



T&P Times



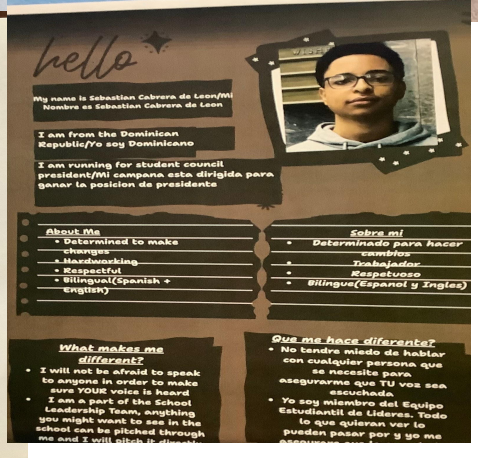
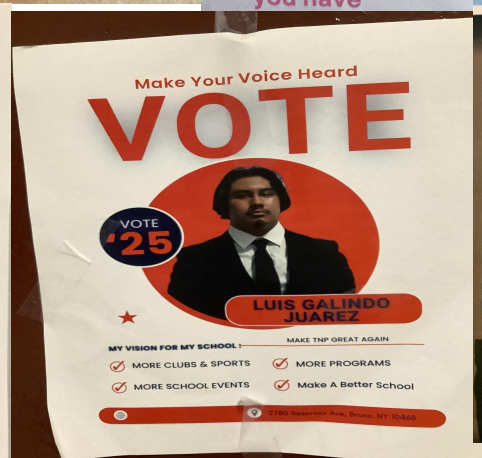
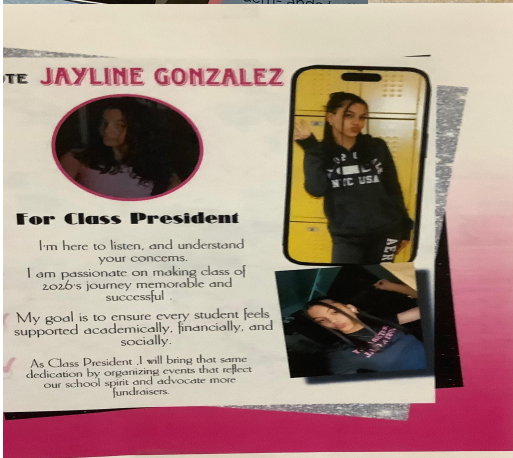
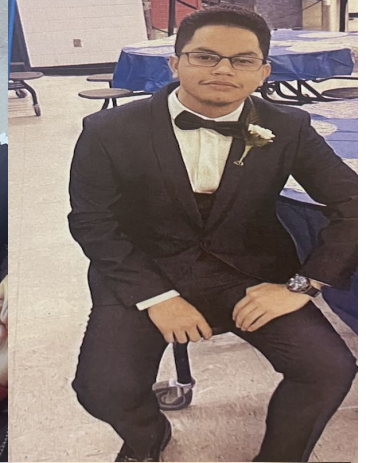
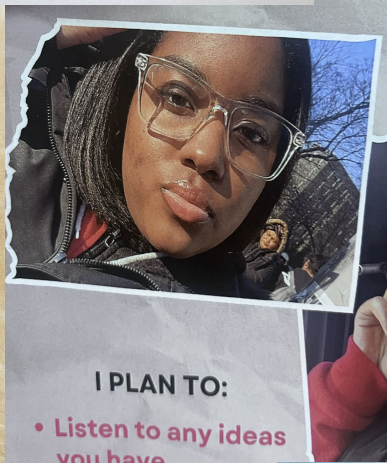
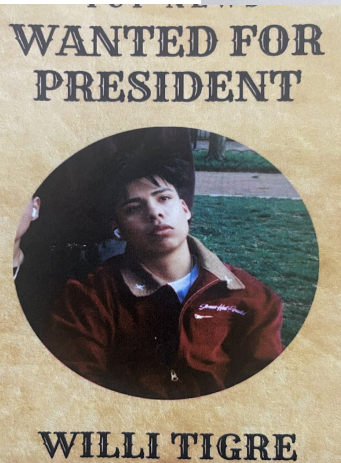
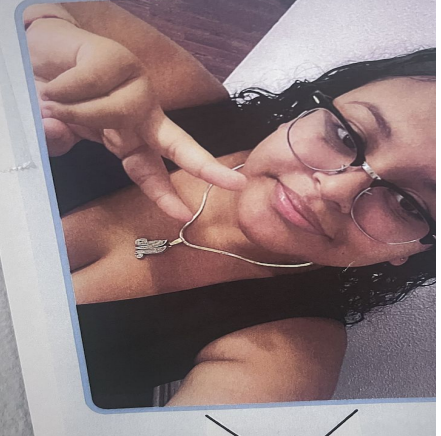
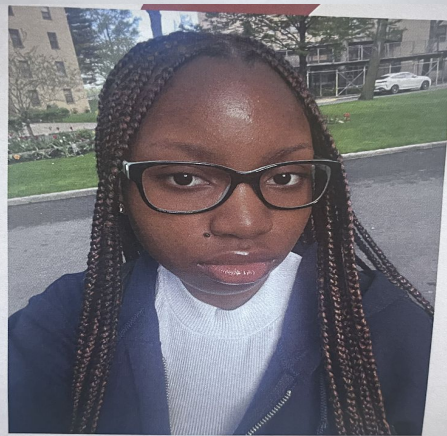
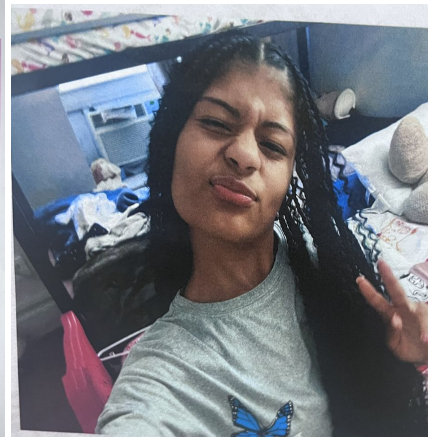
School News • Fashion • Art • World • Sports

By: Mariah L., Frangie F.,

Politics at T&P

We are currently in our Student Council election season. Each grade can have up to two representatives on the Council. As of May 16th 2025 there are 11 candidates running for class president. The 11th grade candidates are **Mariah Laboy, Jessica Aifuwa, Shaila Gomez, Yousef Ali, Luis Galindo Juarez, Sebastian Cabrera De Leon, Jayline Gonzalez, Gege Suarez-Santos, Isabella Ramos and Willi Tigre.**

Candidates' platforms ranged from elevating students' voices, organizing more field trips, uniting our school community, and increasing student engagement.



Caught In The Hallways

Mariah L., Danna S., Daniel S., Rudiel M.

On Friday, May 2nd, we interviewed 4 students about cutting class and 3 staff members at the High School for Teaching and the Professions about why students cut class and how it impacts them. 12th grader, Edric Siri, stated, "I don't like class." When asked what his plan for graduation is, he stated, "hope and pray."

10th grader, Michael Rodriguez told reporters that "class is not for me and I don't like class." 12th grader Yenseng Batista stated, "class is boring" when asked why he does not stay in class.

9th grader, Elijah De Lo Santos said that he would stay in class for "girls". He suggested, however, that missing class is not negatively affecting his learning. "You can learn more as you walk around."

Assistant Principal Ms. Del Valle noted that students roaming the halls instead of being in class is negatively impacting them.

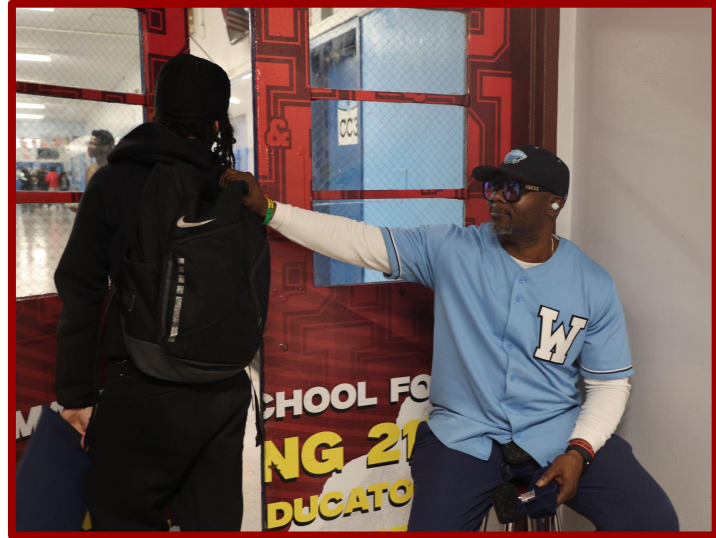
She stated they are, "missing the discussions, questions, and assignment details" which leads them to do poorly in that class. She stated that in order to prevent students from roaming the halls, we need to "keep students engaged and busy with classwork."

Mr. Brown, one of the school's dean's, lamented

that students "being in the halls affects [them] in that they are missing the lesson." How can we keep students in class? "You have to find something they care about and possibly take that away or call in reinforcements

and treat them like little ones and have their parents come in and sit next to them."

Principal Simpson emphasized that students in the hallways are "losing out on instructional time." He continued by, "I don't think it's productive for students to be roaming the halls." One effective way to keep students in class is "to ensure that they [students] are engaging in activities."



Dean Brown directing a student back to class.

There is clearly a disconnect between how students feel about being in the hallway and how the school staff feels.

According to Panorama Education which is a survey based website, a range of studies show school absences negatively impact academic outcomes.

They state, "Consistent absences from kindergarten through 8th grade decrease the chances of pursuing higher education, for example, missing 10 classes in 9th grade reduces college attendance likelihood by 2%."

Missing classes can negatively impact a student's future. Sadly, it seems like the students in the hallways don't care. We have to do better as a school to get them to care.



Principal Simpson monitoring the halls.

Fashion Corner

Frangie Figuereo, Brenda Concepcion, Christopher Peral, Alex Coines

During the month of May (2025), we interviewed the High School for Teaching and the Professions community, from students to staff, asking them questions about their fashion styles and what inspired them to dress the way they do.

We made sure to get insight from people who have different styles from business casual to seasonal styles. These fashion icons represent the school's taste in fashion. Our team went all around campus asking people we thought embodied different trends to get their insight on their taste in fashion.



Principal Simpson, teacher Ms. Deluna, Dean Brown, and senior Yarismel show off their fits.

11th grader Nathanael Arce. Nathanael describes his style as creative. He gets inspired by other people's style. We asked how the way he dressed defined his identity. He said, "I dress how I would like other people to also dress." Nathanael's top 3 favorite brands are "Number 9, Maison Margiela, and Balenciaga."

Another fashion icon, Yarismel Sosa, a senior, described her style as authentic. She explained, "My way of dressing lets people know how I want to be treated." Her top three stores to shop at are "Shein, Fashion Nova and H&M."

Another icon is Rudiel Martinez, 11th grader. Rudiel described his style as relaxed. He wears a mix of designer brands with hints of NYC street wear. He likes to dress comfortably and as such enjoys athletic wear. He shops at Footlocker and Resellers.

Ms. DeLuna, a teacher, described her style as comfortable. She sports a fighter style, a style that will allow her to be ready for any occasion. She could be casual, formal or sporty. She's always prioritizing her comfort. Ms. DeLuna's top three stores to shop at are Macy's, Zara as well as H&M.

Makayla Washington, 11th grader, describes her style as "yzk" and "messy". When asked what inspires her, she responded characters from shows she likes. She looks at their style for inspiration and ideas on things to wear.

Ms. Nanay, our English teacher, described her style as lazy and 90s. She likes to thrift and shop from resellers.

Ms. Reyes, a teacher, describes her style as very expressive. She likes to be comfortable and basic. She said, "I also like to wear dresses and whatever I feel comfortable with and my style is very feminine." Her top three stores to shop at are Gap, Madewell, and Uniqlo.

Finally, Mr. Simpson, our principal, is our school's main fashion icon. Mr. Simpson described his style as professional. He wants to reflect professionalism. He believes the way you dress is how people see you and he wants to be seen as a grounded professional. His top 3 stores to shop at are Men's Wearhouse, JCPenney and Macy's.



Rudiel Martinez, Nate Arce, Ms. Nanay, Ms. Reyes-Ramirez, Makayla Washington, and Kaden Hoheb show off their fits.

What's On Our Playlist?

*Maria Aguilar, Janashia Cobbs, Jalaya Cobbs, Kaden Hoheb, Hadriel LaChapell
Makayla Washington*

During the last week of April 2025, the Arts team interviewed students and staff regarding their opinions on musical artists. We live in a time when music streaming has influenced how we engage with our favorite artists.

10th grader Juliet Ruidiaz shared that her favorite artist is Romeo Santos. She said, "the music reminds me of my culture...it makes me feel like I can relate to them."

11th grader Donna Garcia said her favorite artist is Lil Durk. He's "vibey and fun to listen to. Very upbeat."

Adonys Hernandez, a senior, shared that his favorite song is 48 by Entg. "They are from the Bronx and I can relate to the music."

ELA teacher Ms. Nanay highlighted a different genre. She likes Rage Against the Machine because "they highlight important political and social issues. Even though the band was most active in the 90s and early 2000s, their themes still resonate deeply with me today. Their lyrics are a call to action that continues to feel relevant."

Our views reflect our unique cultures and personal connections.



Romeo Santos's 2011 album cover
Formula, Vol. 1



Lil Durk's 2025 *Deep Thoughts* album cover

Why *Hotline Bling* Still Hits

As an Arts Team we decided to do our own take on an artist who is popular. One artist and song we were really curious about was Drake's *Hotline Bling*.



Drake dancing in *Hotline Bling* video.

11th grader, Jalaya Cobbs, states, "I enjoyed Drake songs a lot more when I was younger. As far as Drake as a person, I wouldn't say I like him, but I don't necessarily have a problem with him."

Kaden Hoheb, another 11th grader, said, "I think Drake is not that good of a person although his song *Hotline Bling* is a nice upbeat song."

11th grader Makayla Washington shared, "I prefer Drake's old music because of creativity, but now, it is background music with lyrics that don't match. *Hotline Bling* though is classic and upbeat."

12th grader Janashia Cobbs states, "I don't feel any harsh feelings towards Drake. *Hotline Bling* is a chill song."

11th grader Maria Aguilar explained, "Drake's music is something I wouldn't personally listen to. He was better before."

Hadriel Lachapell, also an 11th grader emphasized, "I love Drake. *Hotline Bling* is an upbeat song that makes you want to sing and dance."

As interesting as our team's opinions are, let's pull up actual facts.

News sources reported that *Hotline Bling* has over 2 billion views on YouTube and over 1 billion streams on Spotify. The song charted number 2 on Billboard's Top 100. Drake also won a Grammy for the song. The album which the song is on, *Views*, ended up debuting number 1 on Billboard's 200, with 1.4 million sales in the first week alone.

More Than a Canvas: How We See Art

Makayla Washington & Maria Aguilar

During the week of April 28th, the Arts team interviewed students and staff at the High School of Teaching and the Professions to learn more about their opinions on artists.

Our perspectives on artists are shaped by our personal connections to pieces. We were curious what our community thinks about what makes an artist and what is art. Here's what we heard from students and teachers around T&P.

Mixed-Media Art teacher Mr. Minetti's favorite artist is Jackson Pollock. "He has an abstract and utilizes paint in a unique style. His feelings and emotions were so powerful from his childhood. He realized his emotions through art."

Future Ready Career Development teacher Ms. Deluna's favorite artist is Keith Harrington. "I like nice timeless pieces. It looks like modest graffiti. It's a different style of graffiti that brings me a sort of calmness."

11th grader Jose Tello said his favorite artist is Picasso. He states, "His art makes you feel like you're actually there and it makes you see the time, effort, and emotion he puts in the art."

Avigail Rodriguez, a 9th grader, spoke about Bob Ross, stating, "I don't like him personally because I think he's kind of boring, but I like that nature inspired him."

Edison Jimenez, a 12th grader, also spoke about Bob Ross. "I see landscapes, consistency, nature. I like his work because

of his realism and I think that he is inspired by TV and nature."

have and their passion. Art is creativity and has meaning."



Bob Ross's painting "Winter Moon".

Assistant-Principal Ms. Gonzalez said her favorite artist is Vincent Van Gogh. "I learned he had a learning disability so this was his way of expressing himself. I like landscape art, which made me interested in his taste. I even traveled to Amsterdam, where he is from, and visited the house where he painted."

10th grader Ashley Medina states, "I like Bob Ross as a painter. I like his passion and I feel like his childhood inspires his work."

Jalaya Cobbs, 11th grader states, "What I believe makes an artist is someone who is passionate about communicating with others through their art. It should just make sense and you should be able to explain it."

11th grader, Maria Aguilar, states, "what makes an artist is how much passion they put into their art."

Kaden Hoheb, another 11th grader, states "What makes an artist is how much determination they

Makayla Washington, an 11th grader, explains, "What makes an artist is passion. The more passion an artist carries not only goes a long way through the amount of effort in their art, but the amount of determination to grow as an artist."

11th grader, Hadriel Lachapell states "What makes an artist is creativity, passion, and dedication. Art is how someone expresses themselves."

Janashia Cobbs, 11th grader states "what makes an artist to me is someone that's talented and shows their real self and is different and unique from others. Art is creativity and expression through paintings."

One conclusion we can draw is that even though everyone's opinion on who their favorite artist may differ, everyone agrees that what makes an artist is not necessarily their technique, but their passion.

Trump's Tariff War

*Endrit Hakaj &
Taeshaun King*



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Trump has begun to escalate an ongoing trade war with China, rising baseline tariffs on chinese imports to 145% in retaliation to their comment that they will do the same with American products.

And the trade war is far from over according to Americans, even the U.S and China agreed to halt levies on each other for 90 days .

Trump is still responding by raising the tariffs by an additional 50% he started way back in april 9th and the baseline tariff on Chinese imports to 104%.



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The First American Pope

Endrit Hakaj & Taeshaun King

The new pope is Pope Leo XIV, and he's actually from the United States, which is a pretty big deal since he's the first American pope ever. Before he became pope, he was known as Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost and worked as the head of the department that chooses bishops. He was born in Chicago, but he also spent a lot of time doing church work in Peru, so he has experience in different parts of the world.

Pope Leo XIV was chosen in May 2025 after Pope Francis passed away in April. The group of cardinals who picked him was really diverse, with people from all over the world, which shows how

global the Catholic Church has become.

People say that Leo XIV is a moderate and is good at bringing people together, which helped him get elected since the cardinals wanted someone who could continue some of the changes Pope Francis started but also focus on fixing issues inside the Church.

Given Pope Leo XIV's background a lot of people think this will help him connect with Catholics everywhere and deal with many challenges the Church is facing.

T&P Opinions on Safe Act and Trade Wars

Mauricio Rivera and Jeffrey Bohen

Some popular events that are being addressed by the current administration are the various trade wars between US and China and the controversial Safe Act which is a bill that prohibits voters from participating in elections without proof of U.S. citizenship. We've asked various people to offer their opinions regarding these developments.

SAFE Act

We interviewed various people at the Walton Campus in the Bronx to ask their opinions regarding the SAFE ACT.

Paul Ferguson, the physical education teacher at the High School for Teaching and the Professions, shared his thoughts on this controversial topic. "The SAFE ACT has good intentions, but why not just implement a national ID card to accomplish the same goal while mitigating the issues of name changes suppressing votes from people who are eligible to vote." In other words, Mr. Ferguson feels that the SAFE ACT is not solving a real problem, and the SAFE ACT would have disastrous effects on election official workloads, and eligible voters across the nation.

Next, our team interviewed Marktise Brown, our dean. Mr. Brown, said "We need [the SAFE ACT] now because it is a tough time and this will give order to the people." Brown is supportive of the bill.

Edwin Belloso, an 11th grader, says, "They should give everyone the opportunity to become a U.S. citizen if they want, but like it or not, you have to be a U.S. citizen to vote." This means that he believes that everyone should have the opportunity to be a US citizen and to register to vote in federal elections.

Tariffs and the Trade War

We also asked our community about their opinions on the trade wars.

Mr. Ferguson said, "Tariffs never worked to grow an economy in any time in history. We have been controlling all the "IOU"s distributed through the world but we just ceded that advantage now. Europe will be stronger, China will be stronger, and the USA will become weaker as a result. America is the biggest consumer now because we use debt. Other countries buy our debt. If they don't buy our debt we will have no more credit and be unable to be the majority consumers we are now." Ferguson is referring to the United States tariff war as a useless act that goes against the United States interest, which is causing more harm than good on the common people.

Mr. Brown noted, "It will hurt the common people, but it is something we need to do.



Other countries put tariffs on us in the past and we need to take power for ourselves."

Breily Espinal Diaz, a student, believes tariffs are "unnecessary, putting a high tariffs just because it also increases shopping prices and people can barely purchase either online or by just going shopping, and if this continue much people will lose their jobs." Essentially, Breily said that it is unnecessary to put high tariffs on other countries, because then they will put more tariffs on us.

Lastly, Thomas Pressano, an English teacher at our school shared, " I don't really get why we are putting up tariffs against allies. Why are we alienating countries that we have friendly relationships with?" Mr. Pressano is not in favor of tariffs, believing that they alienate us from countries that we have a friendly relationship with.

T&P Sports: Future Stars

*Jordan Lopez, Yenseng
Batista, Alex Bracero*

Rudiel Martinez, 11th grade student at High School for Teaching and the Professions, is currently working as a baseball coach for Kingsbridge Little League.

Rudiel has been coaching for over 1 year and has been playing baseball since he was 7 years of age.

When he first started he was on a team because his parents signed him up. He started coaching when a friend, 12th grader Yenseng Batista, introduced him to the team. One of his earliest memories is playing baseball so he was excited to teach young kids, ages 5 to 9 years old. He said, "In order for the youth to be successful, they have to be taught young and be heard." The team also helps "keep the youth off the streets".

They have their first game in two weeks. Rudiel is confident they are going to win. If they win the tournament they get a prize. The prizes vary; for example, some will win lunch with the coaches. Rudiel says he would be happy to let anyone see the progress he has made as a coach and would love to show off his team.



Senior Yenseng Batista Junior



11th grader Rudiel Martinez



Legends of Tomorrow

Wilmer Lora

Hadriel Lachapell is an 11th grader at our school, the High School for Teaching and the Professions. When he was younger, Hadriel started playing basketball for fun. A couple years ago he was watching San Francisco's *Golden State Warriors* playing and saw their star player Stephen Curry make a three point long shot. He was in awe. Since then, Hadriel started to take the game more seriously. Hadriel is currently playing for Rod Wave Elite, a club team, where he shows off his skills in every game.

Hadriel has been on the team for about 4 months. Some challenges that Hadriel has faced is that most of the time he is the shortest player on the court so he has to find ways to use his height to his advantage. Hadriel continues to watch a lot of basketball clips in order to keep getting better and try to become one of the best players of the Rod Wave Elite basketball team.

Winners of the election!

President
Mariah Laboy



Vice President
Jayline Gonzalez



Senior Representative
Willibaldo Tigre



Goodbye Class of 2025!!

