

# The Captain's Log (November 2024)



## De Anza Planetarium

The school took a trip to the DeAnza Planetarium on September 27th to see a show on the creation of atoms. The trip was organized by Parent Partners. Students got to learn about both how the universe and its most basic components came into existence, and how the more complicated atoms and molecules were first created.



Photos courtesy of Ms. Ballard



## Fall Intersession

The school had our fall intersession from Oct. 15 to Oct. 18. The theme was jobs and employment, and the school visited the South San Francisco Samtrans Lot, LinkedIn headquarters, a job training school in San Jose, as well as having multiple members of the Compass community come in and speak about their careers. The school learned about the qualifications needed for many of these jobs, and what kind of pathways you can take to achieve your goals, as well as working on figuring out what we might want to do with our future careers. Multiple students learned about careers they might be interested in and it was a generally very educational experience.

## Cat Beliefs By Kseniya

Mango is a female calico (did you know About 1 in 3000 calicos are born male?) and her favorite activity is chasing my feet! Mango loves making a run for the door! She has a wonderful talent for disappearing in thin air, and she follows you around like a puppy. Calicos are also considered good luck in many cultures, popularly in Japan. They would often bring calico cats with them on sailor's ships to bring good luck.

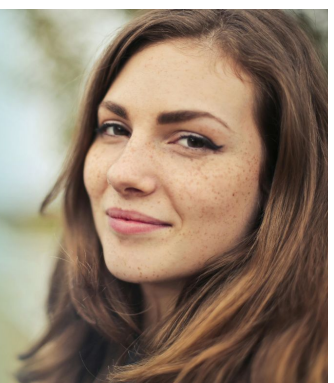
Why are black cats considered bad luck? Black cats are often associated as a witch's familiar (a being that helps witches practice Magic) or a witch that has taken a form of a cat, and so seeing a cat is bad luck as you may get cursed.

"Unlike the myths surrounding black cats, ginger cats have come to symbolise prosperity, happiness, and overall good luck throughout the ages! In Ancient Egypt, ginger cats' orange colour was believed to bring good luck and be associated with the sun, which could bring vitality and good fortune." by perfect cat insurance. This is Finn (I call him Finnigan), and his owner is also a redhead, funny (I think not). Finn is the sweetest boy.



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# The Captain's Log



## Northern Lights Spotted over the Bay Area

On Thursday, October 11th, a geomagnetic storm caused the northern lights to appear around the world. In the United States, this astral phenomenon was seen as far south as northern Alabama. Due to light pollution across the United States, in more populous areas the best way to view the lights is through a camera. If they come back, you can see them by taking a picture with your phone. Turn down the aperture speed or use night mode to get the best results. Please note this image has been edited for clarity.



## The 2025 GMC Hummer EV is a Giant Pickup, Without the Fill-Ups

The 2025 Hummer EV, an all electric offering from GMC, is available in both an SUV and pickup truck styles. Boasting 303-314 miles of range, the Hummer is comfortable, stylish, and trail ready. Featuring optional SuperCruise and 360 degree cameras, the Hummer EV is just as practical as a family hauler as it is an off-roader. When offroad, the optional rear wheel steering and adjustable ride height ensure the ability to get out of even the tightest spots. Interior wise, the Hummer EV features a cloth and leather interior, complete with bronze accents. The speaker grills and gauge cluster are designed around topographical maps of the moon, a nod to Apollo-15 inspired design. This large skill set comes at quite the price however. Starting at \$99,000 and going up to \$107,000, the Hummer EV is not a cheap mode of transportation.

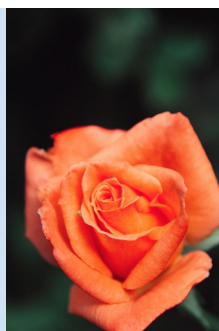


## PUZZLE Corner

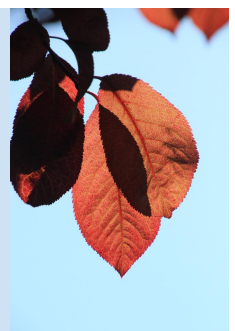
What comes to mind when you think?  
What has legs but cannot move itself?  
What type of tower isn't a building?  
What has an ear but cannot hear?  
What gets wetter the more that it dries?  
What only lives for 24 hours – nothing more, nothing less?



*Tom's  
Creative  
Photography ~*



*Capture  
your special  
day in a  
special way!  
~*





# The Captain's Log



## Meet Ms. Sayeh

Meet Ms. Sayeh!! Sayeh is the counselor for the students at Compass. When asked how she would describe her job, she said she was “helping the students with their social emotional needs.” Sayeh has a deep care for both the students and teachers at Compass. She stated her favorite part of her job is getting to know all the people in the school. However, it can’t all be unicorns and kittens. Sayeh’s least favorite part of her job is having to order her food in advance at the cafeteria. She says it “really annoys me.” The most important skills for her job are empathy and patience. She is very good at staying calm and keeping on in the face of adversity. Finally, some fun facts! When Sayeh was in college she swam division one. She is also fluent in Farsi. Sayeh is always waiting with a smile for any kid who needs support. So, if you feel down, go check in with her.



## Spring Intersession

Spring Intersession this year is... (drumroll please!)

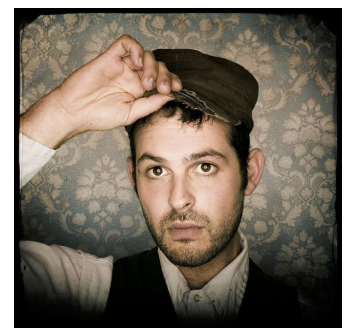
Waikiki, Hawaii!

Waikiki is a district of Hawaii’s capital city, Honolulu, located on the Hawaiian island of Oahu. Hawaii offers rich cultural and historical immersion, as well as sandy beaches and picturesque mountain ranges.



## Artist Spotlight: Gregory Alan Isakov

Born in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1979, Gregory Alan Isakov is a powerhouse of folk music. Since 2004, he has released seven albums, and has amassed 7.6 million monthly listeners on Spotify. When he is not touring, he runs Starling Farm in Boulder, Colorado.



# The Captain's Log



## The Commodore Amiga Line

There has been a revolution made in an industry that is slowly taking the level of home computers. This is true, there is indeed a new competitor in the computer marketing industry. Well, to be more specific, the home computer industry. A line of computers made for the money user that breaks all other records set by the other computers available. This machine is the Commodore Amiga line.

The Commodore Amiga, a line doing more than evolving the computer, is out with three of these more advanced machines that were produced, we have the most impressive group, the A1000, the A500, and the A2000. These computers must be covered in detail just so that you can understand the greatness of these machines. The Amiga 1000 is the first released machine, and two years later our new models, the Amiga 500, to start is a more affordable and evolved and mainly, convenient computer than the 1000.

A 500, the lower end newer model, sold at a much reduced price of about \$700 USD, or 499 British pounds. The Amiga 500 is uniform and is in a smaller case that includes the keyboard in one with the computer, and built in disk drive on the side. The 500 also has double the RAM stock and expanded of the 1000, and also has a better version of the Agnus chip (called "Fat Agnus"), allowing better graphics and also DMS, allowing for faster response and transfer of data.

The A2000 was the higher end alternative for the A500, with easier expansion slots, increased capabilities and in the larger 1000 design. It sold for \$1500 to \$2000 depending on the selected configuration. The A1000, the original Amiga computer, retailed for about \$1500 on average.

The A100 was indeed a decade ahead of its time, with many things that other machines just don't have. The Amiga, has a GUI, meaning that the interactions with directories and data is visual, unlike many others, like the earlier machines and other top end computers, such as the Tandy 1000 TRS and Atari machines. The Amiga has a stock of 256,000 bytes of RAM, and could be expanded via the front compartment to 512,000 bytes. The other models could have extra expansions too. The A100 could also have 1 MB added with expansions, and the 500 & 2000 could have up to 8MB of extra RAM. The Amiga also has a larger color palette than other computers, offering 4096 colors, predecessors with half the bytes could only manage 16 colors.

The Amiga line was one of the new computers that used 16-bit technology, which means that the bytes go from 255 total characters, to over 65,535 characters. The Amiga line included the new peripheral, known as the mouse, which has two buttons, unlike mice made by Apple with only one button.

The Amiga line also has a speedy processor, and this is known as the Motorola 68000. This processor is much better than the previously used MOS-6502, which was used in many computers at the time. The MOS-6502 ran 1-3 MHz, however the 68000 could run much faster. In the Amiga the chip cannot be ran at full speed, however it is ran fast, at an impressive 7½ MHz (other PAL and NTSC variables can vary speed). The Amiga also has a real-time clock for better control of the processor clocking.

The later Amiga models could be upgraded with the faster 60030, or 68040. The MOS-6502 has, hence the name, about 6500 transistors, the 68000 has 68000 transistors. The later 500 and 2000 could have the other CPUs installed, bringing them to an astonishing 33.5 MHz, or even 41.5 MHz (speeds will vary due to interface). The faster processor could also make the Amiga move and draw windows nearly instantly.

More about the processor, the Amiga has real full-time multitasking, so yes, a more intensive processor was needed to to run two or more things at once. The Amiga does it flawlessly, even so that the processor can crash and the video and audio can hold. The Amiga also has a higher resolution and refresh rate over many other computers.

This aims to teach the reader the basics of why the Amiga is so head of it's time, and also what makes it special.

Fun fact, the Amiga also has many ports, like the LR audio, 8 bit audio, mono RCA, composite video display, parallel port, serial port, two joystick ports, and also an external disk drive port. Yes, you can have up to five of them. The Amiga could have some future 32 bit compatibility, and even current IBM support, with some fast RAM expansions allowing for another CPU to be installed. One last thing, the Amiga uses more dense 820,000 byte disks, and also can address up to 2,000,000 bytes of hard disk data. Even though those kinds of hard disks are not publically available.

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Games

Would You Rather?

## Would You Rather?

Eat 10 tarantulas	Stay in a room with 1000 tarantulas for 10 minutes
Be rich and hated	Be poor and loved
Be known for something bad	Not acknowledged for something amazing
Die rich but early	Die late and healthy but poor
Get 250,000mk now	Get 500mk every day until you have 300,000mk
Own a famous store in the middle of the desert	Own a store in town but it's average
Always be able to tell a lie	Always tell the truth but you can see through all lies
Gain all knowledge from a book once a week	Gain 1 month of workouts in a week with a certain fitness device
Have a body but not mind	Have a mind but you can't do anything
Be able to understand others perfectly but they cant understand you	Everyone understands you but you cant understand others



# The Captain's Log



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Student  
Submissions

Art



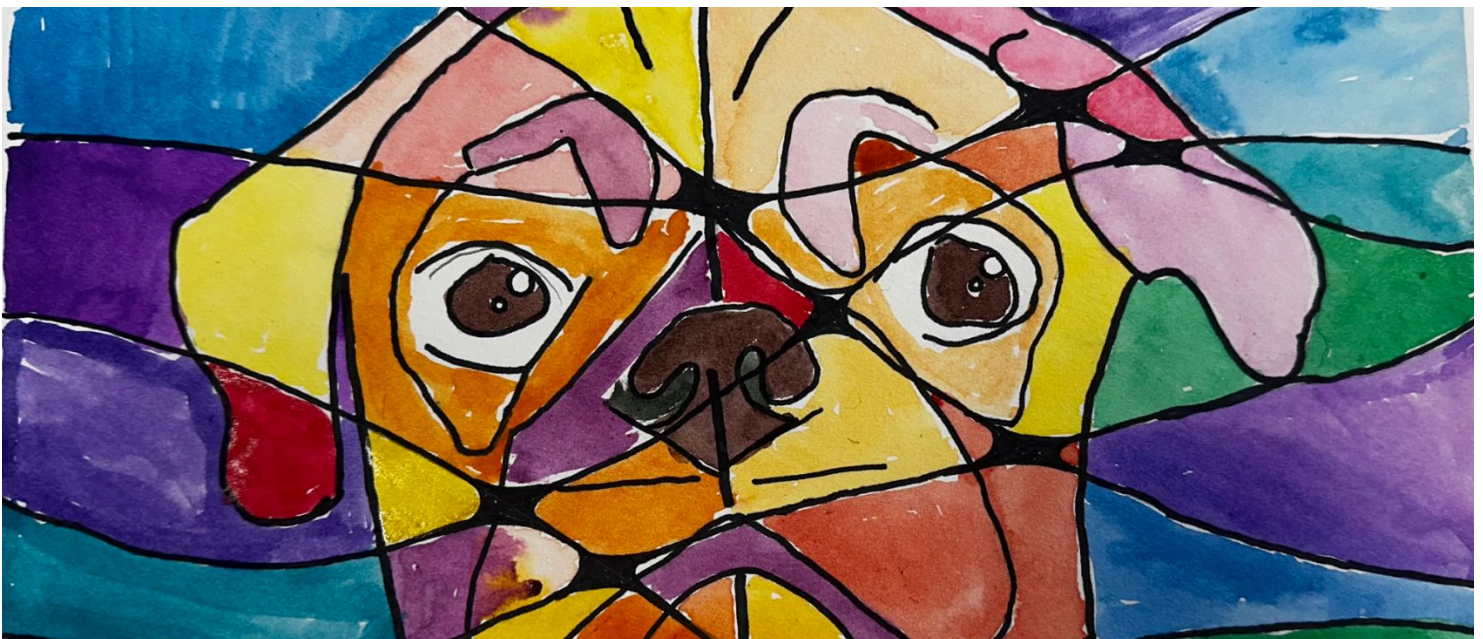
**Odelle Linton**  
**"Picasso Portrait"**



**Bebe Wiggs**  
**"Picasso Portrait"**



**Toby Tachner**  
**"Optical Illusion Hand"**



**Maddie Saviz** "Abstract Pet Portrait"