

FIVE

ISSUE #17 - 2015

THE MEMORABLE ISSUE



Brielle & Edelys dabble in espionage.



Sean & Sevan reach the Everest base camp.



Lucas & Patrick scan the horizon for the dreaded white whale.



Chelsea & Magalis win the Tour de France.



Christina & Sabrina detect the distant sound of a cattle stampede.



Enrique & Dylan are nominated for 9 Oscars.



Joseph & Paul prepare to base jump from the top of the Freedom tower.



Anne & Tiffany stumble onto a fossil linking humans to aliens.



Julie & Nathaly walk a tightrope over Niagara Falls.



Ezekiel & Aaron climb the Dawn Wall of El Capitan without ropes or equipment.



Valeria & Mikhaela escape from Alcatraz.



Smart Partners is the after-school mentoring program of The 52nd Street Project. Fivey is the program's annual magazine.

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FROM THE EDITORS' DESKS

The 52nd Street Project has a mission statement for its Smart Partners program, and it goes like this: *The 52nd Street Project's Smart Partners mentoring program brings together kids and adult mentors in collaborative relationships that foster open and equal exchange, lifelong learning, and sustained connection.*

That's a fancy way to say that, for years, the kids of the Project and their adult mentors have shared countless adventures together in this concrete jungle. They've built friendships by taking endless opportunities to create, learn, and challenge themselves. New York City, with its rich cultural tapestry, has been the backdrop of these experiences, and *Fivey* magazine has been the place to document them. This year, rather than sticking to the theme we originally came up with for this latest issue, we decided to simply let *Fivey* be what it has always been: a space to celebrate the Smart Partners. Check out Chayse and Korey's interview with actor Sheldon Best, whom Chayse interviewed after watching his moving performance in the play "Brownsville Song." Discover Leah and Tasha's opinion of the sushi at Ageha Restaurant in Hell's Kitchen, not to mention their opinion of the Smart Partner food budget. On said budget, Ruby and Molly could not afford to climb Mt. Everest, so they lived vicariously through Jon Krakauer, reading his memoir "Into Thin Air" before baking a cake rendition of his deadly climbing expedition. The kids at the Clubhouse ate it up without reservation, even the gummy "victims." Finally, if you'd like to enjoy an entire cornucopia of Smart Partner adventures, you could skip over to page 30 for a submission by SP Adult Jason Hare. As a graduation tribute to his SP Kid Michael Bannister, Jason compiled 7 years of photos to chronicle the most memorable moments of their enduring relationship. But George and I suggest you read the magazine from cover to cover to enjoy each and every Smartner Adventure.

— Liz Bell

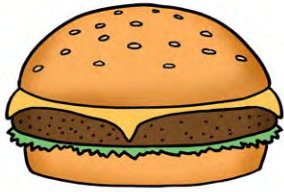


Liz & George edit and lay out the next issue of *Vanity Fair*.

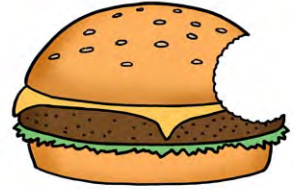
TIM J. LORD

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EZEKIEL and A-A-RON'S



HAMBURGER ONE-on-ONEZ COMPETITION

Shake Shack

691 8th Ave
New York, NY 10036
b/t 43rd & 44th St.
Hell's Kitchen, Midtown West,
Theater District

vs.

Island Burgers

766 9th Ave
New York, NY 10019
b/t 51st & 52nd St
Hell's Kitchen, Midtown West,
Theater District



Alright. So. Ezekiel and A-A-Ron know burgers. They have the best burger buds on any tongue in midtown Manhattan. They went out into the world to seek out the best hamburger in all of Hell's Kitchen and the galaxy. Here are their conclusions:

ISLAND BURGERS & SHAKES 4/10 STARS



SHAKE SHACK 9/10 STARS



Ezekiel: Island Burgers & Shakes **STINKS!**. My burger was fine because I got it well done, and I highly recommend you get it well done too. If you don't you will get a completely raw burger like A-A-RON!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I would give this place a 0/10 do not read A-A-RON's review on Island Burgers & Shakes, **DO NOT GO THERE!** As for Shake Shack it's pretty good. Okay I can't lie, it was great but it is not my favorite burger spot. I would give Shake Shack 9/10 which means Shake Shack won this ONE-ON-ONE!



A-A-Ron: Alright guys, Island Burgers & Shakes is a great place to take a 12 year old. Sort of. Not really. It has a pretty nice ambiance and good family vibes. As for their burgers, make sure you know what you're getting yourself into. I ordered a medium rare burger and without warning I was offered a still-mooing cow with lettuce and tomato and a sesame seed bun, sesames not included! Ya, so I had it sent back and actually cooked. Now, this burger was ok. And I mean just ok. For the top YELP rated burger in the area I was pretty disappointed. FYI if you order a medium rare burger it will be raw, and if you order a rare burger it will still have hooves on. Ezekiel warned me of this and

I totally dropped the ball. I need to listen to him more. He wants this review to be 0/10 asterisks but I'll give it 4/10 because the guy was nice and during the dinner, Ezekiel's mom sent me a picture of him in a suit, which was super cute. Anyway. The burger was just fine. Shake Shack dominates this ONE-ON-ONE. The sauce is great, the fries are crinkled and awesome and the Chocolate-Peanut Butter Malted Shake is thebomb.com. Get the double with cheese and treat yourself. This is not the place to get a Diet Coke with a Salad. It should be called THE INDULGENCE-HEART-ATTACK SHACK. But ya it's delicious. BOOM. ⑥

NEXT TIME ON BURGER ONE-ON-ONEZ:

**5 NAPKIN
BURGER**

VS.

**LUCKY'S FAMOUS
BURGER**



THE GREAT ADVENTURE

By Lakshmi De Jesus

There are all sorts of adventures, there are pirate's adventures, mermaid's adventures and even pool's adventures. But my adventure is a little different. My adventure is about a fairy who comes to earth.

Once upon a time a fairy from another dimension came to earth. The fairy didn't know that she was in earth. The fairy didn't know where to stay or live, instead she slept in the street.

The next day I found a fairy in front of the 52nd Street Project. And the bad thing is that it was raining, and her wings were wet. So I decided to take her home. On the way home, the fairy woke up.

The fairy said, "Where am I?"

I said "Hi, I'm Lakshmi."

The fairy acted confused. We both stayed quiet for a moment.

Then I asked "So what's your name?"

"Riely" The fairy said.

On the way home the fairy was getting a fever. Once I got home, I made some soup, and gave it to her. Once she ate the soup, Riely fell asleep.

Once she woke up, Riely said in an angry voice, "Man, I should've never come to earth."

"Well, don't push it," I said, "we can still be friends."

After that me and the fairy became friends. ⑤



GRB

THE END

INTO THIN CAKE

Not long ago, 14-year old Ruby Zamora read "Into Thin Air," Jon Krakauer's gripping account of an ill-fated expedition to the summit of Mt. Everest. She was so fascinated by the true story that she decided to make a special tribute to the book: A Mt. Everest cake. Ruby enlisted the aid of her Smart Partner Molly Coogan and together they created the miniature baked replica of the world's tallest peak that you see in these photos.

Ruby added Sour Patch Kid candies that represented "the bodies stuck in the side of the mountain because they'd been dead and frozen in there for so long." One figure positioned at a lower altitude was "Jon Krakauer at base camp because he survived but the Japanese lady didn't."

Molly said of the cake: "It was actually pretty yummy - not going to lie. I even had a bite, even though it was gluten filled. The Sour Patch Kids made my tongue feel like it was going to fall off, though." - GRB ⑤



(CITI)FIELD OF DREAMS NIGHTMARES

By Chanel Rodney and Lee Aaron Rosen

Lee: So, I had these four free tickets to the Mets-Brewers game at Citifield.

Chamel: I was like, “Sounds dope. Let’s go.”

Lee: We invited Josh Gomez and Stephen O’Reilly, the stars of our film masterpiece, “The One.”

Chamel: They did a good job. They deserved it.

Lee: We met up at the Project.

Chamel: When we were about to leave, Lee realized he didn’t have the tickets.

Lee: Yeah, uh, I had put them in my bag, and then given my bag to John Sheehy, who was going to bring it up to Washington Heights where we both live, so that I didn’t have to bring the bag to the ballpark.

Chamel: It was a rookie mistake. Lee was in complete and utter shock and was mad at himself.

Lee: It’s true. I was mad at myself. Really mad. Those of you who know me will not be surprised.

Chamel: And then Gus came up with the idea to have Lee bike up to John on 63rd Street.

Lee: Yeah, luckily, John went to the gym instead of going straight home, so I was able to catch up to him. I should add that I am considerably taller than Gus, and so I looked a little ridiculous hunched down on his bike. But it got the job done. I got the tickets from John and raced back to the Project.

Chamel: I’m surprised he got it done, to be honest.

Lee: If it takes a village to raise a child, it took the Project to recover Mets tickets. Everybody pitched in.

Chamel: By the time Lee had made it back, we had only finished three games of ping pong, surprisingly.

Lee (to Chamel): You expected to be able to play more?

Chamel (to Lee): I expected at least one more.

Lee (to Chamel): You insult me.

Chamel: We then were on our way. We walked to the N train on 55th and 7th, and caught the 7 at Queensboro Plaza.

Lee: It was a nice ride.

Chamel: Not for me, I’m scared of heights.

Lee: Yeah, when you look out the window it’s kind of a precipitous drop off the elevated track. Not for the faint of heart.



Chamel: It didn't last long, though. We made it there in one piece.

Lee: It was my first time at Citifield. I thought it was a beautiful ballpark.

Chamel: Not as great as Yankee Stadium.

Lee: What?

Chamel: You know, the Yankees are better than the Mets at everything. Crossing the street, Jenga, ping-pong, everything.



Lee: It's true. I am a Yankee fan. But I still think the stadium was nice. I liked the Jackie Robinson stuff you see when you first come in.

Chamel: It was pretty dope.

Lee: Also, it was free t-shirt night.

Chamel: It was. At that point, we decided to pick which teams we were going to root for. I stood out as the only Brewers fan in the bunch.

Lee: Yeah, even though I am a Yankee fan, I still felt like I had to root for the home team. You know how it is sometimes.

Chamel: Stephen and Josh asserted themselves as die-hard Mets fans.

Lee: So they were about to be very disappointed.

Chamel: As the game progressed through the fifth inning, the game wasn't looking very good for the Mets. They were finding themselves down and couldn't get a man on base.

Lee: I think they got one walk, right?

Chamel: Yeah, they were lucky it even was a walk.

Lee: The only thing worse than the hitting was Bartolo Colon's pitching.

Chamel: That is true.

Lee: I can't believe they kept him in the game!

Chamel: A 7-0 shutout! In Citifield! It seemed like a dream.

Lee: Or a nightmare, depending on your perspective.

Chamel: After a while, Stephen and Josh lost faith. I can't blame them.

Lee: Yeah, it was another rough chapter in the tumultuous history of the Mets. At least we got to sit behind Pin Man.

Chamel: Might have been the only good thing about the Mets that evening.

Lee: For people who don't know, Pin Man is this guy who wears a Mets jersey that says "Pin Man," and his jersey and cap are covered in light-up pins.

Chamel: I can say one good thing about Citifield: their food is pretty good.

Lee: Yeah, it's a real step up from Shea. So the game was over, and everyone was in a foul mood except Chamel.



Chamel: As we were leaving the stadium, Josh saw a little cap kiosk and decided at that moment that he needed a hat.

Lee: They were nice hats, I gotta say.

Chamel: He decided on an orange snapback. It was actually dope.

Lee (to Chamel): Even though it was a Mets cap?

Chamel (to Lee): Yeah, but you'll never catch me wearing it. 🍷

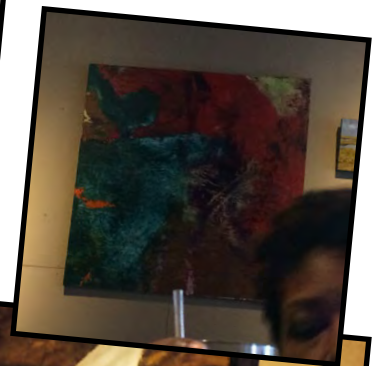


KARE THAI RESTAURANT

A REVIEW BY JAYLA ALVAREZ AND MARINDA ANDERSON

ATMOSPHERE

- Really pretty.
- Casual.
- Comfortable.
- Quiet atmosphere.
- Good music/ contemporary pop.
- Subdued lighting.
- Nice paintings.
- Mirrors (which enlarges space).



PHOTOS BY JAYLA AND MARINDA



SERVICE

- Fast.
- Very kind.
- Accommodating.
- Poured water without asking.
- Free lemon ice tea on the house for Jayla's birthday.
- Treated us like family.



FOOD

- Fresh.
- Cooked well.
- Fried rice-seasoned well with only egg, chicken, and rice.
- Skillfully prepared (fried ice cream).
- Fast.
- Favorites:
 - Jayla: "Fried ice cream."
 - Marinda: "Fried rice."
- Everything was fried and good!
- Non-favorites:
 - Jayla: "Thai ice tea (too much sweet milk)."
 - Marinda: "Ice cream insides. (Tasted like Breyer's. Maybe freezer burn?)."
- Nice variety.



Jayla: "I think this picture was on Halloween?"

PRICING

- Food was well-priced. (What goes around, comes around.)

OVERALL

- Jayla: "I give it 6 stars."
- Marinda: "4.5 stars." 5





"Brownsville Song" Actor Sheldon Best

Interview by Chayse Peña

Chayse's Assistant: Korey Jackson

October 23, 2014

"Brownsville Song" is a new play written by Kimber Lee and directed by Patricia McGregor that was performed at the Claire Tow Theater at Lincoln Center. It was about Tray who is a senior in High School who has a passion for boxing and is also applying to college. Tray has a little sister, Devine, who he loves, and Devine looks up to him a lot. They live with their grandma. Tray and his grandma have a strong connection. Devine and Tray have the same father but different mothers. Merrell, Devine's mother and Tray's stepmother, left them when they were very young, and that left Tray and his grandmother to raise Devine. A big part of the play is Merrell returning to try and be a part of Devine and Tray's life after being away a long time. But when she returns Tray and his grandmother say it's too late. This story takes place in Brownsville, Brooklyn which has a pattern of violence. This violence leads to a tragedy that shakes the whole family when Tray is tragically shot and killed. This story has multiple themes or universal messages for families about dealing with absent parents, and tragic loss.

I had the opportunity to interview leading actor Sheldon Best, who plays Tray in the play.

Chayse: Have you been in any other plays, or TV shows, commercials, or anything like that?

Sheldon: Yeah, I started acting professionally like seven years ago. And since then, I started my career since I graduated Brandeis University, which is just outside of Boston, and I got my first gig at the Berkshire Theater Festival, now called Berkshire Theater Group. Since then I started getting shows in Boston, and then I started getting shows in New York, and then I started getting shows regionally, and then a bit more in New York, doing Brownsville Song at LCT3 which you guys saw. I've gotten to do a little bit of TV stuff, so yeah starting to get my feet wet.

Chayse: Would you say it is harder working in a play on stage, or on camera?

Sheldon: Well they each have their unique challenges because when you have a play on stage you have a couple weeks of rehearsal, so it can be quite grueling. Then you get up on stage in front of people, and you have preview rehearsals, and you're rehearsing during the day and performing at night and implementing changes, so it can be a lot. Where as on camera, sometimes you don't get any rehearsal at all, so that can be less grueling but that can also add a lot of pressure, because you really gotta come in with your A game. You know, you might just get a set up with the camera where they say we're gonna have a rehearsal, and you run through it once or twice and then you go. You do as many takes as they need. So, in some ways, in terms of the amount of time that you spend creating a piece, theater can be harder in that way. But in the way that it's kind of executed, TV presents different challenges that make that really difficult.

Chayse: Which one is your favorite, like, if you had one choice that you could do the rest of your life, would you do stage, or...?

Sheldon: It's a tough question. I really like, um.. I guess at this point I would have to say theater because I've done so much more of it and I know this medium a little bit better. But I'm so interested right now in finding how to take what I've learned in theater and translating that into a new medium. So, working in TV and trying to start getting some films and stuff is really really interesting to me right now. I would have to say, if I HAVE to answer, I would have to say theater right now, but I'm really interested in also expanding what I know, so....

Chayse: When I was watching the play, I noticed the people you were acting with, you guys didn't know you were in a theater. It felt like it was an actual TV show, because when she was talking... I

don't know how to say it. The woman, she felt like she was really in a room by herself, in the first scene just talking, she sat still and throughout the whole play it was like that. That's what I liked about that. Was that hard?

Sheldon: That's a really keen observation. That's something that our director and playwright they really impressed upon us. It's very clear in the writing of the play, that there's something that is very naturalistic, realistic, and because of that it's almost cinematic in the way that it's done. It's not a play you necessarily want to fill the space and hit the back wall of this 1,000 seat theater. It's a very intimate house, there's only like 112 seats. That allows us to really have these very honest and real interactions with another person on the stage and kind of just live in that world and not necessarily worry about the things that you sometimes have to preoccupy yourself with in the theater to get your story out. So the director really wanted us to have this sense of ease throughout the play. At first, in the rehearsal process, it's scary thinking it feels good to do this, but right now there's no one else in this rehearsal room, so I can be as intimate as possible with this other person. I don't really have to share this with anyone else right now, because that's what we're working on. When we got up to the theater, you slip back into those old habits of making sure you're projecting, making sure you're doing what you're good at, but eventually we got back to what we found in the rehearsal room.

Chayse: How did you get into acting?

Sheldon: In high school, I was an athlete. I played Lacrosse. I saw a show at the end of my sophomore year in high school, and I was like, 'I wanna do that. I didn't know you guys did shows like this here.'



Sheldon Best with author Chayse. Photo by Corey Jackson.

They said, well if you're a Varsity athlete it's not likely you can take part because your schedule's so hard. But I auditioned and got a small role, and I went from school, to Lacrosse practice, to rehearsal. Then the next year I did the same thing and I had a bigger role. Then I got to college and I was like 'I wanna keep on doing this.' I still didn't know I wanted to do it as a profession. I just knew that I loved it, and I had a passion for it, and I wanted to do it as much as possible. And then in college when I started to take classes, and do shows, that's when I realized 'I think I want to go for this, like for real,

professionally, and just go for it.' And I had support from my professor's in college and eventually support from my family as well, and then I went for it. I've been fortunate enough and blessed enough to work, so I love it.

Chayse: There was a scene where you were jump roping in the background, and I noticed everything was on beat with the younger sister, I forgot her name....

Sheldon: Devine
Chayse: Yeah, Devine. How much rehearsal did that take?

Sheldon: We had Paloma McGregor, our choreographer come in and she worked with us on different things, and Kimber Lee, the playwright, she's also a boxer. And Patricia McGregor our director, we all had ideas about how Devine's world, when she conjurs up Tray, how this helps her through her moments when she's feeling really reserved and drawn in, and one of those moments is when she's doing the Swan dance. So they had us do the jump rope while she's doing the dancing, and you're right it is to the music which is tough in some ways because my instinct is to jump faster, so I had to make sure it was slowed down so that it was on the beat, and that kind of tripped me up a couple times in

rehearsals when we were getting it. But then I got used to the rhythm that we were doing. Our sound designer, Asa, he weaved in a tiny little tick to the beat in the music that comes up in the speaker behind me, so that I can hear it creeping up in the music before that moment when I'm supposed to start jumping because there are two beats going on. There's a hip-hop beat and there's Swan Lake, and Swan Lake swells at a different point than the hip-hop beat does, so it sounds at some points like the music as it comes together is sometimes harder to follow because one beat is slowing down a bit, and the other beat is not. So it was tricky, but we eventually got it.

Chayse: So how long was it to put the whole thing together after you got the script?

Sheldon: I was cast some time in June I would say. We had a three day workshop in July, and then we started rehearsals September 9th, and we went in to previews October 4th. Our official opening was October 20th and we play until November 16th. It was quite a short rehearsal process, after about two and a half weeks in the rehearsal room we were in Tech, and we had a week of Technical rehearsals. So it was fast. But at times it felt like, 'Oh my goodness, I can't do anything outside of rehearsals other than this play because I need to focus on this in order to get it done because we don't have that much time.' But we all got there.

Chayse: I do some short skit plays at the 52nd Street Project, and the last day everybody feels like kind of sad because it's all over. Did you have the same feeling?

Sheldon: Well thank god not yet, because we're still open. But I know that's gonna happen because this cast we've really bonded, everyone in the room. I think Patricia, our director, really set up an atmosphere of everyone coming in to do their work, but to also bond and make connections and create a family together and we would do this check in before every rehearsal where we just talk about where we are. You have people coming in and bringing their whole life and whole being into the room and then doing the work with all of that. In some ways figuring out what you have to leave at the door, but not really, because you bring it into the room and

so you're never looking at a person as just like this is what you're doing now. You are who you are, and now you're doing the work that we do, and I think it really helped us to bond as a cast.

Chayse: You guys had to learn fast?

Sheldon: It was quick. Especially because once you get into Tech, as I'm sure you know, the emphasis isn't so much on the actors anymore. There trying to get all the sound elements and the lighting elements, because (you've seen the play), you know in Devine's world when you see the flowers coming up and the lights changing and the music changing, those are things you have to run over and over and get the timing right and all these shifts right, and it takes a while to get it done properly. Even in the preview process you're making changes. It makes it so that, the acting stuff you want to work on, you have to say, 'Ok, I gotta get this done before we get to Tech' and continue to work on it, but you have to be at a certain point before we go away from the acting and get the technical stuff, and then come back to the acting and make it all come together.

Chayse: When you're on stage and the lights are on, and the play's going on, do you feel nervous? Do you feel hot, kind of?

Sheldon: You know, I had a professor in college once who likened how you feel when your nervous to how you feel when you're excited. She's like, you know, you get those butterflies in your stomach, your hands might get a little cold, they might shake a little bit. The same feeling that you get when you're anticipating something is also like when you're nervous about something. So I think hearing that helped me to change my frame of mind, and look at that nervous energy as more of an anticipation for getting ready to go in. So I don't get quite as nervous anymore. I get excited. And once the play starts I feel like there's something about this story and this character that I really connect to, and other people on the stage who've created these worlds and these relationships, and these lives together. I just connect with them, look in their eyes, and then I can really feel in the story and kind of forget that everyone else is there and just do it. So once we start, I don't feel nervous at all anymore.

Sometimes before we start, especially if I know I have a really good friend or family member there, 'what kind of show are they seeing today, I don't wanna think about that.' I just look at the other person and let it all go.

Chayse: Do you ever feel like you leave your body and you're no longer yourself, you become Tray now?

Sheldon: Yeah, you know, in those moments where you are like totally in the moment, which doesn't always happen, sometimes you get a little distracted you know. Sometimes in those moments when you're really doing the play, doing the story, sometimes I find that I get surprised that all of a sudden, I'll feel an emotional truth that is not my own, and I love that. I love getting lost in those moments where you just are completely telling the story and nothing else really matters.

Chayse: When you're onstage and you're like mid-way through, what's going through your head? Is the only thing on your mind, what's happening next?

Sheldon: Sometimes just what's happening in the moment is on your mind. Sometimes you have an audience that you're like, 'Oh my gosh, are they hating this, are they awake?' you're thinking about that. Sometimes you're like, 'Oh my shoelace is a little looser on this foot, I hope my shoe doesn't come off when I have to run backstage to make my next entrance.' So sometimes your mind goes everywhere, but usually I like to try to focus on the scene and the moment that's happening. Then when I get off stage, think about whatever else I have to think about, and then prepare for the next scene and the next thing I have to do.

Chayse: You grew up in Massachusetts?

Sheldon: No, I grew up in Brooklyn. I went to college in Massachusetts. I grew up not too far from Midwood High School and Brooklyn College.

Chayse: So did you feel like you could connect with Tray growing up in Brooklyn?

Sheldon: I did. I felt there was something when I read the play. I liked what the playwright's doing, I like this character, I like his spirit, I like his energy. Then when I started reading the scenes for the audition, there's this moment, like... You know like if you go into a store and you try on some clothes and something just fits? I tried it on, and was like, 'Oh!

Something about this really fits. I know this guy, or I know how to tell his story. Something about it, that I don't know how to put into words, felt really right. So, I was really glad that I got to work on it, because I felt like I was able to connect somehow on some level with Tray, that I didn't necessarily fully understand, but I was really glad that I could.

Korey: I'll ask one. How have younger audiences responded to the play?

Sheldon: The younger audiences have been more vocal. You can feel their response and how they're absorbing the play as you go through it. We had a group from Brownsville, a bunch of them were Girl Scouts from Brownsville. They came with Shirley, who works at the Brownsville Recreation Center, who is an amazing woman, and that organization is an amazing force in that community. They had some really insightful questions. They saw themselves in the play. They saw their lives, and their story, and people who looked like them, and talked like them, and you could tell that it really meant a lot for them to feel represented. Which I feel is what theater should do more.

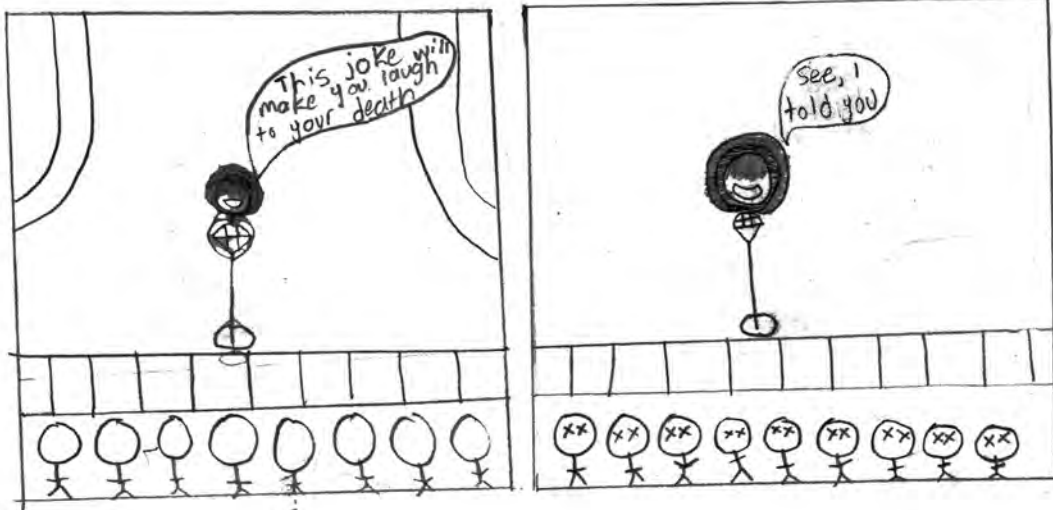
Chayse: What inspired you to become an actor?

Sheldon: I think there are some people in my family (I'm the only actor in my family), but there are some people in my family who are amazing storytellers. My Grandfather was one of them. My aunt Gee was one of them, and my uncle Andrew was one of them. You can hear a story a hundred times from them, but you will hang on their every word as if it's the first time. They will have you laughing with them. They'll have you on the verge of tears with them. There was something about that since I was a kid that fascinated me. The idea of being able to tell a story, and to embody the different roles in the story and to tell it in a way that people wanna hear it. Also, I loved cartoons, and funny voices. That's the first kind of acting I ever wanted to do, was the voice of cartoon characters. So I think there's something about storytelling and voices that inspired me.

Chayse: Thank you.

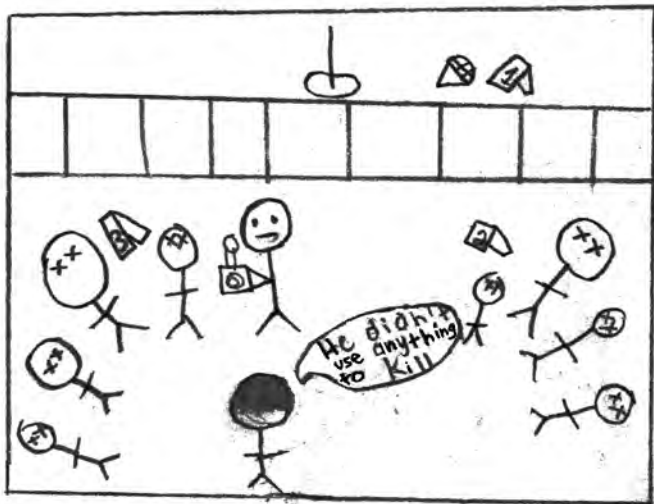
Sheldon: You're welcome. Thanks so much, Chayse this was great! You're a good interviewer. ⑤

KILLER COMEDIAN Graphic Novella by Alex Malan



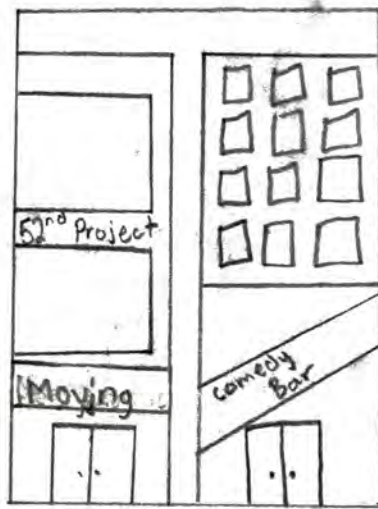
911: What's your emergency?
 Employee: Help a man just killed 50 people
 911: We are sending a ambulance and a detective
 Employee: He tied me up and did something with the surveillance video

THE NEXT DAY

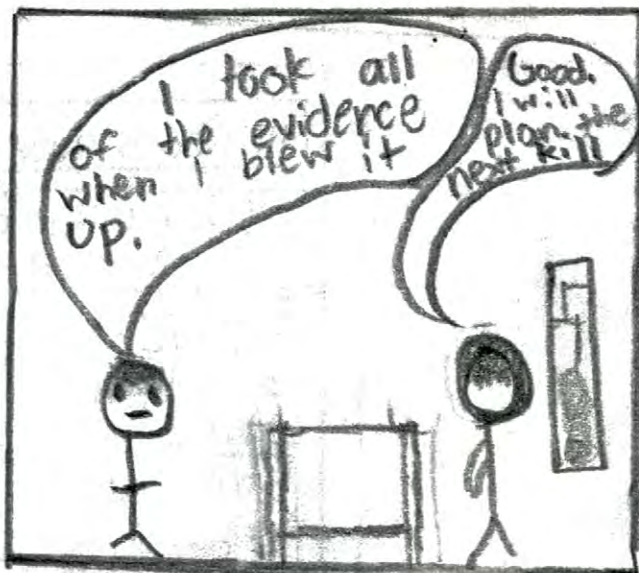
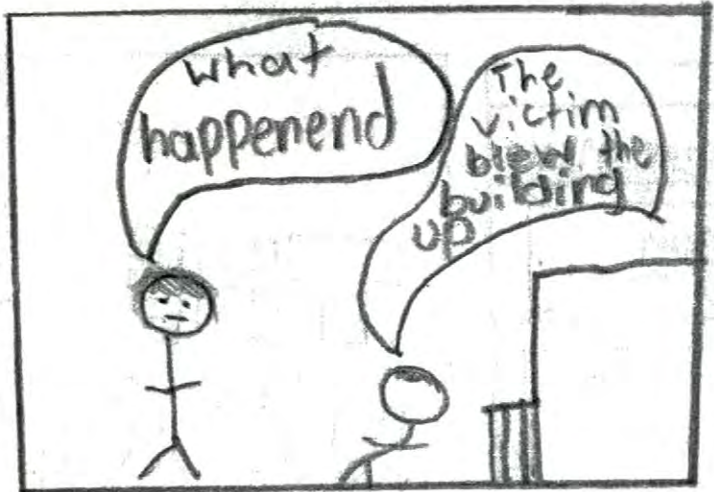
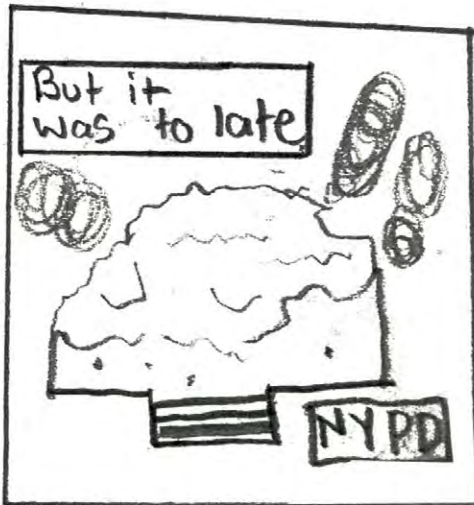
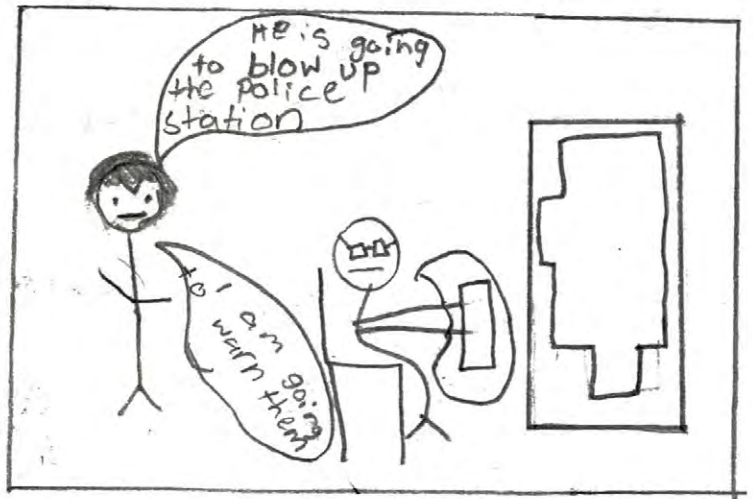
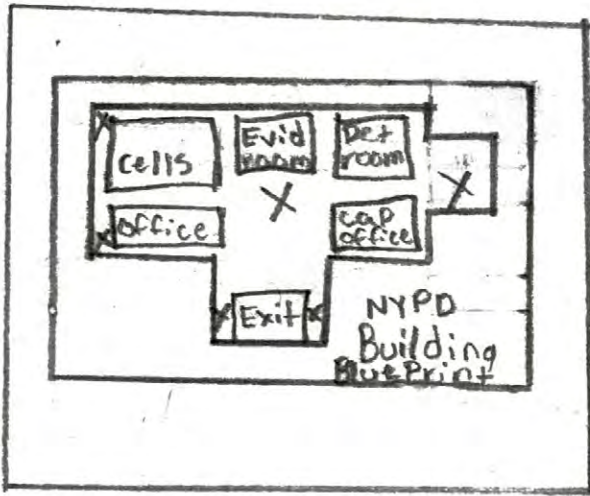


He blocked the computer so no video
 One witness but saw nothing but a guy in a hood
 Get a NSA agent to unlock it
 Bring the witness through interrogation

witness said he wore a hood and covered his face. This already happened a few years before I was a cop



unimportant nsa agent did find anything?
 Yes I have a bluePrint



THE END

if you are reading this you probably that I was writing bad stuff but I didn't. why are you still reading this. if I were you I would stop reading this. I guess you didn't see that I spelled stop wrong.

THE SHOW

By Valeria Oliva and Mikhaela Mahony



“Welcome to The Show, ladies and germs! Prepare to see the weird, the unnatural, the freakish lab-rats on display here tonight! You are going to be seeing their freakish abilities, their inhumanity, right here on this very spot. Please don’t forget to tip,” announced Joe, the circus owner. The crowd couldn’t wait. They didn’t believe that these children were able to do incredible things, like fly, shape-shift, control nature, and disappear. It seemed impossible. They were on the edge of their seats; they were silent.

But as the kids walked out of the darkness and into the light, they did not feel welcomed. The crowd made nasty faces and thought their “superpowers” were unholy. The people were only there to see if superhumans were real.

The audience sat in a circle of red seats behind glass protectors so they wouldn’t get hurt. But on the other side, safety was not an option. The superhumans had to fight each other in The Show in order to get food—they had to hurt their own kind to survive. The evil carnival host, the master of ceremonies, Joe, hid their food and forced them to fight for their food.

“We’re open every Wednesday. We care about your safety, that’s

why we put you in these glass protectors. Let’s introduce the competitors! Fly!”

A short girl with a messy bun stepped forward. She looked nervous to come out and express herself to the world. She blinked—she blinks a lot when she’s nervous.

“Introducing Fly: Mother Nature Number 2! She can do things you wouldn’t believe! Like control the planet! She’s able to move soil whenever she pleases! She’s able to control the rolling of the tides! She’s also a vegetarian! She is ready to fight for food.”

“In this corner: Wind!”

“We’re in a circle, there are no corners,” muttered Wind. A tall blonde stepped into the ring, her nose scrunched up in anger. “I don’t want to show my talent to people who won’t appreciate it. I’d rather be gardening. I could finally make a plant that won’t die.”

Joe gave her a mean glare. “Wind can levitate in mid-air! She can fly as high as the airplanes! She doesn’t need tools or machines to fly—she can do it on her own! She is ready to fight for food.”

“On this side stands Sixteen!”

Sixteen’s blue eyes stared at Joe with disrespect from under his

dark brown hair. He wanted to punch him in the face. He almost couldn’t bear his anger.

“He can disappear before your eyes! He can blend in with anything! He could follow you when you’re going home and you won’t even notice. He is ready to fight for food.”

“Last but not least...well, actually he is the least...Jet-Eye!”

Jet-Eye’s red hair was all-messed up like he’d just woken up. Because he had just woken up. He felt that it was wrong for people to pay money to watch violence.

“He can change into anything he wants! And I’m not just referring to clothes! He could become an elephant! He could become a dinosaur! He can turn into your favorite animal or person, or your worst nightmare. He is ready to fight for food.”

This is what the audience had been waiting for. The arena looked like a wasteland where all your dreams and hopes die. The superhumans were trying to find themselves in the wasteland.

“Get to your corners, lab rats!” Joe ordered.

“Again with the corners,” Wind said exasperatedly.

Joe was in the center of the are-

na with the superhumans on the edge—the edge of life and death.

“On your marks. Get set. Fight!”

Joe climbed up to the top of his lifeguard chair as the superhumans raced to the middle to begin the fight. They took off! Sixteen disappeared right away. Fly was in the process of creating a small tornado. Wind took off in mid-air. And Jet-Eye transformed into a ferocious alligator.

Before Fly could create the tornado, something took her off balance.

“Hey, who was that?”

“Who do you think?” Sixteen laughed sarcastically. “Tornados aren’t good for the planet. You should know!”

“I know they’re not good for the planet! It’s almost like I’m forced against my will!”

On the other side of the arena, the other two could relate.

“You can’t run, but you can hide,” Jet-Eye called out as he transformed into a pterodactyl.

“It’s the other way around, genius,” Wind complained up in the air.

Jet-Eye transformed as quickly as possible, catching up to Wind. Wind took off with speed, and Jet-Eye chased her.

“Bite her head off!” Joe commanded.

Jet-Eye snapped his big giant jaws at Wind.

“Hey! Eat something else!” Wind cried.

“I can’t help it! I’m trying not to, but I can’t!” Jet-Eye yelled apologetically. He tried stopping with all his force. They both toppled over the lifeguard chair,

knocking Joe, Wind, and Jet-Eye to the floor. Jet-Eye changed into his human form, trying to help Joe get up. But he noticed something that unsettled him. He saw an X mark near Joe’s ear. Slowly, as Wind got up, she stared at the X. She gasped in horror.

“It’s you!” Wind said angrily.

Sixteen and Fly continued fighting. Joe lay on the floor.

“You guys have to come see this!” Wind called out.

“We can’t stop fighting!” Sixteen said, sounding alarmed.

“You’re the guy who kidnapped us!” Wind said cautiously.

“I didn’t kidnap you. You came willingly,” Joe said.

“Yeah, he’s right,” said Jet-Eye.

“Wait a minute! I’m starting to remember!” shouted Sixteen.

“No, I’m losing control!” Joe whispered to himself.

“I’m starting to remember too!” said Fly.

“We used to be the best of friends. Now you dragged us over here to commit violence to each other!” commented Wind.

“Concentrate, Joe. CONCENTRATE!” Joe said angrily.

“How did you get us to come here?” Wind questioned.

“I’m really confused, guys,” Jet-Eye said, puzzled.

“Concentrate. You’ll never hypnotize them if you don’t concentrate,” Joe said a little too loudly this time.

“Wait a minute. What do you mean ‘hypnotize?’” asked Jet-Eye.

“You mind-controlled us!” Sixteen yelled.

“How else would I get you to come here? I wanted to see if there were others like me,” Joe cried.

“You could’ve just asked,” said Fly.

“You’re a monster,” shouted Sixteen. “You controlled us and forced us to fight against each other for a carnival show!”

“You want to see a monster? I’ll give you a monster,” Joe smiled evilly. He raised his arms like a conductor and manipulated the superhumans to battle each other.

But slowly, his powers were wearing off. The kids’ powers had become stronger as they’d grown up and now that they remembered who they were, they could not hurt one another. While Joe was overworking his mind control, he began to sweat and become dizzy, losing consciousness. He fainted. The superkids looked at Joe’s body with fright. Sixteen checked his pulse. But, he got nothing. Slowly, Sixteen got up and looked at his worried friends’ faces.

“He’s dead,” said Sixteen.

The audience gasped in confusion and fright.

“Now what?” whispered Fly.

The superkids stood in awkward silence, not knowing what to do next.

Jet-Eye stepped forward.

“Hope this was The Show you’ll never forget,” Jet-Eye said with a wicked smile.

The lights went out. ⑤

THE END

RECIPE by Tiffany Miller and Anne Troup

TIFFANNE'S BEST PANCAKES

Ingredients

- Pancake mix ² cups
- Milk 1 cup
- 2 eggs
- 20 chocolate chips
- 100 marshmallows



Directions

- Heat the pan
- Butter the pan
- mix in milk and eggs
- put chocolate chips in the batter
- pour onto the pan
- put marshmallows on the pancake while in pan
- Flip them, wait for them to bubble
- Eat it! Have fun

LION AND MONKEY MEET AGAIN

by Duaa Alkindi

One day, the awesome lion and the hilarious monkey were hanging out and having a picnic. While they were eating, Bobskela the blond circus trainer saw them and bought them from their zoo keeper. But there was a problem and she put them in two separate circuses. They were sad to be apart at first but still they took the offer.

For the next weeks, the lion and monkey worked so hard everyday but only slept a few hours, ate one meal and did lots of tricks. They missed having picnics and talking about their dreams. After two months of being in the circus, they became professionals.

One day, the monkey got promoted and got sent to the best circus in the city of New York called the 52nd Street Circus. That same day, the lion also got promoted and sent to the best circus in the city of New York called the 52nd Street Circus. The lion and monkey saw each other then ran to each other and hugged. They talked about how much they missed each other and had an amazing picnic. 🐾

The End



*Duaa Alkindi and her Smart Partner
Dahlia Azama.*

THE DAY LEAH AND TASHA WENT OUT FOR SUSHI

Review and photos by Leah Macuilt and Tasha Gordon-Solmon



Leah and Tasha decided to use their Smart Partner excursion budget to try sushi.



Leah: "This is me looking at what I want".



Leah: "Just observing. Just window shopping."



Leah: "Tasha told me a really funny joke and if I said it everyone would want to be her smart partner."

PHOTOS BY LEAH AND TASHA



Leah: "This is Tasha taking a picture of me taking a picture." Tasha: "Or is it Leah taking a picture of ME taking a picture?" Leah: "Just think about it. Let it sink in. Get back to us."

Tasha: "Same food. Different perspectives. Like life."



Leah: "You can just look at these pictures. But you wouldn't even get the feel in reality of the wonderful taste it left in your mouth. You won't ever feel that because you don't know where the sushi place is. Just kidding. It's called Ageha and it's at 767 9th Ave., between 51st and 52nd St. You should check them out."

FROM THE FIVEY CUTTING ROOM FLOOR

Leah: "On this lovely day, me and Tasha decided to go out for sushi because we ran out of money. I didn't realize how much Smart Partners get. They only get \$50. 50 dollars for a year, what kind of thing is that? I mean come on. I mean, I don't know what the numbers are behind everything."

"The menu had very nice options that seemed so delicious. But obviously you know there's a budget and we can't get everything. Just like you can't always get what you want."

(EDITORS NOTE: This is when Leah sang the well-known song.) ⑤

VISUAL FILM REVIEW

Not too long ago, Wilhelmina Ohene Kari Kari and her adult SP Lindsay Torrey went to see *Mockingjay Part 1*. Wil, left speechless, decided to do her review in comic form.





by Kamil Kuzminski and Rory Scholl

The Mystics of 52nd Street are psychics who use their powers to help others map out their future.

They also sometimes use them to bet on The Oscars, but that's neither here nor there. Enjoy their horoscopes for this month!



LIBRA: Go make a fool of yourself with a dramatic display on Times Square. Your numbers this month don't make sense.



ARIES: Stop being lazy and go do something with your life. Or change the channel, you've already seen every *Breaking Bad*



TAURUS: Be self disciplined, and go against your vegetarian diet. Eat a ton of meat. Show those carrots who's boss!



GEMINI: Things will be problematic. So listen to a Madonna album. DO NOT watch her do stand up. She's the worst.



VIRGO: People are demoralizing you, so what better time to hit the Bahamas? You'll want to wear a thong. Resist the urge.



PISCES: When you run into Kanye West, it will be the most frustrating moment ever. However you will blow up the internet. We will not have internet for 5 months, thanks to you.



LEO: Be pragmatic. If you have relationship issues, don't fret. There's a place called e-harmony, try it for once. My aunt is on it. She's awesome!



AQUARIUS: Friends will back stab you. Find new ones. Many fish in the sea. There's also clams. Try something new this year!



SCORPIO: You will strain a muscle upon meeting Neil Patrick Harris after his shambolic Oscar hosting performance. Don't bring it up. You will be asked to host next year.



CANCER: Keep an eye on your wallet. Your wife will steal your credit card and have a spending spree and a fun day out at the spa. That's for you!



CAPRICORN: Your harvests resulted in a lot of crops over the winter. Devour them over the next few weeks. We're sure they'll grow back.



SAGITTARIUS: You lack leadership skills. Do not run in the Presidential campaign for 2016. Wait till 2020. You will find 3 spelling errors in this article. ⑤

NATHALY TRINIDAD AND JULIE SHARBUTT'S TIPS FOR A NOT-SO-BUMMER SUMMER



ADOPT AN ELEPHANT: DISPOSES OF EXCESS SUMMER PEANUTS.

RIDE AN OSTRICH: "NATHALY, I'M SCARED OF THIS ONE."



SCUBA DIVING: THERE'S NO PLACE COOLER IN THE SUMMER THAN UNDER WATER!



**SKY DIVING:
YOU CAN FLY WITH THE BIRDS!**

AMUSEMENT PARK: SO MANY THRILLS IF YOU'RE OVER 56 INCHES.



BUNGEE JUMPING: THE ADRENALINE OF ALL YOUR JUMPS IN ONE JUMP.

GO TO THE ZOO: A DAY TO RELAX WITH THE ANIMALS... IF YOU CAN FIND THEM! WHERE ARE THEY? WE WERE PROMISED ANIMALS.



LEARN TO RIDE A BIKE: "NO, JULIE."

PHOTOS BY DAIVA DEUPREE

CLIMB A MOUNTAIN: THERE'S GOTTA BE A MOUNTAIN IN NEW YORK CITY.



GO TO THE BEACH: "JULIE, THE BEACH IS DIRTY IN NEW YORK."



MOVIE NIGHT: NOTHING BETTER THAN POPCORN AND CHANNING TATUM, MINUS POPCORN.



ASK YOUR CRUSH OUT ON A DATE: DON'T BE SHY, THEY WON'T BITE.



GO KAYAKING: IF YOU FALL OUT, YOU'RE SWIMMING! STILL A WIN!

ICE CREAM: ANYTIME, ANYPLACE.



WATER BALLOON FIGHT: HAS ALREADY BEGUN, NATHALY AND JULIE WILL BE WAITING OUTSIDE.



HELP ANIMALS: VOLUNTEER AT A SHELTER, PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG, OR HELP A CHICKEN ACROSS A ROAD.



**LAY IN THE GRASS AND CLOUD WATCH:
IT'S A DUCK! NO, IT'S A PLANE!
NO, IT'S A HEART EMOJI! 🍷**



PHOTOGRAPHY

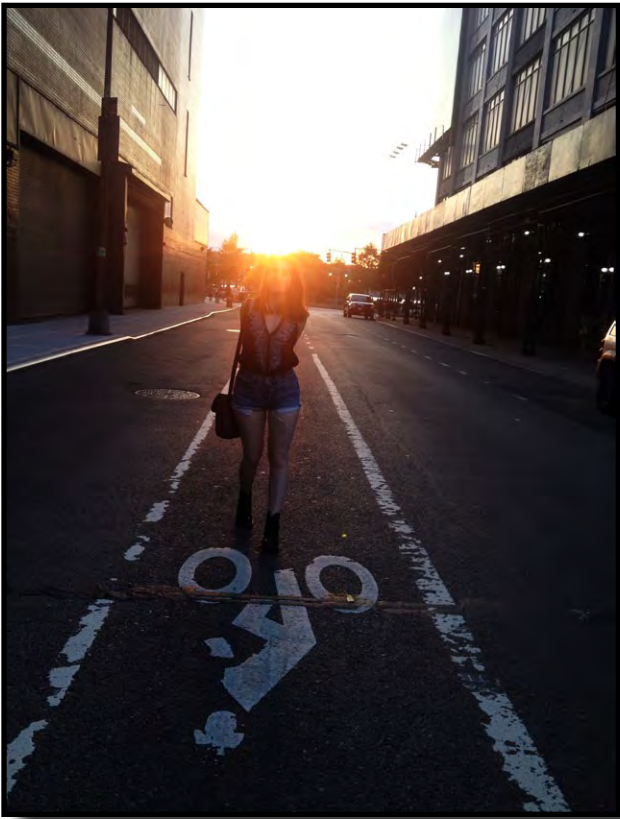
BY STASIA QUIÑONES



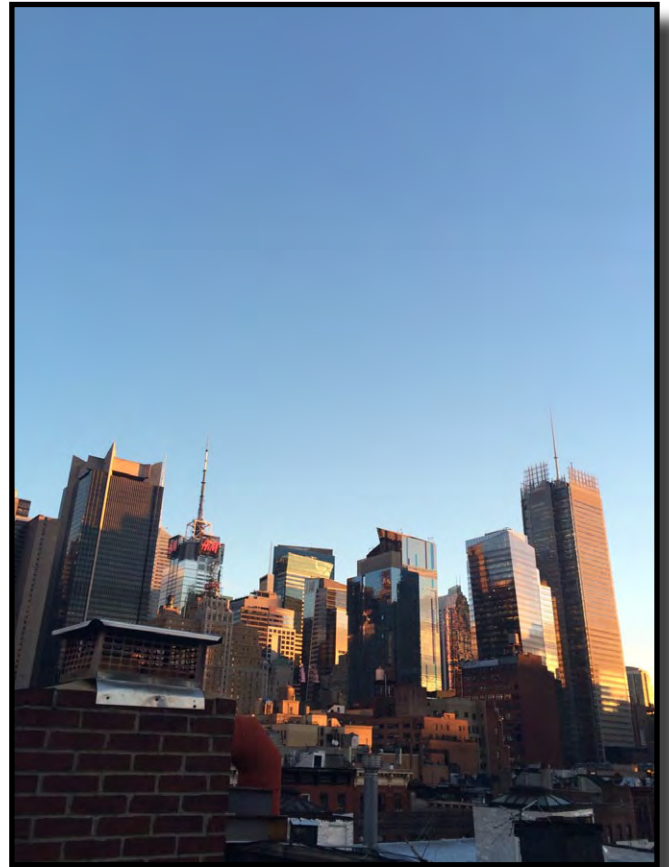
Concrete Jungle



Grakitti



7 p.m.



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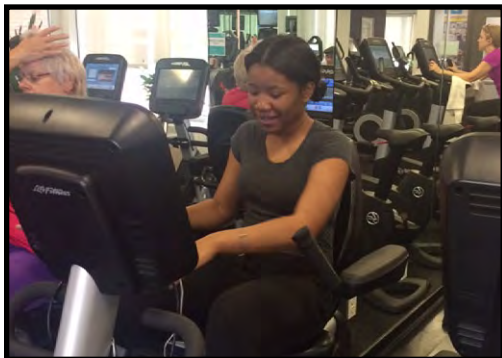
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STRONG GIRLS! GOING TO THE GYM

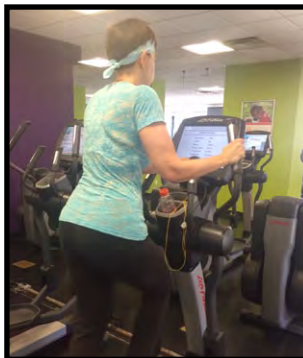
Photos and text by Imani Lewis and Kim D. Sherman



We went the gym together three times. We wanted to try everything out.



Imani on the recumbent bicycle: "It was easy to focus because I was sitting down. It works the legs, especially the thighs."



Kim was on the elliptical machine. Arms and legs at the same time!



Imani is trying the leg extensions machine. There is a whole room with machines for every muscle in the body.



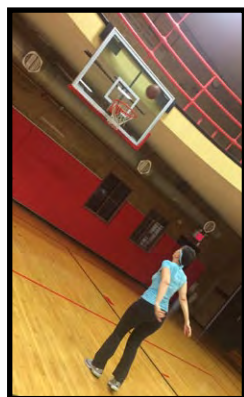
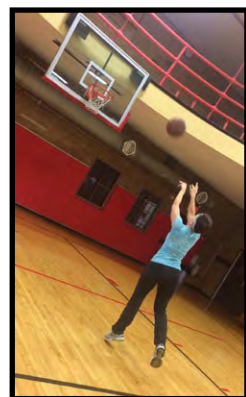
Here we are doing "Downward Dog" and Selfie at the same time in the stretching room. Kim showed Imani some yoga moves.



Imani jumps rope.



Imani shooting hoops.



Imani showed Kim how to shoot hoops. We had half of the gym to ourselves, but the ball was kinda flat.



We went swimming in the pool but didn't take the camera. Imani's impression: "It was fun and hard to breathe because it was misty in there. They had deep sections."

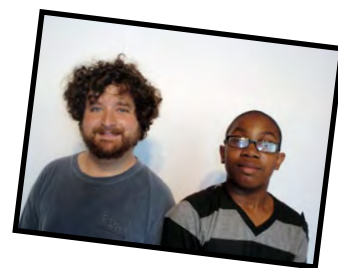
At the end of our workout we relaxed in the meditation room, the steam room and the sauna.

Imani says: "The sauna was really hot. Like burning hot. The steam room was hard to breathe in because it was full of steam. But it was fun."

It's fun to stay active and try new things. 5

JUSTIN AND ERIC REVIEW GAMES

By Justin Bannister and Eric March



This year, Justin and Eric spent a lot of time playing games. They decided to review a few of them as a public service. If you were thinking of playing any of these games, please read carefully.

1. SCRABBLE

JUSTIN: Scrabble is an annoying game. If you are under the age of 18, you should not play this or you'll be forced to rage so much during the game. #annoying

ERIC: I agree with Justin. I almost always rage when I play Scrabble.



2. UNO SPIN

ERIC: I love classic Uno, but I'll admit I was a little confused by the mechanics of this game. It's basically the same, except there's a giant wheel, and a "spin" card in the deck. When you play the "spin" card, you get to spin the wheel. But almost all of the possible spins favor your opponents in the game. So why would you ever want to play the "spin" card? It makes no sense!

JUSTIN: Uno Spin is basically a luck game. If you have the worse luck, you shouldn't play this game. The only difference with regular Uno is the words on the back.



3. FORBIDDEN ISLAND

JUSTIN: Forbidden Island is a game that you try to work with your friend in order to win. You can choose from six classes. You don't choose, it's mainly luck based.



ERIC: The best thing about Forbidden Island is that it's a cooperative game, meaning that you don't play against the other players, you play with the other players against the game. If you want to play a game with your friends, don't want to spend a whole afternoon secretly mad at them, I recommend Forbidden Island highly.

4. RACE FOR THE GALAXY

ERIC: This is a complex deck game in which each player tries to combine the right cards in the right order to build the biggest intergalactic civilization. It takes a long time to learn, but once you learn it, I find it very rewarding to play over and over again.



JUSTIN: Race for the Galaxy is a difficult and hard game to learn. If your friends play this game, they must be major league status. Anybody playing this online, you will get trash talked by people who know what they are doing.

5. THE WORD-CHANGING GAME

JUSTIN: A game me and my Smart Partner play is known as The Word-Changing Game. The object of the game is trying to change one word into another by changing one letter at a time. It is difficult, and sometimes easy at other times.



ERIC: The thing I love most about this game is that it requires no resources. It's a great game to have in your back pocket when you live 800 miles away from New York City and you and your Smart Partner have to meet on Skype.

Ed. Note: Eric had a job out of town through much of the school year, but he and Justin kept up their partnership with Skype. 5

THE WILD RIDERS

Jason Hare looks back on a beautiful Smart Partnership

Michael Bannister and I became Smart Partners on December 5, 2008. It was on that day that we named ourselves "The Wild Riders." Since then, we've had too many adventures and experiences to mention. From movies to baseball games, from smoothies to sushi and from bike rides to ping pong, we believe we have officially had more fun than any other Smart Partner pair in the history of the 52nd Street Project.



▲ Our first outing was ice-skating in Central Park. We were both very tired afterwards, and it felt like it took us five hours to walk back to 10th Avenue.

▼ What Smart Partner pair hasn't posed in front of a giant toilet? This picture was taken at a Charmin temporary exhibit in Times Square in December 2009.



▲ All Smart Partners love to cook together. We've made lots of treats over the years, but our very first one was chocolate candy-cane-covered pretzel rods. Yum!



◀ Have you heard of the famous game we invented? It's called Smoothie Roulette. The rules: Write down random ingredients on small pieces of paper. Roll the dice to pick the number of ingredients you'll use. Pull the appropriate number of pieces of paper. Buy selected ingredients, blend and hope for the best. It didn't always work out in our favor.

➤ We've participated in almost every pumpkin carving since becoming Smart Partners! One of our favorite creations was this one of Kermit the Frog.





➤ If you've seen us play in the Ping Pong Tournament, you've likely seen us wear these custom-built head-pieces. They've brought us lots of luck over the years!



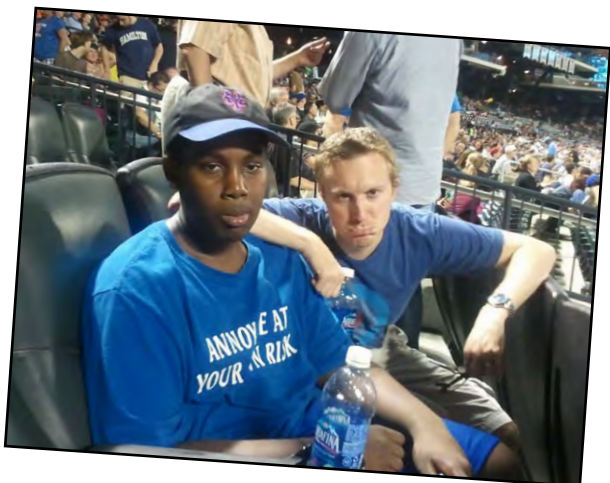
▲ What exactly is happening here? To find out, you'll need to get a copy of the June 2011 issue of Fivey! (Ed. Note: You won't have to! We decided to do our first-ever reprint of a Fivey article. It follows this one on p. 32.



▲ When we first met, neither of us knew how to play ping pong. In 2009 we were named Most Improved, and in 2014 we won first place. This might be our proudest achievement!

▲ We are nothing if not highly dignified.

▲ When my daughter Ella was born, Michael was there to meet her the very next day!



▲ We've attended many Mets games over the years, and they've lost almost every single one.

▲ Though our Smart Partner adventures are finally coming to an end, we know that we will be friends forever. Long live the Wild Riders! 🍌

5 LITTLE-KNOWN 52ND STREET PROJECT SUPERSTITIONS

By Michael Bannister and Jason Hare

A special reprint from the 2011 issue of Fivey!



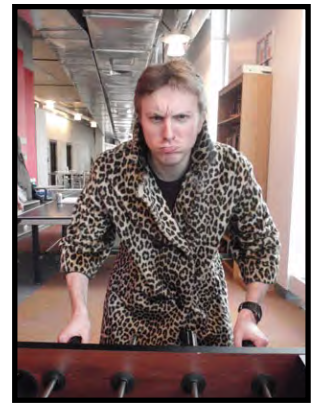
← 1) If you eat a Flyer Bar in the Five Angels Theater, your two front teeth will fall out. The only way to reverse this curse is to say Gus' name 40 times out loud before he makes his opening speech. If you eat the Flyer Bar in the theater after his opening speech, you have to come back the next day.

→ 2) While playing ping pong, if the score reaches 7-7 as a result of you spiking the ball, you will lose your next seven games. In order to avoid this horrible consequence, you must balance a ping pong paddle on your head until a staff member asks you what you're doing.



← 3) For a guaranteed standing ovation after a 52nd Street Project performance, walk in a circle around the center of the stage 16 times, and then do five jumping jacks.

→ 4) If you fill your cup of water with an uneven number of ice cubes in the 52nd Street Project kitchen, you will get frost-bite all over your body the next day it rains. To undo this chilly outcome, wear a fur coat during your next game of foosball.

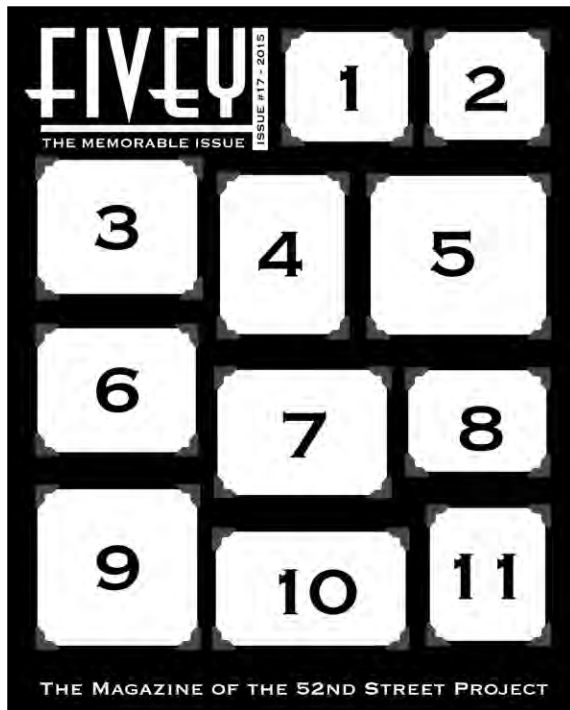


← 5) If you eat the last apple in the bowl during Homework Help, and drink a cup of water to wash it down, an apple tree will grow in your stomach. There is only one solution to this dreadful punishment: you must eat a Flyer Bar in the Five Angels Theater.

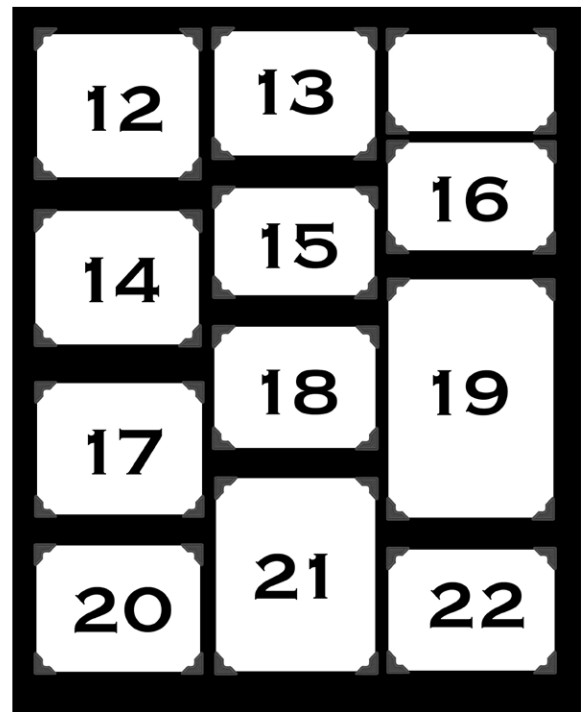
DUN DUN DUNNNNNNNN!

THE KEY TO ALL THE MEMORABLE EVENTS ON THE COVERS

Cool adventures, right? Well, if you want to know the full names of all our swashbuckling, death-defying, risk-taking, reckless, and brilliant heroes and heroines, here's a handy guide!



1. Brielle Silvestri & Edelys Guerrero
2. Sean Kenealy & Sevan Asencio
3. Lucas Ruedel & Patrick Clair
4. Chelsea Hackett & Magalis Fabian
5. Christina Roussos & Sabrina Caldona
6. Enrique Caballero & Dylan Dawson
7. Joseph Cruz & Paul Coffey
8. Anne Troup & Tiffany Miller
9. Julie Sharbutt & Nathaly Trinidad
10. Ezekiel Albarron & Aaron Costa-Ganis
11. Valeria Oliva & Mikhaela Mahony



12. Stephen O'Reilly & Joshua Gomez
13. Lee Aaron Rosen & Chamel Rodney
14. Eliza Baldi & Kaitlin Feliciano
15. Tasha Gordon-Solmon & Leah Macuilt
16. Brandon Leon & Ariana Seigel
17. Kim D. Sherman & Imani Lewis
18. Josh Moody & Ethan Perez
19. Michael Bannister & Jason Hare
20. George Babiak & Sabastian Lopez
21. Michael Propster & Brandon Shaffer
22. Lauren Blumenfeld & Karen Tineo

Cover photography, design, and layout by George Babiak.

To see this issue (and all previous ones!) in full color, download it from our website: www.52project.org



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Stephen & Josh go to Rio in 2016 as the U.S. Olympic Handball Team.



Lee & Chamel stalk an F5 twister in Kansas.

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Eliza & Kaitlin find a lost civilization in the jungles of New Guinea.



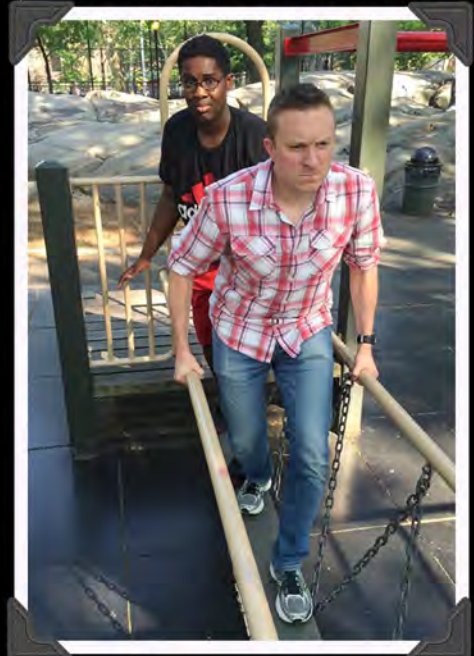
Tasha & Leah pay a social call to Buckingham Palace.



Brandon & Ariana discover a new species of giant frog in the Amazon.



Josh & Ethan find out who is the greatest Kung Fu master in China.



Michael & Jason make a precarious crossing high in the Swiss Alps.



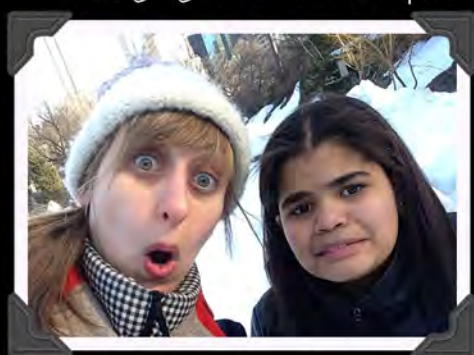
Kim & Imani discuss Baudelaire and Rimbaud at a sidewalk cafe in Paris.



Michael & Brandon play for the NBA.



George & Sabastian survey the Louisiana Territory.



Lauren & Karen come face-to-face with the legendary Sasquatch.