



Our Democracy: Take Action

Sophie Mae Berman, Junior
Political Reporter

In my opinion, complaining or worrying about our new president or administration is a waste of time. There is still much to be done, and much is at stake. Each of us has a voice and the power to engage others; to speak up for dignity; to defend rights that others before us fought for; and to help preserve our planet and celebrate the vast diversity that makes our country stronger. Moving forward, use your voice and your energy to preserve, strengthen, or create what you believe in. Immerse yourself in dialogue, and commit yourself to action. This is not only your right, but also your responsibility.

On January 21, millions of people around the world marched to support women, promoting unity and equal rights. "Join Women's March serves as a platform for us to "gather together in our neighborhoods all over the world to define our next steps, and envision how to transform the energy we saw at Women's Marches into local and national action." The organizers plan to complete ten actions in one hundred days; for the first action people wrote to their Senators about what was most significant to them. Now Women's March encourages people to form "Huddles", groups ready to commit and decide what the next steps should be. A Huddle can be as short as ninety minutes. Here is a guide for a Huddle agenda, provided by the Women's March.

10 MIN	1. WELCOME EVERYBODY Introduce yourself, describe the Huddle goals and go over the agenda.
5 MIN	2. WATCH VIDEO Watch the video together with your group.
20 MIN	3. WHAT WE DID NEXT The group envisions what winning in 4 years looks like.
30 MIN	4. CAN'T STOP. WON'T STOP. This is the part of the agenda where we discuss upcoming action opportunities.
15 MIN	5. FORM YOUR TEAM Here's where we decide on our next steps, and agree to take on roles.
10 MIN	6. CLOSING WITH ACTION If you have extra time, write postcards to send to your senators. Have a stack ready for people to

Visit: <https://www.womensmarch.com/100/action2/> to get connected and access more information.

The Death of Happy Endings

Spoiler Alert: Reveals the Ending of the Film *La La Land

Alix Livermore, Sophomore
Reporter in the Field

Between school, homework, and sports, in the past month or so, I had not been able to find the time to go out and watch the new hit movie, *La La Land*. Friends and family members of mine who had seen it had only great things to say about it, which did not help to curb the nagging excitement that drove me to distraction. To cope with the anticipation, I settled for watching every clip of it that had been posted online and listening to the soundtrack at every chance I got.

This past weekend, when I finally got myself to the theatre and watched the long-awaited film. I could hardly believe it. It was an incredible experience to be able to finally match each song to a scene, and to understand the lyrics in the context of the story. On top of that, the actors, Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling, were entirely believable in their roles as aspiring actress and musician, respectively.

"Up until the end, you could say that things were going very well, and my movie watching experience was entirely positive. By the time the end credits rolled around, however, I was in tears... and not from joy."

I spent the entire movie excited for the two leads to have their "happily ever after", and as anyone who has seen the movie could tell you, that does not happen. As a fan of the happy ending, I was extremely disappointed. The part that upsets me most about the conclusion of this particular film is that it seems to be a part of a bigger Hollywood trend, in which film and television writers are starting to feel comfortable killing off main characters or breaking up a destined couple. If this is true, then I can proudly say that I will be sticking to watching the classics, because the interpretation of love has apparently changed.

"If you're looking for a heart-warming movie, look elsewhere."

In my eyes, *La La Land* does not make the cut.

Suburban Wilderness

The Story of How a Father and Daughter Mounted a TV

Alicia Katz, Senior
Reporter in the Field

This past Sunday, like most Sunday mornings, my dad and I sat in front of the television. I was flipping through the channels looking for something to watch (I hoped for *Property Brothers*), but soon gave up and relinquished clicker power to my father - a mistake. We began watching *Yukon Men*, a show about civilization and survival in the difficult Canadian wilderness. It is one of the many shows my dad watches about the cold, wilderness, and survival. I don't doubt that he had seen the episode before, and I'm certain he knew how much those shows bother me.

Everytime my dad and I watch these survival shows, we have the same "conversation" (read: argument). It is not a matter of whether we would survive a winter, because we both know that we wouldn't make it. What our argument centers around is how and the why. How would we die? How long would we last? Why would we die? Why would one of us mess everything up? I like to think we would last a full day. My dad thinks we wouldn't last twenty minutes.

On this particular morning, we got into a fight over bagels. I cannot tell you why we fought about bagels, as is the case with most of our arguments, but our argument was nevertheless heated.

I'm a senior. Next year at this time, I could be in a different town, in a different state, maybe a different country. I have limited Sunday mornings left my dad in his house, which means I have a limited amount of time to answer our survival questions. So when my dad asked me to help him with a project, instead of laughing in his face like I usually would, I said yes.

The goal was to take my dad's television off of the glass stand it sat upon and mount it on the wall. We spent five long hours doing this. We screwed and unscrewed countless times. We put the T.V. on the wall. We took the T.V. off the wall. We plugged wires. We unplugged wires. At one point, we ate pizza. The process was not easy. At one point, we thought we had finished only to notice it wasn't horizontal. When we fixed that, then there was a wire that didn't fit. But it is up now (no guarantees that it will stay).

As I write now, I am sitting on the couch with my father, staring at the newly mounted TV in front of us. And what are we watching? Yet another cold wilderness survival show. If I knew which one it was, I'd tell you. The TV. is aligned perfectly. I took out my dad's level and checked twice. I have tightened every screw and secured every latch. After this grueling challenge, I have changed my mind. about our survival chances. We wouldn't only last one day in the wilderness; my guess is, we would last two.

Support the Marblehead Public Schools' PTOs and participate in the collaborative effort by the Rotary Club of Marblehead Harbor, Marblehead Community Charter Public School, Swampscott Unites, Respects, Embraces (SURE), and SPUR to send a 40-foot shipping container of needed goods to Syria via NuDay Syria. Stop by the Marblehead Magic Hat Thrift Shop to support yours and other communities.

The Magic Hat Thrift Shop is open:
Tuesday - Friday: 10-2
Saturday: 9-1

*Closed during the week of February school vacation

Act local, Think global

Support the Marblehead Public Schools
&
Provide Syrian Refugees Much Needed Items!



With your help, during the month of February, we hope to help fill a large shipping container full of clothing, food and personal items to be sent to Syrian refugees via NuDay Syria.

Stop in to Magic Hat before February 24 and purchase a pre-filled bag of items for \$5
Magic Hat will set the bag aside for SPUR to pickup

Your contribution supports both the Marblehead Public Schools' PTOs for Student Enrichment and Syrian Refugees

Double Down on Good Deeds!

To learn more about the collaborative NuDay Syria project please visit the SPUR website
www.spur.community



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