



## The Freshman Day of Service

Julia Greenway, Freshman Reporter

Last Wednesday, October 24th, members of the Freshman class participated in a Day of Service. The goal of this day was to give back to the community in several different ways. Students from the Freshman class were chosen due to their ability to work well with each other. The first step of the Day of Service was to choose which projects to work on. The projects included cleaning up beaches, making care packages for children in hospitals, and working in the Marblehead Food Pantry. Students selected their top three choices and were put into groups. On the Day of Service, students gathered in the auditorium and went off in their groups with a teacher from MHS and a site leader. Groups then walked around Marblehead towards their site and got to work. Those cleaning up beaches and the bike path found an abundance of bottles and trash on the beaches and worked diligently to clean them up. Another group prepared a garden for winter. Some people helped senior citizens with their technology problems, and others made toys and care packages for sick children. A group went to the Village School to work with the children and help them with their schoolwork.

Every person worked hard to improve their community and persevered through winds and cold temperatures. The help from the students at MHS improved the town and left an impression on the community. Many citizens were helped through the Day of Service. The environment was aided, and now there will be less pollution causing harm to ecosystems on Marblehead's beaches. Additionally, local organizations received help from the freshmen, which lessened their workload. The help from the Day of Service benefited all parts of the community. As a thank you for helping, the Freshman class was rewarded with a pizza lunch when they returned to the high school. As a whole, the Day of Service was a success and helped people throughout the town. Marblehead High School hopes to continue this tradition in the future with other classes. Thank you to the students who participated and put effort into improving their community, the volunteer site organizers, the teachers who worked at the sites, and to the Day of Service faculty committee who reached out to the community and organized this event.



## Thought-Provoking Accounts for the Most Aware Generation

Sophie Hauck, Sophomore Assistant Editor

If only one thing, Generation Z is aware. A product of this generation's connection to technology, Generation Z has unprecedented access to knowledge. This availability results in awareness of cultural differences, scholarly achievement, and global issues. Often this awareness comes with understanding, another product of technological engagement. An informed perception of the world allows Generation Z to visualize diversity, in turn demanding its representation in their own communities. For the most aware generation, here are three internet resources that inspire an even greater understanding of the world.

### Humans of New York Where to find it: Instagram, Facebook

Humans of New York captures portraits and stories from people all over the globe, no longer just those living in New York. Through photographer Brandon Stanton's authentic lens, followers get a glimpse at the lives of ordinary people. Recently Stanton traveled to Rwanda, photographing those who he said, "Took a moral stand during the genocide." While many of his subjects were unknown to the public, Stanton documented figures such as Paul Kagame, president of Rwanda and former commander of the organization that ended the genocide. Humans of New York's reach around the world demonstrates the role of this account in educating followers on hidden issues in an accessible manner.

### Crash Course Where to find it: Youtube

Crash Course is a production company that teaches information normally found in a textbook in a video format. By delivering knowledge in a fast-paced and engaging style, this educational resource excites learning. In fact, the team at Crash Course prides themselves in, "Creating a community of learners who are looking for more than just help passing a test." Videos are anywhere between 10 and 15 minutes each and provide a general understanding of each topic at hand. These topics cover the core subjects at MHS, but they reach even further, discussing philosophy, engineering, and even a course on study skills. All of this is completely free, and supported by teachers across the district. To top it all off, John Green, acclaimed Young Adult author and champion for the power of teens, co-founded this educational resource, making Crash Course the perfect place for teens to pursue greater knowledge of the world they live in.

### The New York Times' The Edit Where to find it: Your email

This newsletter is both created by and intended for college students. Despite this, The Edit relates to all youth and the struggles they encounter while growing up. Some of the newsletter's most noteworthy pieces revolve around universal concepts but feature specific details that differ from those of most teens. These stories may diverge from the common narrative of Generation Z, but their universal truths fulfill the expectations of this generation. Today's youth want to hear about experiences different from their own, and The Edit is the perfect source for this exploration.

## Application Season

Kristy Twaalfhoven, Senior Reporter

It's fall of my senior year. The pressure is on. As the Early Action and Early Decision college application deadlines approach, the stress levels of the senior class are skyrocketing. Adults warned me the college process would be stressful, but I never could have imagined the overwhelming tension in the air. Fortunately, no senior is alone. Everybody feels some anxiety and some level of unpreparedness. Charting our futures is no simple task. My older siblings have helped me to deal with the emotional toll of applying to college, which allowed me to gain some perspective. I have combined their advice with my own to share.

First, remember mobility. You are never static. Change is key to growth. So, if you are nervous about regretting your choice, keep in mind that there is no rule against change. Transferring schools is much more common than it is made out to be. Sure, a transfer is not a super simple process. But it allows you to change your mind, which is totally okay! Find yourself unhappy or uncomfortable in the school you chose? You can leave, and you can celebrate the decision as a learning experience. Every mistake is a chance to learn more about yourself, where you are comfortable, and what you are looking for in life. No one decision is binding for life.

Second, view yourself as a puzzle. In the application process, you are combining different aspects of your life - activities, test scores, essays, interviews - into one ensemble that showcases who you are. Be true to yourself, so that the pieces fit together in a way that accurately represents you. A college admissions panel will recognize when something doesn't fit right. For example, maybe you quit your favorite extracurricular activity this year and replaced it with an activity that you think will help you get into college, but that you don't feel passionate about. This lack of consistency is going to show, and this piece won't fit into the big picture of your life. Be true to yourself and be consistent to create the best puzzle.

Third, listen to your heart. This is cheesy, but it's true. During the application process, you have a million people telling you where to go, what to do, and who to be. But in the end, YOU are the one that knows yourself best. Let parents, advisors, teachers, and peers be a positive influence on your actions, but hold your personal gut instinct as the superior influence. Don't confuse the ideas of others with the dreams of your heart. Passion is a strong force, and will help you to chart the future. Passion comes from within, not outside.

Alongside listening to your heart, be confident in your values. For example, if you value spending time outdoors, then allow weather to be a key factor in your college search. It may not be as important to others, but if it's important to you, it matters! Put yourself in an environment in which you can be the best version of yourself; position yourself for success.

Lastly, don't take it personally. The competitive environment of applying is toxic. And, in many ways, admissions is a game of luck. The number of qualified people that apply to each school is far greater than the number that can be admitted. Thus, thousands of perfect candidates are rejected from schools each year. You can't take it personally, or let it affect your self esteem. The only thing in your control is the ability to put the best version of yourself on the line. Then, you wait. Wherever you end up, you will be presented with opportunities to succeed, you will meet amazing new people, and you will grow.

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