

before i

Story by Rebecca Doran Photo courtesy of C Magazine staff

GRADUATE...

Behind C Magazine's "Before I Graduate..." installation.

As everyone heads toward lunch, a new addition to the campus attracts a crowd of curious students. A large black board titled, "Before I graduate..." covers the right-most wall next to the library entrance, accompanied by a large box of multi-colored chalk.

Junior Juan Pinto Saldana picks up a sky-blue colored chalk and sincerely writes, "I am looking forward to my 2 homecoming events and two proms!" In pink chalk, one jokingly scribbles, "Tailgate!". While another writes, "Visit 50 states," and "Run a marathon!"

The installation, set up by C Mag staff members, Siena Dunn ('24) Lily Daniel ('24), and Audrey Guo ('23), allowed all students to anonymously write down their goals and dreams before they graduate.

"The inspiration behind the installation was the [2013] 'Before I Die' project by Candy Chang," Dunn said.

"[Her installation] started with, 'Before I Die, I want to...' and she had these blank spaces where people could write down all the things they wanted to do before they die. And it's this huge project that's in so many different countries, languages, and all over social media," Daniel said.

"We thought it would be more relevant to the Paly community by saying 'Before I Graduate...', because it was a way to connect the community and show people that they're not alone in certain things," Daniel said.

After brainstorming, the struggle was how to implement it on campus.

"It was kind of a hassle to get all of the materials together, but we got [4] chalkboards from Home Depot, then we used paint and stencils to do the actual writing," Dunn said. "Then we put out chalk for people to [write with]."

Because of the success of the "Before I Graduate Board," Guo says that the temporary installation might turn into a Paly tradition for years to come.

"I think it's something we can think about. I hope that people can carry on similar projects because it's fun to see," Guo said.

Ending off the week students stop and read the hundreds of colorful responses on the board, inspired to pick up a chalk, and write what they would like to accomplish before they graduate.

PICKING UP A piece of chalk, Junior Sirisha Mitra adds a colorful response to C Mag's "Before I Graduate" board. "I think the board was a fun way to bring the community together," Mitra said.



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LILY DANIEL ('24)

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norcal media day

Students talk about how the Keynote Speaker, adviser Adriana Chavira, inspired them.

SPEAKING IN FRONT of hundreds of journalism students from all over NorCal, Los Angeles-based adviser Adriana Chavira shares her experience as a journalism adviser and an advocate for student press rights. Photo by Tate Hardy



"Adriana Chavira inspired me to hold up my morals even if there may be consequences. Especially as a student journalist, I think ethics and morals are important but difficult to maintain, but Chavira reminded me to continue to hold them up."

AJIN JEONG ('23)



"The story of Adriana Chavira and her students showed me that while fighting back can be difficult, it's worth it, and there are resources that are available for help. I hope that if I'm ever in a situation like the one the Pearl Post faced I can navigate it as successfully as they did."

ASHA KULKARNI ('24)



"The speech inspired me because it introduced me to an aspect [of] courage that I didn't know existed in journalism. Chavira showed us the part that potential student journalists have and empowered us by doing so. Her speech taught students to be more fearless in journalism."

ALEC BONNARD ('25)



behind the film

Bennett Hardy shares his step by step process for shooting his short film on overcoming anxiety.

- 1 write script
- 2 create shot list
- 3 meet with cinematographer
- 4 shoot the film
- 5 shoot reshots
- 6 edit color and sound



(left) **LOOKING AT THE** camera monitor attentively, Bennett Hardy ('23) is filming a movie on anxiety. His inspiration comes from reflections of his daily life. "Every storyteller uses their own life to tell the story they want to tell," Hardy said. (right) **WHILE CONDUCTING THE** film, Hardy goes over the script details with the actors. Filming takes a lot of careful considerations. "It took weeks to understand what I needed to shoot, the story I wanted to tell, and understand the conditions in which I would shoot," Hardy said. Photos by Tate Hardy

falling under PAR

Hole to hole, Girls Varsity golfers take us through their thoughts during a course.



HOLE 1 SURVEYING THE COURSE, Angelina Chen ('24) makes sure she is prepared to start her first round. During their morning practices, golfers focus on perfecting their shots and puts in preparation for the course. With 18 holes ahead, the first hole can be intimidating. "You have to treat each hole separately so you don't get caught up, so at the first hole I'm just focusing on that hole by itself and nothing else," Chen said.

HOLE 2

IN THE MIDDLE of her round, Co-captain Allyson Lee ('23) makes sure to pace herself. "When I'm playing a golf game, the main thing that I'm thinking about is the next shot," Lee said. "I think that's extremely important because in golf it can be really easy to get wrapped up in your past mistakes and let that affect your next shots. I try to focus on only what I can do next."



HOLE 18 AS THE ROUND closes, Alexa Pineda ('24) hits her final drive. She carefully prepared to hit each shot to finish strong, successfully shooting under par. "Towards the end I stay calm and focus on working towards my goal," Pineda said. "I was happy that I was able to meet my goal even though I had a few mistakes throughout the round." Photos by Caleb Wong

What do other students feel about CMAG art?



"It's nice that we get to get art from all kinds of students with different styles across the school."

ISAAC HILLESLAND ('23)



"I've only seen a little bit of C Mag art, but from what I've seen, the art is really good...and generally really impressive."

ELSA LAGERBLAD ('25)



"I feel like it's the first thing I notice... It's really detailed and pretty complex. I feel like the art is what draws me to the magazine."

ARIANA CAO ('23)