

# Students compete in SBTI semis

by Liat Rubin

Sports Editor

On Feb. 8, twenty teens from all over the South Bay competed for a spot in the South Bay Teen Idol Finals that will take place in late March. The amount of talent displayed at the competition amazed audience members and showed the capability and talent of local teens.



Courtesy T. Leper

TAKING THE STAGE: Senior **Gabi Trapani** performs at the SBTI semi-finals.

The show contained four group numbers, each consisting of five performers from a wide array of high schools and backgrounds. The group performances included favorites from the 50's and 60's, including December, 1963 (Oh, What a Night) by Frank Valli and the Four Seasons, Leader of the Pack by The Shangri-las, You Can't Hurry Love by The Supremes, and My Boyfriend's Back by The Angels.

The performances ranged from upbeat and entertaining like Sylvandale Junior High eighth-grader Michael Mulea's I Can't Help Myself (Sugar Pie Honey Bunch) by the Four

Tops to moving showstoppers like Summit San Jose Tahoma High School sophomore Gabriela Sepulveda's Who's Lovin' You by Smokey Robinson. Due to the competition requirement that songs be classics, there were many other very popular songs among the performers as was shown in Santa Cruz High School senior Isabelle Beckmann's performance of At Last by Etta James and Mitty Junior Edd Hackett's My Girl by The Temptations.

LGHS was well-represented at the semi-finals with four of our fellow students performing. Senior **Gabi Trapani** was the first of the LGHS competitors to perform and closed the first half of the show with a killer rendition of Piece of My Heart by Big Brother and the Holding Company. Following the intermission, freshman **Ava Toren** charmed the audience with her version of Proud Mary by Creedence Clearwater Revival. LGHS continued to shine with senior **Catherine Mosher's** unique rendition of House of Rising Sun by The Animals. Lastly, freshman **Sarah Aldering** showed her prowess with The Way You Look Tonight by Frank Sinatra. All of these amazing acts made LGHS proud and excelled alongside the many other talented teens.

The results of the semi-finals were announced on Feb. 10 and ten singers moved on to the finals. LGHS Trapani and Mosher, as well as students from Mitty High School, Santa Cruz High School, Pioneer High School are among the finalists. Be sure to attend the finals on Mar. 22 at the APJCC to cheer on your fellow Wildcats and to have an amazing experience watching talented Bay Area teens.

To see the complete list of finalists as well as information for ticket purchases, visit [www.svjcc.org/southbayteenidol](http://www.svjcc.org/southbayteenidol) or scan the following barcode with your mobile device.



# Daughters have fun with parents

by Haley Wade & Michelle Huang

Editor-in-Chief & Web Editor

On Feb. 1, a spectacular scene gathered on the steps before the large gym at LGHS. Father-daughter duos dressed up in a wide variety of costumes to fit the "Under the Sea" theme created a crowd of Hawaiian dancers, lobsters, sailors, pirates, and much more. Such a display only arises once a year at LGHS, at the cheerleader funded Father Daughter Dance.



MAKING A SPLASH: The dance's theme was "Under the Sea", with tropical decor.

Each year, the cheer team decorates the Large Gym in preparation for their excited guests. The success of any large party lies in the amount of food present, so the chocolate fondue tent by the edge of the dance floor was frequently occupied by hungry sea creatures. Another classically popular corner was the picture booth, where funky hats and outlandish adornments were provided to decorate big groups taking pictures to memorialize the night.

Limbo bars were brought out for the limbo competition and dads and daughters lined up to attempt to backbend their way to victory. After the bar was lowered again and again (and most of the dads had been disqualified), senior **Gabi Trapani** took home the award for lowest limbo-er.

Halfway through the night, all participants retired to the bleachers—all, that is, except for a select handful of dads who remained on the dance floor. These brave souls were promptly handed hula hoops and told to keep the hoops spinning as long as possible. Some dads were garishly bad at hula hooping, but some dads were only moderately untalented. All in all, it was a hilarious sight and the onlookers could not help but double over in laughter. Later, their daughters participated in a follow up hula-hoop contest, with senior **Heather Matley** ultimately winning.

The dance ended with Journey's timeless Don't Stop Believing, and the father daughter duos went home with smiles, balloons, and great memories of the night.



H. Wade

HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?: Fathers and daughters participate in a limbo line.

by Maddie Abene

Editorial Editor

On the rainy morning of Sunday, Feb 9, Los Gatos mothers and daughters gathered together in the Community Room for fine dining and fun activities at the second annual Mother Daughter Brunch. This elegant event served as a great opportunity for mothers and daughters to bond while simultaneously benefiting the Senior Class.

Run by Senior Vice President **Hannah Chen** and Senior Class President **James Detweiler**, the Mother Daughter Brunch featured a catered brunch buffet from Opa Greek Cuisine, live entertainment from the students of LGHS, fun trivia games, a photo booth, and a chance to win prizes in a raffle.

Upon their arrival, mothers and daughters were given two raffle tickets per couple. After grabbing a cup of coffee or tea, mothers and daughters were asked to take a seat at a table of their choice. Chen then chose mother daughter pairs to participate in a game of "How Well Do You Know Your Mother/Daughter?" in which both mothers and daughters were given whiteboards and markers to write down their partner's favorite food, TV show, band, animal, etc. The pair with the most correct answers won two packages of Ghirardelli chocolates.

Next, four daughters were chosen to compete against their mothers in a battle of the generations: mothers would have to guess the correct answer to the millennial pop culture trivia and vice versa with the daughters playing trivia relating to their mother's generation. Mothers dominated in this challenge due to their constant exposure to this generation's pop culture, having an obvious advantage over the daughters who had to think long and hard about who in the world "Ziggy Stardust" was.

The cuisine consisted of a plethora of breakfast and lunch food from Opa, ranging from pancakes and fruit salad to pita bread and orzo salad. Delicious desserts such as brownies, bundt cakes, and cookies were provided. In addition to the amazing food, the decorations at the brunch were also exceptional. Tiffany blue floral center pieces from Bunches could be bought for 50 dollars at the conclusion of the brunch.

LGHS students **Gabi Trapani**, **Lauren Shusterman**, **Maggie Niemann**, **Olivia Mannina**, **Liat Rubin**, and **Aidan Adams Campeau**, all put on touching performances at the mother daughter brunch. Trapani sang Best Day by Taylor Swift, accompanied by her car and dedicated to her mother. Shusterman did a splendid rendition of Somewhere Only We Know by Keane. Niemann and Mannina's duo performance of For Good from the play Wicked sparked emotions of love and friendship between the mothers and daughters. Rubin sang a sultry version of Feeling Good by Michael Bublé. And last but not least, Adams-Campeau had all the women in the room swooning over his exceptional guitar playing and singing of Winding Wheel by Ryan Adams.

The Mother Daughter Brunch is definitely becoming an important tradition at LGHS, cherishing and recognizing the special bond between mothers and daughters.

# Club day was a success

by Sarah Bainbridge

Culture Editor

The LGHS Spring Semester Club Day took place on Feb. 12 during lunch on the front lawn. This well-known event featured decorated tables, bowls of candy, colorful flyers, and school clubs that provide an outlet for many different interests. Many of these clubs are student-run such as the Body Positive Club, while others are local chapters of national organizations such as Save Our Shores, a beach and creek cleanup group.



S. Bainbridge

REACHING OUT: Language Outreach Club works to help foreign students improve their communication skills.

While most clubs at LGHS have some amount of community service, some clubs focus more on "fun" things like the Cosplay Club. Others are primarily focused on service such as the Language Outreach Club run by senior **Sabera Talukder**, a club which corresponds with youth in Bangladesh in an effort to improve their English and communication skills. Other service clubs include the Gold Ribbon Club, which helps organize events like St. Baldrick's Day in support of childhood cancer research. LGHS recommends that students have at least 100 hours of community service by the time they graduate, and the service clubs give students an easy opportunity to complete these hours while still having fun with their peers.

Other clubs focus on living a healthy and active lifestyle such as the Pilates, Sports Nutrition, and the Healthy Living clubs. These clubs still participate in service but are more interested in helping the students of LGHS live better and more productive lives.

There is a plethora of clubs at LGHS, and with Spring Club Day, students are bound to find something that suits their interests and provides an extra activity to take their mind off of school work for a moment.



S. Bainbridge

HELPING OTHERS: Gold Ribbon Club helps create fun events to raise money to combat childhood cancer.

# Mr. Burns gives talks

by Montana Fowler

Center Editor

On Feb. 8, LGHS AP physics teacher **Dan Burns** gave a presentation on fusion modeling at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, LLNL, for "Science on Saturdays." "Science on Saturdays" is a series of free lectures and demonstrations for students in the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, CA.

Burns gave his lecture with scientist Frederico Fiuza. The lecture explained the basic fusion process and highlighted the possibility of using fusion energy in the future when other energy sources, like fossil sources, are no longer available. The efficiency of fusion fuel makes the source look promising as one pound of fusion fuel produces the equivalent amount of energy as 3.5 million pounds of coal or 5,000 barrels of oil. Fiuza stated, "[Its energy potential] is our motivation to understand what is going on inside the stars and to reproduce it here on Earth." The presentation also had a central focus on the use of supercomputers in the LLNL for the purpose of research in fusion. To demonstrate the difficulty in concentrating the matter for the process of fusion, they brought out a large weather balloon and had student volunteers try to squeeze it down, but they popped the balloon.

Burns has been participating in Science on Saturdays for approximately ten years. He got involved with the program after he met the head of Science on Saturdays while organizing a meeting for physics teachers in the LLNL. In Science on Saturdays a teacher is paired with a LLNL scientist and gets a tour of their laboratory facilities. "My services are needed," commented Burns. "If the scientists gave the presentation by themselves, the audience would not be able to understand the concepts as well. My job is to explain the concepts."

This presentation was Burns' third on the topic of fusion. Two years ago, he gave a presentation on a gamma ray spectrometer around mercury. The video on of this lecture on UCTV has reached about 700,000 views.

Burns enjoys participating on Science on Saturdays, because of the experience in working with the scientists. "I like touring their laboratories and learning from them," he stated. The Science on Saturdays lectures have ended this year, but you can look forward to the 2015 series next winter, and access videos in the QR codes.

