

# the accolade

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KAREN LEE | theaccolade

## BACK TO THE FUTURE A DECADE IN REVIEW

*Social media trends. TV shows. Fashion.  
The 2010-2019 decade has come to a close,  
and The Accolade takes a look back at these years  
while looking forward to what 2020-2029 has to offer.*



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# The Accolade relives past decade



*Michelle Buckley*  
Editor-in-Chief

2020 is not just a new year — it's the beginning of a new decade.

Over the last couple of months, everyone has been reflecting on the past decade and awaiting the new one. Whether it's through social media or family time, individuals have been expressing their favorite moments from the last decade with photos and videos that resurface old memories.

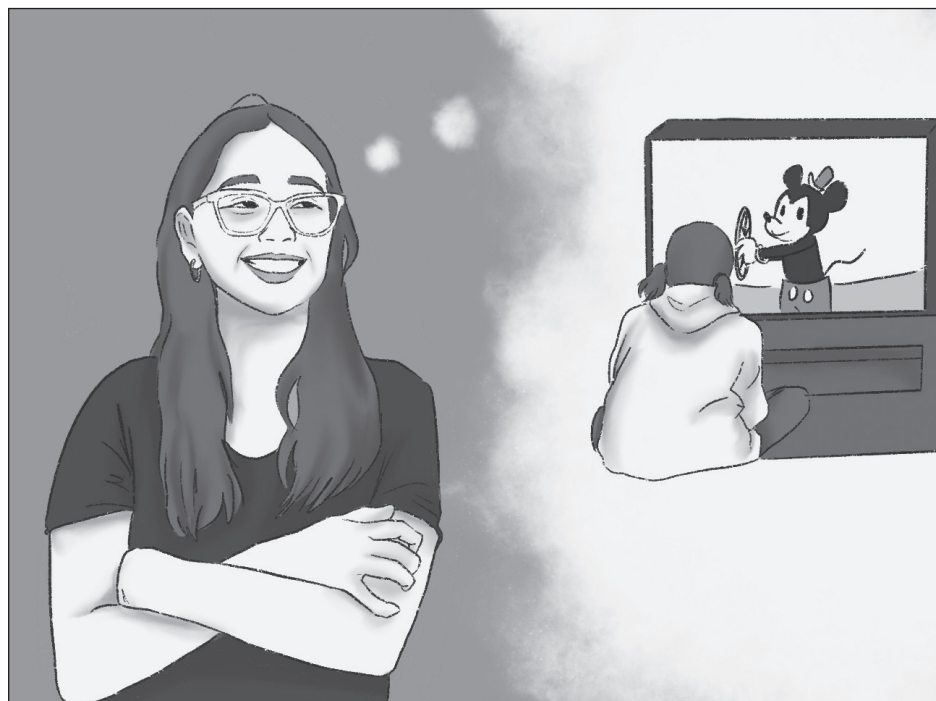
With this issue, *The Accolade* staff wants to do the same.

We want to share our treasured moments from television shows to social media applications that we all spent time watching and using. We can't get enough of bringing back old memories as something we appreciate.

Considering how much we have grown since 2009, it's right to not only commemorate the TV characters we looked up to as heroes, but also the individuals who brought us technological advances that we use to this day.

For this issue, we're breaking down the best moments in the United States and Sunny Hills history. We want to share the most impactful changes made to our school and the prosperity of our sports teams.

To share the information as best as possible, we split up our paper into four



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different sections: "2010s in Focus," "Perfect 10," "Significant 10" and "Tenspeed" (think of the bicycle).

The 2010s in Focus section covers great renovations or additions to the SH campus over the past decade. On a broader scale, it also covers the advances made in technology such as the Nintendo Switch and Apple's AirPods.

Perfect 10 reviews all things entertainment. From our favorite Disney shows such as "Jessie" to viral trends like the "Ice Bucket Challenge," we bring back all the good vibes from our childhood years.

Our Significant 10 section covers the

10 most impactful moments of the decade. Whether it was the rise of #MeToo movement in 2015 or the Election of 2016, these moments shaped our political and economic views that still impact us today.

In the final section, Tenspeed, we look to this new decade to see what's in store. Will the next 10 years bring us the first female U.S. president? How far will we go in terms of space exploration? By answering these questions, we delve into what might be coming in the near future.

May you enjoy this special issue that will bring back your childhood nostalgia and get you to think forward to the future..

## Here's my list of last decade's mementos



*Kristima Aryal*  
Staff Reporter

Social Media has played a dominant role throughout this decade, allowing people to

share information on a global platform.

Through these various applications, diverse cultures and ideas have developed through the creativity of teens.

With that came the rise of memes, an amusing or interesting item (such as a captioned picture or video) that is spread widely online, especially through social media, according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary.

For me, the fall of Vine, an application in which users shared six-second, looping video clips, marked the end of a comedic era.

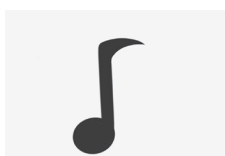
However, the rise of TikTok, another platform in which users share lip-syncing, dancing and comedy videos has resurfaced old memories.

Here are some of my favorite memes:

### The Accolade staff's Memes of the Decade



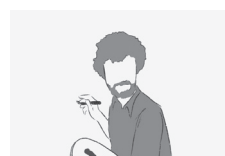
Favorite Animal Meme  
**Doge**



Favorite Music Meme  
**"Call Me Maybe"**  
-Carly Rae Jepsen



Favorite Challenge Meme  
**Water Bottle Flipping**



Favorite Celebrity Meme  
**Artist Bob Ross**

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#### "9 + 10 = 21"

This six-second Vine that took the internet by storm in July 2014 stars Habeeb Cisse, a boy from Baltimore, Maryland, who wrongfully answers "21" to the question from his older brother, "What's 9 + 10?"

Even though it is clear to most that the answer is wrong, I still found it absolutely hilarious along with many others when the video went viral in 2014.

Many of my peers copied Cisse's accent and repeated the equation throughout the school day. Whenever the number 21 was mentioned, giggles fol-

lowed.

Later on, the video was deleted from Vine because Cisse got bullied on social media as many people started calling him "dumb" and "stupid."

Looking back now, the concept of the video may seem silly but back then, it influenced so many of us.

#### "Why you always lyin'..."

This iconic Vine was created by Nicolas Fraser and had over 16 million loops on the social media platform.

The clip shows Fraser kneeling on a toilet in his back yard and singing to the tune of "Too

Close" by Next but replacing "Baby when we're grinding..." with "Why you always lyin'..."

He posted the Vine with low expectations, thinking it would get 100 likes at the most.

Obviously, that wasn't the case. Although this video went viral almost five years ago, I still remember the impact it had on me as a fifth-grader. For me and a lot of my classmates, it was a way of making fun of those who exaggerated mundane situations. Later on, Fraser posted the full song on YouTube and Spotify and became known as the "2015 song of the summer," according

to Complex, a media platform for youth culture that focuses on trends.

#### "Ok, Boomer"

The quick-witted remark that "marks the end of friendly generational relationships," according to the *New York Times*, has been sarcastically muttered by Generation Z teenagers, including a lot of my fellow classmates.

Originating on TikTok, the phrase spread rapidly, as thousands of users reposted their own struggles with boomers, expressing their dislike toward the generation's thoughts on phone usage, neglecting books and internet dependence.

Boomers are classified as the generation born between 1946 and 1964. "OK BOOMER!" is a song created by Jonathan Williams, a 20-year-old college student who caught the eyes of many.

Later, Peter Kuli, a 19-year-old college student, created a remix of the song which had over 5,000 TikToks made with the track being lipsynced to

The last decade has given us so many iconic memes, and I can't wait to see what the upcoming years will bring us.



PAUL YASUTAKE | theaccolade

**BRING ON THE RAIN:** Head coach Peter Karavedas holds his 2019 CIF-SS Division 8 championship plaque at San Marcos High School stadium Nov. 30, 2019. The boys sealed their 24-21 win and first CIF-SS title in 27 years with senior Wilson Cal's interception in the endzone during the final minute of play.



# TEN-YEAR RUN: ACHIEVED

In the time since athletics director Jon Caffrey arrived on campus in 2009, Sunny Hills sports teams have won four CIF-Southern Section titles.

Boys golf got the ball rolling with a win in the 2013 CIF-SS championship followed by the boys soccer team securing the 2016 CIF-SS Division 2 title, girls soccer clinching the 2019 CIF-SS Division 2 championship and the 2019

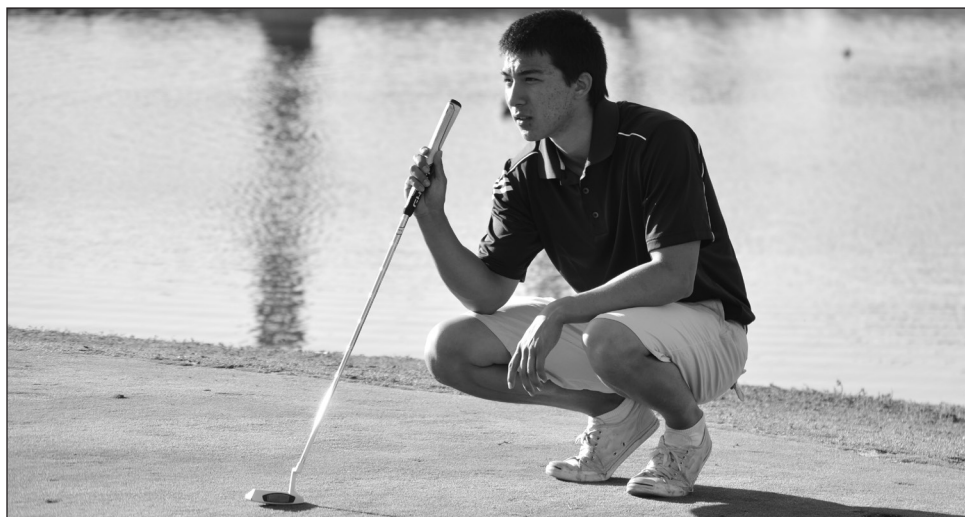
football team winning a clash in the 2019 CIF-SS Division 8 title game.

Other notables: girls basketball won the 2018 CIF State Division 3 Southern Regional Final, girls water polo reached the CIF-SS semifinals in 2018 and 2019, softball reached the 2013 CIF-SS Division 3 final and baseball reached the 2015 CIF-SS Division 3 semifinal.

— by Andrew Ngo, sports editor

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**EYE ON THE HOLE:** Then-junior David Weatherly lines up his shot during a practice in 2013. That team would go on to win the 2013 CIF-SS title and the 2013 Southern California Golf Association High School Tournament.



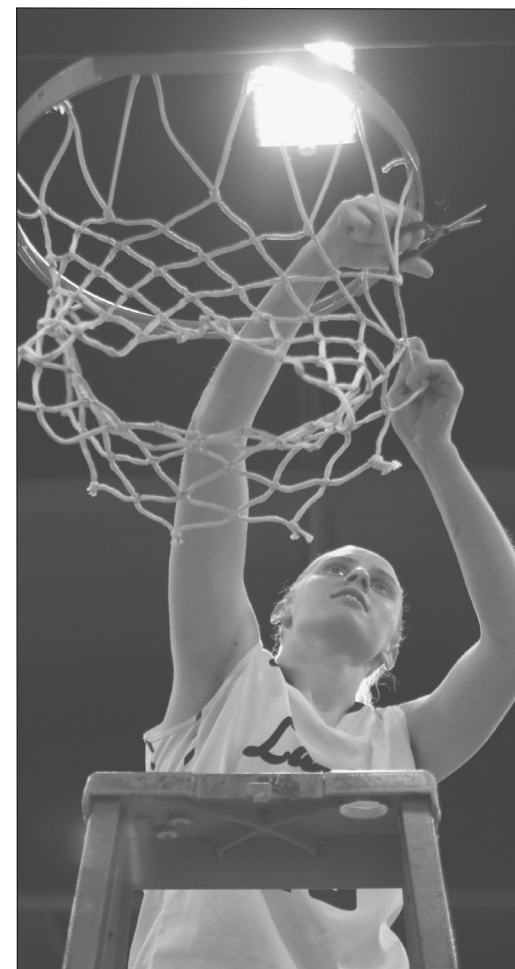
The Accolade File Photo

**RUNNING TO A TITLE:** Then-junior Auburn Burnett (right) passes Hannah Bruhns in the 2019 CIF-SS Division 2 Girls Soccer championship game at Warren High School stadium on Feb. 22, 2019. The girls soccer program played in the CIF Finals in 2012 and 2013 and reached the 2018 CIF Southern California Regional finals.



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**WIDE OPEN:** Former Sunny Hills soccer player David Torres (right) looks to pass a defender during a game in 2016. Following an undefeated Freeway League season, his team would beat Jordan 1-0 to clinch the 2016 CIF-SS Division 3 title March 5, 2016.



The Accolade File Photo

**BRING IT DOWN:** Then-junior Jessica Barrow helps cut down the nets with a pair of scissors following the team's win over Mater Dei Catholic 53-50 in the 2018 CIF State Division 3 Southern Regional Final March 17, 2018.



# School renovations span decade



PAUL YASUTAKE | theaccolade

**A 21ST-CENTURY LOOK:** The gym's renovation from 2017 featuring renewed hardwood floors and freshly painted alma mater encourages an atmosphere of fierce school spirit from present and past Lancers.



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**MAKING A SPLASH:** Sunny Hills' swim and water polo teams got a significant upgrade in their program with renovation of the pool.



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**YOU SEE ME NOW?:** The \$50,000 jumbotron on one side of the 180s building keeps Lancers updated on school events and offer inspiring messages.

## Sounds of ongoing PAC construction during zero period are music to my ears



*aliceShin*  
Staff Reporter

On the way to my zero period class every day, I see the ongoing construction in the Performing Arts Center [PAC] and hear the loud sounds that catch my attention in the middle of my class.

Like the relocation of Dancing With the Staff to the gym and the cancellation of Mr. Sunny Hills, the PAC renovation

brought various changes to the school.

The modernization is an almost year-long project, affecting theater arts and music students who cannot use the PAC to perform.

Although some factors such as construction interfere with school activities, the PAC renovation will benefit students in the long run with improvements within the school facilities.

When the modernization is complete, students will have access to a better environment for enhanced performances and stage equipment.

On top of the PAC construction, the jumbotron's installation in the 2016-2017 school year in the quad has provided a gigantic way for students stay up to date on

school events.

When I walk by the quad, I see the big screen displaying upcoming sports games that I can attend, and I feel privileged to have such great technology at our school.

The renovations to the gym and swimming pool were also quite significant this past decade.

I didn't know what our alma mater was before it was painted in our gym, but after noticing it when I go there for assemblies, I now know that it plays an important part in Sunny Hills history.

Several of my friends are involved in the aquatics program, and they often tell me how the remodeled swimming pool is considerably better than the ones at other high schools they have competed in.

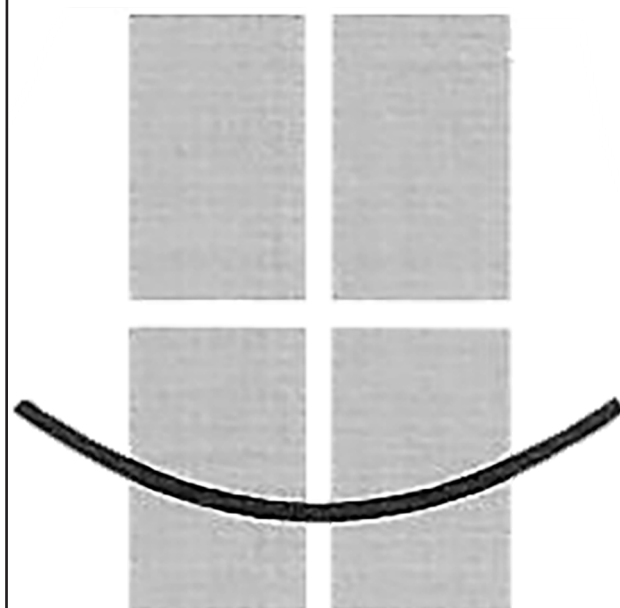
Personally, I wasn't there to experience the construction because it was built prior to my first year here, but seeing my friends satisfied with our pool makes me feel that all the money invested into this project was worth it.

There can be some downsides to the advancements in the school — like losing traditional events like Mr. Sunny Hills — but in the end, these sacrifices are worth it.

And I can't wait to go inside the PAC when modernization is all finished; I'll be able to point at the various objects inside that may have been the cause of the noise I keep hearing in my zero period class.

### MODERNIZATION COSTS

- Swimming pool: \$5.5 million
- PAC: \$ 2.8 million
- Gym: \$2.4 million



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# Ten years of tech



KATHERINE KIM | theaccolade

**GADGET UPS AND DOWNS:** *The Nintendo Switch (left) was a hit with consumers, but Amazon's Fire Phone flopped, while hoverboards combusted.*

## Nintendo Switch, AirPods; can't wait for new gadgets this decade



**danielKong**  
Staff Reporter

The past decade has been a roller-coaster, especially in the technology category.

From exploding phones to portable consoles, every year had a major impact on the technology industry, whether it

million sales of Alexa-related devices.

Like Samsung and Apple, Amazon also had products that were major flops. For example, the Amazon Fire Phone was destined to fail with a small variety of applications and lack of Google's flagship apps, such as Google Drive and Google Docs. Not to mention its hefty price, putting it on the same playing field with Android and Apple products was obviously a mistake.

When Nintendo released the Switch in 2017, it earned it more than \$12 billion by 2020. The ability to transform from a home console to a handheld device appealed to consumers.

Hoverboards also secure a spot on the list of biggest flops of the decade. With a sudden rise in popularity in 2015, many companies rose to keep up with the popular demand.

However, after weeks of shipping out the products, they were forced to recall their products after reports of the product smoking, catching fire and exploding.

Many other mortifying moments in the technology industry occurred this past decade, but Theranos takes the cake.

The medical company that produces blood tests that needed only small amounts of blood, filed for bankruptcy in September 2018 after causing investors to lose more than \$600 million.

It's now facing a lawsuit for fraud, and a trial is set in San Jose for later this year, according to CNN.

With many ups and downs, this past decade has been one that's hard to forget, especially for the technology industry.

Still, I can't wait to find out what's going to become the next exploding hoverboard though I hope I won't be wearing my AirPods when that happens.



Image used with permission from Chris F

**GONG DOWN IN FLAMES:** *Following its release in 2014, the overpriced Amazon Fire Phone did not sell as predicted.*



Image used with permission from Karlis Dambrans

**BLOWING UP:** *Reports of the Samsung Galaxy S7 catching fire prompted the company to issue an immediate recall.*

was useful or not.

Now let's take a look at the biggest flops and successes of the 2010s:

The Samsung Galaxy Note 7 was released on August 2016. The expectations were high with over 200,000 pre-orders in the first two days, according to tech website Droid Life.

But within two months, the device was discontinued as an overheating battery resulted in fires and explosions. This ended up costing Samsung billions of dollars.

Apple, on the other hand, became the king of technology after becoming the world's first trillion-dollar company.

Personally, I was impressed with many of the products it was releasing. Released on Sept. 7, 2016, the wireless AirPods captured my attention with its new automatic Bluetooth connection feature.

Although Apple had a great decade, it also had some humiliating moments, such as the release of the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus which, according to buyers, bent when they sat down with either device in their back pocket.

On the other hand, Amazon has been catching up in the technology industry. Not quite worth a trillion dollars yet, Amazon changed the industry with its release of Alexa, a virtual assistant. The product has clearly been a success for the company with more than 100



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# 'Jessie,' 'Spongebob' inspire memories



*sydnee*Tallant  
Staff Reporter

Back around 2010, many students ran eagerly to their living room to catch up on their favorite Disney or Nickelodeon show.

I was definitely one of those kids.

Back then, I loved to watch cartoons such as "Spongebob," which came out in 1999, and "Phineas and Ferb," which came out in 2007.

Since Phineas and Ferb were so determined to make their summer vacation amazing, it inspired me to do the most with mine, too.

I always found myself somehow watching "Spongebob" all the time. Even though the show was really crazy, it was always so amusing to watch. The setting was so different compared to most TV shows, which is why I would randomly find myself watching the somehow annoying show for hours.

Even when I grew older, I still loved Nickelodeon shows such as "iCarly," which came out in 2007, and "Victorious," which came out in 2010. I even remember my friends rushing over to my house to watch the latest episodes together.

As our generation ages, we want more fun and entertaining shows so

students found interest in Disney series like "Austin and Ally" and "Jessie," which both came out in 2011.

"Austin and Ally" was really entertaining because I was very interested in music so it was a very fun show to watch.

"Jessie" was amusing to watch because all the plots were different and dramatic from most shows, and it really dramatized how "city life" is like.

In elementary school, I was excited to go to high school and to become a teenager because I expected it to be just like the adventurous shows.

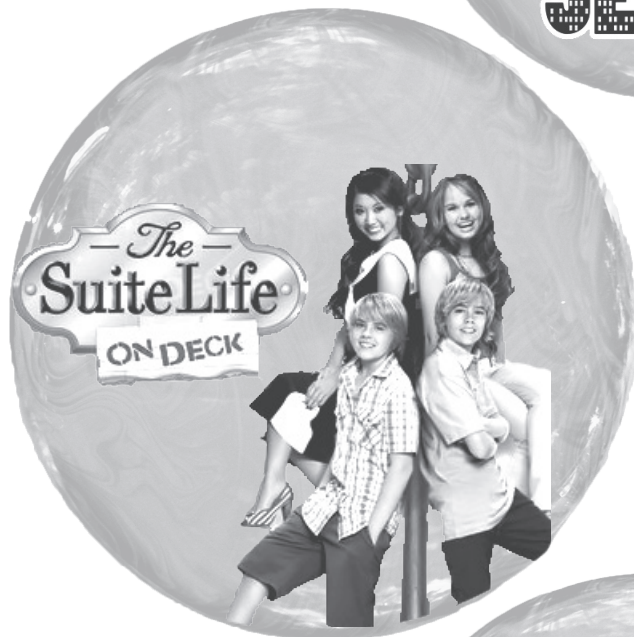
Nowadays, the allure of TV series has faded away. Streaming sites such as Netflix and Disney+ have gained more popularity.

I now prefer to stream "Stranger Things" than to watch NBC's "Manifest." I can always stream past episodes of "The Good Place" instead of watching the latest episode when it's aired on NBC.

With teens' preoccupation with their phones, we prefer to view programs through streaming sites at our leisure.

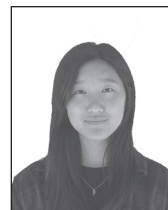
I will admit that I do miss how everyone was so engaged in the shows and how it was so normal for us to talk about the latest episode that aired on TV.

We might not be in front of "the tube," but I will forever treasure my chances to stream "Spongebob."





# Food fads worth a bite



charisLee  
Staff Reporter

Curious to find the trending foods of the past decade,

Its popularity grew so quickly over 2014 that an estimated \$9.42 billion was spent solely on KBBQ, according to statistica.com. As a Korean American, I was fascinated to see my other friends of different ethnicities come together and enjoy this Korean cuisine.

I researched and revisited memory lane to find the staple foods of each year.

Some memorable food trends still remain as prominent as it had started. One prevailing food this year is avocado toast, which mostly dominated as a toast topping but also contributed to guacamole, soups, salads and other culinary dishes.

Next came the delectable, creative “Dragon’s Breath” in 2016. When my brother and I first tried this, we were hypnotized by the smoke and laughed at each other whenever we blew it out of our noses. The frosty “smoke” after eating them made them an Instagram-worthy photo-op and a fun, tasty treat.

In 2010, macarons packed a punch as a compact, crispy cookie sandwiching a sweet filling. This French treat trickled into American bakeries, and pictures of these desserts spread on social media. I recall in first grade how their vibrant array of colors made them look tasty before I had even tried them.

2017 spilled yet another hot trend. Green tea, otherwise known as matcha, became the new fad for foods and drinks. I am a sucker for green tea and I enjoyed this food trend to its fullest extent. The viridescent tea became a popular flavor among chocolates, Oreos, Pocky Sticks, cakes and more. They also appeared as cute, creamy lattes with intricate designs on social media platforms.

Following this food trend came avocado toast in 2013. This fruit (yes it’s a fruit) brought a surge of trending memes about its absurd prices and became a healthy food staple. Avocado toast can be made vegan, gluten-free and most of all — extremely Instagrammable. Its aesthetic features promoted healthy lifestyles and encouraged new recipes for at-home indulgences.

Last but not least is 2019. We’ve had a few trendy foods, more sweet than savory, including brown sugar milk tea. The simplicity of brown sugar paired with milk became popular in boba shops like rapid-fire, and soon, most boba places had signs that held the brown sugar milk tea boba as their most popular drink.

In 2014, the more I scrolled through my social media feeds, pictures of South Korea’s famous Korean Barbeque [KBBQ] recurred often. Feasting the pictures of meat with my eyes, the Korean-born food intrigued Americans and ignited the next food craze.

The foods from this decade reflect creativity and growth as humans continue to invent new and fun foods. These foods have shaped our culture as we double-tap the latest fads on our Instagram feeds.





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**GETTING FUNKY:** South Korean singer Psy's "Gangnam Style" song goes viral. Its signature horse dance took the Internet by storm, which eventually led the video to reach one billion views.

# Pokemon, spinners caught my attention



**andrewPark**  
Staff Reporter

It all started with the "Gangnam Style."

I was in third grade when my friends showed

me the music video of South Korean singer Psy's "Gangnam Style" on YouTube.

As the song gained virality for its signature horse dance and catchy electronic beat, it eventually became the first YouTube video to reach a billion views. Although I cringed at the song at first, the catchy lyrics stuck in my head, leaving me humming "Oppa Gangnam Style" for weeks.

Then in 2014, an unexpected trend arose from a charity funding campaign for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis — also known as Lou Gehrig's disease: the Ice Bucket Challenge. Social media pages were flooded with videos of people pouring a bucket full of ice on their heads.

Though I thought that pouring freezing cold water over my body was not the safest challenge, I had a

positive reaction to it because the exposure gained from the challenge spread awareness of Lou Gehrig's disease. I personally did not participate in this activity, but I praised my peers who committed to this challenge.

When I moved into seventh grade, I noticed my younger brother walking around the house with his eyes glued to his phone, playing Pokémon GO.

With over 500 million downloads by the end of 2016, I saw people play around the streets and even in their cars at times. This game fascinated me at first because of its creative utilization of augmented reality and promotion of physical activity to the gamers who stay inside for hours. However, as the game gained controversy for causing accidents and leading to the invasion of many private properties, my love and interest in the game quickly faded away.

Another year went by, and another viral trend captured my eyes — fidget spinners. My class would be filled with the sounds of fidget spinners rotating obnoxiously as I tried to work.

As a result, I never came to like fidget spinners and always thought that they were over-hyped. Despite having one, I didn't find them to help me focus but rather another toy that would get me in trouble during class.

While I was in the middle of searching for new content on YouTube, a strange thumbnail popped up in my recommended page. In the video, people would eat Tide Pods, which is toxic for our bodies. However, people carelessly continued participating in the dangerous Tide Pod Challenge, which eventually surfaced the Internet.

Over the years, I have seen many harmful challenges, such as the cinnamon challenge and the salt and ice challenge. Although I found some of these challenges amusing, I was really only blinded from the reality that these Internet dares could potentially cause sickness and even lead to death.

Even though, the word "trend" often entails the words "stupid" or "dangerous," we can all agree on one thing: It was fun.



Image used with permission from flickr.com

**FOR A GOOD CAUSE:** The Ice Bucket Challenge video in 2014 gets the attention of viewers worldwide to help raise awareness of Lou Gehrig's disease.



Image used with permission from flickr.com

**FOCUS, FOCUS:** In 2017, fidget spinners caught many children and teenagers' attention as they held onto and watched their toy rotate over and over again.

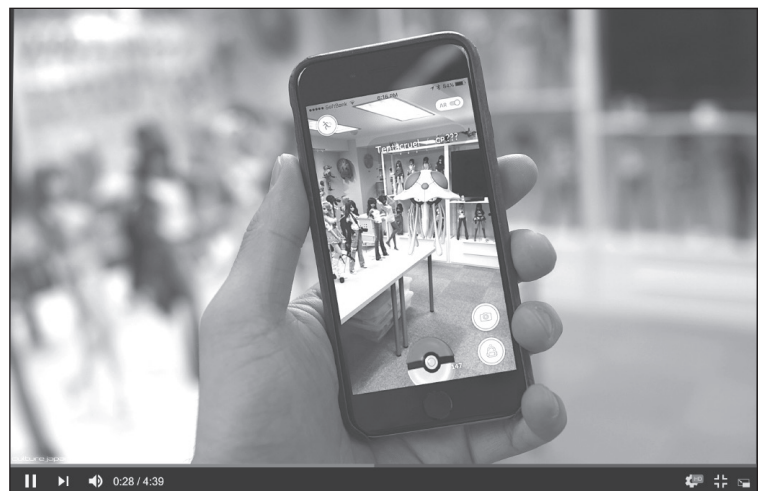


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**HUNTING FOR DIGITAL MONSTERS:** The Pokémon Go app brought out young and old to various locations for users to capture that special creature.



Image used with permission from flickr.com

**LAUNDRY DETERGENTS:** The Tide Pod Challenge took the Internet by storm, causing many children and adults to be sent to the hospital for consuming the bright-colored detergent.



# FASHION SENSE

The Accolade managing editor Hannah Yi — with her eye for popular clothes and accessories — shares her views on which female items had the best showing on the runway

2011

2013

2015

2017

2019



KATHERINE KIM | theaccolade

To start off, was the iconic 2011 leather jacket and skinny jeans look. During this year, chic style of basic tees or graphic tees and a leather jacket were paired with low waisted skinny jeans. The skinny jean look can match with any top and make all outfits look fashionable and effortless.

2013 welcomed the crop tops back to life from the 1940s paired with heels or sneakers and high waisted pants. Crop tops make a big statement when you walk out in public. These tops almost match with any type of bottoms ranging from skirts, culottes, shorts and cut-offs.

Coming back strong in 2015 was the choker. Celebrities from Gigi Hadid to Ariana Grande were seen with stylish chokers, on and off the red carpet. As an inspiration from the '80s and early '90s, celebrities brought back the chokers and came out with a stylish and elegant design to them.

2017 has been all about the casual "athleisure" look. More specifically, Lululemon became the go-to athletic apparel. With this trend, people always looking stunning while looking casual with their favorite joggers, or yoga pants, whether or not they are heading out into the city.

2018 to 2019 was the return of the '90s. Think fanny packs, mom jeans, tiny sunglasses, Fila's chunky shoes, Gucci belts and Air Force One's. Heck, even VSCO girls, who are trending on TikTok, are dressed in '90s inspired staples like scrunchies, chokers and Birkenstocks.

Compiled by Hannah Yi

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# A decade of *Impactful moments*

The Accolade takes a look back at the events that shaped the United States from 2010-2019

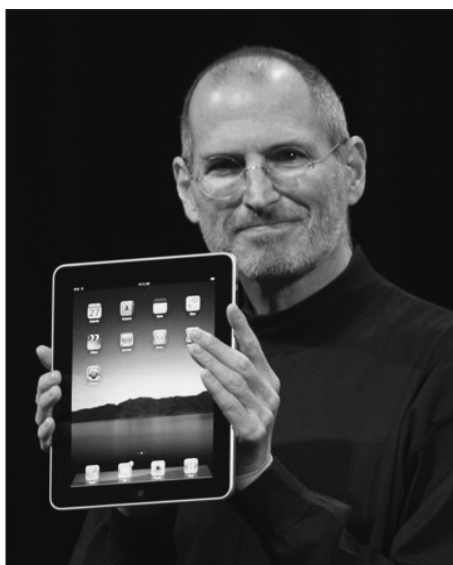


Image reprinted with permission from flickr.com  
**NEW INVENTIONS:** Then-Apple CEO Steve Jobs unveils the first generation iPad at a Jan. 27, 2010, Apple event in San Francisco.

Apple founder Steve Jobs designed a multitouch and efficient tablet without an attached keyboard or stylus in hopes of reaching a new generation of computer users.

According to Jobs' biographer Walter Isaacson, the iPad stemmed from a Microsoft employee who challenged Jobs to make a tablet that would sell better than Microsoft tablet from 2000. Jobs couldn't resist the opportunity to show what he could do, and since the device's January 2010 unveiling, Apple has sold over 350 million of all iPad models.

"School districts all across the globe now employ them as educational and professional devices," freshman Ricardo Gonzales said.

Jobs, who also co-founded Pixar, died on Oct. 5, 2011 of pancreatic cancer after being diagnosed in 2003. He was said to have started the "evolution of modern technology" with the creation of the first Apple iPad, iPod and iPhone 4.

In the early years at Apple, Jobs and his business partner Steve Wozniak started the company in Jobs' garage and made a \$139 million profit three years after releasing the Apple II, one of the first Apple computers.

"He invented the iPhone and made Apple very successful, and his death impacted the way Apple would function in the future," junior Josue Olaguibel said.



Image reprinted with permission from flickr.com  
**TRAGEDY:** A student's father carries his daughter to the car after the Dec. 14, 2012, Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting.

This event was named the second deadliest mass shooting in the United States. Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut was invaded by 20-year-old Adam Lanza, who was armed with a semiautomatic rifle and two semi-automatic pistols, killing in total 20 first graders and six staff members on Dec. 14.

Shortly after, former President Barack Obama introduced a plan to issue background checks on gun owners, but congressional leaders rejected it.

The shooting's aftermath caused concerns throughout America on whether the Second Amendment is still justified.

"I was so scared when I heard about it, and my dad actually worked with somebody whose daughter was killed [there]," senior Tessa Aldridge said.

Riots and protests against police brutality encouraged black rights activists to start using #BlackLivesMatter when an unarmed 17-year-old black male was unjustly shot and killed in Miami Gardens, Fla. The hashtag reached notoriety in 2014 and 2015 as more civil rights protests flooded the streets nationwide following the deaths of black men from alleged police brutality. Riots and protests encouraged the hashtag to trend on social media.

"I see black lives matter as 'all minority lives matter,'" freshman Lana Luu said. "Technically I'm a minority myself, so I'm glad to see that there's a big movement supporting people who has been through so much."

The Ice Bucket challenge went viral on Facebook when Jeanette Senerchia, whose husband suffered from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, first documented the challenge to spread awareness and encourage donations for research. The requirements were to post a video pouring a bucket full of ice over a person's head a then nominate another person to do the same within 24 hours. \$155 million was raised after over 17 million videos were posted.

"This event became very important to many people who either suffer from this disease or know someone from this because it shaped the decade as millions today continue doing their part in spreading awareness during the month of August," sophomore Kaylee Rivas said.

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014



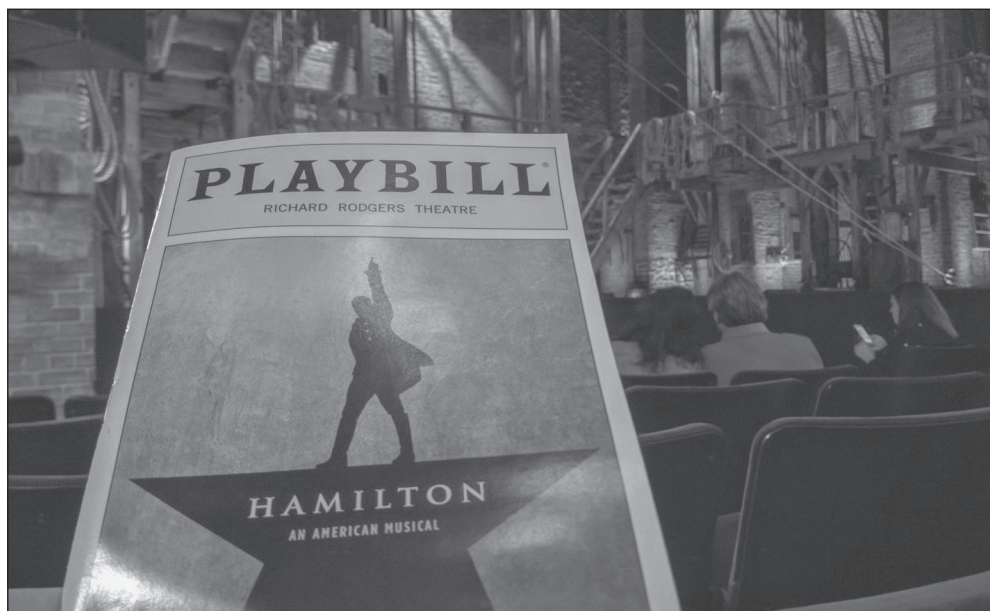


Image reprinted with permission from flickr.com

**HISTORICAL MUSICAL:** A program for “Hamilton: The Musical” is held in front of the stage in the Richard Rodgers Theatre where the actors will soon perform.

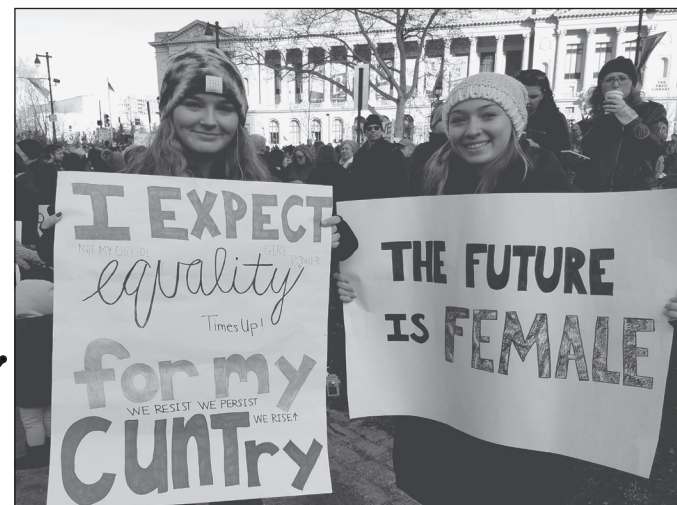


Image reprinted with permission from flickr.com

**GIRL SUPPORT:** Two women stand outside with signs as a part of the #MeToo march in Philadelphia in 2018.



Image reprinted with permission from flickr.com

**HEATED EXCHANGE:** Hillary Clinton (left) and Donald Trump jar at each other in a presidential debate before the Election of 2016, resulting in Trump overtaking Clinton in the final electoral vote count.



Image reprinted with permission from flickr.com

**ROYAL RIDE:** Prince Harry (left) and Meghan Markle wave at the crowd after the wedding.

“Hamilton: The Musical” gained popularity from its use of pop-music tracks layered with historical context as lyrics. Although the historical aspect — such as the rap battles — can be somewhat inaccurate, “Hamilton” is still one of the most famous Broadway musicals with a profit of \$1.8 billion since its release on Sept. 25, according to a Jan. 2, 2019, *New York Times* online article.

“Alexander Hamilton” writer Lin-Manuel Miranda, who also plays the lead role, created the musical about events leading up to the American Revolution in hopes of enlightening the life of our “could-have-been president” if Hamilton had been born in the U.S.

“I watched it at the Pantages in Los Angeles,” senior Katherine So said. “I fell in love with the musical and lyrics.”

Republican and businessman Donald Trump won the Election of 2016 by 77 electoral votes over Democrat and former first lady Hillary Clinton — the first woman to represent either of the two main political parties in running for the presidential office. Trump’s slogan, “Make America Great Again,” and his plans for erecting a wall across the Mexico-U.S. border continue to be polarizing ideas to this day.

“The 2016 presidential election ... set a precedent for the handling of future elections in the respects of the suppression of misinformation in social media,” junior Christian Campos said. “The presence of foreign powers obstructing America’s judgment and the ignorance and dangerous apathy of most voters in this day and age.”

An Oct. 5, 2017, *New York Times* article reported that well-known Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein was accused of sexual harassment and assault with more than two dozen women, including famous actresses. #MeToo went viral on social media platforms such as Instagram and Twitter as other women began telling their stories of male sexual abuse/harassment and sexism.

“I think that the #MeToo movement was extremely significant because it inspired so many women to speak out about their sexual harassment stories and to no longer be silenced with the risks of losing their jobs and livelihoods,” senior Taylor Michel said. “It gives women the resources to have access to healing, and it advocates for laws and policies concerning women.”

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle married on March 19 in Saint George’s Chapel at Windsor Castle, home of the royal weddings since 1863. 600 guests attended including Victoria and David Beckham, Elton John, Oprah Winfrey and George and Alma Clooney. The entire wedding cost around \$11.8 million, including the lunch reception at Frogmore House that approximately 200 guests attended. The wedding was named the second most expensive royal wedding of the decade by Daily Express UK after Prince William and Princess Kate’s wedding in 2011.

“Although many people were infuriated with the cost of the wedding, I think it was absolutely beautiful, and I’m happy that it was an event that was shared around the world,” sophomore Sophia Garcias said.

President Trump met with North Korea’s Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un as he saw a real estate opportunity for a collection of hotels after watching videos of their missile-testing site. During the two-day meeting in Singapore, Trump proposed that they both take advantage of the possible real estate opportunity and favorable future if North Korea would be willing to give up their nuclear weapons. This was possibly in reference to the United States’ past with nuclear weapons. To start off the new decade, North Korea is still skeptical of the deal’s conditions.

“I think he has the right intention of trying to make peace,” junior Kathryn Aurelio said. “However, I don’t think it would work out well considering the missile threat in December because he is not respected by other countries.”

2015

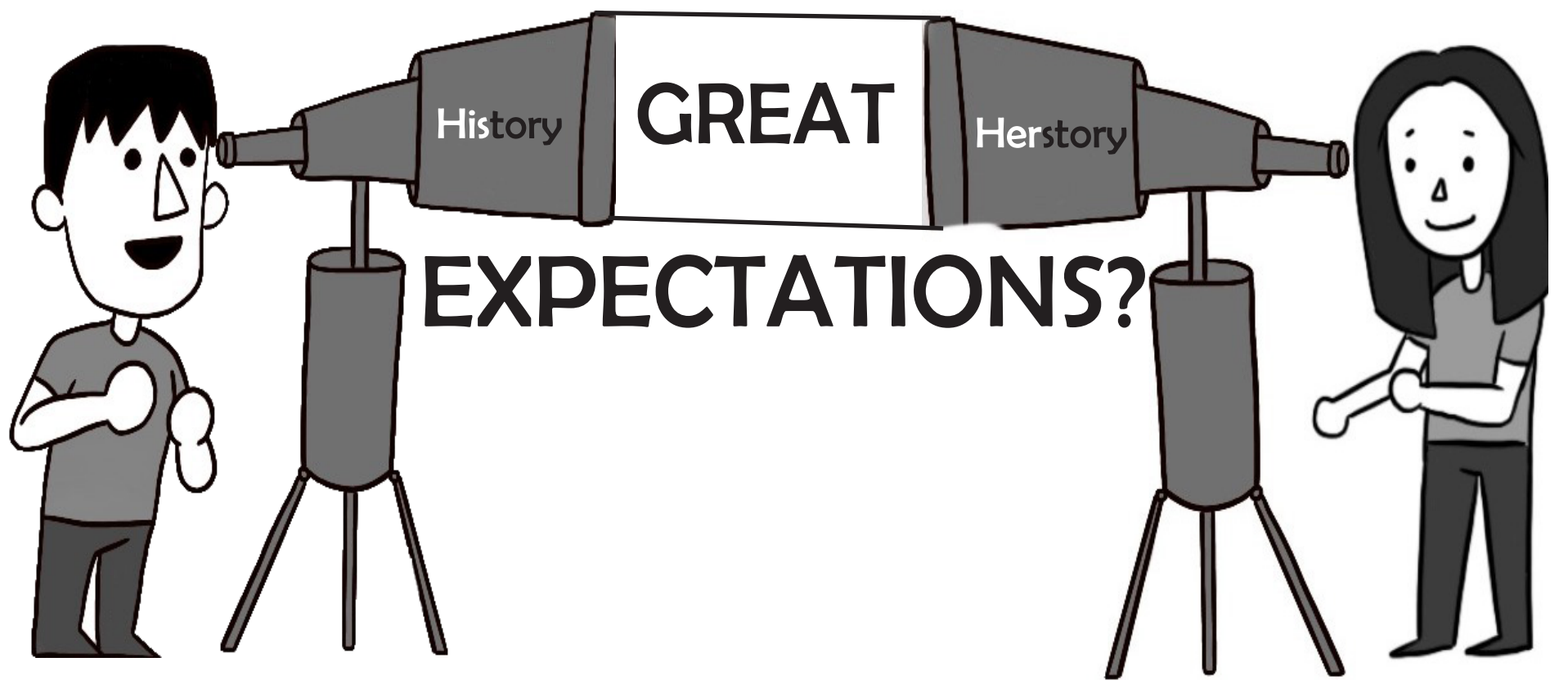
2016

2017

2018

2019





ERIN LEE | theaccolade

## Looking forward to be next 'Ready Player One'



*isaacChoi*  
Opinion Editor

In the previous decade, I imagined the future with flying cars and instant transportation like the Star Wars hyperspace jump.

But now that the 2010s have ended and none of these features have become a reality, I'm still looking forward to what the next 10 years have to offer.

Instead of flying cars, most of us carry a mobile device to use the Uber app if we need a ride; online giants like Amazon use robots to test whether it's a speedier way to deliver products.

As our society advances, various laws have been implemented to either fix or improve those laws. But since 1986, the legal age for the purchase and consumption of alcohol remains at 21 instead of a lower age like 18.

As I got older and became more informed about politics, I gained some interest regarding the legal voting age, which is at 18 in California. Hopefully, in the future, minors like me will be able to express their voice in government and be

allowed to vote.

This would especially benefit those who are more politically active than the average student, leading to more voter turnout. Though California has yet to join 17 other states in allowing 17-year-olds to vote, I am grateful that at least our state representatives made an effort to try and get a bill approved for the governor to sign.

For entertainment, I anticipate virtual reality — like the technology featured in the futuristic society portrayed in the "Ready Player One" movie — to make some more waves in this decade.

A popular anime series I've watched, "Sword Art Online," also feature VR gaming, which also made me want to play with this new type of platform.

I hope this new console can evolve all the way to a full-dive simulator in which a person's full body can be transported to a virtual gaming environment just like in the series.

Even though my hopeful predictions for the future is a bit far-fetched, the remaining fact that the world is advancing is exciting and promising.

Who knows, maybe my parents will buy me that coveted Minecraft VR game for my graduation gift in 2021, and I will finally get to experience virtual reality.

## Navigating 21st century not as simple as it seems



*rebeccaChoi*  
Asst. Copy Editor

As a 16-year old teenager in my junior year of high school, I often hear a phrase that my mom repeats over and over to me: "Why didn't you get your license sooner? I got mine right when I turned 16."

Now don't get me wrong; I already finished my driver's education, have a driver's permit and am waiting for my behind-the-wheel test scheduled for Feb. 19. However, my mom reminds me that I should have gotten my permit and license right when I turned 16 last October.

In this sense, the typical life of a teenager has flipped 180 degrees since the prior generation. The stark contrast in parental upbringing and societal mindsets between teenagers and their parents contribute tremendously to the type of unrealistic expectations placed on teens in the 21st century.

Compared to the mid- to late 20th century, some teens in the 21st century have become increasingly sheltered, especially for those growing up in Orange County. Personally, I have lived in this form of a

bubble for most of my childhood because my parents had to endure the struggles of immigration, and they did not want their children to experience the same hardships.

In my own case, I procrastinated starting driver's education because even after my mom constantly reminded me to start, I felt no pressure to do it. If I just ask my parents for a ride, they usually take me to the places I need to go.

On the other hand, an aspect of life that has become more stressful for teens today is the college application process. In contrast to the past, the way colleges construct the admissions process has drastically changed.

For example, a committee of Asian-American students recently sued Harvard University for racial discrimination in Harvard's admissions process. In today's increasingly race-subjective society, it has gotten harder for Asian Americans to get accepted into universities because of policies like Affirmative Action.

It seems as if Asians must perform better to be considered at the same level as other non-Asian applicants.

21st century teens have a lot on their plate. However, they will learn to overcome these pressures and let their true selves shine.

## CANDID What are you looking forward to in 2020?



"In the new year, I am looking forward to new friendships and self improvement."

Muhammad Khan, 9



"I look forward to getting a job, growing older and doing better myself."

Payton Quezada, 10



"I plan to become a drum major, finish my extended essay for International Baccalaureate and join AVID cabinet to strive for senior AVID standout."

Elizabeth Tamayo, 11



"My main goals for this year are to finish off the semester strong and to go to a concert for the first time."

Oge Okpala, 12

Compiled by Megan Shin



# Shhh! Don't tell my mom that I'm not taking the SAT/ACT



hopeLi  
Staff Reporter

I'm beginning to consider not taking any standardized tests at all before I start applying for college admissions next year as a senior.

According to a website managed by The National Center for Fair & Open Testing — a Massachusetts-based organization promoting equal testing opportunity for students, teachers and schools — more than 1,070 accredited colleges and universities no longer require applicants to take a standardized entrance exam like the SAT or ACT.

Since I am hoping for a change of scenery when I start my college years, some of the schools from the list of East Coast secondary schools on [fairtest.org/university/optional](http://fairtest.org/university/optional) that caught my eye are New York University (applicants can submit three Advanced Placement

test scores instead of an SAT/ACT score), George Washington University in D.C. (its undergraduate admissions website has persuaded me that “an applicant is much more than a test score”) and American University in D.C. (the website states that “academic performance in the classroom” is the most important factor in getting accepted).

In case my East Coast dream schools don't pan out, my fingers are crossed (like my dad's) that the University of California's regents will follow what many of the East Coast universities are doing by dumping the SAT and the ACT. (A Dec. 22, 2019, *Los Angeles Times* article mentioned that the UC Academic Senate is expected to issue recommendations on whether to keep or dump the standardized tests by next month.)

If the UC Regents choose the latter, it will end an admissions practice that started in 1960 when the UC system first adopted the SAT for standardized testing of its incoming freshman applicants. And if this actually happens, imagine all the angry

Tiger Moms out there who would have wasted their money on SAT tutoring school for their children.

Sure, Ivy League programs remain hunkered down on their traditions for undergraduate admissions. Princeton and Brown, however, have gone test (GRE) optional for some graduate programs like molecular biology, English and neuroscience. Nevertheless, I can still apply to some other big-name private universities like Brandeis in Massachusetts or Hamilton College in New York.

If neither of these options work out for me, I could still apply to one of the 84 California schools on FairTest's list. Of the 23 campuses in the California State University [CSU] system, 17 are on the list, including CSU Los Angeles, CSU Northridge and CSU San Bernardino.

My peers who have already taken the SAT have mixed feelings about the subject. Some aren't affected and would include it anyways in their application, while others express their relief that colleges wouldn't see their mediocre scores.

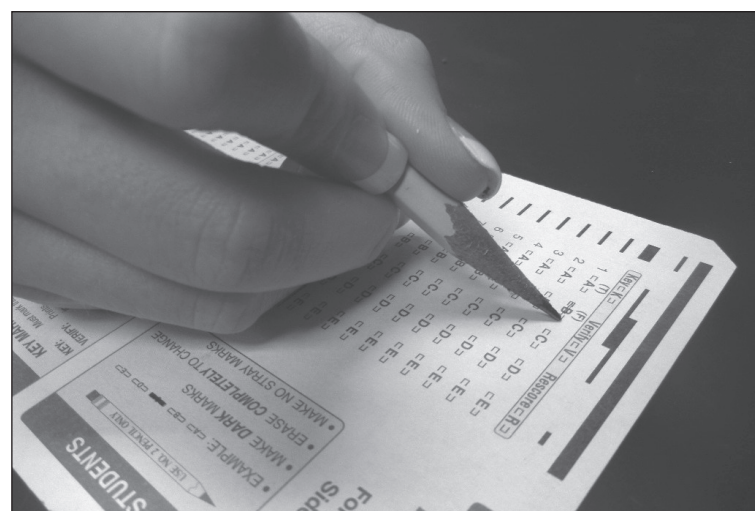


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Nevertheless, according to a UC Berkeley research study in a Dec. 10, 2019, *New York Times* article, GPA is “consistently the best predictor” of college success.

That December *Los Angeles Times* article also included several stories of students who had poor SAT scores yet got accepted into UC Riverside for their high (3.8 and 4.1) GPAs. The students all had one thing in common: their grit, not their standardized test scores, helped them succeed

in college.

Reading these students' triumphs against standardized testing has convinced me even more that colleges like George Washington University and American University tell the truth when they tell me that my scores don't define my academic potential.

As this new decade starts, it's time for the College Board and dynasty to end.

All hail the GPA era.

## Some prominent schools that don't require ACT/SAT score





# WOMEN IN POWER:

## U.S. should be next in line to elect female president



gianneVeluz  
Staff Reporter

Next year on Jan. 29, I will turn 18, and I plan on turning in my voter registration form as soon as I can.

Though the 2020 presidential election will have ended by

then, I will have roughly four years to wait and see if another woman will run for president of the United States.

In the meantime, I have come up with my own personal wish list as to what qualities and positions this candidate should possess for me to support and vote for her come 2024.

The most important trait is that she's got to be eloquent when speaking in public. A president must be able to maintain good relationships with other countries to maintain peace and negotiate trade deals with other nations to improve our economic situation.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York, comes to mind. Although the U.S. Constitution states that the president must be at least 35 years old, and she is only 30 (turning 35 by Oct. 13, 2024), Cortez represents the typical American dream. She went from a bartender in Manhattan to a congresswoman in less than a year. Having grown up in a working class family, she knows the needs of her community.

As a woman of color like myself, she inspires young girls to make a difference and speak up. Cortez looks into the interests of lower-income families because she has experienced what it's like to work to get by. I feel as though Cortez would need to be in the forefront of immigration, climate change, college tuition and affordable health care.

In school, we are taught about U.S. history and how our decisions as a nation will affect our future, but the topic of women being the next leaders of our nation is one I haven't heard much of. Teachers, and more specifically those who teach social science, should address the importance of women in our government



KAREN LEE | theaccolade

**DISTINGUISHED FEMALE LEADERS:** An artist's rendering of Democratic congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (top row from left), Iceland president Vigdis Finnbogadóttir and Denmark's prime minister Mette Frederiksen; New Zealand prime minister Jacinda Ardern (bottom row from left), climate change activist Greta Thunberg and Finland prime minister Sanna Marin.

more often than they currently do.

Europe has seen a proliferation of female heads of countries already. Sanna Marin, Finland's new 34-year-old prime minister and the world's youngest sitting head of government, is fighting for gender equality by closing the pay gap. Denmark's prime minister since 2019, 42-year-old Mette Frederiksen, promised to work toward a 70 percent decrease in Denmark's carbon emissions by 2030. Iceland's 89-year-old Vigdis Finnbogadóttir defeated three men for the presidency in 1980 and is currently the longest-serving democratically elected female head of

state of any country. New Zealand's 39-year-old prime minister Jacinda Ardern has taken action and banned single-use plastic bags, encouraging the planting of 140 million trees and putting in place an extension of paid parental

leave. Slovakian president Zuzana Caputova works for the forgotten and deprived by promising to "be the voice of those who are not heard," when the 46-year-old was sworn in as president.

The goals that these female

leaders possess are those I'd like to see in a future female president of the United States.

Not only are powerful women around the world politicians, but they are also

young activists like 17-year-old Greta Thunberg, who has spread her influence around the globe as an environmental activist for climate change. Thunberg is known for leading youth in striving toward policies addressing climate change in over 150 countries, using her platform to initiate change and encourage world leaders to take action.

They are young girls, like this Swedish teen, who represent our future generation,

and that is what matters the most.

Given this rise in female leaders around the world, I personally believe the chances of a female being elected as president of the United States are high. We've been able to see Hillary Clinton come close to winning the presidency in 2016 against Donald Trump. Clinton received a higher popular vote from the nation, but the Electoral College was the ultimate deciding factor. This shows that the United States is

ready to have a female in office, and it's likely that we can see history be made in this decade.

While some of my female peers may not feel as strongly about this issue as me, I believe that girls should become more aware of different candidates that could potentially make history.

The equal participation of powerful women in our government and society is essential to creating a lasting and vivid democracy. However, the time will come, and we just have to wait.

I would suggest that my peers, not just women, should stay informed and educate themselves on future female candidates to make it possible to elect our first female president.

In the last decade, our country was able to already vote for our first African-American president, so wouldn't it be an evolutionary process that we would - in this new decade - see our first woman in the White House and call her husband the first man?

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"Given this rise in female leaders around the world, the chances of a female being elected as president of the United States are high."

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# the NEXT FRONTIER

**Intergalactic travel? Asteroid mining? Populating Mars? Sunny Hills science teachers share their insight on these possibilities**



KATHERINE KIM | theaccolade

**HANNAH KIM**

*Staff Reporter*

The first step on the moon in 1969 was a “big step for mankind,” but an even bigger step could be looming in this new decade.

Sci-fi books, movies and TV series have predicted human population of other Milky Way planets, but this possibility seems unrealistic to many science teachers on campus.

“I don’t think [we’ll colonize the solar system] just because of the resources we have on Earth,” environmental science and chemistry teacher Andrew Gartner said.

Physics teacher Christopher Peoples also agrees with Gartner and believes other space bodies are more fascinating in comparison to visiting Mars or other planets for resources.

“I think there are a few other things besides Mars that would be a lot more interesting to look at and easier to get to [like] going to asteroids,” Peoples said. “We’re flying around asteroids and have landed on a couple of them, and there is some interesting stuff there.”



For more about space exploration, go to [shsaccolade.com/wp/feature/](https://shsaccolade.com/wp/feature/).

Along with these suggestions, advances in space travel technology such as new rocket designs and space stations have the SH science department excited for the future.

Many are looking forward to seeing the innovative space travel developments of companies like SpaceX, Virgin Galactic and Boeing.

It’s been almost 51 years since man first touched the moon, and NASA is finally planning to go back in 2024.

“I think there will be pretty big advancements in being able to travel to the moon and back in a consistent, stable way in the next 10 years,” chemistry teacher Alexander Hua said.

Now, bigger explorations like the Mars One mission, which would send people to live on the Red Planet, are being criticized by scientists and engineers, but they are exciting much of the public.

Though most science teachers here agree that living on Mars isn’t on their

mind, they admit the concept of visiting it is an interesting idea.

“To think that humans can be the first interplanetary species is really special because] we have a chance in our lifetime to see that happen,” Hua said. “I would want to go to Mars — maybe not live there but at least go.”

However, this might not be a possibility as one of the biggest concerns Peoples points out is the pacing of current space missions.

“We’re finally getting to the point where we can launch people from this country into space, and I think it’s taken us far too long to get here,” he said.

Despite this, he still sees a bright future for space travel with his students as he has noticed a stronger interest in rocket science and engineering in his physics classes over the past few years.

“I love watching the control room at SpaceX when they do a launch, and when something goes right, [the engineers] are all cheering — and they’re all young people,” the physics teacher said. “I’m glad to see that level of excitement again, and I hope we can keep it going.”

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