



Rivers Chronicles

The Newspaper of Rivers International School



A SNEAK PEEK INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

DRAG IS LARGER THAN
EVER, BUT IT MUST
HAVE COME FROM
SOMEWHERE, RIGHT?

AMERICAN DRAG
CULTURE - THE 1920S -
P.23

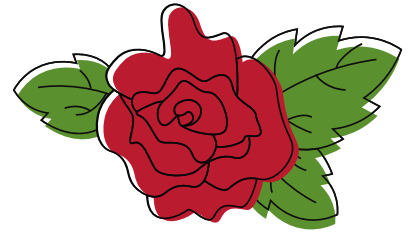
LOVE

WE'VE GOT A WEBSITE!

Check out our website at riverschronicles.wixsite.com/mysite to find more information on us, our themes, publishing dates and the previous editions.

We care very much for your feedback and opinions on the content, layout or anything else in between! On the website there is a chat box where all the comments go directly to us, or you can go to the 'contact' sub heading and send us an email. We look forward to hearing from you and hopefully you enjoy the website!

Editorial: the basis of love



Dominique Wagemaker

Ah love, such a beautiful theme. Of course it shouldn't come as a surprise to me as I chose it as head of newspaper, but nevertheless I hope it inspires as many people as it does me.

I've always been a big believer in love - still being a big fan of the classic princess stories, but through time I started to realize that love comes in many forms, and not only on a white horse. As a reader you may be thinking 'what does she know? she's an 18 year old who makes newspaper for a hobby' and I would guess you are correct. I think it's no news to many when I break the ice by saying that I'm enjoying my life with (and unbiasedly of course) probably the best significant other out there - but when diving into my first relationship, it became more and more apparent to me that another type of love is a lot more important to start with - self love.

It's hard to love yourself, whether you're happy in life or struggling with the things around you, I think everyone has at some point realized that you won't get anywhere without being honest to - and accepting - yourself. I've started to realize more and more how you can't build up a relationship, or really any large adventure, without being completely honest with yourself and accepting yourself for who you are; for which I cannot say I always have. I'm very much a 'perfectionist to the extreme' and can't remember a moment where I was entirely happy with myself or my attributes. Whether I was 6 and looking at my dissatisfactory weight in a mirror or now looking at my handwriting and feeling like I should crumple the piece of paper - all of these obstacles make it harder and harder for me to be able to live and actually be happy in my situation (in which happiness should always be your ultimate goal). This struggle is not unbeknownst to all and especially in the teen years when you're trying to figure out who you are. I would want to say that I have learned the secret to solving the problem and can now prance around happily with my weight and wear anything - but as Harry Potter had to say 'I shall not tell lies'. I haven't solved my struggles, and I don't think I will for a long long time - but so how does me telling you this help you?

Well I have gotten a few pointers over the years which might help you with loving yourself a bit more. I realized that self love is not a constant, and you shouldn't expect it to be. There are days where it will be worse, but almost everyone has those (those who do not - tell me your secrets).

Self love is a journey with many ups and downs but as humans, we will never fully be happy with our situation - we'll always crave change and development. It's in our nature to want to be better. So first things first, understand that it's a lifelong process (of which you are most definitely not even close to the end).

The second most important thing to know is that you are who you are, nothing you can do will change that. You've been given the beauty of life and many people around the world don't have the ability to be healthy and attend such a high-end education- or even have the ability to set up their own newspaper. So you're stuck with who you are, and that won't change - but that thought won't make you any happier if you don't like who you are. This is where the idea of relative pain comes in. You can't say you're not as unhappy about your weight than someone who weighs more than you, for example, because pain is individual to everyone. If you've never experienced starvation, then a one-day hunger will be the worst for you. As such, you can't compare yourself to the journey of others- be happy with what you have and grateful for your opportunities but accept that you do not have the same boundaries as the person to your right.

So it comes down to your mindset? As one of the few family members I've seen while traveling, the last thing my great uncle told me was to 'smile - because you're prettiest that way'. Happiness is a mentality, a state of being. And the only way to really start to understand how that works is to look at yourself and your flaws and put them in perspective 'is my problem something I can solve?' - If so, strive for that, it'll make you happy and proud in the process. If not - why are you trying to solve it?

Coincidentally (😊), that brings me to this newspaper's sub-theme; The LGBTQ+ community. Many people in this community realize that this is an aspect of themselves that they cannot change. It's an integral part of them - and yet a lot of people are not allowed to legally or socially accept that part of themselves. Because of that, self-love rates in the community are really low. I, for one, know of way more movies depicting problematic gay stories than those of people happy and proud.

I don't think I need to present my opinion on the LGBTQ+ community when I say I'm all for self love and acceptance so I'll let the journalists and artists in the newspaper write about that. I can't tell you how to grow self-love or what steps to take on that journey because that's individual to you - as long as you know that the idea of self-love is a basis to being happy with anything else in life.

So, If I could bring a little something to your day - remember what Uncle John told me in North Carolina - remember to smile. Try to see if you really do love yourself too, and is that something you can work on or something you have to learn to accept?

I'd love to learn your opinion on the matter so feel free to contact me and I hope you enjoy this edition!

And with that, I'll end with a quote from self-help spokesperson Marianne Williamson -

“Love is all around us all the time. Love is the ethers that we swim in. Love is the amniotic fluid of the soul.”

To show how the newspaper understands the dynamics of love, here is a short compilation of things they answered to the question ‘what are you most grateful for?’

‘long-time friends and family the most because they are the people who are always there for you one way or another. They are your rock throughout your life.’ - Mirell Leskov

‘What I appreciate about life at the moment is that whilst being more alone than ever - I feel ever more connected with myself and love’ - Jonah Smans

‘I appreciate how many people are so invested in the newspaper and read it so often’ - Therese Steffensen

‘I appreciate all the people who are still curious and are willing to use their time to support students like us.’ - Aava Määttä

‘all the people that tune in for every edition because it makes it all the more worth it :)’ - Faatimah Clarke

‘I appreciate that dominique doesn’t shout at me when I don’t hand in anything’ - Akke Houtsma

‘I appreciate the fact how truly the saying ‘give and you shall receive in turn’ rings true in my life’ - Aengus Schulte




The top corners of the page are decorated with abstract geometric patterns. On the top left, there is a large circle surrounded by smaller dots and a cluster of lines radiating from a central point. On the top right, there is a similar cluster of lines radiating from a central point, with some lines ending in small circles. The patterns are composed of dark teal and light teal colors.

We've got a website!

RIVERSCHRONICLES.WIXSITE.COM/MYSITE

*On it you can find all of the editions, the
future themes and ideas and a contact
page and chat box for feedback or
questions.*

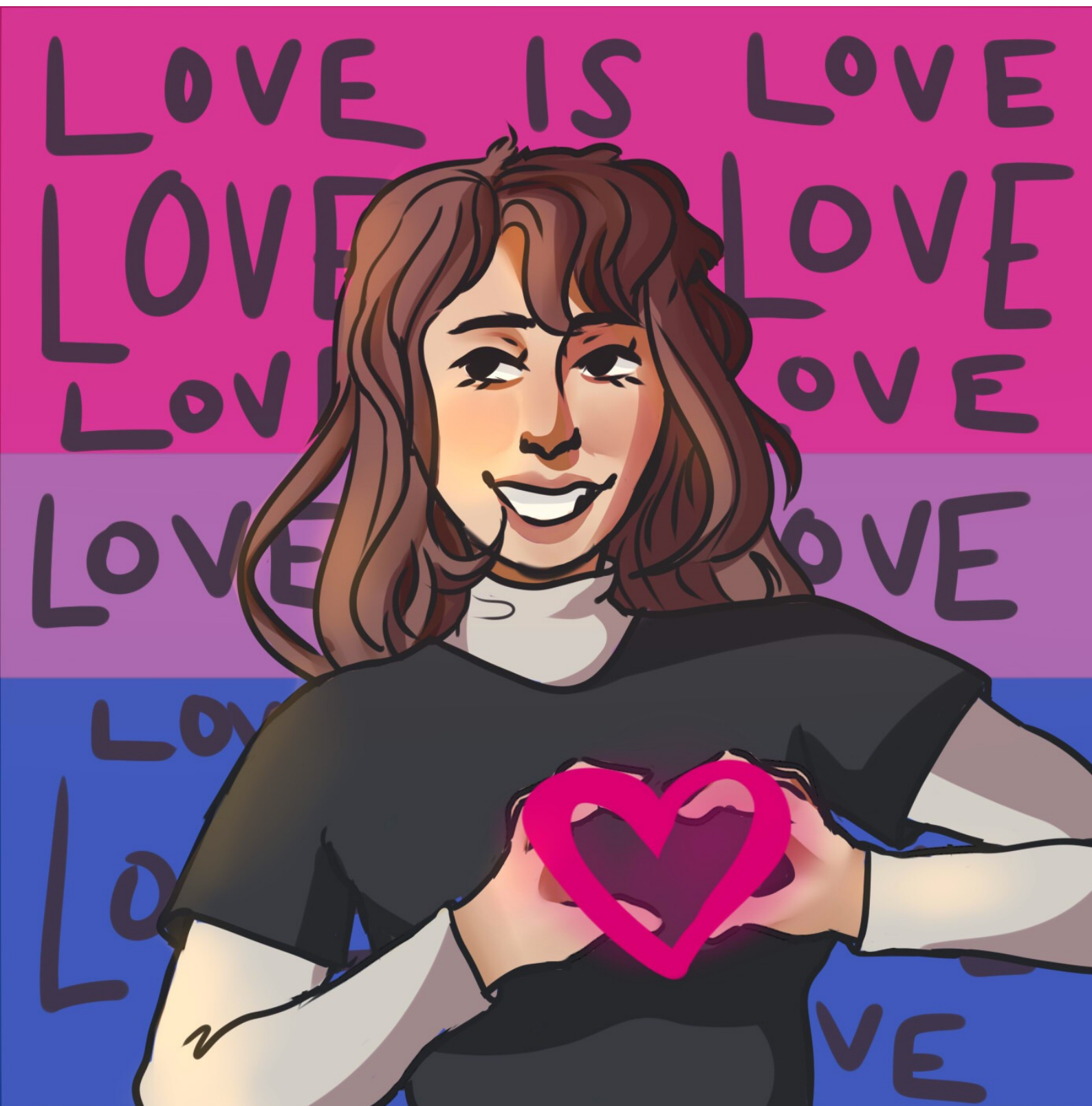
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CONTENT

P. 1	LOVE IS LOVE (ART)
P. 2	THE COLOR PURPLE
P. 5	ALONE ON VALENTINES DAY (ART)
P. 7	GREEN BOOK - A REVIEW BY AKKE
P. 9	CELEBRATING LOVE
P. 13	LOVE HAS NO BOUNDS (ART)
P. 15	HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE
P. 17	PALE SHADOWS
P. 20	THE RIGHT-WING? WHAT RIGHT WING?
P. 23	AMERICAN DRAG CULTURE - THE 1920S (CULTURE SHOCK)
P. 25	MEMBERS

KATA BALOGH

Love is Love





The Colour Purple

Jonah Smans

Valentine's day was only a few weeks ago and I hope that this year's edition made all your fantasies and hopes for love come true.

In our international school, people from all over the world mingle to confront their mindsets and learn from each other. Love is one of those easily overlooked mindsets, something that connects us all but is unique to each individual. It comes in different shapes and sizes; from conventional and established forms to the relatively new ones brought together in the LGBTQ+ community.

The community remains controversial in many parts of the world - a fact often forgotten in the liberal atmosphere of the Netherlands. To investigate how an international community of people coming from all parts of the globe typically responds to a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I decided to interview a student of Rivers with a bisexual identity.

Q: How would you describe your sexual orientation?

A: As something called pansexual, but I prefer to use the term bisexual because that's what most people understand. It means that you can be attracted to anyone, even to someone who isn't sure about his or her own gender. It is more inclusive than bisexual.

Q: When did you discover that you had this orientation?

A: Around the age of 15.

Q: Have you ever been in a relationship?

A: Yes, with someone of the opposite sex, but never with someone of the same orientation or gender.

Q: How many people know about your orientation?

A: Around 10 people. My family doesn't know but my closest friends do.

Q: Why is that?

A: Because even though my mom has always said that she wouldn't care if I or my siblings were gay, but that she wants me, her only daughter, to have children. Nobody in my family really cares if other people are gay, bi, or anything else, really. My home country has always been very conclusive towards the community too, so I learned to be accepting of everyone.

Q: Why do you still choose to tell only a few people outside your family then??

A: Well nowadays people wear their sexual orientations as a personality trait and I don't want to do that. It's not something that identifies me as a person.

The acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community has become so great that sometimes members believe that their orientation is what sets them apart from the crowd, a feature to flaunt and parade around with. Granted, this is much less of an issue as the other side of the spectrum, non-acceptance and shame, but it is something to be weary of. My interviewee didn't seem particularly happy with the idea of prancing around with your orientation. I think it has to do with the fact that it sets the less conventional preferences apart: people project a spotlight upon themselves.

Even though this light might be positive and come from a place of pride and happiness, it still sets them apart from the crowd, an abnormality that can be easily discriminated against. Wasn't the whole point of the acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community that members were treated in an equal manner to straight people?

At least according to my interviewee, the point wasn't to wave around a gay banner all the time. Having a certain orientation is similar to liking a certain type of food, a quality that defines you in some way, sure, but it's definitely not something that those who don't know you should care about. That's why she didn't feel like telling anybody, except the people who are interested in her in the first place.

Q: Has there been a hurtful event in your old school, before Rivers, regarding your orientation?

A: Not really because nobody knew of my orientation and I was still very young. There was a girl who called me a lesbian because I liked jokingly kissing girls. We were all still children so it was completely normal to do so, at least that's what I thought. The comment was quite hurtful to me at the time but it is even more bitter now because it turns out I actually am attracted to women. I became scared and started doubting myself: what if I actually am lesbian?

Q: What about here at Rivers?

A: The things that actually upset me are the jokes people make in the class group chat: calling people names like faggot is hurtful to hear. Especially when people who openly identify as LGBTQ+ community members use derogatory terms, I wonder if they realize what the nasty history behind that word is and how hard the community has fought for the abolishment of them. It shows a lack of respect. There are positive things, too: I remember that when we were still in the Lorentz building there used to be a bi day. Everybody would dress up in the colour purple, the colour associated with being bisexual.



Purple blends the colours pink and blue into one; just how a bisexual person mixes their preference for boys (traditionally represented by blue) and for girls (represented by pink). Posters and parades were included, too: it all made me feel very welcome and safe. There isn't an awareness day like that here in the new building but I think that even small things like the subtopic of this edition of the newspaper help tremendously for the image of the LGBTQ+ community. I know that some people definitely need the assurance that it is a topic that is being thought and talked about, even though for me it is not necessary. I don't need to defend myself for who I am because I was never forced to.

Q: How does the fact that we study in an international school impact the acceptance of LGBTQ+ members?

A: In a positive way because we have a more modern way of thinking. A large contrast would be the environment in schools in the conservative parts of the US, for example. The topic is frowned upon over there, or at best glossed over. Because we have to be accepting of other people's diversity anyways, it's a small step to be accepting of different orientations, too.

Being in the Netherlands, one of the earliest countries accepting gay marriage, has a very big positive impact on the acceptance of having a non-traditional orientation. An international school just adds more perspectives and openness to the environment already present in the country but it cannot completely make up for a negative outlook on the phenomenon. When I asked what could be done in Rivers to improve the situation I received a very immediate response: education about the matter.

She says that because all countries are represented in this school, it is extremely important to educate all people about how the LGBTQ+ community is regarded here. It is vital to make people understand that things here are different than in their home country and that they might have to adapt their behaviour, at least inside the school. Creating a respectful environment is probably the biggest goal of any school, and it is especially the case for an international school.

In my opinion, she might be wrong - being in an international school has a hugely beneficial impact as it forces students to become immediately more accepting of other environments and people, which means that at one point the students also begin to accept other people's sexuality. Whether this works though – Apparently not, according to the anonymous interviewee, we still have a lot to learn about the colour purple.

And in the end, will we, as outsiders, ever truly know what the real-life manifestations of purple went through to get to where they are?

AAVA MÄÄTTÄ

Alone on Valentine's Day



The Boosting Club

The boosting club is about providing **free** and **private** tutoring by and for students right here in our school.



Are you in **MYP 4/5** or in the **DP** and need help with a subject?

Or are you a **DP1** or **DP2** student willing to help fellow students out with a specific subject you're good at?

(It counts as **CAS**)

Get in contact with me:

- at this email; jonah.smans@outlook.com
- ask your teacher to contact me
- walk up to me in school

Include the subject you want help with and make sure to share your **timetable**.

Jonah Smans, the head of the boosting club

GREEN BOOK REVIEW

Akke Houtsma



Since the 2019 Oscar nominations for Best Picture have been announced, I've been trying my best to watch most of them in the cinema, including Green Book. Directed by Peter Farelly (that's the same guy who directed There's Something about Mary, mind you), Green Book starts off with Tony "Lip" Vallelonga (Viggo Mortensen), an over-the-top charming Italian New Yorker, who finds himself as the chauffeur of Don Shirley (Mahershala Ali), a well-mannered African-American pianist. Shirley needs a bodyguard and someone to drive him through the 1960s American South, where he is going on tour to play for all-white audiences.

Green Book combines Hollywood's favourite genres: a feel-good, buddy and road comedy, with its favourite line: 'based on a true story', and on top of that adds a timeless, controversial theme to it: racism. It is a sublimely-acted, character-driven story which features a brilliantly blatant product placement shot (although a bit of a racial cliché and historically incorrect) and some beautiful American 60s cars to drool over. So, what's not to love?

Well, the way it handles racism is a bit... iffy. It's written by three old white dudes (incidentally that is also the film's target audience), one of them being Tony Vallelonga's son: Nick Vallelonga. Vallelonga claims that all his material comes from extensive conversations with both his father and Shirley. However, Shirley's family has stated they were never even consulted about the film's content and denounces the film as a "symphony of lies" in a Shadow and Act interview. Take from that what you will.

Anyways, the story is obviously told from Tony's perspective (since his son is a co-writer) and focuses on his journey to overcome his prejudice against Shirley, as well as gain a more in-depth understanding of racism. In the very beginning, Tony is shown badmouthing two black workers who are there to fix up his house, and after they leave, he throws the two glasses they used in the bin. From the point that he's employed by Shirley, he appears to change his views, mainly after seeing Shirley perform and witnessing the struggles and harassment he has to go through.

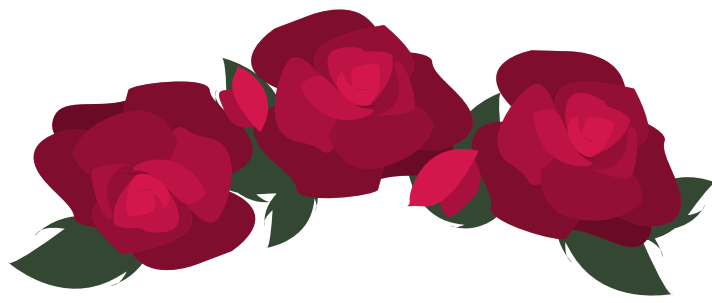
In the film, we see Tony develop, he is celebrated even, but Shirley's struggles were mostly left in the dark. And that irked me.

Instead of delving into the courage it must have taken for Don Shirley to perform in the Deep South –when six year prior another prominent African-American performer, Nat King Cole, had been brutally assaulted by the KKK onstage, *Green Book* decides to focus on Tony overcoming racism. Surely, there's a more powerful story to be told about Don Shirley, a highly-educated black man who learned to play piano at the age of two, who was discouraged to pursue a classical concert career because of his race, and who put his life at risk by performing his music. His perspective might also have given us more insight into the historical significance of *The Negro Motorist Green Book*, after which the film was named (and glossed over by), which according to one NBC article “was like the Bible for travel, it meant the difference between life and death.”

Instead the film went: “wow the 1960s were a really crazy time. Glad we fixed racism”, as graciously said by VOX.

But it makes sense in a way. The film was written by three white men and is aimed at old white people: a story told from a male white perspective resonates more with the audience. It becomes more understandable and relatable, and more easily evokes interest into the topic. One of my friends disagreed with me when I initially told her about my initial criticisms of the film. She said to me: “Well, actually... Maybe it was biased and flawed and a little too lighthearted, but the film was impactful enough for me to still think about it after a week. It wasn't life-changing per se, but did add nuance to my perspective.”

So, if you take the politics out of it and just watch the film as if it is about two men adjusting their views of one another, written from a personal narrative, it works well. Unfortunately, it's hard to take the politics out of it, because well... it's racism. To sum it up, a quote taken from Rotten Tomatoes: “sadly didn't end racism, but still very cute”.



CELEBRATING LOVE

Emma Ajayi

The word Love is too complex to be defined since it is a word that has a different meaning to everyone. Love can range from complimenting someone and letting them know that you care, to having affectionate feelings about someone, and would like to share your life with them. Love can even be thinking about someone and can't help but smile as you do it. Love is an abstract piece of art, meaning that it can be interpreted in many different ways. Love is so special, so unique, that each year, out of the 365 days we are given, a special day is preserved to take a moment and celebrate it.

Valentine's Day. This day, commonly known for people sending flowers and chocolates to loved ones, however, even though Valentine's Day is a universal event, Love may be celebrated differently depending on where in the world you come from.

Celebrating Love in South Korea

Apparently, South Koreans celebrate February the 14th with a twist...women are supposed to take initiative and get men gifts, flowers and Valentines Cards. A really nice tradition which shows that letting someone know that you love them by giving out gifts and cards on Valentine's Day does not necessarily need to be gender specific.

Celebrating Love in Denmark

In Denmark, a sense of humour and comedy is considered when displaying romance. Funny poems and letters known as "gækkebrev" (which translates to "joking letter") are written to each other. The tradition lets us know that love is not only about kissing and falling in love, it can also be having a good laugh in each other's presence.

Celebrating Love in Finland

In the Finnish village of Sonkajaervi, a common tradition of celebrating love is to host the “Wife-Carrying-Championships” Yup, you guessed it. Husbands carry their wives on their backs while competing against other couples in races and obstacle courses. You can’t appreciate love without a little bit of comedy in it.

Celebrating Love in France

A midnight walk in Paris. The Eiffel Tower. Probably the world’s sexiest language. When it comes to Romance, France has it. The French celebrate their love by placing padlocks on The Ponts Des Arts bridge. The bridge that connects The Louvre to the Institut de France. Lovers write both their names/initials onto the padlock, and lock it before throwing the keys into the Seines river.



Celebrating Love in China

This Chinese Love occasion dates back many years ago, approximately 2,000. The Qixi Festival was derived from an ancient tale of a couple who were kept apart but eventually found each other. According to the legend, the couple were allowed to unite on the 7th day of the 7th month. Therefore on the 7th of July, couples celebrate by participating in kissing contests.

Celebrating Love in Israel

In Israel, Tu B'av is an old Israeli holiday that celebrates love. It consists of women dress up in white, who dance around in vineyards, during the season of harvest, in the hopes of finding someone they're attracted to. Some these festivals and holidays show how important love was back then, and what makes them even more special, is despite their age, people still find value in them to continue celebrating them.

Celebrating Love in India

India has many ways to celebrate love. "Saptapadi" is a tradition used to celebrate the love of a married couple. There are seven tasks the newlyweds must perform around a fire, symbolizing the love they have for each other. The groom then uses a red powder and rubs it on the forehead of the bride, which indicates that she is a married woman.

Celebrating Love in Japan

Similar to the Korean love tradition, women can show love by giving out gifts and flowers without any romantic interest to their male friends, colleagues, teachers, or bosses. The men aren't off the hook. On the 14th of March which is known as "White Day" They are expected to reciprocate the action by getting the females gifts.

Celebrating Love in Brazil

"Dia Dos Enamorados" or "Lovers Day" is a celebration on the 12th of June. On this day, chocolates, flowers and gifts are exchanged to one another. Musical and other artistic performances are held, uniting couples, families, and friends. Brazil also has its own version of Valentine's Day which is a carnival that starts from February to March every year.

Of course, these are only some examples out of the 195 countries we have today where you can see festivals, carnivals and events that celebrate love, but what really matters is seeing love being celebrated around the world.





Dear parents,

As most of you might already know, this years RIMUN has been cancelled. Following up on last years very successful MUN, we were hoping to host the second edition of our school's Model United Nations. Sadly, due to some unfortunate circumstances we had to stop the development early. Our team did great work and it breaks our hearts not to see the final product.

However unfortunate though, we will continue with new Secretary General applications for this years DP1 and MYP 5, and Deputy Secretary General Applications for the current MYP 5 and MYP 4. If you have been to a few MUN's, and you feel that you would want to give a shot at leading the organization of an MUN, feel free to contact below! Applications for other positions in the organizing committee will follow after.

<https://goo.gl/forms/fWCGrBlbDCpzP0Oc2>

Kind Regards,
The RIMUN team

If you have already applied for housing someone and would still like to follow up on having someone at that time - the Erasmus visit for the EE presentations are a week before the RIMUN dates and they are still looking for Housing. If you'd like to apply please email Mr. Damen (m.damen@riversarnhem.org) or Mrs Ensink (m.ensink@riversrnhem.org)

MIRELL LESKOV

Love has no bounds





ANACAONA

- Community -

ANACAONA Community is the first soap recycling social initiative in Haiti. CEO and founder Laure Bottinelli launched this organization in 2016 to achieve the following goals in that country:

- * Reduce the risks of bad waste management and protect the environment
- * Improve the health and hygiene of habitants living in poor conditions
- * Empower women who are physically, educationally and economically discriminated

Once a month, ANACAONA collects leftover soaps from hotel partners in Haiti, which are recycled and redistributed to partner schools. ANACAONA also educates teachers and students on basic hygiene

As a native French speaker, I wanted to share this amazing organization I discovered with the school - Enya Spanings DP2

If you would like to donate or know more information please visit:

<https://www.anacaona.org/>



Holocaust Remembrance Day

THERESE STEFFENSEN

On Sunday the 27th of January, it was the remembrance day for the Holocaust. It's the day the Red Army liberated the concentration camp in Auschwitz. The Holocaust was a tragic event that took place under the World War II, where approximately 6 million Jewish men, women, and children were killed. One of the largest camps used is called Auschwitz, located in Poland, where 1.1 million were killed. A gate for the opening of one of the concentration camps with the infamous quite "Arbeit macht frei" or in English "Work sets you free"

Prisoners would be collected together and put on carriers on trains, as seen on the picture to the left. They would arrive at the concentration camp and be lined up in males and females with children. People were checked by a doctor and a soldier to deem if they were fit enough to work. If not, they would be killed, of which about 900,000 were. Many would also be used as test subjects for Josef Mengele, also nicknamed the Angel of Death, and his experiments, such as electroshock and genetic testing.





Their belongings: clothing, hairbrushes, family portraits, anything they carried with them in small suitcases, was confiscated by Nazi soldiers. On the picture to the right, there is a display of all the shoes

that were found when Soviet soldiers arrived to free the surviving prisoners. Hitler wished to keep their belongings to make a museum of “an extinct race”.

The gas chambers are in few different places on the camp. There were also cremation ovens used to burn bodies after they were killed. Most the buildings and chambers were destroyed when the Nazi’s realized the Soviet soldiers were coming towards them. They burned down the houses the prisoners lived in, destroyed the chambers and tried to eliminate all evidence of the events there ever taking place. The Nazi’s wanted no one to know of these events, only Nazi’s soldiers working there knew of it. Everyone else was oblivious.



But they didn’t destroy everything. They didn’t have time for it. Many things were still left behind, such as shoes, clothing, kitchen utensils, hair from the dead and hairbrushes. The surviving prisoners were taken to safety. Approximately 7,000 prisoners were saved on that day out of the 1.1 million that died in total.

PALE SHADOWS

Aengus Schulte

You sit there on your bed, tears slowly making their way down your cheeks. You feel numb. You don't know if you should feel that way, but you do. Earlier on, you had felt anger, and disbelief. But not now. Now you feel nothing.

Above you the harsh light flickers, sending shadows across the rumpled sheets. Your tearstained pillow lies on the floor, left there once you had finished sobbing. Next to it is a puddle of water and glass. It's from the vase you smashed; the one with the flowers they gave you. Red roses. Flowers of love. What a joke.

You remember when you first met them. The bookstore, in town. You had seen them walk in, hair sopping wet from the rain outside. Still damnably good-looking though. They were wearing that cute smile that still sent your heart racing. Looking around, they had met your eyes. You glanced away nervously. Next thing you knew, they had walked over and asked you out to coffee. You blushed. You weren't used to hot strangers making the first move. But you said yes. How could you not? They had taken you out. And it was great. They knew just how to make you laugh. You had agreed to meet up again. And again, after that. That's when they kissed you for the first time. Soft lips, tasting of Coke. You had joked about it afterwards.

Months passed. They had moved in with you. You had grown closer. Gotten a dog. Cola, you named him. After that first kiss. You had met their parents, and they yours. They were happy for you both. And so were you.

Then they started becoming more distant. Not by much, at first. You didn't spend as much time together. Too busy. But that was okay. An inevitable consequence. That's what you told yourself, anyway.

That's when the fights started. Just over little things, like not washing the dishes, or forgetting to walk Cola. But they got bigger. You got used to shouting at each other every day. You began to sleep in separate beds. And one day, you had slapped them. No hesitation. You remember the shocked expression on their face. Hurt, like you had betrayed them. And in a way, you had.

You had felt bad, of course. Terrible, in fact. You had tried to make it up to them. Talked it out. And for a while, it helped. You grew close again. Or so you thought.

The text had come from a friend. "We need to talk". Fatal words.

They had said they were going to be working. Extra paperwork, they said. But when your friend saw them, they were in town, Coke-flavoured lips on the mouth of another.

You hear the shower turn off. They come out of the bathroom, pass by. They look in, hair soaked, just like the first time. A pale shadow of what they once were. See the shattered vase, puddle of water. Tears streaming down your face.

'Hey. You okay?'

And you just look at them.

School Hoodies

Sarah Stuttaford

Most people like to represent their school, or they at least want to stay warm. With the school hoodies, you have the privilege of doing both! Coming in navy blue, these sweatshirts are designed to symbolize the school and are being sold to fundraise for the students attending the trip to Ghana on June 22, 2019.

They come in children and adult sizes: perfect for the whole family! The hoodies are priced at €22 for adults and the ones for kids are priced at €20. Now that's what I call a steal! So, are you already fumbling for your wallet to purchase one of these beauties? Well, don't worry all you have to do is fill out an order form which will be handed out by your child's form tutor, otherwise, you can simply email your name, class, and hoodie size to r.arts@ll.riversarnhem.org.

The money can be transferred to (NL70 ABNA 0515 1911 32, W. ARTS) or in an envelope as cash with your name to Rianne Arts DP1 or Mr. van Kollenburg.

Be sure to order them before April 1st!

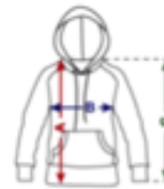
Male sizes



A (mm) B (mm) C (mm)

	A (mm)	B (mm)	C (mm)
S	690	530	600
M	560	720	620
L	750	590	640
XL	620	660	780
XXL	800	650	680

Female sizes



A (mm) B (mm) C (mm)

	A (mm)	B (mm)	C (mm)
S	650	480	720
M	510	670	740
L	690	540	760
XL	710	570	770
XXL	730	600	780

Kids sizes



A (mm) B (mm) C (mm)

	A (mm)	B (mm)	C (mm)
98/104 (3-4 jaar)	390	450	370
110/116 (5-6 jaar)	410	480	405
122/128 (7-8 jaar)	430	520	445
134/146 (9-11 jaar)	470	470	570
152/164 (12-14 jaar)	500	620	500



Payment in Advance!

Kids Hoodie - €22,-
Adult Hoodie - €20,-

Contact;
r.arts@ll.riversarnhem.org

The Right-Wing? What Right-Wing?

DAVID VERSPUI

Last Wednesday, 6th of February, was the state of the Union address by United States president Donald Trump. In this speech, the president announces his plans and concerns for the upcoming year. This is an important moment, not only for the president but also for the congress and senate to react to the president's remarks. Moments such as Speaker Nancy Pelosi's sarcastic clap and the democratic congresswomen dressing in all white dominated headlines worldwide.

Surprisingly, most of these articles pit the entire democratic party against Donald Trump. It seems that the Republican party which still control 45% of Congress, and 53% (a majority) of the Senate has been completely left out of the picture. According to these sources, it seems that the Republican party has been diminished to nothing more than Trumps' toy soldiers.

On the other hand, the democratic party's representation is a whole different story. The democratic party has been praised by media for making many firsts, including a first Muslim woman, a first native



^ House Speaker Nancy Pelosi 'applauds' the POTUS after his State of the Union address

American woman, and many first female representatives for states. So why does it seem like a David versus Goliath battle? Is this actually a heroic triumph story or is the media only presenting it this way?

This 'uphill battle' brings it back to the classic controversy of: (dare I say it): media bias. However, if that's the case in the USA, why would I notice it? Surely, not with European news right? In the US yes, national news is dominated by CNN and Fox News, which are known for supporting specific parties and ideologies. But however in the Netherlands, why would news from almost 4000 miles away be biased?

When I was looking around for British articles relating to the State of the Union, many of them were similar to that of articles in US-based papers. Does this mean that the entire world just hates Trump or is it bigger? Is there worldwide liberal media bias?

To further research I tried looking at another nation, the Netherlands. Currently, their cabinet is central-left and lead by the VVD. I found that most news presented in regards to the main right-wing parties (VVD and PVV) was related to the PVV, which is known as the very left and populist party in Dutch politics. Similarly to Trump, the PVV is also well known for their blunt and slanderous leader.

Thus, across the world, there is this big gap between middle-right political news, and left extremists. Does this have such a big impact then? To find out I asked many of my classmates, many who can already vote, some questions in regards to the standpoints of political parties. Questions like "name a right-wing political party" and "do you think that the right wing is dominated by extremists?". Many of them could identify the views of left-wing parties, like universal healthcare and free education. However, when it came to the right-wing parties, they fell silent. Some of them could identify the views of right-extremists, like stopping migration, but barely any

seemed to be able to name a standpoint of the central-right. Names like Alex Jones, the neo-Nazi movement and the KKK, which only make up a tiny fraction of actual senates are representing an entire half of the political spectrum.

Does this create an even greater issue? Personally, I would say that it does. Inaccurate news is and will always remain a critical issue. When your news sources do not contradict, you stop asking questions and remain critical. You can clearly see that the bias towards more central ideas means that the left, not extreme, are significantly left out of media coverage. Open-mindedness and consideration are important factors when making decisions, but if people are becoming increasingly uninformed of these options, no matter if you agree with them or not, you start to lose track of the bigger picture. This leads the way to extremism and radicalization, something that is currently becoming more and more common. Therefore I suggest that you remain critical of everything you read. Remember, there are always two sides to a story. Try to listen to both sides, from different sources before making a choice.

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TECH TEAM

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6TH PERIOD

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Culture Shock

AMERICAN DRAG CULTURE - THE 1920S

By; Therese Steffensen

Drag has never been as popular as it is now. From the massive success of Rupaul's Drag Race, making the drag scene more present in today's media, to drag queens and kings rising up as large social media influencers. Some have even received their own shows on Netflix such as my personal favourite queen, Alyssa Edwards has.

Drag is larger than ever, but it must have come from somewhere, right?



I'm sure that to nobody's surprise drag wasn't always as accepted as it is now. Drag has a very long history, but in this article I will focus on the 1920s, aptly named the roaring twenties. The '20s is the first time period in which gay people used the word "drag". While nobody is exactly sure how the word came to be, there are a few different theories about its origins.

During this era, drag was primarily linked with the LGBTQ community. The community, oppressed by the rest of society, united in these so-called balls. These balls worked as a safe haven for gay men to interact with each other while being entertained by men dressing up as women. While the first drag balls were held in 1869, they only became popular in the 1920s. Over time the drag balls became more known to the general public as something primarily enjoyed by gay, lesbian and transgender people. Everybody started referring to them as “faggot balls”.

That connotation quickly changed as these balls suddenly grew in popularity and stopped being a phenomenon only the LGBTQ community enjoyed. Heterosexual artists and writers came from far and wide to experience the drag balls. Even women started participating and dressing up as men: the most famous one, called Drag King at first and later known as Gladys Bentley, was part of a large group of women drag enthusiasts called the Harlem Renaissance.



Large venues in New York City such as Madison Square Garden, The Savoy, and many more started hosting beauty contests and performances attended by drag queens, drag kings, and their fans from all over the world. They performed songs such as “Boy in a boat” and “Masculine women, feminine men” as a way to support LGBTQ artists.

It truly was a time to be alive for drag queens and kings. Newspapers wrote about the performances and the environment was safe for all enthusiasts of drag.

They were finally free to fully express themselves.

Rivers Chronicles' Members



Dominique Wagemaker, DP 2
Head of Newspaper



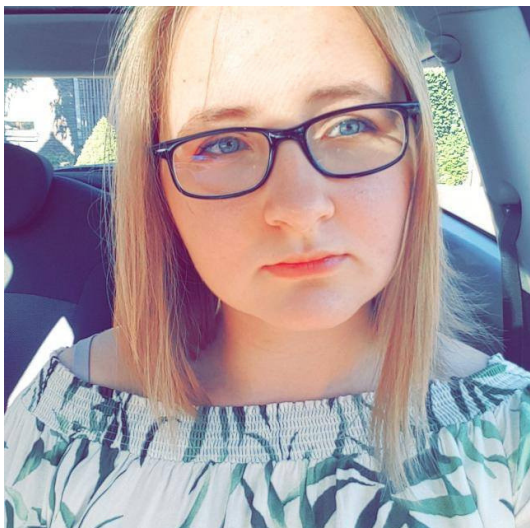
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