

teenvoices

"We're smarter than you think..."

submissions

Editor's Picks



Shoot Like a Girl: My Journey to Being the Only Girl on the Boys Varsity Basketball Team

Lilly V.

Normally when kids grow up they want to become famous, a celebrity, or someone for others to look up to. I was different than most kids. Growing up playing basketball I've always wanted bigger competition because I am a very competitive person. Never in a million years would I think that I would be a starter on the boys high school varsity team.



50 Years of Progress, One Day at a Time

Bean C.

I don't know if there's anything I want to take with me from high-school. Perhaps the ability to brush off hurtful comments and cruel assumptions. As a teenager who is just trying figure out myself and life, some days that seems easy and others it is downright agonizing.



Is Winning The Lottery A Death Sentence?

Daniel S.

Everyone has always imagined winning millions when buying a lottery ticket, imagining how amazing life would become having everything you could ever dream of. Well ask 70 percent of lottery winners who go bankrupt within the first 5 years of winning the lottery.



Chip's Garden

East Coast, West Coast, Worldwide

Steve Masson & Matt Hauptert

High School Humanities

Hudson Valley Pathways Academy & High Tech High North County

This project brought together students from High Tech High North County (HTHNC) in San Marcos, CA and Hudson Valley Pathways Academy (HVPA) in upstate New York to design, write, and produce a digital magazine that documented their experiences, thoughts, ideas, and predictions for the future during the tumultuous summer of 2020. Students collaborated daily on Zoom to develop a title and mission statement, create content, and build the site.

Twice a week, students were joined on Zoom by guest speakers—including *The New York Times Magazine*'s Sam Anderson and NFL broadcaster Charles Davis—who ran workshops and offered students critical feedback on their work. The final product was *Teen Voices*, a “platform for the experiences, passions, and opinions of teens today.” You can read it at teenvoices.net

Teacher Reflections

The most exciting aspect of the Teen Voices projects was watching students from HVPA connect and collaborate with the students from HTHNC. HVPA students were largely in charge of the look and feel of the site and ended up posting content generated from the HTHNC students. They worked really hard to honor their work and make the site look as professional as possible.

—Steve, HVPA

Distance learning has been a challenge for every teacher, but this project gave us a chance to use that as an asset. Collaborating with Steve from across the country was an opportunity I might never have otherwise considered, and it gave kids a chance to do something that was exciting and different and meaningful. HTHNC students were working on this project as part of a required summer school course, and it was amazing to see so much passion, engagement, and creativity despite the dual challenges of summer school and distance learning.

—Matt, HTHNC

Student Reflection

I loved collaborating with other writers. The mix of guest speakers and professional guidance helped me improve my writing so much.

—Cianan