

Spanish Honor Society
Fall Newsletter 2016



Induction Ceremony

By Daniel Choe

The Spanish Honor Society, along with Jericho High School's other world language honor societies, were in for a surprise on the night of Oct. 27. After staying at the school until 8 p.m. in an effort to be inducted, the students were forced to return home in the pouring rain after the electricity suddenly went out.

"I was signaling to the person that was managing the ground system/lights and microphones that we were ready to begin," said Dr. Margarita, curriculum associate of world languages and organizer of the ceremony. "He tried turning on the music, but instead of hearing the music go on, all the lights went out instead. So I thought he must have turned the lights off by mistake. But I walked to the back of the auditorium, and the maintenance guy shrugged his shoulders and said we're out of power."

A phone call to PSEG confirmed that a car on Route 107 hit a utility pole, taking down a power line and leaving much of the surrounding area out of power. The utility company warned that power may not come back on for another two hours.

Dr. Margarita, high school principal Ms. Rosenberg, and assistant superintendent of business affairs Victor Manuel reluctantly agreed to cancel the ceremony.

"We looked at the situation and realized there were no lights at all in the auditorium. We decided that it's probably not safe to risk someone getting hurt. So I went back onto the stage and said 'I'm sorry but we're going to have to cancel'. I had a little bit of a lump in my throat - I was a little emotional because I was so disappointed."

Students and faculty present shared Dr. Margarita's feelings of disappointment.

"At first, I was a little confused," said advisor Ms. Berkovsky. "I thought it was part of the program, perhaps special effects. When Mrs. Rosenberg and Dr. Margarita started running around and all of the lights went out except those in the central offices, I knew there was something wrong. Of course, it was very disappointing to all of us because of all the hard work and preparation that went into the evening."

"I was definitely annoyed when I realized that the ceremony would have to be rescheduled," said SHS senior Harrison C.

Dr. Margarita was also wary of rescheduling the ceremony. "We have to do it in a short time frame so we can't really do everything - if we do the whole event it's going to be an hour and a half. The students can't give us that much time."

However, the night was not for naught - Dr. Margarita looks on the positive side, happy that parents were so understanding. She considers the incident a good time for students,



parents, and faculty alike to bond and show the warm, sympathetic side of Jericho. Students were also happy to eat snacks and refreshments together after the ceremony, temporarily curbing the disappointment.

Despite the power outage, cancellation, and the urgent rescheduling, the various Jericho world language honor societies enjoyed a successful ceremony after school on Monday, Nov. 14. The delay did not deter the students' thirst for knowledge and progress in their Spanish educations, and were proud to be inducted into the prestigious Spanish Honor Society. Rather than dampening the students' spirits, the unfortunate cancellation of the ceremony seems to have revealed the passion and humility infused within the Jericho SHS.



Index Card Contest

By Lauren Greenberg

The index card contest is a great way to make the Spanish culture come alive! Each candidate was mandated to make a design on his/her card of anything that represents the Spanish culture. All of the cards looked so beautiful and colorful! They really brought the heritage and key aspects of Spanish traditions and pastimes through their art and hard work. Many drew flamenco dresses and guitars to represent the most common type of dance, which originated in Spain. In modern flamenco, the dance is accompanied with the use of guitars. Also, many drew skulls to represent the Day of the Dead, or Día de los Muertos, in Spain. This is a holiday celebrated



in Mexico and the Catholic World on November 1 and 2. This holiday is marked by the belief that at midnight on October 31st, the spirits of all deceased children are allowed to reunite with their families for twenty-hours because the gates of heaven are opened. Also, the spirits of the adults enjoy the festivities that are prepared for them on November 2. To continue, many drew the Spanish flag, which consists mainly of the colors red and yellow. Another drawing quite commonly found is a picture of a bull. This represents a popular event in Spain called bull fighting. Originally, it was a sport for aristocracy and took place on horseback. Now, commoners take on the bull and place spears in it. The bullfight can be known as “a dance with death.” The goal of the bullfighter is to show his skills in an enthusiastic and dramatic way, but ultimately the fate of the bull is that it will die. Others portrayed the image of a Christmas tree to represent Christmas which is a very important holiday celebrated in Spain. The majority of Spanish culture is incorporated with the Catholic religion; therefore many celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, many drew soccer balls to represent the fact that soccer is the most popular sport in Spain. However, in Spain, the sport, which we call soccer here, is known as football over there. Another common drawing was the sombrero. The word sombrero can be derived from the Spanish word “sombra” meaning “shadow.” Therefore, the main purpose of the sombrero for

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Spanish speaking countries is to protect one from the Sun. Aside from that, sombreros can symbolize social and economic status of a wearer. A common word that was written on many of the cards was "fiesta." The Spanish culture is associated with parties. These parties are held for a dual reason: for social gatherings to share with friends and family and for fun! Wine was also depicted on a card because in Spain, wine is a lifestyle because it is served with every meal for Spanish families. Lastly, the coat of arms of Spain was drawn. This appears on the Spanish flag therefore it is an important component to the Spanish culture.

To sum it up, there is a lot of symbolism and meaning behind the drawings on the index cards. This contest was a great way to share the qualities and importance of the Spanish culture and the essential togetherness of the Spanish Honor Society.



Jericho Warms the Hearts of Ronald McDonald House Children

By Brittney Munayiri

The Halloween Candy Drive is an event where the Spanish Honor Society used its power and wide range of capabilities to extend to outside communities.

With this particular event, both our members and candidates brought in candy that they either purchased or received when trick-or-treating. Sweets donated at the event included arrays of different chocolates and gummies. This great selection of goods was donated to the children of the Ronald McDonald House, an organization that makes a tremendous effort to help tend to needs and care for the families of sick children all over the United States. With our efforts at the Jericho Spanish Honor Society, we greatly respect all that this organization has put into effect and, we, too, would love to join their mission. Thus, each year, the Jericho family has made an effort to work with this organization in ways that can benefit them.

Through small events such as our Halloween Candy Drive, the Jericho Spanish Honor Society has helped to bring a smile to the faces of children who could not be at the benefit of enjoying the simplicity of Halloween and constantly yearn to have the same experiences as those of other children. Utilizing our selection of students also helped to generate a large amount of candy, thus allowing us to benefit a greater amount of children.



In addition to physically preparing the candy and sweets to donate, members and candidates joined together at 8:15 A.M. to carry out the tasks of this collection. The meeting in itself helps to prove the great dedication that our society holds not only for itself, but the outside world as well. Together, we stood in great number to help benefit the Ronald McDonald House children. In total, the success of our drive was quite spectacular and we hope that this success will be of need to those at the grand Ronald McDonald House.

National Hispanic Heritage Month Pictures

By Sophie Astrachan

We celebrated heritage month with an interesting essay contest and eye catching posters. As the Spanish Honor Society, we value and appreciate Spanish heritage and love learning more about it. In an effort to obtain more information about the Spanish culture and community, many members and candidates wrote and submitted essays about spending a day with a Latino of choice. Students discussed fun activities they'd like to do if they had a whole day with a member of the Latino community who they look up to or idolize. A large amount of students said they would like to experience the everyday activities of their Latinos. This was a contest that was approached by many in a very enthusiastic manner because it required the use of imagination and led students to envision a fun day with a famous Latino. Many students wrote about people like Selena Gomez and other young celebrities. We definitely brought heritage month to many people's attention!



Also, posters of famous Latinos were hung in our Spanish hallway. These posters were enhanced with flags and captions, as well as a tree with hands as the leaves to represent togetherness. The captions underneath the photos consisted of quotes said by the Latino who was the subject of that photo. For example, the quote beneath the photo of Selena Gomez said, "Always be yourself because there is no one better." This was an awesome additive because it reminded students both in and out of the Spanish Honor Society about heritage month and the importance of celebrating it.



Furthermore, this brought life to the walls and decorated the hall. Students were found admiring the posters, and some were even excited to find the faces of the latinos they wrote about in their essays hanging up on the wall. It was charming to see students connect with the Spanish community and converse about the photos on the walls! Everyone at Jericho High School celebrated heritage month through our display!



Congratulations to our 2016 Inductees!

Zahin Alam
Aisha Ali
Alexa Berrin
Tyler Blitz
Caroline Chen
Harrison Chen
Ayana Chowdhary
Brandon Cohen
Jared Coven
Lucas Feinberg
Jayson Flum
Tyler Glovin
Michael Gold
Evan Goldstein
Sydney Grasso
Noah Greenbaum
Lauren Greenberg
Maria Jurado
Sunreet Kaur

Joshua Kent
Jordan Landsberg
Erin Lee
Katie Leight
Courtnie Lewis
Jonathan Lin
Swati Madankumar
Jack Miller
Emma Newman
Jason Schwartzberg
Myles Shakin
Alexa Siegel
Ashley Silverstein
Hunter Stoler
Mansi Vohra
Blake Warman
Jeffrey Wong
Christina Xu
Morgan Yi