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2011 Graduation to Remain at ELAC

ALAN TAM
News Editor

The AHS class of 2011 will continue to have their graduation ceremony at the East Los Angeles College (ELAC) Weingart Stadium, according to the Alhambra Unified School District (AUSD).

AUSD had previously announced that the ceremony was to be relocated to San Gabriel High School's (SGHS) stadium due to budget constraints.

One concern the student body had was the limited seating available at SGHS. Weingart Stadium has seating capacity of over twenty thousand while SGHS' stadium can only seat 3500. The number of tickets available to relatives and well-wishers would be lower than previous years.

However, negative community reaction prompted the district to hold the event at ELAC.

School Board President Adele Andrade-Stadler heard of the relocation and wanted to do her part to keep the

ceremony at ELAC. Andrade-Stadler contacted AUSD and received permission to fundraise to pay for the stadium rental costs. She organized the community and managed to raise money for the effort. Bob Wondries Toyota and AHS alumni contributed funds to make the graduation at Weingart Stadium a reality. Although

the ELAC graduation ceremony is assured, Executive is also doing their part to raise funds for the ceremony.

"I'm excited to hear that we won't be breaking the tradition of graduating at ELAC," said senior Samantha Uy. "It was sad to hear that we could have been graduating at San Gabriel."

Although students have responded positively to the relocation, some feel that the change was understandable, in light of the state's budget crisis.

"I understand that finances the reason why we could have relocated," said senior Kevin Wu. "I would have been fine with the change if it had saved money for the district."

"I'm excited to hear that we won't be breaking the tradition of graduating at ELAC."

-Samantha Uy



MOOR photo by JOYCE TSUI
RED FOR PUBLIC ED AHS faculty members raise awareness about the effects of statewide budget cuts to education on March 15.

China vs. US: Creativity or Rote Learning?

SHANNON LI
News Editor

There is no guaranteed way of educating an entire nation so that the next generation has basic life skills. At the same time, there is no way to ensure that creativity is fostered within the next generation.

China's and the United States' education systems are at odds with one another: China focuses on standardized tests to weed out the good from the bad, while the United States tries to have students think of new, previously unseen ways of looking at the world.

In his State of the Union address, President Barack Obama spoke out for the need to "out-innovate, out-educate and out-build" the rest of the world. However, America's education system has had to suffer from budget cuts and a lack of motivation among students. In China, one feels pressure to do well in order to bring honor to the family.

Students in China focus on discipline, math and language skills. They have much higher math and science scores than the United States, but Chinese students' creativity is far less developed than Americans.

In China's classes, teachers lecture the entire time while students sit quietly and take notes. Chinese students take only one standardized test to get into a college.

"Highly standardized testing leads to 'teaching the test' which will often prevent students from truly understanding the subject material," said junior Daniel Vu.

In contrast, in the United States, the SAT and other factors such as club participation and leadership skills are considered in a student's college application.

The United States focuses on indi-

viduality within its schools. Students have hands-on examples of the subject they are learning, such as dissecting frogs to study real-life organs or holding Socratic seminars to encourage deep thought of a novel or controversial subject.

They are encouraged to choose classes that interest them and focus less on core math and language skills.

"The United States needs to find a way to educate its students well," said senior Jenny Tran. "But we need to find a way to do that without destroying our creativity."

Students Set to Explore, Cruise Greek Islands

VICTORIA GAVIA
Copy Editor

This summer, while many of us desperately try to come up with interesting ways to spend our vacation, a group of AHS students will be joining US History teacher Jose Sanchez on a ten-day excursion to Greece and its surrounding islands.

This trip, set to take place from Aug. 1-10, is made possible through EF Tours, an educational organization dedicated to sending students and teachers abroad.

If you are interested in joining this group, expect to pay around \$3,000 for travel expenses and personal spending. Students can enroll up to 60 days before the departure date.

Sanchez commented that this is one of the most convenient parts of the trip, especially for financially limited families.

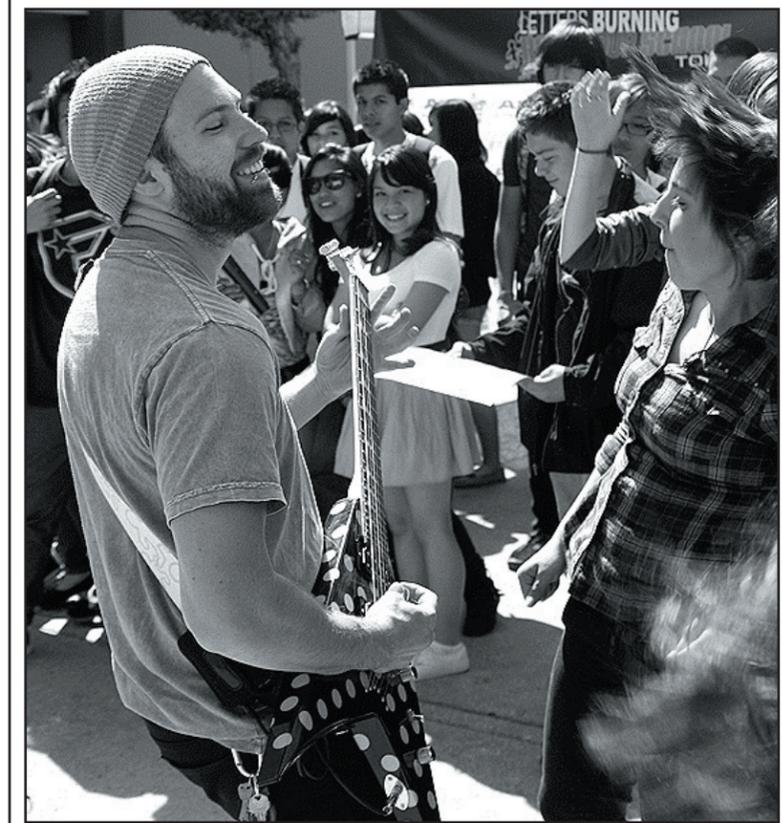
Sanchez has been taking students on these trips for eight years now; previous destinations have included Spain, Italy, Poland, the Netherlands,

the South Pacific and much of Western Europe. He is also planning a summer 2012 trip to Spain, England and France. He stressed the opportunities of cultural experience and travelling as important aspects of all the trips he has coordinated.

"I love to travel and I want to spread that love of travel—it brings the history [of that country] alive," said Sanchez. "Some of my students that travel with me end up travelling on their own or studying abroad for college. [Going to new lands] opens up their minds to new things."

Students that are interested can visit D-311 to pick up a pamphlet that has a trip description, including dates of significance, specific historical sites to be visited and other important information. There are a maximum of 12 spots available.

"I want to travel because I want to experience new culture. It will help me grow and see things in a new perspective," said senior Ramona Stadler.



MOOR photo by KATHRYN CHU
ROCK OUT Letters Burning performs in the Quad on March 11 as part of the Rock Your School Tour. The band held a T-shirt giveaway and signed posters and pins.

News Briefs

Seniors Victorious in Powderpuff Game

Rather than just watching boys play football, AHS junior and senior girls had their own chance to give the sport a shot. Junior and senior girls, in addition to Alhambra Student Athlete Program (ASAP), sported pink and blue shirts for the Powderpuff Football Game, which took place on March 11 at Moor Field. The senior girls beat the juniors with a score of 35-14.

The game was sponsored by ASAP and was open to all junior and senior girls. The club fundraised in order to rent Moor Field, hire security and pay for insurance and T-shirts.

"The purpose of ASAP is to get student athletes to help raise school pride and support their [graduating] classes," said senior Devin Lara.

ASAP is a newer club on campus that is being advised by James Zall.

"The game was really intense. You don't realize how hard it is to play football until you actually play the game," said junior Charissa Wood. "It was a really exciting and fun experience to play this for the first time with other people."

FBLA Excels at Local Competition

On March 5, Alhambra's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members joined with a variety of schools from California for the annual Gold Coast Section Leadership Conference, held at Six Flags Magic Mountain. Participants had the opportunity to take part in competitions or attend informational workshops.

"Competing at Sectionals was a great learning experience," said junior Michelle Tan. "I hope that it will help me work harder at the State Conference."

Those who placed include Jacqueline Phung, who placed fifth in Sports Management; Sharon Wong, fourth in Healthcare Administration; Raymond Loi, sixth place in Healthcare Administration; Justin Hua and Alex Huyen, seventh in Management Decision Making; Tiffany Yeung, Michelle Pai, Brittany Han and Sophia Wang, tenth in Parliamentary Procedures and Amy He, who placed fifth in Public Speaking II.

Winners are eligible to compete at the State Leadership Conference in Santa Clara from Apr. 14-17.

Joyce Lam, Editor in Chief

In other news...

United Nations launch over 110 missiles on pro-Gaddafi forces in Libya

Egyptian citizens approve new constitution in national vote

Man fires assault rifle at police after learning of Taco Bell burrito price increase

Thief steals a tailgate and attempts to sell it back to owner on Craigslist