



Raven Art by featured artist
Lainey Kral

CCA Newsletter

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The Start of a New Year

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Welcome back, Ravens!

The 08-09 school year is into its second month and going strong! We had a wonderful, smooth school opening, with a great turn out during Raven Readiness days.

As we start our 5th year in operation, it's important to look back to our beginnings. CCA's first graduating class left on a high note that will not soon be forgotten. They helped us achieve our 08-09 API score of 843, our AP exam pass rate of 86% - one of the highest in our district! - and set the bar for last year's sophomores, 98% of whom passed the CA High School Exit exam on their first try. Go Ravens, go! 96% of our graduates from last year were off to Institutions of higher education. We've already had visits from them as they stop by to say goodbye to their past before heading off to exciting new phases of their lives, ready and equipped for what may come.

CCA is also looking towards our own future and the excitement and challenges that may come. We emerged from last year's WASC process with a 6-year



CCA Class of 2008.

Photo credit: Student, Amy Brueck

accreditation status, a prestigious honor but also a commitment to uphold the strong beginning we've had and to ensure that every student entering through our gates has a successful high school experience that prepares them for life beyond high school.

To put that commitment into action, we've already started the year with an action-oriented ap-

proach: we've launched our new CCA website, one that we hope will be more effective and user friendly to communicate with our parents and students; we've begun this newsletter, which will be published 5 times this year; we've already used our first late start days for collaborative staff time to address key issues that we want to fine-tune and build on during the year; and we'll be starting a study skills workshop on Saturdays that will serve as a resource for students to learn how to be more effective at the business of being a student - a key resource on our fast paced 4x4 schedule!

We're excited about the year, our second graduating class, the possibilities that lie within our new freshmen on campus as they explore high school, and new members of our Raven staff that will help us maintain the high levels of success that we've become known for.

Go Ravens!

Welcome New Staff

Welcome new teachers! CCA is excited to welcome these new Ravens into our community! These new teachers are a fantastic addition to our team:

- Dale Carter, Art
- Angela Ciufo, Special Education
- Lynn Cusey, Fashion Design
- Bryn Faris, Spanish
- Doug Gilbert, Social Science
- Christine Gilman, Science

- Kathleen Johnson, French
- Tanner Kortman, English
- Laura Krogh, Spanish
- Julie Kulm, Science
- Jessica Matthes, Art
- Rachel MacManus, Science
- Mark Raines, Video/Film
- Kaveh Shakeri, Science
- Christopher Smith, Social Science
- Stephen Yip, Science
- Erin Zoumares, Music



Raven Art by Eric Breault

Getting to know an AP



Assistant Principal,
Ms. Barbara Stroud

I am proud to say that this is my second year at Canyon Crest Academy, my 10th in the district. Because it has been such a positive experience. I feel fortunate to work with a community of staff, parents and students who strive toward excellence and creating a nurturing and intellectually engaging environment.

My job responsibilities include the counseling department, evaluation of teachers, Readiness Days, and discipline. I work with students whose last names begin with A-L. I eagerly look for teachable moments each day that provide opportunities for me to counsel students about their academic and personal lives.

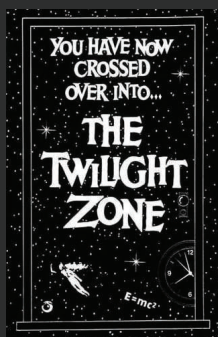
I am proud of the dedicated staff members I work with to support students. Our goal is to provide our students with personalized academic, individual and career counseling services.

When I'm not working, I enjoy spending my time reading, going to movies, traveling, listening to music and spending time with friends and family. I'm looking forward to another great year of exemplary performance in academics, athletics and the arts.

Ms. Barbara Stroud, Assistant Principal

"Teenagers...are immersed in a search for understanding, answers, and solutions."

- Mr. Brian Köhn



The Twilight Zone Homecoming dance is October 10th at the Del Mar Marriot

Principal's Corner

Last week I was invited to do a 'press conference' for Pulse Magazine. I was looking forward to the experience as I enjoy any opportunity to discuss challenging issues with CCA students. The students didn't disappoint; they asked questions on the state economy, leadership challenges, campus culture, & what I was like in high school.

The conversation reminded me that these students are struggling to answer

questions we all face. Sometimes it is easy to forget about this common experience since teenagers can be very skilled at hiding their thoughts.

They often share thoughts in a carefully measured manner, while simultaneously trying to decode the language of adults. Whether it is relationships, politics, career, school, religious or philosophical beliefs, they are immersed in a search for understanding, answers, and

solutions.

These smart and determined students understand why their education will make a difference to them individually and to their community. They understand that great work and big answers are a result of teamwork. Their readiness to fulfill their responsibilities to the CCA team left me with an inspired sense of personal responsibility to fulfill mine.

Mr. Brian Köhn, Principal

ASB Activities What's Happening around campus

CCA's 1st annual Homecoming Dance is at the Del Mar Marriot October 10th (7-11pm). Get ready for an eerily themed "Twilight Zone" evening! Dress is casual. Wear neon green, silver, purple, black, and white colors.

The Student Store is a great tool for students and staff alike. We are your one stop for school supplies, spirit wear, and a sweet lunchtime snack. Open everyday at lunch. Raven Idol

is the week of November 3-7! Have a talented singer in your family? Encourage them to compete! Senior Council meets every Tuesday in the ASB room. Seniors are welcomed to voice their opinions about graduation and senior week!

Wear **red** and **black** every Friday! Who knows, maybe YOUR 2nd period class will be visited by the Spirit Patrol. Spirit Week is

October 7-10.

The highly anticipated second CCA pep rally will be on October 10!



ASB students Becca Golden (left) and Chrissy Gaglione (right) help direct parents on Back to School Night

Counseling News

The Counseling Department looks forward to another successful year providing academic, personal, college and career counseling to all CCA students. This year we will be delivering nearly all of our web content, including important timelines and grade-level specific instructions via [Naviance](#), a comprehensive program that allows students and families to remain informed as they navigate the high school process. If you do not have a Naviance account, sign up **as soon as possible** by following the steps in this [tutorial](#). Be sure to provide a valid e-mail address, or you will not receive important information from the Counseling Department. Each week you should receive the Counseling, College and Career Center Newsletter with important information and upcoming events. For assistance with Naviance, contact Darlene.Burton@sduhsd.net.

08-09 Counselor Assignments

Ashley Bahner Student Last Names A - Fa

Melissa Sage Student Last Names Li - Ri

Allyson Dexter Student Last Names Fe - Le

Rik Napora Student Last Names Ro - Z

Senior News

12th Grade Seminars and Parent Nights were held on 9/10 and 9/11. If you were unable to attend or would like to review the presentations, visit the [CCA Counseling website](#).

UC/CSU Presentations - Representatives from CSU and UC will be presenting [application workshops](#) on Wed. 10/15 in the Proscenium Theater, we encourage all students who plan to apply to attend. The presentation for UC starts at 8:15 a.m. and CSU starts at 10:15 a.m.

College Representative Visits - A complete list of scheduled college visits is available in Naviance in the left-hand column under *Visit Schedule* below the *College Links* heading. Students can sign up by printing out College Visit passes in Naviance for parent and teacher signatures. Parents are welcome to attend.

Letters of Recommendation - If you need a letter of recommendation, fill out the FERPA agreement and the Brag Packet, both of which can be accessed through Naviance. **The last day to request a letter is 11/15/08. Counselors and teachers require a 3 week notice from students requesting a letter of recommendation.**

Winter Athletic Packets

Winter Sports get under way on Saturday November 15th. **The deadline for Winter Athletic Packet Submission is Wednesday November 12th, 2008.** Clearance cards will be available for pick up on Friday November 14th, 2008. Winter clearance cards need to be picked up before school, during lunch or after school until 4pm at the **athletic office located in the Administration Building**. All athletic packets must contain a completed physical form, a copy of family health insurance card, and most recent report card (10/28) along with all other documents.

If you already have a packet on file for the 2008-2009 school year, you must bring in a copy of your most recent report card (10/28) to receive a clearance card.

****No late athletic packets will be accepted, please plan ahead.**

All CCA winter sport tryout information will be placed on the CCA athletics website on November 1st. Please look on the website for the following information; tryout times, dates, location and coaches contact information.

The following are considered winter sports: Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Water Polo and Wrestling



Blake Reynolds -12th grade vs. Santa Fe Christian

College & Career Center

CCA is pleased to welcome Darlene Burton back as College & Career Center Coordinator. Her office is located in the Counseling building and she is available to assist students daily from 11:15 am to 3:15 pm. She may be reached by phone at extension 4036 or via email at: Darlene.Burton@sduhsd.net.

The [College & Career Center](#) is a great place to research careers and colleges, to receive assistance with filling out college applications and meet with college representatives.

Need assistance with Naviance or [Choices](#), college or career searches? Students may visit the College & Career Center at lunch, after school, during a free period or they may schedule an appointment with Mrs. Burton.

Canyon Crest Academy Upcoming Events

October Events

9/29:	9/30:	10/1:	10/2:	10/3: Progress Reports to be mailed, date tentative	10/4: Off campus SAT testing
10/6: School closed for Staff Development	10/7: Autumn Leaves Jazz Series part 1 at 7:00 pm	10/8:	10/9:	10/10: Homecoming pep rally and dance	10/11:
10/13: Site Council at 3:30 Junior Seminar and Parent Night at 6:30 pm	10/14: Junior Seminar and Parent Night at 6:30 pm	10/15: PSAT testing	10/16:	10/17: Comedy Sportz	10/18:
10/20:	10/21:	10/22: Late start	10/23:	10/24: Envision Senior "Opposites" Show, E St. Cafe	10/25: Off campus ACT testing
10/27:	10/28: First quarter ends	10/29: Late start	10/30:	10/31:	11/1: Off campus SAT testing

November Events

11/3: Site Council at 3:30 pm	11/4: CAHSEE makeup testing	11/5:	11/6: Report Cards to be mailed, date tentative	11/7: Envision Production of South Pacific	11/8: Envision Production of South Pacific
11/10: School Closed for Veterans Day	11/11: School Closed for Veterans Day	11/12: Late start	11/13:	11/14:	11/15: Off campus PLAN testing Winter Sports Begin
11/17: Vocal Music Conservatory Recitals at 7:00 pm	11/18: Vocal Music Conservatory Recitals at 7:00 pm	11/19: Late start Autumn Leaves Jazz Series part 2 at 7:00 pm	11/20: Vocal Music Conservatory Recitals at 7:00 pm	11/21:	11/22:
11/24: School Closed for Thanksgiving Break	11/25:	11/26:	11/27: 	11/28:	11/29:
12/1:	12/2:	12/3: Instrumental Music Conservatory Fall Recital at 7:00 pm	12/4: Envision Production of Romeo and Juliet	12/5: Envision Production of Romeo and Juliet	12/6: Envision Production of Romeo and Juliet Off campus SAT testing

Raven Art by Jeff Lebeau

CCA recognizes its own...

...student who won a \$36,000 scholarship for community service!



Senior, Ronit Abramson
Photo credit: Keane Studios

Canyon Crest Academy would like to congratulate senior Ronit Abramson, one of five California winners of the Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards, which award teenagers this scholarship towards their education for upholding the spirit of this award. "Tikkun olam" is the Jewish concept of "repair of the world" and this scholarship rewards students for their efforts at changing and repairing our world; through their community service, leadership, and commitment to a better world.

Ronit was nominated by one of CCA's teachers for her work on global climate change issues with the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair as well as the CCA Inquiry Club. Ronit also studies polar bears and their environment through the Polar Bears International Leadership Camp. Ronit would like to thank her biology teacher, Ms. Slijk, for her time and support of Ronit's projects.

This prestigious award, sponsored through the Helen Diller Family Foundation, a component of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund, encourages students to be the leaders of change, to be involved in their communities and to realize their ability to positively impact the world around us.

For more information about the award and Ronit's project, please visit:
<http://www.sfjcf.org/diller/teenawards/default.asp>