

Headlight



Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community

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January 15, 2015

365 Days to Success

Linda Fitzpatrick, Sophomore Reporter

We're days into the new year, which also happens to mean that this is the prime time for forging New Year's resolutions. You started out strong with the first few days and now you're struggling. Why? Well, as you and many others would argue, you're just too busy. You'd like to finally, after years of making the same resolution, be successful and complete your goals; however, your kids need you, you'd rather watch that TV show, eat that bowl of ice cream, and lay in bed that morning. Sound familiar? I thought so. Don't get me wrong - we all would rather do that stuff! Yet, when it comes to our resolutions, often times we never actually have the motivation to quit those actions and start new ones. We praise the idea of "a new beginning," but find ourselves lacking the mental state to actually spend a year motivated to fight on and ring in the next year with pride.

It's taken me a long time to realize why we all struggle to complete our New Year's resolutions. Here's my theory: they aren't our goals. We make them because everybody else is making the same ones! We follow the tide because we're too afraid to branch out or just don't think we can do it. Here's the thing: last year, I made a goal that was completely different than anything I had wished to complete before and far bigger than anything I could actually accomplish in a year, but I made it with pride. Every day I woke up, I was determined to see it through. And you know what? On December 31st, 2014, at 11:59 I had done it. I did it because I wanted it, not because I was told I needed to do it. That is the difference. That is why I was a success. I got to start the new year knowing that I had accomplished something great in 2014 and that feeling was reward enough for me. It was pure happiness that I could feel pulsing through my veins.

If I could do that in a year, imagine what could happen in this new year? So, for this year, I want you to think outside the box; be creative. Your goals don't have to be big and daunting, just allow them to be what you hope to achieve for yourself. Don't let others dictate your resolutions for you. By choosing goals that reflect exactly what you hope to accomplish in a year, you will see them start to turn into reality. Because, at the end of the year, don't you want to feel ecstatic about the amazing things you let yourself succeed in?

The Interview: A Review

Jacob Keller, Sophomore Reporter

Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg's *The Interview* has become a major news story, garnering much publicity in the past month. A political satire, this film pokes fun at North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. James Franco is Dave Skylark, a host of the popular late night talk show *Skylark Tonight*, and Seth Rogen plays Aaron Rapoport, the show's producer. After finding out that Un was a fan of the show, they attain an interview with him in an attempt to validate themselves as prominent journalists. As Skylark and Rapoport prepare to travel to North Korea, they encounter the CIA, and are recruited to end the dictator's reign of terror.

This film has undeniably received much attention - though not entirely positive. On December 16th, hackers issued a warning to movie-goers, threatening that those attending the movie's premiere would meet a bitter fate. On the 17th, after a number of North American cinema chains cancelled screenings, Sony, the movie's distributor, cancelled the theatrical release. However, it was available online for rental and purchase, and had a limited release in certain cinemas on the 25th.

After watching the film, I concluded that *The Interview* consists of the lowbrow humor akin to a 12 year old boy's. References to body parts, sexual orientation, and race constitute a slew of random jokes thrown at the audience. Although the film has its moments, *The Interview* is not a film worth viewing for all the attention it has received.

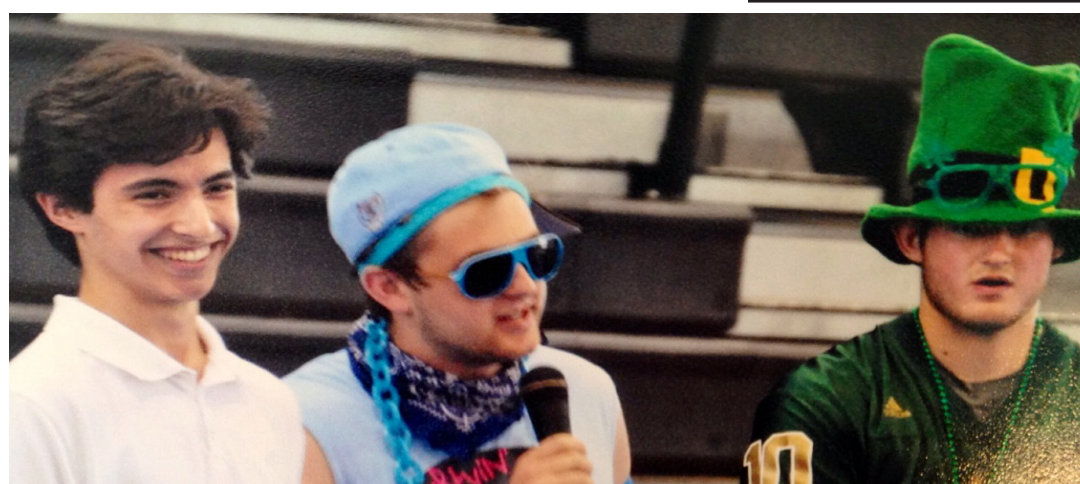
A Review of the 72nd Golden Globes

Meredith Piela, Senior Editor-in-Chief

On Sunday, January 11th, the 72nd annual Golden Globe awards took place, and as a huge awards show fan, I tuned in and found myself absorbed by the events that unfolded. Over the course of three hours, I laughed at the hilarious jokes and comments made by hosts Amy Poehler and Tina Fey, and reacted to what I thought were the surprising wins of the night, such as Gina Rodriguez for her show, *Jane the Virgin* (she managed to beat some of the better actresses such as Julia Louis-Dreyfus), and *The Grand Budapest Hotel* (which somehow beat *Birdman*). Finally, I was very moved by some of the fantastic speeches of the night: Michael Keaton's, in which he mentioned his "kind" best friend who happens to be his son, Amy Adams's about the numerous opportunities for women today, and finally, the speech from the cast of *Transparent*.

Although I love awards shows, such as the Oscars, I love how the Golden Globes are slightly less informal and have different categories, such as a Best Picture winner for both a drama and a musical or comedy, and I love how they include TV shows as well. This year, the only movies and TV shows nominated that I have watched were *The Theory of Everything* (which was incredible, and I HIGHLY recommend watching it) and *Game of Thrones* (while I have only watched the first season, I still find it excellent), so I didn't have much of an opinion of many of the nominees.

It will be interesting to see how the winners of the Oscars compare with those of the Golden Globes, and I can't wait to watch them next month. In the meantime, I will try to watch some of the nominated films. Don't forget - the Grammy awards are also next month, so be sure to look out for my review on that on February 12th. Happy award season!



At left: Peer mentors (l-r) Johnny Carollo, Spencer Craig and Tommy Gabel prepare for Step Up Day, 2014.

Fostering School Spirit

Johnny Carollo, Junior Reporter

We were all there once; walking into a new high school with the uneasy feeling that everyone was watching our every step, and hoping that we would be able to somehow make it to all of our classes on time. The transition to high school can make many students both nervous and excited with anticipation. Will there be more homework? Will I make new friends? Should I join a club or play a sport? Will I fit in? These thoughts are common for 8th graders and transfer students who are embarking on this new journey. Soon they may start wishing that someone could give them tips and advice on how to make it through the first day, week, and even the first year. That is where the Student Peer Mentor Club comes in. Being a part of this group has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had at Marblehead High School. This year I was assigned two students from Marblehead, two

students from Brazil, and one student from China. It has been a wonderful experience watching these new students grow accustomed to the high school, and I have enjoyed getting to know all of them, as well as leaning more about Brazil and China.

The Student-Peer Mentor Program is made up of select sophomores and juniors who are trained in providing support, advice, and direction to incoming freshmen and transfer students to help them adjust to the environment at Marblehead High School. Mrs. Judy Luise is the faculty advisor to the Peer Mentor Group and she brings the mentors together several times a year to conduct a series of training and team building activities. The mentors are trained to become effective communicators and are also trained to help new students prepare for exams such as midterms. At all times, the mentors must demonstrate good character and responsibility.

Every year, new incoming students are paired up with a mentor in the Spring before they are enrolled at the high school. At this time, an exciting community-building event takes place called Step Up Day, when all mentors dress in crazy outfits with loud colors and enjoy games and other activities with their new mentees. There is a great

deal of school spirit and a strong sense of pride at this event. Over the summer, before entering the high school, mentors contact and get together with their assigned mentees to give them tours of the school and get together socially. Throughout the school year, the mentors often connect with their mentees in a number of ways, including having lunch together and attending sporting events.

The Student Peer Mentor Club welcomes incoming freshmen and new students by helping them feel comfortable throughout their first year of high school. The mentors are motivators and teachers who guide their mentees towards discovering what it takes to be successful both academically and socially. The goal of the program is to build friendships, create a positive environment at the school, and foster a solid foundation for student success. The reason the group is so successful is because it brings students of all different backgrounds together and helps build a stronger sense of community at Marblehead High School. The idea of students working towards being helpful and inclusive to all, as well as the idea of consistently displaying good character and morals, is at the forefront of the Student Peer Mentor Club's core values.

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