NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Embarking on this new school year, one of my main goals was to get The Gauntlet up and running again. I have always been extremely curious about the interest of my fellow Academy students, so I am very excited to provide them with a platform to share their voices. With that, I hope you enjoy this August 2018 edition.

- Makayla Virdi

IN(SCI)GHTS

First Year student, Sarah Choi, brings you an electrifying story from the science community

START READING ON PG. 2

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

Thoughts of Second Year students, Bryce Bussert and Gabriel Loos

START READING ON PG. 3

STUDENT WORKS

Literary works of 3 Academy students

START READING ON PG. 4

Special Thanks to

-Bryce Bussert
-Connor Chaney
-Sarah Choi
-Dylan Kling-DuBose
-Gabriel Loos
-Hannah Peeples
-Dev Patel
-Evan Robirts
-Amy Yoone
Welcome to *in(SCI)ghts*, where we will explore the particularly quirky, odd, or outright disgusting scientific discoveries made by renowned professionals (or extraordinary novices) throughout the month. From timeless gamma-ray reversal bursts to severed deer heads, we’ll gain short in(SCI)ghts into the various things that occur within our universe. If reading actual science journals makes you feel so frustrated to the point that your head might explode (this can actually happen; a chess player once died in the middle of a championship game) or searching the web for the latest science news is far too laborious for your exhausted fingers, please continue reading. I hope you’ll realize that our world is considerably stranger than you once perceived.

**TOPIC I: WE LEFT A BUNCH OF HEADLESS REINDEER IN A FIELD.**

In 2016, there was a lightning storm in Norway that killed exactly 323 reindeer; the electricity coursed through the wet ground of the field and easily wiped the poor deer out. Not long afterwards, officials beheaded the reindeer in order to test for chronic wasting disease and left the bodies behind for nature to deal with. Researchers decided to document how this plethora of dead bodies would affect the ecosystem, and thus, they formed a self-funded project called “REINCAR.” This is short for both “reindeer carcass” and “reincarnation.” There was an excessive rotting stench the entire time they collected data, but alas, here is what they found, now in 2018: The landscape is preparing to sprout new life, and there are various types of feces everywhere. The carcasses are creating a bare, nutrient rich ground for seeds found within these feces to grow in. More specifically, there are crowberry seeds in crow poop everywhere that have the potential to grow into beautiful plants. *Nature is lovely, right?*
Bryce’s Bubble

“In the Beginning…” – Genesis 1:1

You are reading the first edition of the *Gauntlet* and along with it, the first installment of *Bryce’s Bubble*. Here, I will be writing a few thoughts about my faith in Jesus. Although faith is a very personal topic this isn’t a private entry in my diary: I want to hear from you guys about what I’m writing or perhaps what I’m not writing about that you think I should. If you have questions, comments, or even snide remarks about anything that I write please let me know. With that said, let’s start:

In the first verse of the first chapter of the first book of the Bible we can read about how God created the heavens and the earth. After the first beginning in the history of time, “God saw that it was good.” While you probably aren’t comparing your time at the Academy to the creation story, a new school year is a very important beginning in all our lives, but in twenty years will we be able to say that “It was good?” As we begin to establish schedules for this year, attend to homework, and plan for the future, take some time to realize the beginning that you are living right now and make it a good one.

Yeet yeet,
Bryce

Get Physical

I first started exercising because I was involved in sports. I would work out and run because when you play sports you normally want to be strong, fast, and in shape. I tried to be all those things (whether I was isn’t today’s topic so don’t ask.) I have continued to work out and run because I have enjoyed being able to see my improvement as time passes. I would recommend that everyone exercises in some way throughout the week. That doesn’t mean going to the gym and trying to lift all the weights at once. It could be going on a light run, or swimming, anything to get your heart pumping. Whatever it is, it doesn’t have to be the most intense workout you’ve ever done. Just do something and as you get used to it slowly increase the intensity, keeping it where you can manage it but are still being challenged. At first it may seem trivial, but exercising regularly has been proven to increase your energy throughout the day, improve your sleep, and reduce stress. The last thing is just because you don’t see immediate results doesn’t mean it’s not working. Too many people give up before they have exercised over a long enough period of time to actually see results.

- Gabriel Loos.
STUDENT WORKS

The Georgia Academy of Arts, Mathematics, Engineering, and Science prides itself on its students. Not only are their academic efforts remarkable, but they also possess talents that transcend the pages of their textbooks. Each month, *The Gauntlet* will feature original works from Academy students. These can take the form of prose, poetry, and many other mediums of art. The goal is to spotlight the unique perspectives of Academy Scholars. In this Issue, works by Amy Yoone, Makayla Virdi and one known only by the moniker The Bulldog King are featured. Two of them choosing to express themselves through poetry stylings, and one sharing an answer to a college essay, they explore topics such as unknown futures and weight of parental and cultural pressures.

- The Editor

**I WANT TO SLEEP**

**BY: THE BULLDOG KING**

Like a bed, the future must be organized neatly. As sheets are washed and folded under, a foundation must be laid now meekly.

Goals are set, plans are formed so that a horrific price may not be paid. For confronting a future with no vision is just as one would leave a bed unmade.

So press your blankets and scrub your sheets to rest comfortably and go fast to sleep.

Because if you don’t, bedbugs shall come and they’ll surely bite you in the bum.

What do you admire most about your community? What would you improve?

I struggled to define community most of my life. Growing up in a multicultural home, I did not know if I was a part of both the Black and Indian communities or if I wasn’t a member of either. In addition, relocating often made it difficult to establish myself in local communities. I was always unsure of my status. Once I started to actively seek out my community, it became clear that I had always been a member. The community of students that have supported me throughout my educational career has been a key component of all my successes. The willingness of my peers to assist each other in whatever way they can is inspiring. As students, we understand the difficulties and pressures that we are each undergoing. That sense of validation that is paramount in the prosperity of my peers and I. Our expansive network has often been utilized to provide support, however, it can become much more.

My community possesses a voice that has seldom been evoked to its full potential. Too often, we have been resigned to complacency. As we continue our educational expeditions, I intend to call upon my peers to advocate for themselves.

- Makayla Virdi
  College hopeful
PRESSURE OF STANDARDS
BY AMY YOONE

America, the land of opportunities, where supposedly dreams come true.
The place of success for me and you apparently it comes at ease.
My dream of being happy and successful was the epitome of goals.
Society, however, started puncturing holes.
My image of the future was no longer beautiful, but shattered into pieces.

Our generations standards are held higher than before.
The millennials happiness being blown away, such as a dandelion on a summers day.
Like the weed, we’re discarded maybe left on the floor, our feeling will now be ignored.
We must now be smarter, stronger, and brighter.
No matter the struggle we must work harder.
The end result being our future implored.

As for me, my family is hard.
They will not let go of this change.
Every moment of my life is them pushing in rage.
They want what’s best, wanting me to be a star.

For me to go to college is their dream but by doing so they’re constantly scolding for me to study,
Why must I constantly be in such a hurry.
I disappoint with my stats. Will I ever redeem?

Discrimination is still apparent for the Asian culture indeed.
Our intellect comes at a fee.
We must work harder than others causing discouragement.
The clouds outside describe my feelings.

I feel as though one is hung over my head. I wish to just stay in bed.
The clouds, gloomy and unappealing, feeling as though there is no hope in sight.
I’m never good enough.
High school is rough.
I wish to always be at right.

Staying at home is my wish, to be at rest with no stress.
Wanting a life with no test.
To dig into any dish.
Laying in bed my dog at my side stroking its fur with stains from where I cried.
At peace when the fuzzy friend to tend.

However, I know this wish is not fathomable.
My leisure comes at a price.
It would affect my future in a trice.
Whether to live in leisure or stress.

At a fork road, should I walk in my parent’s and society’s way or my way?
I want to choose the right path so I don’t loath.
Will I make the right decision?
Maybe I need to cooperate both.
I have figured an oath.
I will incorporate both visions.
To work my hardest and be successful while enjoying myself trying not to be stressful.

Want to be featured in Gauntlet?
Submit your work to Makayla.Virdi@mga.edu by 11:30 PM on the last Monday of each month.

Help Gauntlet find its new look!
Submit logo designs to Makayla.Virdi@mga.edu. If your design is chosen, you will be treated to a tasty prize.