

The bee's knees ...

Students bring back the Roaring '20s

By **Kellen Browning**
ENTERPRISE CORRESPONDENT

Flappers, bootlegging, jazz music and a stock market crash. Has Davis returned to the 1920s?

Just for a night. On Friday, Da Vinci Charter Academy held its annual "Party Like It's 1929!" project, the culmination of months of work for the junior class.

Students had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the art and culture of the Roaring '20s by taking on the roles of 1920s Americans, presenting their stations to the public,plying visitors with bootleg "liquor" and advertising the magazines they created as part of the project.

"I am Lizzie Plummer; most of my friends call me Lillie," Sierra Marie tells a crowd.

"And I am Abby Rockefeller, and together we were two of the driving forces behind what you see today — the Museum of Modern Art, the first of its kind," Vivi Kirsch adds.

"We as women co-founded the MoMA and we believe that all minorities should have the opportunities to rise up in society and be featured," Plummer/Marie says, as the two 1920s women lead the tour around the museum, complete with

photographs of paintings and short black-and-white videos.

Outside, Claudia Robinson stands behind an array of potted plants and flowers, and leads visitors into a decked-out classroom. Fancy tables, complete with candles, roses and balloons take up most of the space.

"This is the opening of the Rouge magazine," Robinson explains as she offers guests refreshments. "We talk about lots of stuff ... sports and culture, the new women, politics and economics."

Robinson says the project took "a couple months" to complete.

"We do a lot of scaffolding things. There are mini-presentations and little note sheets and things like that. And then we're mostly on our own for getting it all together. We have to get the magazine in, and that's regulated, but other than that it's all pretty open," she said.

In a more crowded room, the stock market business is booming. Stockbroker Joel Pion sits behind a counter exchanging money while group-mate Hayley Looney updates the stock price numbers on a whiteboard.

Looney says her group chose a project on the stock market because "it was something unique that other groups weren't doing."

"And it's really interesting

because the stock market really impacted everything in the 1920s," Looney said.

Every few minutes, the group announces a change in the stocks, which include companies like General Motors, General Electric and Coca Cola. Visitors are given \$150 to start with, and can make money as the night wears on, which they can later exchange for candy.

"It's really cool how the community can come and see what we've been a part of as the Da Vinci class ..." Looney says over the noise of Pion ringing a triangle and announcing a stock change and a "Happy New Year!"

"A lot of people came back later in the night to see where their stocks were at, since the 'year' and the stocks were changing every 10 minutes," Looney said. "By the end of the night, we reached 1929 and showed the crash in the drop of the stock prices."

The project was graded by a group of teachers who made their way through the many presentations, asking questions to gauge the presenters' knowledge of the Roaring '20s.

Da Vinci Vice Principal Scott Steve Bell, who also teaches history, was one of the graders, and says that 1929 Night started eight years ago because the junior class needed a signature project.

"Nothing is sort of sexier than



WAYNE TILCOCK/ENTERPRISE PHOTO

Is it 1928 yet? Georgia Sullivan, left, and Cooper Johnson welcome visitors to The Spectator, one of the speakeasies set up by Da Vinci students for Saturday's 1920s night.

jazz and music and alcohol, and it all blends together, right? And boom, 1929 Night started," Bell said of the brainstorming process.

Bell believes that an interactive project like 1929 Night allows students to engrass themselves in history much more than simply studying or reading from a textbook would.

"It allows them to explore; this is about youth and culture in the 1920s, and these are the youth and their culture. So they're drawing parallels," he said.

But putting on such an intricate presentation was very time-consuming for the busy students.

"Holy moly ... it's been quite a whirlwind the past week," Kirsch said. "We have been ... trying to balance our schedules. There's recruitment for our school (and) I

have lacrosse practice and Sierra has other extracurriculars. So we've been meeting from 8 p.m. on all weekdays, and last night our meeting ended at 1 a.m."

"And we started at 6 a.m. this morning," Marie added.

But for the two MoMA founders, the end result was rewarding.

"... It's just nice to be proud of your work and what you put forth," Kirsch said. "I'm very happy with the outcome."

Both Marie and Kirsch believe they experienced the cultural immersion Bell hopes students get from the project.

"You become the role. I am Lillie Plummer. I know all about her life and her part in the Roaring '20s," Marie said.

— Kellen Browning is a junior at Davis High School and an

What's happening

Friday, March 6

■ Youths ages 1-17 are invited to **Friday Night Live!**, an hour of tumbling and gymnastics at the Civic Center Gym, 23 Russell Blvd, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Whether they want to work on gymnastics skills or just jump on the trampoline, children will be supervised and coached by gymnastics and dance staff, though children ages 1-4 must have a parent or guardian supervising them on the gym floor. The cost is \$5 at the door.

Tuesday, March 10

■ Families of elementary students are all welcome to attend a **Math Night at Patwin Elementary School** from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room at 2222 Shasta Drive. Students and families will participate in activities focused on understanding math and making it meaningful in their everyday lives. The event is free of charge. For more information, contact Dzaragoza@djusd.net.

Friday, March 13

■ Youths ages 1-17 are invited to **Friday Night Live!**, an hour of tumbling and gymnastics at the Civic Center Gym, 23 Russell Blvd, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Whether they want to work on gymnastics skills or just jump on the trampoline, children will be supervised and coached by gymnastics and dance staff, though children ages 1-4 must have a parent or guardian supervising them on the gym floor. The cost is \$5 at the door.

Saturday, March 14

■ The ninth annual **Children's Summer Activities Faire** sponsored by UC Davis and the city of Davis will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in Central Park during the Davis Farmers Market. Local organizations will be showcasing their summer youth programs and answering questions.

■ Enjoy an evening of dinner, dessert and dancing at the annual **Father-Daughter Dance Benefiting the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society** from 6 to 10 p.m. at the El Macero Country Club. Tickets are \$35 per person before March 1, \$45 per person after that, and will go on sale on Feb. 2 at Avid Reader Active, 605 Second St., and the El Macero Country Club, 44571 Clubhouse Drive.

'Buy' one school, get the others free

Buy one get one free for college?

Yes, there is a way to "buy," or pay tuition, at one college and get another college, or colleges, for free. Consortium colleges allow students to attend one college while taking classes and participating in activities at other colleges. It is often a way to get the best of both worlds — a small-school feel with access to more class choices and social outlets.

Just what is a consortium college? Perhaps the most well-known example for California students is the Claremont Colleges. Composed of five highly selective undergraduate colleges (Harvey Mudd, Scripps, Pomona, Pitzer and Claremont McKenna) and two graduate programs (Keck Graduate Institute and Claremont Graduate University), these colleges are co-located within walking distance of each other in Claremont down in San Bernardino County. See box for more information.

A big draw for the Claremont Colleges is that students can have a small-school experience within a medium-sized college of about 5,900 undergraduates. For example, the class size at Pomona averages 15 but there are more than 2,200 classes to choose from due to the consortium. Students apply to one college but then are able to cross-enroll in classes and even major in fields at others (with some restrictions). Coordinated academic calendars and class registration among the colleges makes the process relatively easy, but there are different admission application requirements.

I love these colleges because you can take a step across from



Scripps and be on the Claremont McKenna campus. You can eat in any cafeteria and join clubs with students from other colleges. Each college has its own specialty — Harvey Mudd is known for math and computer science while Claremont McKenna is highly regarded in the fields of economics and political science. When it comes to sports, there are two Division III teams: Claremont-Scripps-Mudd play on the same team and Pomona-Pitzer is the other team.

More than just California options

For students who wish to venture out of California or want to find less selective options, I have good news. Massachusetts has the Five College Consortium composed of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Amherst, Smith, Mount Holyoke and Hampshire College. Similar to the Claremont Colleges, students at the Five College Consortium apply to one college but then have the benefits of taking classes at any of the five.

These colleges have a wider variation in acceptance rates and college size than the Claremont Colleges and are more distinct with different campuses in different locations. Buses are available to take students to and from the different

campuses, which are not more than about a 20-minute ride.

Students cross-enroll through the "interchange" that offers 6,000 undergraduate courses among the five colleges. Generally, students access this option after their first semester freshman year. Students may take up to two courses each semester on other campuses.

Tri-Co, the Tri College Consortium of Haverford, Swarthmore and Bryn Mawr, is another consortium that shares many features of the Five College Consortium. The Tri-Co campuses are set apart from each other but students may take classes at the other colleges.

There's also the Christian College Consortium, a network of 13 Christian colleges, which provide semester-long programs for students from member institutions to study at other Christian Consortium colleges. In our area, Westmont, George Fox and Seattle Pacific University are part of this network.

Cooperative agreements

Another option is to attend colleges that have agreements with each other for cross-registration opportunities. This is a less formalized way to have a consortium-like experience. In California, for instance, students at Mills College in Oakland can cross-register to take classes at UC Berkeley. Back Rast there are options for students at Wellesley College to take classes at MIT, and for Barnard students to take classes at Columbia.

Babson undergraduate students have the opportunity to

Claremont Colleges at a glance

- **Harvey Mudd:** 19 percent acceptance rate; 807 undergraduates
- **Pomona:** 14 percent; 1,612
- **Pitzer:** 15 percent; 1,081
- **Scripps** (women's college): 27 percent; 972
- **Claremont-McKenna:** 12 percent; 1,316

cross-register at several colleges such as Olin College, Wellesley College and Brandeis. Public school systems like the UCs and the Florida College System allow students to cross-enroll for free at other campuses within the system.

With both consortium colleges and cooperative agreements, the benefits are that students have access to more classes, professors and student activities that can enrich their college experience academically and socially. The only downside I am aware of is that sometimes students may feel that it complicates registration and financial aid, so check with admissions advisers and financial aid staff to ensure that all bases are covered.

Overall, this is an excellent way for students to get exposure to more than one college at a time.

Until next time...

This consortium college path is worth exploring for many students. You can get more for your money and have the chance to customize your college experience. Yet another option to consider when looking for the right college for you.



Picture-perfect

Jack Eastham's photo, "Look What I Found," took the top prize in the 6-11 age group for this year's city of Davis Photo Contest. The contest encouraged entries showcasing what is unique and special about Davis and 41 entries were submitted in three age categories. The photos were judged on visual appeal, pictorial composition and originality, as well as how well the photograph portrayed the city of Davis. Other winners were Alessandro Comai for "The Deathstar" in the 12-17 age group and Doug Totten for "At the End of the Rainbow" in the 18 and up category. The winners were recognized by the Davis City Council at its Feb. 17 meeting.

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