

SPECIAL ISSUE CELEBRATING **DREAMS**KIDS JULY EDITION VOLUME 23!



"Our feelings are our most genuine path to knowledge."

- Audre Lorde

Dreaming of the Sea...

by Sabrina Turner

July is *Disability Pride Month*. People with disabilities are the largest and most diverse community within the population, representing all abilities, ages, races, ethnicities, religions, and socioeconomic backgrounds. This month gives us a chance to honor each person's uniqueness as a natural and beautiful part of human diversity and carry that recognition with us for the rest of the year.

I love to sail. Being out on the open sea is therapeutic and gives a sense of freedom and possibilities. Many people with disabilities have benefited greatly from the liberating experience and transformative nature of sailing. Some are very



Dreamy Artwork by our very own Audrey (12)! Check out page 6 for more artwork from Audrey and a very special Imagine connection!

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experienced sailors, some are beginners, but all have seen a tremendous improvement in their lives through *Adaptive Sailing*.

I first heard about *Adaptive Sailing* through *US Sailing* when I was updating my sailing instructor license. *Adaptive Sailing* is a way for individuals with disabilities to gain autonomy and confidence by working with a trained instructor to learn alternative ways to sail independently. I signed up for a course to become certified as a US Adaptive Sailing Instructor at *HRCS* on the Hudson River in New York City. There I learned all the safety requirements, specifications of the customized boats, and other necessary information. I found out that there is an Adaptive Sailing facility near where my grandmother lives in San Diego, California! This was good news because we were planning on



staying with our Nonna this summer. My sister **Alessia Turner** (16) is a skilled sailor and instructor as well, and she too wanted to get involved with **Adaptive Sailing**. We contacted **Challenged Sailors of San Diego (CSSD)**, whose mission is to provide therapeutic and recreational **Adaptive Sailing** opportunities for people with disabilities to enhance their dignity, well-being, and independence.

We had a wonderful and enlightening experience volunteering for this incredible organization. They are dedicated to helping people with disabilities in the San Diego area gain the freedom and independence that so many of us take for granted. According to the *CSSD* website, the US Census Bureau estimated that nearly one in five people in The United States have a disability. Many of these people have had to learn to live with restrictions on their mobility and independence. *Challenged Sailors San Diego's Adaptive Sailing* program is designed to minimize these restrictions for sailors. Learning the skills to maneuver a boat throughout the waters of San Diego Bay provides a sense of self-assuredness, autonomy, and accomplishment that can have a significant positive effect on many aspects of the sailors' lives and on the lives of the volunteers.



Sabrina and sister Alessia getting a boat set up for Adaptive Sailing. Good work!

Working with these amazing people with disabilities and learning from them while teaching techniques to successfully sail made me a better sailor and I feel like a better and more aware person. The first thing that stood out to me were the big smiles and exceptional sense of humor! Volunteers and participants alike were thrilled to be there. We were fortunate to be in middle of the beautiful San Diego harbor. Since this sailing program is a weekly occurrence, everyone is like family. Each day was a new experience.

Maria is an Army veteran who is in a wheelchair and blind. She sails at least 2 times a month and loves it. To watch her maneuver on and off the pier, and in and out of the boat was truly inspiring. Clearly it is very difficult

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and strenuous, yet *Maria* doesn't let anything get in her way and "cracks jokes" as she goes.

Tom recently went through some difficult times. He lost his wife and child and was then diagnosed with MS. He said that this program has helped him cope and brings him joy.

A day at sea is not always "smooth sailing." On my last day I went out with *Chris* who has cerebral palsy. The boats are equipped with special seats. Chris and I were having a gorgeous day, and then we heard a snap and the seat collapsed. I was hoping all was fine until I noticed that we could no longer steer the boat! The seat fell on top of the steering cable and we could not fix it. Oh, and did I mention we were headed toward a restaurant on a huge pile of rocks?



About to set sail!

I repeated the mantra "Keep Calm and Sail on" and radioed for help. In the meantime we were getting closer to crashing into the rocks. I wasn't as nervous for myself, but was worried about Chris and damaging the boat. The restaurant patrons were all watching the scene, hoping the best for us. Help arrived just in time. Thank goodness we can now laugh about it.

Being a teen member of **The Imagine Society** has opened my eyes to the need of our world to honor and respect every person and celebrate our differences. My sister Alessia and I were the first teenagers to volunteer with **CSSD** and we think that **Adaptive Sailing** programs all over the country would benefit greatly from the involvement of teenage sailors and that the teens would benefit from volunteering for **Adaptive Sailing** programs. It's a win-win situation for everyone involved. There is a "pilot" program at **HRCS** in NYC, but it's not off the ground yet. It is our hope that next summer more youth members of **The Imagine Society** can volunteer for Adaptive Sailing programs, and experience the joy and fulfillment that we did to celebrate **Disability Pride Month** in such an amazing way!



Thank you Sabrina for an incredibly informative essay!

Sabrina Turner (18) is a rising Senior at Marymount School of New York

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A Poet Warrior

More about Audre Lorde by Katie Gaffigan

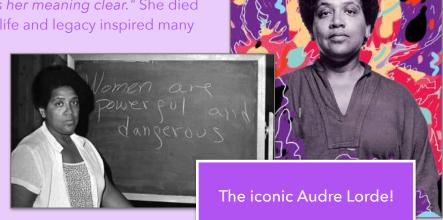
Born Audrey Geraldine Lorde on February 18, 1934 in New York City, where she attended Catholic school, *Audre Lorde* was an American writer, feminist, womanist, librarian, and civil rights activist. She dedicated her life and her enormous body of work in memoirs, poems, prose, essays, teaching, and lectures to confronting and addressing injustice in the areas of racism, classism, sexism, capitalism, and homophobia. Her emotional and technically masterful poems express anger and outrage at civil and social injustices of civil rights, feminism, lesbianism, illness, and disability, and the exploration of black female identity.

Audre Lorde wrote her first poem when she was in the eighth grade. She chose to drop the "y" from her first name while still a child, explaining in her deeply personal book (also starting a new genre, the "biomythography"), **Zami: A New Spelling of My Name**, that she was more interested in the artistic symmetry of the "e"-endings in the two combined names: "**Audre Lorde**."

Audre graduated from **Hunter College**, and the **Columbia University School of Library Science**. She became an English professor at Hunter and lectured widely throughout the United States, Europe, and Africa. She was active in many literary and political organizations and a founding member of **Women of Color Press** and **Sisterhood in Support of Sisters in South Africa**. Among her honors were the **Walt Whitman Citation of Merit in 1991**, making her the poet laureate of New York; the **Manhattan Borough President's Award for Excellence in the Arts in 1988**, and honorary doctorates from **Hunter**, **Oberlin**, and **Haverford Colleges**. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1977 and she was inspired to write **The Cancer Journals** and **A Burst of Light** which are collections of non-fiction prose, including essays and journal entries, exploring and reflecting on her diagnosis, treatment, recovery from breast cancer, as well as when her cancer came back and metastasized to her liver. In both works, Ms. Lorde deals with Western notions of illness, disability, treatment, cancer and sexuality, and physical beauty and prosthesis, as well as themes of death, fear of mortality, survival, emotional healing, and inner power. Her reflections on self-care inspired millions of people everywhere.

Audre Lorde fought cancer for more than a decade and spent her last few years living in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Around this time, she took an African name, **Gamba Adisa**, meaning "she who makes her meaning clear." She died of liver cancer on November 17, 1992, but her life and legacy inspired many

movements and organizations to embrace her dreams for a beautiful world. Her desire to give others a platform to express themselves, to use our voices, to accept others, celebrate our differences, create art, and share joy are all part of what **The Imagine Society Newsletter** is doing and I am so happy to be part of living out Audrey Lorde's dream.



Katie Gaffigan (12) is a rising 7th grader at Marymount School of New York



Let's all give a big Imagine Society welcome to our newest member of The Imagine Newsletter Editorial Staff the multi-talented and multi-faceted **Shelby Fenton** (14)! Shelby has been a part of **The Imagine Society** since April 2020, and in that short time she has impressed us with her exuberance, ingenuity, and commitment to being a young social activist. She does all of this from Alberta, Canada!

Not only has she written informative and creative pieces for the newsletter, created inspirational artwork for both

Imagine Babies and
#MessagesOfLove campaigns, she
helps her mother run the jewelry and
accessories company

@FentonGalsBeading

which donates 50% of their profits to vulnerable women and children, many of which in her own Cree community.

Welcome to the editorial team Shelby!
We can't wait to see what new and
innovative ideas you have for the
Imagine Newsletter and for

The Imagine Society! Stay tuned next month for a very special article on the Mica industry by Shelby!



"I'm really happy about you welcoming me to the newsletter. Joining the newsletter has been an honour and I really appreciate it! I hope to be a help." - Shelby Fenton (14)



DREAM BIG!

AN IMAGINE SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE!

In July 2020, **The Cho Family** raised over \$5000 in memory of beloved husband, father and renowned musician, **Daniel Cho**. They generously granted the funds to **The Imagine Society** to further our mission of empowering young people to create a better society.

Inspired by the life and legacy of **Daniel Cho**, the youth members of **The Imagine Society** discovered the prodigy violinist, **Maya Kilburn's Go Fund Me** campaign—created to achieve her dream of attending the **Juilliard School of Music** where she'd been accepted.

Upon review of Maya's incredible talent, desire to use her gifts to help others and beautiful dream, *The Daniel Cho Scholarship* was born.

Thank you to **The Cho Family** for helping **The Imagine Society** help **Maya**!

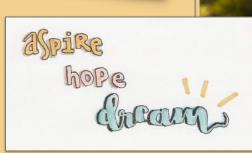
Dear Imagine Society:

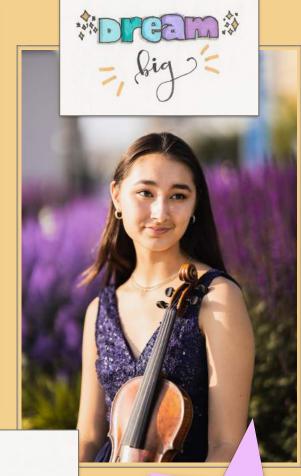
Thank you so much for your generous assistance with my education. For me, this first year at Juilliard felt like one step closer to achieving my dreams. Even though it took place in the middle of the pandemic, I still found an amazing community with these immensely talented and focused individuals. I learned many valuable lessons and gained so much inspiration from my new teachers and friends. Above all, I learned that being an artist means using my art to affect change. Even though I am still young, I will do my best to use my voice and create a better world through music going forward. Again, thank you so much for helping me chase this dream.

Sincerely,

Maya







are so proud of you Maya!

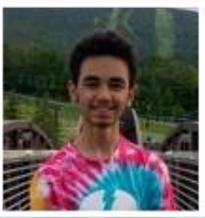
All artwork featured on this page by Imagine Junior Member Audrey (12)!



Cloud 1C3 CR34M by Zaylen Palacios







Zaylen Palacios (13) is a rising Freshman at Friends Seminary. He is also one of **The Imagine Society's** superstar Youth Leaders and has been gracing several newsletters with extraordinary graphic artistry such as this piece which is perfect for an **Ice Cream Dream** Summer! Thank you **Zaylen** for your brilliant creativity and contributions! Stay tuned next month for a project **inspired** by Zaylen's art!



Poppy and Louis Go Shopping by Louis A. Craco, III



So grocery shopping is important for our community and the environment. Poppy and I go to three different food stores in Norwalk, Ct. (In Brooklyn I go to Key Foods with my Dad.) First we get fruit and vegetables. The second thing we do is go to the gluten free aisle. I have celiac disease and am on a gluten free diet. I had major pain in my stomach. My belly was almost the size of a watermelon. Now, for the rest of my life, I have to find and cook food that has to be GF (Gluten Free).

Last year we met a Lady in the gluten free section. She told me and Poppy that her daughter had celiac disease too. The daughter's mother was very worried. I supported her and told her that I have the same

thing her daughter has. She was relieved for all the good GF foods I told her about. The diet I had was not really hard, the diet is perfectly going well, and it will happen for her daughter too. She was feeling happy and Protective for her daughter.

Now we continue our progress in other aisles, but if the food is for me I have to make sure if the bag, or whatever it is, the label that has two words, Gluten Free. I really like to eat Bagels and the brand that makes them is, o'Doughs. The ice cream I like is Breyer's and the flavors I like are Strawberry, Chocolate, Vanilla, And Butter Pecan.

In Poppy's garden we grow organic vegetables. We grow cabbage, peas, beans, green peppers, eggplant, squash, pumpkins, potatoes, and broccoli and other kinds.



Louis and Poppy shopping!

Another place we shop is Stew Leonards. In this store, they have a wishing well that you throw coins or change into. They donate the money to charity. We also get ice cream there and outside of the store they have a petting zoo. They have funny and hilarious robotic machines. Some are like humans and animals. I like the cow, when I pull on a rope or a button it will make a loud "MOOOO!!!". Me and Poppy also saw a banjo player, and a monkey swinging on a bar. Also, some vegetable people playing instruments. I remember my other Grandfather, Pa, who died last February,

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used to say vegetables in a funny way to say it. I like Stew Leonard's because the machines make me want to burst out laughing.

Another store me and Poppy go to is a store called ShopRite. Poppy rides in a mobile cart and I put the food in the basket. When I was younger I used to push the cart independently all on my own. Once me and Poppy saw a lemonade stand, we went there to test it. When I put it through my lips and took a sip it had the experience of sourness.

Grocery shopping is part of the world. These grocery stores we go to are Stew Lenards, Stop and Shop, and ShopRite. When me and Poppy go shopping in these stores we need to have food and drinks so we could stay healthy and to keep us alive. In Poppy's garden we have Pumpkins Potatoes tomato Cabbage, Broccoli, red and green peppers and also eggplant and others. When managers in these stores me and Poppy go are still in progress and they are keeping the stores clean because of the covidnineteen. Their business are not just working at the stores they take care of the stores and most importantly they have food and drinks that keep us alive and we support and admire their hard progress and being kind to the people around the world. Now we give you the taste of a lifetime and welcome.



Louis in Poppy's Garden!



Louis typing this essay!

My name is Louis A. Craco, III. I'm twelve. I am a self advocate for Down syndrome. I typed this myself. June, 2021

Thank you for sharing your story



Living the DREAM! One Year Anniversary of #FoodForFamilies!



Saturday, July 17th was the epic celebration and ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY of our #FoodForFamilies service mission with our partners at the Ascension Food Pantry. It was a phenomenal day where the incredible NYPD Transit Police once again successfully worked hand in hand with the volunteers for the pantry in Morningside Heights and the youth and adult leaders from The Imagine Society and Muslim Volunteers for New York (@MV4NY)! Years ago Robin Klueber's dream of a youth-led food pantry started with some cans on a shelf in the basement of Ascension Church. Now the entire community is involved and thousands of volunteers and clients have been transformed by this action of love and compassion. Thank you Robin, none of this would have happened without your dream, vision, and determination. Also to **Chris Chen (@chrischen photo)** for his photography, Youth Leader Jesus TZ for co-producing this event, GiGi's Playhouse NYC (@nycgigisplayhouse) for the gorgeous artwork (featured in June's Pride Issue) included in all the grocery bags. All the ingredients for Rainbow Pasta Primavera and recipe cards in 3 languages were distributed to over 350 families in reusable shopping bags! A special shout out to the kind leadership at The Saint Francis Breadline (@stfrancisbreadline) for reducing our costs by hundred of dollars by donating 500 pounds of fresh and healthy produce!

Together in our #FoodForFamilies finale service we accomplished our mission to empower the youth of NYC to join with adult mentors and find solutions to overcome the problems in society. Thank you to everyone involved! From the generous donors, to the selfless volunteers, all committed their time and support to this incredible mission! Getting healthy food via delicious, creative, and easy to make recipes into the homes of our neighbors is especially important at this pivotal point in history. Healthy diets mean healthy bodies, minds, and spirits, and are the grass roots action we can take to reduce the systemic inequalities in our communities that were highlighted by the effects of the pandemic. Police/Community relations, cross cultural acceptance, and the symbiotic effects of philanthropy were all blossoming on this service day.

Your own recipe card is on the next page! Photos below by superstar photographer **Enid Alvarez @koolkat130**!



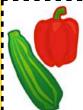












Pasta de Arcoiris Primaverd

1 Pimiento Rojo 2 calabacín ¼ taza de aceite de oliva

cebolla

1 cucharada de hierbas italianas secas 1 pimiento amarillo

1/2 lb o 1 lata de salmón (opcional) 2 calabazas amarillas **Pimienta** 3/4 taza de parmesano rallado



- Pele las zanahorias, el calabacín y la calabaza y córtelos en tiras de 2-3 pulgadas. Corta la cebolla en tiras finas. Cortar los pimientos amarillos y rojos en tiras finas.
- En una bandeja para hornear grande y pesada, mezcle todas las verduras con ¼ de taza de aceite de oliva, sal, pimienta y las hierbas de su elección. Transfiera la mitad de las verduras a otra bandeja para hornear y colóquelas de manera uniforme. Hornee hasta que las zanahorias estén suaves y tiernas y las verduras comiencen a dorarse. Revolviéndolos después de 10 minutos. El tiempo total de cocción debe ser de unos 20 minutos.
- Mientras se cocinan las verduras, cocine la pasta en una olla con agua hirviendo con sal hasta que esté al dente, tierna pero firme al morder, aproximadamente 8 minutos. Escurrir, reservando una taza del líquido de cocción. Agregue la pasta a un tazón grande.
- Agregue las verduras al tazón grande y mezcle con la pasta para combinar. Corte los tomates cherry por la mitad y mezcle. Agregue suficiente líquido de cocción reservado para humedecer.
- Escurrir el salmón enlatado, partirlo en trozos y añadirlo a la pasta. Mezclar suavemente.
- 7. Sazone la pasta con sal y pimienta al gusto. Espolvorea con queso parmesano. Servir CALIENTE

Para ver Tutorial liderada por jóvenes visíte nuestro sítio web ThelmagineSociety.org/service y siguenos en Instagram @ThelmagineSociety



2个黄南瓜 1个洋菊

1个黄辣椒

盐(适量) 胡椒粉适量)

1 磅意大利面 (fusilli、farfalle 或 penne 20个樱桃番茄 %磅或1罐三文鱼(可选)

1 lb of pasta (fusilli, farfalle, or penne

1/2 lb or 1 can of salmon (optional)

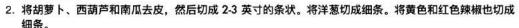
20 cherry tomatoes

1 libra de pasta (Fusilli, Farfalle, o Penne)

20 Tomates Cherry

% 杯磨碎的帕尔马干酪





- 一个大烤盘上,将所有蔬菜与 ¼ 杯橄榄油、盐、胡椒和您选择的香草一起搅拌。将 1/2 的蔬菜转移 到另一个烤盘上并均匀排列。烘烤直到胡萝卜变软变软,蔬菜开始变黄。 10 分钟后搅拌它们。总烹饪 时间应约为 20 分钟。
- 4. 烤蔬菜时,将意大利面放入一锅沸腾的盐水中煮至有嚼劲,柔软但咬起来仍然坚硬 大约 8 分钟。沥干 水分,保留一杯煮面的汤。把意大利面加到一个大碗里。
- 5. 将蔬菜加入大碗中,与意大利面一起搅拌混合。将樱桃番茄切成两半,然后倒入。加入足够的保留的面
- 6. 将三文鱼罐头沥干水分,将其掰成小块加入意大利面中。轻轻混合。
- 用盐和胡椒调味意大利面。撒上帕尔马干酪。趁热上桌



bow Pasta Primau

3 carrots 1 red pepper 1/4 cup olive oil 2 zucchini 2 yellow squash Salt (to taste)

Pepper (to taste)

1 yellow pepper

3/4 cup of grated parmigiano 1 tablespoon of dry Italian herbs

1. Preheat oven to 450°

l onion

- 2. Peel carrots, zucchini and squash and cut them into 2-3 inch strips. Slice the onion into thin strips. Slice the yellow and the red peppers into thin strips.
- 3. On a large heavy baking sheet toss all of the vegetables with 1/4 cup olive oil, salt, pepper and your choice of herbs. Transfer 1/2 of the vegetables to another baking sheet and arrange evenly. Bake until the carrots are soft and tender and vegetables are starting to brown. Stirring them after 10 minutes. Total cooking time should be about 20 minutes.
- 4. While vegetables are cooking, cook the pasta in a pot of boiling salted water until al dente, tender but still firm to the bite - about 8 minutes. Drain, reserving a cup of the cooking liquid. Add pasta to a large
- 5. Add the vegetables to the large bowl and toss with the pasta to combine. Cut the cherry tomatoes in half and toss in. Add enough of the reserved cooking liquid to moisten.
- 6. Drain the canned salmon, break it into pieces and add to pasta. Gently mix.
- 7. Season pasta with salt and pepper to taste. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Serve HOT

To view youth-led Tutorial video visit our website ThelmagineSociety.org/service and follow us on Instagram @TheImagineSociety











After a cold and miserable rainy day, that covers the sun and all sense it a bright future, we sometimes receive the gift of seeing a rainbow. A widely colorful arch in the distance, beaming in the sky. The beauty of such a rainbow is its promise for a better future and the color it brings to the world.

With last month being **Pride Month** we acknowledge the significance and symbolism of the rainbow in the LGBTQ+ community. The rainbow flag was first used as a symbol of the gay community by San Francisco artist **Gilbert Baker** in 1978. In the 1990s, the symbolism of the rainbow flag extended to represent the entire LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and, later, queer) community. The rainbow flag was chosen as a sufficient representation of the LGBTQ+ community for several reasons. Primarily, it is a flag of all colors that shows equality and inclusivity to people of all identities. Rather than bringing shame to unique qualities, it embraces our differences as people and shows how together these qualities can bring us together and create something as beautiful as a rainbow.

The rainbow also represents the light at the end of a tunnel, or, more literally, the calm after a storm. Members of the LGBTQ+ community have spent lifetimes fighting for their own human rights and for representation amongst communities. In 1969, the Stonewall Riots took place and marked the first official protest toward LGBTQ+ rights. Since then, the fight towards equality has continued and communities have only grown larger and stronger. The rainbow marks a sense of hope for the future and a will to keep fighting. There is often a question about what lies at the end of a rainbow because the start or end to the arch is never really visible. This is true for the LGBTQ+ movement as well. While a significant amount of progress has been made, there is so much more our world must improve and we are still only on the arch of a long journey.

The Rainbow Flag is a beautiful representation of the LGBTQ+ Community, and is a symbol of inclusivity, equality, and a continuous fight towards the end of the rainbow.

Alessia Turner (16) is a rising Junior at The Chapin School





"Let Us Dream" by Pope Francis

Book Review by Marre Gaffigan

It is often pointed out that at times of catastrophe in one's life, we should seek out any positive change that can come out of the calamity. The familiar idiom, "when one door closes another opens," for example, encourages people to view moments of failure or pain as the chance to start anew and learn from mistakes. Another interesting case of this can be found in the Japanese language. The word for "crisis" can be interpreted as positive, depending on a person's perspective. In Kanji, the adopted iconographic Chinese characters that are used in the Japanese writing system, "crisis" 危機 ("kiki") is composed of two words that, when taken apart, possess a different meaning: the first character (危) translates to "dangerous" while the second (機) means "opportunity".

The book *Let Us Dream* by Pope Francis was based on a series of interviews with English commentator and author Austen Ivereigh during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic when the whole world was locked down. Memories of the news and of that time are still fresh in my mind: overwhelmed ICUs, sickness, death, and immense uncertainty were shaking humanity to its core. At the same time, acts of compassion and heroism by the medical community and essential workers inspired applause from quarantined homes around the world. In his book, Pope Francis saw this time as an opportunity for the people of the world to "dream," or to imagine the solutions that can emerge from this disaster and create a better world.

Let Us Dream is a warm, at times even humorous, and inspired call to action by a pope who does not shy away from controversy when it comes to speaking his truth. The book is only 150 pages, and can be read in one sitting. As a Catholic teenager, I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Clearly, Pope Francis sees the pandemic as an opportunity to change our perspective on almost everything in the way we live. From the way we treat each other, to the way we treat the earth. The effects of the pandemic succeeded in bringing to attention the immense xenophobia of many Americans as well as a world economy that rewards the rich and punishes the poor. Pope Francis believes that now is the time to break down walls and

barriers that have been built to keep "the other" out and reach across old taboos to work together to rebuild a new and better world. "This is a moment to dream big," he writes, "to rethink our priorities - what we value, what we want, what we seek - and commit to act in our daily life on what we have dreamed of." The solutions presented are the outcome of this worldwide crisis where no one can rely on "the self" to get through it and only through "the we" is a way out. There is a call for allegiance, to rely on one another,

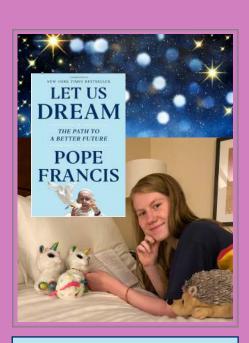
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to work together as allies for the common good. In our vulnerability and isolation, there is a new motivation to become less selfish and to be touched by the suffering of others. We must gain empathy for the plights of those who are mistreated, forgotten, or left behind. He opens the readers' eyes to the chronic poverty and marginalization of the Rohingya refugees, the vicious treatment of the Uighur Muslims, and expresses solidarity with the calls for justice of the Black Lives Matter movement. Covid-19, as much suffering and heartbreak as it created, may be the chance for the people of the world to stop, look around, and notice the "pandemics' of hunger and violence and climate change."

Let Us Dream is not a new revelation by Pope Francis. Rather, it's a desire to share his outlook with all of humanity, lest this moment for revelation be lost. Pope Francis has always lived this message, even prepandemic. His entire papacy has been focused on breaking down walls that create polarization and instead focusing on the creation of a loving, symbiotic world community that can help move into a better future. He has in the past been strongly criticized by traditionalists who feel their old ways and customs are threatened by his openness to breaking down barriers. He caused quite a stir in 2013 when he was asked about the treatment of the LGBTQ+ community in the church, he famously replied, "Who am I to judge?" and offered his openness to including all the children of God, of which LGBTQ+ Christians are a part of, into the family of love and mercy. During the Amazonian Synod in 2019, in which he saw an opportunity for "a broad essential arena of dialogue between the Amazon's spiritualities, creeds and religions that requires an approach of the heart to the different cultures." He blessed a wooden statue of a pregnant woman known as the Pachamama, a sacred symbol to the Amazonian people. Many rigid, small-minded Catholics were shocked that a pope would bless and place a "pagan idol of a fertility

Goddess" in a Catholic church. In reaction, the statues were stolen and thrown into the Tiber River; an act of senseless vandalism. The Pope later apologized... to the Amazonians. His leadership style embraces interreligious dialogue and does not view other cultures or lifestyles as a threat to his own convictions.

Since *Let Us Dream* was written, we have seen a resurgence of many of the familiar divisions and polarizations. Rather than assume that the Pope's call to arms to see the opportunities from the pandemic crisis has passed, I believe that there has been, and will continue to be, many communities that will blossom in unity as a result of the openness this vision calls for. I think that *Let Us Dream* will continue to inspire me and many people for generations to come. If you are interested or able to, I hope you will have the opportunity to share in this beautiful dream, and take action with your lives to make these dreams a reality.



Brilliant review Marre!

Marre Gaffigan (17) is a rising Senior at Marymount School of New York

Talk about *California Dreaming*!

This month's Spotted on the Street features a very special collection of Spotted from all over California including San Francisco, Calistoga, Big Sur, and Ojai!







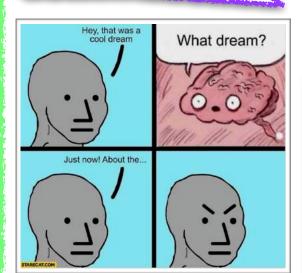






I had a **dream** about the whole ocean was filled with orange soda...

...turns out it was a Fanta sea!



What kind of **dreams** do hotels have?

Suite dreams!

FUN PAGES

Edited by Junior Member Katie Gaffigan (12)





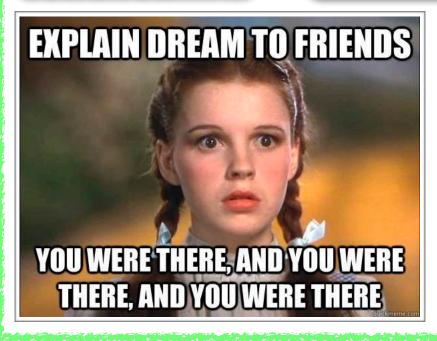


What happens when you dream you wrote "The Lord of the Rings?"

You start Tolkein in your sleep!

Katie's
Fave
Memes
:)









dreamer

Never let it be said that to dream is a waste of one's time, for dreams are our realities in waiting. In dreams, we plant the seeds of our future.

Edited by Junior Member Katie Gaffigan (12)

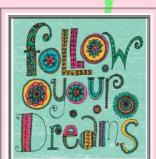


Word Search DREAMS

By doing what you LOVE, you INSPIRE and awaken the hearts of others.









desire

contemplate yearning thoughts consider conceive longing aspire fantasy thirst goals wish aim

seek

hope

Word Search DREAMS





