

Student Reporter

Exclusive Guide to Anime Expo



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One of many booths at the Anime Expo, showcasing popular game genshin impact fanarts
[Source: Variya Ratanakasikorn]

The Anime Expo took place from July 1st to July 4th at the Los Angeles Convention Center. It is the biggest celebration of Japanese pop culture in North America, as many people from all around the world come to take part. As this event takes place over the course of four days, each

and every day allows you to show up in a new cosplay outfit, meet new people, and explore new booths and places to take candid photos. Furthermore, Anime Expo features many booths containing a variety of merchandise, such as wall scrolls, fan art, keychains, figures, autographs, and much more!

This year's Anime Expo featured a bunch of new faces, including Carolina Ravassa (Raze from Valorant), Aoi Koga (Kaguya from Love is War), Doremi (famous cosplayer from Spiral Cats), and many more. Hatsune Miku, one of the most iconic characters in all of Japanese pop culture, is shown everywhere throughout this expo, seen from figures to cosplays.

One of the main attractions of the Anime Expo is cosplaying as your own character! Cosplaying is when

someone dresses up as their favorite character from an anime, manga, movie, or video game. When you arrive at the Anime Expo, you can meet some of your favorite anime characters in real life, and take photos with them, a memory you'll never forget! Some of the most famous characters to cosplay are Hu-tao, Ganyu, and Keqing, all of which are characters from Genshin Impact, released in 2020.

Other famous attractions only found at this event are concerts, dance floors, meeting famous voice actors, autographs, maid cafes, gaming, and screening. The Anime Expo convention center allows for all sorts of opportunities; the chance to meet people with similar interests, to show and promote fan art, buying limited edition figures, anime posters, and merchandise to bring home.

Often times, people go to the Anime Expo in large groups, accumulating over 200,000 guests over the course of 4 days. According to the people who attended this year's expo, it was by far the busiest this event has ever been, taking up to 2 hours just to get in. There was an exhibition hall, where you could see rows of booths containing everything an anime fan could ever want, from manga to full life-sized figurines. However, many people who attended this expo have stated the problem with pricing, as it is often seen as too expensive, although many anime fans will pay the price and be happy with the limited edition merch they obtain. At the end of the day, almost everyone showed their satisfaction with this year's expo, and hopes to return yet again for next year and have a great time! Hope to see you there!!

Student Reporter

HOSA International Leadership Conference 2022



Trinity Lee

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This year, I had the privilege of attending the HOSA International Leadership Conference (ILC). HOSA, otherwise known as Health Occupations Students of America, is a student-led organization that ranges all the way from elementary students to adults that are either interested in or are already a part of the biomedical or healthcare field. HOSA also operates in small branches, extending across the world in different forms, such as school clubs. As someone who has always been passionate about pursuing a career in the medical field, I immediately joined HOSA once given the chance. However, HOSA does more than just introduce students to the variety of paths in healthcare. Every year, HOSA offers a variety of events pertaining to specialties in which students may compete in, such as the HOSA Bowl or Forensics. Each event has different guidelines and regulations, and the top placers in their event from each country or state



One of the many stands at the HOSA Expo, where students are given the opportunity to explore different specialties or technological innovations.
[Source: Author, Trinity Lee]

are ultimately selected to go to ILC to compete once again.

This year, ILC was in Nashville, Tennessee, with the conference itself being held in the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. ILC spanned for five days, with different events being held on each day, and a variety of clinics and opportunities being offered to students. On the first day, there

was an opening ceremony, where different states and countries, including South Korea, Trinidad & Tobago, Puerto Rico, and Canada were introduced by their individual flags. The ceremony was astonishing, as it was extremely lively, like a concert, with students even handing out colored lights to wave in the air. Furthermore, at the end, we were graced by the presence of Dr. Mike, who gained fame through social media. The next few days were much calmer, with students spread out across the entire hotel, touring the attractions that the HOSA organization had prepared. I spent the majority of my time at the HOSA Expo, a convention where multiple stands were spread out, all offering different opportunities pertaining to healthcare. In particular, I was interested in a stall that offered hands on practice using suture pads or fake limbs. However, besides the overwhelming amount of options offered at the Expo, there were also clinics offered by

professionals and specialists that either advised students on how they could reach the career of their dreams or taught certain practices, such as surgical skills.

After the last day of events, there was a closing ceremony, in which the top ten teams or individuals from each event were selected to go on stage and receive their awards. Just like the opening ceremony, the closing ceremony was just as lively and wild, with students screaming and cheering, and music blasting at full volume. However, after the ceremony, a gala was also held for the students to dance and enjoy themselves. Though the trip in itself was exhausting due to the sheer amount of walking around the resort, HOSA ILC 2022 was an eye-opening experience for me, in which I was not only able to explore opportunities in the field I am so passionate about, but also meet and socialize with others from all over the world.

Editors Column

Trip to City Hall with the LEE12 Leadership Program



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The city of Los Angeles is subdivided into 15 different council districts, each of which is represented by a council member. Council members are the city's legislators, acting as representatives for their constituents in the districts that they represent. As a resident of Los Angeles's 12th district, my representative is council member John Lee. Recently I was a participant in his student leadership program, LEE12. This program was started by council member Lee, done to foster youth leadership in the community. As a member of the 2022 spring cohort, I was able to work with other youth in my community, the council office, and the non-profit Change Reaction.

For my cohort, the council office offered many unique opportunities. In the early weeks of the program, we learned about local government and the role of the council office in our daily lives. Because of COVID, all of the initial meetings were online. However,

following the online meetings, we met in person for a dinner at Los Toros in Chatsworth to pitch our non-profit ideas to the council office staff and the heads at the Change Reaction. Change Reaction is a non-profit organization based in Los Angeles that hopes to create a new way of giving, providing Angelenos with direct support. In collaboration with Change Reaction, all pitched non-profit ideas received a \$1,000 grant from the non-profit.

My non-profit organization idea was started with two of my friends and fellow members of the LEE12 program. All three of us are musicians and overall music lovers, so we decided to create an organization that is based on our passion: music. Our organization is called VAMP, which stands for the Valley Music Project. We hope to help youth musicians in the San Fernando Valley grow their presence through gig opportunities and financial support. The

founding of this organization would not have been possible without the LEE12 program or support from the Change Reaction.

After our first in-person meeting with Change Reaction and other LEE12 members at Los Toros, our final meeting was at City Hall in Downtown Los Angeles. This meeting was to properly culminate our time together as LEE12 members. During this

time, we sat in on a council meeting and traveled to the top of the City Hall to the Tom Bradley Tower. Afterward, we went to Grand Central Market and had lunch.

All in all, the experience of being a LEE12 member has been incredibly rewarding. Becoming more involved in local government and leadership programs is a great way to meet new people and create a valuable community.



A city council meeting takes place at Los Angeles City Hall in Downtown LA.
[Source: Author, Claudia Shin]

Student Reporter



Aaron Won

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The Future of Homes at FivePoint Valencia



The FivePoint community pool and clubhouse, next to houses under construction, with the Six Flags Magic Mountain tower in the distance [Source: Author, Aaron Won]

FivePoint Valencia is a brand new neighborhood in development, near Six Flags Magic Mountain. As a company solely working in California, FivePoint strives to transform the landscape of homes, parks, and gathering spaces across cities on the West Coast. With previous projects in Irvine and San Francisco, they have brought their expertise in the home building business to Los Angeles County. Their most extensive and advanced development, FivePoint Valencia, stretches across 15,000 acres with 21,500 planned homes.

This large and ambitious plan was initially conceived in the 1980s but did not begin major construction until 2017. In December of 2021, it opened to the public with a variety of model home collections by Lennar, Toll Brothers, KB Home, Richmond American Homes, Tri Pointe Homes, and many others that welcomed a fresh palette of modern design. With a collection of 17 homes of different sizes, styles, and prices, many of these are now opened and ready to be sold. The Toll Brothers, an award-winning home builder, offers the largest houses in the neighborhood. The Skylar home collection

from the Toll Brothers features expansive indoor areas and remarkable outdoor living spaces. Progress for all home-building companies has been strong, even with the difficulties that COVID may have presented. Daniel Rumoro, an associate sales consultant for Toll Brothers, says, “We should be done [with construction] in two and a half years, and the whole FivePoint should be done in around 20 years. . . There could be some progress delays once in a while due to COVID, but we’ve been very well prepared with this project.”

Accompanying these houses are parks and gathering spaces that focus on bringing people together. With greenways and trails threaded throughout the entire community, the neighborhood allows for walking, biking, and driving electric vehicles (NEV) safely and efficiently. FivePoint strives to build a strong sense of community amongst everyone. The Confluence Park, located at the heart of the community, allows people of all ages to connect with others and nature. The project also encompasses community

pools, poolside cabanas, adventure playgrounds, community gardens, lounges, and a garden home. To date, there are three different community pools, including an Olympic-length competition pool and a lap pool. Their vision is to create a new kind of community – an evolved and more connected way of life.

Most importantly, FivePoint Valencia is making significant efforts toward conscious living. As a commitment to environmental sustainability, every home is powered with solar energy and equipped with electric car chargers. This new development aims to be a community with net-zero energy use and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. Their emphasis on nature preservation has brought about special conservation areas throughout the neighborhood, creating a balance between home life and the world of nature. With various technological and eco-friendly practices, the most environmentally sustainable planned community in California, if not the United States, is right around the corner.

Student Reporter



Jiyong Kwak

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Experience Attending a Classical Music Concert

As my family went into Aram Nuri Arts Center on a rainy day, there were hundreds of people waiting for the MATINEE concert to begin. The MATINEE concert is one where you can listen to classical music from an orchestra every two months. This concert educates people that are unfamiliar with classical music and provides cultural information. The music that was performed during this performance was composed by Mozart and Haydn. It was published during the 18th century.



The concert hall before starting the MATINEE performance.

[Source: Author, Jiyong Kwak]

The concert started with a brief explanation from the commentator. The first music was Mozart’s Impresario Overture, which was composed in 1786. It had a strong first impression because the music was repeatedly loud and quiet. The second piece was Haydn’s Cello Concerto No. 1. A cellist came out and synchronized with the orchestra. The music was smooth and

sounded relaxing. The third was Symphony No. 29, which made the concert hall a more attentive environment. After that, the cellist played Mark Summer as an encore. He used the cello in a different way, by hitting the string and the body. It was a unique way to perform music, and the cello went well with the music. The fourth piece was Symphony No. 45, “Farewell.” The commentator

explained that it was composed to encourage the orchestra that Haydn was in. The owner of the orchestra enjoyed it so much that he gave all the performers a vacation. During the performance, the members of the orchestra left one by one as a way to symbolize the vacation that the other members of the orchestra had. Lastly, the orchestra encored Haydn Symphony No. 101. After it fin-

ished, the concert ended with a bow from the orchestra to the audience.

When the audience was asked what they liked about the concert, one member stated, “Being able to listen to an orchestra that performs classical music relatively cheaply was one of the main attractions of this concert.” When they were asked about their favorite music and why, someone stated, “Mark Summer is my favorite music. It is because I prefer cello and the cellist did a great job introducing a new way of playing the cello.”

Attending this concert helped me find that classical music gives you a time of relaxation and energy that will motivate you to try harder in your future. By doing so with people that came with you, such as friends or families, you could connect with them using the power of music.

Student Reporter



Subeen David Yu

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Summer Vacation without Social Distancing

After nearly two years, the Korean government announced the social distance cancellation. In 2019, COVID-19 was spreading all around the world. Due to Coronavirus, people were required to wear masks. Moreover, many people could not enjoy their summer vacation and had to stay home. Starting on April 18, 2022, the Korean government announced that no more social distancing is required.

After the Korean government announced the social distance cancellation, hotels, lodging, and aviation had already been sold out since early summer. Also, people went to the beach, valley, pool, and even other countries to enjoy their vacation.

Even though many people



People eating and trying to dive into the Valley now that social distancing is no longer a rule. [Source: Author, Subeen Yu]

were infected by the Coronavirus and have an immune system, there is a growing concern about reinfection. As people started enjoying their vacation, the infection rate increased, and there were new viruses such as Monkeypox.

People must worry about the in-

crease in infection rate. Unlike other viruses, COVID-19 has the characteristic of changing and evolving. Without social distancing, people might be infected by mutant viruses. Unfortunately, these days there is a new virus called Monkeypox. Thankfully, there is no Monkeypox in Korea; however, people should still be aware of viruses.

A Paju citizen in his 40s stated that “...I took off my mask and came to the valley at the end of June to play in the water. I’m still worried about COVID-19, but I’m very happy to play in the water like this. This year, I will go on trips that I haven’t enjoyed for two years.”

In an interview with the head of health policy working at the Goyang Health Center,

Director of Health Policy, Dae-song-ho said COVID-19 is currently a second-class infectious disease. Although the social distancing rule has been removed, it is important to still be safe because of other viruses and variants. Therefore, it is recommended to follow safety rules, wash your hands, and wear an indoor mask well.