

The most wonderful time of the year



Deans List

Lopez, Christian
Luchowska, Joanna
Mahato, Bir
Martinez, Julia
Melendez, Nyvvvia
Patel, Naman
Polowsky, Alexis
Porter, Jayda
Prokopiv, Anastasiia
Radeka, Ivana
Raval, Hemendra Kumar
Sanders, Brandon
Shah, Dimpy
Turabov, Javokhir
Williams, Princess
Zhang, Jiawei

Arabiyat, Samah
Cajamarca, Esteban
Calderon, Edgar
Caley, Cody
Coker, Kyche'T
Deres, Hibret
Diakite, Daouda
Drury, Zachary
Durmishi, Era
Dyce, Ashieka
Easton, Armani
Elsass, Brittney
Gorji, Ava
Harper, Camille
Huang, Yinzhaoh
Khan, Sakina Fathima

Congratulations!

To the
following students on
making the Honor
and Dean List for
the Spring 2020
quarter!

Mukardamwala, Zubermaahmed
Patel, Chhayaben
Patel, Meet
Patel, Vishal Nitinkumar
Plummer, James
Pradhan, Puja
Sims, Wendy
Thakkar, Niraliben Jignesh
Thomas, Torrence
Thompson, Asha
Upadhyay, Helly
Vala, Yash
Wofford, Alexyss

Honor List

Amare, Zefan
Antunez, Ricardo
Barakat, Islam
Calderon, Cristian
Collins, Brittney
Gonzalez, Alejandro
Gueye, Idrissa
Hampton, Dontal
Heard, Brianna
Jackson, Calvin
Jaiswal, Rajesh
Jimenez, Esther
Liu, Chuikai
Liu, Que
Martinez, Efrain

**"If history were taught in the form of stories, it would never be forgotten."
— Rudyard Kipling, *The Collected Works***

ON CAMPUS WITH THE CORONAVIRUS: AN ORAL HISTORY OF THE STRANGEST TERM EVER

Like many universities across the country, East-West University Chicago found itself facing rising case counts and an anxious student body at the outset of an unprecedented, chaotic school year.

Students struggled with questions both monumental and mundane: What is an online class going to be like? How do I see my friends? Is it safe to be on campus at all?

This is the story of the fall term. To capture this story, we asked students, freshmen through senior year, about their experience.

Alexis Williams, Freshman-

"I lost all of my senior activities like most freshmen students. The prom, the senior trip, etc. I never got the chance to fully prepare for college because my year was cut short. I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue my schooling because I was supposed to go away. I'm trying to make the best of my situation because of this pandemic and regain my losses for my upcoming years."

Jenny Cardenas, Freshman-

"My experience is personally frightening in a way because virtual learning isn't the best and I would've hated not to have hybrid learning or get to interact live with teachers and classmates. I can't learn virtually but it's also an experience that makes us tough enough for other situations because attending school or working during a pandemic is challenging."

Viridiana Castillo, Sophomore-

"My experience during this pandemic and being at school and doing online, for me is really stressful and I feel like I'm not getting enough education with this back and forth and it's frustrating. This experience is horrible for me. It's draining my energy and my study ethics."

Anahi Herrera, Freshman-

"Going to school during this pandemic is actually pretty hard. Not only does it make it harder to learn but it also isn't very comforting. Although I got used to it, I haven't gotten over how much it would have been different if this pandemic wouldn't have been a real thing. I feel like I'm backtracked so much but I try my best and hardest to keep going."

Fantasia Williams, Freshman-

"Going to school during this crisis is hard. Always having to wear a masks sucks. I lost scholarships because of this virus and I didn't have a college to really go to. East-west University was my only and last option. Then I actually got the virus and that took a toll on my body. I'm glad that I survived it."

Amareon Wells, Freshman-

"Me starting college was something that was bittersweet. I'm the first of my mom and dad's children that has ever got accepted into college. I was proud of myself, however I had also lost my grandmother just recently. She was always my biggest supporter and helped me get through school. I have to make it, not just for myself but for her too. If that means wearing a mask to school to get my degree, I'll do it, no problem."

Deon Grimes, Freshman-

"Yes, this whole situation has been a mess. However, I'm confident that you're going to make it through. When it's all said and done, you'll realize that through all of the trials, you are strong enough to overcome anything."

Esbeyde Fernandez, Freshman-

"Personally, this school year has been super different. I don't like the online classes. I believe that I don't learn anything. I've come to the point where all I think I'm doing is turning in assignments but I don't get an outcome...I'm the type of student that asks many questions and likes to do hands-on activities. And this online teaching really does not help me. This pandemic really has changed me a lot. I used to love going out, being with friends and I just got to the point where I don't want to do anything. I barely have energy to get out of bed. I come to school because I need a distraction and because it's the only way I'll understand what my professors are trying to get across. But as time goes by, I still believe it's not safe for us to continue coming to school. Many people/students/professors don't believe this is a serious issue and might not take it seriously. But a lot has changed."



Yinzhaoh Huang, Senior-

"This quarter is my last quarter at EWU. Attending classes during the pandemic is both a privilege and challenge for me. My parents and friends all worry about safety on this urban campus but are relieved to see everyone's effort in keeping the campus safe. Also, it is nice to see classmates and faculty in person. The feeling is much better than Zoom meetings alone while everyone is just facing the camera. Especially in my major, Computer Science, where hands on programming in computer labs are important for learning, being able to stay with classmates coding together, helping each other inside the classroom, is the best experience for me during school in Covid so far."

Herman Diaz, Freshman-

"The common student prays for good grades, friendships, and progress. In these difficult times, I hope the student body doesn't forget that without us there is no future."

Deandrea Rangel, Sophomore--

"The pandemic had caused many people to stay home more often, and lay low in order to protect our families. Online can have its good and bad moments. For example, I miss having the full college experience of study groups, and an open student lounge. The upside is how easily it can be to pull up Zoom on any device, and most teachers are very patient with students during rollercoaster Covid rates."

Continued...

Beahja Dickens-Bey, Freshman-

"Honestly, I've been thrown in this hurricane of constant change going on for a year and a half now. At this point, the message is pretty clear: that whatever is meant for me will be mine. I will continue to tackle obstacle after obstacle because I've literally gone too far to quit. I've wanted to give up on school and even life, but my purpose is starting to become more and more clear. In times like these, I realized that people are going to change, and you have to feed some people with a long handled spoon. I learned that you cannot give everybody a piece of you because at the end of the day, you realize that you've given up a lot. So nowadays, the more time I spend in isolation, the more I learn how to advocate for myself. How do I feel? I feel like a major change is coming out of all this. You realize who you have in your corner and move accordingly. Doors can either be left open or closed. It doesn't matter to me, just don't block my view of seeing other blessings come my way. I'm proud of the woman I'm becoming and I know at the end of it all, that piece of paper will have more value than that of pure solid gold."

Alexis McNulty, Sophomore-

"My experience at East West University has been pretty okay. I'll be honest and say it isn't the best college experience or the one that I longed for. During the current pandemic I have been scared to come to class in person because I am high risk at catching Covid since I have asthma. And also, my living situation is totally different from the average college student and the in-person classes really interfere with my home life. I hope that we can go back to normal really soon, I miss going out without a mask and just hanging with friends."

Alexis Polowsky, Junior-

"I would say that learning online was definitely a different experience than coming into an actual classroom. I would say that I understand the material just as well as if I were in class learning it myself. The only real downside to this was that all my engineering labs were online and virtual. I would have much preferred to do labs in real life, but the virtual labs were educational. I think this was more of a personal preference. The socializing aspect of school was kind of missing for me as well, but that is really not that big of a deal. We do not go to school to socialize, but it is nice to talk to others once and awhile. Overall, I thought online classes were good. I did not struggle with them and if it keeps everyone safe, I am ready to continue my online education."

Jiawei Zhang, Senior-

"Going to physical school during the pandemic is the most challenging task I have encountered since the Covid outbreak. Unlike most office workers who can work remotely from home, online classes do tend to lose some degree of efficacy and collaboration in the form of intellectual exchange and education. Being able to come back to physical classrooms does provide us with the same level of classroom experience as before with both instructors and classmates. But the safety and health wellbeing of everyone also worries us. For a safe campus, we need and are happy to see everyone practice the health guidelines the university offers with additional support in cleaning and educating. Thus, we can better enjoy the benefit of physical classrooms, without compromise to our own health and safety."

Del Hale, Sophomore-

"Being in school while existing during a pandemic has been the biggest setback, I've experienced in a moment like this. I've had many doubts and fears of coming back to school in person that almost begged the question of almost dropping out, but just like the pandemic and being in school. I will see this through. I will see it through this time in order and in hopes to conquer it. I have a lot of hope that being in school this time will make my future plans so much clearer now, and I am ready to achieve and win it. We have to do it for each one of our futures and be the voice for the generation that is next to come. For my future, my past and my present." Naija Chandler, Sophomore-

"The semester was a little sketchy to begin with and the fact that our staff and students are still catching cases, I am one of the people who is scared and I just feel like our number one priority should be safety. Our education will come. I've already found a way to guarantee my education but not a guarantee of my safety."

Yash Vala, Junior-

"Life is experience, every step makes us have experience. While growing up, so many experiences I have gotten, as everybody does, from trusting people to trust our own self. However, all fears are made of similar experiences. My biggest fear is to lose, lose in plans and ideas. If something goes wrong, everything messes up, and I am very much hopeful towards life. Hopes are high but practical also, I am hoping positively in the world, also in my life and whoever becomes my team for future. By team, I mean friends and family. Lessons and experiences are similar by superficial view, but lessons would be learned by losing things, and my best lesson is never wait until the last moment, always keep one backup plan."

Anastasiia Prokopiv, Senior-

"To me personally it seems dangerous to go to school at a time when thousands of people are infected with the virus every day and hundreds die. For me, it does not matter. It does not affect the quality of education because anyone who wants to learn, will learn in any form whether it is online or not."

Holiday NewsLetter

By: Iva B

GIVING THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

As the COVID-19 global pandemic crisis is not a new normal but a global crisis which should not be minimized nor ignored. Instead of being bored, uncertain of career options and or dejected, take advantage of down time, layoffs, and or idle time by enrolling in an online course. Whether you already have obtained a college degree seeking to branch into a different industry, a returning college student and or new student beginning the road to a degree baccalaureate concentration, an online course enrollment could be the jump start to a degree education, special interest concentration, and or a career move.



Education is a gift that keeps on giving. Contact a local, national and or international school which offers transferable online courses such as many of the courses offered at East-West University. Although specialized in gifted students, East-West University offers courses conducive to the evolving dynamics of a variety of learners.

ONLINE ETIQUETTE

An online visual appearance is just as important as an in person interview, work, meetings and or classes appearance. If you don't have a sense of personal style, no problem. Practice good hygiene, brush your teeth, neat clean apparel and of course keep your hands clean.

HOLIDAY GATHERINGS

While COVID-19 protocols are very much still in effect, when gathering for social events keep social distancing in mind to minimize contact. Although hugs and handshakes are traditional means to greet, waving and bowing and even a head nod acknowledging others could possibly be a better practice during this holiday season. Since many businesses and entertainment establishments are still shut down, creating spaces of balance and Zen, not only to have ideas for redecorating but also great spaces to dwell within while still complying to the states of an emergency protocols

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The 3 Biggest Fashion Trends of Spring 2021

By: Cristy Calderon



A wise woman named Coco Chanel once said “I don’t do fashion. I am fashion.” and I, a self-proclaimed fashion expert, live by that. Whether you follow trends or choose to defy those trends, we are all influence by fashion. Think about it, why do you wear what you wear? Every day you get up and you choose clothes that express how you are feeling. With that in mind, I bring you the trends we will be seeing in the Spring of 2021.



1. White, white, white! Year-round!

It is 2020, we are no longer enforcing the “no white after Memorial Day” rule. This is specially applied to dresses. You will be seeing a lot of white lace dresses inspired by French fashion. On men, that would be wearing white tops with white or light-colored pants.

2. Electric!

Opposite of white, colorful! We will also be seeing lots of colors, prints, and textures. How can you recreate that? An easy way of doing that would be to wear a red

top with colorful print pants and some statement shoes. Throw in a pair of statement shoes to catch everyone’s attention.



3. Brown, tan, khaki- the universal color

When in doubt go with brown, especially now that it’s trending! Brown and all its shades are so easy to style. You can dress it up or down depending on your event and because it has so many varieties, there is always a shade that compliments your specific skin tone!



A Dive Into Chicago’s History



The 11 year old “Black Disciple” By, Kyla Flowers

It’s funny how the media portrays people, but just imagine how the media would portray a child. Mostly in a positive light and giving praise to their parents, right? Not always. Picture the media calling a child a “Super Predator” or a “Deadly Gang Member.” This is exactly what happened to Robert Sandifer.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on March 12th, 1983, most of this child’s life is sad. He had 49 scars on his body due to the physical abuse that was inflicted on him. He was mainly abused by his mother, Lorina Sandifer, who was in and out of prison due to prostitution. His father, Robert Akins, was absent due to serving life in prison. This basically sums up his family, his supposed “support system.” The only grasp of love he had was from his grandmother, Jannie Fields. Of course, This lead to violent and criminal-like behavior. He used to bully kids out of their candy and little pocket change, but how do you go from a bully to a murderer?

From a young age, Sandifer had several run-ins with the

law, twenty-three felonies and five misdemeanors just by doing errands for street gangs. He couldn’t even go to juvenile detention because of his age. But the bigger issue is, why are these so-called “street gangs” recruiting children to do their dirty work for them? To illustrate just how young this child was: his name on the street was “Yummy”, due to the fact that he loved sweets, especially chocolate chip cookies (Lee).

Since he was doing all of this work for gangs, how come he wasn’t in one? Well, he almost was. On August 28th, 1994, he was ordered to do a gang initiation. On 108th Street and Perry Avenue, He was given a 9-millimeter semiautomatic pistol, hitting several teenagers. Among those who were shot was 14 year old Shavon Dean, she was struck in the head by a stray bullet, killing her at the scene (Lee). Her aunt described in detail how severely her gunshot wound was, She was shot in the back of her head and she laid her head on her jacket, the bullet coming close to her right eye as it was puffy and her brains were falling out of her head. When police rushed to the scene to find answers, they also came across a 16 year old who was shot (Lee). The 16 year old boy stated that Yummy shot him in the back twice. This shooting alone set out a massive manhunt for the boy. The hunt lasted three days, as he invaded the police.

On the quiet night of August 31st, 1994, Sandifer went to a neighbor’s house and asked them to contact his grandmother to take him home. While waiting for his grandmother to arrive, he came across Craig and Derrick Hardaway. They were brothers and members of the Black Disciples. They told Sandifer that he was being taken to a safe place and he was ordered to get into the car. Little did he know, he was being taken to a train underpass on East 108th Street and South Dauphin. When they got there,

the brothers told Sandifer to get on his knees. When he kneeled down, he was shot twice in the back of his head. He was killed execution style, and his body was found by the police on September 1st at 12:22 am (Lee). Shortly after his murder, the Hardaway brothers were found and convicted. The gang ordered Sandifer to be killed because they thought he became an informant for the police and he was attracting too much attention to their activities. The Sandifer murder received national attention, the media got a hold of this child's murder and crucified him. He became a symbol of the problem of American gangs.

This ties back to how the media portrays a person. The media and the public criticized this child for his actions, but did he know any better? He was a 11 year old child, He liked toys and sweets like any other child would. You wouldn't expect a child to know what to do with a gun at that age! He must've thought it was cool because he saw his peers do it. His crimes were a call out for help without even saying it verbally. He wanted love. The hate given to a child when they are small, affects them for the rest of their lives. No child deserves to die, a life taken away too soon. All of these children's lives are lost or taken away from them. Where are the adult gang members that put them up to commit these acts? Why aren't they suffering the consequences? Love is a working factor in a child's life, and it is so important to distribute it.

The Great Chicago Fire of 1817

By Alfred Bowman

While there are many speculations about who could have started the fire, one thing is for sure, the Great Chicago Fire burned from October 8th to October



10th, 1871. This fire destroyed thousands of buildings and killed an estimated 300 people in the process (History.com). The alleged start of the fire was around 9:00 p.m, that night when a cow kicked over a lit lantern in a barn. The wooden constructed city was doomed for the awaiting disaster ahead. During this time there was very dry weather and fast winds. Surprisingly, this wasn't the only fire that occurred this week. Two days before the fire there had been a smaller controlled fire in the city which led to all the firefighters being exhausted.

At 9:00 p.m on October 8th, 1871 the fire started at a barn located at the O'Leary farm at 137 Dekoven Street. The City of Chicago never determined the real cause of the fire. At the time, Chicago buildings were constructed in wood with improper fire codes. The fire continued to burn the next two days, causing an estimated \$200 million dollars in damages. The fire killed an estimated 300 people but unfortunately only 120 bodies were recovered. There were so many deaths that the city coroner couldn't give an exact amount. At least 17,000 structures were destroyed due to the fire and poor building materials. All the transportation systems were still intact during and after the fire. One third of the city was engulfed by this fire.

Due to rain, the fire was put out on October 10th, 1871. The fire was completed 4 miles after it started and much of The Great City of Chicago was destroyed, about one

third of the city's span. The city officials came days later to assess the damage that the fire had done. The officials valued \$222 million in damages. The fire destroyed 73 miles of roads, 120 miles of sidewalks, 200 lampposts and 17,500 buildings throughout the city.

The Great Chicago Fire disaster left 100,000 people homeless due to the great amount of destruction. This called residents to start an outbreak of looting and lawlessness. Martial law was enforced on October 11th, 1871 due to this chaotic outbreak. The martial law ruling lasted for two weeks under General Sheridan's command. This ruling consisted of regular military men, militia units and police. For the two weeks Sheridan's men patrolled the streets of Chicago monitoring the city and enforcing laws. This enforcement helped aid the city in closure after the fire. By 1893, the city was a major tourist attraction visited by 30 million people (half of the US population).

The first month after the fire the city elected a new mayor, Joseph Medill, who promised to create better building and fire codes. The reconstruction of the city began rapidly and made amazing economic and population improvements. (History.com). Chicago's population grew by 200,000 within nine years after the fire. During the first month after the incident other states decided to help by donating food, clothes and other goods. This helped the residents of Chicago by providing the necessary supplies for a great tragedy like this.

After the fire, middle class workers were forced out of The Loop, creating a new path for bigger businesses to redesign the lake front properties. With these new and bigger businesses headed to The Loop architects started designing bigger and more functional buildings on the lakefront. Architect William Lebaron Jenney

designed the current day Manhattan building after The Great Chicago Fire. This building and many more current day developments could not have happened without the tragic incident of The Chicago Fire. Currently the Chicago Fire Department Training Academy is located on the site of the O'Leary's barn (CAC).



Leopold & Leob's Murder of Bobby Franks By, Teaunna Lane

"What can be more sensational than the kidnapping and murder of a child?" says, Leob. Leob and Leopold's murder of Bobby Franks is amongst the saddest stories in Chicago times. In 1924 the two boys admitted to the kidnapping and murder of 14 year old Bobby Franks for fun. On May 21, 1924 the two friends, who were both from wealthy families, performed the gruesome act that they planned, and they figured that they'd get away with the crime.

Both Leopold & Leob grew up in Kenwood, a Jewish neighborhood in the south side of Chicago. Leopold and Leob both were very intelligent young men who were considering making bad choices. Leob wanted to commit a crime that would set all Chicago talking. In the summer of 1920, he met Leopold. A genius student who enrolled at the University of Chicago at the age of 15. Leob was also a genius who had

graduated at 14 from University High School and enrolled at the University of Chicago the same year as Leopold. The two young men felt like they both had something in common, but they had differences as well. Leopold was very much querulous and argumentative and where Leob was more gregarious and extroverted; misanthropic [disliking humankind and avoiding human society] and aloof.

The thought of kidnapping and murdering Bobby Franks started on May 21, 1924. They were driving around looking for an innocent victim. Then Leob saw his cousin, Bobby Franks, walking the opposite direction to where they were driving and suddenly indicated that he was their victim. They thought they would get away with it, but their rumination of the whole plan didn't go as they considered it would. Unfortunately when they were dumping Bobby's body, Leopold's glasses were left at the crime scene, which gave them away and made them leading suspects.

Not only did they find doing this gruesome plan okay, but they also were going to demand \$10,000 in ransom from Bobby's parents. Before the crime began the two bought a rental car and Leob lured Bobby into the car. Encyclopedia Britannica describes the incident. It says,

"Hey, Bob," Leob shouted from the rear window. Bobby turned slightly to see the car (Willys-knight) stopped by the curb. Leob moved forward, going towards the front passenger seat, to open the door. "Hello Bob, I'll give you a ride". "No, I can walk" "Come on in the car; I want to talk to you about the tennis racket you had yesterday. I want to get one for my brother", Leob said. The two have been plotting this for months now, they had to make sure they had all the right tools, like buying hydrochloric acid, making it sure that once they dumped the body it

Continued...

couldn't be easily identified.

Alternatively, ten days later after the murder, May 31, they confessed and demonstrated how they killed the innocent bystander. The investigators found a pair of glasses the day of the murder and which this led them to Leopold and Leob. They were called in to talk to them but just ended up telling the police officers such as the investigators of the gruesome idea they planned. They discovered that the glasses they found were only sold at one place in Chicago and out of the many people in this state only 3 people had them. The first was a woman who still had her glasses on her, the second person was a lawyer but he was nowhere near Chicago at the time, thirdly Nathan Leopold Jr.

Following the fact that they both were confused about their alibi on the situation but they told each other well lied about one of the other killing him while one was driving. They also committed several other petty acts of theft and arson before attempting the "perfect murder". After their confessions, they were brought back to the Criminal Courts building and met their attorney's. They both were going to get the death penalty, but the attorney Darrow asked the judge John Caverly for more time to draw up more for the case. April 4th, 1924, trial begun and they were both sentenced life for murder and 99 years for kidnapping. Leopold and Leob were both sent to the Penitentiary. In January 1936, Leob was indeed killed by another inmate and Leopold was soon paroled in 1958 and worked in a hospital. He soon got married to a widow in 1961, he soon proceeded to death from a heart attack years later that's when he wrote "Life plus 99 years" (1958).



The Ripper Crew By, Wasiqah Maisha

Crime in Chicago is nothing new unfortunately. Having high profile names such as Al Capone, Frank Erlane, The Genna Brothers, and many more of the likes have added to Chicago's notoriety. Less is known about one group that preyed on the women in the Chicagoland area in the early 1980s. Known as the Ripper Crew or the Chicago Rippers, they were a satanic cult and an organized crime group. The group consisted of four people: Robin Gecht, the ringleader and the three accomplices were Edward Spreitzer, and brothers Andrew and Thomas Kokolareis. Their style is a combination of modern day Jack the Ripper with sexual motivation.

Not much is known about the individuals before their morbid fame as a group. But some things stand out about Robin Gecht, the ringleader. He worked for PDM contractors, the same company coincidentally owned by John Wayne Gacy- another serial killer and rapist who was active at this time too. (Chicago Tribune) Gecht was also accused of molesting his sister. He tends to exhibit a Ted Bundy persona where he tries to deny charges and constantly self-advocates his innocence which will be expanded upon later.

The cult is suspected in the disappearances and murders of over 17 women. This is how the modus operandi goes: Gecht and his crew would drive

around in an orange van looking for victims, those victims then are to be sacrificed in Gecht's space, subsequently removing a breast from the women, and eating it while

Gecht recited passages from the Satanic bible. (Murderpedia) There was an instance where they rented adjoining hotel rooms where chanting could be heard. The motel manager mentioned that the Crew may be satanic due to this reason and even go as far as saying that they had a look in their eyes especially Gecht. Carrying on with their operation, once they remove the breast, they take turns raping where the wound is. They continue by masturbating into the said wound and then devour it.

On a warm spring day of May 23, 1981, Linda Sutton became the first victim of the Crew. The body was found behind a Chicago motel ten days later after locals complained of a bad smell surrounding the area. The way she was found was through a mere assumption that it may have been a dead deer. When found, she unfortunately had her left breast brutally amputated, herself handcuffed, stabbed, and mutilated. Law enforcement had attempted to find the killers, but the case went cold due to no leads. Almost a year later, on May 15, 1982, Lorry Borowski was abducted as she was unlocking the door to the realtor's office she worked at. Some witnesses even recall her shoes still sitting there as she was snatched. Her body showed up five months later in Villa Park lying in a cemetery. A couple days after the murder of Lorry, Shui Mak was abducted from Hanover Park. Her body was not found for four months. (Criminal Wiki) Two weeks later, they abducted a prostitute named Angel York and mutilated her while she was still alive before throwing her out of

the van. She survived the attack, but even with the description given, no leads were strong enough to follow through. On August 28, 1982, the Crew abducted a teen

prostitute named Sandra Delaware. She also unfortunately was found stabbed, mutilated, raped, and fatally strangled. Next, September 8, 1982, Rose Davis was found in an alleyway with similar injuries inflicted on Delaware. Beverly Washington was abducted a month after Davis and found on December 6. She was left on the railroad tracks only to be found fighting to stay alive. Officials were able to track down Gecht after Washington's vivid testimony of each of them and their signature red-orange van.

As mentioned before, when the motel manager mentioned his suspicions to the officials, they were able to track down the rest of the crew. Gecht was almost released, but convicted nonetheless after this evidence. The other three started squealing on each other; testifying to get a lesser sentence. Gecht is the only person who remained tight lipped throughout the whole investigation. Since they could not tie him to any of the other cases, Gecht was sentenced to 120 years in prison for the attempted murder of Beverly Washington. He is eligible for parole in 2042. He still tries to advocate his innocence while all the others have insisted otherwise. Even Spreitzer mentioned a claim where Gecht got so mad with his wife, he cut her nipples off. Spreitzer and Andrew Kokolareis were sentenced to death by lethal injection. Andrew was executed in March 1999, however Spreitzer's sentence commuted to life shortly after Illinois abolished the death penalty. Thomas Kokolareis was released on March 29, 2019 where he now headed towards Wheaton to start life as a free man. He has

to register as a sex offender since most of his acts are sexually depraved, but restrictions such as being away from daycare facilities, schools, and playgrounds do not apply to him.

To see such heinous acts take place in the name of something superior to mask up twisted fantasies is another phenomena on its own. While many families of the victims have no wishes to revisit the horrific past, others agree it is time when it has to be.



Sam Cooke and the circumstances around his untimely death By, DeAngelo Barlow

"Sam Cooke" The innovator, The pioneer, The Charismatic Chicago pop legend turned activist whom we've all come to love. Cooke, who's regarded as one of the most influential and mystifying vocalists of pop music, has inspired millions across the globe with his amazing sound, smooth demeanor, and savvy business ventures. Sam Cooke, arguably the most "iconic" pop figure of the 1960's was a master entertainer, an artistic inspiration, and labeled a phenom, founder and "king of soul" by many future hall of famers. Sam's groundbreaking accomplishments as a black record label owner, owning his masters, publishing, and distribution rights, created for him some enemies in the industry and country in general. (Laurie Hutchinson) Sam

Continued...

Cooke's sudden and morbid success and "ultimately" being killed under very lurid details makes his death one of the most controversial of all time.

Sam Cooke was born Samuel Cook on January 22, 1931 in Clarksdale, Mississippi to a Baptist minister Charles Cook and a White mother Annie mae Cook. In 1933 the family moved to Chicago. By age 6, Cooke was already singing in the siblings group. Sam graduated in 1948 from Wendell Phillips high school the alma mater of another Chicago great "Nat King Cole" just two years earlier. Cooke quickly established himself as one of the all-time gospel greats, singing with legends in the likes of Aretha Franklin, the soul Stirrers and more. In 1957 Cooke added the "E" to his last name signifying a new beginning.

Cooke's first song "Loveable" was released in 1958 under the pseudonym Dale Cooke. Later that year Sam Cooke released his hit song "You Send Me" that soared to the top of the pop charts, eclipsing Elvis Presley's number one song "JailHouse Rock" For the top spot. On December 10th 1964 Cooke joined his producer Al Shmidt and his wife at Martoni's Restaurant for dinner. While waiting on dinner Cooke was invited to the bar

with fellow music business associates. At the bar Cooke met a 22 year old Asian woman named Elisa Boyer whom he immediately became fond of and began to drink and socialize with. "Cooke decided to forgo dinner with Al and fraternize with Elisa instead, telling Al he'd meet him later at the club. This would be the last time Al would see Sam alive." (Al Shmidt)

Sam and Elisa left the restaurant at 1am to rendezvous with Al at club P.J's, but they never made it in the club. Elisa recalled Sam speeding down Santa Monica Boulevard and entering the free-

way amid her protest to be taken home. Sam exited on Figueroa drive and made his way to Motel Hacienda where he booked a room in his name. According to Elisa; Sam then forced her into the room, pinned her on the bed, ripped her shirt, and groped her before heading into the bathroom to shower. Elisa seized this moment to grab her clothing (accidentally grabbing Cooke's also) and fled the hotel. Cooke, realizing that she had fled with his clothes containing his wallets, money and credit cards, frantically attempted to pursue her down the street but to no avail. Sam then confronted motel manager Bertha Franklin requesting information about the whereabouts of one Elisa Boyer. Legend says that Sam became irrational and attacked Boyer falling on top of her. Boyer struggled and kicked Sam to get free and then fired three shots striking him once underneath the armpit. Franklin stated that Sam's last words were "Lady you shot me." He then lunged toward her. Franklin says she picked up a broom stick and crashed him over the head repeatedly until he collapsed for good.

There is so much to question here! First Elisa claims to have been taken against her will but did not try to escape as Cooke went to book the room. Or, why would Sam, who was intending on raping a woman leave her unattended and unbound to go shower in the midst of the assault. "Then there's the Motel Manager Franklin (55) who states she forced Cooke (33) off her and beat him with a broom. Who in fear for their lives: sits down a gun to pick up a broom?" (Mike McCormick). The bullet that was removed from Cooke was from a 22 cal pistol, meanwhile Franklin owned a 32 cal pistol. This evidence mysteriously disappeared. Nor was there any mention of Sam's beaten body, bashed head, or broken wrist in the official police report. The trail was expedited very quickly. In just five days.

"On December 16th, 1964 Bertha Franklin stood trial without an attorney for the murder of Sam Cooke. Franklin was acquitted and the murder was ruled justifiable homicide" (Lydia Hutchinson).

Consider this; Sam Cooke had recently discovered that he was not the owner of his record Label "Tracey Records," which was established for him in the name of his daughter "Tracey Cooke" by his new manager Allen Klien. Sam was very disappointed and planned on leaving the label. The authenticity of the Articles of Incorporation were questionable as well. The signing date of the articles by Sam and both his partners, Allen and J.W, was Sept.27th in New York City. The day before, Sam Cooke performed live in New Orleans at 8pm, accompanied by Allen and J.W, making it very unlikely that they'd be in NY the next day for the signing. The notary was Allen Klien's long time secretary. Rumors spread of the possibility of Klien Having Cooke killed for his company, Tracey Records, which eventually merged with ABCKO corp. After Sam's death, Allen Klien became the owner of ABCKO corp.

Then there is the obvious activism that endangered Cooke, who had become really close friends with Muhamed Ali, Jim Brown and Malcolm X. Sam Cooke wrote the famous song "Change is Gonna Come" in protest of segregation and in honor the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The song was originally written as part of a multi-artist compilation album with various artists titled: "THE STARS SALUTE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR." and the proceeds were to go to "ML King Jr. SLC". However, Cooke's music controllers had the song released on another album. There is no information about where the proceeds of the song went.

Sam Cooke's awesome talent, activism, and wisdom far beyond his years has made him "soul music's muse." It has left millions to

wonder what he could have become had he lived to continue on the unparalleled trajectory that his career was headed. His death fills hearts with confusion, despair and it is unsettling knowing that we may never find the truth about his untimely demise.

Chicago River Reversal By, Jacob Charif



In this article, I will explore the crazy and little known history of the Chicago River reversal. The Chicago River flows through the city of Chicago and can be seen from the skyscrapers up above. The river was known to be where many meat factories and residents body fluids from the sewers would be dumped into. This river also connects to Lake Michigan, which happens to be where people of the city get drinking water from. Then a very bad storm in 1885 made the river overflow and got into Lake Michigan. The drinking water was now mixed with the waste water from the river that ended up causing poisons in the water. The poisons included typhoid, cholera, and other waterborne illnesses, and made the water bad for humans to consume (WTTW).

Thousands of people were upset about the city not doing anything about the water. After seven years of doing nothing

a man named Ellis Sylvester Chesbrough came up with a great idea. That idea was to change the direction of the water. Changing the direction of the water would help the waste go down stream to the Mississippi River instead of ever flowing in Lake Michigan again. Chesbrough's system would also add water barriers to control how many gallons are allowed in and out of the river (ASCE). This one of a kind project at the time, which was in the 1890s, was never heard of. In order to complete it, they would have to rebuild a 156 mile river path with new canals big and deep enough for ships to go through.

Before even letting other states know about this mega project, construction workers started breaking ground. By the time the workers got to the sister states of Illinois, like Missouri, the project was well underway. When St.Louis found out they were very mad. How mad you might ask? They sued Illinois and the Sanitary District of Chicago in 1901. Their lawsuit stated that "the object of the bill was to subject this public work to judicial supervision upon the allegation that the method of its construction and maintenance will create a continuing nuisance"(WTTW). The lawsuit goes on to explain how Chicago never got any permission to do anything in other states and was also harming the people in St.Louis. This mega project would make a whole new department in Chicago known as "Chicago Sanitary District (Now The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District)." This department would help make rules and regulations in water construction and pollution (ASCE). The project also helped create new technology for heavy duty equipment to be tried out. Chicago was the first and only place to have reversed a river in the world.

Language Diversity

By Chiukai Liu

When I was in elementary school, I reached the city from the countryside. The teacher most often tells me to raise his tongue. In China, “c” and “ch” are very similar but not the same. My mother also made me have to learn to pronounce the mouth instead of the throat, because it made others think that I was from the countryside. In fact, I don’t understand why language determines status. I don’t think that my local language must be taken lightly. Even I think the importance of local language and Mandarin is the same.

For Chinese, most foreigners think only Mandarin and Cantonese. A few people know Hunanese, Min, Gan, Wu and Kejia. In fact, there are nearly 100 languages of different nationalities in Chinese history, including local languages. My local language is a branch of “Min”. Until 8 years old, I could only speak local languages and

not Mandarin. This keeps me out of school life. I have been wondering why language affects one’s life. Why can only universal language be defined as “urban people” and “civilized people”? I don’t know what most people think, but I think that only different languages can reflect the diversity of a civilization. It took time for others. So in the past when I went to view art I have only viewed the top surface, meaning the art that’s in front of me, I have never gotten into thinking what the artist intention was when creating a piece, because I have never been challenged to do so, or to think in that type of way. Art has always been taught to me as self-expression, even if the audience didn’t get it, the artists have expressed themselves, because after all beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

I think the impact on language comes from the environment and

inferiority. When I was a kid, my mother was often criticized for accents and sounds. “You need to lower the volume”, “Don’t speak the local language” are the things I’m most often told. When I was a kid, my mother kept telling me not to let others think I was from the countryside. Even her description of the language in her hometown was “rough” and “ugly.” And I find that most people discriminate against local languages more than local clothes when they leave their hometown and enter the city. I think it may be because it is cheap. When a person wants to change from “countryman” to “urban man”, clothing and language are the most direct expressions.

Of course, the cost of changing the language is much less than the cost of clothing.

Chinese language has several most important points. For example “h” “g”. If “h” appears in the British standard, it means that you need to hold your tongue against the teeth when you pronounce it. When the phonetic transcription ends with “n”, the place of occurrence is the oral cavity. But you need to pronounce it with the nasal cavity if it starts with “g”. Like “ren” and “reng”. However, for most local languages in China, tongues are not used frequently. When I came to the United States, I met a lot of foreign students. They were all from

first-tier cities such as Shanghai and Beijing. Mandarin has completely replaced the native language in their cities. They often make me joke by saying “wang shan”. Then tell me I want to use my nasal cavity. In fact, I know it’s just a joke and I’m not angry. But I just don’t understand why the universal language must completely replace the local language.

The funny thing is that the Chinese government has mandated schools to restrict students to speak Mandarin for more than ten years, but now the government is paying more for people to learn local languages. Because the

government found that when the elderly began to decrease in the 1980s, more and more young people have completely forgotten the local cultural history and culture. Even the youngest generation believes that there are only less than 10 languages in China. It is very scary. Many times language is an important way to inherit culture because many elderly people in remote areas do not write. Local languages are forgotten, which means a lot of history will be forgotten. For a country, its historical heritage is its courage to face the world.



My story

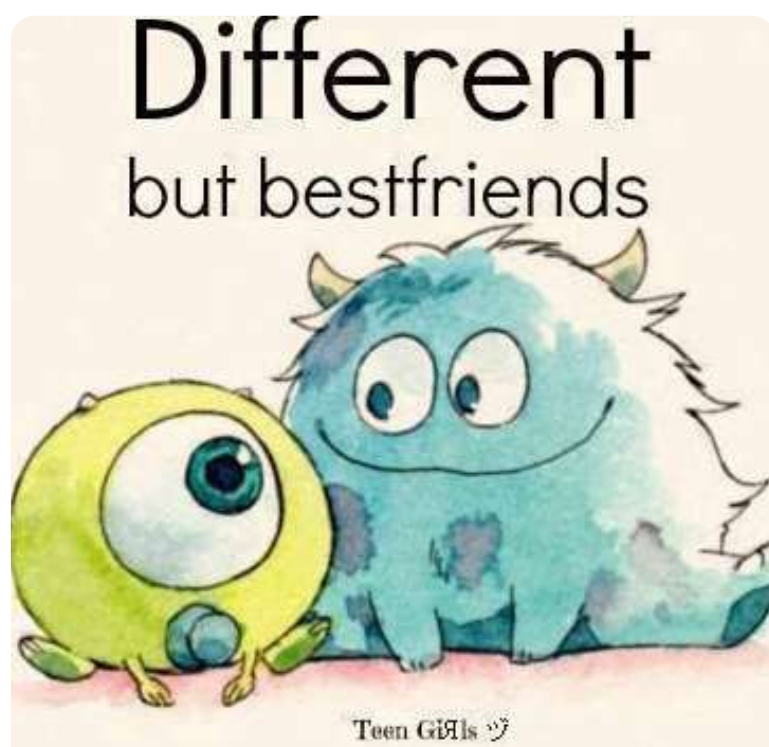
By Jazmin Taylor

My Name is Jazmin Taylor, I started attending East West University in the fall of 2008, after four to five years of straight school without exceling I quit, dropped out as a senior and decided that I was completely done with school. I was not really focused, driven nor determined. Seven years later I came back to finish off my last quarter as a

senior. I have grown so much as an intellectual, and I couldn’t be more proud of myself. I am more focused, driven and determined to finish strong. It was not until I realized my own strength, and confidence in myself that has me here now finishing strong.

What is a Bestfriend?

By: Darnesha Marion



"Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while and leave footprints on our hearts." What is a "Bestfriend"? A best friend is who you value above other friends in your life, someone you have fun with, you trust and whom you confide in. A best friend also helps or encourages you to make the right choices and keeps you out of trouble. The true definition of a best friend is someone that knows you inside and out and would go to the ends of earth for you. Through thick and thin, a best friend supports you and helps you through tough times. Prime example is my own best friend Brandon. He wakes up with me every morning to take me to work and make sure I

get to places safely. A best friend is someone with whom you've shared your most personal secrets with. Brandon is a shoulder to lean on and cry on. He helps me with my personal problems. He sees me on my best and worst days and he tries to understand me. He knows me better than anybody else. A best friend is not afraid to tell you the truth even if it's something you don't want to hear but it helps you develop as a person. With being with Brandon he helps me become better as a person by guiding into the right choices. So really today's question is still "what is a best friend to you?"

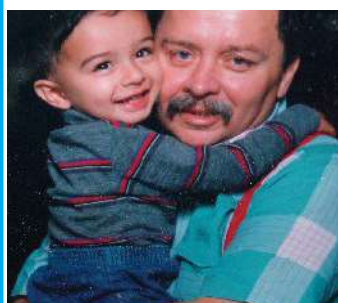
Contest!!

Do you know that Professor?

East-West University is having a contest to see who can guess the most professors!! The winner of the contest will receive a twenty-five dollar Visa gift card!

Contact Camille Harper with your answers.
Email: Ha21223@eastwest.edu

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



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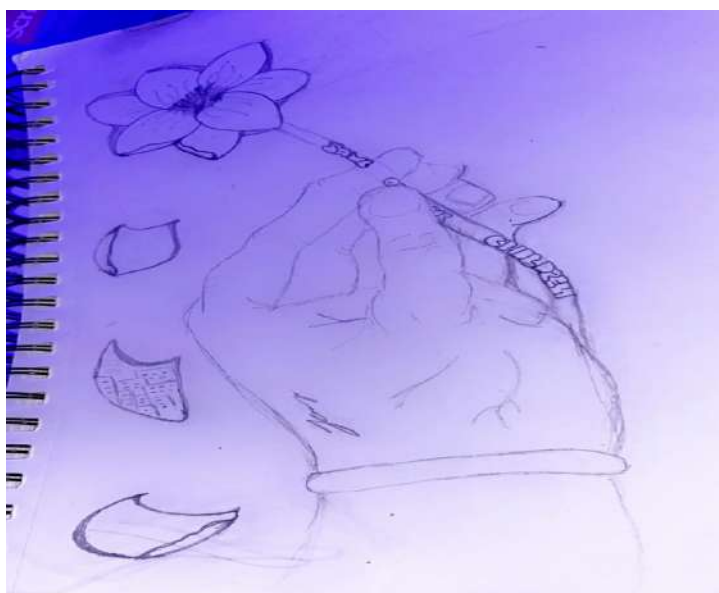
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The Chance to Paint A Mural

By: Jenny Cardenas

If I were given a wall to make a painting that I want to express something with or mean something to me I would paint A hand that is holding a flower, the flowers stem spells "save our children" and that flowers petals are being broken down , what I'm trying to display with this painting is one of today's situations... sex trafficking is a very real and tragic problem that's happening globally. The flower breaking down would represent the little things that are slowly ending society or making this problem even bigger. A child can be represented as a flower, pure and delicate which needs to be handled with care and love ...



Fully neglected,
The most projected but not protected.
I fight everyday to make sure my voice is heard
But society wants to silence me and shut me out like that "brick wall",
I stand on all 10,
But my mind is sinking and falling from within,
I cannot manage in a time like this,
But I do anyway.
Don't tell me to smile when things aren't going right,
And don't tell me I'm selfish because I rather take my own life.
Let's talk about it,
Because I am ready, to talk,
I just need the world to listen,
That's all.

Don Rodney

By: Del Hale

I have never seen so much time melt away like this before
And I have been trying to stay so observant of time
but in one sudden blink, I miss it all
and I miss you.
I am reminded all over again of how I
Miss your hearty little laugh
and that smile that can brighten any day
the way you style your blonde hair and
How it curled and swept around your head perfectly
Or how I miss sharing music with you
Knowing whatever you are listening to
Hating, loving, and repeating
Anything pop,
experimental to RnB
You even had the Bees Knees!
and always will be
Miss trips we shared
From a short plane ride to New Orleans
to driving down to the woods of Tennessee
And how hard how it rained that first night
and how close you held me to you
As if the rain could have washed us away through the trees
The friendship we shared is something worth writing dreams
about
A relationship that changed and rocked me into something
I never thought I could be
Or to
Something bigger than I can dream
A love that ones that set their heart on oh so much
And oh how I miss you so
and wish I was melting away this time with you
To cherish every single second before
one
sudden
Blink

Poetry Corner

Let's Talk About It

By : Alexis Williams



You try to make me smile as if everything is okay,
The riots,
The wars,
The politics,
The pandemic,
I have to deal with this everyday and I never had to tell
anyone that I wasn't okay.
Let's talk about how my own kind is the least respected,

Professor's Corner

To Trump, or not to Trump, that is the question

By Mike Bromberg (cont.
From Wi2020 issue)



are too lazy to argue on the issue as opposed to brushing it off as all people who I disagree with must be horrible people. This kind of stuff happens all the time with Trump. While there are many problems with our 45th president, being a white supremacist is not one of them. Those that call him that on a frequent basis likely are not aware of the countless times he has directly condemned such groups.

These name-calling tactics make little sense too if you actually pay attention. What is amazing to many people is that there is no correlation between skin color and values. I come across black or Hispanic conservatives from time to time who say the same things that conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh might say, which means that their view of the role of government and on many of the issues we grapple with as a society are right of center (republican) and this confuses many political hacks—because they too, must be white supremacists, right?

I've heard this, quite surprisingly, from the highest positions, oddly enough. One example is Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass) who had said in 2019 that democrats don't need, "any more black faces that don't want to be a black voice." The

first thing that came to my mind was, "So, black people all should think or vote the same way?"

I couldn't believe it, it sounded utterly racist to me. What about prominent conservative African Americans like Larry Elder or Candace Owens? What about Clarence Thomas, a conservative and black member of the Supreme Court?

At East-West University, a place which nobody in their right mind would accuse of having diversity issues, I have seen students that are not quick to have a "black voice" but they whisper or have to keep some of their opinions to themselves because it sounds weird to say anything positive about a republican (certainly weird to say something positive about Trump!)

This is fascinating to me because it turns out that skin color has nothing to do with one's opinion on the size of government, the role of our military, our relationship with other nations, the pros/cons of guns, abortion, fossil fuels, and the economy.

If this all seems confusing to you, recall the absurdity (and hilarity) of Dave Chappelle's famous sketch from 2003 starring a character called Clayton Bigsby, a black, white supremacist (he was literally blind so he did not know he was black).

Keep it rational, folks. Otherwise, you might end up like that member of congress who has apparently gotten consumed by the political hackery of our times, sucked into the abyss of the partisan talking points. Politicians like her are like Gollum from the Lord of the Rings, consumed by all the power and with little hope of getting back to a balance. If we don't engage with each other in meaningful ways that promote reason and intellect, then we run the risk of getting consumed by all the noise and turning into something ugly.

Budgetary, Financial, and Real Estate Experts Weigh in on Covid-19 Economic Recovery

By Bonnie Jean Adams



When the unexpected happens, there are a lot of options. There are no answers. In doing research for my book, "Be Very Afraid: The Cultural Response to Terror, Pandemics, Environmental Devastation, Nuclear Annihilation, and Other Threats" author Robert Wuthnow found studies

that show that the most common response to crisis, personal or societal, is to take action. We want to make plans and figure out what to do. It's reassuring to have some plan. But where do we begin?

According to Bruce Horek CLU, ChFC Agent State Farm Insurance, "We have clearly seen with the stock market crashing, businesses shutting down for long periods because of the coronavirus, and the looting of businesses that the economy is in bad shape. Unexpected events like Covid 19 tend to expose weaknesses in our day-to-day lives. As we return to normal, assessing our ability to recover and survive the unexpected is important. Develop a plan, with these questions in mind. Do you have an emergency fund? Is it enough to last 6-12 months without a paycheck? What are my Health Insurance Bene-

fits? Deductibles? Co-pays? What are my Life Insurance & Disability Benefits? Can my family recover if something happens to me and my paycheck is gone? Are my beneficiaries current on all my plans? Do I have needed documents in place and up-to-date? Reviewing these items now prevents chaos and confusion if the next un-expected life event happens. Take the time to review and prepare."

Jeff Badu, CPA, Owner & Practitioner of Badu Tax Services, LLC. advises, "Right now, there are tons of government assistance programs to take advantage of, such as unemployment benefits, stimulus checks, and rental/mortgage assistance programs. My best recommendation is to educate yourself, especially when it comes to finances, and take advantage of every possible opportunity that's applicable to you. I would

Politics is a lot like Chinese food: It seems like a lot at first, but then an hour later you realize it was all empty calories.

These days we are too often guilty of ad hominem, which means that we attack the individual as our form of argument. It is amazing to me how often I will read or watch the news with people making the argument that a politician or a commentator is a racist, white supremacist, homophobe, and so on. One of the great examples is that popular conservative podcaster and radio host Ben Shapiro is often called a Nazi by those on the left. Now if you know anything about Ben Shapiro, you know that he is an orthodox Jew, which means he is far from what anyone would call a Nazi.

The name-calling is sophomoric, it is an indication that you either didn't do your homework or

also advise having an emergency fund of savings in the event of an emergency such as COVID.” And if you can afford to invest, Badu suggests, “Start by investing in index funds such as Exchange Traded Funds (ETF’s) that offer consistent returns with little to no headaches.”

Don’t be afraid to move forward. According to Dulce Ramos, Real Estate Broker/Manager at Chicago Sweet Homes Realty Inc. “If you are buying for the first time, this is an excellent time to buy. Interest rates are at historical lows. For every \$100,000 you borrow, you only pay \$471.00/month!! Not bad--especially when compared to current rents in the Chicago area. Overall, the market looks pretty good and prices are reducing slightly, but no major impact from COVID-19 yet. It’s a great time to buy due to low-interest rates, although banks have increased their restrictions on lending. You must have a pre-approval for a mortgage or proof-of-funds if you are buying cash.

Take advantage of community grants and guidelines that allow the seller to pay costs for the buyer. Get in the market as soon as possible with as little of your own money as possible. That’s using “other people’s money” to make money. You put the minimum down allowable to be in the game. It would take too long to save enough money to put 20% down on a property. Enter the

market with as little as 3% down, if you qualify. If you are working, you will qualify for something. It may not be your dream area or dream property but it will help you gain equity to get the bigger down payment you will need to buy in an area you want. You can sell, or borrow against a property to buy more.

If you find a property that you like for a business, consider a Small Business Association (SBA) loan. They have loans available to qualified business owners that give you money for real estate and the business. Business owners can partner with organizations such as Neighborhood Housing Services that have Business Development arms to help small business owners obtain these loans and mortgages. Lots of rules apply but many have found the capital to start a business this way.”

Do the research to make what may seem impossible, possible. “Capital access has been the biggest hindrance for minority business owners since the beginning of time. Most people will tell you to start with the SBA and your local community bank. I suggest preparing to be creative. My father purchased his first of a chain of pharmacies in the 50s with a loan from his ice cream vendor. A lot has changed since then but it’s an example of uncommon resources. Today with Kickstarter and various applications there’s a lot more potential investors with different risk profiles.” This is the

advice of Alvin Boutte, Jr., former investment banker, owner of the Bronzeville Academy Charter School.

For those looking to invest, Boutte states “A balanced investment profile is always best. Broad market exposure has been the best exposure in terms of cost and performance. Why pay a lot of fees for a big name manager when you can buy an index fund with almost very little fees and the same performance or better. If you’re looking for individual stocks look for companies relevant and relatable to you. It makes research and insight easier.

Covid has ransacked the world. I see it as a big equalizer. It has decimated the employment market but it’s created so many more opportunities for entrepreneurs. If you’ve had an idea you weren’t sure of, now is the time to rethink your idea and how it fits in a changing world. Often running that audible is what you need to find success. Embrace the changes from Covid because the world is not going back anytime soon.”

American Radio Host, Author, and Businessman Dave Ramsey agree. “People have the opportunity to look at what’s happened over the last few months as a “never again” moment. So many people have found themselves in financial ruin from this pandemic, and that’s just awful. But now it’s time to start looking forward.

It’s time to say, “never again” to making choices with money that set you up for financial failure. It’s time to say, “never again” will my family depend on the government to bail us out. “Never again” will we be slaves to the lender. Make the decision today to move forward toward financial success.”

Speaking from experience, Dave Ramsey started on one radio station in Nashville back in 1992, sharing practical answers for tough money questions. Today, the show reaches 15 million listeners.

“I’ve been doing this for thirty years. I was there when Y2K was going to end the world, and it didn’t. I was there on 9/11 when America was attacked, and I was there in 2008 when the economy

crashed. We will get through this too, but we cannot abandon hope. Hope returns when you control the controllable. Let this be your never again moment. Never again will I not have an emergency fund when an emergency happens. Never again will I not have a budget at the beginning of every month and a plan for every dollar. Never again will I have to rely on a government bailout and hope my family qualifies. Never again.”



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DECEMBER 12, 2020!!**

Contact:

Caleb Negron

Email: Caleb@eastwest.edu

or:

Dr. Nadia

Email: Nadiah@eastwest.edu

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East West University, 816 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL
60609 (312) 939 -0111

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