



Dean's List Winter 2021

Shamaila Afreen	Bir Mahato
Samah Arabiyat	Julia Martinez
Maria Aranda	Juribelth Mondragon
Luis Baez	Hay Thi Khine Myo
DeAngelo Barlow	Antonio Nieves
Esteban Cajamarca	Alexis Polowsky
Jaihae Carodine	Jayda Porter
Hibret Deres	Ivana Radeka
Zachary Drury	Francisco Ramirez
Camille Harper	Tamaria Range
Mohamed Jannedi	Hemendra Kumar Raval
Munisa Jimjimo	Erika Ruiz
Sakina Fathima Khan	Dimpy Shah
Christian Lopez	Maurice Truss
Joanna Luchowska	Yash Vala

Honor's List Winter 2021

Bryan Allen	Jeel Patel
Zefan Amare	Puja Pradhan
Iva Brooks	Daisha Pryor
Viridiana Castillo	Maricarmen Rodriguez
Ashieka Dyce	Malone Smith
Kwyanna Hargrays	Armon Stanton
Ayana Higgins	Bhumi Thakkar
Esther Jimenez	Curtaveon Woods
John Lewis	Diana Yamamoto
Wasiqah Maisha	
Alexis McNulty	
Crystal Morrell	



Valedictorian of the class of 2021

ESTHER JIMENEZ

As the first graduate of my family all I can say is, I made it! Carrying the title of Valedictorian for the class of 2021 is such an honor.

The feeling of happiness and success inside made me realize one important thing, and that is that hard work always pays off. This is not the end for my path, my path is always open and I will succeed even more in life.

Thank you to everyone who supported me and understood me, which lead to my success.

EAST-WEST'S LOGO SHOULD REFLECT ENLIGHTENMENT

Jorge Hernandez

I believe East-West University affiliation name and logo should be changed. East-West affiliation name and logo is Phantoms. By definition and thought of this word – it has a sinister and shadow name for itself. I speak on behalf of East-West student's – we are more than just a mere shadow that'll disappear at the appearance of light. The new affiliation and logo should be an Owl. East-West is the direction the wings of an Owl spreads. This itself reflects creativity. Above the Owl will appear a halo effect – representing the flight towards excellence and education. The color's blue and gold will remain the same as it represents royalty and wisdom

Why Logos Are Important

Logos represent more than just an image. A logo

symbolizes identity. We are attracted to what we define ourselves to. In the Spring of 2018, I was in your Psychology 101 class when you've shown a clip titled The Stanford Prison Experiment. We are attracted to what we define ourselves to. To attract to our current logo – is miserable. Majority of East-West student's come from violent neighborhoods and face a reality that's darker than the Phantoms the university logo attempts to portray. Agencies such as the CIA, FBI, NSA – all have a strong symbol to resonate the purpose of their organization. I believe

we should have a strong symbol to resonate the purpose of our university.

East-West Future

East-West has a future. Many student's and teachers are highly talented and creative. An Owl as a logo reflects this. I, Jorge Hernandez of East-West University, propose to you – a change in our affiliation name and logo. Let the Owl represent the soul, the halo represent our reaching for wisdom – then bless the world with our knowledge and education.



Previous edition of this article cited an inaccurate source. It has been removed.

EDUCATION SHOULD BE FREE

Jorge Hernandez

What is Education? Dictionary term of the word education means – the act or process of imparting or acquiring general knowledge, developing the powers of reasoning and judgment, and generally of preparing oneself or others intellectually for mature life. The problem with this argument is that the proposition is vague. By this meaning, we all naturally obtain free education. Parents provide their offspring education all throughout infant until the age of reason and until adult life.



Another type of education is experience. We naturally experience experiences; we can say experience leads as teacher because experiences teaches us. Therefore, experience is education. As well as on the job training – learning a new skill and learning things unknown to person is also education. Libraries are free and are also the leading educators of free education – they have

many books and sources of material for checkout that can be learned and prepare the individual who seeks free education. I will assume the argument is of college education so I will begin as it.

The problem with education is that there is a cost with receiving free education. Education at all levels needs funding. According to claconnect.com, the site reports the following statement, “Free isn’t free: Somebody has to pay for the proposed public benefits, which an increased number of students would claim, driving already high costs up even further. The question of who and how prevents many policymakers from moving forward, even though other details in the existing proposals may be attractive.” As attractive as the idea may seem, the money has to come from somewhere. Assuming impoverished people will be the majority of the population to attend for free education, will need a source of funding for themselves as well. Notebooks, pencils, folders, textbooks – isn’t free. Okay, there are some places that offer some of what I listed as they are donated but textbooks are constantly updated and very expensive. Expensive

and important – according to teachervision.com, under Use Textbooks Wisely, it states – “A textbook is only as good as the teacher who uses it. And it’s important to remember that a textbook is just one tool, perhaps a very important tool, in your teaching arsenal. Sometimes, teachers over-rely on textbooks and don’t consider other aids or other materials for the classroom. Some teachers reject a textbook approach to learning because the textbook is outdated or insufficiently covers a topic or subject area.” The main takeaway is that textbooks can be outdated so it is necessary that they are renewed. I speak for myself that this is a necessity. You always will need up to date information or sometimes you will suffer consequences. For example, Radium. Radium was discovered by Marie Curie in 1898. By 1910 radium was made synthetically in the U.S. Before anyone knew the effects of radium exposure, damage was done. By this statement, I believe not only is education important, but education with up to date information is vital. What makes it vital is the content that is in textbooks.

Education should be free because the cost can cause a financial impact on a student. According to claconnect.com, “Student loan debt is staggering. Many

graduates start their careers and adult lives owing tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars in college costs, while others don’t even attempt to apply for or enroll in higher education programs because of the prohibitive price of tuition and fees. Proponents say that free higher education will open doors to opportunities for those who could other-



wise not attend college or who would carry crippling debt to pay for it. Some proposals would even forgive existing student loans, unburdening borrowers of their debts.” Debt is a major concern especially for those that do not have enough income for survival. It impacts a great number of students who want to better themselves by attending school but have no funds to attain the education needed for prosperity. Education should be free. According to forbes.com, “The latest student loan debt statistics for 2020 show how serious the student loan debt crisis has become for borrowers across all demographics

and age groups.

There are 45 million borrowers who collectively owe nearly \$1.6 trillion in student loan debt in the U.S. Student loan debt is now the second highest consumer debt category - behind only mortgage debt - and higher than both credit cards and auto loans. The average student loan debt for members of the Class of 2018 is \$29,200, a 2% increase from the prior year, according to the Institute for College Access and Success.” The statement from Forbes is staggering and stomach churning. \$1.6 TRILLION equals student debt – students are suffering at the hands of non-free education. The problem of non-free education is lethal. According to moneyandmentalhealth.org, Breaking the link between financial difficulty and suicide, it follows – “We know there are many factors that can lead someone to take their own life, and any effective prevention strategy needs to reflect this. However, one factor that has historically been overlooked in relation to suicide is the role of financial difficulty. Our 2018 report, A silent killer, showed that over 100,000 people in problem debt attempt suicide each year in England alone. This is a staggering figure, which highlights an urgent need to improve our understanding of this issue as a society,

and to take action to address it. So this World Suicide Prevention Day, we're focusing on three key actions that the government, firms and local authorities can take to help to break the link between financial difficulty and suicide – and hopefully save lives." Should I continue why Education should be free? The fact that financial difficulty is an attempt to suicide is heart-breaking. Education should be free because suicide by financial difficulty will be relieved. To blame – politicians and the president of America. Congress passed the CoronaVirus relief bill containing \$12 billion. This funding is a joke. We had outbreak almost every year since the last decade and even before. Examples include, the 2009 H1N1 virus, the 2014 Ebola virus, the 2016 Zika virus. And here we stand, alive. The funding towards the coronavirus bill should have instead been used to greatly reduce the cost of tuition and provide funding for free education. I believe education should be free: it would tremendously reduce debt, limit suffering of those affected and prevent those at risk of suicide by financial difficulty.



BARCELONA, A CITY OF MANY FACES

Carl Cooper

If you read the article by Monica Leary in the Phantom Press, you know the fun that was had by the students who took the London and Paris trip. Now that we are working our way through the Covid issue, I have established another

TRIP ABROAD FOR STUDENTS IN MAY 2022.

We are headed to the beautiful city of Barcelona. This won't be my first time, but I am looking forward to returning there. When I retire, this is one of the places I would consider living.

During my visit to Barcelona I fell in love with the lifestyle, the beauty of the city and the progressive ways they tend to handle large city problems.

When you arrive in Barcelona at the hotel, you may think it is a nice sleepy city that is laid back and not much happening. But that is the farthest from the truth you can get. Barcelona truly can be a relaxing city that enjoys life but it also has an industrial side and has the problems associated with any large city.

The city has political disagreements as well. These two flags represent the fact that many of the residents of the city want to remain part of Spain while the second group want to withdraw and become independent as part of Catalonia.

During my visit I was overwhelmed by the number of great restaurants located there. And I have to tell you, I tried a lot of them. Not once was I disappointed with the food or the service. This was one of my favorite desserts.

After having a rather large meal with wine and dessert, I went on a tour of the various sites that remained after Barcelona hosted the Olympics in 1992. The Mayor of the city believed the Olympics totally transformed the city of Barcelona into a global sports forum.

Next, I wanted to see inside one of the many Cathedrals that stand so majesty throughout the city. My choice was to visit Sagrada Familia Church. While the English Department may find the words to describe the beauty of this building, I am struggling to do this Church justice. The detail both inside and outside the building is so perfect in every detail that you have to see it to believe it. These pictures are almost an insult to the workmanship that went into the creation of this building.

Park Guell was clearly one of the highlights of the trip. A trip up the hill overlooking Barcelona and the Mediterranean Sea is a

tour you won't forget quickly. Built by an industrialist because of his ill daughter, it stands a marvel of ingenuity and grandeur. It has walkways, entertainment areas, servants areas, and ideas that were ahead of their time when they were created. Keep in mind this was created at a time when pumping stations for water were not common. Yet the design allowed for this. Besides that issue, finding seating for his many guests outside was another interesting project that involved a large number of people undressing to aid in the construction of the seating. What does nudity have to do with construction, you have to take the tour to find out.

While I did visit many other interesting and sites like the Gothic Quarter where Isobel and Ferndinand received Columbus after his journey to the new world, the Mercat dela Boqueria and the Picasso Museum in El Born, the part of the trip that impressed me the most was a guided tour by a homeless individual (scheduled as part of the upcoming trip for students)

where he showed up how the homeless survive on the streets, how the city addresses the drug problems within the city and how prostitution is controlled in the city.

If this sounds interesting to you and you would like to join us on our trip to Barcelona, you can view the schedule for the trip and learn more at

EFCOLLEGE STUDY-TOURS.COM.

When you enter the page, about 1/3 of the way down the screen you can enter the

**TOUR NUMBER
2398765YJ**

This will take you to the information and allow you the option to sign up for the trip. If you have questions, **please contact Mr. Cooper.** I am in the office right across the bridge on the 3rd floor. My office is E315. The total cost of the trip is around \$3000, which includes airfare, hotel, insurance, and other benefits.

Travelers are already signing up and if you sign up before the end of May you can get the \$200 discount offered to early bookings.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS



MILITARY TAKEOVER IN MYANMAR

Haythi Myo

On 1st February 2021, the military junta took over my country, Myanmar. Democratically elected politicians were kidnapped and detained, leaving the country leaderless. They restricted the airports, Internet and Cell services, TV programs and so on. Aung San Suu Kyi, a Noble Peace Prize laureate and the lady who fought for our freedom, who had been put under house arrest for 15 years, was detained again last month. Blood-thirsty military ruled my country for nearly 50 years in the past, slaughtering thousands of students along with other protestors who fought for democracy in 1988. They committed a genocide against the Rohingya in 2016. Currently, they are instilling fear by making unlawful arrests at night, burning the property and

attacking the people with water cannons, tear gas, brutal beatings and shootings. They are ruthlessly killing the peaceful protestors fighting against a tyrannical system, including children, pregnant women and monks. This is crime against humanity. What will

I see next time I visit a



temple there? A Buddha or a bullet? How many dead bodies does it take for jus-

THE WORST DAY OF MY LIFE

Fahad Sardar

27th December 2007.

This was the worst day of my life and I am glad to say I made it out alive.

I was in Karachi Pakistan, my home country, the day started of normally and I went to play golf with my friend and his father. Everything was normal until we found out that a very big politician had been murdered who was Benazir Bhutto. Since the incident didn't take place in Karachi, we focused on finishing the remainder of the training.

As Soon as we left I heard loud noises and people were on the road burning cars and throwing rocks. The situation has become so intense even the police had to back off. Phones began ringing. People began talking in hurried, panicked voices. People pushed and shoved to rush out the doors and into their vehicles.

There was a moment where our car was in the middle of the road surrounded by armed men and they wanted to burn the car down but luckily my uncle managed to think fast and escape.

Everyone had stories of their personal experiences from that day. Some of the people stuck in traffic; some were stuck at home and could not step out. There was one common thread that tied all of the stories

together feelings of panic.

At one point I thought I was actually gonna die because all the roads were blocked and armed men were taking out their frustration on anyone and everyone. I saw people rushing toward our car and screaming stop. My friends dad who was very brave and didn't stop and had to run over a person. A bullet struck our car, I had ducked down and thank God no body was injured.

We knew it was impossible to make it home so we were passing a hotel and we rushed in for safety. We spent 1 day and 1 night in there until the situation eased and we could finally go home.

I am still haunted by events of that day. After this there was a Rangers operation in Pakistan where all the gang leaders were arrested and most illegal weapons were removed of the streets.



Benazir Bhutto

YOU CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE

Alyssa Hernandez

Class scheduling is very important, be sure you are taking the classes you need! Here are helpful tips to decide your next schedule.

1. Take a look at your academic Catalog- this tells you what classes you need
2. Start filling the catalog up with the classes you've already taken, you'll start to see how much schooling you have left
3. Meet with your advisor- they are here to help

When registration time comes by utilizing your catalog you'll know exactly which classes you need to take. You can use work on your next quarter schedule with your academic advisor using the catalog.

Let's not forget YOU ARE IN CHARGE OF YOUR SCHEDULE AND FUTURE!



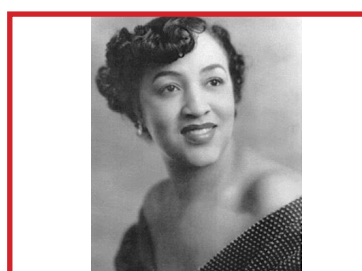
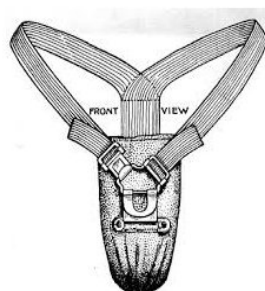
AFRICAN AMERICAN INVENTORS

Tia Smith

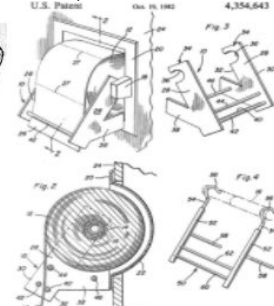
Do you know how hard it was for women to do anything? The 1900s was very crucial for women. They couldn't do anything if it wasn't house work or taking care of the kids. The men had to do everything that's considered lifting a finger, as good as that might sound; it was actually miserable for women back then. By women not having no oppurturites, when they did the inventions are very important and very useful. I'm a black woman trying to show everybody else about black women like Lydia Newsome inventing the hairbrush, Mary Kenner inventing the sanitary belt and Annie Malone and hair products for african americans.



Lydia D Newman created the hairbrush specifically for african americans hair. According to <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lyda-newman-1885/>, Newman's hairbrush was patented in 1898 when she was 13 years old. Newman's interest in making this newly designed hairbrush began when she would start doing her own hair. Newman made the brush out of synthetic bristles which allow you to comb through your hair easier. By making all these changes to the brush and adding synthetic materials, the new hair brush was cheaper and easier to manufacture. This made the brush accessible to women of all different backgrounds. The texture of your hair is very different from everyone else and the brush she created was meant for any hair texture. Could you imagine how hard it would be everyday if we didn't use women products?



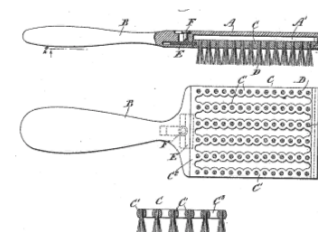
We got one more lady to be thankful for, Mary Kenner. She created the Sanitary belt that holds the pad in place and the pad itself and many more daily inventions. According to [https://www.diversityinc.com/womens-history-month-profiles-mary-beatrice-davidson-kenner-inventor/...](https://www.diversityinc.com/womens-history-month-profiles-mary-beatrice-davidson-kenner-inventor/) for items she created with the goal of making people's daily lives easier. Kenner came from a family of black inventors, her and her sister created the tissue holder; which everybody has in their household. She created the serving tray and a pocket for a walker. Regardless she filed 5 patents - the most of any african american women to this day. She just wanted to make people's lives easier and she never gave up no matter what. She never gave up on herself most importantly.



The last most underrated strong black woman is Annie Malone. She was the only black lady to be a millionaire off of hair products. According to Wikipedia, She developed and manufactured her own line of non-damaging hair straighteners, special oils, and hair stimulant products to african american. Malone worked her hardest to make sure African Americans have a way to manage their hair in a healthy way and make them look good at the same time. She went door to door to sell her products and got it out in the world. One of her selling agents Sarah Bredlove Davis later known as Madam CJ Walker. They worked together until they had a disagreement and she left the company to do her own thing. Which really means Ms. Malone inspired Madam Cj Walker until

they got into an argument and she started her own company and got famous. This didn't stop either one of their money, they still did what they wanted to do which was make beauty easier for African Americans which was the goal. Everybody just wanted life easier for African Americans.

All these women worked their hardest doing these times because back then it was every other day. These women showed us every way of being creative and strong and this month they should be recognized for every little thing they accomplished or even attempted. These women are strongest in this era. Black people weren't allowed to do anything and they showed every reason why they should.



**THINKING ABOUT FUTURE**

Jada Woodley

The future is something that I've always thought about as the great time of my life. In my opinion right now is the time I'm working hard to rest later. Looking forward to something will always keep me motivated. Also seeing other people be successful knowing that I can push and push to hopefully one day being successful and able to relax and enjoy the "future".

I quote "future" because today the future isn't granted, but in honesty nobody's life span is guaranteed. I live my life with no regrets and knowing I only live once. Living knowing that your life isn't guaranteed I say live your life to the fullest.

"You only live once," says Harvey Mackay. When Jada looks to her future she sees the life she will have after everything and every goal she wants to accomplish.

QUARTERLY MOTIVATION

Alyssa Hernandez

Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world. BB King

We have taken the next step into the battlefield of life, education and knowledge is only making us

stronger.

Congratulations you have taken a step ahead of most people, a lot of students quit after high school. Any extra education you gain is a bonus, you have leveled up in life and you are also winning at their battle we call life.

With all of the education you have, you can change not only your life, but other lives around you. Most people do realize the power of education unless it is presented to them by someone else. Try being the presenter, be the eye opener to others.

TIME MANAGMENT

Kassandra Owusu

Keep up with your work. If you attend class regularly, stay aware of your readings and take notes reliably. Multitasking can most definitely be a tough thing to get under control.

Set aside time to study in advance and then follow through with it. Try to audit and develop class notes routinely all throughout the semester.

Consider building up a glossary or note cards for class. Do what makes you comfortable in order for you to strive for the best. "Failure is not an option." -Gene Kranz

I LOVE ANIME

Mateo Watson

Why do I like anime so much? It all started when I was 12. My brother was watching Air Gear in the living room and I decided to join along. At first, I was confused because I had never seen this type of creation. It gave me a sense of thrill to see animations that looked so real. It had great dialogue and scenes full of action. It felt like I was watching a soap opera but in a cartoon



version. Ever since then, I was hooked. It was like crack, I was addicted.

What I like so much about anime is that there's different types of genres that anime includes. There's so much to watch, you'll never get bored, the comedy is awesome. The first anime that I considered my favorite was Naruto. I loved the way it valued friendship and the meanings behind it. It felt very realistic since they talked about morals. At a very young age, Naruto taught me to never give up.



He fought a lot of battles but kept going so I translated that aspect into my own life. My second favorite anime was Your Lie in April. It taught me how to express my feelings to a girl. The main character was very shy but he somehow knew the right words to say. It also taught me how to appreciate my loved ones because the girl he was in love with ended up passing away from cancer at the end of the show.

I like anime so much because I feel like the writer puts his life into a sheet. There's a lot of emotions that each one brings up, whether it's happy, funny, or really sad. I'm always going to continue to watch anime because it has shaped part of who I am today. People look at anime and think their streaming levels are low, however, they are very high when looking at statistics. I would say it's availability bias. They say it's cartoonish, but anime is deeper than that. It's like a book, you have to sit and analyze it.

SYSKO

SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW... OBVIOUSLY

The title of this section is a play on words, combining complementing industries within technology sectors and the inception of SYSKO segments, a new Phantom Press section introducing a member of East-West community

IVA M. BROOKS

B.A. English and Communication expected in 2021
Personality: Extroverted introvert, playful, mild tempered, not too high maintenance, family oriented, dedicated single-mom, driven, reasonable, ambitious, slightly comedic, professional, composed, usually flexible, serious when necessary, sapiosexual, passively dominate, compassionate, thoughtful, progressive, creative, practical, free-spirited

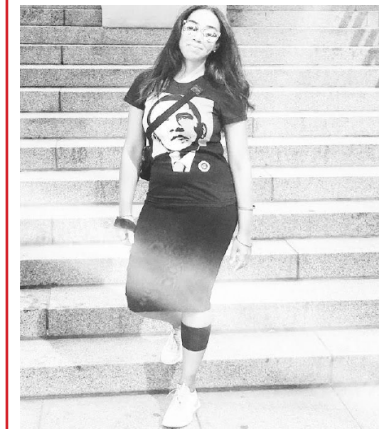
Sex/gender: Female

Origin: United States

Relationship status: single (never married)

Favorite tv show/book as a kid: Sweet Valley High

Favorite color: Chartreuse





Briana Bates

WHAT DO YOU FEAR ABOUT FUTURE

Bonnie Jean Adams

We hate the uncertainty of the future. The present is easy to see. But the future? Studies show that young people no longer look to the future with anticipation. So many bad things could happen. In 2020, everything changed. And it will change again, and it will keep changing. Nothing is forever or guaranteed. Yet we all need something to look forward to so that we can keep going. How do we do this?

I can't tell you that everything will get better. I won't tell you to stay positive. I do want you to stand strong in your belief in yourself, because this is all you've got.

5 things to remember to ease your dread-

1. Build skills that are adaptable. Don't rely on degrees or titles for security.

2. Keep good company. Connect with people who support you and will have your back.

3. Keep fluid in your choices and expectations. Don't give up easily but

if you need to, be able to adjust.

4. Invest in yourself. Keep learning.

5. Believe in yourself. Bad times don't last. Nothing is forever. Failure isn't forever.

"Whatever you think your life is going to be like, just know, it's not gonna be anything like that." - Greta Gerwig - Abbie Porter "20th Century Women"

"Traditionally, life has been divided into two main parts: a period of learning followed by a period of working. Very soon this traditional model will become utterly obsolete, and the only way for humans to stay in the game will be to keep learning throughout their lives, and to reinvent themselves repeatedly. Many if not most humans may be unable to do so." - Yuval Noah Harari, Homo Deus: A History of Tomorrow

Young people must face the future with courage. Stand strong. Life is a journey- Keep moving forward.

FROM COMICS FAN TO UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR AND BACK AGAIN

Terrence Wandtke

When I grew up, comic books were my obsession. Before video games captured kids imaginations, I read about superheroes like Daredevil, barbarians like Conan, and

space rangers like Rueben Flagg. Something about the image-based presentation of stories made perfect sense to me. Years later, I looked back and realized some of those

stories were better than others. However, I've never completely outgrown comics as my parents had always hoped.

Now, I read sophisticated visual/textual narratives like Art Spiegelman's Maus (winner of the Pulitzer Prize) and Alan Moore's Watchmen (one of

Time's 100 best novels of the 20th century). And now, I understand comics through my eyes as a professor: as a bridge between material and digital culture and as a so-called "outlaw

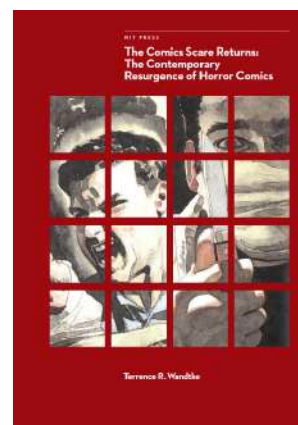
medium" that showcases creators outside the mainstream.

I've written three books (on superhero, crime, and horror comics respectively) and edited

three others. I'm very interested in the connections between comics and other media forms like literature, film, and video games. Consequently, my latest book focuses on Robert Kirkman, the comic book writer who created the multimedia phenomenon The Walking Dead and who

founded Skybound Entertainment (producer of comics, television shows, and video games).

All this seems to have worked out for me. Recently, I've been featured on the Chicago area PBS show The Roundtable Discussion and Marvel's SiriusXM series



Marvel Declassified. While my interests have grown beyond the superhero comics of my youth, I still read them occasionally and love to talk about them--and in regard to comics adaptations, I am totally looking forward to the upcoming Snyder cut of The Justice League on HBO Max.



TRUST THE PROCESS

Alexis Williams

Don't stress too much about the past, it already happened.
Don't stress too much about the future, it hasn't happened yet.

We as humans are always worried about the things we can't control at the moment,
But have we ever stopped to think about our current situation and how it can affect us for what's coming next?

Trust me,

What you are striving for at this very moment will come to you sooner than you think.

I have ambitions and goals I want to achieve,
But I will never seek those opportunities if I don't believe.
Don't you see?

We all walk different paths,
Strolling down the yellow brick road to victory.
Trust the process love,

You'll be happier now than you were,
That burden of self doubt will leave those heavy shoulders of yours.

And now you're free,
You're living in that care free world that you've been dreaming of.

Now there's nothing to be afraid of,
You trusted.

You believed.

And now, you will succeed.

All because,
You trusted the process.

COLLEGE

Briuna Amos

College is where you find yourself

College is where you may lose yourself

The goal is to become a better YOU in the end

Life is unfair and everyone has a sad story

Self Growth and a Degree is your end goal

Mistakes build character and pain makes you stronger

Do not become your past, Don't stay in the present and
Build for your future .

Briuna Amos,

Good luck on your quarter everyone .

IS CANCEL CULTURE GOOD FOR US?

Michael Bromberg

In 2020, I remember discussing cancel culture in an English class. The term was still so new that most in the class had not heard of it let alone considered its pros and cons. The cancel theme has indeed become a forefront of the news cycle in 2021 as we have seen this issue with such timeless classics as Dr. Seuss and the Loony Tunes. So, if cancel culture is throwing shade at the evils of society, as is its supposed purpose, then how can that possibly be bad?

One of the things I think about is the bigger picture of who exactly determines what is evil, what is frowned upon, what is acceptable, and what is the ideal? For children's books, I would think the answer to this question is parents.

If millions of parents signed a petition that called for the halting of publication of six Dr. Seuss books due to its depictions of cultural stereotypes, then that would be worth debate. If studies showed that Dr. Seuss books such as "If I Ran the Zoo" were contributing to the racism of American people (via quantifiable statistically significant data), then that would be worth debate. Yet neither of those things happened and still we had cancellations (six books) of one of the most beloved children's book authors certainly of the 20th

century. Dr. Seuss was also politically liberal, so it's not like he was the Rush Limbaugh of the genre: this was not someone who historically attracted controversy.

So even after this whole news cycle is over and faded out, I ask myself if I would still read Dr. Seuss to my kids. Would I think that seeing these pictures might influence them to turn into horrible people? What a frightening thought!

Then I consider every

er in the Washington Post who basically connected the dots of cancel culture to those that are privileged and probably voted for Trump. That seemed like quite a rhetorical leap to me, but he just called it a "hop" meaning that to him it was obvious: If you are a Trump person, then likely you don't want Dr. Seuss canceled because Dr. Seuss signifies what is wrong with America.

Now, personally, I don't



other children's book, cartoon, or classic work of literature that may contain stereotypes, cultures, and commentary that would be woefully politically incorrect in the year 2021.

Before I even go there, I should note that the very attack on cancel culture is seen as people who are racist. So, if you do not like when something racist is canceled, then you must be racist—is the logic here. Wait, what?

I read one example of this in an analysis by a writ-

love Dr. Seuss because of "Make America Great Again" or whatever Americana this writer is envisioning that fuels all that is wrong with our society.

I don't want to cancel Dr. Seuss because Dr. Seuss is awesome.

If any reasonable person really thinks that reading to their kids Dr. Seuss will promote racist ideologies, then I certainly haven't met them or even seen them on TV. Is there any science to

CONTINUED...

IS CANCEL CULTURE GOOD FOR US?

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support this? Of course not. It's all political hot air.

The amazing thing is that columnists, such as the one who wrote the piece in the Post, go as far as to say that there really isn't any such thing as cancel culture, or even if there is, what could possibly be wrong with it?

Well, one problem, as I alluded to earlier, is that Dr. Seuss is just the tip of the politically incorrect iceberg. Do you know how many

Duck is seen saluting Adolf Hitler. Now this was done as satire, of course, and certainly was not meant to put Nazi Germany in a good light, but you could argue that it should be banned for very evil imagery that was depicted. That short, by the way, won an Oscar and was noted as one of the greatest cartoons in a book by an animation historian. Also, that cartoon, if I remember right, was really funny if you understand the con-

might have to overhaul quite a bit of its theme park to keep up with the times.

Does Pepe Le Pew propagate rape culture?

That is a legitimate question being asked by serious news people. Now if there were documented instances where people watched Pepe Le Pew cartoons and then went out and raped people, then I would say we have ourselves a worthy debate.

Another potential problem with cancel culture is the idea of book burning and/or books "vanishing" as the result of the 2021 political fervor. When you have shows/films you could watch via streaming that you no longer can watch—it's a good argument for having the hard copies because, I don't know about you, but I don't want Google, Amazon, or Netflix telling me how to parent my kids.

Cancel culture is damaging to our society because these issues are not only non-scientific and based



more on emotion and "correctness" than objective and rational thinking, but, I mean, let's be honest: the idea of a cartoonish French skunk as a way to "normalize" rape culture is the epitome of absurdity.

I loved Pepe Le Pew as a kid and I would hate to rob my children of that joy. Also, Pepe Le Pew was a villain, so you could argue the animators would advocate that "No means No" if you really want to go there.

Having an awareness of racial stereotypes is one thing and can even be a thing where parents can have the chance to teach their children when they come across them in cartoons or in books! Sadly, to

see some of these classics disappear as the result, is something that could snowball into territory that really will hit a nerve, especially if you are like me and always loved watching cartoons and (gasp) going to theme parks where many of these characters still live to this day.

I love Bugs Bunny. He was no perfect bunny, and likely will be canceled for dressing up like a girl bunny (among other things) but I want to go on record as someone who will always share the love of Looney Tunes as one of the great joys of the 20th century, and many of the great joys of my childhood.



cartoons, especially those created during the 30s and 40s, were wildly racist by 2021 standards? We would be (and likely will be) canceling quite a few beloved Disney characters such as "Chip n Dale" or Donald Duck.

Speaking of which, did you know there was a Donald Duck cartoon in which he became a Nazi?

No joke, there were many cartoons back during the 40s that were American propaganda, and in one animated short Donald

text of it and the era within which it was made.

Yes, the supposed sins created by Dr. Seuss are seen in many cartoons to the point where Disneyland

Newspaper Developer - Ivana Radeka
Faculty Advisor - Dr. Maria Polski
Design Supervisor - Dr. Julie Zhang



East-West University

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

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THE JOURNEY

Kavan Prajapati

I still remember the day when I was new in the United States of America. As I was afraid to get out of my friend's house, I was not able to make some clear conversation with anyone in the US. All day, I used to be on the phone and talk to the people in my home country who were up until late. As the time passed by, I had to make a transfer request from my university to another. I already had the acceptance letter from a university in Joliet. So, I only had to sign some paperwork to make a final transfer. The very first task for me was to go to that specific university in Joliet, in which it takes 45 minutes from my home to downtown in order to get into Metra station.

The most important part to mention is that I had a phone in which the battery used to get low sooner than usual. As the Metra trains are not very often, I had to hurry to get to downtown Chicago. Unfortunately, I forgot to take my power bank along, from which I used to charge my phone. I made it on time to get onto the train. However, when my phone showed the notification to charge it. I was relieved enough to make the train and opened my bag with soothing calmness. I used to keep

my phone's charger and the power-bank in the same space in the bag. I tried to take all my documents and all other useful things out of the bag and tried to look throughout the bag. Still, it was nowhere inside the bag. I totally got nervous and thinking about how to go back home.

It was the very first time when I rode the Metra train and went out of Chicago by myself.

I was trying to listen to the announcement carefully and tried to figure if I was arrived at the station. Lastly, a passenger whispering in the phone said that Joliet was the next stop, and I accidentally heard the passenger. I was all set to get off the train and meanwhile also, thinking about getting into university. When the station arrived, I got off the train as soon as possible, and started to look for some store from where I can get the charger. I started walking down the street struggling to find a store. A person probably waiting for the bus asked me if I needed help with something, I couldn't afford to lose that golden chance. I told him I was trying to find a store and get into university. He told me that Walgreens was way too far, but he pulled up his phone and told to how



to get to Walgreens, but I asked him for the route to the university. Meanwhile, I took my notebook from the bag and started drawing the map with approximate time of walking and every turns and street names. After 30-45 minutes of walk throughout the Joliet downtown, I finally found the university. I can still recall that specific moment when I was extremely exhausted and my shivering legs while walking up the stairs to the office. The person who helped me out with the paperwork asked me for the reason to get late. I explained every single moment from Chicago to Joliet. He was completely speechless and couldn't say a single word about what just I did to get there.

Later on, he arranged me the college bus to get to Metra station and asked the driver to be with me until the train leaves for Chicago. Also, he gave me charger from university, so I don't need to struggle going back home.

LETTER TO MY MOM

Alure Porter

You carried this creature in your stomach got 9 months
So 9 months walking blocks with your head down
because you was only 17

Little creature came in and stopped your dreams even if
you tell me don't take the blame

But what can I say when I know you had to throw everything
down the drain

This creature got you into situations you ain't want to be in
Rather it was screams from yo mama or everyday reminder
of that man

I can't explain every feeling you make me feel
But imma do my best to dig deep and grab what's deep
down within

So Mama this ones for you from me breezy and man
From the day my mind started to store memory you became
a everyday memory

Since kindergarten you shaped me into this nerd and let
me know that it's okay to be the black sheep

As you always say "I was made different and unique"

With my circular glasses and chubby cheeks they called
me Arthur

While you called me beautiful

At the age of 5 you made sure my faith and self esteem
wouldn't drop

Cause every time I accomplished something do you remember
the handsome "Good Job"

so at the age of 5 I believed in you like I believe in God
Like how mothers would say "I never knew I could feel
this way and love the way I do"

Well I never felt this until I meet you

And even ya 5 different personalities

Mama bear, Dr. Riley, mentor Camille, my bestfriend, and
I could even call daddy

Because you supplied for us when I felt we didn't have

You fought for us when I felt you didn't care

You sacrificed for us
when I felt we had
nothing to sacrifice

You paid the way with
us and I asked with
what money?

I solute you because
you're the omega to to



CONTINUED...

LETTER TO MY MOM

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my heart
 You are the finish to my start
 This ain't a game but the way you hit me
 The bored is my heart and your love is the dart
 You shot and I fell hard like a high school sweetheart
 What's medicine when you are the Advil to my heart-breaks
 The ointment to my rashes of disappointments
 You're the hero to my failures but you say there's no such thing when it comes to us
 Mama I just want to thank you
 Thank you for coming home smelling like
 Hard work

Stress
 Anxiety
 Worry
 Rent
 Light bills
 And even
 gas bills
 Sorry if
 we act un-
 grateful
 But you
 showed us



how to be
 great even if we tired and full
 So we're always grateful
 Thank you for giving me that shoulder to cry on when I
 felt the work was shoulder-less
 Thank you for soaking up my tears and showing me how
 to use them plant my seeds
 And your tears changed 3 Tumbleweeds You kept my life
 when you could have cut yourself open and took it
 You saved my life when I didn't want any saving
 Remember Riveredge when you told me you rather lose
 me for 72 hours than the rest of your life?
 Thank you
 Thank you for being the Bob to the future I'm building
 Thank you for being the popular girl and letting me fit in
 Thank you for giving me a reason to want to be great
 Thank you
 Words can't explain what you mean to me but I just want
 you to know you mean the world to me my Black African
 Queen.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DRESSING WELL

Cristy Calderon

Many of us have heard the phrase “dress for the life you want, not the life you have.” A lot of people brush it off and don't really dress “well.” It comes from the idea that if you work in an office but someday you want to work in the corporate part of your job you should dress in more professional attire because it causes a really good impression on those around you.

It's no secret that dressing well is a creative outlet for many people but why is it so important? Dressing in something else other than t-shirts and sweats not only makes you look good but also makes you feel good. When we dress well we feel more confident and the people around us can see it. When we look good people treat us better and we also do better in our daily tasks.

Everyone has their own taste of style and when we dress with what we like we show some of our creativity with the items we choose to wear. Another reason why we should dress nicely is that it helps us meet people with similar taste, which means our outfits are a way of finding people we can add to our network! Dressing nicely doesn't mean buying the most expensive things in the market but instead buying affordable things that look good on your body and that make you feel comfortable when you have them on. It's kind of sad but people judge you based on how you look so if you look well put together people have a better impression of you.

Next time you pick an outfit remember that the way you dress shows not only who you are as an individual but how you feel about yourself!



VEGAN FOOD?

Arley Palomino

What do you think about when you think about Vegan? Do you think that it might be bland? Or do you think that it is unhealthy due to the fact that meat has essential nutrients that are part of the human diet. For example vitamin B12. Vitamin B12 is only found naturally in foods from animal sources, so sources for vegans are limited and a vitamin B12 supplement may be needed.

Many people are confused about what to think

Well I am not Vegan. But I do stop eating animal products for a day. And I can't just stop eating sweets because I am not letting myself eat anything that has animal products.

One day I went to this vegan restaurant that had no animal products and for a second I did think that it was an animal product. (I'm not saying that everything that is going to taste just like dairy or meat.) This restaurant actually made me think maybe dessert can also be as good as that restaurant. So I hopped online and started to look for recipes of my favorite dessert and I found one that I fell in love with and I will not go back to the original recipe. It sounds weird and it might look weird at first but TRUST ME WHEN I TELL YOU! It is way better than the original.

INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNI, NOW EMPLOYEES!

Arley Palomino



Daniel Diaz Registrar

*Class of 2019, Computer
Information Science major*

What is your Title at EWU?

Registrar but before he became the Registrar he was the assistant to the Registrar

How long have you been working for EWU?

Daniel will make 2 years in July. BUT! Daniel just started the new position a couple of months ago

Did you work as a Work-Study? (Work-Study is someone is a student that works for the school)

Yes. Daniel worked as a Teacher Assistant for 3 years in the CIS Department. Daniel worked in class helping students understand the class. Daniel was the one that was walking around the class helping students while the teacher was teaching.

What was your Degree?

Bachelor of Computer and Information Science (CIS)

When did you finish your degree and when was the Graduation Ceremony?

Graduation and Ceremony was in June 2019

Did you know when you Graduated that you were going to work for East-West University?

No, Daniel was looking for a job when he received a call. Daniel said that the person that contacted him told him that he was referred by a teacher.

Do you like your job?

Daniel said that he really likes his job. He likes that there is always something to do. There are things that we don't know happened behind the scenes and he likes that he is in control over that.

What was your dream Job before EWU?

Daniel likes his job, but before he got the job he really wanted to and really wants to do Graphic Design.

What is your favorite food?

He really likes Mexican food but he also likes chinese food.

Where do you like to eat for lunch?

Daniel says that he likes his home made food. But when he feels like he needs a break he decides to go to Five Guys. Daniel says that it is very good and its walking distance.

Give an advice that you like to give to current students

Always stay on Track to Graduate. Daniel said that he sees many students leave and never come back. He also says that he sees many students so close to graduate and they don't because they don't come back.

What is your favorite spot in EWU?

Now we all know East-West University. It's a very nice building but the best part of EWU is the side Lounge in the SLC.

Evelyn Castillo Admissions Advisor Class of 2020, Business Administration major

What is your Positions title?

Admissions Advisor in East-West University.

How long have you been working for EWU?

5 months, Evelyn started in the Fall semester of 2020.

Did you work as a work-study student?

Yes, Evelyn worked as an Admission Assistant. Coincidence, I think not! And as an Assistant Receptionist for 2 years.

What was your degree? How long did it take you?

Bachelor's in Business Administration. It took Evelyn 4 years and 2 quarters.

When did you finish your degree? When you go to your Graduation Ceremony?

Evelyn finished her degree in the Spring Semester June 2020. But due to the Pandemic she had her Ceremony in August.

Did you know you were going to work in EWU before graduation?

No, the Director of Admissions saw Evelyn and offered her a job. Evelyn did go around the campus asking if there was any position opened.

Do you like the job?

Yes! Evelyn said that she was lucky to get it. She likes seeing new freshmen come

in. She really likes what she does.

What was your dream job?

Evelyn says that it is still her goal to be a Businesswoman and be an Entrepreneur.

What is something you like to do outside of work?

Evelyn said that she loves spending time with her family.

What is your favorite food?

Evelyn is a huge foodie. But if she really had to choose she would have to choose Posole.

If you had to choose a restaurant here in downtown to go eat, where would you choose?

Evelyn had two places that she likes and that she goes to. She likes the taco Maya and Harold's Chicken.

What is your favorite place in EWU?

SLC Lounges and the Library.

What advice would you give current students?

Earn and Finish your Degree. Never stop dreaming. Prioritize your goals.