



Volume 3
June 20, 2018

AoC Times

AoC Alumni Reunite

by: **Makayla Heavin**

Former AoC students came back to visit AoC on May 7, 2018. This event happens every year and is called Alumni Night. Students were very happy to see their old friends back at AoC. It looked as if only a few students had seen their friends since they graduated. A few alumni noted that middle school is different from Academy of the City because you have different teachers for different classes.



Students were treated to have pizza and brownies. Some students played basketball and some just caught up with their friends. All students filled out a survey asking them about their middle school experience. Students shared some of their favorite things about AoC. According to former student, Tyler Lizardo, his favorite event was the Fall Festival. Tappy Hightower added that her favorite event was the Multi Cultural event because it represents different cultures.



This Month's News

AoC Middle School Looks to Compete

by: **Stanley Dabrezil**

New details have been unveiled about the new and upcoming AoC Middle School. How the school will function and operate were major questions. When asked how the middle school will be different and improved, Principal, Mr. Lee said "children will have more independence, research, and interaction with the community."

He added that there will be a small group advisory and an online grading system, as AoC will switch to a new information system. As you can see,

changes will occur with the upcoming middle school. Mr. Lee also plans to have activities that both schools will participate in.

In order to be hired, new teachers will have to have the following characteristics, according to Principal Lee; caring for students, knowledge of the subject area and the ability to work collaboratively with others. It seems Principal Lee is not playing around when it comes to making sure the middle school is top notch. This is a big step in the right direction and will most certainly help the school. Teachers can make or break a child.

When asked how he feels about

the competition from local middle schools, like Hunter's Point, Mr. Lee said "I think that AoC will attract a lot of current families to stay through eighth grade and will have other children join our school." He added that what separates AoC from other middle schools is "care for individual children and families, Project Based Learning (PBL) which allows children to explore and research a topic in depth."

It seems that the new AoC middle school is on track to becoming a successful school. Only time will tell.

Teachers Rewarded During Appreciation Week

by: **Cristopher Meyo & Nathan Persaud**

During the week of May 7th, teachers and staff members were celebrated at Academy of the City. It was National Teachers' Appreciation Day. However, Academy of the City Charter School decided to make it a week-long event. Everyday of the week, the teachers and staff members were surprised with goodies.

On Monday, there was breakfast provided by the PCO. According to one source, breakfast included bacon, eggs, toast, pancakes, fresh fruit, juice, and breakfast items. On Tuesday there was the Makeshift Vending Machine Day, where staff members got to choose from goodies such as M & M's and fruit snacks. On Wednesday, the staff was treated



to a hot Italian lunch buffet. On Thursday, the Sunshine Committee provided sweet treats that consisted of cheesecakes, chocolate cake, pies, fruit cakes, whipped cream and other desserts. Lastly, on Friday teachers were treated with a Mexican food truck as well as a gift basket with a gift card to the movies, popcorn and candy all from the school and the PCO.

Ms. Lopez, co-President of the PCO, said, "it was a very happy week for everyone." Another staff member said "it was so nice that everyday it was something different that all the teachers liked."

All the teachers who were interviewed said that they loved Teacher Appreciation Week because they had treats. But most of all, they said it was a good week!



Monday, August 27, 2018

Spring Trips Add Spice to Curriculum

Seniors Visit Statue of Liberty

by Sarah Horie & Eason Wang



On May 9, 2018, fifth grade students went to Liberty Island to see the Statue of Liberty. The fifth grade teachers organized this trip in order for students to learn more about New York History. The transportation they had to take was a school bus and a ferry to Liberty Island.

The Statue of Liberty trip taught the fifth grade students more about the history of the statue and the process of its production. The statue was

originally copper, but turned green because of oxidization, which is form of weathering. The statue was a spectacular sight to all the students. Because buses were delayed by traffic, tour lines, a security checkpoint, and missing several ferries, students were unable to go up the pedestal which left them feeling a bit disappointed.

Students learned that New York City can be tough to navigate as the ferry trip there and back took a very long time. The ferry had to make stops at Ellis Island to pick up and drop off passengers. It is also a popular ferry and the only way to get to both islands. Because of this, many students would like to visit the Statue again in the future.

Museum of the Moving Image

by Jannat Alturk & Julianna Ramos

On May 10, 2018, the 4th graders visited the Museum Of Moving Image. Mr. Garnploog organized this trip because he used to be a film maker and he wanted to teach the 4th grade students about the film industry. Also, Mr. Garnploog took his students to this specific museum because he thinks going anywhere else would not be as educational.

The 4th graders first watched an episode of "I Love Lucy," a 1950's sitcom. Afterwards, the students were split into groups and had tour guides which escorted them around the museum, giving them important information and details. In the groups,



students observed some black and white movies and sound effects. The tour guides taught the students about optical illusions, technical equipment, and much more.

4th grade student Miley Prenz said, "The most fun part was when we were used a computer to make our own stop-motion video." She added, "I learned it takes a lot of time to make a movie and its not as easy as you think."

3rd Grade Dances at Queens College

by Micah Mayberry and Tenzin Norkyl

AoC 3rd graders took a trip to Queens College Center on May 20, 2018 to learn all about Spanish dances. The dancers tap-danced, and the women mostly wore white dresses. In the beginning, the dances were on the slow side, then the dancers picked up the pace with faster dances. The dancers were interpreting different countries and cultures in Spanish Regions.

The dancers also took come students on the stage with dancers wearing old



man costumes.

Ms.Gangi decided to take the 3rd graders because, "I thought it would be cool to see different cultures." Third grader, Cassius Barbosa thought "the acting was great, and I enjoyed the dancers."

Students 'Link Up' at Carnegie Hall

by: Cassius Barbosa & Nicholas Chirinos

Third, fourth and fifth grade students were treated to a performance at Carnegie Hall by musicians that played instrument families. "Carnegie Hall is one of the world's most famous music venues in the world and AoC students are lucky to have it in their city," according to music teacher, Mr. Alan.

Mr. Alan took the students to Carnegie Hall because it offers "high quality music for all ages, including all my students." He planned this trip because he wanted the students to experience wonderful music with an incredible set of artists in a beautiful hall.

Mr. Alan knows Carnegie Hall because he grew up listening to stories about



famous performances there including The Beatles and it made him want to go there. However, it was "hard to plan the trip because I had to get all 9 classes on the trip." However, he had great help from classroom teachers, office staff, and the people at Carnegie Hall.

Students liked the end of the show because the music got the them hyper and there was a little parade. Mr. Alan's favorite song from this year's Link Up was a tie between "Oye"and "Come to Play" because the students sang them for their own concert.

MAGIC HELPERS

An Advice Column by Arabella Detering and Xanthe Kitses

Dear Magic Helpers,

My mom just had a baby and all she does is pay attention to him.

Dear Anonymous,

Tell your Mom how you feel. She might realize how you feel and try to pay more attention to you. If your Mom doesn't understand, tell your friends how you feel. It might help you to talk to someone. Or try to spend quality time with him. Good luck!

-Magic Helpers

Dear Magic Helpers,

My brother broke his leg and he thinks I'm his maid!

Dear Anonymous,

We think this might help you: Talk to your brother about this. He might understand and stop. If he doesn't, tell your Mom. Good luck!

-Magic Helpers

Dear Magic Helpers,

Sometimes I feel like an outcast and I need help. I feel that there are too many things to know just to fit in.

Dear Anonymous,

You are not an outcast! And if people see an outcast in you, they don't appreciate your awesomeness.

-Magic Helpers

Dear Magic Helpers,

I have this friend and she has this other friend who she hangs out with so much. I feel left out. What do I do?

-Invisible

Dear Invisible,

Try to talk to this girl/boy that your friend hangs out with. You guys could be really good friends, but try not to exclude your friend, who you know really cares about you.

-Magic Helpers

Dear Magic Helpers,

My problem is that I need to be quiet.

Dear Anonymous,

What do you mean? I bet you're an awesome speaker! And if you really do want to be more quiet, talk a little softer without loudness, but try to be yourself. Good luck.

- Magic Helpers

Dear Magic Helpers,

What should I do if a friend is mean? Should I continue being their friend or should I stop?

Dear Unknown,

Tell your friend how you feel. He/she might cooperate and try to stop. If he/she doesn't care, that's a clue that he/she is not being a good friend. Good luck!

-Magic Helpers

Art/Science/Spanish Expo a Success

by: Andrea Cristanos



All of AoC Students work was displayed in the Art, Science and Spanish Expo on May 7, 2018. Parents enjoyed viewing their child's work in the Science, Art and Spanish room.

In Mr. Carlson's room, projects all about Earth filled the room. The art room displayed paintings of dragons and in the Spanish room, family trees were proudly displayed.

To set up everything, Ms.

Lopez and Ms. Grace said "it took about 4 to 6 hours to hang up all of the students' projects. Parents enjoyed the Spanish Expo because their kids learned a different language.

During the Expo, students were selling Pulseras for \$5 each. Miss Pilly said "artists made the Pulsara bracelets and the profits are donated." The money helps programs that support artists and their communities, as well as other organizations focused on making social change in Central



A Magical Fairy Tale Breakfast

by Zaara Hossain



Fairytales aren't real, but on Thursday April 19, Kindergarteners, teachers and parent volunteers transformed the gym into what seemed like a magical place. This was a celebration of their PBL unit as the classes were learning about Fairytales. Many families were present at the gym when the event took place. The kindergarteners all sang and had a part in the show. K-103 performed the Three Billy Goats Gruff and K-101 performed Little Red Riding Hood.

Many parents really enjoyed the show. Tedwiu Riera, Yohanna Satnos' father exclaimed, "It was awesome." Alejandra Arcentales, mother of Martin Salazar, said that in her opinion the parade was

exciting.

The Kindergarten teachers wrote the scripts while their students performed. After the show, the students had a contest to see who could color and put crowns on their heads the fastest using markers. The event was very colorful and full of people. The tables were stuffed with a variety of breakfast items such as samosas, donuts, lemonade, croissants, etc.

Ms. Guerrero, K-103's teacher said, "They worked together. It was hard work. After all that work they presented proudly."



AOC Times

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SENIOR SNAPSHOTS



Seniors performing a show all about the 5 boroughs with TADA!

Seniors celebrate with a trip to Medieval Times.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM SPRING PBL SHARES



Second graders selling items off of their own "Silk Road."



Third graders showing off their own, creative food trucks.

Game Review: Fortnite

by Edward Johnson Jr. & Victor Santos

Fortnite has been a game a lot of people are playing. Fortnite has some violence, however, it can be fun. You can play it on a mobile device, Xbox1, Ps4, or on a computer/PC. We believe Fortnite is a good game because you get to do a lot of things for example, complete challenges to land somewhere and open chests or find hidden objects. You can also play with friends and the updates are great because there is a mode called Blitz, where a storm is already forming.

People can spend their money on skins, dances and more. Even a lot of YouTubers are playing this game. Mr. Pickett, a science teacher rated Fortnite 8/10 because he said "it wasn't a bad game." Duran Russell, 4th



grader rated Fortnite 10/10. Sean Hill, another AoC student rated Fortnite 9/10 because he has a lot of fun playing it.

If you want to play, download Fortnite and play it for yourself. Follow these simple steps on an Apple device: go to the App Store and download. Then create an account and have fun. Follow the same steps for Xbox and PS4.

Rain Delays Second Half of Field Day

by: Josiah Vanacio

Third through fifth graders enjoyed their annual Field Day on May 22, but unfortunately, it was cut short by rain.

Field day is a reward for all the hard work the kids have done, according to physical education teacher, Mr. Faulker.

Down the block at St. Michael's playground, the students played games such as Soccer Weave, where students had to dribble a ball through cones. They also played game called Hungry Snakes where the goal was to stay together and pick up the team bean bag color.

Towards the end of the organized events, students had to go back to the school due



to rain. The school rescheduled the second half of Field Day for Monday June 11 where the students had options/free choice about what they wanted to play, such as basketball, soccer, kickball, jump rope, hula hoops, the playground and more. Soccer was the most popular choice.

PCO Raises \$30,000!



Members of the PCO present Mr. Lee with a check for \$30,000; the total of all money raised this year to improve the schools play and recess areas.