

Columbia School

2011 - 2012



Columbia Eagles' Watch

Vol. 6 No. Final ■ Tradition ■ Pride ■ Excellence ■ June 2012



Columbian eighth graders leaving a great legacy behind

by *Shellie Tran*

This school year has finally come to an end. Seventh-graders will soon become eighth-graders, and eighth graders will soon transition to high school.

We've all worked hard throughout the year, and will continue to do so as well. We should thank our teachers who've worked so hard to teach us and who have given us plenty of inspirations. Hopefully for our incoming freshmen, they will have teachers as awesome as these Columbia teachers. This year's class of 2012 is and always will be a huge group of smart, determined, and strong human beings. Because of Columbia's tradition, pride, and excellence, it will help and lead us to a long path and journey of great adventure and fortune.

And for all the seventh-graders, you all will be one step closer to becoming high school students. You will have about another year here at Columbia School, so spend that year wisely because that is the year that your high school transition will depend on. Next year will be the year when all teachers will make every student work hard, push every student to do the best they know every student can — so try to cut them some slack because this is almost as hard for them as it is hard for you. That is why I wish you incoming eighth-graders luck because you will need it.

"These last two years at Columbia have been a life changing moment for me. I've met new people and had new teachers who have helped me throughout these two years. Good and bad things have happened, but I am always going to remember and cherish



Get Use to the View — Next year you seventh-graders will be in the same spot as this past years eighth-graders were, looking out from the south end of the new building

every single moments with no regrets."

Because of Columbia, we leave this school with lots of satisfying memories and a brain full of knowledge. Our time here has come to an end, but we will remember the years at Columbia forever and will be proud to say "WE ARE EAGLES!" ■

Columbia Eagles volleyball team brings in a victory

by *Sergio Iribarne*

All of Columbia's teams won their first volleyball game ever against Frank Wright, and dominated the Knights. Their next



Columbia Player Ready for the Game — Columbian Eagles are anticipating another victory on the road to the championship.

opponent was Potrero and it would be an interesting challenge for the Eagles, to say the least. They had to go to Potrero, which is never easy, and try to beat the Lions ONCE AGAIN.

The boys won the first set and looked like they would win easily. Then Potrero's teams changed the rules for the second set and of course, we lost the second set because of that. None the less, the Eagles came back for the final set to win and get their second victory of the season.

The game was filled with bodies flying everywhere, and both teams trying their best. It was full of action and came down to the wire. Columbia refused to lose and came out as the winners.

The girl's game was not different. It might have even been better. The rule change that had affected the boys' game had also affected the girls' game.

They won the first set without much problem, and then rolled around the second set. That's where the problems began as they changed the rules and gave Potrero the advantage.

They went to the final set as well.

That's when the lady Eagles showed what it takes to be a championship team and pulled out a tough win. Both our teams are now 2-0 and are inching closer to yet another championship. The eagle's athletic year has been an incredible one that's not done yet. ■

Columbia shows off their dominance towards Potrero

by Sergio Iribarne

The soccer season is coming to an end and last Friday was a preview of the championship game for both the girls and boys teams. Both games were intense, hard fought, and ended in an extremely dramatic fashion. It was without a doubt a place you would want to be if you had spare time.

The lady Eagles are looking to defend their soccer title, but first, they have to beat Potrero. Both the lady Eagles and Potrero girls, who were undefeated, are going into the game. Each team was getting chances throughout the game, but it seemed as if Columbia had a slight edge over the Lions. It was a tough and physical challenge during the first half and neither team was going to give up. In the second half, one of the lady Eagles got a red card on a questionable call, which meant that the Eagles would have to play the rest of the game with 10 players instead of 11. The lady Eagles showed poise and kept the game 0-0. They were headed into overtime now. Both sides didn't give anything up and that sent the game to penalties. The lady Eagles won the game in penalties, 2-0, in the end.

On the other hand, the boys were trying to take the soccer title away from the defending champion, Potrero. Many favored Potrero to win the game and thought that Columbia was the underdog. It didn't seem that way at the beginning of the game though. The eagles came out firing and almost scoring early in the game. Columbia did score in the first half but, it was taken away on another questionable call. So going into halftime, the game was deadlocked at 0-0. It was an exciting second half, for it was full of action and gritty play.

This game was also very physical as they gave out four yellow cards (two to each side). But, the game was not over as they



Jasmine Martinez taking a penalty for Columbia

would also have to go to penalties. It came down to the last penalty shot, but the eagles hung on to win it 2-1.

After these two epic games, both Columbia teams are one win away from a championship and will have home field advantage in the championship game. The Columbia boys also completed one of their goals with Friday's win. They have now gone undefeated for the whole year in regular season play. All they need now is a championship to top it off. The girls were not undefeated for the entire year because of one loss to Trinity in basketball. But, being the champions for every sport they've played is not that bad. So, with that said, the soccer championship games are one week away and will be the most anticipated game of the season. ■

Columbia's Talent Show Leaves Audience Breathless

by Celeste Alfarro

The show left the audience clapping until the very end! Friday's performance



Mr. Lachica Showing Off His Incredible Dancing Skills — This long awaited performance was seen by many as the main event of the talent show because of his awesome dancing and singing skills.

was jam packed with skillful singing, jaw-dropping dancing, and even trombone playing.

Mr. Galindo's guitar club was strumming to "I'm Yours" by Jason Mraz and joining them was Lesley Najarro, who was elegantly singing along. The second performer was Cindy Nguyen, who sang "Me, Myself, and Time" by Demi Lovato sounding heavenly.

This next performance shocked many people at first, because the last thing they had expected to happen that night was watching someone play the tuba. No one had thought that Andrew Holguin would pull off a difficult instrument like the trombone, but he sure proved us wrong.

Soon afterwards, Lorena gave a very touching show

that was dedicated to her Nino who is "up above." She played the legendary song "Don't Stop Believing" by Journey on the piano! She played so well that the majority of the audience had to blink away the tears in the end. Then Armando Hernandez played "Sky Scraper" by Demi Lovato while Diana Chu sang along.

Students really enjoyed Mr. Galindo and his guitar club, even though he was nervous. "I was afraid I was going to mess up," he said, "so I was a little afraid of performing. I didn't have much time to practice."

After that outstanding performance, Mr. Galindo sang to the unforgettable Johnny Cash song, "Walk the Line," while some of his very talented guitar students were

playing along. Then when we thought there was going to be no dancing, Kyanna Saldana showed up and blew me away with her creative choreography and Gaga-like outfit.

Our students sure do have some talent, but students weren't the only ones performing in Columbia's talent show.

One of our student body's favorite teachers came up to the stage and sang with all his might. This beautifully voiced teacher was Mr. LaChica!

Anyone who has had Mr. LaChica in the past knows about his love for singing and dancing. Students aren't the only ones that have problems right before show time. "I was very nervous because my thought dried up," he said. ■

Reading Day Receives Readers and Recognition

by Nicole Moc

On March 2, many guests were invited to Columbia School. Why? Well Columbia recently hosted a Read-In Day in the cafeteria for our K- through sixth-grade Eagles. Some of the successful guests that were invited were the Laker Girls, the Clipper Girls, Mr. Herrera, the City manager, our Superintendent, Mr. Seymour, the Mayor of El Monte, Chuck-E-Cheese, costumed detectives and officers, police officers with their horses, and the mascot of McDonalds, Ronald McDonald.

There were also cartoon characters who attended such as SpongeBob, Tweety Bird, Sylvester, and Clifford, the Big Red Dog.

Before the Read-In-Day event began we had an assembly and the lunch ladies prepared breakfast for all the children, volunteers, and guests.

Our visitors spent a lot of time reading stories to our students while, at the same time, keeping them entertained.

During the day, student council members were around to help supervise the kids and make sure the event was turning out smoothly. "I love Read-In-Day. We bring people from the community to really emphasize the importance and value of

reading," remarked our principle, Ms. Garcia. "It's one of my favorite days of the year and it's a Columbia tradition."

"It was very fun because the people in costumes were dancing," said Student Council member Manuel Cervantes. "I dressed in a Mother Goose costume," said Jacqueline Lam. "It was really fun. We were dancing with little kids and saw their smiling faces."

Towards the end of the event, Ronald McDonald put on a small magic show for the students, staff, and visitors to enjoy and relax form the intense reading.

During the trick he taught the value of reading to the children. One of the tricks he performed had to deal with books.

The volunteered kids assisted Ronald as he was preparing the trick. He held a book on his hand and flipped his hand upside-down. Surprisingly, the book didn't fall to the floor. It, instead, stuck to his hand. Only the greatest of all magicians can pull off this amazing trick.

After the tricks were performed, the event was wrapped up by our guests.

They started to dance with the kids in circles. Some teachers were performing with instruments for the kids to enjoy. This brought the crowd alive and they



Ronald McDonald Resisting Arrest —
Ronald and a police officer are discussing Ronald's recent parking ticket.

were energized.

Overall, the Read-In-Day event was a great success. Hopefully, the children learned the importance and how reading is used in our everyday tasks. ■

Eight Graders Enjoyed Field Trip To L.A. County Fair

by: Celeste Alfaro

Eighth-grade teachers and students went to the L.A. County Fair for a field trip. The purpose of this field trip was to get everyone to get to know each other and have a good time at the fair. The beginning of the field trip started off with a scavenger hunt. All the classrooms went crazy all over the fairground. Mr. Mason's homeroom was the winner. It was fun despite the hot weather during that day.

After the scavenger hunt students were allowed to roam around the fairground, enjoying themselves by watching shows, playing games, petting farm animals, riding roller coasters, and most of all, hanging with friends. "My favorite part was watching a cooking presentation with my friends," Kim Santos said. "I rode on the log ride with my friends Brenda, Diana, and Autumn. I didn't like the log ride at all because my phone got wet!" reported eighth-grader Emmy Pham.

When it was time to go, students were burning red because of how hot the sun was blazing down on them, but they got some time to cool down while watching a brave woman bungee jump from about three stories high. She landed safe and sound thankfully.

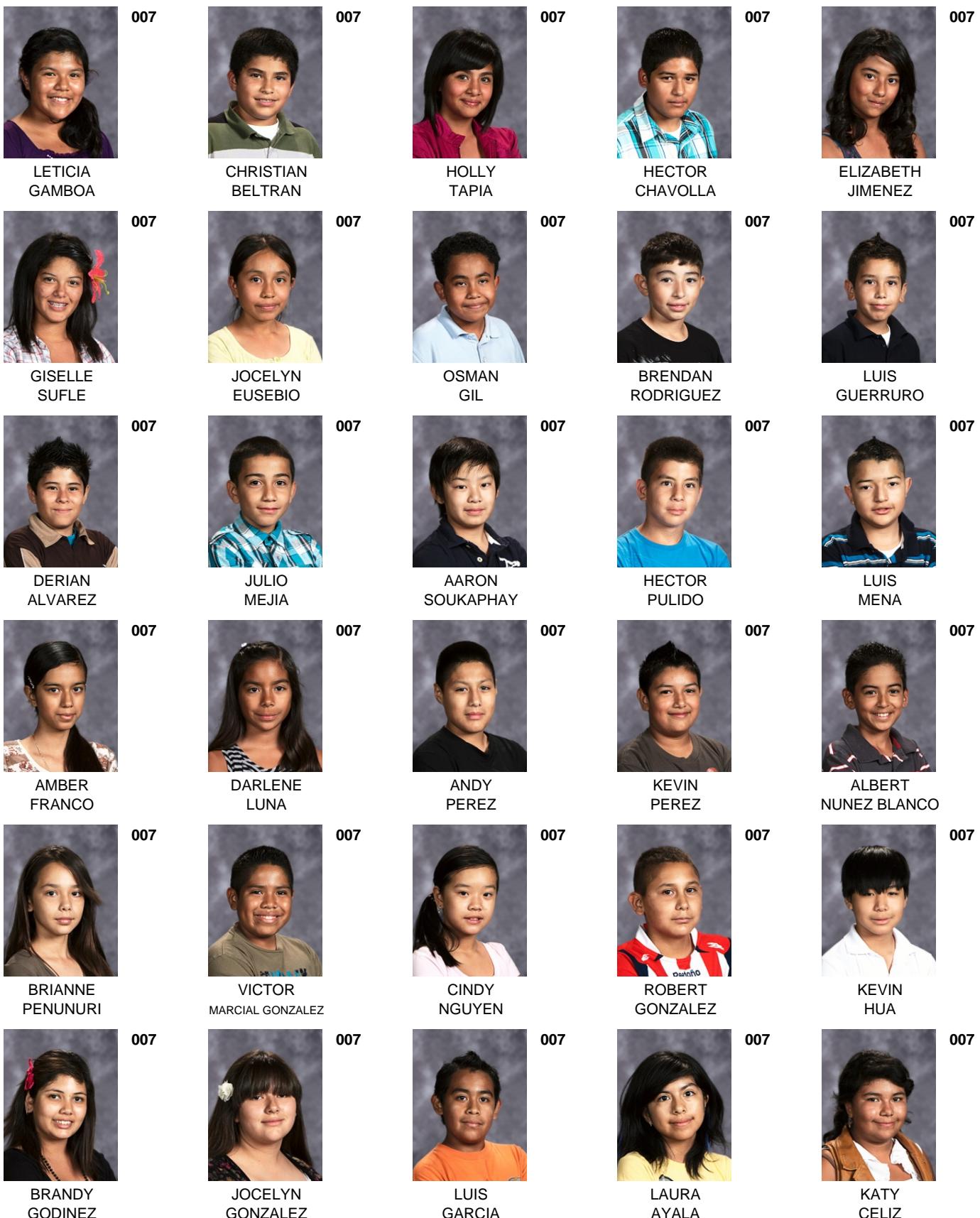
On the way to the bus students caught up with each other, telling what each had done. Many students' eyes were on Felipe Perez's giant minion that he won. That thing was three times **bigger** than Felipe! In the end, students had fun working as a team, playing games, and most important, being with friends. ■



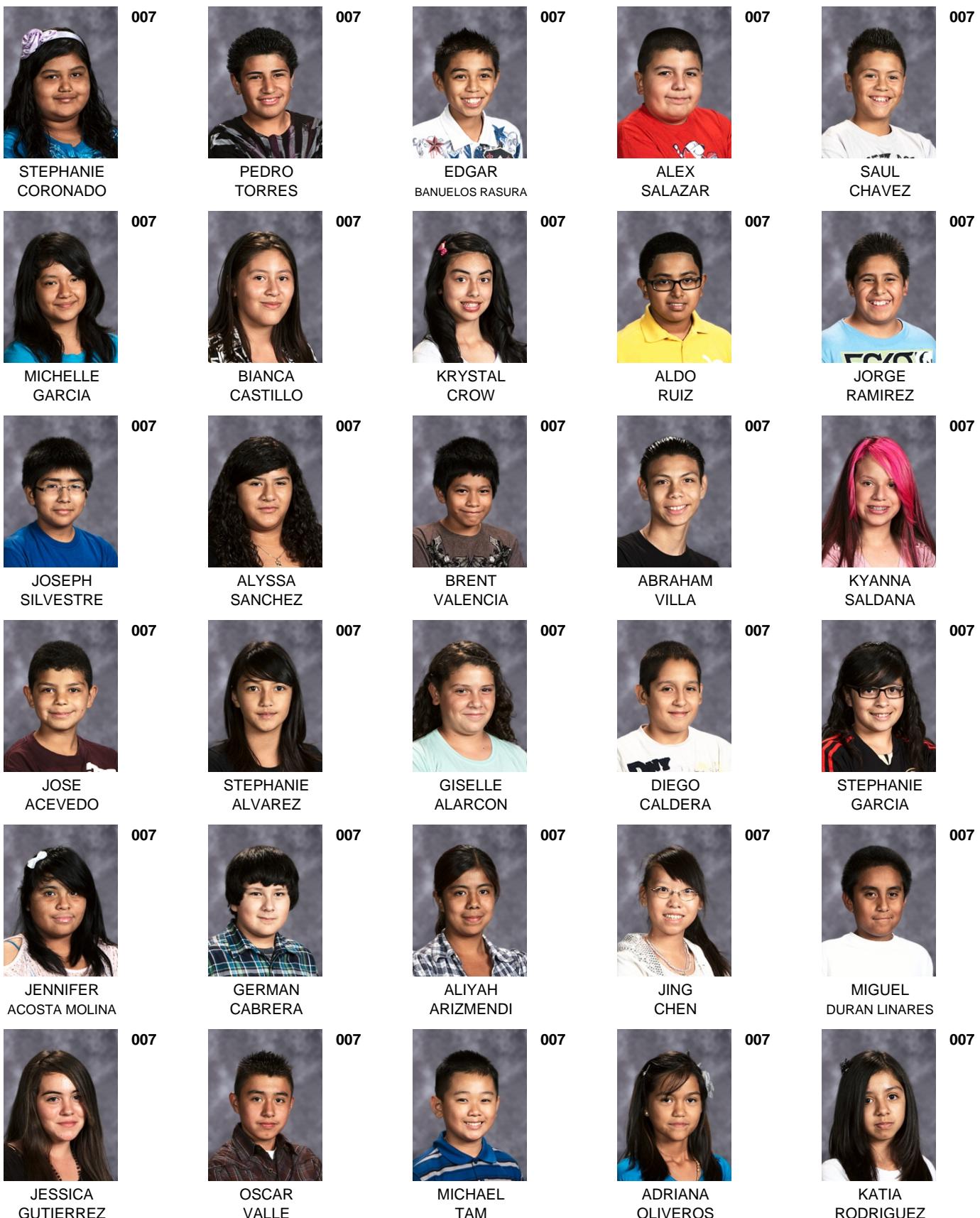
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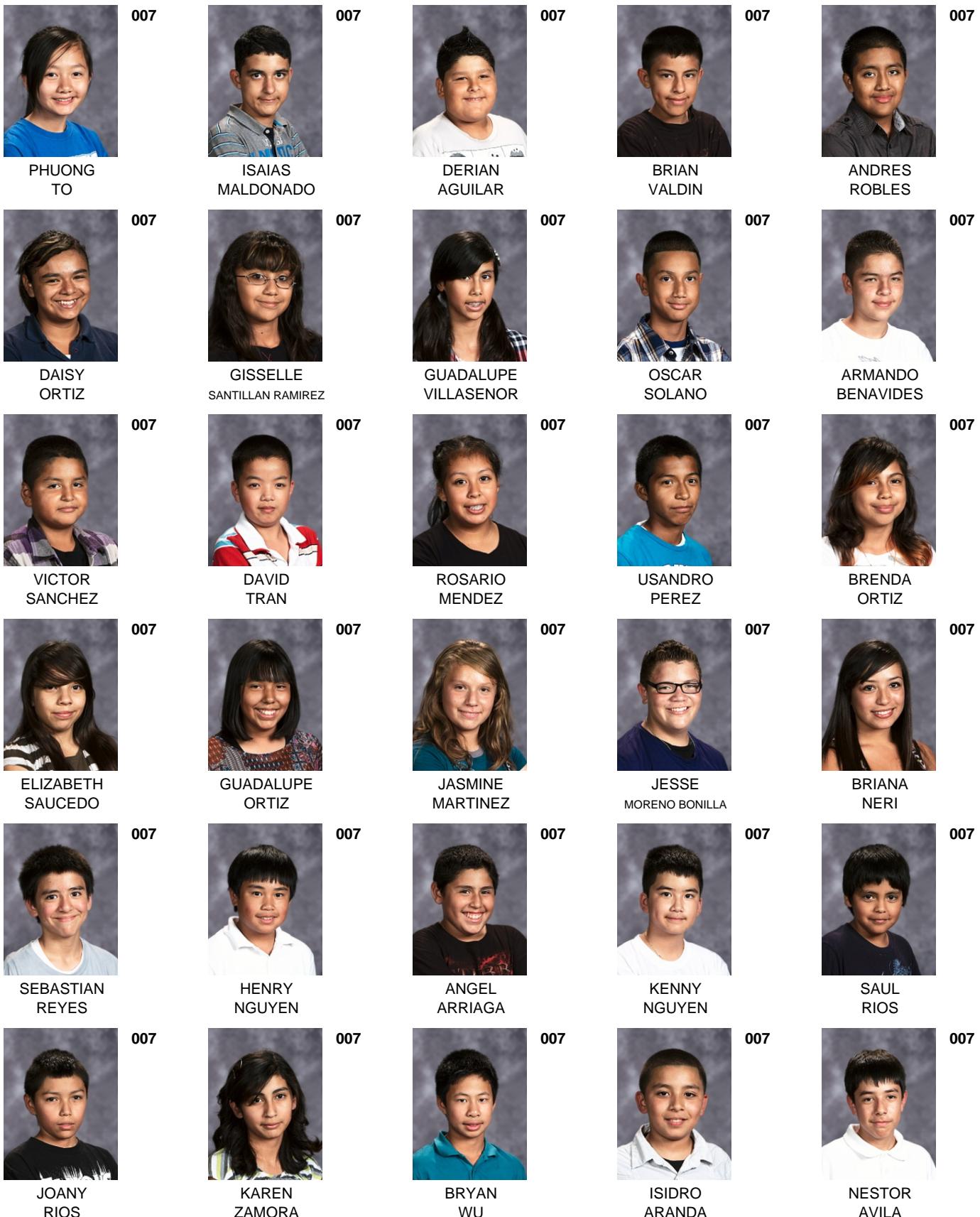
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Columbia Middle School 2011-2012



Columbia Middle School 2011-2012



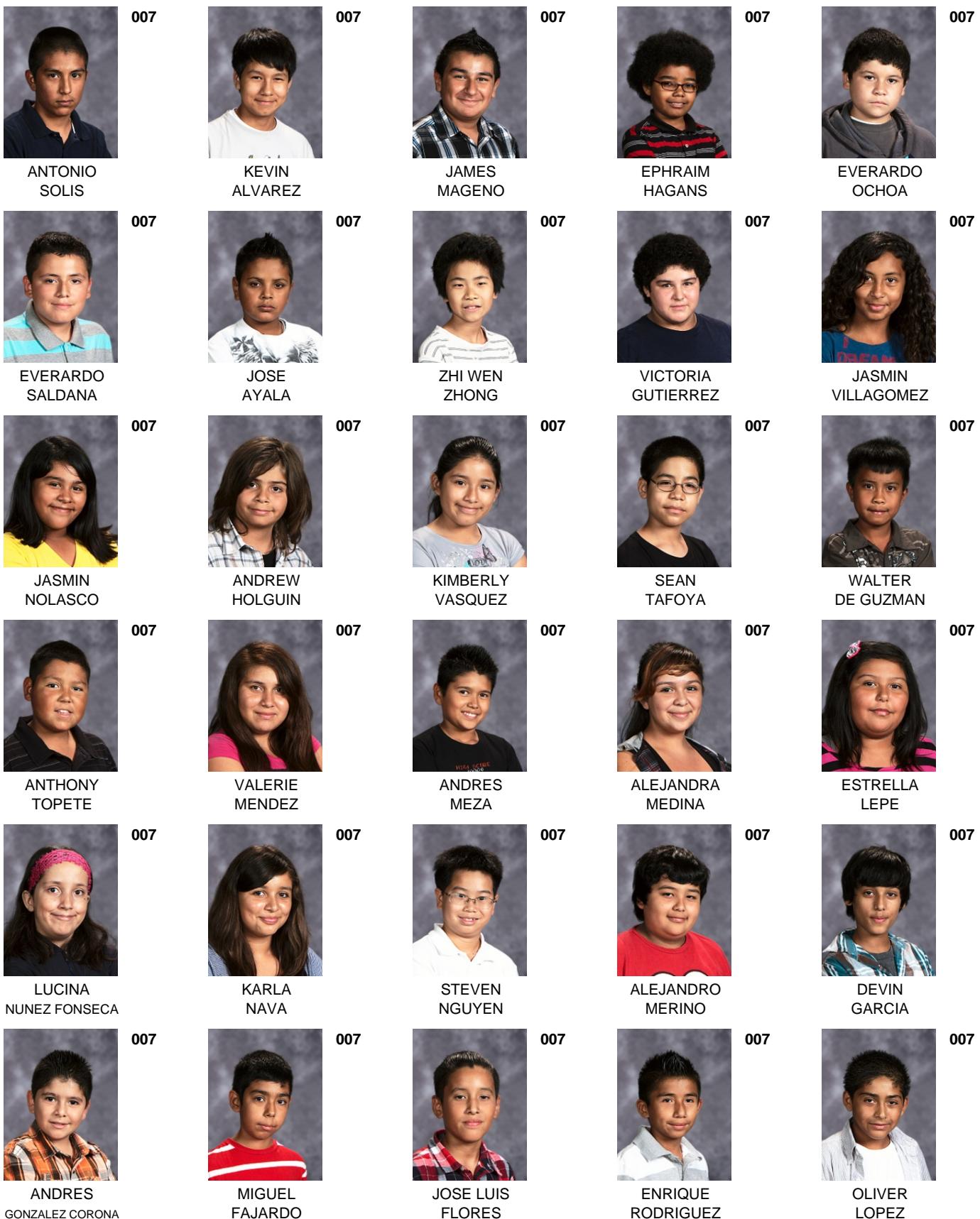
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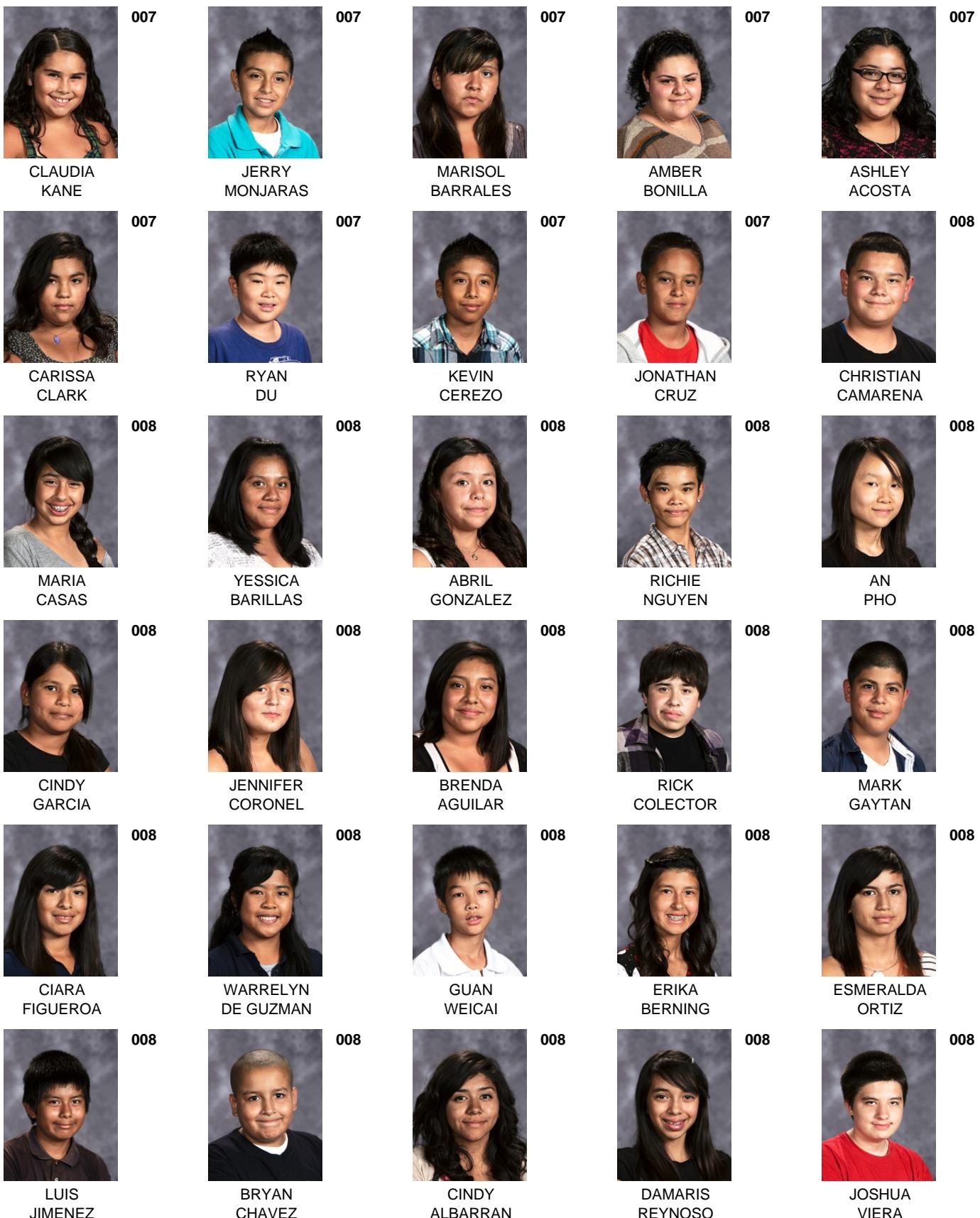
Columbia Middle School 2011-2012



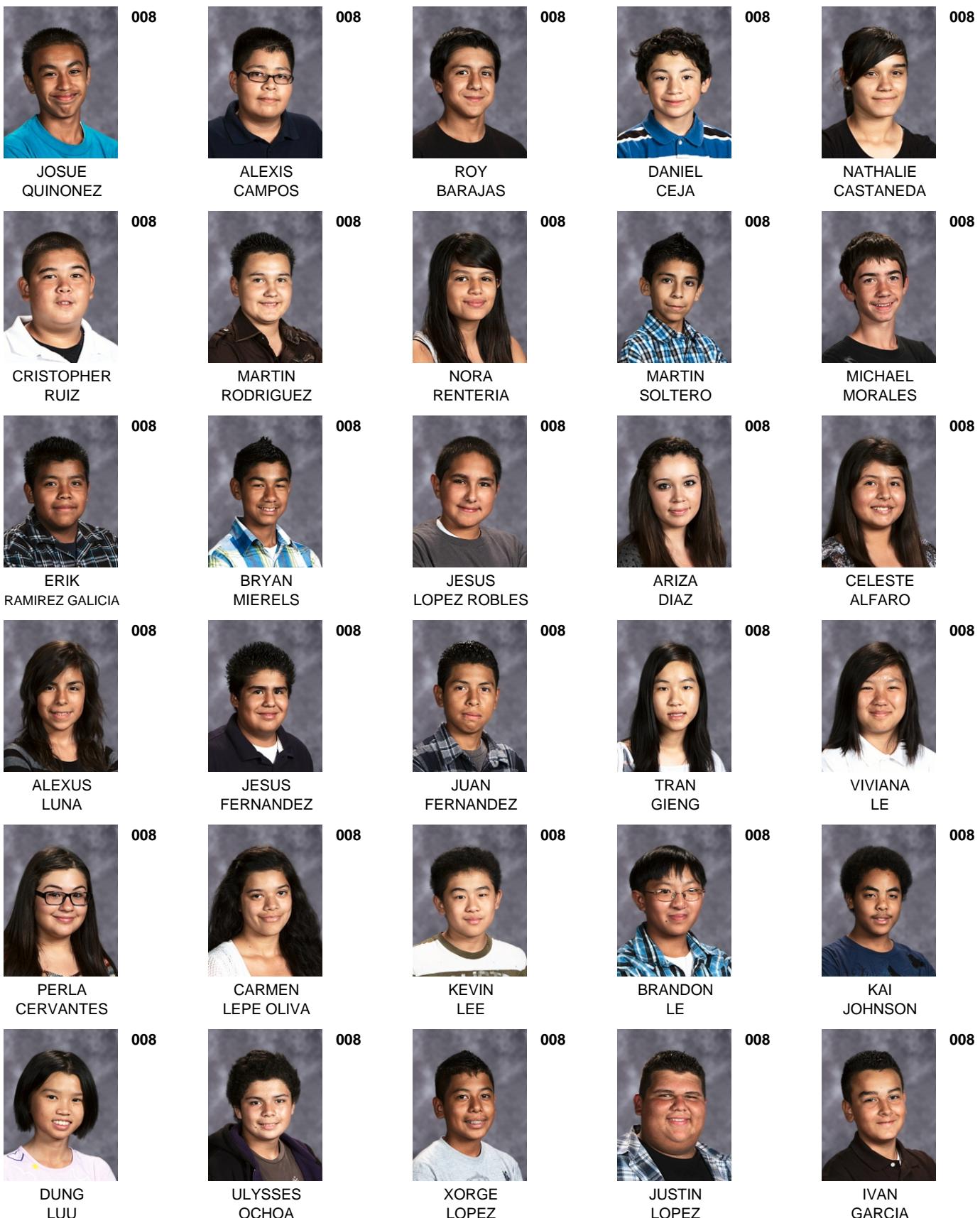
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Columbia Middle School 2011-2012



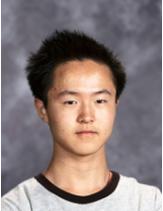
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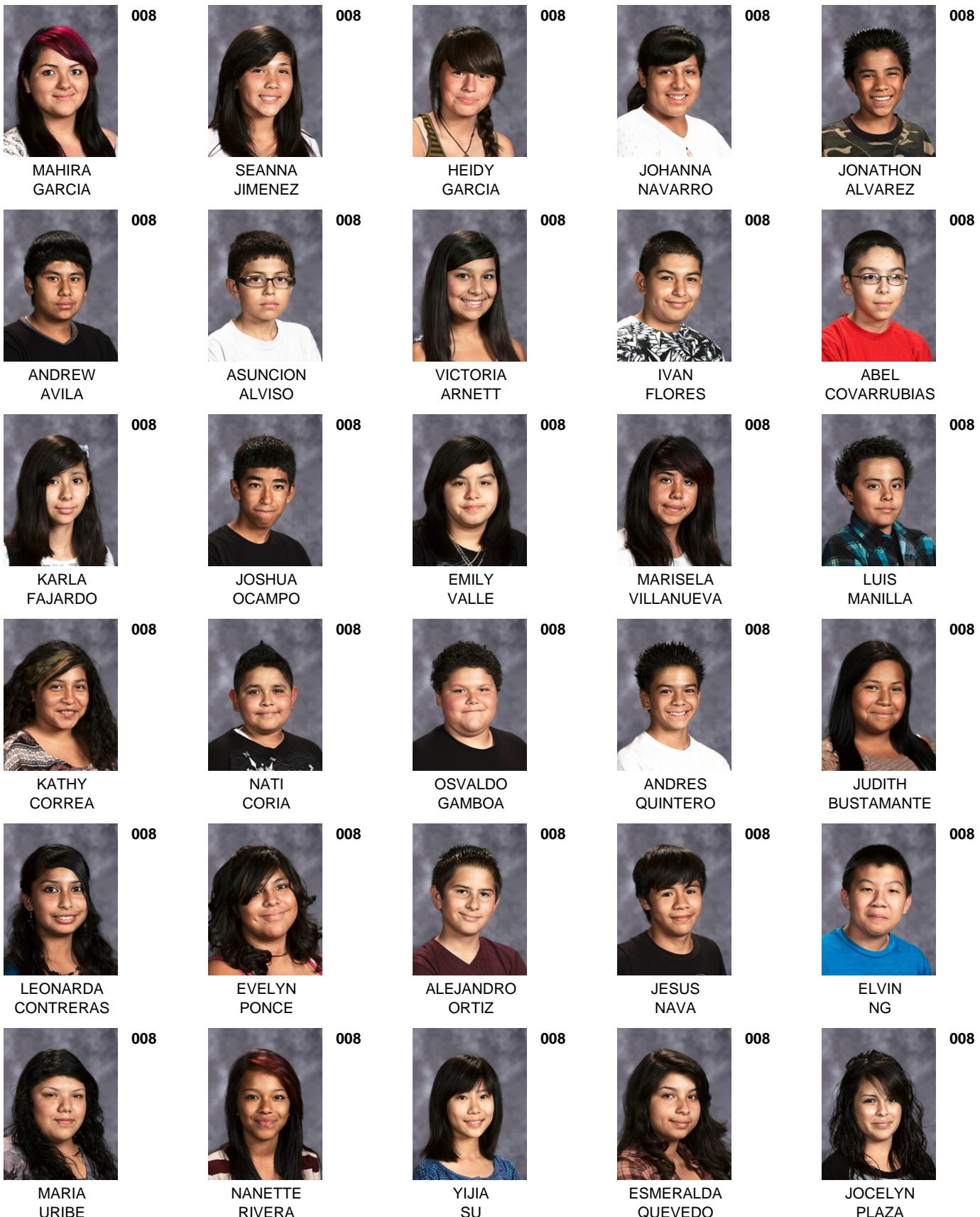
Columbia Middle School 2011-2012

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	008 PHU GIANG		008 ANTHONY DONATO		008 JESUS ACOSTA		008 TANAIRY CASTELLANOS		008 CESAR SANDOVAL
	008 STACY TANG		008 SHELLIE TRAN		008 ALEXANDER GODINEZ		008 SULMA SILL		008 ALEX PEREZ
	008 ARIANNA PINEDO		008 JESSICA MONTES		008 JUAN NIETO		008 BRENDA ROJAS		008 JENNIFER RIVERA
	008 HEIDI RIOS		008 IRENE MAYORGA		008 SAMANTHA GARCIA		008 MARIVOL RODRIGUEZ		008 WENDY MARTZ
	008 JOSUE MORALES		008 EDSON ARCINIEGA		008 MANUEL CERVANTES		008 ANDREW AREVALO		008 ARTURO BRAVO

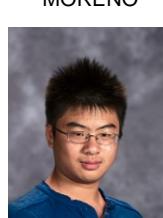
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FELIPE PEREZ		NICOLE MOC		KIMBERLY LY		YULIANA VASQUEZ		JESSICA MENDOZA	
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KIM SANTOS		SAMUEL DE LA TORRE		EDGAR MORA		DANIEL RODRIGUEZ		JULIO HERNANDE	
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JESSE MENDOZA		YONG HUANS		KATE ACOSTA		JUAN GARCIA		GUSTAVO GONZACEZ	
	008		008		008		008		008
HECTOR GUTIERREZ		CINDY HERNANDEZ		YOCHAVELY ALVAREZ		NATALIA CONDE		MONIQUE CEJA	
	008		008		008		008		008
JAZMINE FLORES		ALEJANDRA NERI		ANELL ORTEGA		TERESA RUIZ		MY SOU	

Columbia Middle School 2011-2012



Columbia Middle School 2011-2012

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MARRELYN DE GUZMAN		LESLEY NAJARRO		JUAN ACOSTA		JANELLY BECERRA		JOSE AGUILERA	
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STEPHANIE VALENCIA		AUTUMN AREYZAGA		DIANA CHU		ARELENE AVILA		JANET ARELLAND	
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MIGUEL GONZALEZ		SERGIO IRIBE		ALYSSA CUEVAS		MEGAN FRICK		TIEN LU	
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WILSON LUU		JAIME LAMAS		ADRIAN LEDEZMA		TIN MATH		MARLO MORENO	
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LANDI LOPEZ		MARIA LOZA		SHICHANG HUANG		MARK HERNANDEZ		JASON LY	
	008		008		008		008		008
BRIANNA LOERA		KENNETH FLORES		ALONDRA SANTANA		JENNIFER RUIZ		SOFIA NGUYEN	

Columbia Middle School 2011-2012



7th-Grade Columbia Teachers



Emmy Ngo



Christine Jung



Nikki Young



Sara Schommer



Michelle Sloat



Christina Sham



Dante Zarate



Mag Lachica



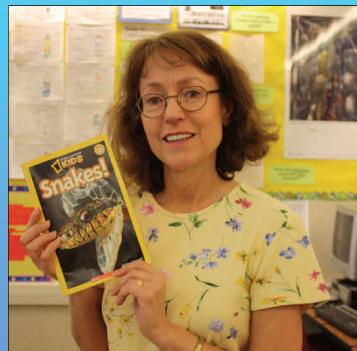
Chris Lozano



Angela Quon



Justo Sham



Kathleen Sesplaukis

8th-Grade Columbia Teachers



Maribel Garcia



Geoff Zamarripa



Juan Flores



Gonzalo Raygoza



Pedro Galindo



Andrea Cortez



Diva Vasquez



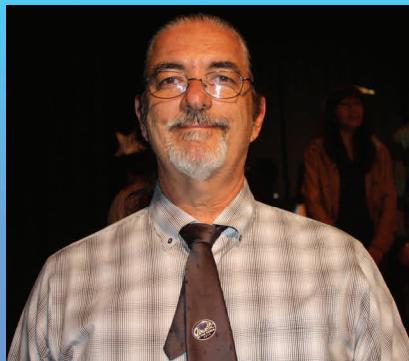
Eliza Blanco



Bill Mason



Alec Moreno



Frank Jansen



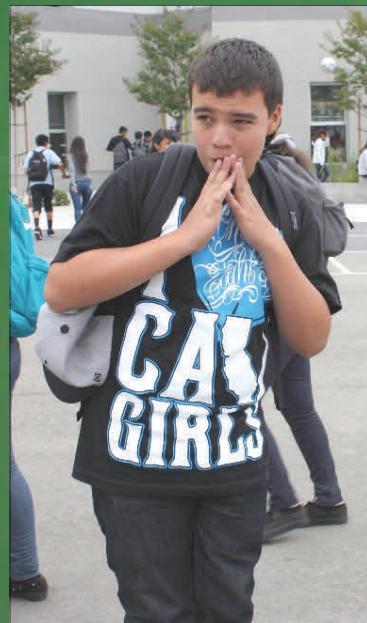
Juan Scull

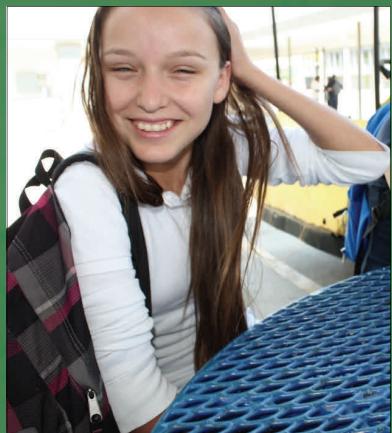
Last Year Memories





FIRST WEEK!!!





Around the Campus





Fletcher Park!





L.A. County Fair





Halloween!!



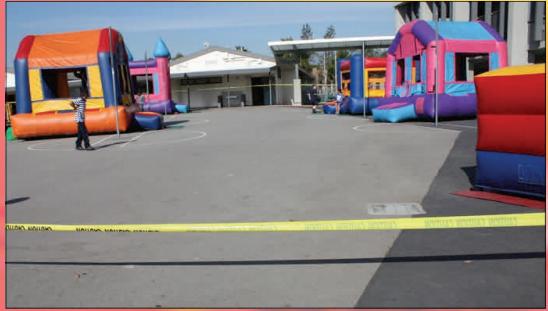


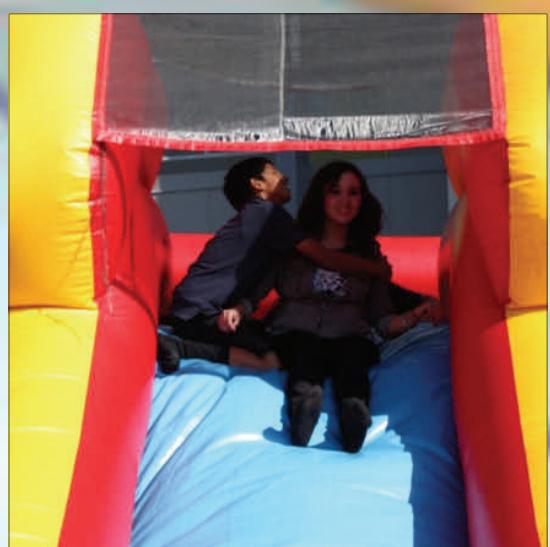
Jog-A-Thon





Bounce Party!

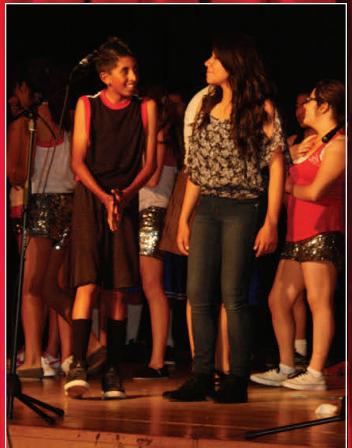




Drama: A Christmas Carol



High School Musical



Mock Trial



Mock Trial is a program which enables students to experience real life law cases in order to explore and prepare for possible future careers as attorneys. Columbia's seventh-grade Eagles participated in their second Mock Trial event on March 24, 2012. The trial was held in a real court with a real judge. During the trial, each side tries an actual case that has already been tried in a real court. In this event, Columbia went up against Gidley. Two trials were held using the same case. In the first round one school acted as the defense while the other acted as the prosecution; the roles were reversed in the second trial.

All the victims and witnesses were based on a true case. This year, the case was about a twelve-year-old boy named Angel who claimed he was hit in the head by a high school student named Jesse. The attorneys for the prosecution had to prove that Jesse threw the brick that hit Angel, and the defense had defend Jesse. Every student was either an attorney or a witness. Each witness was asked a few questions based on the role they were playing. The students can't wait until next year to start Mock Trial again.

Debate



Swearing In



March Madness

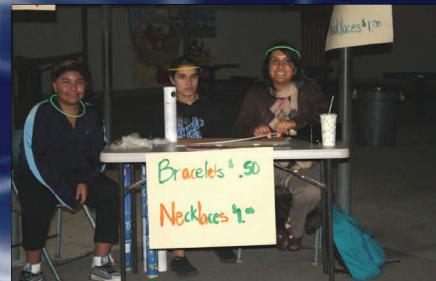
8th Grade Champions:
Mrs. Blanco

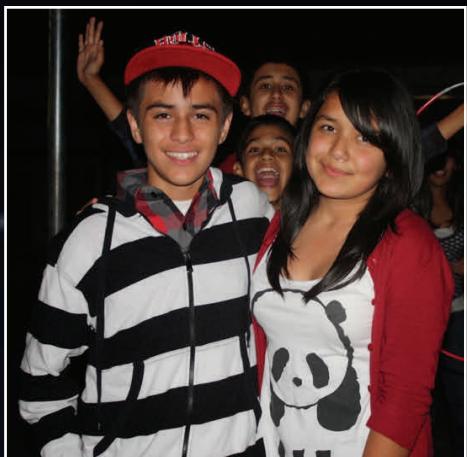


7th Grade Champions: Lozano

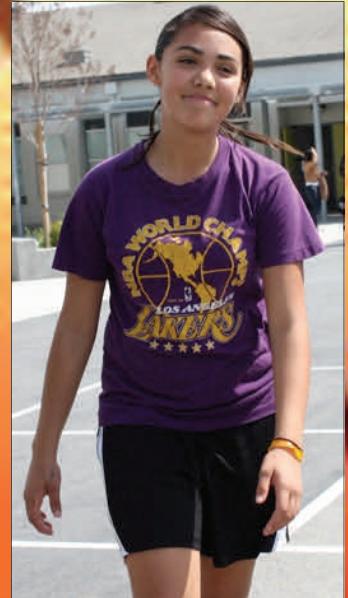


Family Fun Night





Student Vs. Teachers

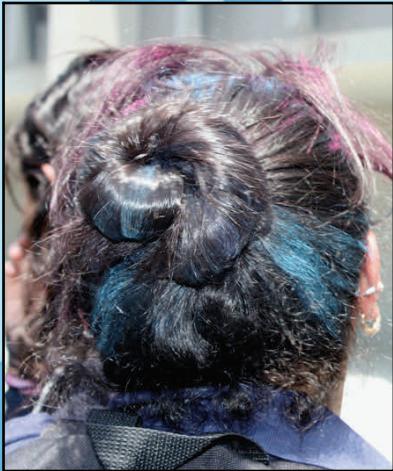




Twin Day



Crazy Hair Day



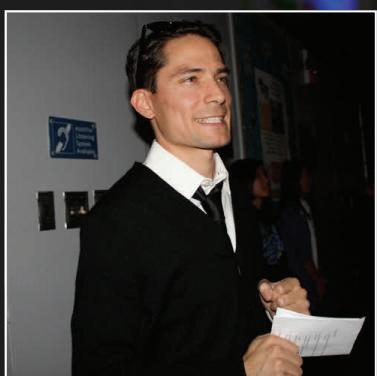
Super Hero Day



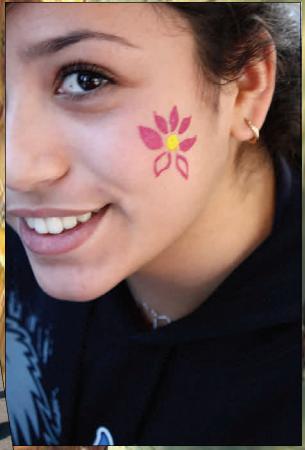
Nerd Day



TALENT SHOW!



Winter Carnival

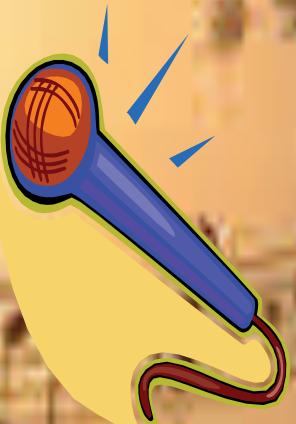




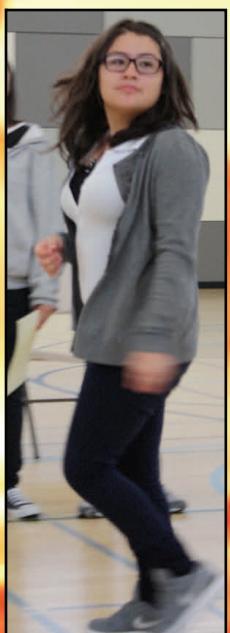
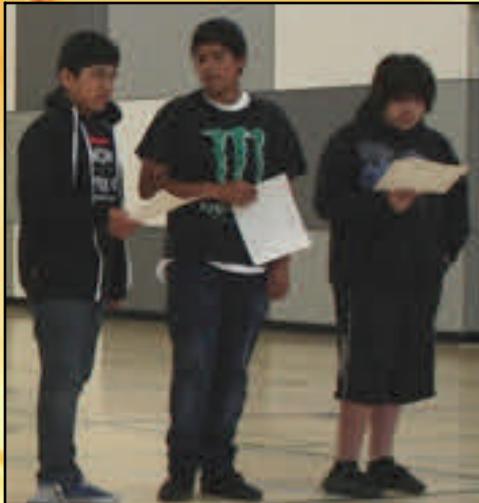
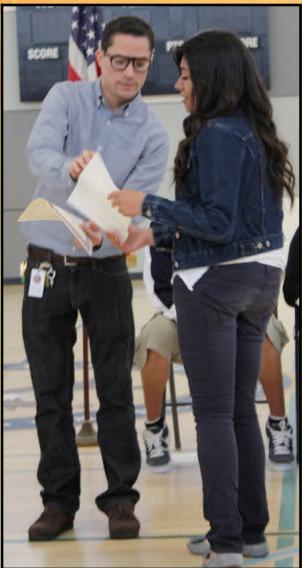
Band



Choir



Awards Assembly



American Legion Awards



El Monte High School



Promotion Picture



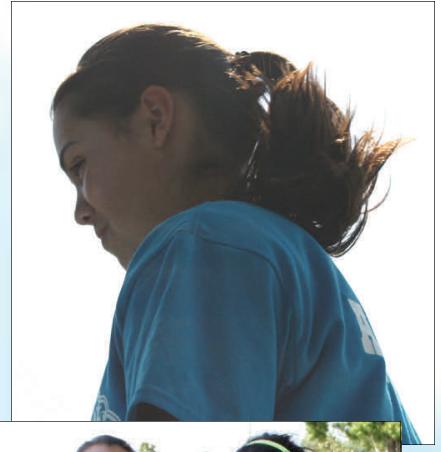


FOOTBALL

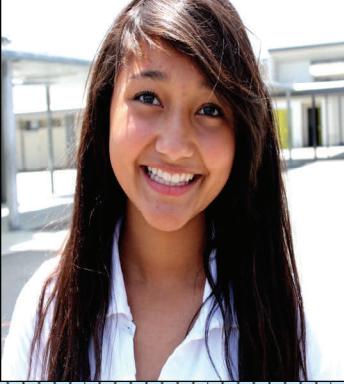
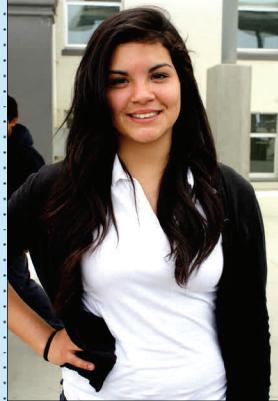


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Best Eagles Prettiest Girls



Amy Valle & Lesley Najarro

Armando Hernandez & Roy Barajas

Best Smile



Diana Chu,
Mariaelena
Casas &
Felipe Perez

Nicest Girl

Nicest Guy



Heidy Garcia Victor Ledezma

Most Athletic



Sergio
Iribe &
Natalie
Castaneda

Not Pictured:
Chris Sierra



Class Clown



Alyssa Cuevas



Joshua Torres

Best Hair



Yuliana
Vasquez



Roy
Barajas

Cutest Couple



Autumn Arezyaga



Gilbert Estrada



Victor Ledezma & Brenda Rojas

Smartest



Tin Math



My Sou

Best Artist



Luis Manilla



Ai Hong

Best Eyes



Irene Mayorga



Justin Lopez

8th Grade Panoramic Picture







Best of Dream Weaver

Editor: Celeste Alfaro

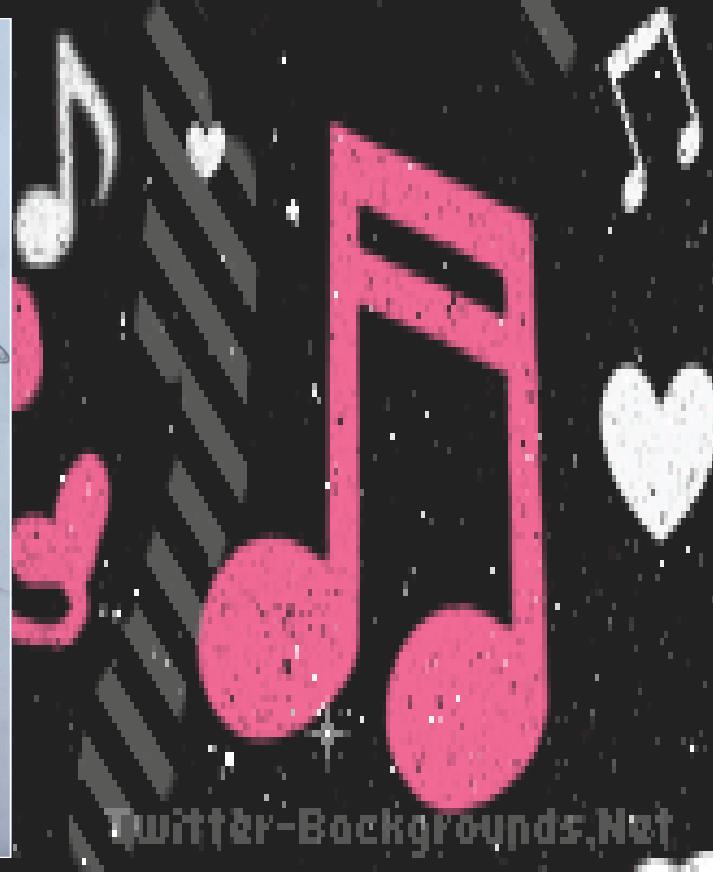
Dream Weaver Crew:

Leslie Cervantez

Alexander Rodriguez

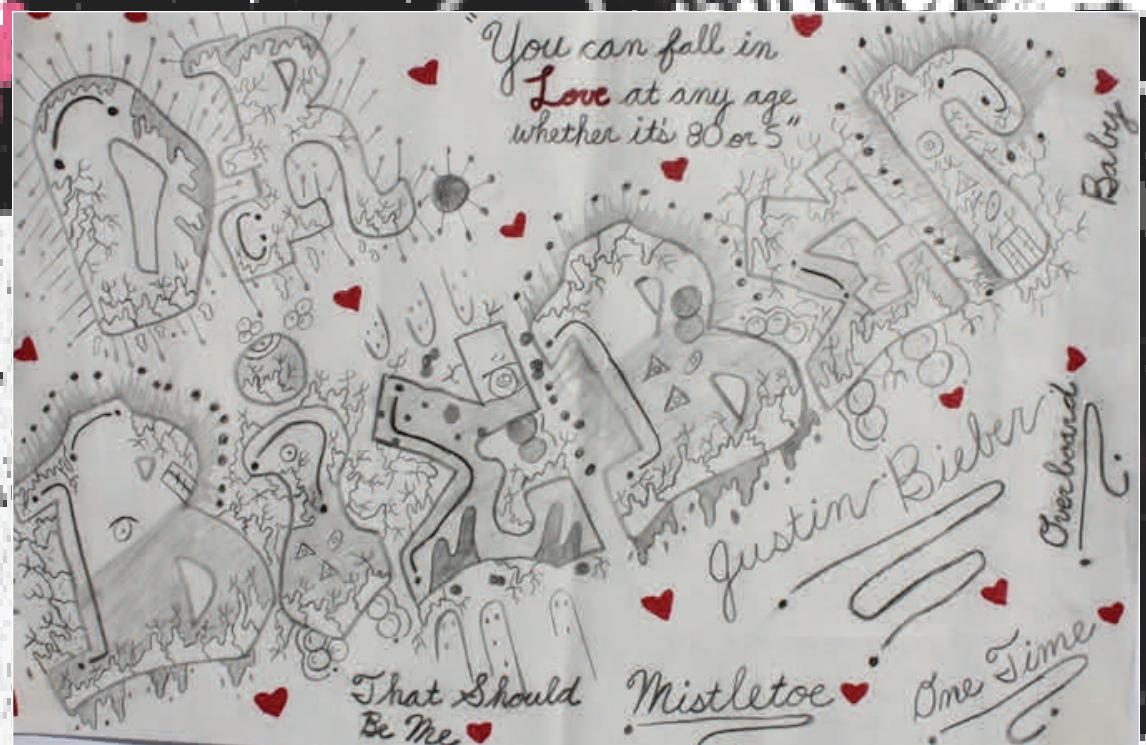
Elizabeth Solis

Lupita Villasenor

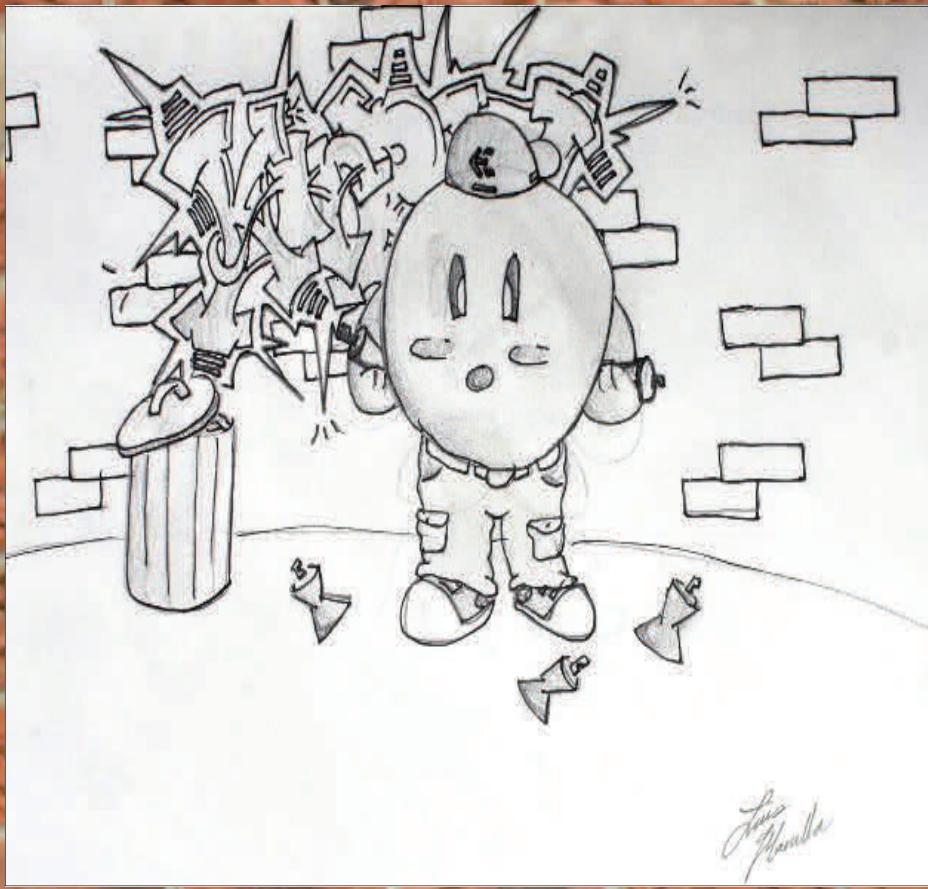


Nancy Luu

MUSIC IS LOVE



Amber Chavez



Luis
Manilla



Luis
Manilla



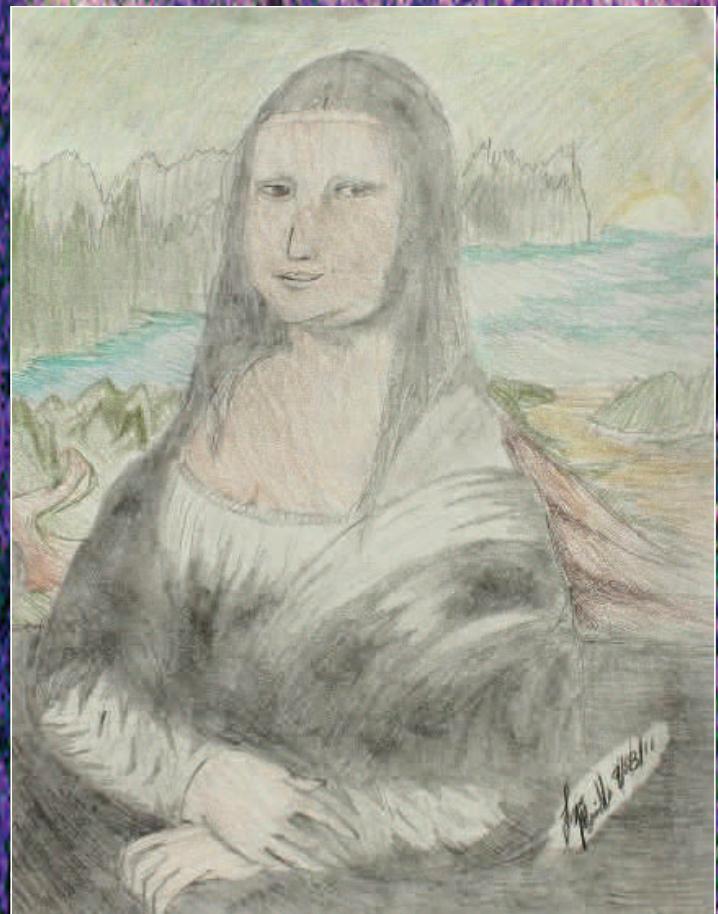


Amber Chavez



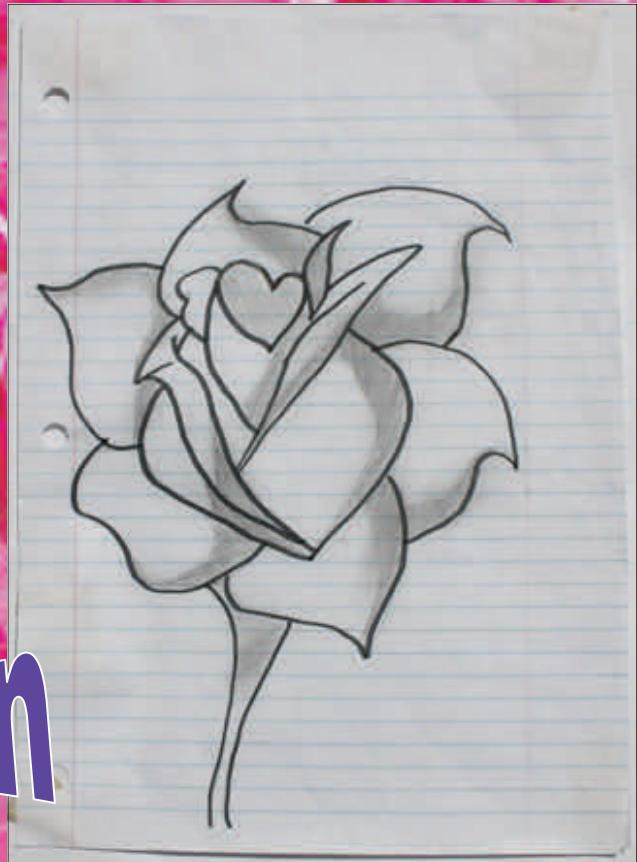
Ai Hong

Luis Manilla





Ai Hong

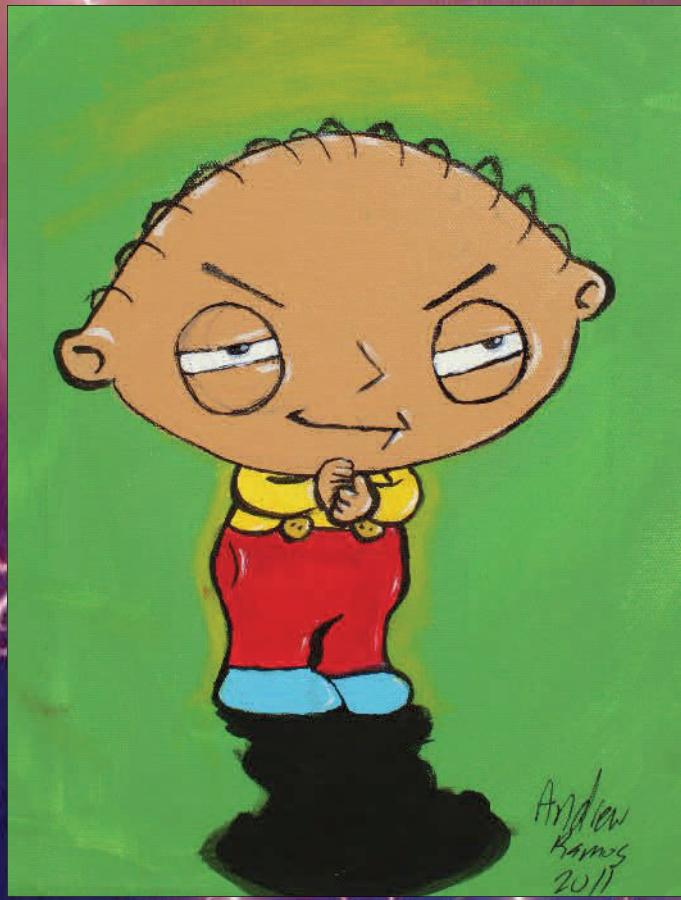


Isaiah Chacon

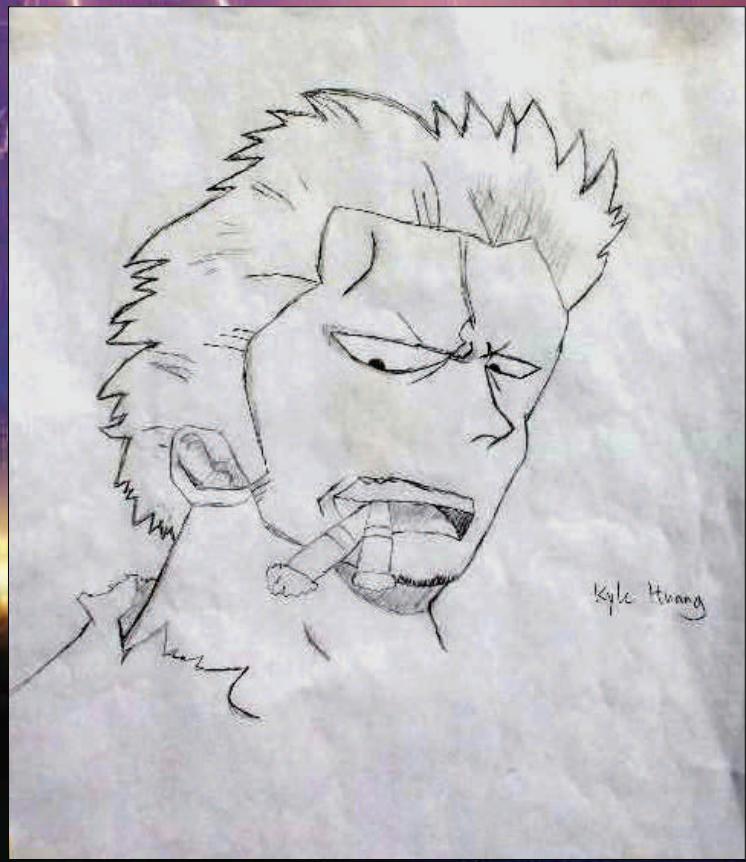
Samantha Gomez



Ai Hong



Andrew Ramos



Kyle Huang

Journalism



Journalism Staff

Editor-In-Chief

My Sou

Co Editor-In-Chief

Shellie Tran

Yearbook Editor

Dung Luu

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