



NOVEMBER

Monthly Newsletter

CAP 2015

The End of CAP for Seniors: **Presentation Prep**

"While practicing for my presentation, I found that the best way to create an outline was to talk at the camera - I recorded everything that I said, and then watched it over, noting what worked and what didn't." – Donald DeAlwis

"I'm most looking forward to sharing my advanced exhibitions because I just think they perfectly embody all the ways you can use skills learned or formed in CAP to be a part of things bigger than yourself and serve the needs or desires of others." –Amalia Chiapperino



"When I first presented my prezzi in front of the class, I ran into some difficulties. Being an actor, I thought I could wing it. That was not the case. CAP has prepared me to deal with setbacks and be prepared the next chance you get." – James Sleigh

"I'm looking forward to sharing my CAP Hollywood and World War II interdisciplinary assignments because they show my creative side. They were hard because they took me out of my comfort zone but were the most rewarding." – Anna Hukill

"I really want to talk about my glasswork. It's something that most people don't know about me yet it has been such a big part of my life. " – Joe Estrin

Tenth Graders Emulate Epic Conventions from *The Odyssey*

The Assignment:

"The comic strip assignment was a project where, in groups, we had to apply the epic conventions and structure we learned from *The Odyssey* to our own original story. " –Marley Majette



11th Grade Field Trip

"The 11th grade CAP students enjoyed an educational and culinary exploration of the National Museum of the American Indian on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. The students analyzed *The Great Inka Road: Engineering and Empire* exhibit. This exhibit highlights one our 11th grade themes; the extent to which individuals shape their environment. The students were encouraged to tour the rest of the museum and learn a story that they could share with family members during the holiday weekend. A highlight of the day was eating the authentic food in the museum café." – Mr. Mogge



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CAP Students Participate in Discussion about Race

From the Desk of Mr. Shindel:

"I just finished an incredible week with some beautiful kids! This past week, one of my classes organized after-school meetings and discussions on matters of race, racism, and student engagement. We started Monday with 80 people, and I expected that numbers would drop each successive day. But the opposite occurred. It just kept building and we had well over 100 kids yesterday spilling out into the halls and other classrooms. These kids aren't done, and so what was originally planned to be a week of dialogue, I think, will turn into something much greater and be led by the students themselves. It's just another example of what will happen when students have the space and encouragement to take control over their own learning."

Student/Teacher Responses:

"Thanks for being that teacher who lets your students grow and make discoveries about their passions to change the world." – Christina McCann, CAP Alumni

"Excited to read this. I loved the Inflow pieces encouraging attendance. I can't wait to see where it leads. Thank goodness for this post because I have been sinking fast about the state of the world." – Ms. James, Blair Teacher

"I'm so proud to be a Blair graduate! Blair kids are some of the most dedicated and talented students and I'm glad I got to be a part of that community for four years." – Sophie Alemi, CAP Alumni



More Responses

"This was such a wonderful week for all of us and I can't wait to see where it goes next. I'm so honored to have been a part of it and thank you for all of your guidance and support. Things like this are what make a teacher great, not test scores or lectures, but caring and investing in students." – Rachel Arbacher, CAP Senior

"When I talk to people about Blair who don't know, I tell them that Blair is what America will become. No majority anything. Just tons of people who can feel comfortable doing their own thing. I've always admired this about the Blair students- so diverse and everyone can be who they are. Let's keep celebrating this- this is what the world needs to learn from." – Ms. Gil, Blair Teacher

CAP Students & ADL

"This year, 32+ students, eight CAP students (including No Labels leaders Camille Kirsch and Neida Mbuia Joao) and students from ESOL and other departments at Blair, participated in The Anti-Defamation League's A World of Difference training, an anti-bias leadership program sponsored by Blair's No Labels club. While some students attended the two-day workshop, others will go on to lead classroom prejudice reduction workshops throughout Blair." – Ms. Jeral

