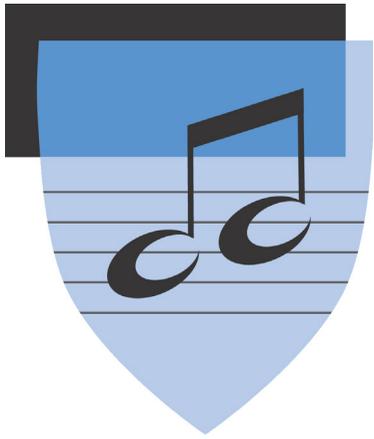


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Stoked for STOKED

By Nadejah Green



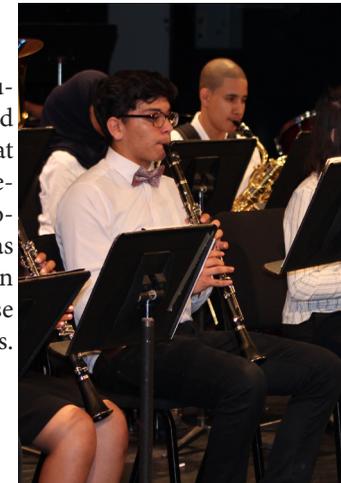
STOKED is one of the many new after school programs coming to Celia Cruz this year. STOKED, stands for Success-Teamwork-Openness-Kudos-Energy-Determination. Students learn these principles through various team building activities while having fun, and gaining exposure to a world of skateboarding, surfing and snowboarding.

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Summer Band

By Nadejah Green

This past summer, students, both incoming and returning, spent their time at Lehman College, in the Celia Cruz summer band program, honing their skills as musicians. They enjoyed an intense and enjoyable course under the direction of Mrs. Jacono.



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Softball Tryouts

By John Chandler

As the softball season approaches, the Walton Wildcats are seeing both new and very familiar faces. Tryouts were held during the second week of school and Coach Hall is already lining up some top prospects for the start of the season. Everyone trying out seemed eager to make a good impression.



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Stoked for STOKED

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Everyone is excited to learn and express themselves through this program. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 4-6 pm Nadia, a commercial Artist, will teach students how to build and ride skateboards in room CC-2.

Stoked is a free four year program. During the first year, students will learn how to build and design a skateboard. During the second year of STOKED students work together to create a skateboard company. In the third year students will create portfolios to go along with their resumes. And in the fourth year students will be offered internships from

a variety of companies in New York. Last year students of STOKED did so well that they were able to work with a professional skateboard company, Little Wing, and create a commercial with Mountain Dew. Not only will students learn how to skateboard, but they will also learn how to Snowboard and Surf as well. Members of this program will go on a series of trips to Far Rockaway Beach in order to learn how to Surf. Through this program students will be able to learn, express themselves and build strong relationships with their peers.

Hailey Moreira said, "I am looking forward to building a skateboard and keeping it. I think it's going to be

really successful." Richard Pena added, "Honestly this has been a dream of mine since Middle School. When I heard about it, it made me feel STOKED." If you would like more information about this program, please see Dr. Abikzer in Room CC-15.



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Hispanic Heritage Tribute Event @ Lehman College 11:00am-1:30pm	2	3	4
5	6	7 College Fair @ Lehman College 10:00am-12:00pm	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day- No School	14 NHS Blood Drive	15 PSAT Day College Fair @ Bronx Education Center Open House 5pm-9pm	16	17 Open House 5pm-9pm	18
19	20 Junior H.S. Concert 10:00am-12:30pm	21	22	23 The Latin Grammys w/ David Bisbal	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Journalism Bake Sale	31	



Opening Act

By Nadejah Green

Do you enjoy acting, dancing or singing? Would you like to improve your skills? Then join Opening Act. This workshop allows students to express themselves theatrically. Students all over New York City have been enjoying education provided by this workshop. You will learn how to audition for colleges, televised shows, Broadway plays, and musicals. Also students will be able to work along side with professional dancers and actors such as Alec Piliafas, a professional dancer and Uzo Aduba From Orange is The New Black.

This program consists of two large performances, one for each semester. During the Spring semester students will be able to perform in downtown Manhattan. The First Workshop is on September 24th from 3:45 to 5:45 in the old Teachers Cafeteria. Follow them on Facebook at Opening Act NY. Please join. This is a campus wide club so spread the word.



Welcoming New Staff Members: Eric Dinowitz

By Kiana Reyes and Tyler Mills

Many new teachers have joined the staff here at Celia Cruz for the 2014-2015 school year. One of the new teachers joining our Celia Cruz family is Mr. Eric Dinowitz. Mr. Dinowitz is joining the staff as our new resource room and algebra teacher this year.

Although this is his first year here at Celia Cruz, Dinowitz has been teaching for 6 years at various public schools in the Bronx. Dinowitz began his teaching career in 2007. Before becoming a teacher, he worked with congressmen, one of them being Elliot Engel, who he helped campaign for during the summer for several years.

In addition to teaching and politics, Mr. Dinowitz is extremely passionate about music recording. Mr. Dinowitz usually records with acapella groups and enjoys listening to classical rock, Jewish music, and choral music. In his early years, he studied at Binghamton University and double majored in Political Science and Music. His

goal has been to find a career where he can fuse all of his passions together and put his skills to use. He seems to have found that here at Celia Cruz.

Dinowitz visited this school a year and a half ago, which influenced his choice to start teaching here at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music; besides the fact that the students seemed great, he saw that the

staff was very supportive and he enjoyed the music connection with the student's academics. Dinowitz says the two things that he enjoys most about is job are that he gets to spend time with amazing people each day and that he gets to see his students progress both musically and academically. Mr. Dinowitz is looking forward to his future here at Celia Cruz.





National Honor Society Buddy System

By Nadejah Green

One of the many programs that the National Honor Society will be running this year is their mentoring program partnering NHS members as mentors to the incoming freshmen. In this program mentors will inculcate their freshmen partners in the ways of an honorable student. Their mentors will aim to help them not just academically, but socially and emotionally as well. Mentors will provide incentives for good student behavior. One Saturday a month mentors and their buddy's will go out and do various activities. On September 10th "buddy's" were assigned to their mentors. Each Buddy is given their mentor based on their preferences so please fill out the questionnaire.

Would you like to be a



mentor? Make it your goal to be part of the National Honor Society. This is a great opportunity to gain community service hours and it looks very good on your college resumes. In order to do this you must have an

average of 85, two recommendation letters, one from a teacher and one from outside of the school, and have demonstrated good character. If you are interested, don't worry, it is not too late to join. If you would like to re-

ceive a mentor please speak to Ms. Lopez in room CC-14, or find an NHS member, Simone Hassan-Bey.



Teacher of the Month: Ms. Rodriguez

By Victoria Mousot

This month's teacher of the month as voted by the students of Celia Cruz is Freshmen English Teacher Ms. Rodriguez. Ms. Rodriguez began working at Celia Cruz in 2012. This is in her third year teaching ninth grade English. Ms. Rodriguez's approach to teaching ninth grade English creates an environment that is both welcoming and ideal for learning. When Ms. Rodriguez steps inside her classroom she sets her sights on having fun while teaching. At the same time, Ms. Rodriguez knows an orderly classroom increases her student's opportunity for learning and participation in classroom activities.

"When I am preparing myself to teach, in advance I decide to enjoy what I am teaching. That way the students will enjoy the subject as well." Her enthusiasm shows. As she calls the class to order, her student's respectfully appreciate that it is time to get down to business. Walking among the desks, she gives individual attention to each student.

Ms. Rodriguez is attentive to the flow of discussion and she has a keen sense of knowing how to guide her students to better understand and relate to the material.

When Ms. Rodriguez plans her lesson she keeps in mind which activities will get the most response out of her students. "I ask myself, what activities would I enjoy as a ninth grade student?" A gallery walk is a common activity that gets her students up and active. "When students work while moving around it doesn't feel like work but they are actively learning."

Ms. Rodriguez didn't always want to be a teacher. Early in her

college experience she realized her avid love of reading made her a perfect fit for teaching English. Ms. Rodriguez wants to share her love of reading with her students. Her goal is to help students realize that reading is empowering. She explained, "Learning to make important connections from literature is like reading about a person who feels the same way as you do. When you make a connection to a character it makes you feel not so alone." Ms. Rodriguez embodies her genuine interest in her students with her lively expressive philosophy of teaching by modeling what she loves.





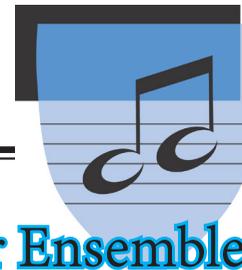
Walton Wildcats Softball Tryouts

Continued from Page 1

As for the familiar girls, one can definitely see that they've been working hard during the offseason. This season is already looking interesting. A large group of talented athletes showed up to tryouts. Many displayed their throwing and catching abilities on the field, which will prove to be important as the team lost many of it's

strongest fielders last year. One specific hole they are looking to fill is the third basemen spot on the roster. Even Coach Hall has a lot of interest in tryouts on the first day. He feels freshman are the highlights and more people revitalize the program. It's also a good way to get students on track with their school work. According to Mr. Hall, "Every kid who is on the team has to pass 5 classes." If the girls really enjoy the

game then being on the team should give them great motivation to pass their classes. Even with new and improved potential the rebuilding process is still hard, considering the team lost five starters last year. Their goal this year is to make the playoffs and with all this new potential it's very possible. Good Luck Wildcats !



After School Guitar Ensemble

By Tyler Mills and Kiana Reyes

The guitar ensemble after school program is a musical opportunity to learn classical guitar. This after school program takes place in B96, every Thursday at 3:45-5:45.

The goal is to create a guitar ensemble and participate in the school's annual concerts. Mr. Dustin Boxer runs the program and teaches the basics of classical guitar. The purpose of the ensemble is to get ready for college and to learn the foundations of the guitar.

Mr. Boxer said his hope for the class is to: "First and foremost.. instill a love and new appreciation for the instrument. By introducing and studying proper classical technique students can take this knowledge and successfully branch off to any

genre of music that appeals to them.

There will be an emphasis upon practice technique, reading and ensemble work". The number of students allowed to join the program are not limited, meaning as long as the person has a serious intent to work towards

viable guitar ensemble, then they are welcomed to join the class. However, although the school has a handful of instruments, it is highly recommended to have an instrument of your own guitar to practice on.

This program does plan to continue after this year and the goal is to develop a lasting





Instrument Awareness

By Victoria Mousot

Here at Celia Cruz we musicians take our instruments seriously. Here are some tips to help you become the most responsible musician you can be.

Firstly, If you see an unattended instrument bring it to the office. If an instrument is left unattended it can possibly be stolen or damaged. Remember, there are five schools in the Walton Campus. Not all of these schools understand the importance of respecting an instrument.

Secondly, DO NOT leave your instrument in a classroom. The teachers are not responsible for playing the instrument, learning the music, and maintaining the instruments quality.

Thirdly, DO NOT leave your instruments in any school locker overnight. A musician



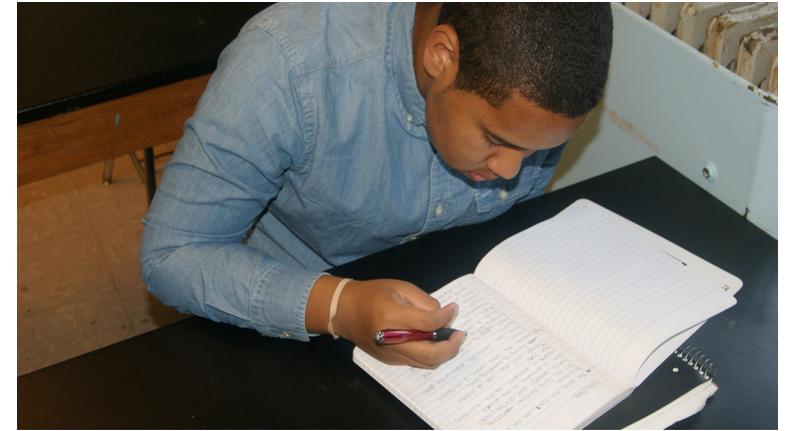
can not master his or her instrument if it is living in a locker. Also, if a staff member believes you are storing an instrument in a locker overnight, your lock will be popped and your instrument will be confiscated. Lastly, be aware if you pay a large repair bill. Remember we are all musicians. Let us respect one another's instruments.



Music Buzz: Jeremy Decena

By John Chandler

Outside of Orchestra, Band, and Choir there are many talented individuals within Celia Cruz. Rap/ Hip Hop is a common talent seen inside this school. These talented individuals rap about real life experiences and speak their mind. One of the Celia Cruz students currently honing his craft is Jeremy Decena. Jeremy is also known by his MC name, "Ted Darko." Jeremy is a senior and is a part of an upcoming group known as Enigma Ent, which is comprised of students that attend Celia Cruz. When asked about inspiration and reasons for being a hip hop artist, Jeremy cites music as a tool he uses to express himself because he never really had the chance to do so growing up. As for inspiration, he said "Listening to people that I can relate to such as Eminem, inspire and motivate me to become a hip hop artist." In his eyes, rapping isn't just a high school thing, he intends on continuing in the fu-



ture. "My wish is to impact the lives of as many people as I can." When asked about his story the answer was simple, "I struggle, we all got struggles. We all live different lives, and we all have different perspectives. We all go through our problems in our own way; whether we solve them or not. I share my problems and resolutions to connect with people." When asked what he feels real rap is, Decena responded "Real Rap? Rap is rap. What makes it real is whether you're being true to yourself. People over here making pointless music that exaggerate things they don't do, it has no meaning

or significance, but is made in order to portray things the artist is not." Jeremy is highly influenced by his group of friends, citing friendship and real bonds a key component in the thematic development of his lyrics. He says, "I learn from them everyday. They provide me with different sources, help me and influence my decisions. I wouldn't be the person I am today without them or their acceptance. They help keep me confident and push me to excel to my full potential." Now as for Enigma Ent., Jeremy and the rest of his group intend to change the face of music, so stay tuned.



Incoming Freshmen: Advice From the Upper Classmen

By Ariana Jimenez and Zoey Arce

The day that we all dread is the first day of High School. The nerves kick in, the outfits come flying out the closet and the new-comers have no idea what to expect.

We've all been through the first day jitters, having no idea what to do or where to go, but you're not alone. In order to ease your nerves we've come up with some helpful tips.

DO'S

Do, ask questions. Asking questions will help you learn more and get ahead.

Do take your classes seriously. This is a fresh start, so don't mess it up.

Keep your work organized, it's easier to stay on top of things if you develop a system of organization early.

Be yourself, this is a judgment free zone.

DON'TS

Don't sign up for after school programs if you know you can't handle the workload.



Don't let your friends define your future.

To get a little more insight on how the freshman were feeling, we interviewed two of their very own; Derek Duran (vocalists) and Gladivel Rivera (vocalists). We asked them a couple of questions to see what was running through their minds.

When asked about the things that make them the most nervous, freshman Derek Duran replied "I was nervous about the older kids and how big the school would be." Gladivel expressed her concerns regarding how the upper classmen might treat the incoming freshmen due to a negative experience in her previous school. Both students seem to have moved

past those fears as they enter into the Celia Cruz student family. Derek and Gladivel are both enjoying their classes and adjusting well to their new surroundings. While their fears have subsided both freshmen are excited to move forward in their academic careers at Celia Cruz.

Both students are also looking forward to their music improving and all the opportunities our school has in the music world. This is your first year, make the best of it, but don't mess up in any of your classes. We just hope you all have a great year and always be reminded of the Do's and Don'ts that were listed above. Good luck!



School Leadership Team

By Emily Mutze

The School Leadership Team (SLT) is a school wide meeting involving parents, students, teachers, and faculty whose goal is to address school performance and decide which areas need improvement. As a team, SLT comes up with goals they want to accomplish for the school and student body and then assemble an action plan to accomplish these goals.

Last year, SLT worked with Student Council and NHS to

address the needs of students. As a result, after school programs like night school, tutoring, and STOKED were formed. This year SLT will address the learning environment survey, set school goals for the CEP and review goals to see if any additions could be made.

Students who want to experience leadership roles before college or who just want to get involved in the school are welcome to join SLT. Meetings are held once a month on Tuesdays.

Those who would like

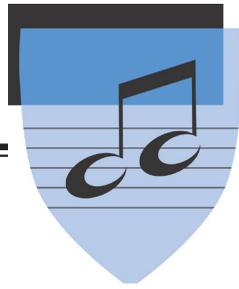
to join or need any further information can contact Mr. Fink in room CC-4.



Student Planners

Do you have trouble staying organized? Is getting it together one of your goals for this year? Do you need a way to get a handle on all of your assignments and due dates? Well great news, the Celia Cruz Student Planners are here. They are available for purchase through the NHS. See Ms. Lopez in room CC-14. Planners are free for freshmen and available for upperclassmen for three dollars each or two planners for five dollars.





Summer Band

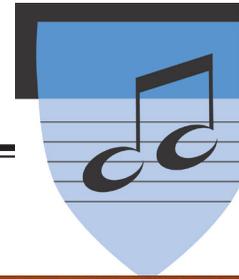
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Incoming students were able to build strong practice habits and playing skills in the morning, while our veterans replenished their skills in the afternoon.

This year's music included songs from *How to Train Your Dragon 2* and the infamous Disney Pixar movie, *Frozen*. Students were also able to play popular pop songs like Happy, by Pharell Williams. The rehearsals were filled with laughter, joy, talent and hard work.

On the night of the concert students and parents alike, enjoyed meals filled with a variety of food. The dinner was relaxing, and all agreed that the food was delicious.

The program included something for everyone. The audience had a great time, as they sang along and danced to many of the songs. Senior Emily Mutze exclaimed, "I enjoyed the summer band concert. I love going and listening to a bunch of fun popular music that everyone enjoys!" Overall, the summer band program was a huge success.



Ms. Jacano conducting Summer Band at Lehman College