

•LOWENBRAUN  
RIDES HORSES  
•KLEIN INSPIRES  
HER PEERS

# PEOPLE

EL GATO • FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2018 • LOS GATOS HIGH SCHOOL • WWW.ELGATONEWS.COM

## Lowenbraun exudes talent through horseback riding

by **Jamie Blough**

Center Editor

A day in the life of junior **Rachel Lowenbraun** begins with a trip to Under the Sun Horsemanship where she is the captain of an IA competitive horseback riding team. She has been riding for 12 years and now helps to train horses and teach children how to ride. Lowenbraun's knack for and experience with competition reflects her compassionate and spirited demeanor in her daily life. In fact, Lowenbraun's friend and confidant senior Dylan Damico describes her as "the realest person [he's] ever known."

Lowenbraun currently is living with just her dad, since her older sister and brother have both gone on to graduate and pursue careers. Her 26-year-old sister has just recently graduated from University of Nevada and is now working as a nurse in Reno, Nevada. Similarly, Lowenbraun's 30-year-old brother



graduated from college and is currently working in a dental office in Oregon. In her free time, Lowenbraun volunteers in communities and hospitals alongside her dad.

Although she often looks up to her family members, Lowenbraun considers her biggest role model to be Katherine Johnson, the African American female NASA worker who was the basis of the story for Hidden Figures. Lowenbraun states, "It's amazing because she was able to overcome so much. It was the 1960s and she was the only African American woman in NASA who served in such a high position. She was the one who found the landing coordinates for our first orbit around Earth and without her, we wouldn't be where we are now."

Lowenbraun is the design editor for LGHS Yearbook this year, which she describes as "a big commitment, but worth it." When she's not grinding in her AP classes or spending extra hours in the Yearbook lab, Lowenbraun loves to travel to Los Angeles where she attends concerts and reconnects with friends from both in and out of the country.

Lowenbraun is also part of a Soundcloud rap/R&B music group called "Grand Tragedy," whose inspiration is taken from artists like BROCKHAMPTON, Tyler the Creator, and more. Founded in 2017, Grand Tragedy consists of five LGHS students as its main members, with a few working behind the scenes. About the group, Lowenbraun says, "It's really fun being a part of something that is really grass-roots and built from the ground up. It's really great being able to be behind the scenes of music production when I do really love and appreciate music and go to a lot of concerts." The group's first full album will be coming out soon, so be sure to give them an Instagram follow (@grandtragedy) for updates and check Soundcloud for their past singles and recent EP.



photos courtesy R. Lowenbraun

LGHS's PAWS, or Providing Awareness to Wildcat Students, would also not be the same without Lowenbraun's contribution to the semester issue. She feels lucky to provide students with advice and support on topics such as race, substance abuse, and mental health. Lowenbraun joined this network at the end of her freshman year, but did not begin participating until her sophomore year. "I like being able to not only spread awareness," says Lowenbraun, "it's not just about issues affecting the student body, but also giving possible solutions to make better future choices or just help students better themselves."

When she is not volunteering with O'Connor hospital alongside her dad, training at the barn, or helping produce the newest Grand Tragedy hit, you can find Lowenbraun adventuring with her best friends during ungodly hours of the night, attending as many concerts in the Bay Area as she can, and working hard to balance her tight academic schedule.

## Louie marches to the beat of his own drum

by **Austin Yung**

Editorial Editor

Senior **Sam Louie** lives his life like a rodeo, balancing his intense marching band schedule with his passion for graphic design. Nevertheless, Louie manages to find tiny increments of free time when he can enjoy Travis Scott's rhapsodies in the company of his dog, Mr. Doge.

Marching band requires great discipline and a huge time commitment, which Louie has happily taken on since he joined as a freshman. He has played the snare, bass, and tenor drum for nearly four years now. He gradually made his way up the ladder in band, as his team elected him as the drum major during his junior and senior year. Louie and his team spend a majority of their time practicing after school for hours on end in preparation for competitions. The team usually performs four competitions within the season, but due to the recent California fires, the marching band was unable to compete in two of them. In lieu of the fires, Louie recalled that on Nov. 27, the band "had this fund-

raiser at Leigh High School with a bunch of other marching bands and it was pretty nice. We were all able to come together at the end of a tragic season and put it towards a good cause."

Louie discovered his love for graphic design through Los Gatos High School's Graphic Design elective. The class initially drew him in because it combined both art and computer science. Through his dedication to his craft, Louie created his own clothing company named Ivory Ink. The official logo consists of an elephant and an octopus, hence the name. "I originally wanted it to be an aardvark, and then I thought, 'it kinda looks like an elephant,' so I made it an elephant," Louie remarked with a chuckle. Ivory Ink has gained some attention from Dropbox, a file hosting service, and 88rising, best described by founder Sean Miyashiro as a "hybrid management, record label, video production, and marketing company." Currently, Louie is designing a picture of Travis Scott using triptych triangles, which is a style of art where the object consists solely of triangles.

As references in this article imply, a majority of Louie's inspiration originates from his rap idol Travis Scott. A few of Louie's all time favorite songs are: Hell of a Night, Pick Up the Phone, and Sicko Mode. Scott takes the cake as Louie's all time favorite artist. Louie states, "[Scott] is kind of a big influence to me... he's a hard worker and innovative. He's ahead of the game."

As a person, Louie is quite diligent when it comes to work, yet nonchalant as he coolly greets anyone he meets. Louie is a student with a great passion for anything he sets his mind to. So if you ever need a graphic or want to geek out over Travis Scott, just go talk to Sam!



courtesy S. Louie

## Miller radiates strength

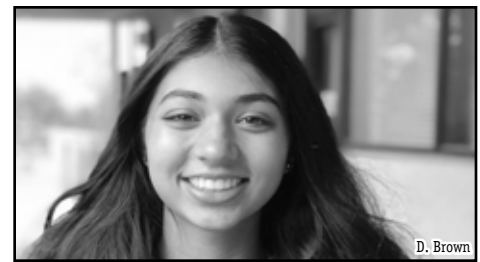
by **Quincy Marks**

Media Production Editor

"Fun, hardworking, and determined" are just three words that sophomore **Nadia Miller** uses to describe herself. Whether volunteering at Good Samaritan Hospital in its Junior Volunteer Program or competing in taekwondo, the charismatic and light-hearted teen makes sure to tackle every obstacle she faces with an optimistic outlook.

Miller first wanted to join the volunteer program to gain experience in a field which she is very interested in. At Good Samaritan, Miller works in a variety of medical fields: "it's basically just wherever they need us," she said. Through this program, Miller works to discharge patients, go on pharmacy and lab runs, and help in the emergency room and the pediatric unit. She hopes to pursue either a medical or science related field in her future, and the hands-on experience she has gained through her volunteer work will certainly help her achieve her goal.

From a young age, Miller planned to study medicine and science. "I have always found science to be really fascinating and I have always wanted to help people through following a medical career path." Wanting to help people in need is also very personal to Miller, as she sees firsthand how essential medical professionals are. "I have a sister who has special needs, so I thought it would be cool to give back to someone, just like many people have given to my sister." Even a short conversation with Miller about her future reveals that she cares deeply about helping others.



D. Brown

Back in the classroom, Miller makes sure that she takes courses that she finds interesting and that challenge her. She notes that one of her favorite classes so far has been Honors Biology, which she took as a freshman. Later, she plans to take AP Biology to further her knowledge.

This year, Miller is taking Advanced Science Research (ASR) as her elective. The class requires a vast amount of work, but Miller never shies away from a challenge. Through the class, Miller gets to do many interesting experiments related to her year-long project, which is about neurodegeneration. The class is perfect because she gets to explore her interest in science among students who are also passionate about learning.

Outside of school, Miller spends her time at the dojo. She first got into taekwondo after her friend recommended the sport, and she immediately found "all the cool kicks, fighting, and weapons to be very interesting." All of the kicking and punching also serves as a form of stress relief. Miller loves the sport "because it is the perfect combination of discipline and fun."

From pursuing science and medicine to kicking it in taekwondo, Miller is determined to continue striving for victory.

## O'MOORE CAPTURES LIFE THROUGH HIS LENS

by **Sasha Ryu**

Media Production Editor

Sporting a retro t-shirt and his treasured pair of pastel Nikes, freshman **Luke O'Moore's** expertly styled outfits never fail to turn heads. Having perfected the art of thrift shopping and internet trades, O'Moore has accumulated quite the impressive collection of streetwear. Although he adds several of his purchases to his personal wardrobe, the majority of the clothing he buys goes towards his reselling business.

When he has the time, O'Moore buys limited edition items from exclusive brands immediately after they drop a new line, and then resells them for a large profit. His sales typically range anywhere from 50 to 500 dollars, and thus far he's had great success. Currently, he advertises his items on the Instagram page, @lukesnks, and sells them on Grailed, which is essentially the eBay for men's designer clothes.

Although he's only a freshman, O'Moore already has his career planned out. Because he has enjoyed his small reselling business so



much, O'Moore is interested in becoming a salesman, most likely for a clothing company, and even opening his own international chain of stores. "I really want to live in LA when I graduate, but I'll probably start my first store in somewhere with less competition, like Oregon or Washington," he explained, "Eventually, though, it would be awesome to have a location in Malibu or something."

In addition to O'Moore's strategic and business oriented mindset, he has an incredible sense of humor. Never afraid of what others will think, you can always count on O'Moore to liven up a conversation with an unexpected remark. In fact, O'Moore's comedic talent is one of the many reasons why he's so well-liked among his peers.

Outgoing and extroverted, O'Moore is perpetually surrounded by his tight-knit group of friends. Whether it's biking down the trails of the Santa Cruz mountains or exploring abandoned buildings in the city, he and his friends are always on an adventure.

O'Moore has a reputation for being wild and daring, but, if you take the time to get to know him, you'll find that he has a mature



photos courtesy L. O'Moore

and compassionate aspect to his personality. One of O'Moore's most defining qualities is his humble and caring nature. He never seeks out attention, praise, or pity from the people around him. According to one of O'Moore's closest friends, sophomore Dominic Campana, "Luke is always interested in hearing what I have to tell him. He's been there for me during some really rough times, and he always knows how to have fun and make me laugh. He's the best friend I could've asked for."

Despite the intense social pressures of being a highschooler, O'Moore is always unapologetically his true self. It's rare to come across such a genuine, kind, and hilarious individual. If you're looking for a good time and a great friend, keep an eye out for a kid with a mopy haircut and a mischievous smile on his face. I promise, you won't regret it.