

THE BARTON BEAT

STAFF EDITORS

MS. SAPAN
MS. FARBERMAN

EVERYTHING YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED TO KNOW!

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Happy March! March is Women's Month and home to St. Patrick's Day, but did you know that March also celebrates the International Day of Happiness on March 20th? What will you do to celebrate? Coincidentally (or maybe not so coincidentally!), March 20th is also the first day of Spring. New seasons bring the opportunity to make changes. What changes will you make? As always, we hope you enjoy this issue and we look forward to more of YOUR feedback!

LOOKING BACK...

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR BREAK AND GAVE YOUR BRAIN A BIT OF A REST! WE DID, HOWEVER, WANT TO GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO THE 50+ STUDENTS WHO JOINED US FOR OUR REGENTS BOOTCAMP OVER MID-WINTER BREAK. THANK YOU TO MS. ASH, MR. JASINSKI, MR. JEAN- CHARLES, DR. LEYKINA & MR. SEVERSON,

THE ACES PROGRAM WENT ON A TRIP TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART. THEY SAW THE MICHELANGELO SKETCHES AND VISITED THE MEDIEVAL GALLERIES, THE IMPRESSIONIST GALLERIES AND MORE. THANK YOU TO MR. MALACHOWSKY FOR ORGANIZING!

LOOKING FORWARD...

- MARCH 8 & 9: PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES
- MARCH 9: LPN APPLICATIONS DUE- SEE MS. KHAVINA IN ROOM 263 FOR MORE INFORMATION
- MARCH 12: CHEERLEADING TRY-OUTS AFTER SCHOOL- SEE MS. SHEPHERD IN ROOM B-55 FOR MORE INFORMATION
- MARCH 13: STUDENT AWARDS PRESENTATION & PTA MEETING
- MARCH 14: SPARK GAME AT 4PM- SEE MR. MEYERSON IN 363 FOR TICKETS
- MARCH 15: IDES OF MARCH (BEWARE!)
- MARCH 16: MARKING PERIOD 1 ENDS
- MARCH 21: PSAT & SAT ADMINISTERED IN SCHOOL
- MARCH 30: FIRST DAY OF SPRING BREAK

UPCOMING & ONGOING...

- BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT: BATTLE OF THE GRADES! SEE MR. MEYERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION
- THE DENTAL CLINIC IS OPEN! SEE MS. ESCORBORES IN ROOM B52.
- WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT EVENTS: BOOK CLUB MARCH 30. I AM MALALA SCREENING COMING SOON!
- CHANGEMAKERS VOLUNTEER CLUB: JOIN US THURSDAYS IN ROOM 333 TO VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY!
- REGENTS WEEK COUNTDOWN! ONLY 59 CLASS DAYS UNTIL THE REGENTS... ARE YOU READY?

HEALTH CAREERS CORNER

- ACCORDING TO [ALLHEALTHCARE.COM](https://www.allhealthcare.com) BELOW ARE THE TOP 10 QUALITIES OF A GREAT HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL. DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES? ARE THERE THINGS YOU CAN WORK ON TO BECOME A BETTER FUTURE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL?
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS | 6. GOOD ATTENTION TO DETAIL |
| 2. EMOTIONAL STABILITY | 7. PHYSICAL ENDURANCE |
| 3. EMPATHY | 8. PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS |
| 4. FLEXIBILITY | 9. QUICK RESPONSES |
| 5. GOOD ATTENTION TO DETAIL | 10. RESPECT |

- ARE YOU 18 YET?** You are eligible to register to vote– if you haven't already, visit register.rockthevote.com, or see Ms. Farberman IN Room 205 to register– it's your civic duty!
- SUMMER YOUTH–** Get your applications in ASAP! You can apply at: <https://application.nycsyep.com/>. Visit Room 215.
- CALLING ALL ARTISTS!** The Crown Heights Community Mediation Center is looking for spoken word artists, singers, dancers & painters for an upcoming performance. See Ms. Farberman in Room 205 for more information.
- WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE IN CHARGE?** See your guidance counselor today for more information on the “Police Commissioner for a Day” Essay contest.
- LIBERTY PARTNERSHIPS IS BACK!** Open lunch periods for tutoring and Regents Prep, Tuesday– Friday, Room 238B!
- LIU GEAR UP!** All 10th graders are welcome in Room 405 during their lunch periods for tutoring and other exciting opportunities!
- ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST?** Make sure you join the “Finn File” to stay up-to-date on extra-curricular activities, scholarships & more! See Ms. Finn in Room 205.

THE STUDENT SAMPLE
RAP: RUEL WILSON

That darkness in us doesn't
matter if it's sunny
Dreams of fame and riches
will leave your life shattered
Not like it mattered
But we still rise up
Make it before the times up
They try to misguide us
Tell us we don't have worth
And treat us like dirt
You're here cause of affirmative
action
I tell 'em you don't know about
my work
Never let my guard down gotta
be alert

It's Gotham City

But we aren't ever going to give
up
That's the only way to keep our
chin up
Even though the media always
trying to pin us
In a corner, we're back in the
back of the bus?
Then they try to make us accept
it saying "don't fight, don't fuss"
Steal our culture and then turn
their backs to us
All alone got no one backing us
Systematic racism
Even if you're not racist that's
society's mechanism
We got to struggle to keep our
optimism
This the reality of our life they
don't get.
It gets dirty and it gets gritty
We're living in Gotham City

AN AFRICAN REFLECTS ON BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN BROOKLYN
WRITTEN BY OPEYEMI JULIUS

The smell of the African aroma, the crispy feel of traditional air, the feel of an African culture is not something that can be recreated. One could only try but fail miserably. When I came to New York, these were the things I missed. In New York, it was hard to pin point one thing that truly brought a “home feel” to me. Therefore I longed for connection to my innate culture. In addition to longing for what used to be, migrating to New York caused me physical and mental change. It was necessary to adjust. I did this by code switching, changing from one language to another in a given situation. . . code switching to me meant putting up a face, a wall to hide my true identity so I could blend in and feel safe. My father always taught to me to not just go to school because I am supposed to but to go to achieve things that I can be proud of. I never truly understood the significance of his words until the motivation was needed to endure the stereotypes and profiling that came with migrating to New York. In school, subjects, such as the English Language Arts, it was hard to compose myself and digest material. But with my father’s advice, I persevered and came to understand what the real deal was; achieve my goals no matter the cost. With this, I felt like I had to code switch in order to fill the void I felt when I got here. With my African culture and heritage, I can see that America has its own black history; one they celebrate once a year. As an immigrant from Africa coming to America, I would not just have to code switch but put on the weight of African American history in this country as it pertains to me as a Black woman. Therefore my unique African Heritage and new found African American history emerges as one to become what will only be referred to as “diverse”.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: NATALIE VAZQUEZ, SALUTATORIAN
WRITTEN BY DESHUNAE DAVIS



Meet Natalie Vazquez. She is described by her friends as passionate, diligent and radiant; she’s also this years Salutatorian. Many of us may know Natalie for her gracious intelligence or as “the girl with the 100 average,” but what can we learn about her as a person? Natalie was born into a Puerto Rican family and raised in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. Being brought up in such environments helped Natalie define herself as “...a hardworking, independent Latina woman who looks to make a big difference in my community.” She also said that “Being raised in Crown Heights has given me a complex and diverse outlook on the ideas of identity and overall what a home is to someone. I really think my upbringing has helped defined me not only in the way I am today, but in who I plan to be.”

Seeing as Natalie said her family helped to define who she was, I asked her how her family affected how hard she worked in school, she said “My family heavily affected my success in school. I have a strong support system. Most importantly, my mom has instilled such a great value of education in me, that I truly believe the only way to achieve my version of success is through education.” Vazquez said her friends “Toni, Jamaul, along with all of my senior Gateway boys have motivated me in unimaginable ways” so she was always able to turn to them whenever she needed a helping hand. Finally, I asked Natalie how it feels to have worked so hard and finally be able to see all her hard work pay off and she answered: “I don’t think you understand the magnitude of your hard work until you’re rewarded. Therefore, seeing my hard work pay off has given me a sense of pride in all that I’ve accomplished. However, I try not to let a title like *Salutatorian* validate all that I’ve done. This is because I’ve done so much in my personal life that I’m extremely proud of,” One personal achievement includes her involvement in the Columbia High School Law Institute program, which helped her realize where her passion lies- in law and social justice.

Natalie Vazquez, not only is she smart and passionate, she’s also very supportive and considerate. Whenever I needed help she was always there, ready to lend a hand, without hesitation. She has a warm welcoming personality that makes her easily sociable and a great joy to be around. Having people like Natalie in your life encourages you to do better and become a better person, so my advice to everyone is to go find their Natalie and keep them by your side because a friend like that will benefit you not only in high school, but for the rest of your life.

IN THE NEWS

Check out the Teen Vogue Read ‘Should Teens Under 18 Vote? Experts Weigh In’ Find it here: <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/should-teens-under-18-vote-experts-weigh-in>

Interested in contributing to The Barton Beat with announcements, a column or a new idea? Please see Ms. Sapan or Ms. Farberman!

MR. MEYERSON'S MIC– Gooooood morning Clara Barton! If you're interested in playing in the SPARK game, see me in Room 363 by March 12. Seniors interested in TV/ Video production who can sing, dance, rap or write music, see me to help with the graduation video. Juniors interested in Color Guard, see me after spring break. Haaaaaave a great day Barton!



RIDDLE OF THE MONTH

WHAT GOES AROUND THE WORLD, YET STAYS IN A CORNER?

...SEE MS. SAPAN WITH YOUR ANSWER TO WIN A PRIZE!