Benjamin Franklin

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Club News

Questions about the **yearbook**, including how to **submit pictures or change your preferred name**? Click <u>here</u> for a list of Yearbook FAQs.

Congratulations to the **Ben Franklin Sailing Team** for taking FIRST PLACE in the **Spring Series Regatta**. This Regatta consisted of 18 races over six Friday regattas. The sailors beat teams from Ursuline, Jesuit, and Sacred Heart. Also, this Saturday was the **New Orleans Yacht Club Regatta**. Our team won the third place trophy with 16 boats competing from New Orleans and Alabama. Congratulations to **Sahana Jaligam '22, Harriss Thorne '23, Malichi Sheahan '23, Ellie Poche '22, Taylor Hemelt '23,** and **Andrew Smith '23.**

Please congratulate the students who participated in the **Science Olympiad State Tournament. Alex Ngo '24** and **Larsen Vincent '21** took second place in **Astronomy.** Vincent and **Grant Bostick '21** took second place in **Circuit Lab.** Bostick, **Amy Nguyen '23**, and **Truc Tong '21** took first place in **Codebusters**. **Susan Tang '21** and **Nethuli Adihetti '21** took second place in **Designer Genes**. Tang and **John-Paul Tran '23** took first place in **Disease Detectives**. Tang and Vincent took third place in **Sounds of Music**. Overall, the team placed third.

The **DEI workgroup** is currently looking f**or ninth**, **10th**, **and 11th graders to join their group as student liaisons and committee leads**. The selection process involves interviews. Anyone interested should fill out <u>this Google Form</u> to get the process started. They also are looking for general members, so if anyone is interested in joining, please use the Google Classroom code: zjlmliq.

Franklin's **Quiz Bowl team** competed well in the state tournament this past Saturday. The team, consisting of Charleston McLean '21, Amy Le Nguyen '23, Austin Ogbuefi '23, Dhruv Patel '23, and John-Paul Tran '23, just missed reaching the championship bracket to place in the Top 4 and ultimately took fifth place in Division II. Congratulations to all of the team! And a special congratulations to team captain Charleston McLean, who took first place in individual scoring at the tournament!

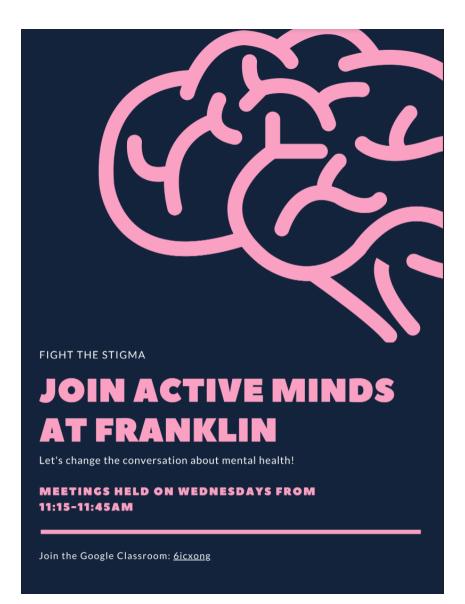
It has been challenging to do service in our community, but the **Franklin Key Club** still found ways to help those in need this year. Our last project this year is the Diversity Garden Service Project this Saturday, March 27. It was funded with a \$1,300 grant from the Kiwanis Club of New Orleans. Though our numbers are a little less this year, our Key Club participated in the Virtual DCON this past weekend, and we rocked it! Our club secretary Zoe Marquis '21 was voted the LAMISSTENN District Key Club Secretary of the year. Zoe has kept the club moving forward in service during these strange times. Zoe was also awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Kiwanis Foundation at the convention. She is very deserving of that award. Zoe is the Key Clubber of the Year from Ben Franklin and will be at the Kiwanis Club of New Orleans meeting with her parents in April to receive her award. Jennifer Huynh '23 from our club won the Key Facts Contest. This is the first time a Franklin club member has won that award in at least 15 years. Jennifer was also elected the 4A lieutenant governor for next year. The last lieutenant governor from Franklin was 10 years ago. Finally, at the convention the Franklin Key Club won the Distinguished Club Award. This award is given to a club that performs the most outstanding service to a community. We are a small club and have

never been able to win this award in the past because the larger clubs have so many more events during the year. We expanded our events both virtual and limited in person this year under the leadership of our club president **Anita Zahiri '22**. She has been able to create new opportunities to serve that were safe. Our club recently elected its new officers for next year. They are: **President - Anita Zahiri '22**, **Vice President -Emily Do '22**, **Secretary - Amy Nguyen '23**, **Treasurer - Jennifer Huynh '23**, **Public Relations - Suong Tran '23 and Hanh Le '24**.Franklin students are invited to join the Key Club again next year and become involved in this worthwhile organization. See you in August.The **UNICEF CLUB** recently ran a sock drive, and **10th grade Student Council, GSA, and the Feminist Club** ran a feminine product drive. Yesterday, the president and vice president of the UNICEF club, **Jaime Welsh '22 and Amani Garrison '22**, brought both of the drives' items to the New Orleans Women and Children shelter in Central City. They were so appreciated! Thanks to everyone who gave!

Congratulations to the **Franklin Quiz Bowl Team**, who competed in an American Quiz Bowl League nationwide tournament. Franklin placed sixth in a highly competitive field and **Charleston McLean '21** placed second in individual scoring across the entire tournament! Great job, Quiz Bowl! Wish them luck this Saturday as they compete in the State Championships!

The **National Honor Society Wellness Supply Drive** was a great success. We collected eight boxes of hygiene and cleaning supplies including soap, shampoo, disinfectant wipes, and more. All items were donated to the New Orleans Mission, a homeless shelter dedicated to combating poverty, hunger, homelessness, exploitation, and oppression. On March 4, **Grace Tran '21** and **Zoe Marquis '21** dropped off the supplies at the New Orleans Mission. The donations were very appreciated. Many thanks to all who gave!

Are you interested in **cultivating change and awareness about mental health**? Then join Franklin's very own **Active Minds** chapter, focused on empowering students to raise awareness through peer-to-peer dialogue and creating a community of support. Join here to change the conversation and reduce the stigma!



Our **HOSA - Future Health Professionals Club** is fundraising for **Be the Match**, an organization devoted to helping individuals diagnosed with life-threatening blood cancers and diseases such as leukemia and sickle cell. As a global leader in blood stem cell transplantation, Be the Match connects the world's largest and most diverse registry of donors with patients who are their genetic match. BFHS HOSA is raising funds and hope for these patients with blood cancer and other fatal blood diseases. Please consider donating using this <u>link</u> - every dollar raised and new donor on the Be the Match Registry means a brighter future for patients and their families! Reach out to azahiri22@bfhsla.org with any questions!

Clubs are active at Franklin virtually. If you want to know what clubs are available, click <u>here</u> to see more than **60 Flipgrid videos** from the Franklin clubs. You might want to explore club opportunities during the Mardi Gras break and get involved soon.

The **Chess Club** will now meet **Mondays** after school from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The link is <u>here</u>.

NHS has recently launched a **teacher appreciation project**, and we'd like to invite all students to participate! On <u>this link</u>, you can find a spreadsheet with each teacher's name and their respective slideshows. We welcome everyone to customize their own slide with **nice**, **personal thank you notes** for the teachers of their choice, no matter if they're current teachers or past teachers. We hope to send the teachers small notes of encouragement to remind them that they're not alone in the virtual void and that we are thankful for them. Any participation is welcome, encouraged, and appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact **Grace Tran '21** at <u>gtran21@bfhsla.org</u>.

If you would like to join the **Young Democrats' Club**, please email fgalarneau23@bfhsla.org or jkumar23@bfhsla.org.

Want to get involved in **FTV this semester?** Let us know via <u>this questionnaire</u>. FTV is the premier campus media organization, and this year, we are expanding from a single weekly YouTube show into a **network of video programming**. We are looking for on-air talent (both on camera and voice actors), production crew (both shooting footage and putting it together), and anyone wanting to produce their own original shows or segments. No prior experience necessary. For questions, email Mr. Cavalier.

YRNO (Youth Rebuilding New Orleans) club is starting up again, and you can join using Google Classroom code lo3xdbi! It is an amazing initiative for young people to **help out the community by volunteering to recover damaged areas**. If you have any questions or need extra information, email cblakely21@bfhsla.org.