

“JOY!”

A Quarterly Newsletter

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THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

Education is the most important investment we can make in the lives of our children. Every boy and girl is entitled to receive a quality education. In the words of Mrs. Gilliam, “*if all children are given the proper tools to work with, then all children can and will learn.*” Our youth represent new life – they are the future of our society. All youth need to develop a set of core life skills to manage school, work, outside interests, and social relationships successfully. KJGM is committed to ensuring these skills are learned by every boy and girl who graces its threshold.

Education is not only important for youth, it is also important for adults. No one ever gets too old to learn something new. It is said that the brain of children can absorb new things like a sponge. Generally, children can learn a new skill quicker than an adult; however, adults are more disciplined than adolescents. Adults most often have a clearer understanding of their learning and objectives. Therefore, learning is important for all ages.

The Bible says it this way: *He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul; He that keepeth understanding shall find good* (Proverbs 19:8). In other words, “Do yourself a favor and learn all that you can; then remember what you learn and you will prosper.

Here’s hoping you will find this quarter’s newsletter a learning enJOYment!

-- KJGM

COMING SOON!

“*Career Saturday – Let’s Talk*” – presenting unique careers to students for the sole purpose of choosing a profession that may hold a lifetime interest. If you are in a unique profession and would like to share information concerning your career, please contact us. We are hoping to connect with individuals who find their jobs super exciting and rewarding – fascinating careers that may be new to students. Please contact us at admin@kathlynjoygilliammuseum.org. Let’s talk!

MAKE VISITING THE KATHLYN JOY GILLIAM MUSEUM ONE OF YOUR FAMILY OUTTINGS!

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Our first fundraiser of the year was a success!!!! Thanks to all that participated. Video footage of the drawing is available on the KJGM website. The winner of the drawing was “Marc Ranger.” Another SW drawing to come in *July 2023*.

Next Stop . . . The Little Poster that could



“THE LITTLE POSTER THAT COULD”

Erwin “Brooklyn” Brown

The **PRINCIPLE 21 SYSTEM** is a collection of 21 principles that will lead any child or teen to greatness. These important lessons and affirmations have proven to empower and motivate youth to strive to be the best versions of themselves.

A few years ago, I wrote the principles and then copied them onto a giant poster board to help with memorizing them. My daughter Luna, who was only 7 years old at the time also memorized them and we discussed the lessons together. After a little work with some fun postcard exercises, she had memorized all 21 in just a short 3 month period of time. Having actually enjoyed the challenge, Luna encouraged me to help make sure every child in this world gets their “21 PRINCIPLES.” That day a movement was born.



Erwin “Brooklyn” Brown, a best-selling author, screen writer and dedicated father

Now almost 3 years later Luna is almost 10 years old and referred to as “**PRINCESS PRINCIPLES.**” I decided to create a poster with a list of the 21

Principles printed **boldly** so that parents can hang it in clear view for their children to see. This plan took off immediately and we began distributing free posters (as our ministry) to everyone who was interested in having one. Soon, we began a social media campaign promoting these powerful affirmations and started to gain interests from parents, teachers, and adults from all walks of life. People were blown away by these “21 PRINCIPLES” and also this Daddy-Daughter duo who love the principles equally.

I understood that he could not accomplish this global mission on my own and it seemed I would not have to, because people around the country began inquiring about how they could assist with this important mission. One by one people stepped up and that is when THE AMBASSADOR program was born. The Ambassadors volunteer to distribute free PRINCIPLE 21 SYSTEM posters to their family, friends and colleagues as well as spread the word of this DIVINE resource to parents and educators everywhere in their city. Now, after only one year, we have 35 Ambassadors in different states across the country as well as two Internationally in AFRICA and one in CANADA.

If you would like to see all 21 Principles, learn more about our mission or even show support by purchasing items from our store, Visit the link below!

<https://linktr.ee/BrooklynBrown>

If you need a free poster email us at erwinraybrown@gmail.com

KJGM Grand Re-Opening!!

Our grand re-opening occurred on Saturday, March 25 and Sunday, March 26. The weather was beautiful and the restored facility was full of smiles. Thank you to the amazing donors/sponsors who have ensured that Mrs. Gilliam’s legacy of respect and compassion for education and community is never forgotten. Drop by soon to see our “*Community Mural*” sponsored by the Texas Historical Foundation.



Restored KJGM Museum



Ribbon Cutting with TREC

Dr. W. M. Dulaney, Museum Curator

Tech Tid-Bits

Protect Your Precious Gold



Gerald Dunn

Unwanted pop-ups, spam e-mails, Micro-targeted email campaigns, social media targeted ads are all a coincidence? Most likely not. These are all the ways that companies are using your data for targeted marketing campaigns. **Proceed with caution.** Data privacy is key in this new tech world. How can you ensure your data is kept private and protect your data from hackers and targeted advertisers?

Data is a gold mine for many companies and hackers alike. What may seem like harmless data can lead to intrusion. There are many ways to avoid such intrusions and keep your data in a vault that is only accessible by only necessary people.

In this article, I will share tips on how to help protect your precious gold, your data. Data is the new gold as companies and hackers constantly mine for your data. These few tips can help provide a fortress for your data.

An online presence is almost necessary in today's times as well as e-commerce, which is here to stay, but as we traverse the worldwide web, we must protect ourselves as if you are installing a home alarm system, we should have a data defense system.

First, I want to list the data targeted by companies which is websites most frequently visited, location, social media likes and dislikes. Data targeted by hackers is location, passwords, social media likes and dislikes. Both are very similar. Now what are ways to limit access to these data miners?

Here are some basic tips:

Tip number 1 - change your password every 6 months to a year. Make your password complex

enough that it cannot be easily hacked. Install Anti-Virus software which is usually available through your internet provider for **free**. Only share location data with trusted applications. Password protect all of your devices including phones, tablets, laptops and internet routers.

Tip number 2 - more advanced keep 2 email accounts. We know that clicking links from unknown sources may open yourself up to spyware. Therefore, I suggest having 2 email accounts. 1 for personal/private email that only a few trusted individuals have and the other for marketers or companies that ask for emails. This will help prevent from accidentally clicking links that may be harmful or used to setup tracking on your device. Emails to your personal email that only select individuals that you trust and to limit chances for getting spam email that may contain spyware links.

Tip number 3 - download and use a browser that can help protect your online privacy such as ***Brave*** or ***DuckDuckGo***. These browsers block pop ads and website trackers. These browsers also limit your location data to other websites.

Data is the new gold. It is your data, so let's protect that most precious gold from others trying to mine it. Remember, always ensure that you are using a secure browser with secure sites that use encryption (https), clear your cookies at minimum once weekly to avoid tracking, and use strong passwords on all websites and devices. Let's all make it a point to keep our data private.

[Gerald Dunn is a Systems Engineer and Master of Science candidate in Data Science]

READING UNDER THE OAK!

Our first reading since the restoration of the Museum took place on Saturday, May 13, 2023. Our readers were The Honorable Harryette Ehrhardt, Texas State Representative (retired); Dr. Claudia DeShay, UT Southwest Medical Librarian (retired); and Leo Hassan, Arts Education Activist/Master Drummer. The readers brought WORDS to life! The event was enjoyed by all.

Aleisa's Corner



Aleisa Daniel



SKYE DAKOTA TURNER
Student, Singer, Debater
and Actress

We caught up, this quarter, with another former debater of the Kathryn Joy Gilliam Museum debate team, Skye Turner. Known for her role as a young Aretha Franklin in the musical drama film “Respect” and for shining bright in the hit Broadway musical “Tina,” Skye has many hobbies and interests that she enjoys in her downtime – ranging from reading to songwriting. Her deep appreciation for learning and her keen awareness of the foundation of learning that shaped her unique outlook from a young age is evident as she continues to expand her horizons. Now a rising sophomore, Skye has some wisdom to offer to those who may have artistic performing aspirations and even more talent to still offer this world. In this interview, we discuss everything from reading, inspirations, memories from her time on the debate team, and what she misses most about Dallas when she’s away.

What did you enjoy most about being on the KJGM debate team?

I enjoyed the opportunity to connect with other debaters. And I enjoyed expanding my vocabulary and viewing a different side of the argument. Because, you know, debaters don’t always do the affirmative side or the side that they believe, sometimes they have to argue a side that they don’t believe – so that aspect of that made it really interesting for me and helped me to understand new perspectives on the [subjects] that I had strong opinions about.

What are some events that you experienced while on the team?

Well, I would travel frequently to Atlanta with my debate team so we could participate in competitions, and that was an extremely fun time for me. I loved traveling with my debate team. It connected us. It brought us together in different ways. And the events allowed me to learn new vocabulary, form ideas – and the preparation for it was fun as well.

Do you have any favorite memories in particular from that time?

My favorite memory would have to be when we won every single category. Every single debate that we did we won, and when we won 1st place.

I can see why that is definitely a great memory to have! That you were all able to go in there and be successful and phenomenal...

Absolutely.

So, in addition to debating, what are some of the hobbies, interests, or extracurricular that you like to do?

Well, since I joined debate, I’ve really started enjoying reading more and appreciating it. I read all the time. Actually, I was just reading a book that I’m really enjoying.

Nice! What’s the book called?

It’s called “Teenie.” It’s by Christopher Grant. It’s a new book.

Do you have a favorite book?

My favorite book? That’s a good question. I might need to check my library, because that’s a difficult question! I’ve read a lot of books!

It’s a tough question, I know. I don’t think I could say what my favorite book is. Do you have a favorite author?

No. Because every author’s style is very different. And there’s no way that I could decide on a favorite author because everyone’s perspective is different – and it creates new ideas for me every time I read a different work from a different author. So, I don’t want to [limit] myself to a specific favorite author. That’s why I don’t have a favorite artist – people that create are all creating in different ways.

That's very true and a great way to look at it.

Yes. I love *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett. I love *Persepolis* – the complete *Persepolis* – by Marjane Satrapi. I love *Revolution is Not a Dinner Party* by Ying Chang Compestine. I like *Sugar* by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Those are some of my favorites. Oh! And *Out of the Dust* – it's about the Dust Bowl – by Karen Hesse. And *The Magician King* by Lev Grossman.

Wow. You named a lot of books I've never read before that I'll have to look into later!

Yes, they're amazing books that I've read. I have a *whole* library in my bedroom of books that I read.

That's the best! Have you read any of them more than once?

Yes. All the time! That's one of my favorite things to do, because I can never read a book just once. Each time I read one there's a different way to look at it, so that makes me interested in reading it over and over again. It's the same thing with TV series.

So, I know you've spent a lot of time in New York on Broadway playing "Young Tina Turner," and I can imagine that [produces] a whole new set of experiences for you. Is there anything in particular that you miss about Dallas when you're away?

Well, it would have to be my family. Because most of the time I travel up with my father, so they don't really come with me when I'm away. My mom, my sister, my brother, and my immediate family don't really come with me. So, I always miss spending time with them. Sometimes I miss out on things that I could be doing with them. I know every second is a time that I could be spending with them. But I'm grateful for the opportunities that are brought to me when I go to New York – because it's the best place to be in my career and for the direction I'm going.

You seem so determined and clear on your path at such a young age. Have you always known what you want to do?

I think subconsciously, yes, I have always known. But, for a while, until I started professionally performing, I just knew that I liked singing and that I didn't ever want to stop doing it. But I never thought that I could make so many people happy and make myself as happy as I am right now with doing a job. I'm really grateful to have a career that I love doing as well, because it makes it so much easier to do.

Has anyone or anything inspired you along the way?

Well, I would have to say my parents have truly inspired me. They brought me up with such amazing music – you know, listening to voices of soul and people that have paved the way for kids like me. Specifically Black artists, because getting to see people like me and people I could potentially be like when I'm older really helped shape me into the artist that I'm becoming. So, I would definitely

have to thank them, and I would have to thank my parents as well for setting that example for me early on.

So, we started off talking about debating and now we're kind of getting into your career in theater and singing and performing. I'm sure debating is much different from performing, but it still involves being in front of an audience and interacting with an audience – what has that transition from debating to theater been like?

On the contrary, I would like to say that debate and singing are pretty similar. It's about having a way with words and knowing what to say to persuade the person in front of you. I would say that a [performing] artist is kind of similar because you're creating new songs and you want people to like them – especially songwriting. You want people to like the songs that you write, so you have to write them in a way or *say* [something] in a way – in terms of debate – that will get your audience, whoever that audience may be, to agree with and enjoy what you're saying. So, in that way I would say that they are pretty similar. But the transition from debating to singing was not very hard for me because I was already doing them simultaneously. It really enhanced my abilities as an artist to debate in that way. When I started writing songs when I was younger it was because I had started debating, and I learned more vocabulary, I learned more ways to look at things, more ways to say things. And I think all of it – artistry, speaking, whatever it is – is about perspective. I think that's an important lesson that I learned from debate.

Other debaters might go into debating wanting to improve their ability to persuade an audience, to communicate, or to even go on to public speaking later in life. What advice would you give to them? What skills or mindset do you think they would need [to be successful]?

I think that you have to go into debating with a really open mindset. Because, for me, when I started debating, I was like "What? Why would I debate a side I don't believe in? Why would I try to get people to understand a side that I don't understand?" But, with getting to do that, and understanding reasoning, understanding different sides of arguments, that taught me to be a more open minded person. I've seen that in my teenage life – that I can understand people more openly in whatever aspect. So, I say go with an open mind. And be prepared to make mistakes. Be prepared to get frustrated because it happens all the time in whatever you do. And I'd say that you [also] have to have the patience to understand all sides of the argument when you're debating, because that'll help you in your older life.

So, we've talked about some of the mindset or skills one would need to enter debating. What do you think they'll take with them coming out of it?

Well, a skill that I personally took with me was my vocabulary. And my ability to seek out vocabulary as well because it doesn't always come to you. And also, research

– research skills, because you have to know where to look. I learned how to cite my work. I learned how to type faster. I learned how to skim articles and piece together what’s the most important part. So definitely research. Patience, remaining calm in public speaking situations, and that really enhanced my ability to perform in front of an audience as well. So, overall serenity, calmness, and being able to understand and comprehend things better.

Thank you so much, Skye, for all the insight you’ve given and all the brilliant answers you gave. It was nice talking to you.

Thank you so much. It was nice talking to you as well.

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