

Inside Fullerton’s Newest Coffee Shop



Emily Lee
Grade 12
Sunny Hills High School

Situated in Fullerton’s North Euclid Shopping Center is RNT Coffee, a Korean cafe that officially opened on June 20 this summer. Its name draws inspiration from Robert Frost’s poem, “The Road Not Taken,” and they serve a wide variety of coffee, ceremonial matcha, specialty drinks, pastries, and even gelato. Seeing some buzz about this place online, I took an afternoon visit on Saturday, July 25.

Upon entering the coffee shop, I immediately noticed its bustling atmosphere, as all of the seats and tables were filled with customers chatting with one another, and the staff was busy mixing and pouring drinks behind the counter. Design-wise, the store has a minimalistic and modern style with simple wood furniture, bright green plants, and soft yellow lighting. There are outlets and Wi-Fi available, so it seems like a great place to not only talk and eat, but also to study or work productively. They even have a tiny merch section, featuring jackets, crewneck sweatshirts, T-shirts, and tumblers with their RNT logo.

Despite how busy it was, the



An iced vanilla latte, strawberry matcha einspanner, and squid ink salt bread sit on a table at RNT Coffee in Fullerton’s North Euclid Shopping Center. [Source: Author, Emily Lee]

employee who took my order was kind and patient, providing me with recommendations on what to get. I ended up buying an iced vanilla latte, strawberry matcha einspanner, and squid ink salt bread. The order came out pretty quickly, and it was served to me while I was sitting down, which was another nice touch.

Starting with the latte, it was

smooth and not too sweet, but there was a slight misugaru aftertaste, and it did not particularly stand out from other vanilla lattes. As for the strawberry matcha einspanner, at first glance, it was very visually pleasing with its distinct layers of strawberry compote, matcha, and cream. As someone who prefers a more fruit-forward matcha, I appreciated how RNT

does not skimp on the strawberry, as doing so allowed the matcha flavor to come through without being overly bitter or making the overall drink too sweet. However, I feel like this matcha was a little overpriced for how small it was, especially because other popular spots in the city, such as Vivot Craft Cafe and Sip N’ Savor, charge a bit less for larger drink sizes. Lastly, the squid ink salt bread was soft, fluffy, and buttery with a slightly richer and more umami taste than a classic salt bread. Its savoriness contrasted nicely with the sweeter drinks, making this a tasty and well-rounded combination.

Overall, I believe that RNT Coffee is worth trying when in the area. The minimalist design style, decent drinks, and yummy pastries created an enjoyable cafe experience. In the future, I hope to try their Korean-inspired drinks, specifically the black sesame misugaru, as well as their gelato. This coffee house is just one of many examples of an increasingly trendy, creative, and student-focused cafe scene in Fullerton, so stop by and support local businesses if you have the chance!

Importance of Clubs in High School



Ryan Park
Grade 12
The Science Academy STEM Magnet

Students who attend high school in the United States can expect to receive a well-rounded education—one that covers major subjects like English, math, science, and history. However, what most students don’t realize is that there are endless skills and opportunities that lie beyond their classrooms. High school clubs are becoming more important in order for students to explore their different interests and to find themselves in educational settings outside of their typical studies.

There is a wide catalog of different clubs, each serving its own unique purpose. Normally, they are split into these major categories: academics, service or leadership, culture, and recreation. Academic clubs are for studying and competing against other schools; service or leadership clubs aim to guide students to interact with their communities; culture clubs represent diversity; and recreation clubs are mainly focused on entertainment. Each one serves a distinct purpose, so it’s important to understand what each one offers!



One of the many clubs at my school, Paratus Learning, allows students to gain the opportunity to interact with the political science field, with topics like environmental justice and student education. [Source: Author, Ryan Park]

Clubs can also provide a sense of community for their members. During meetings, you are able to interact with different students with similar interests as yourself! It’s a fun way to get yourself out there in your school, meet new individuals, and explore the unknown.

To showcase all the clubs provided, schools typically host an

event called Club Rush. At Club Rush, club representatives are positioned throughout, promoting their clubs and recruiting new members to join! This is a perfect opportunity for students to engage with current members and to determine which clubs interest them the most. After talking and looking around at the different clubs, students should create a

list of the ones they would like to join and test them out. Students are able to do this by attending the introductory meeting for each club, allowing them to get a general feel and a gist of what the club is like and how it functions. Based on this, students should cut down their list of clubs to a smaller selection that they are definite about joining. This is incredibly important! Students who join too many clubs end up spreading themselves too thin with too many commitments. It’s hard to dedicate enough time and commitment to each club so that you are able to give them your full attention and succeed as a member.

Joining these clubs functions as a great opportunity for students to experience what it’s like in these different environments outside of the classroom. Often, these clubs provide you with the opportunity to explore what you could possibly be majoring in college as well! High school is the perfect time to do this, as the majority of students are just starting to figure out the type of career they hope to pursue.

Forgetting Fun For Free



Chloe Je
Grade 11
Buford High School

Ask any group of teenagers in this day and age about their plans on a weekend night, and the answers will almost always involve spending money. Getting a drink, going shopping, seeing a movie, eating out, or visiting any type of entertainment center are the go-to amusements that require breaking out the wallet. Even an afternoon spent just seeing familiar faces can quickly be another reason to spend money—after all, how do you expect to have fun without purchasing an experience?

The price tag that comes with having fun is not entirely this generation’s fault, however. Teenagers are growing up in a culture where social media is constantly advertising experiences to them. Their feeds are filled with trendy cafes and shopping trips, concerts, vacations; the list goes on. Influencers rarely post about themselves sitting on a friend’s porch or walking around the neighborhood. Instead, outrageous situations, big numbers on purchases, and unusual extremes are often depicted. Entertainment is presented as a product that can only be found in a shopping bag, restaurant, or ticket.

Unfortunately, the result is that ordinary activities begin to seem boring by comparison. A



Staying in the library with friends can be a great option, since they’re public access, completely free, and allow the group to engage in an activity. [Source: Author, Chloe Je]

walk is less exciting than a trip to the mall. Making coffee at home feels a little less special when you could make it an occasion to try the latest cafe trending online. Watching a movie in someone’s living room is great, but it’s not as impressive as being able to go see it when it first hits the big screens. The issue isn’t that teenagers simply enjoy spending money for the sake of it—if anything, social media has actually helped many teenagers become more economically and politically aware

of the impact and small changes that happen to influence where we put our money. However, this double-edged sword becomes problematic when spending money becomes a requirement for socializing. When a baseline is set with high expectations to define a “good time,” not surpassing it can feel like being left behind.

The reason for all this spending is also, in part, due to the expansion of options. Many previous generations did not have

alternative forms of entertainment, which forced teenagers of the past to find more creative ways to pass the time that didn’t involve a lot of money. Boredom today has been solved by quick fixes and easy access, creating a culture where teenagers are unable to be okay staying bored. The moment that nothing is happening, the phone is the first thing to grab. Yet, boredom is actually useful: it gives the mind quiet time to think and come up with creative ideas that never otherwise would have arisen if it were constantly bombarded with stimuli while scrolling. Boredom presents the unique opportunity to engage in deep thought.

Additionally, having fun for free isn’t synonymous with doing nothing. Teenagers can still enjoy their time by having picnics, visiting a park, playing a sport, going on a photo walk, baking, exploring a neighborhood, hiking, hosting a game night, and so much more.

Teenagers have not lost the ability to have fun without spending money—they have simply fewer choices and opportunities to practice it. The solution is perhaps not to reject cafes and shopping trips, but to stop treating them as if they are the only option and instead expand our palette.

Student Reporter

Soccer in the Heart of Los Angeles



Jordyn Bak
Grade 11
Mira Costa High School

With the end of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, soccer players have started to return to their club teams. In addition to their return, the FIFA World Cup has garnered new fans of soccer. This was very apparent when I recently attended a Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC) vs. Sporting Kansas City (SKC) game on July 25th. Los Angeles, being home to one of the biggest Korean-American populations, seems to have brought fans into LAFC with Korea’s star player, Hueng-Min Son.

Hueng-Min Son is currently regarded as the best soccer player in Asia and the team captain for the Korean national soccer team. In the Korean team, he was generally deployed as a forward and center for attacking. In contrast, Son tends to play more of a creative and versatile role in LAFC as an attacking midfielder.

His skills were immediately displayed within just a few minutes of the start of the game. Son scored the first goal, catching SKC off guard. Denis Bounaga, player 99 and a forward and left winger, scored in the 37th minute. David Martínez, player thirty and a forward, scored another goal in the



The opening of the Los Angeles Football Club game starts with the Pledge of Allegiance. [Source: Author, Jordyn Bak]

49th minute during overtime. To top it off, Bounaga once again scored in the 85th minute, moments before the end of the game. The four goals made for a devastating defeat to SKC, with the final score being four to zero.

Paired with an enthusiastic crowd, the game ended with

a victorious conclusion for Los Angeles. Throughout the game, LAFC fans chanted and utilized percussion to liven up the scene. On top of the drums, flags were being waved from start to finish during the game. There were two to three chants, but it was pretty difficult to discern the exact words. But a simple chant that

I even picked up was the chant that shouted “Sha-la-la-la-la-la... L-A-F-C!”. In addition to the chanting, the fan cams consistently featured attendees dancing and chanting during intermissions as well.

Fans were also crowding towards the merchandise stores. Within the BMO Stadium, there were many stores, but only the main one contained all of the merchandise for every player. There was a long line that I waited in for about ten minutes to enter the main store. From jerseys to soccer balls, every official LAFC merchandise could be found. The sizes varied from adult to even kids’ sizes. I decided to purchase Son’s jersey, which cost about \$130.

Despite this being my first soccer game, I found myself having a great experience and wanting to come to it more often. The enthusiastic crowd of Los Angeles and the unwavering strength of the LAFC players showed me another aspect of Los Angeles I never knew. By the end of the game, I not only left with a jersey but also a better sense of the Los Angeles spirit.

Student Reporter

Summer at the Jangheung Water Festival



Jisu Wi
Grade 10
New Covenant Academy

The Jeongnamjin Jangheung Water Festival is one of the major summer events in Korea. The festival has been held every year since 2008, and this year, it took place from July 25 to August 2. During my stay in Korea, I had a chance to visit the festival and experience the entertainment there.

The festival presents numerous activities. The main ones include banana boats, water bikes, water slides, and water pools. Several activities, like the water bikes, require a fee to be paid in order to enjoy them. However, the festival itself does not require an entrance fee, so visitors can enter freely. While some attractions take place in the natural river, there is also a separate water play area with water slides and pools. This area operates in a rotation of 45 minutes of play time and 15 minutes of rest time. Everyone has to leave the water when the play time is over, and during that rest time, the festival staff cleans up to improve the experience for visitors.

One of the most famous parts of this festival is the water gun fight. With water guns, people can shoot at anyone, even though they



The Jangheung Water Festival provides perfect water activities to refresh people in the hot summer weather in Korea. [Source: Author, Jisu Wi]

do not know each other. Along with this, there is an event called “Catch the Golden Fish!,” where visitors go into the water and try to catch fish with their hands. Among the fish is a special tag for the golden fish, which is a giant eel. When you catch the golden

fish, you receive a local product as a prize. Visitors can bring home the fish they catch, but only up to five fish can be taken.

The festival is also known for its performances. In the center area, there is a big stage where the

performances take place. Taekwondo teams, K-pop idols, and other performers take the stage to make the festival more engaging. K-pop performances happen at night, starting at 7 p.m., while other shows take place throughout the afternoon.

Inside the festival grounds, there is a CU, which is a Korean convenience store. This allows visitors to buy anything they need during the day. In particular, the shop stocks plenty of ramen and ice cream since many visitors enjoy these treats. You can see many people eating ramen when they get hungry and ice cream when they want to cool down with something refreshing.

My visit to the Jangheung Water Festival was a wonderful experience that allowed me to try many unique activities and make great memories with my family. Especially during the hot and humid summer weather, this festival helped me cool down and made my day more exciting. Because of this, I realized why many people come to this event and spend their time there. Overall, the Jangheung Water Festival is a perfect way to enjoy summer in Korea!

Student Reporter

Seeing Art Differently at the Guggenheim



Kaylyn Wee
Grade 11
Ayala High School

An elegant, white circular walkway stretches upward endlessly, with curved stairs and open spaces surrounding visitors at every turn. Each piece of artwork, made from the most unexpected materials, lines up against the wall, creating an experience where visitors encounter art in the most abstract and unique ways. As I curiously made my way through the Guggenheim Museum, I found myself fascinated by the fact that I kept looking at more than just the artwork: I was looking at the building itself.

During my week-long trip to New York this summer, visiting the Guggenheim was one of the places I was most excited to see. As a student who takes visual art at my school, OCSA, I had seen photographs of the museum before, but being inside the concrete building gave me a completely different perspective. The moment that stood out to me the most came when I had taken my first step onto the marble floor and noticed a large mirror in a frame on the first floor. Written across the mirror in white, spray-painted letters were the words “Prom-



The “Promised Land” mirror in frame reflects the plants and decorations inside the Guggenheim Museum. [Source: Author, Jenny (Sion) Kim]

ised Land.” To me, it felt like the mirror was reflecting the plants and decorations around the museum, placing the words within the space itself and thus making the land being reflected in the mirror represent our own world. The piece became my favorite in the museum because of how an ordinary object could be transformed into something that made

me stop and think, allowing me to dive more deeply into the real definition of “art.”

While I was looking at the piece, I noticed another visitor standing nearby and looking at the mirror for a long time. We were strangers, but noticing that we were both standing in front of the piece for quite a long

time, we began talking about the artwork and what made it so interesting. “It has brought a different perspective of creativity to my mind,” she stated. Hearing someone else describe a reaction similar to my own made me realize that art does not always need one clear interpretation, and that a single piece can lead different people to completely different ideas.

Beyond the artwork itself, the Guggenheim’s curved walls, open spaces, and continuous pathway made the building feel like an essential part of the experience. While my mom was especially drawn to the museum’s architecture and design, I was captivated by the unexpected creativity behind each piece. What stayed with me was not one particular painting or sculpture, but the new perspective I had gained from seeing art differently. The Guggenheim had reminded me that creativity does not have to follow familiar boundaries, and it gave me a new approach to my own work, encouraging me to create with greater curiosity and an open mind.