

# THE DUAL DIPLOMA TIMES

**Third Edition**

**February 2016**

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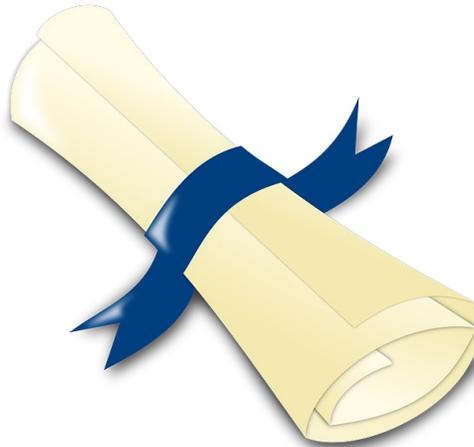
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## COP21

by Borja Medina  
de las Heras



For the first time in the history of the world there is a universal agreement to reduce the climate change. From November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 11<sup>th</sup> 2015, 195 countries met in Paris. They met in Paris to talk about what to do to reduce the contamination and what to do with the climate change, because the climate change affects everyone in the world. Finally, they have reached an agreement.

Before the conference started some countries presented their projects to reduce the contamination in their countries. For example in Madrid to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide the Mayor, Manuela Carmena Castriello, has decided to put a law that requires drivers to go at a maximum of 70 km/h on some roads.

At the COP21 conference they said that we have to act now, because some parts of the world are already having problems with the climate change. For example, the rains are not as regular as they were so this is a problem to the farmers.

The things that have been spoken about at this conference are going to be applied in 2020. This is to reduce the temperature of the planet by 2°C because in back in 2009 scientists said that this was necessary to avoid several weather disasters. I hope that these prevention measures work so we can create a good model of sustainable development.



## The First Vote for Women

by Inés Ochoa Arizu



**Women can vote for the first time Saudi Arabia**

Women in Saudi Arabia are very dominated by men. A woman can't travel to another country, run a business from home, drive a car or work without permission or accompaniment of a "mahram" (a man of the family).

Until December 12, women couldn't vote or be candidates neither. King Abdalá of Saudi Arabia has announced that women in the kingdom will be part of the Advisory Council (Shura) and they will be able to vote and be elected in municipal elections.

This news was received with great enthusiasm all over the world and although many think that, despite the change is small, it is a very important development.

## Horse – Policeman's Best Friend?!

By Claudia Tatay Garcia

In social media, images have become viral about a policeman of Houston, Texas that was comforting his wounded horse. The policeman's horse died in front of him, in a car accident. The image showed the anguish of the policeman next to the horse head on the floor. This was posted on Facebook by an anonymous account.



This happened on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015. The policeman fell off the horse, the animal was scared and ran away in the direction of the road, where she was hit by a truck. The policeman ran and tried to comfort the horse in her last minutes of life.

This was a sad story that showed us the loyalty between the policeman and the horse. They're investigating the events, and they think that the guilt is of the driver.

# STAR WARS VII: A FILM AWAITED BY ALL THE WORLD

By Alberto Barban



After the shock announcement of the launch of a new trilogy of Star Wars on October 30th, 2012 all the fans in the world had waited for this moment and in December the film arrived in the cinemas of each country and pulled in a record \$57M on only the opening night!

Newspapers and news broadcasts throughout the world featured as breaking news the projection of the film. The film has been shown in the cinemas of the biggest cities. Amongst the many cities that Star Wars was featured, Verona, Italy had many different showings fully booked. In fact, at many of the cinemas in front of the ticket office, there were very long queues of people hoping to buy a ticket.

Before the showings, there were a lot of people that were wearing the clothes of the characters. This shows how this saga had influenced the Star Wars fans in the past and the present therefore maintaining the success higher than ever. In fact, they couldn't stay in their skin awaiting the start of this premiere show!

## Climate Change

By Antonella Maschio



The climate is changing and nowadays everyone can notice that: typhoons, high temperatures, ice melting, storms, hydrogeological instability and so on are all linked to one event: the global warming. These events are ruining the ecosystem and our society, but what are the causes and the possible solutions?

Let's analyze the causes of the global heating. The main cause of the global warming is the rise of the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This rise is in turn is caused by many human activities, like deforestation, industries, using only fossil fuels, intensive livestock farming and agriculture. But what we can do to try dealing with these problems?

There is so much that we can do, and many of these examples are very simple to be realized. Here there's a little guide.

### AT HOME

If you have to wash with the washing machine, try not to wash only one thing at a time, fill the machine and use low temperatures (like 30 °C)

When you have to dry something and the weather is sunny, try not to use the dryer, you'll save a lot of energy

Change your old bulbs with the ecological ones

Try not to buy plastic bags! When you go to the supermarket, bring your own cotton bag. Then, shut down the computer when you don't need it, you'll reduce the use of energy by 83%

### ON THE ROAD

Remember to do regular check-ups on your car

Drive steadily, did you know that when you stop and start continuously you use 50% more of energy?

When you want to change cars, buy a natural gas or a LPG car.

These were only a few recommendations, but obviously there are many more. All the citizens of the world should be feeling responsible. Everyone should be living environmentally friendly and all together we will reach our target: saving the planet Earth

# Volunteering

## Volunteering—Making the World a Better Place



By Miriam Robledo

It has been two years since I first started volunteering. I wanted to volunteer to help people in need and help my community. What I didn't expect was to help myself in this way. I want to share these three volunteering experiences I had this year because I gathered invaluable information from them and hopefully they will motivate you to volunteer.

I went every Monday to my local church and I collected and gave clothes to people in need. I realized how lucky I am to be living in such good conditions and I also learned from all those people to never give up.

Another opportunity I had was to help organize an event for an organization called "Lo que de verdad importa" in which people who had suffered adversities in the past talked to young people about what really matters in life. From them I acquired the notion that you have to love yourself, but most important, you have to love those who surround you.

This Christmas I went on the subway to raise awareness about a disease called "Laminopathy". This disease affects the heart from birth and can cause death. When I was trying to get the attention from those on the subway I realized that there were two kind of people: the first kind didn't even want to hear what I had to say. But the other kind would just listen to me from the start, give me a smile, look me in the eye and ask me questions of how they could they help. Then I asked myself, which kind of person am I? I realized that sometimes I was the first. From this experience I gained knowledge relating to the fact that I have to broaden my horizons and hear what people have to tell me.

I have learned more from these experiences than I could ever imagine. For that reason, I encourage you to start or keep volunteering, that way we can all make the world a better place!

### Volunteer Work

#### By Beatriz Herrera Aguilar

Volunteering may be one of the most valuable experiences of your life. It's a double win: your community or cause benefits from your work and you benefit from your experiences.

There are two main questions that you may not know and that are very important when volunteering:

#### Why volunteer?

1.It's a great way of getting work experience. 2. You meet lots of new people. 3. Some volunteer opportunities include traveling, which is great for knowing new places. 4. You learn new things. 5. You will help your community and that will make you feel good about yourself.

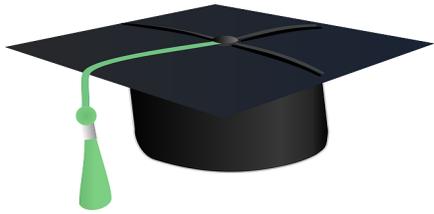
#### Who needs volunteers?:

1.Hospitals. 2.Charities.  
3.Organizations.4.Children's camps.

So, what are you waiting for to start?



## DUAL DIPLOMA ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - FERNANDO DONAIRE



***What was the reason that encouraged you to fill out the application form and join the Dual Diploma Program?***

I thought it would be a great opportunity and from my experience I can tell you it has definitely been. I wanted to improve my English skills as well as improve my education and the Dual Diploma Program has helped me achieve these goals.



***Which course option did you chose and why?***

I started the Dual Diploma Program when I was in 4th ESO so I chose the three-year option in order to finish the program before starting the university. Since I chose that option I had more subjects per year than those who opted for completing the program in four years. But independently of which option you select, if you manage your time properly you will not have any problem in finishing it successfully.

***How did you feel about the structure of the courses and the assignments? Did you like learning on an online platform? What about the homework, did it require much effort?***

I think the organization of the courses is very good. During the first years there are subjects like English I and II that teach you basic English. Later on, there are other subjects such as Psychology, Economics or American History, where you learn about new topics and continue practicing English as well. Working on an online platform was new for me, I did not have any previous experience. By doing the Dual Diploma Program you get used to working this way, which is very valuable, in my opinion. You have to organize your schedule by yourself, thus you become more responsible.

***Could you list some tips for succeeding in the Dual Diploma Program?***

I recommend you to manage your time and try to work ahead. In subjects like Psychology or US History it is very helpful to write down the important concepts of each unit, in order to make studying for the final exam easier. Contact your teachers if you have any difficulty: they will be glad to help you. Communication is important.

***I was told you went to Doral Academy on an exchange for six weeks. What was your impression of American school? How did this experience help you improve your knowledge of English?***

American education system is completely different from ours. It is more practical and offers a broader variety of subjects to study. There are lots of different elective subjects and students have a huge freedom to choose what they want to learn. For example, some subjects were TV production, where the students recorded their own TV show, or First Aid, where they practiced various techniques to learn how to act in case of an emergency. I do not want to say American system is better, it has pros and cons. For example, in my experience I noticed that in Spain we have a higher level in Mathematics and Science as regards the theoretic aspect. The exchange program helped me especially with the oral skills: you are in contact with the language continuously, and you acquire new vocabulary, oral expressions, informal words. I think the best way to learn English is to practice it and the exchange program enables you to do so.

***Now that you have graduated from this Program, could you do a brief evaluation of your improvements in English and, of course, in the other subjects you have studied?***

I have valuable skills and the subjects I chose have shown to be useful. For instance, this year I have Psychology in the university and thanks to the Dual Diploma Program I have some basic knowledge in this subject.

***Do you think Dual Diploma has helped you apply for a university? Has it impacted any other aspect of your life?***

I think it has. Right now I am studying medicine in English and having the Dual Diploma facilitated my entry in the university where I wanted to study. It has also helped me be more responsible and independent.



Article by Sara Varljen

## CITY OF CULTURE IN 2016

By Gaia Ugolini

The city of culture in 2016 is Mantova, a city in Lombardy, Italy. The announcement was made by Minister of Culture, Dario



Franceschini and Prime Minister Matteo Renzi. The mayor of Mantua, Mattia Palazzi was very excited. He gave a speech: "This is the recognition of a small city, but that has an extraordinary heritage. We are trying to open it to the world, and we're investing in its recovery of assets. This magnificent city wants to count more in their own country but also in Europe".

One million euro will be given to the city to complete the proposed project that more than 14 municipalities near Mantua.

For New Year's Eve there will be a concert and a show. Mantua wants to engage in his path to give value also to Italy.

Next year there will be more and more cities that want to get the title of culture's city to make their nation proud.

But do you know what is culture?

The word culture comes from "colere" that means cultivate. Culture is like a harvest: you have to take care of the land before collecting fruit.

Nowadays culture is understood as the knowledge and practices acquired that are transmitted from generation to generation. It's the whole of religion, traditions, language, food and history of a particular state.

But it is much more than this: it is the identity card of each country, it's a way of understanding the world differently from nation to nation, a symbol of freedom and tolerance. Mantua won this title.

Brazilian Culture by

Alba Robledo



This year, the Olympic Games are happening in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, so I decided to make a special article dedicated to the Brazilian culture so you can be familiar with it.

First of all, I would like to describe the fabulous food. The most typical dish is "arroz e feijão" which is a combination of rice and beans which usually go with steak or chicken. This is a common

meal, and it's eaten daily. Then we have stroganoff which is meat with a special sauce, made up of ketchup, mustard, whipped cream and pepper.

But what Brazilians love most are desserts! They have their star sweet that is brigadeiro, and cakes like quindim or pudim de leite, that are delicious. If you go to the Olympic Games you should definitely eat all of these dishes. By my own personal experience, Brazilian people like foreigners a lot. They will give you a heartfelt welcome and will make efforts for you to be as comfortable as possible. The city is going to be beautiful just for the new people.

Brazil is a country of contrast: you have the amazing buildings mixed up with nature and with poor shacks. It is impressive at first, but once you've been there a while, you'd get used to it.

Have fun and enjoy the Brazilian culture!



## WHERE MAGIC IS GUARDED.

By Maria Fernandez



The book you have read the year before, that book that is on your shelf and in which inside the most wonderful adventures took place, it is probably not only on your shelf but on thousands more around the world.

Imagine your book surrounded by others of its kind and, what you would probably not know is that it may have been created in a wonderful place full of magic. This place is a library!

In this article, I am going to talk about some of the most famous and magical libraries around the world.

### **Abbey Library of Saint Gall (Switzerland).**

An amazing library, one of the oldest ones and in which you have to wear slippers in order to not damage the floor.

### **Yale University Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.**

This huge library has fabulous architecture and a lot of floors full of rare and strange books of all around the world.

### **Jose Vasconcelos Library (Mexico)**

This library is a complete maze, a place in which readers can literally get lost between books.

These are just some of the most famous libraries but there are many of them still outside.

Do not wait to explore them and inspire yourself inside!



## Japanese Culture

by

**Mario de la Fuente Garcia**



Japan is one of the world leaders in the economical view, but it is also a fantastic cultural place. In these aspects, Japan offers old traditional arts mixed with advanced technology.

Japan has been, is and would be a reference in world's culture. However, culture in this country is a mixture of old culture as well as modern culture. In fact, Japan offers scenic arts, the Tee ceremony or the Ikebana as well as manga, anime or videogames, so the culture is the perfect mix of the past and the present.

Religion:

One of the things that characterizes Japan is an ancient folk religion, a mixture of polytheistic worship of nature and ancestors. This religion is called Shinto and defined as a polytheistic religion that supports that there are spiritual beings called kami located in the nature.

Another religion in which Japanese people believe in is Buddhism which is one of the most influential religions in the history of humanity, along with Christianity and Islam. However, one of the most distinguishing features is that Buddhism does not handle the concept of a creator god. This does not mean that it is atheism.



Houses:

The typical Japanese house is a wooden and detached with tatami floors, which are floors made of crossed reed leaves. However, after WWII, the way of constructing Japanese houses changed wood to concrete. After this, Japanese houses became more similar to European houses. But there are two differences: people in typical Japanese houses always go without shoes or socks and at least one of the rooms of the house is made with typical tatami floors.

## Xtreme Sports

by Nicolas  
Martinez de  
Urbina



Ignoring all the thousands of sports that are easily available to practice around the world, some men and women choose the most dangerous ones, or simply look for their perilous side. But do you really know what makes apparently weird people do activities that can put their lives in risk?

Some experts explain extreme sports as a drug. Eduardo Arconada says that he can't live without taking a risk every weekend. What causes him to possibly have this addiction is the dopamine, a substance our body expulses as a response to pleasure. Besides, it's mixed with the adrenaline that we segregate to avoid a risk, and the result is an awesome feeling. The problem is that the brain gets used to these emotions and creates the need of riding down a steeper mountain, swimming across a longer distance or flying higher than ever before.

Extreme athletes know they are dependent on activities that put them on the tightrope. But for them, this risk is balanced by an unequalled combination of feelings and emotions. Would you think twice before taking up an extreme sport?

## The Day to Day Life of a Basketball Player

by Patricia Rodriguez Begeur



It's Monday and the week usually begins as normal, with some studies at the school or university. Then comes all the homework and when you think that you are done with it because your brain is going to explode then it's time for practice. At first you are very excited and with a lot of energy in your body, even nervous. but practice is more than just an hour doing exercise, it is an hour to improve your skills that you decided as a personal aim. You are not going to do as good as you want to do every day. But this is what it makes success feel that much better!

At the end of the week you are going to collect your work from all the practices taken in that long week. So you are going to say "I'm the one, I believe in my self and I'm going to make this." But you have to believe in it because if you don't believe in your self, who is going to believe in you? The match is going to be hard, you have to concentrate on that jump, that shot or that pass. Because it all counts.

But the most important thing that is going to make you win is to never give up. If you allow yourself to get down , you are losing the fight. You are allowing the other team to win. So do yourself a favor and never stop until you win!

# Sports

## Surfing without an arm!

By Guillermo  
Gutierrez



This is the story of a great surfer named Bethany Hamilton, who was attacked by a shark in a surfing session in Halloween 2003. Now she doesn't have left arm but that doesn't stop her in her surfing career.

After the accident she started to jump right back into the water and just one year later she won her first national title. Her story was written by "The New York Times" and in 2011 she made her own film called "Soul Surfer". She has a spirit of overcoming and is a great example of a good person.

Now she has her own foundation called "Friends of Bethany", which helps many people with problems. Also, Bethany wrote her own book called "Body and Soul" where you can find a lot of advice regarding having a fit lifestyle. Now as a wife, mother, professional surfer, author, and motivational speaker, Bethany continues to touch and inspire lives globally.

## WTA Finals in Singapore

by Silvia Martinez



The most important women's tennis tournament was played a month ago in the magnificent city of Singapore. The eight best players of the year were the only players that could fight for the trophy. This players were divided into two groups. In the red group there was the Romanian woman, Simona HALEP, the best Russian player ever, MARIA SHARAPOVA, the youngest player of the tournament, the Polish, AGNIESZKA RADWANSKA and the last one of the group, the oldest player of Italy, FLAVIA PENNETA. On the other hand, in the white group were, leading the group, the new Spanish sensation, GARBIÑE MUGURUZA, then the two from The Czech Republic, PETRA KVITOVA and LUCIE SAFAROVA and the last one but not less important, the German player, ANGELIQUE KERBER.

In the red team, the two players that were leading the group were Maria Sharapova and Simona Halep, they both were the favorites to pass at the next round. Sharapova beat all her opponents, she was at the next round. But there was a deciding match between Simon Halep and Aga Radwanska. Finally the victory, was for the Polish player.

In the other team, the matches were also similar at the red group. The leader was the Spanish player, who won all her matches and was in the semifinals. The other player that was in the next round was one of the Czech players, Petra Kvitova that beat her compatriot Lucie Safarova. All these players were in semifinals and only two could pass to the decisive round, the final. The first semifinal was the Spanish player, Garbiñe Muguruza against the one they call "The Teacher" Aga Radwanska. The other one would be the other two players that left, the favorite of the tournament, Maria Sharapova against Petra Kvitova. Both semifinals were really tight, but finally the ones that pass to the final were the Polish player and the Czech player.

Nobody could imagine it, the winner was the young Polish player Aga Radwanska. She beat her opponent with a tied score of three sets. During the trophy delivery, she dedicated her triumph to her trainer and her family. It was an emotional moment for her and all the viewers.

## Kobe Bryant: Goodbye to a Legend

By Oscar Becerril



Some weeks ago, the Los Angeles Lakers franchise player, Kobe Bryant, revealed that this was his last season as a professional player. However, he has not been a common player, nor has his retirement announcement been. He wrote a letter, in which he apologizes for leaving the competition, because his body cannot continue playing. This was part of his letter:

Dear Basketball,  
From the moment  
I started rolling my dad's tube socks  
To shooting imaginary  
Game-winning shots  
In the Great Western Forum  
I knew one thing was real...

I fell in love with you....  
I'll always be that kid  
With the rolled up socks  
Garbage can in the corner  
:05 seconds on the clock  
Ball in my hands.  
5 ... 4 ... 3 ... 2 ... 1  
Love you always,  
Kobe

Kobe Bryant is maybe, one of the 5 best players in NBA history, and, for a lot of people, the perfect copy of Michael Jordan. He has earned many accolades: 5 NBA titles, 1 MVP of the regular season, 2 MVPs of the NBA finals, 17 times in the All Star game, third all time scorer in the league (more points than Michael Jordan) and he spent his whole career on the same team.

Now, as he moves on to retirement, he will always be remembered as the face of his team, the Lakers and the NBA.

**“You asked for my hustle, I gave you my heart” Kobe Bryant.**

## American Football in Spain



Hi guys!

What's up?

My name is Paula Barcelona Lahoz and today I'm going to talk about American football in Spain. American football is one of the best sports because not only does not just consist of hitting others, this sport is a team sport. All members are fundamental for each play, for each pass.

In Spain, there aren't a lot of teams because it isn't a famous sport. Also FEFA (Spanish Federation of American football) doesn't have enough money to pay for all of things that teams need. Many times the players have to pay their expenses when they have a competition. Every year, this situation improves a little more.

Here, in Spain there are 6 teams in the A series: Valencia Firebats, Badalona Dracs, Rivas Osos, Valencia Giants, L'hospitalet Pioners and Mallorca Voltors. 10 teams in the B series: Barberá Rookies, Granada Lions, Las Rozas Black Demons, Coslada Camioneros, Zaragoza Hurricanes, Reus Imperials, Plasbel Murcia Cobras, Santutzi Coyotes, Barcelona Bufals and Zaragoza Hornets. In the women's league there are 6 teams: Las Rozas Black Demons, Barberá Rookies, Terrassa Reds, Barcelona Búfals, L'Hospitalet Pioners and Zaragoza Hurricanes.



# Sports

## Real Madrid's History

By Alvaro Miguel Garcia Fernandez



### *Real Madrid' (1902-1908)*

The first years of the Real Madrid Football club were led by Julián Palacios who designated the first Players of the team.

### *Real Madrid (1908-1920)*

The Real Madrid then when they had a team proposed to the major of Madrid to constitute the first football competition in honor of the king Alfonso XII. This trophy was called the Spanish cup ("Copa de España") but this name has evolved to the King's cup ("Copa Del Rey"). In the first 6 editions the Real Madrid had won 4 trophies so the Real Madrid was the best team of Spain.

In 1911 some clubs wanted to make a Federation but other clubs were against so they made the The Union of Clubs ("Union de Clubes"). The bad sensation made the directors board avoid the resignation of the president Adolfo Meléndez.

In the season 1915-1916 Athletic de Bilbao won the final of the Spanish cup to Real Madrid.

In the 1920 Real Madrid started becoming an international football reference, because of their international victories so the team's direction moved the stadium 2 times. The "Velódromo" first and the "Chamartin" stadium where the first Spanish league match was played (1928).

In the 1930 the Real Madrid started with new players (like Ricardo Zamora, Cariaco, etc.). All of them made Real Madrid have the best defense in the world and this was reflected in the results, 2 leagues and 2 cups. This made the Real Madrid the best team of Spain but the civil war stopped it.

## Private Spaceships

by Sergio Martinez



Space tourism is a form of tourism which is conducted at more than 100 kilometers of height of land, which is considered the frontier of space. At the moment it has only carried out in transport and government space stations. In the 21st century private initiatives have taken the first steps to make private vehicles.

The first space tourist, was the former NASA Engineer Dennis Tito: the first human to travel into space only for pleasure. Tito entered the station on April 30, 2001, and returned to Earth on May 6, 2001. Upon landing, he said: "I have just returned from paradise despite being exhausted, sweaty and so weak that I could not exit the Soyuz capsule by my own foot as did my teammates."

The most famous project at the moment is Linx: It is a suborbital plane for two people designed to take off and land on a conventional airport. In addition to common passengers, vehicle is intended to transport experiments. XCOR announced that it will undertake the flight and each ticket will cost 95,000 dollars.



## My Trip to Asia

by Benedetta Rigotti

Dear readers,

I was tidying my room, when I found a terracotta saucer with an ideogram on it. At first I was wondering what was it, then I remembered: it was a small Japanese plate that it is used in a temple in Kyoto to wish luck and make your dreams come true. You should throw this small dish like a frisbee down a cliff with all the strength you have and furthest as possible. As soon as your dish breaks, your wish probably comes true.

Therefore, I would like to talk about my incredible trip to Japan. It is an extraordinary place where ancient culture meets the finest technology. I've also been very impressed by the deep Asian philosophy.

When I decided to go to Japan, I was very excited. We stayed for weeks in Tokyo, the capital



my mum decided to go to Japan, very excited. I stayed for weeks in Tokyo, the capital. It is an exciting and hectic city, but at the same time very neat and extremely well organized. Walking around the streets of this wonderful and intriguing city lingers a mysterious air, rich of culture and myth. I had the chance to eat delicious Japanese food there, in either in fancy or simple restaurants.

After Tokyo, I took the super fast train down to Kyoto. During the trip I saw the huge Fuji mountain. It was impressive. In Kyoto I was lucky to meet and spend time with a Buddhist monk that thought me some important wise rules of the Zen philosophy, useful to apply to my life. I have also learnt how to write some Japanese ideograms, which come from the Chinese ancient writing. At the end, I did a long walk with my mum in the nature and I enjoyed the cherry blossom season.

This experience has changed me deeply and when I came back to Italy I kept the feelings and experiences of my trip to Japan, which still inspire me in my daily choices in the Western world where I live.

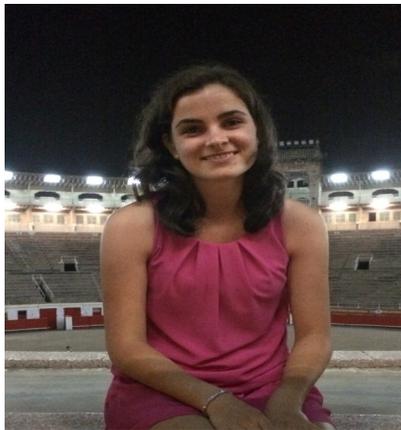


# TRAVEL

## Exchange Student—

### Why you should be one!

By Tanja Paulmichl



It completely doesn't matter what part of the world you come from, or what you are studying there. If you want to really enjoy your student life and to immerse yourself in a foreign culture, a Student Exchange is definitely the perfect occasion.

“Exchange isn't a year in your life. It's a life in a year.” *an Exchange Student*

Going to another high school, living in a hosting family, knowing a new country and way of life: and all this in one year. Teenagers from fourteen to eighteen have the ideal age for such an experience as they have the ability to learn and acquire the language entirely and to fit into new habits. It is for this, that Exchange Students are used to remember this year proudly, satisfied and enthusiastically as the best time in their life.

“When your exchange year is over you leave your family and friends to return to your family and friends.” *an Exchange Student*

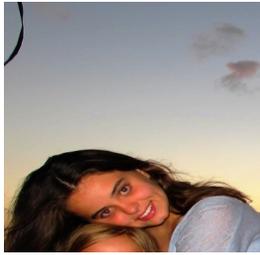
Back at home, all students notice immediately that there is something essential that differences them from their peers: their minds are open for everything, they know how to handle also difficult situations and they are much more motivated. Studies have even showed that for all this reasons the ninety-seven percent of all Exchange Students is much more likely to find their right career. So get moving, you won't regret it!



# Academic Corner

Johns Hopkins University

By Claudia Helena  
Perez  
Garcia



Johns Hopkins University is a private university located in Baltimore, Maryland. It opened in 1876 with the inauguration of Daniel Coit Gilman, the first president of the institution. The university was named after the 19th-century Maryland philanthropist Johns Hopkins. Johns Hopkins was an American billionaire who founded both the Johns Hopkins University and the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and that upon his death, he left \$7 million to be split between them.

The JHU is made up of nine academic divisions and it offers a wide variety of majors and minors for students to pursue their dreams such as Music Performance, Space System Engineering or Chinese and American Studies.

Finally, for those who want to go out and try new things, Hopkins counts with more than 400 undergraduate student-run clubs and organizations. Just as Lucinda of the Class of 2017 said, "College is about doing new things. Trying new things is the main thing that has made me really happy here." So for those who are thinking about attending a college in the US, don't forget to take a look at JHU.

## NOBEL PRIZES 2015

By Claudia Mateo Diaz

"If you want to know who the winners of the 2015 Nobel Prizes were, keep reading."

King Carl Gustavo of Sweden presented in Stockholm the Nobel Prize in Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature and Economics to eleven people for their collaboration. There were 600 guests at the ceremony in the Stockholm Concert Hall.



The Irish William Campbell and the Japanese Satoshi Omura have won The Medicine Nobel 2015 for their investigation of parasites.

The Japanese Takaaki Kajita and the Canadian Arthur B. McDonald have won The Physics Nobel 2015 for their investigation of "neutrinos" (fast elementary particles).

-Tomas Lindahl, Paul Modrich y Aziz Sancar have won The Chemistry Nobel 2015 for their mechanisms of ADN and their investigation of cancer. We should be very thankful of them.

The journalist Belarusian Svetlana Alexievich has won The Literature Nobel 2015 for her written human misery.

The Quartet Tunisian National Dialogue have won The Peace Nobel 2015 for their contribution to create a plural democracy in Tunes.

The Scottish university teacher, Angus Deaton has won The Economy Nobel 2015 for his analysis of poverty and consumption.



After the ceremony the royal family, the winners and their guests went to the Blue Hall of Stockholm City Hall, where there was a gala dinner.

# Technology - Virtual Reality Strikes Again

By Sergio Perez Sanz



Virtual Reality is being developed a lot nowadays. There are lots of enterprises who want to participate in a project related to this topic. Videogames, cinema and even training programs can be used in this new technology! It will be by 2016 when the best VR headsets will appear.

The VR consists basically of a Headset you wear on your eyes which with the use of sensors and a screen, tracks in your head moves to a digital 3D world, which emulates real life.

There are some prototypes from different enterprises, such as Microsoft, Sony or HTC. But the first project was Oculus Rift, which runs in a computer. It was created thanks to a crowd-funding webpage called Kickstarter by a 21 years old man.

Actually, there are lots of demonstrations specifically designed for this Headset. For example, you can sit down in your living room, turn on your Oculus Rift and have a nice day in a roller coaster! Also you can have a spooky walk through a haunted castle! The most incredible demo for me is one in which you can control your own battle spacecraft! The fact that you perceive everything as real life is amazing.



The problem of this technology is the price. Oculus Rift, the only one who is selling the most right now, is really expensive. If you buy it from the official webpage, it is \$599,000. Hopefully, in a few months, this won't be a problem anymore, because more enterprises will start selling their products and prices will start to go down.

# Fashion

## From Autumn to Winter

**Renew the colors of your closet**

**by Miriam López Expósito**



In Spain we have ended a period of autumn with pieces of clothes that focus in colors ochre, brown and red, the same that characterize the lives and the environment in this season. Now is a new time that transforms into the style of the cold weather. We are starting winter.

Without many warm colors, we use colors like blue, green, white... for a great and cold period.

Other colors that are very popular now are the combinations of white and black a perfect union. You can wear a black hat with white jeans and a gray shirt... Accessories that are very popular in winter are hats. All types of them, with a ball without it, berets, bonnets... A good complement is a scarf to make the best outfit and also all kinds of gloves. It's indispensable to have a coat with any print.

In themes of make-up what we want is to get a light coverage and a super natural makeup, that enhances the beauty and adds plenty of light to the face. As for the made up lip, this year the spotlight is relegated to very flattering matte lipsticks.

If you want to survive this winter without too many clothes, you will need just a few essentials: an overcoat, a few pairs of boots that go with a stylish black or gray hat, natural makeup coverage and a matte lipstick!



## VICTORIA'S SECRET'S WORST AUDIENCE?!?

**By Anna Berenguer Mateo**



On December 8<sup>th</sup> all the world was able to see the runway show of the largest American retailer of women's lingerie. But the results are not as good as all the producers and even the public were expecting! The event has lost 32% of their viewers which means this runway show has had the worst ratings ever.

The show got together 45 models, and a long list of people behind the cameras to make the show perfect. The fact that every year the brand makes the same type of lingerie and doesn't reinvent itself, or people being busy the day of the show might be the reason of the bad viewing percentages. Also, our world is tired of stereotypes and the fact that these models are super thin (not like all of society) might have caused the decrease of audience.

Although this year Gigi Hadid and Kendall Jenner (considered the best top models of 2015) made their debut as angels, the American company couldn't get good "grades" on their show! We're already anticipating the next runway show to see which models and artists are going to appear and see the next results!

# Fashion

## Innovating Designs Keeping the Traditional Runways by Pilar Folque



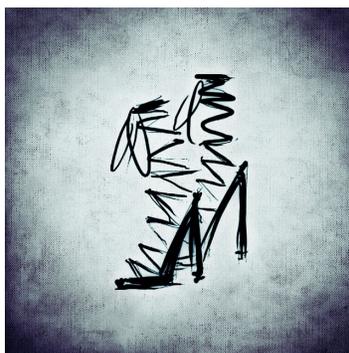
In the 1950s fashion companies were suffering from a big crisis. Nobody wanted more couture fashion shows because they were too expensive. So the fashion designers started thinking about new ideas, because otherwise they would have had to close their companies.

Runways were one of the keys of the market because they attracted the public and consumers, so they decided to keep that. But the prices were a problem. This was the origin of the Low Cost Business Designers that created cheap boutiques where all types of people could buy very cheap clothes.

This crisis has influenced various fashion items:

It has had an influence over fashion trends because people wanted new styles and new looks. This is how new feminine ideas came out; some of the most important designers of all times as Yves Saint Laurent, who invented the Woman Suit which had a very big impact over fashion and feminine history. This is how we were getting close to the 21st century style.

Designs were also changing because of the feminine revolution: girls started wearing shorter dresses and skirts. But this didn't happen all over the world: as I said before, this occurred only in some countries, because in Islamic countries it was forbidden and it still is nowadays. Thanks to the crisis we have got various results: good ones and bad ones.



## 2 Perfect Combinations to go Everywhere

By Lucia Resino Ena



Whenever we are invited to a very special for occasion we want to go perfectly dressed, so we go shopping very quickly, without knowing that the best clothes are in our sight. So I am going to tell you about 2 perfect combinations for girls.

1. Imagine that your aunt is going to get married next month and we don't know what to wear, there is no problem, there is a simple but fabulous combination.

We can change the shoes depending our age, then we have a simple electric blue long dress, with silver heels or flat flip flops, also we can chose carrying a bag or not but there are also two options, we can carry a clutch bag or a handles bag. The makeup its very simple. There you go!

2. You have a dinner with your friends in a familiar restaurant but you want to go casual and arranged, you think that it is impossible but it isn't, it's very simple to go like that.

It's very simple, my advice is to wear *Superga* shoes, tight pants and a blouse and a kimono, and also you can were it with skirt or dress, but always informal dresses.

# Christmas— School's Music Festival



By Marta Vega

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, Claret Madrid School made the annual school's music festival. Every year the school does this festival to say goodbye to the students and wish them happy holidays. The music teachers choose the best performances that students have made singing, dancing or playing an instrument.

This year there were some awesome performances by students from different courses. The first one was a girl that played with the piano a beautiful song without mistakes. Then, a girl of my class sang "Perfect" while her cousin was playing the guitar. She was incredible as in years past. Another girl and her group of friends sang "Love Yourself". Only one of them goes to music classes but all together they sound professional. After all, four groups of different years made really good choreographies with different music's styles and they made the audience end up asking for more.

All students did a very good job and they made an effort to create and practice their performances even though they had exams. I hope next year will be just as spectacular or better!

## The RTVE's Symphony Orchestra and Chorus Performs the Traditional Christmas Concert

By Diego Garcia Lopez



RTVE's Symphony Orchestra and Chorus performed a Christmas concert on Thursday December 17th and on Friday December 18th.

RTVE stands for "Corporación de Radio y Televisión Española" (Spanish TV Channel). Under the direction of Carlos Kalmar, the Orchestra did this concert with a complete program with works of Tchaikovsky like the "Capriccio Italiano". They played pieces of Handel: the "Royal Fireworks" and other works that the Orchestra had been rehearsing like for example "The Bartered Bride" of Smetana. This was most of the first part of the concert.

The second part was destined for the Christmas carols, arrangements of Juan José Colomer and Albert Guinovart. Some of these arrangements are "Adestes Fideles", "Ya viene la vieja" and "Campanas de Belén". It also has the work "Sleigh Ride" by F. Delius. This concert was broadcast on La 2 of TVE (Televisión Española) on the 25th December at 12.30 AM.

There were many ways to watch this concert: You could have watched it on December 18th on the RTVE's website: [rtve.es](http://rtve.es). Also, you were able to listen to it on the Classical Radio, Radio Clásica in Spain. If you wanted to be there and live the experience in person, you could buy the entries or tickets in the ticket office of the Monumental Theatre, Madrid, Spain.

At the end of the concert, people gave a big applause, with the satisfaction of having attended a mixed concert with the theme of Christmas. The Christmas spirit was there, in that room where the musicians played for the children and those who are not so young. This is Christmas magic...



# Book Review

## “THE FOUR FEATHERS” BOOK REVIEW

### THE MOST THRILLING ADVENTURE BOOK EVER WRITTEN

By Jaime de Andres Lerma



I'd like to recommend a book which I read recently, called THE FOUR FEATHERS. The author is J.W. Mason and the book was published in 1902.

The setting of the book is in England and Egypt during the Victorian Era. The main characters are Harry Feversham and Jack Durrance two good friends from the British Empire army who fight for the love of the same girl, Ethne Eustace.

The action starts when Harry resigns from his commission in his regiment at the same time they're going to war. After that his friends and his fiancée give him four white feathers to tell him, they think he's a coward.

This novel has been adapted as films many times. The most famous movies have been Korda brothers' 1939 version and the newest one, filmed by Sekhar Kapur in 2002.

All in all, I love this novel and film. It's a marvelous story with a very surprising ending and a message you'll never forget!



# MOVIE NEWS

## 2016 MOST ANTICIPATED FILMS

By Carolina Gorman Batllés



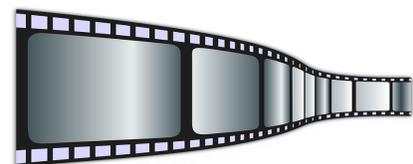
Hollywood has already confirmed the most expected films and titles, even trailers that are coming out in cinemas between 2016 and 2020.

Want to know what films are coming out this year?

The TOP film that is being released this year is Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice, directed by Zack Snyder which will be in theatres the 26th of March.

For children this year, the coming films are Finding Dori, a new film from Walt Disney and Pixar, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, Alice in Wonderland 2, directed by James Bobin and created by Lewis Carroll, with Johnny Depp playing The Mad Hatter.

Adventures, action and fantasy movies that are coming out this year are: Independence Day 2, starring Jeff Goldblum and Liam Hemsworth, directed by Roland Emmerich Captain America 3, with Marvel characters, X Men Apocalypses, produced by 20<sup>th</sup> century fox, starring Jennifer Lawrence and James McAvoy, Divergent 3, coming out in March, Now You See Me 2, starring Daniel Radcliffe (actor of Harry Potter), Star Trek Beyond, starring Zoe Saldaña (from Avatar) in theatres at the end of July, The Conjuring 2, directed by James Wan, Exposed, Luna Park, Halloween Returns, Ghost Busters 3...



# THE TEN MOST VALUED COMICS

By MARTA RUS GUILLEMAT



In this article, I will discuss the 10 most valuable comics collected worldwide.

**10: THE FIRST: X-MEN** The value is \$80,500 dollars. It was published in September 1963 and included five mutants considered the foundation of five, Beast, Angel, Cyclops, Iceman and Wonder Woman.

**9: THE FIRST: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** The value of this comic is \$110,000 dollars. With this issue, Spiderman had the pleasure of meeting with the first superhero team the Fantastic Four and the famous super villain, chameleon, able to mimic any human form.

**8: THE FIRST: RED RAVEN** The value is \$124,000 dollars. The first edition, published in August 1940, was the only one made under this title. From the second, dated fall 1940 release is replaced by "The Human Torch". It was not until May 1968 when the Red Raven character appeared again as a villain in X-Men. Chuck Rozanski, the owner of a comic book store and eager collector tried to sell his copy for \$ 500,000, so the search was filmed in a documentary for Comic-Con San Diego 2011.

**7: THE THIRD: CAPTAIN AMERICA** The value is \$126,000 dollars. It was published in May 1941 and tells the Red Skull revenge against Captain America and Bucky Barnes, his current partner and new Captain America.

**6: THE FIRST: THE FANTASTIC FOUR** The value is \$166,000 dollars .The team of the Fantastic Four came in response to the Justice League DC Comics in November 1961. The entire group received their powers after being exposed to cosmic rays during a scientific mission in the space.

**5: THE MARVEL MYSTERY COMICS No.9** The value is \$198,000 dollars. Its high price is due to this being the first battle between two superheroes ever told. An epic fight that Underwater Man and The Human Torch fight to the death with a final expectation that continues in the next edition.

**4: THE FIRST: THE INCREDIBLE HULK** The value is \$228,000 dollars. The funny thing is that until the second volume Hulk was not really green, because in May 1962 Stan Lee and Jack Kirby chose a neutral color like gray to not suggest any particular ethnic group.

**3: THE FIFTEEN: AMAZING FANTASY** The value is \$405,000 dollars. Prior to this were an anthology of comics published by Marvel in 1961 under the title Amazing Adult Fantasy. However, the latter released for sale in August 1962, it was with the name Fantasy Amazing Spiderman .In that time was different from other superhero. It was simply a young man with neurosis and the typical problems of a teenager of his age, seeking greater empathy among readers and the main character.

**2: THE FIRST: CAPTAIN AMERICA** The value is \$629,000 dollars. Marvel, still called Timely Comics, went public with the image of Captain America knocking Adolf Hitler in the face, which coincided with the Second World War. In Nazi Germany, on March 1, 1941 the image of Captain America knocking Adolf Hitler in the face went public.

**1: THE FIRST: MARVEL COMICS** The value is \$859,000 dollars. The predecessor of Marvel -Timely Comics- brought to light in October 1939 an edition that included the first appearance of some superheroes as The Human Torch (slightly different from his appearance in the team Fantastic Four), Man Submarine Atlantis and Ka-Zar the Great.

# COMICS

## HISTORIC RIVALRY: MARVEL VS. DC

By Alejandro Serrano Amaro



Throughout the history of popular culture, we have been directly witnessing the giant clashes along the passing years. From the mythical battle between *Darth Vader* and *Luke Skywalker*, to waged struggles by *Harry Potter* and *Lord Voldemort*. In addition to sweeping the world of cinema and literature, epic wars have crossed the border to reach the amazing world of comics, particularly in the superhero genre.

Furthermore, since its inception in the early 30s, the superheroes have been very present during the whole history of mankind. There were years in which the war in reality had turned the planet into a dark and sad world. People need an example to follow. Hope. Heroes.

In addition, the United States of America, the leading country in most areas would not be left behind and gave life to the supermen and superwomen. Until now, both *DC Comics* and *Marvel Comics* have tried numerous times to beat their arch enemy.

As a consequence, since immemorial times, both multinationals have tried bullet duels in almost every possible cultural field: comics, movies and TV series. Thanks to all the madness created throughout the world, comic characters are more and more famous every day. People have noticed how important is for humans to have an example to make correct decisions.

All in all: *Marvel* and *DC*. The two biggest enemies, face to face. They cannot live without the other. Each one of them admits that they have been inspired from the rival, to create new characters. In conclusion, the following question is the truth clue: Why can't they live one next to the other peacefully?

## Street Art Comes to Museums

By Miguel Lopez Duran



The art of graffiti is near to everyone in the exposition “ABCDEFGraffiti” in the Museo Universitario del Chopo.

Graffiti is one of the most relevant contemporary arts in all the world but it's most commonly known as “street” art. But now, some known graffiti artists like Dago González and Itxaso Garraña, have created a project called “ABCDEFGraffiti”.

This exposition shows letters in paintings of more than 15 artists, all of them with a different technique. Most of the artists were painting in the streets until this great opportunity was presented to them.

But with this Project, comes some controversy. I went to the streets and asked people what they thought about graffiti and I told them about the the exposition. 32% of the people I interviewed told me that graffiti is a crime, the other 68% says that it is good for the painters and quite original.



# Haiku Poetry Contest Winners Spring 2015

*Precious Life by*

[Aurora Leso](#)

Green buds are borning,  
Spring caresses them shyly,  
Life returns again.

A young small orchard  
Scarlet ashes on the ground  
Trees cry orange dust

[Martina Manara](#)

*Falling to the ground,  
I watch a leaf settle down  
In a bed of brown.*

[Marianna Zobebe](#)

A yellow carpet  
of fallen leaves covers grass.  
Mushrooms are growing.

[Sara Varljen](#)

Raindrops slide softly  
Sunshine glistens on leaves  
Hope rises once more

[Fiammetta Artioli](#)

As a worm wind blows  
I' m dreaming about sea  
A fresh blue blanket

[Matilde Sabot](#)

The sad pouring rain  
This is my Verona's spring  
Life here is asleep

[Alice Moro](#)

On october moon  
the stars are singing for us  
the bright dream's anthem.

[Antela Camblor](#)

Orange fallen leaves  
They are impatient to flee  
And dance with the air.

[Maria Del Blanco](#)

And the storm will come,  
but the sun will rise for all  
fly free just once more

[Laura Gonzalez](#)

Steering the zephyr  
into my bedroom, with grace,  
float cherry blossoms

[Lucia Carrera](#)

The trees are growing  
The flowers are pinks and  
blues

The sun starts to rise

[Marina Ruiz](#)

## BEACHES

Sand scatters the beach  
Waves crash on the sandy shore  
Blue water shimmers

[Isabella Cuadrado Magnusson,](#)

Those blue rising waves  
After the huge oceans passed  
At the beach they smash

[Nicolas Martinez De Urbina](#)

Dark night bathing moon,  
coming bright stars and calm  
thoughts,  
lights souls widely.

[Alba Sanchez- Ramos Pereda](#)



# The Dual Diploma Times

Thank you for reading the third edition of  
The Dual Diploma Times!

Please look for the fourth edition to be  
published in the Spring!

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