

Ocean's Rise

Alyssa Boscoe

reporter

Frank Ocean is a singer-songwriter and member of the hip-hop collective Odd Future. Christopher Edwin Breaux is Frank Ocean's birth name which he later changed to Christopher Francis Ocean to look better on magazine covers. He moved to New Orleans as a child and lived there for most of his youth. He learned his R&B music style from his mother's CD's. While in high school he started recording music.

After graduating high school in 2005, he enrolled into the University of New Orleans to study English. On August 29th, 2005 Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana, flooding the building he was recording at, causing him to pursue his music instead of his education.

Shortly after, he moved to Los Angeles only to record his projects, he didn't want to stay too long. After being in LA for a while, he decided to stay perma-

nently, and started ghost writing tracks for pop stars like Beyonce Knowles and Justin Bieber. These were the tracks "Bigger" with Justin Bieber in 2008 and "I Miss You" with Beyonce, in 2009.

Later, he met producer Tricky Stewart, who helped land him a solo artist contract with Def Jam after working with hip-hop collective Odd Future. In 2011, Frank Ocean released his mixtape, *ULTRA* and announced it through his *X* account without Def Jam knowing because he claimed they were unsupportive of his efforts. This mixtape received a lot of praise, and he impressed Kanye West so much that he requested him to contribute vocals for a couple tracks on the August 2011 album, *Watch the Throne*. After making amends with Def Jam records, his second album, *channel ORANGE* became number one on the Top Albums chart.

SUPPLIES & DEMAND

Carolyn Chapman

copy editor

When it comes to school, everyone shops everywhere for their supplies. Department stores increase or lower their prices to make a profit or attract customers. Three of these stores who do this are Target, Fry's, and Walmart. Their school supply prices are compared through two types of basic school supplies: pens and pencils.

According to *marketing.com* Target's competitors are Kroger Company, which is owned by Fry's and Walmart.

According to Target employee Rafael Portillo (Backroom team at the Target location on 75th Avenue and Bell), Target's prices on school supplies are often higher than their competitors because "All the others have the cheapest prices, but we don't use the cheapest quality."

According to *target.com*, Target's "U.S.A. Gold" wooden pencils found in the store at the 75th and Bell location for \$2.39. Their Paper Mate" six pack of 0.7 mm tips, their original price was \$10.99, but went on sale for \$6.39. The best time to shop for school supplies is "when the school's almost done, because they all go down to 50 to 75%," says Portillo.

From *frysfood.com*, at Fry's,



This amount of pens from Target could last the entire year!

Photo From *target.com*

the price of "Office Works" ten count of number two pencils is \$1.99 in store. Their "Paper Mate" two pack profile black pens are \$2.79 but are on sale for \$1.49 for Fry's members. Allen Volz (Assistant manager at the 68th Avenue and Bell location) says, "Two weeks ago, we had an additional 20% off the whole weekend. The 21st, 22nd of July was the best."

According to *walmart.com*, at Walmart, a 24 pack of "Pen and Gear" unsharpened number 2 pencils are \$2.27 in store. From *walmart.com*, a five pack of "Pilot G2" black gel pens are on sale for \$5.94. The original price was \$6.77. Walmart has a program called "Rollback" According to *8thandwalton.com*, "Rollback" is a price drop on certain items for a limited time. Stephen Crouch (Manager of the Neighborhood location on 75th Avenue and Thunderbird) says, "Rollback is our company initiative. We have key rollbacks on 'Bic' and 'Pen and Gear'."

Parents spend around \$586 on school supplies, per *cbsnews.com*. When stores lower prices, it is to attract customers, according to Crouch, who says, "Our prices are very competitive."

Perceive Peer Counseling

Via Schuetz

feature editor

At Centennial, there are tons of clubs that students can join that are able to connect them to the career that they might want to carry on towards when their high school experience is over. For students interested in a career in mental health services- or just want to help their peers and have fun doing it- that club is Peer Counseling.

Peer Counseling qualifies as both a club and a class. In the club, members can participate in Homecoming events, Relay for Life, and help future Coyotes adjust to their new lives. In the class, students complete a semester in the Guidance office by helping the counselors and helping their fellow students with things like organization, schoolwork, and more.

"I like being able to work with the counselors and get to know them on a different level and I like working with students because you get to see so many faces and learn so many things about how the school works and making the schedules and all that," said President of the club, Chloe DoBell-Belknap, who's been in Peer Counseling since her freshman year and is now starting her senior year serving in the Guidance Office during her third hour.

Ava Shatto (11), a newer member who joined during her

sophomore year, started her first time serving at the beginning of the first semester during fifth period. "I really like meeting new people and helping everyone, that's what I've always been into doing...I was always interested in becoming a counselor." When

and helping out the counselors. Teachers, parents, and even students themselves can nominate to become a mentee by using the blue papers in folders that are scattered through the campus- or simply contacting the Guidance Office! The mentoring is tailored to the students' needs and matched with a Peer Counselor with those strengths.

Mentees are temporarily pulled out of a class, usually an elective if they have one, for about thirty minutes to an hour, at least once a week to meet with their peer counseling mentors. DoBell-Belknap commented, "You're not their therapist at all, and you don't want them to think that, but you kinda build this bond where they can come to you when they need help."

The application to join comes out on September 5th, with interviews taking place shortly thereafter. "I hope to get more members, definitely," DoBell-Belknap laughed.

Mr. Ramey, the admin for Peer Counseling, has been running the club for three years with the goal of making the campus a better place. "You have nothing to lose. It's a goofy bunch of people who like to have fun and want to do good to the world. We all have the common mission to help those who may need extra help."



Chloe Do-Bell-Belknap ready to fulfill her presidential duties!
Photo Provided by *Via Schuetz*



students serve in the Guidance office, they give up a class out of their schedule in favor of an elective credit and earn a grade based on how much they participate in mentoring students

Alpha Argot

Olivia Fray

copy editor

Students born in 2010 are coming into the Centennial halls this year, classifying them as Generation Alpha, the generation that comes after Gen Z. Coming along with Gen Alpha students is their slang. This unfamiliar language coming into the classroom has many asking, what does that even mean?

One word that can be heard around campus is, aura. It can often be heard in the phrase "Negative aura," for when someone does something cringe worthy. Aura is used as a rank for how cool one may be.

If a person trips walking down the hall, minus 300 aura. If someone does something cool, it's an aura gain. For example, if someone throws trash in the garbage bin and makes it, it's plus 500 aura.

Another word commonly used in the classroom is rizz. Rizz is one's capability to make others fall in love with them, or one's flirtation skills.

It originates from the word charisma meaning "Compelling attractiveness or charm that can

inspire devotion in others," according to *toood.com*. Having "L rizz" means one is bad at flirting. "L rizz" is an insult to one's game. If one has "W rizz" it means flirting with others is a breeze.



Ethan Porter mewing, a face Gen Alpha makes to define their jawline.

Photo From *Ethan Porter*

Gen Alpha students may also refer to something as Ohio. Ohio is normally used in the phrase "Only in Ohio." This phrase is often used in ref-

erence to something wild or cringe worthy. "Only in Ohio" is mainly used after one does something embarrassing. If a student said a bad joke and no one laughed, it may be followed by, "Only in Ohio."

Sigma is another word used by Gen Alpha. Sigma is a made-up rank in the "Omega-verse," higher than alpha, the originally highest rank.

According to *nbcnews.com*, a sigma is "Someone who is cool, or a leader." Sigma can also be used as a filler word in phrases like "What the sigma?"

The most confusing word of them all is Skibidi. As far as anyone can tell, when used in conversation, skibidi is used as complete nonsense. Skibidi originates from a character in an online *You-Tube* animation, Skibidi Toilet.

In day-to-day conversation it can be used in a negative or positive connotation but, like sigma it is typically used as a filler word in the phrase, "What the skibidi?"

One must use Gen Alpha slang with discretion. Over usage maybe lead to diseases such as brainrot.

Chappell Roan's

FEMININOMENON

Kodi Dykes

editor-in-chief

If anyone has been online, surfing any social media pages, doom scrolling endlessly, then chances are, they've stumbled upon, or at least heard, of Chappell Roan. Singer and songwriter, Chappell Roan has become the new trending artist on *TikTok* and everybody's playlists as of this summer.

Chappell Roan, or Kayleigh Rose Amstutz, gained popularity around the time Olivia Rodrigo, another famous popstar, went on tour for her most recent album *GUTS*. She opened for Olivia Rodrigo with songs that slowly began showing up on *TikTok* due to their catchy melody and fun lyrics, like "HOT TO GO!" and highly relatable themes, like "Casual." However, despite the attention from trends sprouting from songs like these, Chappell Roan truly began to sky rocket into fame after she performed on April 12th at the well-known summer festival, Coachella.

However, despite her gain in popularity as of early 2024, Roan has been part of the music industry for many years prior. Starting all the way back, nine years ago, when she was seventeen, she released her first original song to YouTube, which actually landed her a signing with Atlantic Records, according to *billboards.com*. Then, in 2017, she released the single EP "School Nights." Unfortunately, in 2020, the record label dropped Roan, claiming "was underperforming," states *vox.com*.

Fast forward to 2023 when Chappell Roan released her debut album, *The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess* under Island Records. This album holds many popular songs like "Femininomenon," "Red Wine Supernova," and "Pink Pony Club," and also houses more universally claimed



The cover of Chappell Roan's first album, showcasing one of her most iconic looks

Photo From *pitchfork.com*

underrated songs such as "Kaleidoscope," "Picture You," and "Coffee," as well as the rest of the songs in the incredible album.

Although she wasn't necessarily an "underground artist" like some may believe, she certainly had not yet reached the same audience that she currently

does. Roan has now performed at Coachella in front of thousands, has been on SNL, and according to *teenvogue.com*, "[reached] new heights after reportedly becoming the artist with potentially the largest crowd ever at Chicago's famed festival Lollapalooza."

Of course, one of the biggest reasons behind her success is the genre of her music. Chappell Roan provides a new sound for LGBTQ+ pop, having a great variation of moods and themes in her song that many people can relate to. She pairs this with built-in dances for some songs, her incredible vocal range, and LGBTQ+ culture referenced in her concerts and style. One of her most famous quotes from her Coachella performance, "I'm your favorite artist's favorite artist," is actually a homage to a drag queen named Sasha Colby, who once stated "I'm your favorite drag queen's favorite drag queen." However, although she appeals to an LGBTQ+ audience, anyone can and do enjoy her music.

Overall, many fans claim Chappell Roan is one of the steppingstones in the resurfacing of true popstars in the industry, and it's not hard to see why. Her music ensures a good time, and anyone listening is sure to understand the surge in success she has recently experienced.

The Magic of Music

Jane Richardson

online editor

From the genres pop to punk rock, country, hip hop, jazz and holiday season, music offers everyone something to love.

Whether it's doing household chores, the second essay in a row, or trying to forget the stresses of everyday life, music is there to help ease those tasks.

Even when an overwhelming sense of despair or anxiety comes crushing down, music has the rare ability to immediately lift that weight and cast it off for some time.

So how can something so small make such a significant difference? Even from when a person is a baby, the chords can effect many aspects of their life. All according to *tinylove.com*, even from less than a year old, music helps babies: To perceive and understand a language, beginning to understand basic emotions like happiness or sadness, facial expressions, and help build relationships.

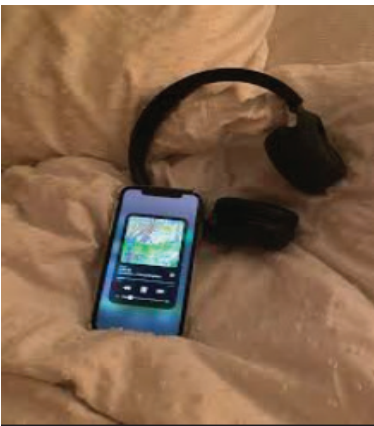
If music can do all of that for babies eight or nine months old, what can it do for teenagers?

Teenagers undergo a rapid fire of stress, depression, confusion, frustration, and irritability every single day, so it's no surprise that one outlet for all those emotions is music. Listening to music for just 15 minutes is proven to help lower those emotions and even improve mental health, according to a study done by the University of Maryland MedicalCenter.

Another thing it can help teenagers with is finding friends or bringing a sense of belonging.

According to *incadence.org*, depending on who the teenager listens to, they can quickly find friends once they realize that other people listen to the same genre or artist.

But another thing that can help with emotional development is listening to the lyrics in a song and helping someone realize what experiences and opportunities that person wants. It can help lay foundation stones for the future, even.



Music can even be playing in the background of dreams!

Photo From *Wingatetriangle.com*

Glorious Gracie Abrams

Ki'ana Westbrook

news editor

One up and coming indie/pop artist, Gracie Abrams, came out with her new album *The Secret of Us*, on June 21st, 2024. According to *youtube.com*, "Gracie's debut song was 'minor' on October 8th, 2019." According to *genius.com*, the following year she released her first album, *Minor*, on July 14th, 2020.

The artist, as indicated by *in-style.com*, "is no stranger to Hollywood as her parents J.J. and Katie Abrams have a history in the spotlight. Her father has directed multiple films including *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* and *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*. Her mother is now a co-CEO of a production company. Abrams also has two brothers Henry (older) and August (younger)."

Gracie gained popularity through both her first album, *Minor*, as well as her song "Mean It." About a week after releasing her most recent album it reached number one on Billboard's Top Album Sales chart

on July 6th, as indicated by *billboard.com*. Alongside her rise to fame the artist has also collaborated with other artists like Benny Blanco on the song "Unlearn" and Taylor Swift for a song on her new album called *us*.

According to *seatgeek.com*, "Gracie Abrams *The Secret of Us* tour will start September 5th, 2024, with her first show being in Portland, Oregon."

Unfortunately for any fans of Gracie she will not be coming to Arizona during her tour, but she will be performing in Los Angeles, California on September 9th, 11th, and 12th.

With her tour, collaborations, and growing fan base it leads fans to wonder what she could be working on or releasing next, especially after her tour.

Since so many artists have been recently diversifying their music styles from pop and expanding, the young artist could certainly change her style up a little in the next couple of years.

Disney's Downfall

Sayde Schultz

online editor

Throughout the years, Disney has produced movies and shows loved by people all over the world. Going from beloved Disney classics like *Beauty and the Beast* to cheap remakes of their classics like *101 Dalmatians* for quick money grabs and to feed off the nostalgia of Disney's long-time fans.

Disney was founded by Walt Disney on October 16th, 1923. In 1937 during the Great Depression *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* was released, According to *History.com* the movie grossed \$8 million.

Disney also had a period of time called the Renaissance era, according to *Librarypoint.org* this era lasted from 1989 to 1999, and was a period of time where Disney was at its peak producing movies such as *The Little Mermaid*, *Hercules*, *Pocahontas*, *Aladdin*, *Tarzan* and many more.

In the early 2000's Disney started experimenting with 3D animation, *Chicken Little* being the first 3D animated movie Disney ever produced; according to *Wikipedia*, the movie grossed \$314 million worldwide. After *Chicken Little*, Disney produced

more 3D animated movies such as *Tangled* (2010), *Big Hero 6* (2014), and *Zootopia* (2016).

But the sudden pumping out of live action movies began Disney's slow decline in quality. According to *Indiewire.com* Disney's live action adaptation of *Alice and Wonderland* started this surge of live action adaptations to be produced. The movie was well made and made a profit of 1.03 billion USD. But as Disney pumped out more and more of these live action movies the more rushed and controversial they became.

An example of this is the new *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* adaptation that has yet to come out. One of the many controversies surrounding this movie is that the actress playing Snow White, Rachel Zegler is not white. This upset many people because the depiction of Snow White is, "Lips red as a rose, hair black as ebony, skin white as snow." as shown by *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.

Another problem people find with the movie is that originally Disney made the decision to not cast the seven dwarfs, as dwarfs! *Dailymail.co.uk*

states, "the seven dwarves have been replaced by 'magical creatures' for Disney's live-action remake of *Snow White*."

The last thing people are upset about is the major change in the story's plot. Rachel Zegler states, "We absolutely wrote a *Snow White* that will not be saved by the prince."

This is a problem because *Snow White* being saved is a huge part in the original film.

Many fans feel that Disney has resorted to producing bad remakes of their successful movies and making bad animated movies that they barely even advertise. For example, *Strange World* (2022), which flopped in the box office.

Disney has relied on their past content for years, *cnbc.com* states, "As Disney seeks to rebuild its reputation and recapture magic at the box office, it is relying heavily on existing, and beloved, franchises."

Even the CEO of Disney, Bob Iger, admitted many times that Disney has sacrificed quality for quantity in recent years. Fans are certainly hoping Disney will return to creating original movies in the future.