempo que nos queda juntos aquí en T.F. North.



Los siete nuevos miembros incorporados incluyen: America Lopez, Roxanna Araujo, Diana Coronado, Kimberly Hernandez, Ariadne Cervantes, Evelin Ulloa, and Benjamin Perez

Historia y foro de Jaylani Sanchez, reportera

Los nuevos miembros se unen a la Sociedad de Honor Española

El 10 de diciembre, la Sociedad de Honor de Español celebró su ceremonia anual de inducción de otoño en la cafetería superior a las 5 p. m. para dar la bienvenida a los nuevos miembros. Entre los nuevos miembros se encontraban las estudiantes de penúltimo año América López, Diana Coronado, Kimberly Hernández, la estudiante de segundo año Ariadne Cervantes y los estudiantes de último año Roxanna Araujo, Evelin Ulloa y Benjamín Pérez. La Sociedad de Honor de Español fue fundada en 1953 por la Asociación Americana de Profesores de Español y Portugués. Es una sociedad de honor académica nacional e internacional para estudiantes de secundaria matriculados en clases de español y/o portugués. Estos estudiantes fueron reconocidos por demostrar un profundo interés personal en el idioma español. Jasmine Aguado, graduada de T.F. North de la generación de 2016, inspiró a la patrocinadora, la Sra. Galván, a establecer un capítulo de esta sociedad en 2024. Galván la honró con un discurso dulce y emotivo, junto con un video de personas describiéndola como persona con una sola palabra, compilado por los miembros. Las presidentas Valeria Meraz y Dalia Morales dieron la bienvenida a las familias, maestros y demás presentes de los nuevos miembros. Posteriormente, la secretaria Liliana Sánchez ofreció un breve resumen de la figura que dio nombre a su capítulo, Jasmine Aguado, e interpretó el poema "Billín" de Alma Flor Ada. Después, Morales dio inicio a la tradición del encendido de las velas encendiendo la primera vela, que fue compartida entre cada miembro. Meraz los guió en la recitación del juramento. Posteriormente, se les entregó su medalla y certificado. Antes de concluir, Galván interpretó el poema "Un mensaje de tu niña interior" de Selena Ríos para todos los miembros. Los nuevos miembros expresaron su alegría por ser incorporados a SHS. "Me sentí muy feliz y honrada. Mi esfuerzo rindió frutos y estoy emocionada de ver lo que todos podemos aportar a SHS", dijo Coronado. “Es un gran privilegio, ya que es [solo] el segundo año que tenemos este club. Como casi una de las primeras, me siento muy orgullosa de poder mostrar mi herencia y conocer mejor mis raíces”, añadió Araujo. Galván expresó su agradecimiento y orgullo por el crecimiento de su grupo. “Hay mucho que decir sobre este grupo de estudiantes. A algunos los conozco desde hace tres años y a otros menos, pero me hacen sentir como si hubieran pasado siglos. Cada uno de estos estudiantes me ha impresionado de muchas maneras, pero lo más importante es que han tenido un gran impacto en nuestra escuela y comunidad... ahora que lo necesitamos más que nunca”, dijo Galván después de la ceremonia.



Hola Liz, muchas gracias por tu historia. Tu historia la contaste con cada detalle. Qué bonito cómo describes no solo el hecho histórico, sino también lo emocional y lo cultural que rodea a la Virgen de Guadalupe. En mi caso, la Virgen no es gran parte de mis creencias, pero sí ha estado muy presente en mi vida por las personas que me rodean, mis tios, mis abuelos, mi papa incluso ,pero yo casi no. He visto cómo la gente celebra el 12 de diciembre con emocion y amor, le cantan las mañanitas , los peregrinos caminando kilómetros, las familias que se reúnen para agradecer, los altares llenos de flores y veladoras. Incluso en comunidades mas pequeñas, se siente un ambiente de fiesta y de fe. Y justo por eso, esta fecha tiene tanta importancia para méxico. Trae orgullo, esperanza, amor y fe. La Virgen se convierte en un símbolo que abraza a todos creyentes o no dentro de una misma historia y un mismo sentimiento.
Enrique Cruz, senior

Le quiero dar gracias a Lizbeth Solorio por su articulo "La importancia del dia 12 de Diciembre". Esta historia esta muy bonita y informativa. La Virgen de Guadalupe es una persona que impacta mucho mi vida como catolica. Su historia y persona me influye mucho para ser una mujer con valores y respeto. Igualmente yo le rezo mucho a la Virgencita cuando puedo. El 12 de diciembre tiene mucha importancia para los catolicos y tambien creo que es algo importante para los Mexicanos. Es parte de nuestra cultura como catolicos que celebramos la Virgen en este dia con mucho amor y carino. Mucha gente va a misa y le dan una rosa a la Virgen.
Ariadne Cervantes, sophomore

Gracias Liz, por escribir sobre la Virgen. Aprecio que estos temas estén presentes en el periódico de la escuela porque atraen a más personas a nuestra cultura. Yo, en lo personal, no soy alguien muy religioso, pero me gusta mi cultura. Antes, en México, mi familia llevaba una estatua de la Virgen María a la casa y hacían tres misas ahí. Después, la misma estatua seguía su camino para bendecir diferentes casas. Esto ayuda a mucha gente, porque hay personas a las que les da mucha paz saber sobre la Virgencita o verla. Me encanta que el día 12 las personas puedan acercarse un poco más a sus tradiciones y creencias. Por último, gracias otra vez por escribir palabras tan bonitas y atraer a más gente a nuestra cultura. Feliz tarde, noche o mañana.
Michael Barbosa, junior

Gracias a Lizbeth Solorio por este texto y tambien a las personas que hacen el periodico y a las que se dan el tiempo de traducirlo a Español para que nosotros lo podamos leer, reaccionando al texto, no soy creyente de los santos pero soy mexicana y veo a la virgen de la guadalupe como un simbolo de representacion a la cultura mexicana y igual creci viendo como la gente la celebraba y veo que tiene gran importancia en la vida de muchas personas. me despido con otro cordial agradecimiento.
Kimberly Hernandez Valdez, senior

Gracias Liz, por compartir esta historia tan bonita sobre la Virgen de Guadalupe. Me gusto como explicaste su importancia para la cultura y la fe de muchas personas. Yo si celebro este dia, voy a misa y reso el rosario. Este dia es importante porquea muchas personas les da esperanza y les recuerda sus raices.
Osvaldo Roa, junior

Querida Lizbeth S., gracias por recordarme la bonita historia de la virgen que yo como catolica siempre he escuchado y llevado conmigo, que bueno que te haigas tomado el tiempo de que mas personas pudieran conocer. La virgen de Guadalupe como dice en tu carta es muy importante desde el momento que somos bautizadas tiene ese significado de pureza y proteccion en mi. Siempre le pido por mi familia y siempre me acompana para donde vaya. Toda mi vida he celebrado el 12 de diciembre cuando estoy en mexico, la celebramos con una hermosa misa, su imagen en grande es retratada al salir de la iglesia y se organiza un recorrido muy importante en homenaje a ella, para mi familia es muy importante asistir y darle gracias por todo lo que hace por nosotros y para mi pueblo es una de las tradiciones mas impirtantes del year. Muchas gracias por tomarte el tiempo de hacer esta letra.
America Lopez, junior

Le agradezco a la Lizbeth por escribir la importancia de El dia de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Me gusta como menciona la historia de La Virgen y como la gente la celebra y respeta. Yo tambien creci con la Virgen de Guadalupe, desde chiquita llevo puesta mi collar de oro de la Virgencita. Creo que es muy importante rezarle a la Virgen por cuidarnos y darle las gracias por todo lo que tenemos. El 12 de diciembre es una dia para honrar a la Virgencita. En la sociedad, es tradicion de ir a misa y celebrar la Virgencita.
Andrea Renteria, junior

Hola Liz, me gustaria agradecerte por tu historia de la Virgen. Tu historia me encanto, aprendi mas del origin y la lealtad, orgullo, y respeto hacia la Virgen. Yo he visto que la gente celebra el 12 de diciembre por cantos de "Las Mananitas," danzas, misas y oraciones. Esta fecha tiene la importancia de union en la sociedad, le trae paz, fe, justicia social y the maternidad con el feminismo entre mucha gente. Es una parte importante de la identidad y cultura. Me encanto leer tu historia y estare esperando la proxima.
Diana Coronado, junior

Su experiencia muestra que los dias festivos no siempre son felices para todos. Me gusto que ella recuerde que una sonrisa o un gesto amable pueden ayudar mucho a alguien que esta pasando por un mal momento.Celeste ve las fiestas como un tiempo bonito con su familia, pero tambien difícil por la pobreza y las burlas. Yo veo los días festivos como un momento para descansar y estar con las personas que quiero, pero coincido con Celeste en que a veces la sociedad se enfoca demasiado en los regalos y las cosas materiales. Hoy mucha gente piensa que las fiestas solo se tratan de comprar y tener cosas nuevas. Pero deberian ser un tiempo para ser amables, apoyar a los demas y valorar lo que si tenemos.
Jocelyn Gonzalez, junior

Me gusto mucho el articulo de "Difundiendo amor porlas fiestas" porque siento que muchos no tiene las mismas oporunidades en la navida. En la navidad muchas familias se juntan para pasar tiempo juntos pero es que no todos recieben muchos regalos porque tiene problemas con dinero. Hoy en dia la socieda percibe los dias festivos como un dia adonde les regalan cosas nuevas y caras. Yo creo que debe de ser un dia donde todos son feliz por pasar tiempo con familias sin importar que recibes en navidad.
Daniel Morales Ortiz, senior

La historia de Celeste Caballero esta muy bien escrita puedo sentir lo que ella dice. Yo puedo decir que yo puedo relacionar porque a veces mis padres tampoco podian regalar regalos a mi y mis hermanos. Por el razon que mi papa durante covid no tenia un trabajo segurp y durante ese tiempo no teniamos mucho. Durante ese tiempo me dio selos viendo la gente tener regalos que cuestan tanto dinero mientras yo no aggare nada. Ya horita estamos seguros con el dinero y ya que tnego la edad de trabajar ayudo comprar regalos para mis papas y mis hermanos para ensenar mi agradecimiento. Hoy en dia pienso que la gente no mas usa la navidad para ensenar quien tiene mas dinero, y debe ser un festival que celebres con familia y amigos para ensenar el amor que tiene entre ellos. Pero tu historia esta buena y ojala que tengas buena navidad!!
Dalia Morales, senior

Hola Celeste, me gusto mucho leer tu historia, "Difundiendo amor por las fiestas". Gracias por dar luz a las personas que no pueden disfrutar fiestas como otros. Yo creci ayudando a las personas de bajo recursos con mi familia sirviendo cominda para ellos, aprendi que no significa nada tener lo mejor de lo mejor. Cuando estas con gente que no juzga y puedes difruatr un cena con ellos, eso significa todo. De nuevo, gracias por escirbir esta historia.
Jasmine Reyes, senior

Hola Celeste! Muchas gracias por tu historia, "Difundiendo amor por las fiestas." Gracias por ser tan vunerable en tus historias y hablar de un tema que para muchos es su realidad, me encanto mucho tu historia! Estoy de acuerdo contigo cuando dices que las festividades son un tiempo para pasarla con la familia, y me relaciono contigo cuando dices que ves a tus amigos agarrar regalos caros, cuando tu familia no puede agarrarte lo mismo. Pienso que la sociedad percibe los dias festivos como una oportunidad de gastar gastar y gastar mas dinero, en lugar de pasar tiempo con la familia. A mi me encanta la navidad, no por los regalos, pero por el espiritu y por las memorias que hago con mi familia. Muchas gracias por tu historia otra vez!
Valeria Meraz, senior

Gracias por escribir esa historia y platicar sobre tu experencias. Me gusto mucho tu historia y perdon por todo lo que a pasado pero me encanta que siempre piensas positivo en la vida. Yo tambien percibo los dias festivos como un dia para estar con mi familia porque eso es mejor que los regalos. Hoy en dia personas nomas piensan en los regalos y fiestas pero eso no es todo, debe de ser un dia para celebrar la salud y juntacion de tu familia.
Alexa Cervantes, senior

Hola buenas tardes a cuando esten leyendo esto quiero agradcer a las personas que realizaron esta parte del articulo por que no muchos ablan de nuestra religioon y realmente lo que es el dia de la virgen. Me gusto mucho el articulo que fueron a la profundidad de lo que es el dia de la vigen y que representa, para mi es importate el dia de la vigen por qu ees algo que siempre me han ensenado y algo que siempre he tenido en mi vida hoy en dia los dias festivos algunos lo toman y otraqs no por lo cual se va olvidado de generacio en generacion. gracias por leer mi respuerta y espero leer mas sobre las felestividades importantes.
Karen Gutiérre, junior

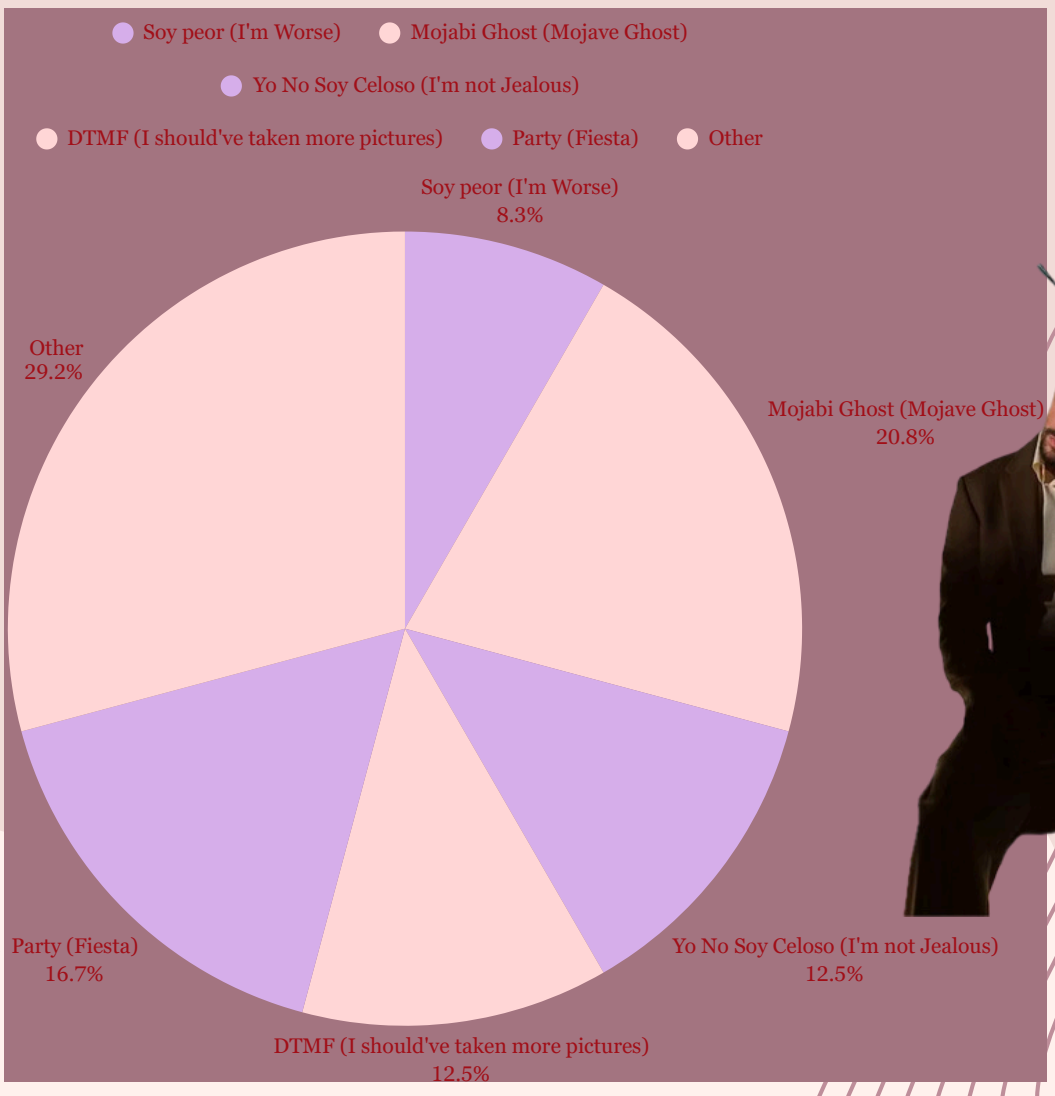
ONLY

5 4

DAYS LEFT

TO LEARN SPANISH
BEFORE BAD BUNNY HEADLINES
SUPER BOWL LX'S HALFTIME SHOW

What do you prefer? Bad Bunny songs edition
Qué prefieres? Edición de canciones de Bad Bunny.





WATCHLIST NAVIDENA

COMBINADO POR ANAHI MARTINEZ, EDITORA EN JEFE

1



4



2



5

3



Envía tus sugerencias para nuestras listas de seguimiento a thorntonian@tfd215.org.

Asegúrate de usar tu correo electrónico escolar e incluye tu nombre y apellido, así como tu curso. Incluir tu nombre de usuario de Instagram es opcional. Solo se aceptarán sugerencias apropiadas para el entorno escolar.

PROGRAMA PREESCOLAR MINI METEOR DE T.F. NORTH

¡YA SE ACEPTAN INSCRIPCIONES: PREESCOLAR BASADO EN JUEGOS, 3 DÍAS A LA SEMANA, PARA NIÑOS DE 3 A 5 AÑOS!

4 de noviembre de 2025 - 7 de mayo de 2026

Martes y jueves: 10:40 a. m. a 12:15 p. m. Miércoles: 10:05 a. m. a 11:15 a. m. Pago único de $75

¿Interesado?
Escanee el código QR para aplicar o comuníquese con Katie Oberman si tiene alguna pregunta.
koberman@tfd215.org
708-585-1091

ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN



















Photos from Books with Santa provided by guest photographer Diego Villareal.