

Freedom

USA

By Rand Alsaber

Perthia

Malaysia

Africa

Nepal

Vietnam

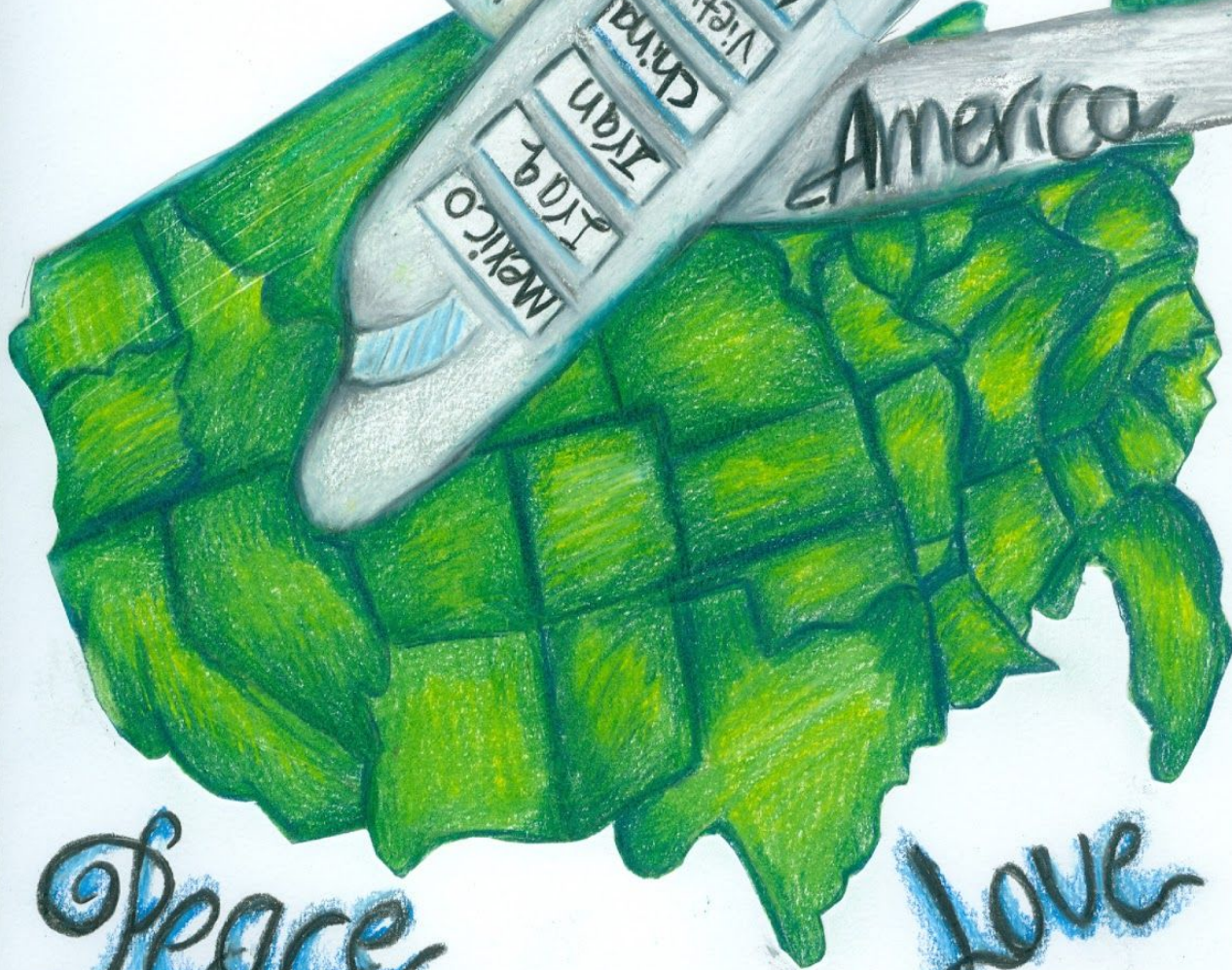
China

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Mexico

America



Peace

Love

2015-2016

ESL Student Has Hope For Future



By: Rashida Razak

Giovanna Garza is a student at Holmes high school. She's from Mexico. She was born on September 22 ,2001 in Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. She speaks Spanish and English. On August 17,2014 Giovanna Garza and her family came to the United States. She has one older brother, his name is Luis Fernando and he is 16 years old. She has one little sister; her name is Regina and she is 11 years old. Giovanna is a good student at Holmes High School. She always helps the teachers. She loves to do cheer because she loves the way they move all together. She's in cheer class at Holmes High School. Her life was good in her

country; the reason why they came to United States was for a better education and better jobs. She likes the United States because it is safer and it is a free country. After graduation she wants to be an Anesthesiologist. The culture of Mexico and United States are very different. For example like a tradition food. tradition dance, and tradition clothes.

She miss her country and she misses her friends and relatives over her country. She will visit them when school vacation starts.





By: Dany Rony Garcia Alfaro

Luis Martinez is a students at Holmes High school. He is 15 years old. Luis has living in San Antonio for 2 years. He came to United States but he did not want to United States because he had all his friends and family in Aguascalientes. He now

live with his father and his mother.

He is the swimming team, but he also likes play the guitar, go to skate and play pull, hang out with his friends ,go to the movies, play in his PS4 and listened to music.

He wants to go back to Aguascalientes Mexico because he miss his friends and family.

Esperance Nyabikiza

By: Ana Conde

Esperance was born in Vyura, Congo on February 2, 1998. She speaks French, Swahili, Kinyarwanda, and English. She came to the United States for a better education and a better life.

Esperance says that her way of life here in the U.S. is different from her native country. The thing she misses the most are walking with her friends, and carrying a baby in her back. She also mentioned that in her country they don't take showers. They bathe by using a big plastic bowls. She does not miss that.

The things they eat are also different. They usually eat natural organic food that comes straight from the farm. For example, they eat casave bread, casave leaves, potatoes, sweet potatoes, green bananas, corns, beans, and sorghum. Before coming to the United States, she didn't know what a pizza was. They are afraid to eat seafood except fish.

She is learning the American culture, and she is very happy to be in the United States. She is a high achiever at school. Her plans for the future are to go to college and graduate as a math teacher.



Interview about Nurmala Nurislam

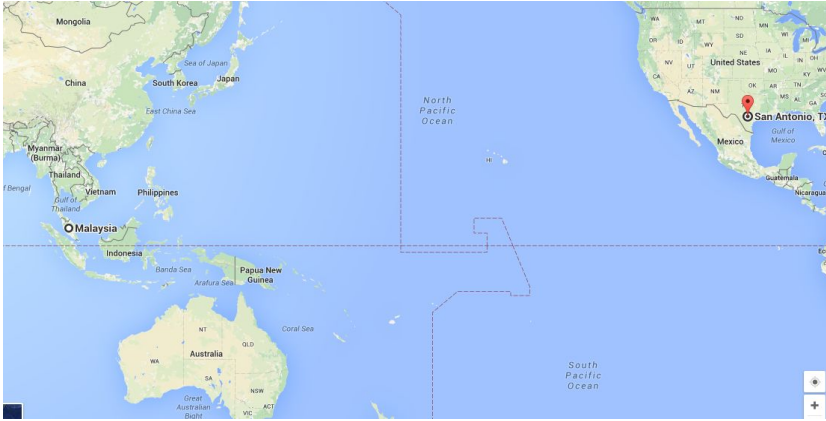


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Nurmala Nurislam is from Johor Bahry, Malaysia. She was born there and she lived with her parents. Mom and Dad she has an interesting story here had to move to America for a better life now living here with his father and stepmother her real mother is in malaysia I do not know why she stayed in Malaysia but I always communicate through social networks like facebook and other .

She is here that decided to start her life again here because here there are many opportunities in many things like study or work in support of organizations if you do not have many resources ,she enjoys living here has new friends from different countries are learning English for a better future one of the things I miss is my real mama she lingered beyond other things,I also miss my friends my school beyond the typical meal is something that I never will forget.The truth here and there are different in many things in the economy and study opportunities or to obtain something,now i am live on San Antonio TX(2003 oak hill rd)I live here now is my new home.

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Now here in I am studying at holmes school touched me to learn English to pass my classes and in less than a year and learned enough to defend in all cases like going to the shops or at school or

anywhere I also met people who speak Spanish and because I want to learn spanish I in this part of Texas there are many people who speak Spanish as my school friends maybe next year I'll take class of Spanish,what drives me learn Spanish are my friends they speak Spanish and a little English but more so I want to learn English to communicate with them.

One of my goals in the United States is to study and graduate of doctor and after this I return to my country to help people who need medical help.

To now be ready for my future have my regular job to keep me and my children also also to buy my own home.



Rashidah Abdul Razak

By: Montserrath Contreras Rodriguez

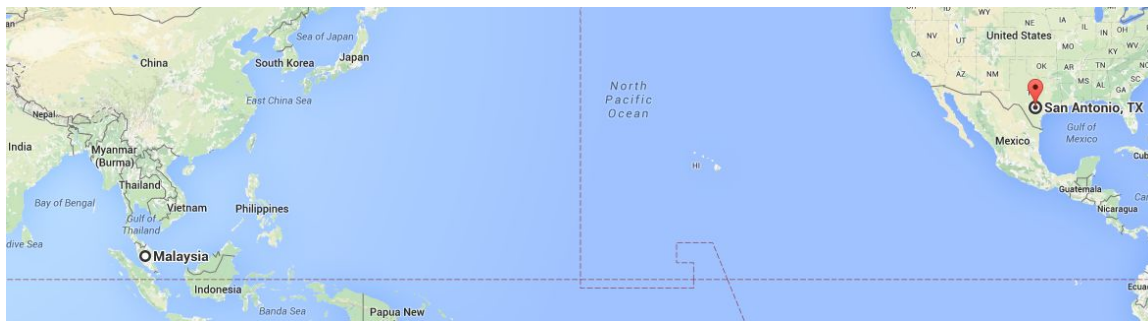


Rashidah Abdul Razak is 15 years old. She was born on November 11, 2000. She is a student at Holmes High School. She lived in Malaysia but can not be a Malaysian citizen because her parents are from Myanmar.

She and her family came to the United States because her

parents wanted a better future for her. Her life in Malaysian is good.

She says her family was comfortable in her country. The distance to the United States is far and therefore she had to change airplanes three times. This was her first time flying.



She speak two languages, Malay and little English.

Their clothes are two different types of dresses, one religion and the other for Comfortable sentiese. Also covers her head with Hijap, uses different colors and with Diamonds or Shine. She hide her hair because it is a rule from Muslim. She decided to use the Hijap because she wants to follow her religion rules, and she sew is look cute and pretty.



In her country they use henna in their heads for tradition and they use for civil marriage, before married.



Rashidah don't want go back to Malaysia, but she'll visit her family and friends. Her dream is to be a doctor to help sick people, and travel around the world, she came here to realize her dream.





By: Dany Rony Garcia Alfaro

Luis Martinez is a students at Holmes High school. He is 15 years old. Luis has living in San Antonio for 2 years. He came to United States but he did not want to United States because he had all his friends and family in Aguascalientes. He now live with his father and his mother.

He is the swimming team, but he also likes play the guitar, go to skate and play pull, hang out with his friends ,go to the movies, play in his PS4 and listened to music.

He wants to go back to Aguascalientes Mexico because he miss his friends and family.



By: Giovanna Garza Meraz

Montserrath Contreras is a sophomore student at Holmes High School. Montserrath is 16 years old who was born in Mexico City on August 25,1999. She is a Catholic girl who came to the United States to learn English and to live a safer live because were she lived the security was appalling. She really likes U.S. “I like it so much because I feel so much safer and I can learn

English for a better job opportunity,” she says.

Montserrath has a problem with her arm, her left hand is missing. When she was inside the belly of her mother, her mother didn't consume folic acid, so Monserrath didn't developed the way she was supposed to.

Montserrath is a disable strong lady who has done everything by herself for 15 years! She goes through cruel comments and she just keeps going on, that’s how everyone should act and how everyone should be with their lives.

By: Brisela Mackintoy Figueroa

Maria Jose Ornelas Resendiz is 16 years old. She is a student from Holmes High School. She was born on April 27, 1999 in Guadalajara Jalisco. She is in the United State because his mother was married and her husband has a job here in the US to have a better life. At first she did not agree Because she did not want to leave Mexico but then analyze the things I had better life here in the Us, and study what she wants for better life to follow in their study. She misses her family much guadalajara friends climate food to her boyfriend and she also strange places where went out to have fun.



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Her life in Guadalajara was good, but something did not like was that the change lot of school and that she did not like because I had to say goodbye to his friends but keep relented with the message but was not like them all school day his life he liked but since he came to the United States she misses her family

She likes photography because there is many beautiful places that a lot of people haven't seen, and with the pictures she can show the world those places. Also because she likes to take pictures.

she does not like some things of the united states that is the language that battle long and the food is a bit odd is not the same wing of mexico.

and there are things you like united states that has a lot of opportunity to work , learn another language and want to go on with your life

she works in Big'Z burgers, she picks up the trash and washes the dishes. Also she checks the bar to see if everything is good.



Interview to Johana Constanza

By: Luis Martinez Zavala

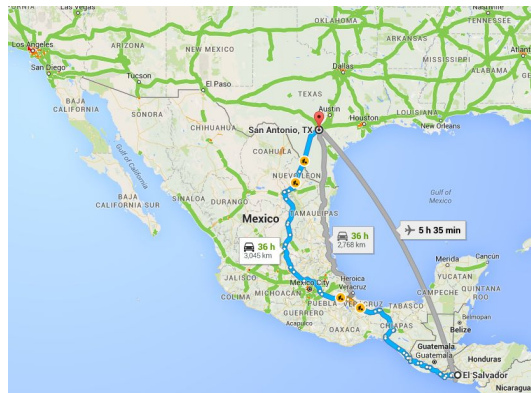
Johana was born in El Salvador on December 28, 2000. She is a student at Holmes High School. She is 15 years old. Johana has been living in San Antonio for 2 years. She came to the United States for various reasons, one of them is



because her parents want a better future for her.

She told me that in El Salvador there is a lot of violence; people had been killed and gangsters followed her brother to make him join them.

She came to the United States with her brother Melvin and his sister in law Fatima. Her travel wasn't bad; they crossed through Guatemala and Mexico and finally they arrived in USA. This travel took 6 days.



Her parents already were in the United States. It has been 10 years since Johana had seen her parents. She likes play soccer but she is not anymore in the team because she got a concussion.

One of her dreams are be a coach, she

wanted to be first a professional soccer player, but she got a terrible news, the doctor told her she can not play soccer anymore because her concussion.



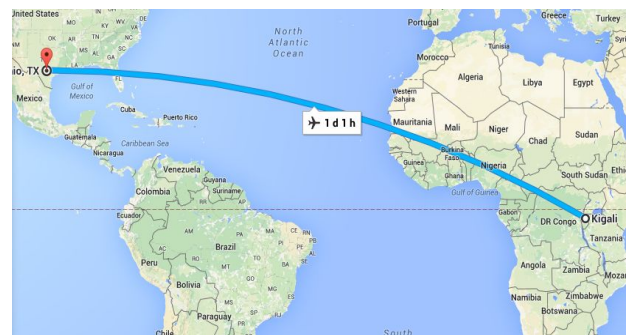
Holmes Student Speaks Five Languages



By: Adair Nunez

Freddy Muhumure is a student at Holmes High School. He is from Kigali, Rwanda. He speaks Portuguese, French, Swahili, Kinyarwanda, and English. He says that life in Rwanda is common. They go to work in the mornings and get home at night. On his free time he used to listen to music and while he used to do that he also used to think about his future.

He says that the government is not very good. “They kill innocent people instead of the criminals,” he added. What he misses from Rwanda are his animals that he used to take care of, mostly cows and goats. His family used to get the food from the market such as meat, fruits and vegetables. They didn't receive help from the government.



He came to the United States on an airplane. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) paid for his tickets because he is a refugee. Eventually he has to repay the organization.

His goal is to join the U.S military because the U.S government provides many benefits. Currently, he is doing very well in school.

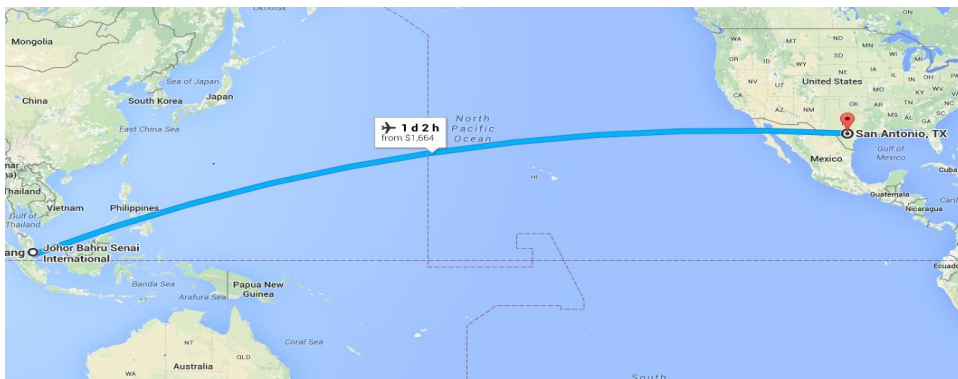
The Refugees' Son

By: Normala Nur Islam

Mohammad Emran Bin Mohammad Ali was born on August 24, 1999. He was born in Pahang, Malaysia. His parents are from Myanmar. There are five children in Emran's family, two boys and three girls. He's the youngest one. His two sisters are still in Malaysia. They are older and have their own business. His eldest sister owns a restaurant called Rahinar NBK. It serves nasi beriani. His second sister is Hasinar. She has a clothing shop at Kota Tinggi, Johor, Malaysia.

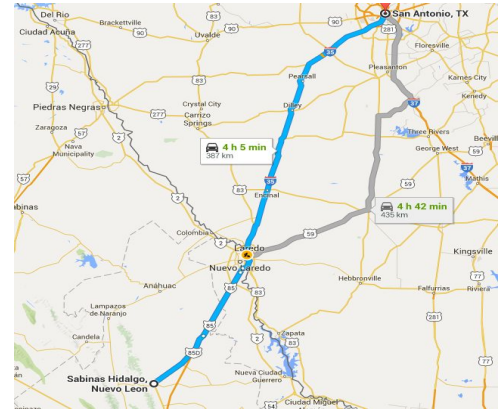
He came to the United States in August 2015. Starting a new life being as an immigrant is hard for him because he has to learn English and also the American culture. His culture and American culture are really different. For example, Malaysian culture has an Eid-Ul Fitr every year also has an Eid al-Adha. Another example is school in Malaysia is you need to wear a uniform also you can't bring cellphones to school.

He is a freshmen at Holmes High School. He wants to achieve his goals to be a restaurant owner, and he also wants to return to Malaysia.



By: Esperance Nyabikiza

Giovanna Garza is a student at Holmes high school. She is from Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, México. She was born on September 22, 2001. She speaks Spanish and is learning English. She lives with all her family. In August 17, 2014, Giovanna Garza and her family came to United States. Students flee Sabinas where kidnapping is rampant.



The difference from Sabinas and San Antonio is the cost of food, and customs and the culture are different. The school in Mexico is smaller and the students don't walk to the next class. The teachers are the ones who go from one classroom to another. Also, all the students take or buy their own lunch.

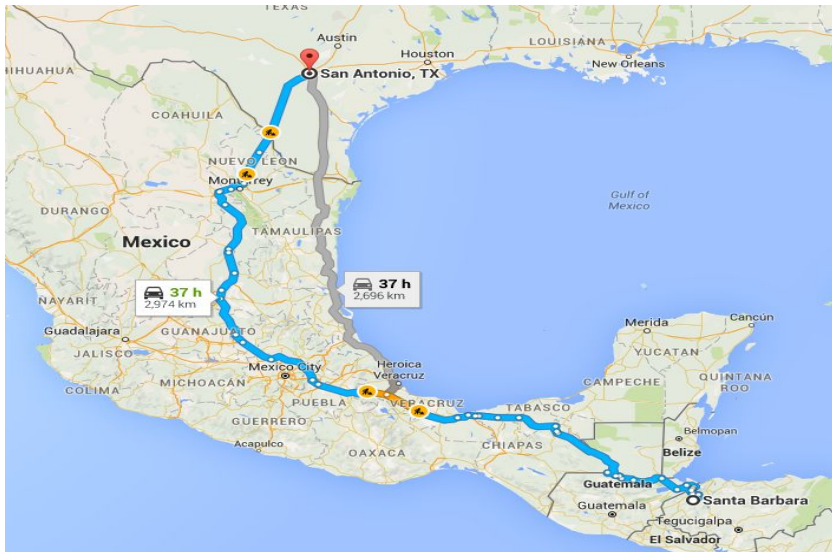
She misses her friends, and she's afraid of the bad people who kidnap in her country. Her life in Mexico was really good because she had things that most kids there didn't have.

Giovanna's plan for the future is to focus on the classes that she needs to take so she be a Anesthesiologist.

Holmes Student From Honduras Wants to Return to Help

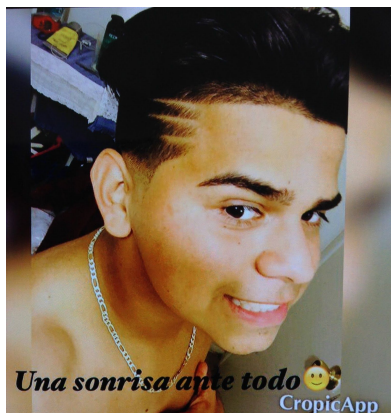
By Maria Jose Ornelas Resendiz

Bayron Bladimir Garcia Alfaro is 16 years old. He is a student at Holmes High School. He was born on September 5, 1999 in Santa Barbara, Honduras. He moved to San Antonio, Texas with his mother and his two brothers a year ago on May 13, 2015.



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He is happy to be in the United States because everyone in Honduras wants to live here, but not everyone has the opportunity because of lack of money. In Honduras things are very bad. There is too much violence, it is dangerous to go out, and the economy is very bad. There are few jobs, and the schools are very different. You have to pay to study, and the education is not the same. Students do not have as many opportunities, and the teachers are very strict. Schools are small, but they don't have all the resources that they need. He wants to study to help the people in Honduras. He wants for the children to have the resources that they need to study, so when they grow up they are successful people.



Bayron wants to continue to study technology, because in Honduras he learned how to fix computers, cellphones, etc. Now Bayron has many opportunities here in San Antonio. In the mornings he goes to school. He is learning English quickly, and that has helped him to communicate with others students. After school in the evening, he works at the Fire Wok restaurant. For Bayron having a job in

"Above everything, a smile" -Bayron Garcia



Honduras is very difficult, but here he has the opportunity and that is amazing for him! With his job he can help his mom with some money and he can buy his own things.

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Bayron when he was 8 years old.

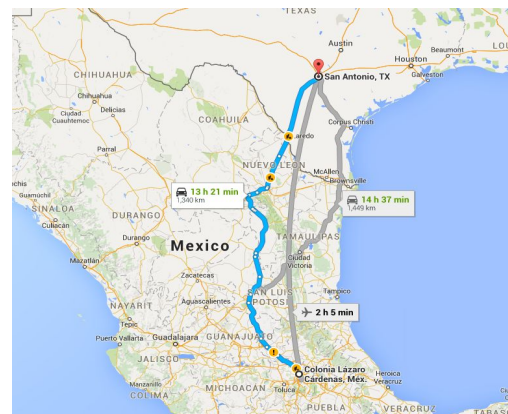
By: Kabru Paw

Brisela Mackintoy Figueroa is a student at Holmes High school. She was born on July 22,1999.She Speaks Spanish,also a little English.Her parents are from Mexico. she came to U.S.A for a better education and a better life.

Brisela is 16 years old.She has be in the San Antonio one year and one month. She also has four sisters Emeli ,Yeny, Stefany, Rosa and one of her brothers Isai. Her sisters are here in the U.S.A and her brothers are in Mexico.



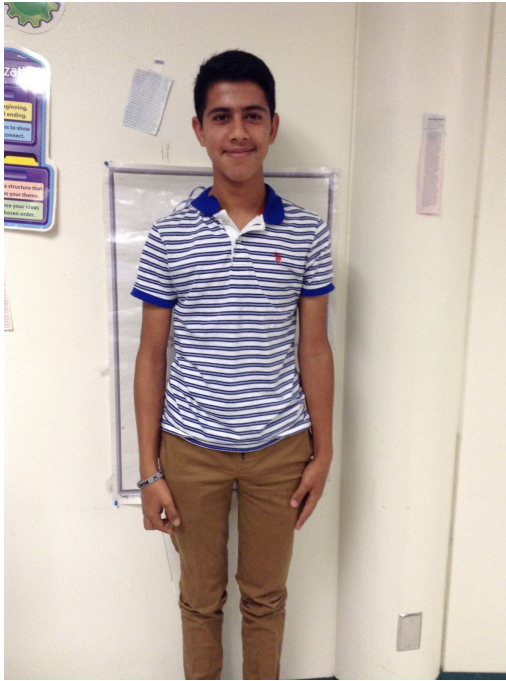
When she was in Mexico she like to read and play soccer and watching TV and sometimes she used to go outside and hang out to the street with her friends.She miss her country because she like everything there. she miss her friends,family. In Mexico they use to wear a uniform some students are no have a money to buy a lot of clothes and uniform is a little cheaper.



By: Alejandrina Silva

Abbas Jawad Al Tameemi is from Al-hay, Iraq, he was born on April 28, 2001. He speaks Arabic and a little English, but now he wants to learn Spanish.

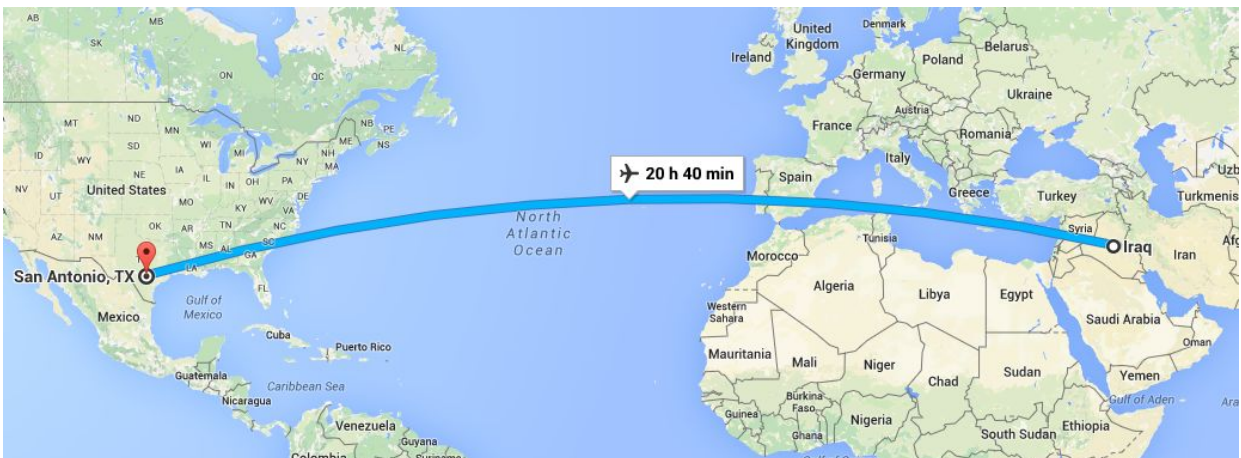
He lives in an apartment on Flynn Dr., in San Antonio, Tx with his father. His mother remained in Iraq with his 2 sisters Tabarak and Aya ; he came to the San Antonio because he needs to learn English ; he is student at Holmes High School in 9 grade. He wants to return to his country because he misses his mother and his 2 sisters. He likes the school in San Antonio because it is really different that in his country but whatever. He misses his last school and his friends.



His country is dangerous to go out because in many places has

war but it is safe in his area.

He thinks that the war is really bad in his country because the poor people are oppressed. But nevertheless he is happy!! His hobbies include playing soccer and basketball with his friends.



He traveled 7,352 miles in 20h 40m from Al-hay, Iraq. to San Antonio, Texas for a good life.

A New Beginning...

By: America Acosta Compean

Juan Garcia is from Morelos, Coahuila Mexico. He's 15 years old, and has 2 siblings. Azucena is 19 years old and Humberto is 11 years old, Juan is the middle child one. His father is Juan Garcia and his mother is Migdalia Higas. He and his family moved to the United States in 2014. Their main goal is to be successful and to provide a better future for their children. When they first arrived in San Antonio, the family did not have the necessary resources such as a car, house, nor medical insurance. He and his family have succeeded in overcoming all the obstacles by facing them one by one and by working together as a family.



Juan is in 9th grade, and even though he is still learning the language and struggling with it, his goal is to finish high school. Another major goal from here to five years, is to be in college studying part of his career. He wants to be an architect since he is so good at mathematics and design.

He usually plays soccer with a professional soccer club named "Dragons" of San Antonio. He is a forward, and he has been selected one of the best soccer players of the club with a score of 13 goals against other clubs. He has been playing soccer since he was a kid; he learned how to play it, by practicing every day with his friends and cousins in the street or at the field.



<http://www.dragonsfutbol.com/>

Juan is a really charismatic person, he is friendly and enthusiastic. One of his major characteristics as a person is the loyalty, He really likes to be honest and respect what others tell him because he really likes when people can count on him. Juan is really happy with his life at the moment.

Refugee Student Named After UNHCR Leader

By: Iris Alvarez

Sadako Ogata, 18 year old Holmes High School student from Rwanda has 2 brothers, Claude and Erik . She came to the United States on November 23, 2014. She and her parents entered the US as refugees. Before she was born, her parents fled from Congo to Gihembe refugee camp in Rwanda. She was one of the first babies to be born in that refugee camp. She was named Sadako after Sadako Ogata who was a leader of UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency.



Sadako Ogata holding Baby Sadako.

Sadako speaks Kinyarwanda. She knew very little English when she first enrolled at Holmes HS. She loves coming to school because she wants to take advantage of the educational opportunities. Schools at the refugee camp are made of mud, and they seat on tree benches. They had to go back home at 12:30 to get lunch, then go back to school from 2 to 4 pm.



Her culture and the American culture are very different. For example, the music that she listens to has strong messages and doesn't say bad words compared to the American music. Also the food is really different because all the food is natural like her favorite food is sweet potatoes and doesn't have preservatives like here in America.

Classroom in the refugee camp.

After high school she wants to continue her studies to achieve her goals. She wants to go to college and pursue a career in nursing. One of her hobbies is to play basketball, and her favorite player is Michael Jordan. She thinks he is the best player who has a lot of experience.



A girl moving away from the war in Iraq

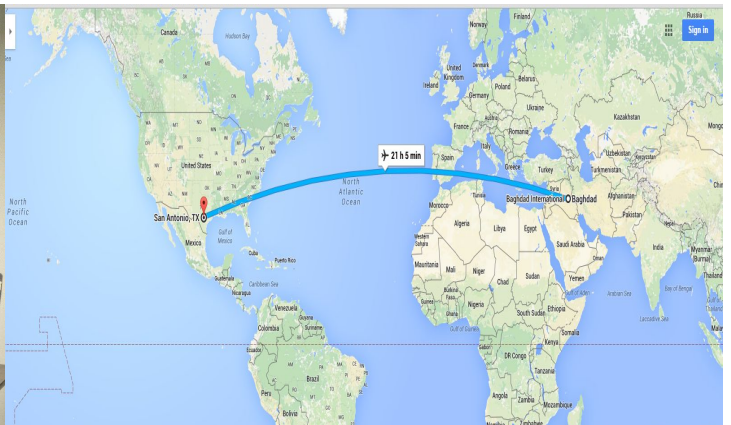
By: Melissa Cantu Meza

Rand Alsaberi is from Baghdad Iraq, but she moved to Syria when she was 6 years old. Then she left Syria because there was war. She moved to the USA in July 2014. She had a hard time coming in here because she came by 3 airplanes.

She says there are many differences between Syria and the USA. "The United States is safer and better," says Rand. She added that there are many orphan children in Syria.

She talked to me about the differences in the schools between Syria and the US. there the teachers were mean and they don't have cafeteria and their lunch is only for 5 minutes, studying there is hard.

She likes to draw because it is her natural ability. She started drawing since she was 5 years old. She started to draw because she saw her grandfather, aunt and uncle also draw, so they inspired her to draw. She likes to listen to music, dance and draw in her free time. She wants to be a pharmacist when she goes to college.



Thinking Big

By: Juan Garcia Higas

Iris Esmeralda Alvarez was born in Harlingen, Tx. She's 17 years old. Her mother's name is San Juana and her father name is Hector. Iris has a sister named Brianna. Iris lived in Tampico, Tamaulipas, Mexico for 15 years. She came to the United States to live with her uncle and aunt on June 21, 2014 to attend school.



Iris is a student at Holmes High School. She is in 11th grade and she is in ROTC (ROTC is Reserves Officer Training Corps). ROTC have different groups, and Iris is in the color guard that is in charge of the flags. She joined ROTC because she wanted to try something new. Now she is very good in the class. She works hard everyday because she wants to be one of the best and have a better rank.



After High School she wants to join the Air Force to be a Special Investigations Officer. She is already studying to pass the ASVAB; the one that you have to take to go into any military branch. She decided on that career because she wants to do something exciting in her life. "I don't want to spend my whole life in front of a computer," she said.

A Girl That Survived From Two Wars

By: SiauYeat Im(Yesther)

Can you believe a young girl has been survived from two wars in her life? There is a girl named Rand Alsaberi who was born in Baghdad, Iraq. She moved to the United States in the year 2014 with her family because of the war in her country and now her country is getting worse and worse.



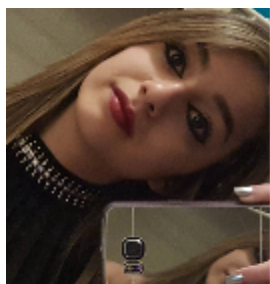
Rand is 1 year old

Rand learned drawing from her aunt since she was six years old. Rand's aunt was an artist, she encouraged Rand to draw when she's afraid of the war. After that, she found out that drawing make her feels happy and peace because she had been living in a country at war. In her memory, there was also has a lot of kidnapping in her country. Her mom's cousin was killed by his friend with a gun when he went out to buy stuff. The murderer thought he was carrying a bag of gold but there was just a bag of food because he used to have a store that sold gold. The murderer left the gun at the scene and the police found the fingerprint and arrested the murderer. After that, they had to move to another country called Syria because of the war.

In 2009, when she was just nine years old, a terrible thing happened to her again -- the second war in her life. In her experience, she saw a lot of people being killed and a lot of places have been destroyed by bombs. She and her family were lucky because they stayed at a small place but it didn't have any window and other things in it when there was a lot of bomb explosions. Therefore, they were safe because they stayed at the place away from the bombs for about an hour.



Interviewer and interviewee



Rand as age 15

During the war in Syria, Rand didn't go to school for two years. Her father didn't allowed her to go to school because there were a lot of bombs near her school. But luckily, she has now been in the United State for about two and a half years and she is studying in the school. She has survived from two wars in her young life. Therefore, she hopes to get a peaceful life with her family and there is no more war in the world.



By: Bishal Majhi

Melissa Cantu is a sophomore student at Holmes High School. She is from Monterrey, Mexico. In comparing her school in Mexico to Holmes High School, she says that students in Mexico have to wear a uniform to school. She adds that students in Mexico bring food from home because in Mexico they do not have a cafeteria. Also, school runs from 6:15 a.m until 12:20 p.m.

Melissa lives with her mother, but she visits her dad and her brothers in Mexico during vacations. She enjoys living here because she feels safer in the United States than in Monterrey, Mexico because crime in Mexico is greater. Melissa's brother was

a victim of crime in Monterrey. He was walking down the street and two men just came and took everything that he had on him. The robbers took his cell phone, wallet, etc., but he's lucky that they did not hurt him.



Melissa wants to go to college in the United States because she feels unsafe in Monterrey, Mexico. After high school she wants to study fashion design in the United States. Melissa loves to go shopping with her friends in Galerias in Monterrey.

<https://www.galerias.com/img/nosotros/MTY.jpg>

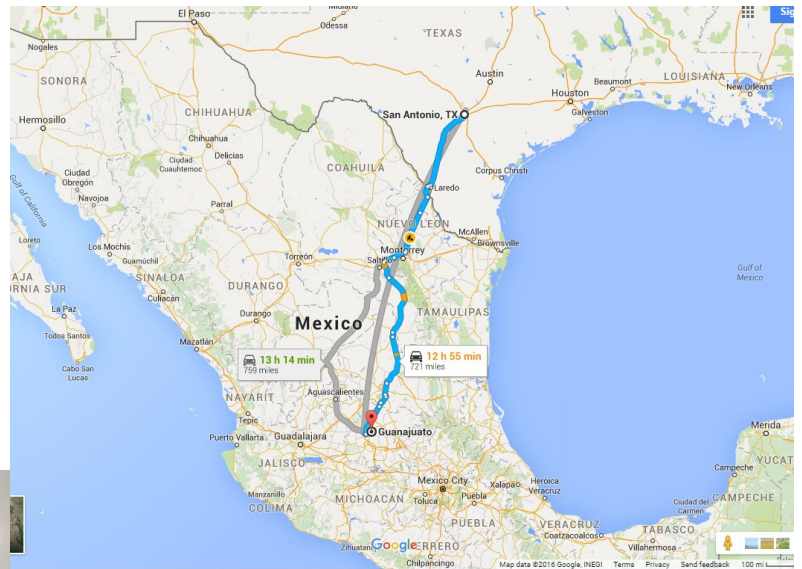
Girl from Mexico Honor Student At Holmes High School

By: Jowa Edmund

Alejandra Palacios Flores was born on January 13, 1998 in Apaseo El Alto, Guanajuato, Mexico. Her parents are Beatriz Flores and Jose Palacios. She has only one brother and no sisters. They lived in a small town where even the animals can roam freely. They moved to the United States on July 16, 2014 when her parents decided to move to San Antonio.

"I thought that my parents had made a bad decision to leave our country, house, and friends to start a new life, to meet new friends," says Alejandra. "It was a every difficult decision for me and I had a hard time leaving my country. Now I am happy because I am going to school, and I have new friends."

Alejandra has big plans for her



future. She wants to go to college to achieve her goal to be an Archaeologist. She is currently an honor student at Holmes High School.

BAMBOO? PLASTIC? A CHILDHOOD LIFE OF A NEPALI BOY



By: Im. Siau Rou (Autumn)

Manoj Majhi is a senior in Holmes High School. He came to United State from Nepal. He once lived in a refugee camp in a poor country. A shelter built out of bamboos and plastics was a home for him. He lived with his parents, his 4 older sisters, and a little brother. He has wonderful childhood memories of Nepal.

Manoj was a normal child like every child in Nepal. He was poor, but he was happy. Even though he had no electricity, he had fun. He used the “natural electricity” to light up his home. During the daytime, he used the sunlight to make his room bright. During the night time, he used the moonlight to do his homework.

Manoj and his family used to get food supplies from the government. The ration was 10 pounds of rice for each person twice a month. Vegetables and other ingredients such as sugar and beans were also rationed out twice a month. As they needed water to survive, Manoj and his sisters used to get water from the water tank. Even though it was just a 2 minutes walking distance, there was a time limit for them to get the water everyday.



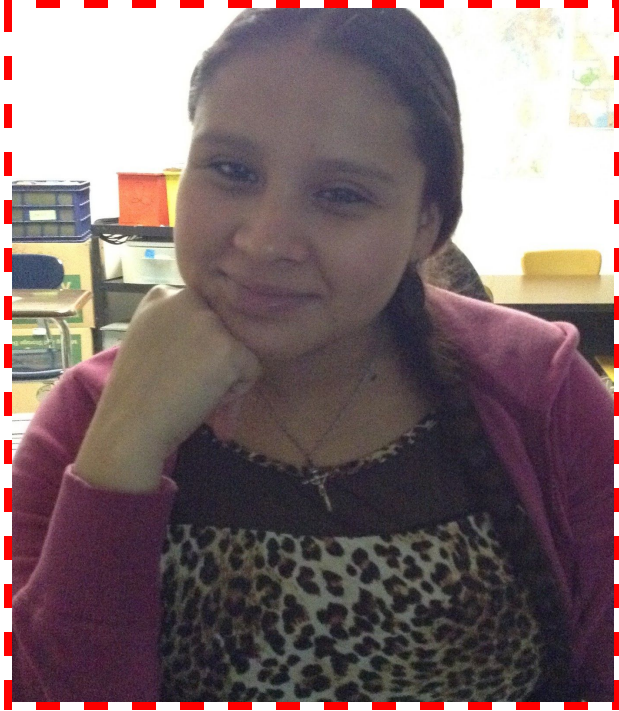
The Refugee Camp
Similar With Bhutanese In Nepal

Manoj has been through an earthquake once, but it wasn't a severe earthquake. The shelter that he lived in was not destroyed. He and his family were lucky that their home was built out of bamboos and plastics. Because of this, they might not get hurt if the roof falls.

Manoj will be graduating from Holmes High School in June of the year 2016. He is planning to study for engineering in a collage. The reason why he choose to become an engineer is because he wanted to build more tougher houses for people to live safely. He is a kind-hearted boy and he will succeed.

AMERICAN DREAM

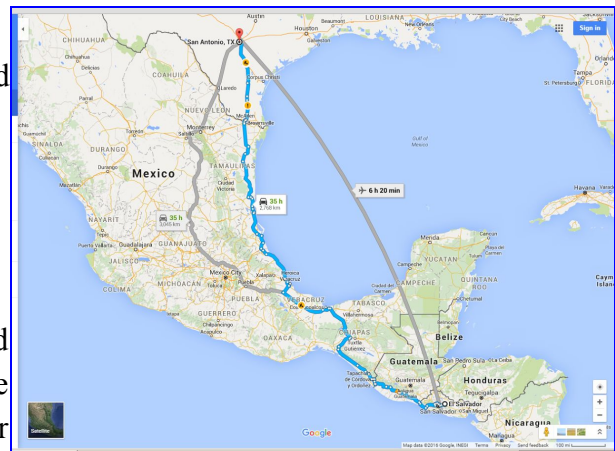
By Manoj Majhi



Fatima is a Spanish speaking teenager who had been living far away from her home country and parents. Fatima Martinez was born in El Salvador. She spent her whole childhood in her home country. She was happy to tell me, "I had very good friends and I love my old memories." I also love my childhood because that time we don't have much sense but whatever we do is fun and interesting. Fatima and I have similar stories. We both had to leave our countries. During her teens Fatima decided to move to the United States leaving her parents and childhood behind for a better life and a good education. I cannot imagine life without my parents.

It takes more than six hours to come by airplane from El Salvador to San Antonio, TX United States, but it takes thirty-five hours driving. It is much harder to drive because there can be some problems along the way, plus time to rest is needed. Fatima came by airplane so there wasn't much trouble.

Fatima also told me about her lifestyle and schooling in the United States. Fatima does not live with her immediate family. She lives with her uncle's family. She is learning about lots of different cultures, plus she is learning English, too. She thinks that she has been improving. It was Fatima's decision to move. She did it to make her future better. Today, she teaches me that the only thing that matters in life is fate and confidence which leads us all the way to the top. She has a supportive family who support her dreams. Her future plans include becoming a nurse.

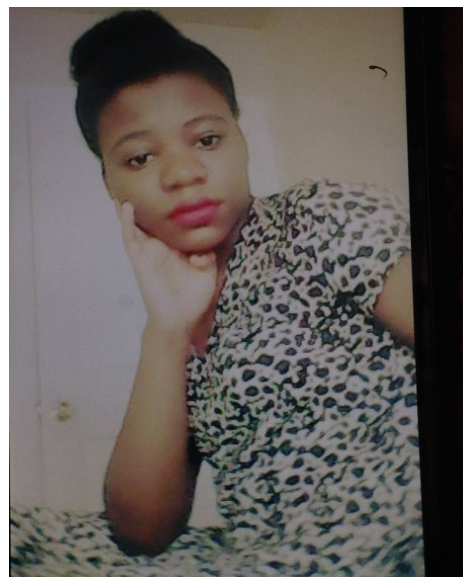


Jowa Edmund “African Girl”

By:Fatima Martinez

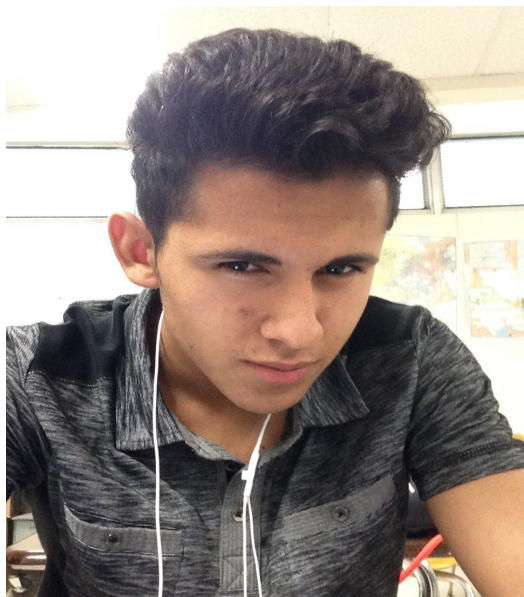
Jowa born in Congo Africa on January 01, 2000 but she grew up in Zimbabwe she's 16 years old her favorite color is pink she came to United States on May 05 on 2015 she and her family came to United States to have a better life,and education she wants to be a nurse.

She live with her parents and her brothers she is the oldest of her three brothers his story was very sad because she told me that her two sisters died because they had a diseases.Also the school in her country was very little and in her classroom there were up to 50 students.



From Danger to Safety

By: Marisol Minor



Melvin Evelio Constanza Lara was born on June 6, 1997 in El Salvador in the city San Vicente. He came to the United States on July 9, 2014. One of the reasons he came here was that it was too dangerous in El Salvador and he didn't want to be part of that.

While he was in El Salvador he studied until 8th grade and then stopped going to school because the gangsters went to some schools and kidnapped children and teenagers to make them work for them. Since he was not going to school, he started to work in a farm to earn some money. About a year later, Melvin convinced his mother to make the move to the United States.

After leaving El Salvador one of the things he told me that he misses the most was leaving his family behind. He also misses not seeing the beautiful places like rivers and lakes from El Salvador. However, he feels really grateful that his family is now in a safe place and they don't have to feel insecure anymore.

Another thing he is grateful for is that here he is having the opportunity to have a better future by finishing high school and maybe continue studying in college. He feels proud of himself because he is learning more now than he was in El Salvador. Plus he is learning a whole new language that he never thought he was going to know.

He is now an 18 years old junior at Holmes High School. He plays on the school's soccer team and is doing well at this school. He hopes that one day he can become a professional soccer player.

Marisol, the Mexican "Coahuilense"

By: Alejandra Palacios

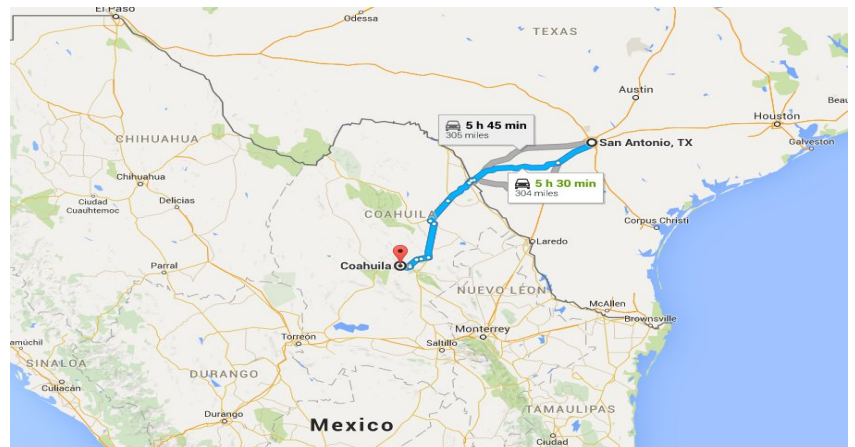
Marisol Isabella Minor Muzquiz born on July 14, 2000 in Palau, Coahuila Mexico. She's 15 years old. Her parents are Esperanza Muzquiz Vasquez and Gerardo Minor Castro. She also has one



brother named Gerardo, and her twin, Marissa. Marisol came to the United States on July 2014, because her mother wanted her to have a better life and a better education because the United States has excellent schools.

Marisol is a role model because she always works hard. Her goal is to be a doctor like her father. However, she wants to be a pediatrician whereas her father is a general practitioner. This is why Marisol works hard day after day.

Another thing about Marisol is that she is a person that appreciates loyal friends because she is a greater friend. In spite of all these good things that happened to Marisol, she misses Mexico because in her town she has more freedom but she hopes to come back to Mexico.



Multi-lingual Girl from Malaysia

By: Dennis Perez

Autumn is from Malaysia. She is 16 years of age. She lives in the USA with her grandparents. She likes to live with her grandparents.

She came to America because she wanted to study with her sister, and because the Malaysian government is very bad. In her school they had many gang fights. Along with her sister they decided to study in another country. She thinks she won't return to her country because she likes it here. her brother is in Malaysia because he is still learning English.



Autumn travelled 23 hours on an airplane to come her.

Childhood from “Maela Thailand” with a Big Dream

By:Moise zakayo.Gucci



Paw ku is a Bulmish speaking teenager who came far way from here,her dream is to become an serve who give food on the airplane. Paw was born in Thailand, and she live with her both parents with three sisters, and three brothers. When she was at the age of 12 her parents decided to moved to the United States because of the difficult conditions of her country. Before when paw ku she was born, her parents used to lived in Burma and then they moved to the Refugee camp called “Maela in Thailand”. Because in Burma, there was a lot violence. She also talked about her lifestyle,when she used to lived in a Refugee camp she had hard time because there was no electricity and water. Paw came to the United States on 2013, has a Refugee to look for a better life,education,and to accomplish her goal.



Paw talked about the differences between Thailand and the United States. She said that United States is better than her country because in the USA, she has a lot opportunities to do a lot different activities and it is more safety. Paw is a multi language teenage who speak more than three languages and she is learning English,she also talk about the difference between school from her country and the U.S,she say that school from her country was hard because she used to walked everyday to school and they didn't have a lunch.

She used to go back to her house and get something to ate, and then come back again. She said that school in the United States is more easy because she take a bus when she goes to school and, eat a breakfast and lunch.



Paw ku was like every other girl,but after the war started,she was having a lot difficulty times of he was a poor girl,but she was happy in something that.Even without having a better life or no electricity at school. She used “solar power,” to light up her home. During the day time was the only time that she was able to go to school, even without electricity was not a big problem for her to go to school because she used moonlight to do a lot differents activities for school,

and to do her homework. The big deal was how to find water, she had to walk 12 miles to the tank to get water because water was far away from her home.

Paw's family had a lot of problems economically, her parents didn't have enough money to feed her brothers and sister because they didn't have a job, but when she came to the U.S her parents got a job and her life is going good. Now her parents work at the company called "Fresh from Texas".



She likes to play Volleyball because it is the only sport that a lot of people play in her country and it is the only sport that she can play good. Hay Kaw Pa wah is a person who inspired her to start playing volleyball because she was the best in playing volleyball in her country.

From "Maella Thailand to San Antonio Texas", it is about 1 day and 3 hours.

Do you have that friend who is intelligent, nice, and one of the best soccer players?

By: Rand Alsaberi

There are a lot of students who were selected for the best soccer player; one of them is America Sarahi Acosta Compean. She is one of the successful students at Holmes High School. If you haven't met her, you should meet her. She is a wonderful soccer player, funny and smart.



Holmes HS soccer player.

America's parents named her because it means "the queen of lands." Furthermore, she is from Matamoros, Tamaulipas. She moved to the United States because she wants a better future, and she wants to finish her studies in the United States.

Moreover, at first she came with her mother and her sister,



America 5 yrs old.

but her mother went back to Mexico because she has a job there.

America told me that there are differences between the schools in Mexico and United States. In Mexico they have to wear uniforms, and the technology in the United States is more advanced. In Mexico, the schools and the classrooms are smaller than the

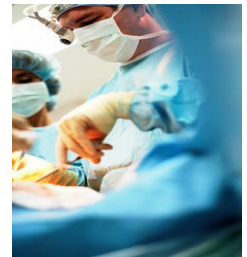


America 16 yrs old.

United States schools.

Acosta is interested in playing soccer because it's her hobby and she is really good at it. She speaks two languages which are English and Spanish. Spanish is her native language.

She want to be an neurosurgeon in the future. That's why she came to United States, to get a good job in the future. The important thing that she has done so far in her life is being selected as the best soccer player. She is so proud of herself.



<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiEnslX3>

How many languages do you speak?



Interviewer & interviewee

By: Rand Alsaberi

There's a students in Holmes High School who speaks 6 languages: English, Chinese, Hokkien, Cantonese, Malay and a little bit of Korean. This is awesome. This girl's name is Siau Yeat Im. Her grandpa named her that name.

Siau Yeat is from Selangor, Malaysia. She came here because her parents want her to finish studying here in United States.

She moved to the United States in 2015. However, she came with her parents , but they went back to Malaysia because they didn't have immigration papers and her dad has a job there. So that is why her parents went back to their country. However, now she is living with her sister and grandparents.



Siau Yeat, 18 yrs old

Furthermore, she came to the United States to finish studying because the United States has better degrees. She has found many differences between schools in malaysia and the United States. One difference is that they have uniforms and a lots of roles.

Can you imagine that cell phones are not allowed in Malaysia and if you use it in school you will be in trouble? Also, students' hair has to be tied up and you cannot use hair color.

However, she is interested in learning first aid because she wants to be a nurse in the future. Nursing is her future carrese. For example, on time she saved a guy life who felt down from the Motorcycle and she helped him to prevent him getting worse by giving him first aid before the ambulance comes.



**Grandfather & siblings.
Siau Yeat 4 yrs old.**



<https://blogcdn.nursingjobs.us/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/%C2%A9-Lulla-Fotolia.com-nursing-books.jpg>

Melvin Zuniga

By: Christian Rivera Guzman

Melvin Zuniga is 16 years old. He came from El Salvador to the United States on March 5, 2016. The first thing he did is took a walk with his dad, after that he took a week to decide if he wanted to start studying, not know much English, but he is studying to learn more English. He says that El salvador was harder to grab food because it is a poorer country, but says he liked that aya was his language and had many friends and not struggling with things and was accustomed to state aya life but came here and his life took a turn. He likes to see new things you mention He likes things a lot more here but the only problem here is the language. He likes to learn English so that learn things and so he can speak the



language. In school, there is difficulty in a few classes because most are in English and he can not understand very well and that's what makes him sad but I said that this is the reason to keep trying so his family is proud of him and all around him. he wants to return to El Salvador to visit his friends leave

there and wants to someday go to another country and wants to know other people. He told me that he wants to be a doctor or engineer.

I am Ahmadou Bamba Sarr, a student at Holmes High School. I come from Senegal. I have one brother and one sister in my family. I came here January,31, 2016. I was born on April 9, 2000. I like to play soccer in my country. My country is 95 percent muslim. I speak French and Wolof. My friends from my country speak the same language like me.



Between the Dead and the Life

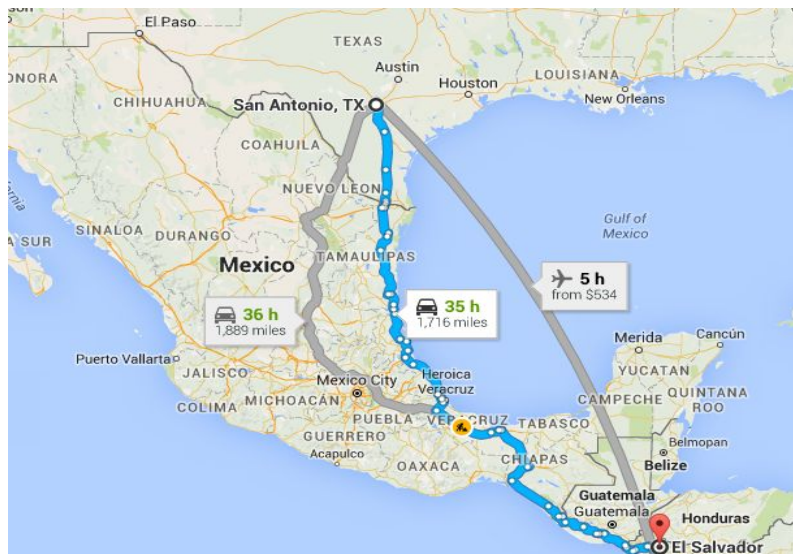
Dennis Perez

By: Dulce Acosta-Compean

Imagine having to reinvent your life at the age of 17. Why would anyone so young have to do that? Unless something tragic has happened at that age Dennis had to do that.

He was born in El Salvador, He was 15 years old when his uncle bought him to the united states But Dennis didn't Want to because he didn't like it and also because he didn't want to leave his mother because his father will not take care as much he want to because of the work.

Dennis was arrested when he was in El Salvador because he was accused by being in a gang but that was just because he wasn't involved in that kind of situations



Luis Galicia

By: Abi Olveida Moreno

Luis Mario Galicia Linares was born on April 5, 1998, in Santa Ana, El Salvador. He lived part of his childhood with his family until he was 5 years old. One day, his mother decided to immigrate to the United States because of lack of jobs and resources in El Salvador. His mother, Silvia, had no choice but to emigrate, so she left her children and her husband in El Salvador.

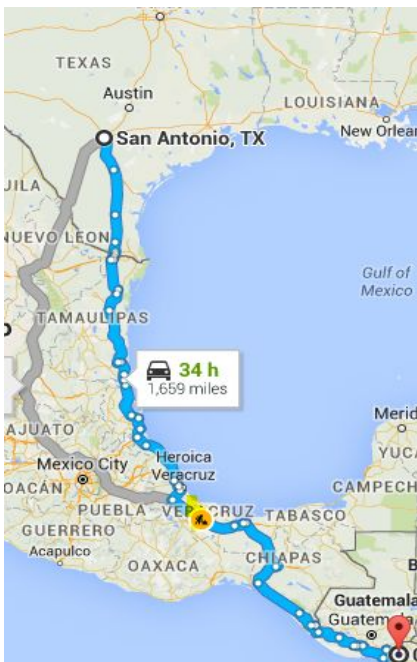
Ruben, Luis' father worked as a guard for a bank. Two months after his wife had left to the U.S., three men, attacked him at work. One of them suddenly snatched his gun, shot him, and took his life. Luis and his sisters went to live with his maternal grandparents. It was not until Luis was 12 years old when his family decided to tell the truth about what had happened to his father. It



affected Luis tremendously when he realized that all those years he had lived with the lie that his father was in another country.

After the news of his father's death, Luis fell into depression for three months. His life changed completely. It had always been Luis' dream to immigrate to the United States regardless of the risk on his life. It took two weeks for Luis to arrive in San Antonio. Luis was 15 years old. He started to put his past behind to change his life. Luis lives in San Antonio, Tx with his mother, attends Holmes High School, and is in 10th grade.

Luis says that it is not easy to leave your home country, but he has goals and dreams. His goals are to be a singer, and have his own recording studio. Currently he is a



writing and singing songs. He has uploaded some of his videos where he is singing on Youtube.

THE BRAVE AND SHY GIRL'S JOURNEY TO THE UNITED STATES

By: Jocelyne Rodriguez De Leon

Abi Oviedo came to the United States from Honduras at the age of 16 to be with her mother. Abi's mother left her with her grandmother when she was 9 month old. Abi had never seen her mother, except through photographs and she had spoken to her in phone conversations.

One day she told to her grandmother that she wanted to come to see her mom here in San Antonio, TX. She was tired of doing the same things every day like going out with her cousins. One day she decided to come to the United States with her cousin. The trip was very rough because she travel miles and miles in the bus without eat .



Another reason that she come to the United States is that in her country there was a lot crime ,Abi told me that one day when she was leaving from school, two shoplifters was pointed her in the head with a gun , she was so scared but the guys only take her phone. There was a day when she was in her house in Honduras when five criminals entered the house pointing to all his family with guns, she was sick so her grandmother say to the guys to live her alone and they obey.Abi ran to the house of her uncle to tell him that they was boys with guns , then her uncle called the police and they come to her house. They started a gun shoots with the bad people , just one of the criminals who was on the assault died.

Right now she is so happy with the company of her family and friends. Even that she do not English, she is doing well in school. She's working so hard to learn English so she can reach her goal to be a doctor here in San Antonio, TX .

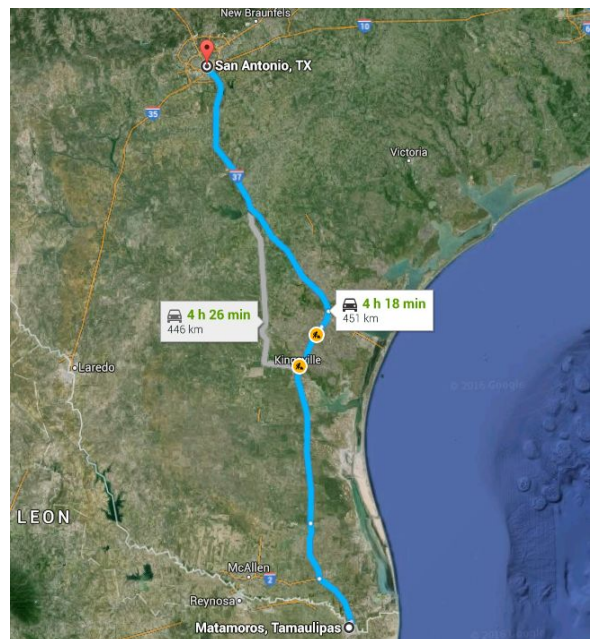
Dulce Finds Sweet life in the United States

By Luis Galicia

Dulce Acosta was born in Matamoros Tamaulipas, on October 28. She is the daughter of Luz Compean and Vicente Acosta.

She has been through a lot of hard situations, but there's something that have mark her life. When she was 14 years old her grandfather died that was a difficult moment for her. Her life had took a turn because her grandfather was like a father for her.

She came to United States when she was 13 years old. The reason why she came was for the security and better future. She love soccer, work and to clean. She wants to be a doctor because she like to help people that need it.



Mexican Girl

By Paw Ku Ku



Jocelyne Itzuri Rodriguez de Leon comes from Monclova, Coahuila, México. She is 16 years old and speaks Spanish and English. She went to elementary and middle school in Mexico. She has moved more than one place when she was in Mexico because her father was a policeman. There is still a lot of crime in Mexico. Her father and other policemen had to fight. She was worried a lot about her father. She said “I have seen and heard about crime.” She tells about crime that happened near her middle school. Things that she has seen and scared her. One time Jocelyne and her classmates were in the classroom. One of classmates had been out and when he came back to class, he said that he had heard a lot shooting. Everybody thought he was lying, but after few seconds later they heard shooting too . Everybody was afraid. Her father

called and told them to stay inside the school. After few minutes everything was good and they went home.

When she was in ninth grade her family moved to San Antonio, TX United

States. She has been US for 6 months and She speak English very well. Now she live in her grandmother's house with her family. She is also happy to be in the united states and she hope for better life. She love to be in the United States more than Maxico. She goes Holmes High School and learned lot new things. She has thought about her future after high school she wants to go college and study to be a doctor and help people.



Jackson Duftumikiza

By: Abbas Al Tameemi

Jackson is from Congo. He is 18 years old, He has five brothers and two sisters. He came to United States 8 months ago. He comes to school everyday, Jackson likes to learn any language. Some of the language that he speaks are swahili, english and a little bit spanish.

Brothers names is, first one is big one in the family is name Janvier, and Jackson, Nambajmana, Maomb, and sister names Neema and Rutth is small.

