



The Lexington Concord

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Manners Make the Man (or Woman)

In the previous issue I highlighted two students that I described as cowboys. The meaning of cowboy being someone doing things the right way. The article generated a lot of conversations about the students at Lexington High School and we have discovered that maybe we should change our mascot from the Minutemen to the Cowboys. I have had Emma as a student for three years and after every class she says “thank you” to me. A simple gesture but very much appreciated. One day in class, I got off on a tangent and said that my favorite dessert was apple pie. A week later Sylvia (and her dad) baked an apple pie for me. For my birthday, Cheryl’s kids (Lauren and Ashley) brought me an apple pie too. These are great students who make the school great. Recently, there was a Teddy Bear toss competition between Lexington and another high school. The result was a big victory for Lex. Kindness and generosity is often on display. Certainly there are times when I see students treated unkindly. However, I can’t let the few negatives overshadow the many positives.

An act of kindness doesn’t have to be an elaborate display. If a student drops something in the hall, pick it up for them. You can hold the door open for next person and if the door is held for you, say thank you. I think the little things go a long way to creating a positive environment for all. When you act with poor manners toward another person you encourage that person to act poorly to another. Make sure you cowboy up!



Note from the IT editor

Federal law says that schools can only use first names when referring to minors on the internet. So you will see the authors and anyone else mentioned by first name only, sorry for any confusion this might cause.



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Hollywood's Best

Recently, I heard a few students arguing about the funniest movie. The conversation kept circling with no student willing to concede to the other. So, I decided to let the school decide on what is the best that Hollywood has to offer. Surveys were sent to the Social Studies teachers to determine not what is the greatest movie but what are the best lines from movies. Movies were divided into three categories and each category had two suggestions. Students could write-in other lines if they had a better line.

I was going to divide the results by class but from Freshmen to Seniors the results were the same, Liam Neeson and Taken got the nod. Immediately after his daughter was abducted, Neeson's character, Bryan Mills says, "I don't know who you are. I don't know what you want. If you're looking for ransom, I can tell you I don't have money... but what I do have are a very particular set of skills. Skills I have acquired over a very long career. Skills that make me a nightmare for people like you. If you let my daughter go now, that will be the end of it - I will not look for you, I will not pursue you... but if you don't, I will look for you, I will find you... and I will kill you."

Under the romance category, students chose a line from Jerry Maguire. Tom Cruise was trying to win back Renee Zellweger. During a lengthy speech, Tom Cruise is interrupted by Zellweger when she says "shut up, you had me at hello." Lines from The Notebook also received many nominations in this category. And the winning line for a comedy is:



Some other lines that received some recognition are: From Raiders of the Lost Ark; "snakes, why did it have to be snakes." From Ten Things I Hate About You; "but mostly, I hate the way I don't hate you. Not even a little bit." I don't know if this will settle an argument but this is what Lexington High School thinks of Hollywood.

African Masks: Types, Meanings, and History

The greatest works of art in Africa can arguably be the African masks. They are made of various materials that have history woven into the seams. Different tribes in Africa have their own masks and rituals. With the different variations of masks, each one has a different meaning, type, and the wearing.

African Masks History

African masks have a rich history. They have been used in African ceremonies for a long time. It is believed that the earliest masks originated during the Paleolithic era. They are believed to represent the spirits of animals, ancestors, and mythical heroes. The tribal artists were deemed to be deeply spiritual and were highly esteemed in their communities.

Some examples:

Funeral Masks- Used by the Yoruba and Bete people, these masks main purpose is to keep sorcerers at bay. The Yorubains believe that the masks embody the spirits of the deceased. The wearers of the masks get the ability to speak to the souls of the dead.

Punu Mask- A mask associated with the people of Gabon, is painted white and is thought to represent the spirit of ancestors. The people of Gabon wear it during celebrations and festivals.

Cameroon Mask- The mask is carved from a single piece of wood and symbolizes abundance and privilege that is depicted with an open mouth and full cheeks.

Types of African Masks

Face mask: Faces masks are used everywhere in Africa. They are the most common form and are secured to the face in various ways. These masks can be secured by strings, bands, a scarf, or even held by a wig.

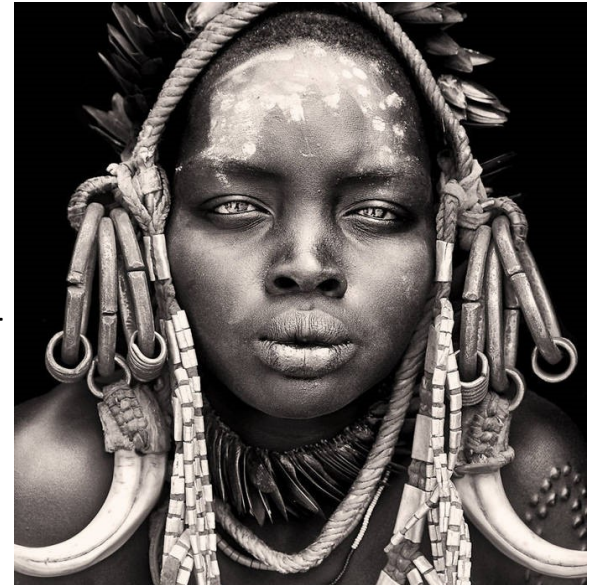
Cap crests: Worn on the forehead which allows the wearer's face to be exposed.

Headdress masks: They are set on a base that sits on top of their head. Most known with the largest ethnic group in Mali, the Bambara.

Shoulder masks: These are heavy and large masks that are on top of the shoulders.

Helmet masks: Fits over the entire head and are normally carved from 1 section of a tree trunk.

Helmet crests: They don't fit over the entire head but are worn like a hat.



Ireland's Border Problem

Irish history is a history of oppression and liberation. For centuries, Ireland faced countless invasions from their English and Scottish neighbors, usually ending in occupation. This resulted in centuries of English dynastic rule and the creation of the modern Ireland we see today.

Ireland is split amongst two nations-the south that is governed by the Republic of Ireland while the north is governed by the UK (a region known as Ulster). This border is a result of the post-World War one turmoil, where the Irish would demand (and would be given) independence. However, there was a split amongst the population, following religious lines. The pro-independence groups were mostly based from the majority catholic population. While Ulster in the north wished to remain with their Protestant brothers and sisters back in England. This divide may seem insignificant, but it is a result of centuries long attempt of conversion and colonization made by the British under the crown.

This divide would result in years of violence along the border with northern Protestants and southern Catholics at each other's throats. Pro-independence groups (which would later be known as Nationalists) attacked check points and border security. Anti-independent (later known as Unionists) would form militia groups, which perpetuated violence against northern catholic minorities and Nationalist groups. The violence destroyed infrastructure and communication along the border and the English military moved in to form a tighter, militarized border with strict regulations known as a hard boarder.

In 1989, an agreement was made amongst nationalist and Unionist which and to be known as the Good Friday Agreement, after the prominent Christian holiday. Northern Ireland's inhabitation would be eligible for a British and an Irish citizenship. Furthermore, Northern Ireland would receive the opportunity to vote for reunification with Southern Ireland in the future. This agreement leads to a demilitarized border, and alongside EU member benefits, the freedom of movement with very little regulation (known as a soft border). Today, travel is simple, with no border checkpoints in sight. However, this may change with the British vote to leave the EU.

With the exit of the EU, the UK is expected to adopt a semi-hard border with the rest of Europe, which raises the question of Ireland's boarder problem. A return to a hard border of the past would very likely reignite flames amongst the religious groups. The UK's exit of the EU could also spell economic disaster.



Today goods going from the UK to Ireland aren't typically screened as they are following a free trade agreement under the EU. But under Brexit goods must be screened somewhere, and the most logical point is along the Irish border, which would cost both Ireland and the UK billions. Furthermore, goods being shipped to the UK would be radically affected. In Dover, where trucks travel by ferry, a simple 70 second screening for each truck would result in a six day wait just to board the ferry and enter England.

The Irish are radically against a hard boarder and 56 percent of Northern Ire-

land voted to remain in the EU, bringing into question Irelands future. Proposals for reunification with southern Ireland continue to arise, as pro-independence support has soared. Other politicians have proposed to keep the Irish border the way it is but treat all travel and trade from all of Ireland as a foreign nation. However, this would drastically hurt northern Irish family who are UK citizens but would still be forced to go through a custom check just for entering another part of their own country. There is no easy answer for Ireland's future, but perhaps we can all look back to 1989, when Nationalists and Unionists came together, and signed an agreement that lasted decades.

The Bahá'í Faith

Founded by Bahá'u'lláh, the Bahá'í faith aims to unite all religions by teaching the ideals of unity and equality. The religion attempts to convey the central meaning of all religions, forming a doctrine of toleration and principle. Bahá'ís, (Followers of the Bahá'í faith) believe, like Christians, in a central au-



thority in the form of God. However, unlike many of the world's major faiths, Bahá'ís preach the unity of all religions, pointing out that they all get at a central idea of love and tolerance.

Bahá'ís follow a variety of prophets, including the teachings of Jesus, Mohammad, Buddha and more. Around the religion is the central idea of the collective worth of all religions, seeing them as equal in every way. This can be seen in the central three pillars of the religion: unity of God, the unity of religion, and the unity of humanity.

Historically, the faith originates in Iran, after a holy man known as the Báb began teaching a new perspective on traditional Shia Islam. For this, the Báb was executed but before his death he preached the coming of a new holy messenger. Bahá'ís consider Bahá'u'lláh to be this messenger. Bahá'u'lláh started as a follower of Báb but would build upon his foundation and create the Bahá'í Faith. The religion started on rocky footing, when from 1852-1853, members were collectively punished by the Persian government after individuals attempted an assassination of the shah (leader of Persia).

Bahá'u'lláh would later be expelled from Persia and flee to the Ottoman Empire (modern day Turkey). But would, yet again, find his teachings heavily scrutinized and was sent to modern day Israel as a form of penal colony (a prison colony). He would later die in 1892 at his home in Israel, and today followers pray facing his place of death (known as the Bahjí).

Today, the faith faces serious persecution. Perhaps most strongly in Iran, where since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Bahá'ís have been regularly had their homes seized and searched. Furthermore, Bahá'ís find themselves banned from university's and are often given prison sentences for their beliefs. During the Islamic Revolution, Bahá'ís were framed as economic threats, causing Bahá'ís to face acts of hate. In Egypt, worship of the Bahá'í faith is banned, and many former places of Bahá'í worship have been seized by the government. Humanitarian crimes only seem to grow year after year, the Egyptian government has taken steps to limit Bahá'ís civil liberties, including forcing Bahá'ís to carry "identification documents" as Bahá'í.

The Governor's Show and the Scholastic Art Competition

The art department had great success at the regional judging of the Governor's Art Show and the Scholastic Art Competition. 34 pieces were selected this year and in the state judging 4 students got their art pieces in the Governor's Art Showing. For the first time two pieces were placed in the top 25 of 300 art pieces. Kayla had an amazing year by having all 5 pieces selected regionally and 3 pieces selected on the state level. She has also received a 60,000 dollar scholarship!

50 students participated in the Scholastic Art competition this year. Our art department garnered a total of 27 awards. The students received 13 honorable Mentions, 7 silver keys, and 7 gold keys. The students awarded a Gold or Silver key were invited to display their work at the 2019 Central Ohio Scholastic Art Awards exhibit. All Honorable Mention students received certificates for their accomplishment.

2019 State OMEA Orchestra Contest

On February 22nd, the Lexington High School went to Granville High School to perform at the OMEA State Orchestra Contest. The group left school early that day departing at 12:40 for Granville high school. They performed their three rehearsed pieces; Russian Sailors' Dance from "The Red Poppy", Lullaby by William Hofeldt, and Bacchanale from "Samson and Delilah", at 3:30, and then proceeded to the sight-reading room. All three judges for the rehearsed pieces gave the orchestra the highest rating, an I or Superior, and the group received an I for how well they sight read as well. Meaning that they received straight I's that day. The Lexington High School Symphonic Orchestra performed great and are now preparing for their spring concert. If you want to see them perform, that concert will be on Thursday May 2nd at 7:00 pm in the Lexington High School Auditorium.

Upcoming Music Events for Lexington High School

There are a couple of events coming up for the music department here at Lexington High School.

On March 15th both bands and two of the choirs are going to Ashland High School to compete in the OMEA District Band/Choir Contest. The Lexington Women's Chorus will perform first, starting at 5:00 pm. Next will be the Lexington Concert Band at 5:15. Lexington's Fire-N-Ice will perform under the name Lexington's Mixed Chorus, singing at 8:20 pm. The Last group from Lex to perform will be the Symphonic Band at 10:20 pm. All the groups have been practicing three pieces to perform for the event. There will be three judges evaluating the groups' performances and giving them a rating from V to I. I being the best and V being the worst. After the groups perform their three rehearsed pieces, they will head into another room and sight-read a piece before a fourth judge who will rate them the same way as the other three, from V to I.

The other upcoming event is the Lexington Drama Department's Les Misérables. The show will go from April 11th through April 14th. April 11th, April 12th, and April 13th the show will start at 7:30 pm in the Lexington High School Auditorium. The April 14th showing will be a matinee starting at 3:00 pm. The drama department is working really hard on this show and would really appreciate anyone who came out to see the show.

The Lexington Drama Club: Musical Update

The Lexington Drama Club will no longer be putting on The Wizard of Oz due to licensing issues. Another school obtained the rights to put on that show before our school was able to get the rights. The drama department will now be putting on Les Misérables. The show will be put on from April 11th, 2019 until April 14th, 2019, with the first three shows being in the evening and the Sunday showing being a matinee. Les Misérables has the main cast of Noah, Wyatt, Hannah, Luke, RJ, Aubrey, Zavier, Alec, Emma, Rachel, Benton, Elizabeth, Christian, Thomas, Sophie, and Lydia. If you want to see the whole cast list, from the Lexington Home Page go to Mr. Henkles' webpage under the high school. Les Misérables travels with prisoner-on-parole, 24601, Jean Valjean, as he runs from the ruthless Inspector Javert on a journey beyond the barricades, at the center of the June Rebellion. Meanwhile, the life of a working class girl with a child is at turning point as she turns to prostitution to pay money to the evil innkeeper and his wife who look after her child, Cosette. Valjean promises to take care of the child, eventually leads to a love triangle between Cosette, Marius who is a student of the rebellion, and Eponine, a girl of the streets. The people sing of their anger and Enjolras leads the students to fight upon the barricades.



2019 World Language National Honors Society Inductions

Both of the National Honors Societies for world languages, Société Honoraire de Français Delta Epsilon Pi, LHS Chapter and the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, had their induction ceremonies on February 25th at Lexington High School. The Société Honoraire de Français added three new members, two juniors and a senior. These three are the 2019 Inductees: Montserrat, William, and Sylvia. The Société Honoraire de Français motto is « Toujours faire de son mieux, jamais moins ! » which means “Always do your best, never less!” The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica added seven new members, one freshman, one sophomore, and five juniors. The 2019 Inductees are Hannah, Nathan, Rachel, Sarah, Andrew, Sylvia, and Olivia. The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica motto is « Todos a una! » which means “All to one!” Congratulations to the new members of the world languages National Honors Societies.