

Student Reporter

### Reducing Emissions, One Step at a Time



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Even though we cannot see it with our bare eyes, cars emit great amounts CO2 into the atmosphere.  
[Source: Author, Gordon Seungjae Lee]

There are a lot of ways to get from point A to point B, such as driving or riding as passengers. But riding or driving in vehicles is the quickest way to pollute the air, since vehicles release carbon dioxide, CO2. To peer into the negative long-term effects of carbon emis-

sions, we need to first look into why releasing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere is bad for humanity as a whole.

Carbon dioxide is everywhere. It itself is an important greenhouse gas that helps to trap heat in our

atmosphere. Without CO2, our planet would be inhospitably cold. Carbon dioxide is also needed for photosynthesis, a process in which plants give us oxygen. Carbon dioxide is essential for both plant and human lives. But as the saying goes, “Too much of anything is bad.” Although it is true that CO2 traps heat in our atmosphere and keeps our planet warm, if too much heat is trapped on the surface, the CO2 in our atmosphere can cause global temperatures to rise, disrupting other aspects of Earth’s climate.

Riding in cars adds fuel to climate change. 27% of carbon emissions came from burning fossil fuels in 2020, 20% of which came from cars. Every gallon of gasoline burned creates about 8,887 grams of CO2. If this continues, the future climate on Earth will not be the same as today. For example, the temperature of California will be so

high that people will not be able to reside in the area. The same things will occur in continents across the world.

There are ways we can solve this crisis. Some solutions include walking short distances, taking public transportation, and driving eco-friendly cars. When emission is reduced, global warming slows down as well. Cars that use cleaner fuels produce fewer emissions when used. Some biofuels, such as fuel made from corn, can reduce emissions by 80 % compared to gasoline. Electric cars and trucks use electricity as fuel, producing little to no carbon emissions.

Cars have been a turning point in the transportation industry. But they have destroyed our planet, piece by piece. It is not too late to take action against climate change. If we all pitch in, even if it is little, we can turn the tide of climate change.

Student Reporter

### Everyone Need Breaks



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No matter how young or old, everyone needs a break to maintain a healthy lifestyle. One of the ways to improve one’s health, either mental or physical, is to take breaks. These can be anything you desire, such as sleep, drawing, gaming, or just laying around doing nothing. Many of us have those kinds of days where we simply do not want to do anything.

Taking breaks improves your overall health by giving you self-care and creating an environment for you to invest some time in yourself. It creates a calm atmosphere for you to relax and charge your body for the next day. There are movement breaks that you can do, which are basically physical exercises such as jogging, stretching, jumping, and walking.

Breaks benefit the mental state of humans. For example, Mary Helen Immordino-



Walking around Silver Lake, in Los Angeles, is one of my favorite things to do for a break. [Source: Author, Kenneth Lee]

Yang and her colleagues at USC and MIT used an fMRI scanner to examine neural activity during the brain’s “default mode.” A default mode is basically a state of rest; when one is taking breaks.

Once they examined this, they saw that default modes are important because it helps the brain to keep memories, reflect on things, and plan for the future. This experiment by Mary Helen shows

how taking breaks is good for mental health.

For me, walking around my neighborhood makes me feel calm. While walking you can feel the breeze and see nature, which makes me extremely happy. As a young child, I always used to go on walks with my mom, and those were probably memories I won’t ever forget. Walking refreshes your body. An article about the human body states that any form of exercise is a good way to ease stress and anxiety.

There are many different kinds of breaks and it’s up to you to choose which are best for you. Since there are many different ways to take breaks, I hope you can try some of the methods I introduced, and that you find them helpful. Remember that taking breaks is a normal activity and it’s mandatory to have mental and physical health.

Student Reporter

### ‘Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow’: the Exhibition



**Ellie Sohn**  
Grade 10  
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As summer rolls in, fresh pop art and bright lights are just what the public needs to refresh their vacation season. The Broad Museum, in Downtown Los Angeles, is the place to go for a once-in-a-lifetime exhibition of animated flowers beautifully splashed with colors, alongside genius depictions of the pandemic. Behind this exhibit is Takashi Murakami, a Japanese contemporary artist who blurs the line between reality and fiction.

The exhibition consisted of 18 works created by Murakami. These art pieces included sculptures, wallpapers, and paintings created throughout his career depicting postwar Japan, pop art, and signature Murakami flowers. The space was open to the public for free on Thursdays, and tickets sold out in a matter of minutes.

Upon arriving at the museum, a clear line was visible as people were lined up, excited, to enter the showcase. In the first part of the walkway,

Murakami’s iconic character ‘DOB’ is visible in a pop art style, alluding to a sly smile. In an interview conducted with one visitor, the DOB portrait was described to be “the most compelling artwork”. Alongside it is a blue sculpture of ‘DOB’, sculpted in 1999 and named DOB in the Strange Forest (Blue DOB).

Walking further in, a collaboration between Murakami and Louis Vuitton is visible on a beautifully sewed cloth work. The cloth portrays the beauty of the classic Louis Vuitton logos with cute Murakami characters creating a scarf that everybody hoped to take home. Beautifully dressed visitors posed in front of the scarf, making various poses for the perfect photo.

However, a large crowd was formed in one of the main exhibits of the whole showcase. A room painted with the famous Murakami flowers; a cute cartoon face painted in the middle of plump petals. The walls were designed with all of these

flowers in every shade of the rainbow. As the title of the exhibition, this room stomped on the very tail of the rainbow. On each wall was a portrait of these flowers in different themes, such as blue and red. But this wasn’t the highlight, instead, the sculpture, about 8 feet tall, was a plant made up of flowers, shiny, and the perfect photo op location drew awe.

Further in, hanging on the wall was the famous 82-foot wide painting, In the Land of the Dead, Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow, a painting containing every emotion from sorrow, pain, ecstasy, and grief. Visitors stood in front of this wide painting, making their interpretations and seemingly trying to understand the very essence that Murakami poured into the painting. After various works of art, the pathway led back outside to the lobby of the Broad museum. Here, people bought the limited edition merchandise collaboration of the Broad and Murakami.



The 8-foot flower sculpture made of Murakami flowers is shown at the Takashi Murakami Artwork Exhibition. [Source: Author, Ellie Sohn]

Making a proper exit of the museum wearing the popular black Broad Museum x Murakami shirt, one last photo spot remains amongst the oak trees.

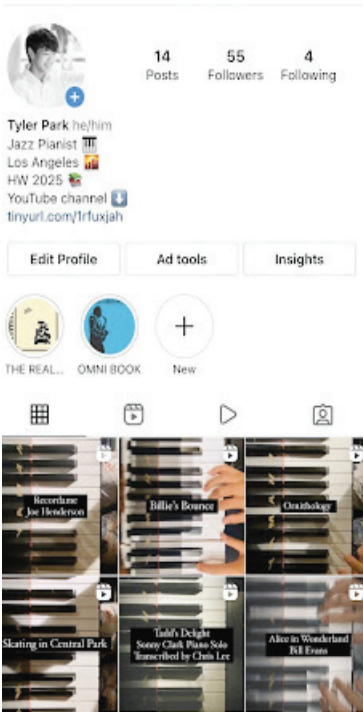


Student Reporter

Public Relations and Marketing Summer Internship at The Korea Daily



Tyler Park  
Grade 10  
Harvard-Westlake School



Building consistency in your Instagram account can help to make a social media account grow and flourish, tyler.park.jazz [Source: Author, Tyler Park]

As per the Datareportal January 2022 global overview, 4.62 billion people (58.4% of the world) use

social media, spending an average of 2 hours and 27 minutes daily. To put that into other words, every day throughout the world, the collective time everyone spends on social media equates to more than 1,292,123 years! From a statistical and cultural standpoint, it is evident that social media will continue to grow and will be a core aspect of society for years to come.

This summer, I enrolled in a summer internship program for the social media sector of JSR and have begun to learn the ins and outs of using social media for marketing and advertising purposes. During the first weeks of my internship, I did research concerning successful accounts on social media and how they distinguish themselves from the average account. I focused my research on the three main platforms for Gen Zs: Snapchat, Tiktok, and Instagram.

From what I learned, I found

that there were a lot of different accounts that posted varying content, but there was always a similarity within the social media accounts. That similarity is consistency. Whether an account featured content related to jazz or makeup, the success of a particular user was determined by the organization rather than the topic of what content creators posted. There needed to be a certain theme when going to a content creator's account. Whether it be an aesthetic theme or consistency within the content being posted, uniformity in the account was essential.

In order to obtain a better grasp of social media, I decided to make an Instagram account for myself. In the first week, I posted videos at different times of the day, with different filters and elements to the posts. Some videos ended with thousands of views and some only got around 50. From observations, I was able to conclude that the most tremendous success I

obtained was through posts that were similar to each other and had the same video format.

When interviewing a content creator who had seen great success in his social media account, he further emphasized the importance of consistency: "When you are consistent, you show your audience that you are always present and in touch with your brand, this gives your audience the feeling – that you will not let them down, it also helps you build brand authority."

All in all, internships like these are really great for adolescents such as myself to explore their personal interests and help them understand things that are new and constantly changing. In particular, learning about marketing and having experience in promoting a company through social media is something that I believe is a very important asset for everyone to have in the future.

Student Reporter

Fun at Orlando for the International Academic Competitions



Angel Song  
Grade 8  
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From June 17th through 21st, the 2022 Elementary and Middle School National Championship for the International Academic Competitions was held at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando, Florida. Competitors from across the country flocked to the hotel to participate in this competition opportunity.

Headquartered in Burlington, Vermont, the International Academic Competitions, IAC, organizes team and individual competitions for elementary and middle school students. Their events are held worldwide, including in the United States, Asia, and Europe. The matches are based on subjects such as history, geography, science, and the humanities. They usually take a bee form, utilizing buzzers and point systems that take a competitor



People filling into the ballroom to participate in the National Championships Exam [Source: Author, Angel Song]

out of the game once they reach six points, with each question being worth one point. There are four preliminary rounds before the students who score the highest in each round advance to the semifinals and, consequently, the finals.

This year's competition offered other academic events for the participating students and other adult competitors, such as the National Championships Exams, rather

than just the usual bee events. The championships exams covered diverse topics, ranging from history to biology. Each exam was different from the other. Students were given twenty-five minutes to answer a variety of multiple-choice questions and three winners were selected from each exam event and division.

History, geography, and science bee semifinals began on the

eighteenth. The next few days were filled with both semifinal and final rounds for the students advancing to the next level of their event. After the semifinals and finals, the finalists of the bee competitions were given trophies to mark their victory. The 2022 results can be seen on the IAC's official website.

There were also some exciting perks that IAC gave to the participants. Many people know that Florida is known for its beaches and theme parks, especially Disney World. However, not that many know about the Universal Studios in Orlando. Participating in the International Academic Competitions allowed participants food cards and tickets to Universal Studios upon request. Now that seems like a nice incentive to try out the competition!

Student Reporter

Summer is Here, Let's Play Ball!



Aspen Lee  
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As spring comes to an end, some fun activities are starting again, while others are taking a break. This includes one special league of baseball for students and adults with mild to severe Autism. High school students and other teenagers who were willing to give their time to help these players came together every Saturday throughout spring to play catch and hit home runs with their new friends. Some even began school together recently and played ball with each other during recesses and lunch.

Certain organizations, such as NCL, the National Charity League for moms and daughters, the Lion Heart organization, and others, send students and parents with experience on the field to play, help, and teach Autistic students and adults. From warming up on the field to running from base to base, these helpers dedicate their time to making



Both teams, the Astros and Cubs, lining up for certificates during their last game.

[Source: Author, Aspen Lee]

other people's days. As a result, the players are able to make lifelong friends and meet other students that attend the same school as them on a field that is welcome to everyone. Community groups and friends often ride their bikes to the park to play baseball with the players for two to six hours, increasing their knowledge of the game.

When the season came to an end, a summer crept in, tears were shed and hugs were passed with flowers, treats, and certificates. When the

last game ended, all the parents were invited from the stands to come down to the field to congratulate their sons and daughters on another season full of joy and wins. As each player was called to home plate, their coaches clapped proudly, and the team moms gave the trophies and prizes. Some of the helpers and students were with the players for over five years while for others, this season was their first. It was a memorable year, as the newest players and students came by to give a helping hand. Ava S., a member of NCL, mentioned, "[...]

Every Saturday afternoon was so fun because I got to help students I never thought I would interact with, and I had a place to throw the ball around with my friends and the players." These kinds of statements were shared by many, and returning helpers guided the players to share their great experiences and fun memories with their own families and friends. Words of encouragement flowed out of our mouths as we helped and through this, we were able to push each of the players to their full potential this season.