

FREE!

FLEMINGDON PARK • THORNCLIFFE PARK • O'CONNOR

BE SCENE



WE'RE BACK AND WE'VE UP'D THE GAME



Opportunities knock only once at our door, and sometimes you have to make your own opportunities. The youth of T-Park, Flemo & O'Connor have shown that they have the initiative to bring opportunity to them. They have proven themselves again and again, and are now expressing themselves through Be Scene: A Youth Started, Youth Led, and Youth Written Magazine! Each youth contributes in their own way, some through literature and some through captured moments in photography and art. Over the past months, the Editorial Committee worked hard to establish what you hold in your hand today. The committee consists of passionate youth who devotedly gathered and cooperated as a team of writers,

photographers, graphic designers and editors. It's their hard work and devotion that has made this issue the success that it is.

Having a community youth magazine, and being part of it, is something which allows our passion to become a worthwhile reality. Photography (being my passion) lets me visualize the world and my environment in an artistic way. I love capturing the beauty of the world around me so that others can see things the way I see it. Everyone perceives the world and life in their own way and expressing that becomes essential. There is so much talent in our community and it's also so diverse! To see all these talents combined in one magazine really makes us say, "Wow!" Working with Be Scene not only made me more enthusiastic about my photography, but also made me analyze my photographs through words as well; because that's what happens when all talent is combined. We learn, gain and improve.

Being the Guest Editor of this issue gave me a new experience. I did a lot of listening and I must say, the flow rate of ideas

among youth is off the charts! Not only ideas, but the amount of creativity and talent is amazing. My experience with the committee was sensational! After partaking in many discussions, reading pieces of writing and admiring the images our committee has put together, I was in awe. Their hard work and passion to making Be Scene the best youth magazine ever was simply magnificent. Each and every member of the Editorial Committee and the other fellow contributors to the magazine really put their hearts into it. I am so proud and honoured to be part of all the work and effort! Be Scene really does give us the chance to get out there and be seen. Opportunity doesn't knock often, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't open that door ourselves and seek that opportunity. We all have the ability to do and be something great. So let's get out there, make it all worth-while - see and be seen.

Hufsa Akbar

JOIN THE SCENE CREATE THE SCENE BE SCENE

BE SCENE youth magazine is a collaboration between the Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre's Catch da Flava magazine, Flemingdon Health Centre and other local community agencies servicing the O'Connor, Thorncliffe & Flemingdon Park neighbourhoods. The magazine is distributed free to libraries, community groups, and selected schools in the mentioned communities and across Toronto.

BE SCENE welcomes letters, articles, stories & poems from young people (up to 24 years of age)

Submissions should be
NO LONGER THAN 1000 WORDS IN LENGTH

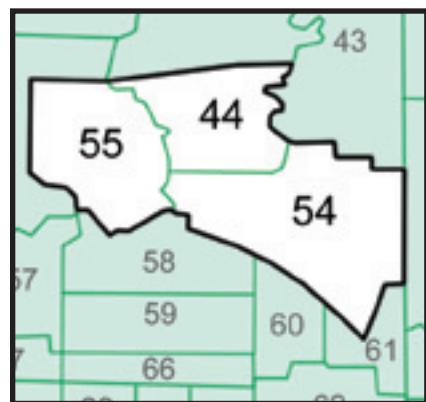
If you would like more information about how you can contribute to BE SCENE, call us at (416) 863-1074 or e-mail BeSceneMag@gmail.com

Guest Editor: Hufsa Akbar

Youth Contributors: Mazin Kanuga, Obaidullah Khan, Hibbed, Hufsa Akbar, Rehma Amir, Ruba Najjar, Bisma Amir, Wardah Sardar, Sarah Usmani, Iram Ali, Nabilah Ismail, Ariana Rae Limas, Prasuna Kunasani, Ilinca Milosan

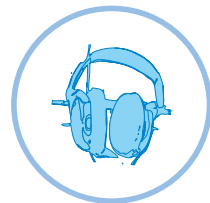
Project Staff: Adonis Huggins, Steve Blair, Myia Davar, Sadiyya Ibrahim & Azza Abbato

BE SCENE reserves the right to edit submitted articles for space and clarity. The opinions expressed in BE SCENE do not necessarily reflect those of Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre, Flemingdon Health Centre, or its other partners. Any use or reprinting of content from BE SCENE is strictly prohibited without the express permission of Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre.



44 - Flemingdon Park
54 - O'Connor-Parkview
55 - Thorncliffe Park

From the City of Toronto: Neighbourhood Map



REGENT PARK FOCUS
YOUTH MEDIA ARTS CENTER



CULTURE SHOW 2009



Performers of the MGCI Culture Show 2009.

Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute is known for many things: the school has highly recognized academic achievements, an enormous size, and a huge population. But the one thing that separates MGCI from other schools across the GTA is its diversity and multiculturalism. MGCI is composed of students from over 180 cultural backgrounds, and once a year, many of these cultures unravel themselves on stage in what we have come to know as Culture Show/International Night. This annual event has been a longstanding tradition of Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute, dating back more than 20 years. No longer named International Night due to safety incidents in the past, the Culture Show is held during periods 4 and 5 in the Cafeteria, this year on April 16, 2009. Alumni and students from neighbouring Flemingdon and Thorncliffe Park communities highly anticipate this event, where they are able to witness the coming-together of cultures to produce a show where cultures are both represented and celebrated. "I like the Culture Show because we are able to see the spirit of the school. It is one of the only times when school spirit comes out, and we get to see all of the cultures represented. So it is a lot of fun," says Culture Show Committee member Amal Ahmad.

In order to produce such a highly anticipated event, the Culture Show Committee began to hold meetings as early as October to brainstorm and discuss ideas for the upcoming show. Mursal Bahri, this year's Culture Show Convener, led the Committee along with teacher organizers Mr. Skara, Mr. Mirza, Mrs. Gupta, and Ms. Bozzi, in decision-making and organization, especially on issues such as ticket

sales, set design, and timing of the show. "Putting a show together is hard and fun at the same time," says Bahri. "This year, we decided to produce a fashion show, along with dance performances. Working with everybody involved in the show was great." A key aspect to putting such a show together was working with the stage crew, who directed the lighting and sound. "Being a part of the Culture Show is great," says Stage Crew executive Mamoun Awan. "We meet a lot of people and make new friends."

With over three hundred audience members attending the Culture Show this year, the event kicked off with a Spring Fashion Show, showcasing spring dresses by the female models and casual spring/summer wear by the male models, all of whom are current Marc Garneau C.I. students. The Spring Fashion show was followed by a Cultural Fashion Show, where students were able to showcase the best of their culture's clothing. "Modeling my country in the Culture Show was a great experience. I definitely learned a lot from being a part of the Committee and being in the show," says Sehar Rashid, who modeled Pakistan in this year's show. Students represented outfits from over ten countries, including China, Somalia, Greece, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and many others. With the conclusion of the Culture Show Fashion segment, the highly acclaimed Culture Show began with a traditional Afghani dance performed by Afghan Athan, and continued throughout the day with performances from countries spanning from South Asia to Africa to Europe to the Caribbean. "My favourite performance was Bhangra in the Making [Punjabi dance group] because they had

a lot of energy. It was fun to watch, and the audience enjoyed it," recalls audience member Arianna Lima. "The crowd was all hyped up, the show was well pulled off, everyone did a good job, it was great," says Abdul Rahman, another audience member.

The Culture Show ended with a finale to be remembered, with all of the performances of the day coming together in one last performance and showcasing of cultures. "I am truly proud of everyone who helped put this show together," says Bahri.

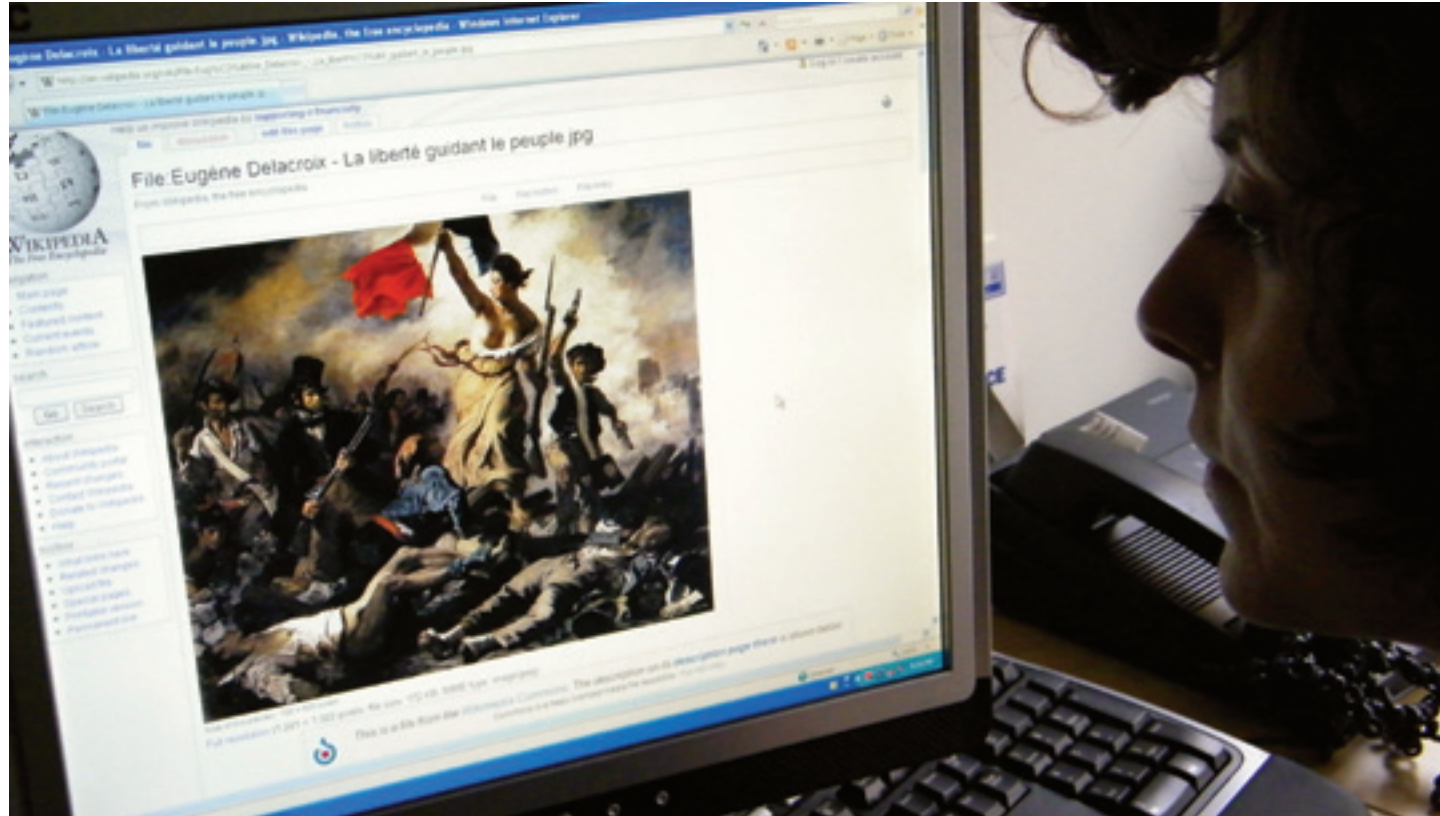
After the show, audience members and performers were able to purchase refreshments and snacks sold by Garneau clubs and committee members. Mr. Mirza, one of the teacher organizers of the Culture Show for over two years now, says that, "the Culture Show is the premiere event for the student body. The student body looks forward to it every year. It is different than a talent show, in that it represents the many different cultures of MGCI. A brilliant effort was put in by everyone, and a big thank you goes to the Stage Crew, the Committee, the performers, and everyone else involved in making the Culture Show."

There is no doubt at all that the Culture Show is an outstanding success, especially this year. It was a topic of discussion amongst staff and the student body for days after the event. For those who missed out, you can check out the Youtube videos of the event, and there is always the Culture Show next year. Hopefully a success like this year's may fall upon upcoming years, and knowing MGCI, that is sure to happen.

For videos, search "mgci culture show 2009" on Youtube.

Ruba Najjar

We use it... But can we trust it?



Have you been victimized by Wikipedia?

For all the last-minute research projects and the quick skim over various topics, instantly we find ourselves logged on to the well-known encyclopedia...Wikipedia! This free online encyclopedia is heaven for those looking for profound information. Wikipedia does, however, allow anyone to edit and contribute articles, which are undeniably growing numbers. Regardless, Wikipedia has successfully won the hearts of many students. Though many people emphasize the reliability of the site, Wikipedia believes in sharing information by regular people to increase knowledge. As students we find ourselves procrastinating, and therefore we must trust online sources with a blindfold. However, it is important to evaluate an article in terms of the writers and editors. Being students, we are usually bombarded with many assignments and projects and as a result many of us find ourselves on Wikipedia. Though Wikipedia is efficiently updated, some people argue that Wikipedia isn't reliable because it's open to the public, and therefore anyone can make changes to articles. There have been many times where false information has been detected and removed

many months later! Just imagine... have you ever been scammed? For instance, the biography of John Seigenthaler had been tampered with, which really caused uproar in Wikipedia. The article implied that John Seigenthaler, who was a former assistant attorney general of Bobby Kennedy, played a role in the assassination of John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy. This outraged John Seigenthaler and made him determined to find the culprit. The article was removed from the site 4 months later. The culprit was discovered to be a co-worker of Seigenthaler, who attempted to play a joke that went terribly wrong. Another incident that I read about included a Wikipedia article that stated that "wages at Wal-Mart were 20% less than other stores," however changes were made later on and the "new" article stated that Wal-Mart pays its employees twice the minimum wage. Many believe the company made the changes. These are two of many incidents

"...isn't reliable because it's open to the public..."

that really make people ponder whether to trust Wikipedia articles. After incidents like these ones, can anyone really rely on Wikipedia articles? Apart from possible false information, there is the credibility issue with Wikipedia that contributes to people's suspicions about its sources. Wikipedia fails to acknowledge the writers and editors who contributed to the article, which makes people question whether the writer or editor is a professor that actually has some knowledge on the topic, or a mischief student trying to mess around with facts. Now, don't get too happy people, because the information is skimmed by "Wikipedians" and the co-founder, Jimmy Wales himself, but if the information seems somewhat correct and written appropriately, you pass and the information stays! Though the point is to keep the information anonymous, there are two ways to approach this topic. There's the writer and the user. Con-



tributors may feel that they need some acknowledgement when they write an article. This could perhaps help them in the future, because it looks good when you say that "I've written an article for the so and so website!" But without any solid proof, no one can claim to say that they've written an article for Wikipedia. Users, on the other hand, visit websites with the hope of finding useful and correct information on a topic. As students we are continuously asked by our teachers to provide information such as the writer, editor, etc., but Wikipedia fails to provide us with this information. With no credibility given, how can anyone trust the information? Unlike Britannica or other websites, users are aware of the fact that the article is written from a scholar or anyone that has an understanding of the topic. Though Wikipedia claims that some articles are written by scientists and scholars, how can anyone differentiate between those that are and those that aren't? Through my online research, I came across a fascinating website that's sole purpose is to criticize Wikipedia. This website, <http://wikitruth.info>, known as Wikitruth, explicitly criticizes Wikipedia and deals with many topics like censorship, vandalism, abuse, corruption, etc.

Apart from their criticism, Wikitruth targets Wikipedia by providing information regarding the co-founder Jimmy Wales and other Wikipedians. From news about how Jimmy Wales broke up with his girlfriend through Wikipedia to his official nickname as Jimbo, the website tries to manipulate people into going against Wikipedia. If you're interested in gossip and hardcore criticism, you should definitely check out Wikitruth, however beware of strong coarse language! We can all agree that Wikipedia is a popular online encyclopedia that contains a variety of articles, which may can be edited and written by anyone anonymously. With sites like Wikipedia, reliability and credibility really become an issue. To reduce some concerns, Jimmy Wales has taken action by making writers register on Wikipedia; however, editing an article is still open to public. This does eliminate a bit of the reliability factor, but still keeps the user thinking about whether the editing is done correctly. We can all agree that Wikipedia is a highly influential site, but at the end of the day it's up to the user, us, to evaluate a website. So... should we keep using it even if we can't trust it?

Bisma Amir

Type some of these into Wikipedia for some weird and funny articles:

Knork

The Mississauga Blob

Rocket Mail

Any Key

Dogcow

Cartoon Physics

Gurn

Pillow Fight Flash Mob

Tastes Like Chicken

711: Youth Oppression or A Shoplifter's Heaven?



The new generation of youth no longer prefer to bring their brown paper bag lunches, but instead prefer to take out their brown leather wallets and pay for their lunch. A large percentage of the viewers of this article will go to Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute, and it's interesting to see what kind of lunch choices are available to students. There is the cafeteria food, which has so many health restrictions to live up to, the famous "hot dog lady", but most likely the popular choice is to go across to 7-11, which can supply you with conveniently placed choices for a variety of lunches. For the past several years, the 7-11 has complained about shoplifters and has taken up many unorthodox safety precautions, in order to prevent shoplifting. Tactics such as placing cameras, security guards, arrangement of the store so the

employees can see everything, making students take off their bags when they enter the store, and finally, probably the most dramatic "pre-caution", is the rule that no more than two students are allowed in the store, and all other students should line up outside. Students often complain that they do not feel welcome in the store and sense a blaming environment, and are told to hurry up while shopping and are even screamed at.

"...unorthodox safety precautions..."

The Plan:

Due to popular demand, our magazine will be rating the customer service of our local 7-11. Four undercover journalists were selected to do a survey of customer service, which was drafted by Small Business Canada, for businesses to give to their customers. We will take the same survey for our 7-11. Keep in mind that we have sent in one male teen, one female teen, one male adult and a female adult, in order to get all perspectives. The Teens are generally the darker color, and the adults are generally the lighter color. Watch for the patterns on the next page.

Note: Each individual had to ask the staff a question, such as "Are these candies Halal?"; "Do you have Axe body spray?"; "When are the next batch of cookies made?" All surveyors were sent in Student rush-hour time.

Colour Code:	Male Teen	Female Teen	Male Adult	Female Adult
Criteria:				
Staff was available in a timely manner:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Female Teen:	Usually they do not approach you unless you asked to. They are busy securing the store.			
*Female Adult:	2 vigilant staff members were available.			
Staff greeted you and offered to help you:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Male Teen:	I was greeted with a friendly, "Hurry up" while entering the store.			
*Female Adult:	Gave me a nod, and I could see I was recognized as having "adult status."			
Staff was friendly and cheerful throughout:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Editor's Note:	The adult female had crossed out the word "cheerful" from the question.			
*Female Teen:	The Staff is unbelievably rude to us students.			
Staff answered your questions:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Female Teen:	Before you can ask them, they usually tell you, "If you are not buying, just go now."			
*Female Adult:	Yes, went into more details when questioned further.			
Staff showed knowledge of products/services:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Female Teen:	Well, I talked to this lady, and she seems as if she's wise about their products			
Staff offered pertinent advice:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Note:	The ratings speak louder than words!			
Staff was courteous throughout:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Male Teen:	Employees were screaming for students to "Hurry up, and get out!"			
*Female Adult:	I was treated with courtesy; however the environment of the store was high tension. Also, I was uncomfortable by my "first class status" in the store.			
Over All Score:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
*Male Teen:	In my visit, I witnessed a teenaged boy, being banned from the store! For trying to place his bike inside the store, so it would not get robbed while he is inside the store. Also, while I was waiting outside in line, my adult partner journalist, had already finished her visit, while I was still in line.			
*Male Adult:	As I left the store, one of the students who I knew, had also left the store, and was really frustrated and depressed by the treatment she had gotten.			

From the data above, it is quite intriguing to see the scores given by adults, as compared to the ones that students gave. Is it okay for a store to single out youth as shoplifters, and make them go through special precautions, that the adults would never stand for? Could you imagine if they made adults stand outside in the cold, or rain, just to have the privilege of giving our money to purchase their products?

I think that the 7-11 store has created a whole barrier between themselves and the students, and this is why students no longer feel guilty doing anything against the store. How long will this go on? It is not that 7-11 is not a good store. It is obviously a great resource that students still go to, even though they have to take many precautions. And employees do give you proper service, when their hands

are not filled with students. We need their products, and they need us as customers. So can't we work together and sort this out? Until we do, the battleground of 7-11 will always be hanging between a shoplifter's heaven, or youth oppression!

Abdullah Ayaz

Slumdog Extraordinaire

The musical genius behind 'Millionaire'



We've all heard of Hans Zimmer (The Lion King soundtrack) and Danny Elfman (The Simpsons theme), but A. R. Rahman may strike as a new name - and no, it's not pronounced 'Rachman'. He was the winner of two Oscars at the 2009 Academy Awards for Best Original Music Score and Best Original Song.

That's more than Zimmer and Elfman can say! Known throughout Asia as a perfectionist, Rahman's score for Slumdog Millionaire was given just three weeks for planning and executing. "We [Danny Boyle and myself] had met and talked about it for about two months. But I had to finish it quickly as Boyle wanted to start mixing the film by August", Rahman told the Indo-Asian News Service in an interview.

Before winning his Oscars, A. R. Rahman composed for Bollywood, with just as much splendour. At the Bollywood Filmfare Awards (India's version of the Academy Awards), other nominees heave a sigh

when they compete against Rahman. His unparalleled excellence in the art of music with his sheer humbleness has earned him 13 Filmfare Awards, 4 National Film Awards, and the hearts of millions. Although he is very much unheard of in the western world, Rahman has previously

done work with Hollywood films. Before the much-acclaimed success of Slumdog Millionaire, he composed for Shekhar Kapur's Elizabeth: The Golden Age and Deepa Mehta's praised film, Water. Rahman is also highly thought of for his custom of squeezing talent from fresh, new artists. "I respect all the senior singers ... but at the same time I also feel that they were actually blocking all the new singers as far as opportunities are concerned," he said when questioned about the risk involved. Playback singers like

"...custom of squeezing talent..."

"...there were people who laughed at me..."

Blaazé (singer of hit song Secret of Success from Boys), Naresh Iyer (singer of hit song Paathshaala from Rang De Basanti), and Rashid Ali (singer of yet another hit song Kabhi Kabhi Aditi from Jaane Tu Ya Jaane Na) have been brought to fame by Rahman.

In his amateur days, he was criticized. "When I was associated with music as a means to earn a living, there were people who laughed at me, my own family was so jittery about my future," he said in an interview. Before starting his career in music, Rahman, a musical prodigy, went to Trinity College in London to earn a degree in Western Classical Music. Today, he has done work in Western Classical, Indian

Classical, Chinese Classical and contemporary genres like rock and pop. When Tamil writer/director Mani Ratnam was in search of a new

composer in the early 90's, he happened to come across Rahman. It was then that Rahman created his debut album, Roja, which is now considered one of Time



Magazine's 10 Best Soundtracks of All Time. Some of the songs from Roja like Yeh Haseen Vadiyan and Roja Jaaneman were the biggest hits of their day. Since then, Rahman's work and love of music has popularized him across all of Asia, and now, across the entire world.

"...work and love of music has popularized..."

The Bollywood film industry is growing at a furious pace and Rahman's Oscar wins is a major step forwards. To show the Western world a glimpse of India, many filmmakers made crossover films, an entirely different genre of film that is usually produced by Hollywood. Several artists like Deepa Mehta (Water, Heaven on Earth), Mira Nair (Salaam Bombay!, The Namesake) made crossover films that were generally themed around poverty, feminine struggle and the cul-

innovative mainstream Bollywood artists have made their mark in cinema, like Aamir Khan from Taare Zameen Par (Stars on Earth), Anurag Kashyap from Black Friday and Irrfan Khan from Life in a... Metro. Although it has been long, Bollywood has ultimately reached that stage where it can compete with Hollywood.

Obaidullah Khan

"...did not have any originality in its work..."

tural complexities of India. Although it is true, that for a period of time, the Bollywood industry did not have any originality in its work. Much of the songs or movie plots were copied from famous Hollywood films, the industry Bollywood looked up to. But recently, many bold and

A. R. Rahman's Top Soundtracks

1. Roja (1992)



2. Dil Se... (1998)



3. Boys (2003)



4. Yuva (2004)



5. Rang De Basanti (2006)



6. Slumdog Millionaire (2008)



7. Yuvvraaj (2008)



8. Delhi 6 (2009)



THE NEXT BIG THING?

ASK!
And You Shall Recieve

21% lighter than DS Lite

42% less volume

Better battery life, upto 19 hours of full charged play

Bigger, brighter screen

Built-in microphone



Nintendo has always ruled the handheld market since the original Gameboy made its way into gamers' hands and hearts way back in 1989. Fast forward twenty years to 2009 and Nintendo has now released its 3rd handheld in the DS line known as the DSi. The first DS was not compatible with previous Gameboy games; it was pretty bulky and consumers were willing to wait a little longer for the release of Sony's PSP. The next entry, DS Lite, was a huge improvement. As its name suggests, DS Lite was much slimmer than the DS, it also sported brighter screens and they added compatibility for older Gameboy games. Taking into account popular and innovative games like Brain Age were included, Nintendo had

"...one step in the right direction for future models..."

struck gold with the DS Lite. So is the DSi going to be as big as the iPhone or just a slight upgrade from the DS Lite?

The new features include two small 0.3 megapixel cameras and included software lets you edit them in goofy Nintendo ways. With that in mind, my Motorola has a 2.0 megapixel camera which was much less than the DSi's \$169.99 retail price.

The DSi also has an improved media player that can play music and video files. It now has a microphone which you can use to record, albeit not clearly, but that's understandable. But one thing I can't allow is the fact that it can't play MP3 music files. Even iPods, with all their copyright roadblocks have MP3 support!

Another downfall is backwards compatibility with original Gameboy games has been removed with the DSi. This means that anybody who got the guitar add-on for Guitar Hero for their DS Lite will be in for a little surprise when they realize

it doesn't work with the DSi.

Looking at the design and style of the DSi, it's clear that Nintendo took what they learned

from the Wii and implemented that into the new design. It's even slimmer than the Lite, has bigger screens and the actual interface looks like the Wii controllers.

The biggest improvement over previous models is the addition of the DSi Shop. In simple terms, it's an online store where you can buy cool software and other stuff for your DSi. First you have to get yourself

some Nintendo Points (Exchange Rate: 2000 points= \$20) then you can spend them on mini-games or animations of your favorite Mario character.

Don't get me wrong, the DSi is still a great handheld device like the previous models, but not necessarily better than its predecessors, mainly because nothing big has been changed. They should have called it the DS Lite version 1.5. It's a step in the right direction for future models, but nothing more than a minor upgrade. Anyone looking to get into the handheld gaming world would probably be happy with the DSi, but current DS Lite owners should hold off and see what Nintendo has in store for their next handheld contender.

Mazin Kanuga

As we all know many of us are always anxious to have pocket money. We all want to be able to show off those big bucks to our friends. We all strive for independence, or maybe our parents are fed up with the continuous rants of raising our allowances. In any case, as your hunt for the perfect job begins, just ask, ask, ask.

Dear BeScene,

This is my first time looking for a job, and I want to apply for a part time position at a local restaurant. They gave me an application, but I don't know what to put under references since I've never had a job before. I really want this job! What do I do?

- Newbie

Dear Newbie

First off, there's no need to worry, we all have to start somewhere. References aren't just your former employers, think outside the box – do you have any volunteer experience, have you helped out with any groups of events, have you done any small jobs like cutting grass for neighbours or friends? The goal is to make a good impression, to show that even though you haven't had a job before, you the have experience of basic workplace rules and skills. The best thing to do is add all the places you have volunteered on your resume, as well as the extra curricular activities that you are a part of. However, if you haven't volunteered or been a part of groups, then you should add all the skills you have and mention multiple examples of skills that are suitable for your job to express your dedication to complete the given tasks.

Dear BeScene

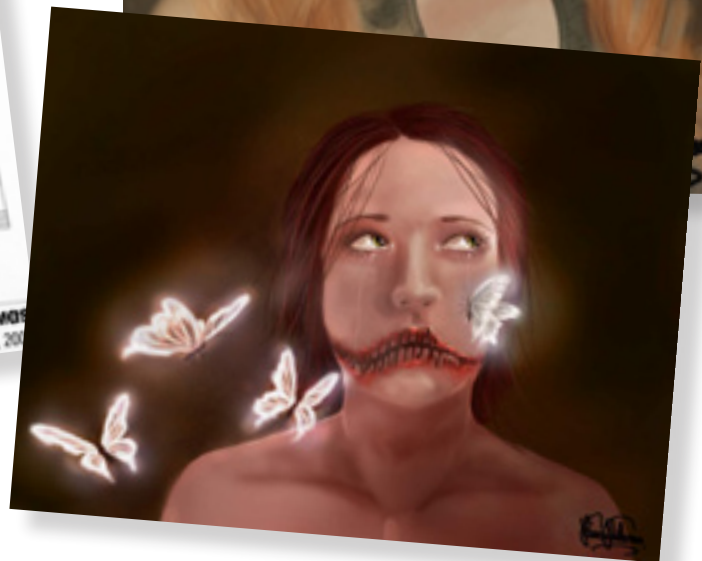
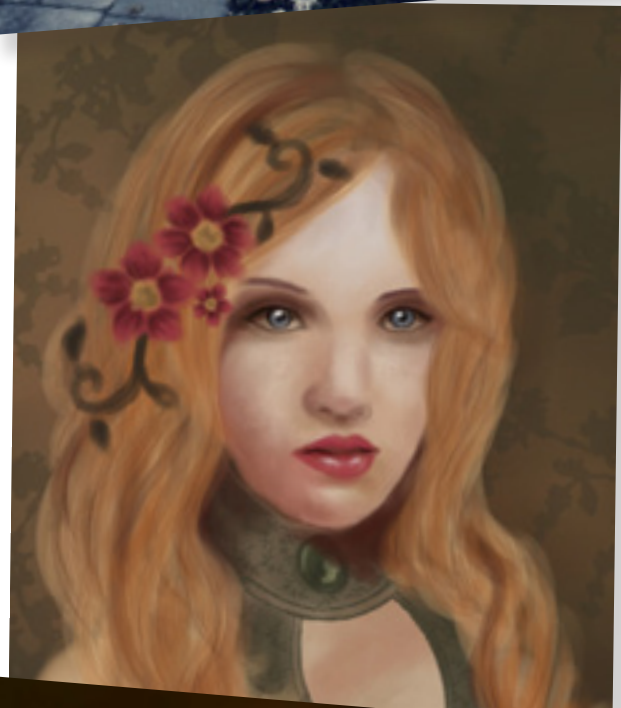
I've never been interviewed for a position before. The closest experiences I have are informal student-teacher conferences. How am I supposed to present myself to the business I want to work for?

- InfoMan

Dear InfoMan

The most general and common interview guidelines are basic manners. When you know the whereabouts of the interview; it's best to find the location beforehand to avoid confusion on the day of. The most important thing is to be punctual to any interview; it's always good to arrive beforehand because first impressions are always important. You should make sure that you are dressed appropriately for the kind of interview you are going for. If it's a business-like job interview, then it would be inappropriate to wear jeans and a baggy shirt. So dress for success! It's maybe wise to find the dress code (if any) of the workplace and wear that colour on the day of the interview.

Community Artist Talent!



POETRY

Oh!

Wardah Sardar

Oh! Well congratulations!
 You've mastered the art of fornication
 Desperation clinging with satisfaction
 What a great combination!
 Your fascination by my hesitation
 Is beyond my imagination
 The realization will lead me to mental retardation
 I must have forgotten to mention
 I hate public displays of affection
 It's like life in the hands of advertisements
 The perfect path to destruction
 Restrictions will repel any gratification
 But you still haven't learnt your lesson
 I didn't know there were certain qualifications
 Or else we wouldn't have any relation
 Silence is worse than a death sentence
 For silence is a worse commotion
 The fight between your tranquility and convulsions
 And in the end, it's always the same situation
 The fight that you're fighting to end

No! Stop!

Nabilah Ismail

You can't ignore my voice anymore,
 you spend all your time ridiculing me,
 now it's time to listen,
 listen to a fat girl's confession,
 see when you walk down the hallway,
 people instantly give you way,
 sending looks of admiration your way,
 but when a healthy girl like myself,
 walks down the hallway,
 i can hear those whispers,
 "can you see what she's wearing?",
 even when i ignore their sayings,
 it still echoes in my head,
 when its time to eat,
 i push my food away,
 because i can still see those dirty looks,
 hear their voices,
 as i eat a bag of chips,
 like seriously? i see nothing wrong with it,
 but i still feel it's wrong,
 to eat in front of people who judge me,
 even the media doesn't help much,
 air brushing models to look thin and perfect,
 can you imagine how it feels?
 to be constantly judged?
 being ripped to shreds by others?
 i know i am what i am,
 i can't change that,
 but a little less judgement,
 will make girls like me feel more secure,
 so you see - what it's like to be a fat girl like me?

Earth, Air, Water, Fire

Sarah Usmani

Just a few centuries ago,
 Fire, water, air, and Earth were all pure.
 Fire, once the only source of heat,
 Is now flames from burning body heaps.
 Water, once the nourishing source,
 Now gushes from pipes and onto burning corpse.
 Air, once the pure and clear source of life,
 Now intoxicates, and wounds deeper than a knife.
 And Earth, that once provided a ground to walk on,
 Is now drastically bombed on.
 How did the elements of life turn into elements of fear?
 Who brought them here?
 We did.
 We used the air that prevented our lungs from collapsing, as a
 medium for poisoning.
 We used that fire that prevented us from shivering, as a me-
 dium for demolishing.
 We used the water that prevented us from wilting, as a medium
 for internal deformation.
 And finally, we destructed the Earth, the Earth that provided
 the sand grains for our creation.
 Yes we, the humans, the wisest of all creation.
 Then why weep when the elements turn against us?
 Earthquakes, forest fires, floods and hurricanes,
 Aren't they all well deserved?
 Karma is what we should fear,
 The thought of nature's Karma should bring down fountains of
 tears,
 Because Karma is what the nature hasn't endorsed yet.
 Imagine.
 If there was an earthquake for every time we littered the Earth,
 If there was a flood for every waste we dumped into the oceans,
 If there was a hurricane for every fume released from a factory's
 chimney,
 If there was a bigger fire in turn for every explosion,
 Where would we be now?
 Would we exist?
 These manmade disasters cannot be compared to those of
 nature.
 So don't cry, because this time isn't the worst.
 Quench that cigarette in your hands,
 Eliminate your waste,
 Discontinue your evil plans,
 Because nature hasn't yet showed you its own plans.

Taste of Flenzo!



MIST

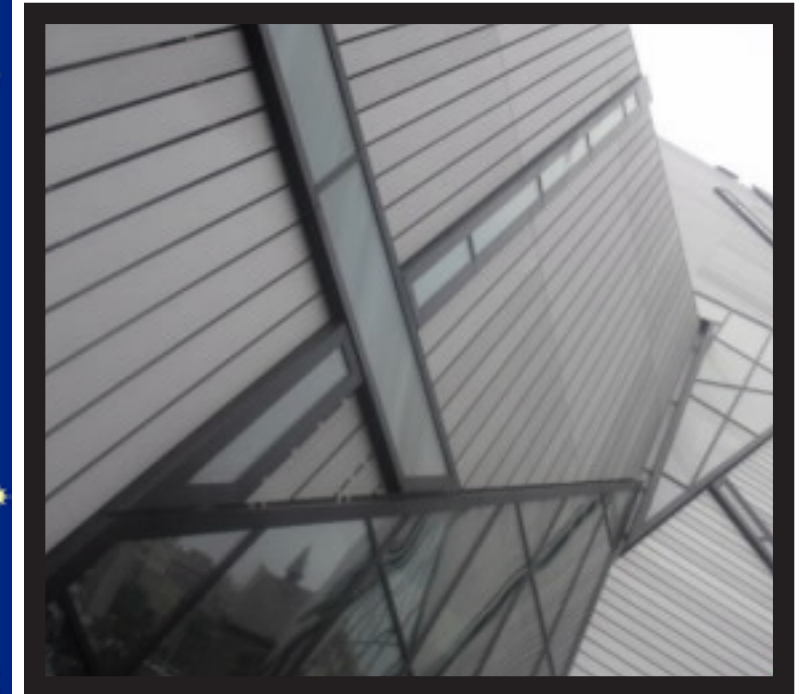
MUSLIMS INTERSCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENT TORONTO



FUN AND GAMES!!



What building in Toronto is this?



SUDOKU

2	8					7	3
	6			5		1	
		7					5
	7			1	4		6
4			5		6		7
	3		7	9			8
	9					7	
		3					1
5	4					3	2

BOGGLE!

R	L	A	M	B	D	A	O	P
E	I	N	I	G	H	T	G	B
B	A	D	T	N	P	O	L	I
E	F	X	I	I	E	T	C	M
L	G	I	D	G	U	A	N	A
M	E	L	T	A	R	L	B	I
G	T	E	S	A	L	E	I	M
U	L	F	D	A	M	A	G	I
R	E	N	T	R	A	P	D	C

What Building in Toronto is this answer: The Rom

Rant: I HATE IT WHEN...

...People talk bad about you when they don't even know you! What's up with that? People gotta know when to keep their mouths shut. Holla.

...People are always comparing Thorncliffe to Flemo; honestly man, they're both the same thing, what's up with this bizarre comparison? Do we have to compare the two communities? Does one have to be greater than the other?

...People don't wear their backpacks properly. Honestly, the straps are supposed to go on your shoulders, not your arms. Why don't people understand that it looks incredibly disoriented and disgusting?

...I'm seriously pissed off and people come in my way! That drives me insane! I put on a straight face but what I'm really thinking is, "Get the hell outta my way!" I'd kick them, but I don't wanna go to jail.

...The panhandlers stand in front of Marc Garneau and Valley Park.

...People that live in houses give you a glare when they find you on their property! I'm not here to steal, get that straight!

...Your friend says "5 minutes, I'm coming," but ends up making out with their boyfriend for 5 hours! And then YOU end up getting grounded for 5 months.

...People complain about the rain because the rain is a beautiful thing. It's so refreshing, unlike the stupid blazing sun, but then I guess I'm complaining too. DAAH!

...People walk slowly! I want to punch them in the back of the head!

...People talk while their mouths are full, and you tell them to shut it so they will avoid embarrassment, but they just ignore you and spit out food everywhere!

...People talk about themselves excessively without even letting the other person speak.

...People brag about their stuff, that's so lame, honestly.

...People are afraid to try new things, honestly, it's not going to kill you.

...You're good friends with someone and you aren't sure what went wrong in your friendship.

Hidden Treasures

Things you should know about your neighbourhood! (Flemo and T-Park!)

Central Lodge behind Mainsha!

Shoe cobbler in Flemo Plaza!

Studio at Flemo City Media!

The valley / ravine behind FHC!

Community Garden behind Popeye's

Farmer's Market in the Flemo library parking lot

Archery range behind the Ontario Science Centre, near the valley!