

# FREEDOM PRESS

Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy Break!

November 17th, 2023 - Issue 7



Representatives of Valencia College  
Photo by: Allyra Castillo

Read more in "Curious About College Week"!



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# COLLAGE



Photos By: Allyra Castillo



# NEWS

## Curious About College Week

By: Samantha Villanueva

College Week, from November 6th to the 10th at FHS during both A and B lunches, was an opportunity for students to be exposed to many different college paths or opportunities they might want to pursue. The opportunities provided ranged from scholarships to learning about certain colleges where each day was focused on certain opportunities students might be interested in.

To start College Week was Mechanical Monday where students could complete a career exploration activity and could share their intended career. Some of the programs that showed up for the day were BuildStrong Academy, Home Builders Institute (HBI), Orange Tech (Dual Enrollment), Valencia (Dual Enrollment), Real Estate Agency, and Mech-Tech. This day promoted career exploration and post-secondary options other than college. Gift cards were also given out every day by Mrs. Dotson to those who participated during College Week.

The second day of College Week was Travel the World Tuesday, which allowed students to learn more about pilots, photographers, hospitality, volunteer opportunities, and tuition assistance. The courtyard also hosted a “Crazy College Vocabulary Jeopardy” game where students could answer a Jeopardy question and win a prize. Some programs that appeared during this day were 2Fly, Colorvision International, Epic Flight Academy, JW Marriot and Ritz Carlton, Orlando, Grande Lakes, Lil Chefs Academy, and Valencia College.

On the third day of College Week, the theme was Warrior Wednesday where military recruiters would provide students with military options if they were interested. Students were encouraged to support the military by wearing red, white, and blue. Programs that showed up for Warrior Wednesday were the Air Force (USAF), Coast Guard (USCG), Florida Army National Guard, and Marine Corps.

# NEWS

The theme for the fourth day of College Week was Trade School & Apprenticeship Thursday. This day was focused on providing students with scholarships, financial aid, and tuition assistance. Orange Tech, Paul Mitchell - The School (Cosmetology), South Technical College, Support Our Scholars, and Tulsa Welding School, were some of the programs that showed up to help students find methods for Trade School & Apprenticeship Thursday.

On the final day of College Day, Fitness Friday: Physical Fitness and Wellness, not only did the day deliver information on fitness-centered careers but also provided required information about public and private colleges in Florida. The courtyard hosted many fitness activities for students to join in such as volleyball, jump roping, soccer, and much more. First Response Training Group and the Orange County Fire Rescue joined this day to provide students with information on such careers.

# SPORTS

## Baseball Pre-season Has Kicked Off!!

By: Rodrigo Suarez

The pre-season of the baseball team has started off strong, or as it is also known in high school baseball; “Fall season”. This is gonna be an special season, since there’s new players, new expectations, and a new goal which it is to reach final stages in the playoffs; but above all, this season it’s going to be much different since Coach Gray resigned as the head coach last season, something he’s been doing for the last couple of seasons. Now that there’s a new “sheriff in town”, this young team is expected to be really good this new season. Having had a lot of disappointing seasons in the past couple of years, the new coaching staff and players will work hard the whole pre-season to be able to reach deep stages in the playoffs.

When I say that all these guys are putting in that work, I really mean it; having to practice everyday Monday through Thursday, doing conditioning, fielding, hitting, a lot of cardio and lifting. Of course, each player has a different mind-set and goal, since you have all these different positions in baseball, each player wants to be in the best shape to fit in their respective positions, but at the end of the day, they all have the same goal; which is to stay healthy and have the best season possible.

The spring season it’s expected to begin on February 13, 2024, against Colonial High School at Freedom. As mentioned before, this team is looking to bounce back, after getting knocked out in the first game of the playoffs last season against the very competitive Olympia High School, finishing up the season with a negative record of 9-14. Right before the season starts, there will be a tryout for all interested athletes who would like to play for the baseball team, which it’ll be in January, more information will be announced later.

# FEATURES

## The Spectacular District Showcase

By: Jadyn Goldberg

On Friday, November 10th, Freedom High School's Drama Department, Troupe 6614, performed their one-act play titled "We Are The Sea" for the one time, at school viewing. The event was a recreation of how they perform for districts, which is on November 16th-18th. The performance was followed by a showcase of all the other individual events, called I.E.s, that will also present their acts at districts on Saturday, November 18th.

The show tells a story of Irish immigrants on a boat to America, and the struggles they faced with sickness and hunger on their journey that eventually led to their deaths. They were then thrown into the ocean, where the sea appears to share each of their stories with the audience as they join the sea.

It's an emotional piece that tells a beautiful story, and was performed with elegance by each cast member. The main cast did a fantastic job at expressing their emotion with each character all while maintaining an Irish accent that is difficult to uphold. The ensemble, which was made up the sea, did an amazing job at performing as a unit, flowing smoothly and truly resembling the ocean. The technical aspects also looked incredible, tying up the final elements of the play to make for a spectacular show.

The one-act plays have very specific and strict rules for every show. The entire duration of the play must be 45 minutes, including putting together and taking apart the set. The set must also fit entirely into a 9 feet by 7 feet box that holds all building pieces, props, decorations, etc. All the set pieces must also not be stacked higher than 6 feet, and can't be wider than the dimensions. The show itself is also performed without microphones, which means actors must have good projection. These additional guidelines, along with having a strong foundational show with acting, set, technical aspects, costumes, etc that make districts a very competitive atmosphere. If a show makes the top 5, then they have the opportunity to attend states in March where they can perform with schools from all over Florida!



# FEATURES

Everyone apart of the one-act as well as the individual events have worked very hard on their talents and the results were well-worth it. We hope the I.E.'s score high, and for everyone apart of "We Are The Sea" who are hoping to make states, we will all be rooting for you!

## Club Photos!





# FEATURES

## Students Gain A Great Opportunity

By: Elizabeth Robbins

In the classroom, teachers are always looking for new and exciting ways to motivate students to become academically involved. Here at Freedom High School, Mrs. Munoz has come up with a way to truly engage students in their learning. Mrs. Munoz teaches English 2 and English Honors 2 here at Freedom High School. She came up with a writing assignment for her students where they wrote letters to the author of a short story they read in class. This short story, called Seeing at the Speed of Sound, was written by Rachel Kolb to bring awareness to the deaf community. Her story walks you through the struggles of being deaf in a hearing world as she is deaf herself.

This motivational text gave Mrs. Munoz the perfect opportunity to configure an assignment that allowed students to write with a greater purpose in mind. With the idea for this assignment in mind, the only thing left to do was contact Rachel Kolb and see if she would be open to receiving students' letters. So Mrs. Munoz emailed her and she replied, happily agreeing to be a part of this.

This was a wonderful experience for the students. It gave them the opportunity to write letters to someone who had inspired them, but it also allowed them to hone their writing skills. Assignments like this one provide a reason to write that goes beyond a grade. This assignment made writing more fun and enjoyable for students.

These letters to Rachel Kolb were not the first time Mrs. Munoz has done an assignment like this. Last year, she had students write letters to Mr. Brad Cohen, an author, motivational speaker, and school administrator who has severe Tourette's Syndrome. In his book, Cohen described how living his life with Tourette's Syndrome has been. Through not only his book, but also his motivational speeches, he has brought awareness to Tourette's Syndrome. After learning about his life, the students wrote letters to him telling him about the impact he had on their lives.

# FEATURES

Rachel Kolb has received the letters that Mrs. Munoz sent to her, and plans on responding after reading them. Writing to an author or motivational speaker who has inspired you is highly encouraged. Assignments like this one keep students engaged and make learning more fun.