

solucky

Creator Spotlight

Check out our
interview with
Manveen Kaur
Anand

Below 75°F

Listen to this
month's Spotify
Playlist

Dear Santa...

See what we
are asking
Santa for
this year

New Holiday Mandates

Learn all about the
new CDC
announcements

Courtesy of Niya Maudgalya



Courtesy of Niya Maudgalya



DECEMBER 2021 - HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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B Y S A N J A N A S O L A N K I

BRAND OVERVIEW

As 2021 wraps up, many of us are finding time to collect ourselves & prepare for a new year. It is so crazy to even think that this will be the second new year with solucky around. This brand has grown in many aspects as each month has passed. Our audience on all social media platforms as well as our subscription list has truly expanded in ways that were unexpected. Especially, to consider the wonderful team we have gathered over the last twelve months. For some team members, like Ash Kumar, this is just the anniversary of their time with solucky. Ash has been with our brand since December 2020. She started off by creating various unique digital art designs for our social media flyers. Now she holds many roles on the solucky contributors team, specifically being a part of the dream team that puts together every magazine issue so far. Ash was one of the first people to join me along this journey, & is a part the reason why we now have a full team of hard working people.



Courtesy of Ash kumar

Despite how chaotic & eventful this year has been, so much progress has been made when it came to solucky. When starting this brand back in August 2020, I would never have thought this is where I would be with this crazy year ending. So much has been done for this brand, many experiences have been created, many connections were made, etc. There is no limit to what our next project, collaboration, or simply idea is. Get excited to see what solucky holds next year, see you then!

Sanjana Solanki, Founder of solucky



Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



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BY HENRY PHAM + ANANYA DUTTA

MAGAZINE OVERVIEW

December marks a closure to a long year- more so this year than others. It is a time of celebration, to reunite with family and friends till the next year begins. From presents to glistening lights, there is a strong nostalgia that whiffs through the cool air. Despite one's race, religion, ethnicity, or whatever it may be- there is one strong theme that permeates the air- joy, and contentment. solucky's ethos lies within the manifestation of shared cultural and personal experiences. As such, with the holidays rolling around we hope to enhance this spirit with the latter.

This month's issue is centralized on what sparks joy. Whatever that may mean to you during this time of year, we hope to share our own experiences to perhaps bring out what brings joy to you. From seemingly minuscule tasks- to large ones. We are truly excited to present to you a series of pieces that align with this ethos.

Our team has worked especially hard this month to create the best content possible despite the most difficult of situations unraveling around us. This includes everyone in our team, from writers, photographers, as well as our graphic designers. As per usual, you will notice that our magazine this month is heavily inspired by the magical month that is December, and of course, the holiday season. We did our best to capture the mystique associated with this time of year and as always, we hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we did making it!

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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



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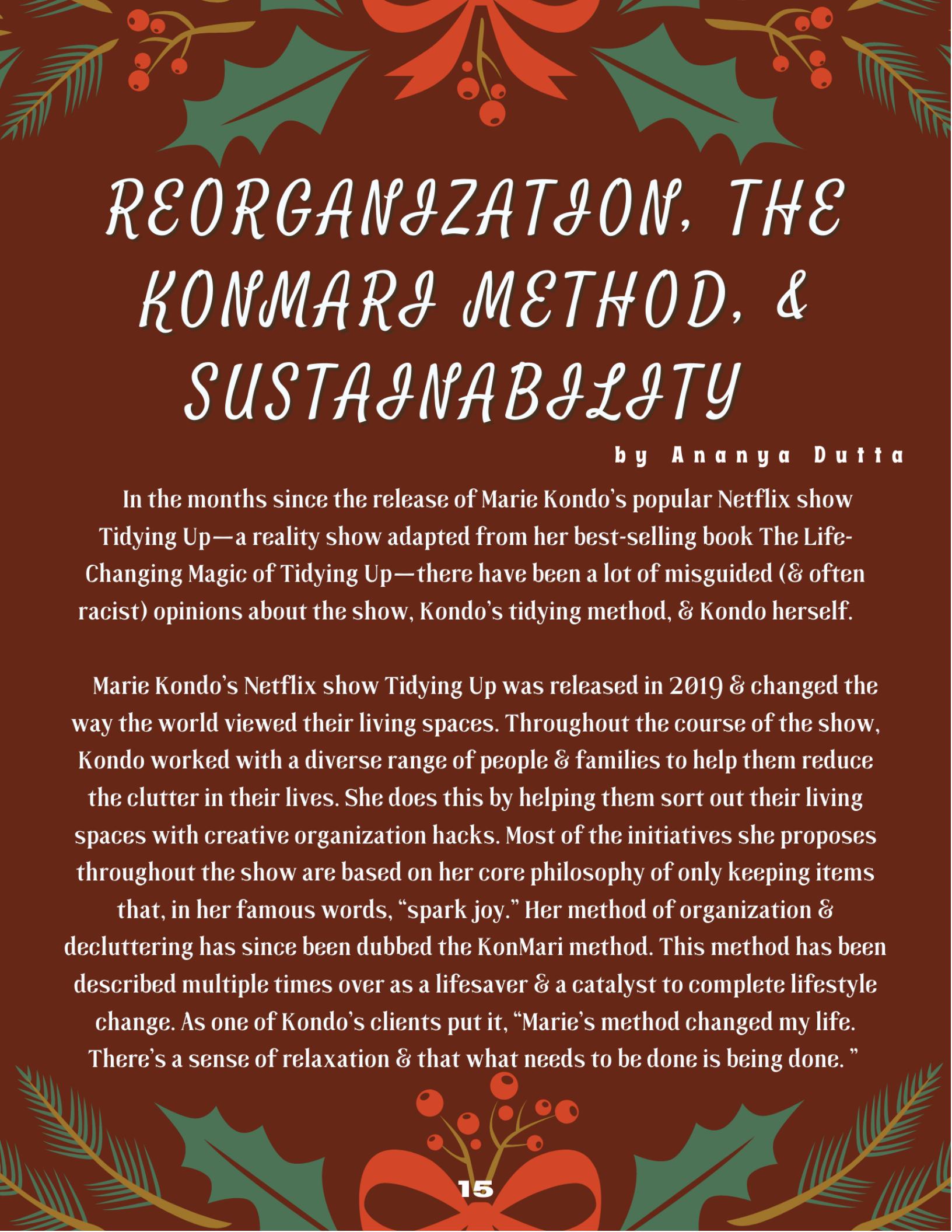
Trending



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REORGANIZATION, THE KONMARI METHOD, & SUSTAINABILITY

by Ananya Dutta

In the months since the release of Marie Kondo's popular Netflix show Tidying Up—a reality show adapted from her best-selling book The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up—there have been a lot of misguided (& often racist) opinions about the show, Kondo's tidying method, & Kondo herself.

Marie Kondo's Netflix show Tidying Up was released in 2019 & changed the way the world viewed their living spaces. Throughout the course of the show, Kondo worked with a diverse range of people & families to help them reduce the clutter in their lives. She does this by helping them sort out their living spaces with creative organization hacks. Most of the initiatives she proposes throughout the show are based on her core philosophy of only keeping items that, in her famous words, "spark joy." Her method of organization & decluttering has since been dubbed the KonMari method. This method has been described multiple times over as a lifesaver & a catalyst to complete lifestyle change. As one of Kondo's clients put it, "Marie's method changed my life. There's a sense of relaxation & that what needs to be done is being done."



After watching this show & reading about Kondo's philosophy, I decided that this same method/idea could be applied to fashion. Many of us boast overflowing closets full of pieces that either have yet to be worn or pieces that we don't make use of anymore. This contributes a lot to clutter & that uncomfortable feeling of having a fully stacked closet but nothing to wear.

This is where Kondo's method comes in; this year, I made the decision to look through my closet & go through a full re-evaluation of my clothes & accessories. I plan on applying the KonMari method to see which clothes truly spark joy within me in order to understand what I can keep & what I may need to donate. Furthermore, this presents itself as the perfect opportunity to make way for new pieces.

One important factor that I had to consider while planning for a reorganization journey was sustainability. While some may initially argue that Kondo's reorganization method is unsustainable & wasteful, I believe the evidence points to the contrary—as long as you make sure to be environmentally conscious throughout the re-organization process. First, I had to make sure that the clothes I would be getting rid of would not end up in landfills. To do this, I looked up local thrift stores accepting donations & clothing recycling centers. Then, I took inventory of the clothes in my closet & took note of which pieces I wore the most & which I wore less often. This information helped me be more conscious while shopping for new clothing for the upcoming semester, which I made sure to do at thrift stores to reduce my carbon footprint!

Courtesy of Sanjana Dadi



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Courtesy of Heena Bains



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BY RIYA PATEL
FRIDAY FASHION

FAVORITES

Instagram handles
of each individual
are attached - to
find more
favorites, check
out our Instagram
highlights
(@solucky.life)!

@brey.don



@matthew_com



@ishita_ahuja



@its_simrann



@smriti.panchal



@parinita_j

@jane_simone_



Culture

SOLUCKY SOLU



SOLUCKY SOLUCKY SOLUCKY

By Ananya Dutta

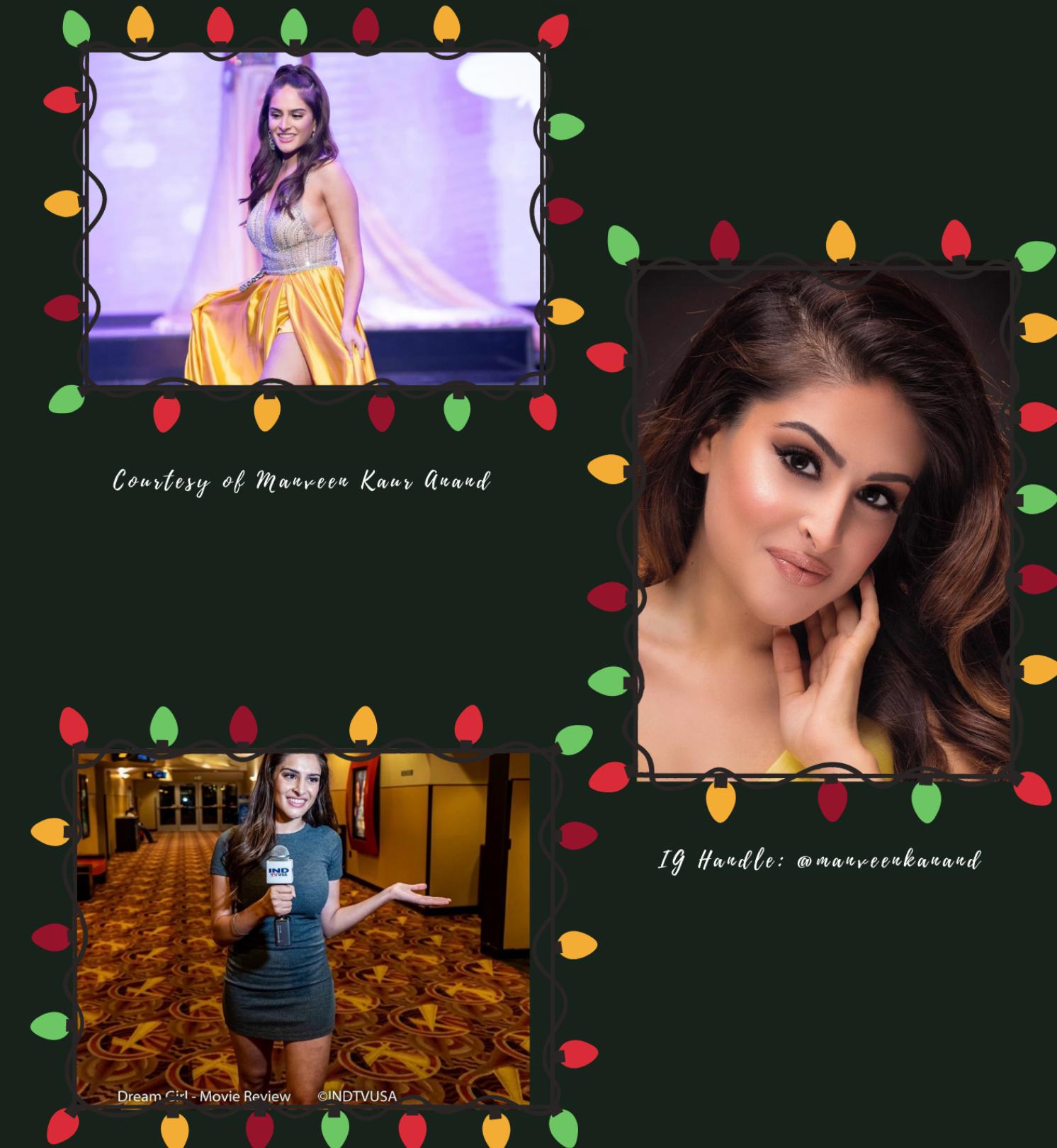
CREATOR SPOTLIGHT

Manveen Kaur Anand

Manveen Kaur Anand knows the value of believing in yourself. Growing up as a performer, Manveen recalls her family asserting that she would end up working in the media. As a college student & this year's winner of Miss Greater Bay Area Teen, she has certainly put South Asian women on the map.

She started competing in pageants as a 17 year-old & described the process as "lot[s] of volunteer work, public speaking, & just overall improving yourself as a person." As a South Asian contestant, Manveen described the impact of her identity on her experience by saying, "I've definitely had strange instances where people made comments about my race, but there's always one or two other Indian girls, so we instantly connect."

Manveen continues to explore her love of fashion by working with her mother to design new lenghas. She also cites her mother as an influence on her style by recounting how she taught her to style jewelry & put an outfit together. When asked regarding her plans for the future, Manveen stated she was planning to achieve her Bachelors of Arts in Journalism. She added, "I'm not sure where I'll end up, but I know it'll be in front of a camera!"



Courtesy of Manveen Kaur Anand

IG Handle: @manveenkauranand

Courtesy of Manveen Kaur Anand

Courtesy of Sanjana Dadi



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Courtesy of Heena Bains



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Review

• PLAYLIST

Below 75°F

spotify playlist of the month · december

Created by **sanju** · 50 songs, 2 h 39 m

PLAY



Filter

Download



As the holidays go by, the urge to put on the Christmas music truly becomes irresistible. Christmas music in general can literally be found in every single genre of music. Hence, as we do love the classical holiday jingles & carols, RnB Christmas music would definitely have to be one of my more favorite genres of Christmas music.

RnB is already a favorite genre of mine, so to mix it in with the holiday season definitely brings a good time. This playlist includes artists like Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande, Bryson Tiller, Trey Songz, etc. When creating this playlist, I was surprised to see that more artists than I had previously anticipated- already had holiday music. So, if you have not already, I would check to see if your top artists from your Spotify Wrapped have any holiday music for you to listen to! Lastly, the name of these playlists comes from the weather in California, specifically the Bay Area. I believe many of us can agree that whenever the temperature drops anywhere past 75°F or even 70°F, it is determined to be chilly weather.

Link: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/1qXyqq6CRN7CooalMBgpO6?si=f584bfdfc32b4405>

(I am aware that not everybody has the same taste in music as I do! If this playlist isn't your style, check out this column next month & we'll have something new for you!)



Social Perspective



12/24/21

Dear Santa

This is my second year in college, about to enter Spring semester, starting a new year within this new chapter of my life. College is a significant chapter in many lives & it places people all over the country & sometimes the world as well.

Being the friend that stayed back in their hometown while the rest of the friend group leaves has its own advantages & disadvantages. Some of the advantages include feeling comfortable in my own town & seeing familiar faces everywhere.

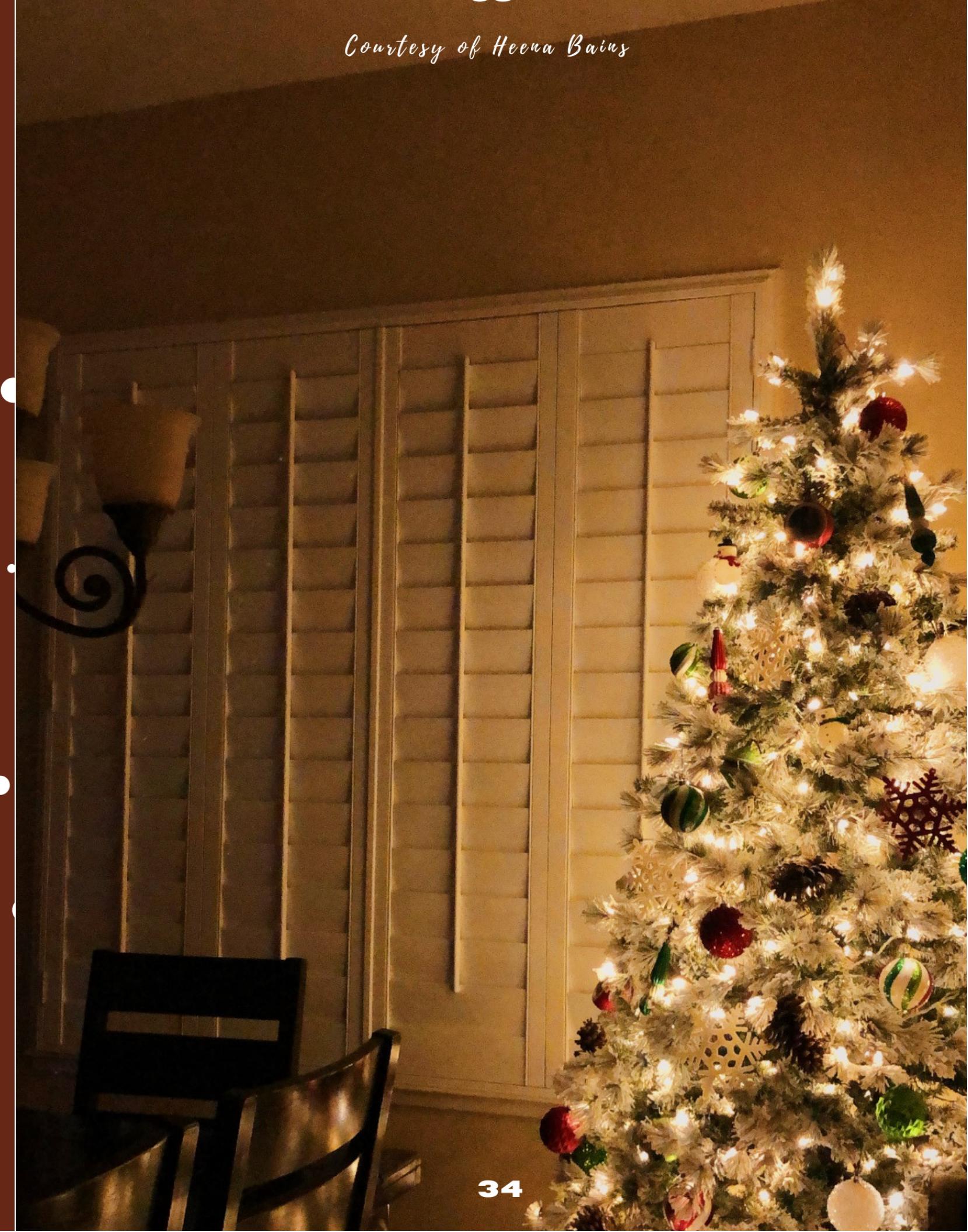
However, it is not the best when you have to see your close friends leave for college; it can be bittersweet. For every holiday & seasonal break that goes by, I wait & hope my friends decide it is time to come home & visit. At this point, you can place me next to my close friends' awaiting families during the holiday season.

Just like their families, I am also waiting for these friends to come visit me & reconnect. Being the friend that stayed in their hometown after high school allows me to see my wonderful friends every now & then, but does make it hard every time it is time to go. So all that I ask is to bring my friends home for

Christmas & the holidays!

Thank you,

Sanjana Solanki





CROSSWORDS

By Akhil Joondeph

Every weekday at 7 p.m. & every weekend day at 3 p.m. my phone lights up with the most prized notification of the day: “The following day’s crosswords are ready to play.”

You must think I am the biggest nerd ever right now. Well, you might not be wrong, but playing the crossword is so much more than simply completing a daily logic exercise.

“Second President with a Doctrine named after him.” “Indigenous people of Nigeria.” Playing the crossword allows me to see a literal intersection between my intellectual influences. The U in one word may also be the U in another fully unrelated one. & while this does not, in & of itself, prove anything about the interconnectedness of the world, I have begun to see crosswords as representative of the world as a whole — & how no two ideas are as independent or separate as they may seem. Truman. Yoruba.

“Where moles are found.” “Elton’s john.” Unorthodox clues are humbling. They also force a puzzler to reject all of their preconceptions & think in the least rational, linear manner. Learning to change one’s own cognition is terrible & fantastic & profoundly difficult, & Sunday crosswords are masters at getting me to take that extra step & push myself in new intellectual ways. Taqueria. Loo.



“Sistine chapel’s artist.” “Mode of casting in 12th century South India.” Crosswords have taught me incredible lessons about seeing the world from a slightly more zoomed-out lens. The dread of a screen filled with white squares is unmatched, but the hopes & opportunities a single filled-in word provides are astonishing. Not every picture can be painted in a single second, & not every problem can be solved immediately. But as the squares of letters fill, the outlines of figures are drawn, & the first step is taken towards a solution, the bigger picture begins to appear. & slowly, as more & more answers are reached, the picture becomes more & more clear, the solution moving closer to reality. & my work solving crossword puzzles has helped me learn how to solve all sorts of other problems in my life, be they convoluted derivatives, messy news stories, or the placement of my plants on my desk. Michelangelo. Lost wax.

“Way of seeing the world intellectually.” “Revelatory word game.” I have always been an interdisciplinary thinker at heart, but my obsession with crosswords has solidified this worldview. Everything is interconnected, & an understanding of each supposedly disparate section of the world aids in both the comprehension of others & the world as a whole. & crosswords exemplify this interconnectedness. Interdisciplinary. Crossword.



Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



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BY NATNAIEL YISHAK

New Holiday Mandates

The United States is currently averaging around 500,000 cases per day, shattering the U.S's previous COVID-19 records during this pandemic. According to the New York Times, hospitalization has increased over by 15%. Densely populated states, like New Jersey & California, are currently dealing with record-high covid cases. Some would say that it seems like there's no end in sight with this pandemic; especially as we are dealing with back-to-back, highly infectious variants. The omicron variant is the newest strain of the virus, which is known to be highly transmissible. The holiday season is indirectly spreading the virus. From families traveling during the holidays, & college students returning home for the break, the variant is seen to be spreading everywhere. At the moment, close to 204 million Americans are fully vaccinated but only 68 million have received their booster shot. The CDC is recommending that all Americans should receive all three doses of vaccine to combat the virus & any new variants that come with it. Some colleges are even requiring booster shots for students attending in-person learning. The Cal State System, which is the largest college system in the United States, with over 500,000 students, is now requiring booster shots to all CSU students by February 2022. Vaccines are readily available in every city & town nationwide. In California, Californians can go on myturn.ca.gov & input their zip code to find their nearest vaccine center. COVID-19 is a prevailing issue in our country, so we highly recommend you wear a mask & get vaccinated. You are morally & ethically obligated to keep everyone around you safe & healthy during this pandemic.

SOURCES:

Heyward, Giulia, & Sarah Cahalan. "The U.S. Breaks Its Single-Day Virus Case Record for the Second Day in a Row." The New York Times, The New York Times, 31 Dec. 2021, <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/30/us/coronavirus-cases-high.html>.

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Courtesy of Niya Maudgalya



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Courtesy of Niya Maudgalya



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more



Applications

Contributors Interest Form:

The Contributors Interest Form is for anyone who is passionate about something & would like to contribute/broadcast it through this brand. Being a contributor will give you voluntary experience from solucky as a brand/magazine and/or simply showcase your work submission(s). This form will allow you to choose what kind of position or submission you want for solucky. We welcome any kind of passionate work or workers, so feel free to send us a submission at any time! The link to this Google Form is linked below.

Form: <https://forms.gle/7AwTsQG7LfEv9HzG8>

Contributors Interest Form:

Our Collaboration Interest Form is open to anyone who is passionate about a certain cause, product, or kind of service that we can offer to our audience. This collaboration can be for either profit, non-profit, or simply marketing purposes. We welcome any kind of local business owners, small creators, organizations, etc. As long as you have an idea for a collaboration that could work well with both of our audiences, feel free to send us a submission at any time!

Form: <https://forms.gle/wZqEDGGrK6UiHws9>

Applications

Magazine Interview Interest

For a chance to be featured in one of our upcoming monthly issues, submit an application to be interviewed! The Magazine Interview Interest Form is open to anyone who believes they have a good influence on their community overall. This application is open to anyone, feel free to submit an application even if you feel that you are unsure if you fit our description for who to be interviewed. We like to pick those who should be interviewed based on our issue's theme for that month!

Form: <https://forms.gle/wZqEDGGrK6UiHws9>

Magazine Advertisement Interest

If you are a small creator, business, organization, etc., check out the Magazine Advertisement Interest Form for an advertisement in one of our upcoming monthly issues! Your advertisement would be created by one of our Graphic Designers & then placed within one of our monthly issues. Within an issue, an advertisement will take up an entire page, & will include any information/graphics that you provide. Advertisements go for about \$3 each. The link to this application is linked down below!

Form: <https://forms.gle/3gvZ38vB4NY9n7CKA>

Courtesy of Heena Bains



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Editors

Henry Pham + Ananya Dutta

Writers

Ananya Dutta + Akhil Joo h d e p h + Henry
Pham + Sanjana Solanki + Natnaiel
Yishak

Designers

Hrithik Jariwala + Ash Kumar +
Sanjana Solanki

Photographers

Ansh Chhabra + Sanjana Dadi + Niya
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Solanki

Curators

Amani Chowdhury + Riya Patel +
Sanjana Solanki



Courtesy of Sanjana Dadi



Courtesy of Sanjana Dadi



Thank you for
reading this
month's issue!

Find more information about
solucky & our magazine by
typing “solucky.life” into your
browser

See you next month!
- solucky Team <3

Text “@solucky” to 81010 for updates