

VEGAS VALLEY ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Friday, March 1, 2024

CALENDAR

F
March 1
Academic Awards
March 8
End of 3rd QTR.
March 11-15
SPRING BREAK

A BLIND PERFORMANCE

-YESEL GONZALEZ

This year was my first time going to Thunderbird. Leaving Thursday, on my birthday, to Thunderbird, was also a new experience. During the road trip I did not know what instrument I would be playing. One note to remember is that I do not read music. When arriving at Thunderbird, I reunited with my old classmates and a teacher from years ago. After chatting and catching up, we all had to go to a specific room depending on what we were with. A few options that each student could pick are instruments, bells, and singing. So I walked to the gym to find out I was playing the bass drum.

The band practiced many times, and during this, I looked around and felt the room, the conductor, and the dynamics. Using my ears and focusing on the dynamics of each song and feel, I got through each set. Now, I asked for feedback and asked what I could work on. My conductor "Mr. Dean" told me I was great and to focus on his signs and read what I could. This feedback encouraged me to be more confident and know I'm on the right track. I tried to read the sheet music during the rest of the practices, knowing I did not understand it. Nonetheless, I did not miss a beat or mess up during the performance due to my constant focus on Mr. Dean and feeling the dynamics.

THE JOURNEY OF ELIJAH THE PROPHET

-MARIÉ ENTERINA

In this story, Elijah the Tishbite, a Gilead settler, tells Ahab that neither rain or dew will fall in the future years. The Lord instructed Elijah to hide beside the stream Cherith, east of the Jordan, where birds would provide for him. The stream eventually dried up due to not enough rain. The Lord then instructed Elijah to go to Zarephath, Sidon, and remain there. He then encountered a widow gathering sticks and begged her for some water to drink. She refused, saying she barely had flour and oil to feed herself and her son. Elijah told her to bake a bread cake using flour and oil, then one for herself and her son. The Lord God of Israel promised that the bowl of flour would last until the day of rain on the earth. She followed Elijah's directions and fed her family for several days. According to the Lord's word spoken through Elijah, the flour bowl was not empty, and the oil container was still empty. In summary, we should always learn to trust God's guidance, even in difficult times, and how important it is to give, as shown by Elijah and the widow. It also shows how God is always providing for His people, even in times of need.



I'M GONNA SING, SING, SING!

-JAMES W. GILLEY

The previous weekend me and a couple of participants from grades 5th-10th traveled to Thunderbird Adventist Academy where we discovered many musical pieces and performed for God. I was not so sure about it at first but in the end I am ecstatic I came along due to the many things I learned about music and God. Adding on the friends I made there and people I reunited with. God gave us a gift of music and you may have it as well. But since He gave us this gift we will use it to honor Him. Our instructor Mr. Anderson was a compassionate and strict person. He cuts you some slack but when you start to misbehave he will not be shy to tell you to stay in formation. I hope to use skills that I have enhanced from this experience like patience, humility, and respect. Furthermore I encourage others to try new things even though they may not seem to like it at first.





THUNDERING MUSIC FESTIVAL
-JOSHUA M. SILVER

Last week, kids ranging from 5th grade to 10th grade visited Thunderbird Adventist Academy for their annual music festival. We left quite early in the morning, around 6:15 am. Mr Anderson was our choir director, and in my opinion, he does his job very well. We slept in the rec rooms of our respective dorms, and they were not too bad. The performance was nice, and we did pretty well; especially the band. Overall the Thunderbird music festival was an enjoyable experience and I'd go again. Singing praises to God with other singers and performers was a unique experience.

FREEDOM AT LAST.
-CALLIE SAMANIEGO

Slaves had a very hard time back in the 1800s even into the 1900s. The slaves would only ever be seen as property, never a human being. They would be mistreated very badly and even sometimes to the point of death. They would have to work in fields till dark with no break or food, they would also be beaten very badly. That is where the Underground Railroad came into play. The Underground Railroad got its name from Charles Torrey. He became the editor for the newspaper in Albany. He would use the name in the newspaper dispatch, to essentially beat up on the slaveholders and the slave catchers. He would use it to mock them. The Underground Railroad was not actually a railroad underground. It was a series of routes, places, and people that helped enslaved people escape. When the escape plan was finally planned out, Harriet Tubman was the leader of it all. She rescued about 70 people because of her master plan. This railroad was the way to freedom.



MY EXPERIENCE AT MUSIC FEST
-MCRYLEIGH PIERRE-LOUIS

Recently grades 5-10 attended a music festival trip to ThunderBird Adventist Academy in Arizona. The first day was pretty good, when we arrived we started our singing practice. Our instructor Mr. Anderson helped us progress in our music as we had very little time till our performance. I had a lot of help from people from other schools teaching me the parts that I was struggling with. Thankfully Mr. Anderson was nice to us. He let us go out and have our break early. During my break I did various things, from not even getting up from my seat to getting active playing many sports. I had a great time playing volleyball with all the new people I met. I had a blast playing football! The next day everybody was tired and exhausted and did not want to sing. Our only way we could go on our break was to sing our parts the right way. After attending the music festival trip at ThunderBird Adventist Academy in Arizona, I had a wonderful time learning from Mr. Anderson and he truly enhanced my musical knowledge.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"ALL WE HAVE TO DECIDE IS WHAT TO DO WITH THE TIME THAT IS GIVEN TO US."
- GANDALF

SILLY GILLEY

Why couldn't the skeleton go to school?
His heart just wasn't in it.

