

THE NUEVA CURRENT



NEWS

Student Council elections are over. Read about the new organizational changes, as well as the newly elected council members. [\[P 3 \]](#)



ARTS & CULTURE

With her sophomore album, *GUTS*, singer-songwriter Olivia Rodrigo showcases her growth both musically and in terms of coming to grips with the ever-present spotlight of fame. [\[P 5 \]](#)



FEATURES

Get to know math teacher Liam McDonald '19, the first Upper School graduate to return as a faculty member. [\[P 7 \]](#)



OPINION

Two student perspectives on the use and prevalence of “trigger warnings” and “content warnings,” the terms used to warn people about potentially triggering or sensitive material in online content, TV shows, movies, social media posts. [\[P 11 \]](#)



SPORTS

New year, new weight room. The athletics program is getting a fresh boost with the addition of a new weight room for team training. [\[P 15 \]](#)



Emerging from the margins

Underrepresented students, DEI team, and admissions staff weigh in on belonging at Nueva

By Gabe Hawkins & Owen Yeh-Lee

Every Friday, students congregate in the third-floor succulent garden. Over a lunch of burgers and fries, they exchange rapid-fire conversations about music, discuss updates in pop culture, and playfully quarrel about the superiority rankings of fast food chains. Though they only meet once per week, their joy lingers beyond the hour-long lunch slot.

This is what a typical THRIVE meeting consists of: affinity, camaraderie, and laughter. Co-founded in 2018 by then-Director of Admissions Taryn Grogan and former Social Justice and Inclusion Director Alegria Barclay, THRIVE is a space for underrepresented students—such as those who identify under a marginalized ethnic group, qualify for a certain degree of financial assistance, or have parents requiring translation services. The group aims to cultivate a space in which these students—who are typically identified during the admissions process and subsequently invited to join—can

find affinity, particularly at an institution where they may exist within the demographic margins.

While recruiting underrepresented students in the first place is an important step, “it is critical to make sure we have systems in place so these groups feel seen, heard, valued, respected and a sense of belonging and community,” said Grogan, who is now Director of Enrollment & Strategic Engagement. “THRIVE is a community within a community so [these students] can be their best and most confident selves.”

THRIVE is just one response to a broader conversation around the importance of diversity in academic settings, which has only amplified in the wake of the Supreme Court’s overturning of race-conscious college admissions in June.

While diversity is one of Nueva’s core tenets, as outlined on the website’s “Racial Equity and Accountability” page, seeking out and fostering diversity at the school isn’t a simple undertaking.

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