

The official school newspaper committed to producing responsible & engaging journalism for Hancock students

May / June 2023

## Hancock Track Athlete Competes at State Level



Cristin Moreno qualified for the Girls State Track Meet in May. Cristin is Hancock's first State qualifier in school history. She set a personal record in the 800 meter run of 2:36.96 minutes.

*Photo credit: CPSHancock*

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## Track Team Finishes Successful Season

Hancock Track and Field finished up one of their most successful seasons in the school's history. With a large co-ed team of around 60 athletes, Hancock Eagles competed in 12 meets and set multiple school records.

Track and Field is a unique sport where athletes can compete both indoors and outdoors in one of 18 events, from sprinting a 100 meter dash, to throwing a discus as far as possible, to jumping as far as possible, to jumping as high as possible, to hurdling over hurdles



around the track, to running a relay with teammates as they work together to compete against other schools' relays.

The team had a lot of new athletes and veterans that beat school records and tried new events for the first time.

A part of this was a very strong freshman/sophomore presence, which helped the team place top 5 in multiple Invitationals across the city. The team is looking forward to another season next year of more school records and personal records.

*Photo: Senior Andres Martinez competing in the long jump*

*Photo courtesy of Ms. Letts*

# Listen Up!

**Use your smart phone to listen to these audio stories with the QR codes.**



## **What's Not on Your Plate?**

**By Melanie Buckley**

Hancock student Monica Peña explains how she works on developing a better relationship with food and with herself.

“I guess things changed in middle school.”

*Photo: Monica at prom courtesy of Ms. Salgado*



## **Why Did You Keep Running?**

**By Leslie Antonio**

Hancock track star Cristin Moreno explains why she started running and how it helped her find a sense of liberation after the pandemic.

“It felt like I was being left behind.”

*Photo courtesy of Ms. Letts, Cristin center*



## **How Has Scouting Helped Your Acts of Environmentalism?**

**By Christopher Morales**

Hancock student Raymond Gorz shares how Scouting helped him realize we all need to focus more on our environment.

*Photo courtesy of Raymond Gorz*



This audio journalism project was a collaboration with the Pulitzer Center. Funding for the audio-editing software was provided by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Illinois Farm Bureau.

## Black Student Says Hancock Needs to Do More for Black Students

By Laila Pierre

Hancock student Alyana Powell says a group of students made racist comments in class and nothing was done.



## Transfer Student Admits the Change Was Not Easy

By Dulce Villanueva

A CPS student didn't want to accept the truth because she thought she'd be better at one of the city's top schools but then realized she was an outsider.

*Photo: Student Elise Sanchez soon to be graduating from UIC*



## What Is Gender?

By Skylar Jamro

Destiny Pacchelli explains how they accepting a non-binary gender identity.

*Photo of Pacchelli at Pride Fest in 2021 courtesy of them.*



## What Motivates Us to Keep Going When Progress Is Slow?

By Pablo Barajas

Eliab Pillado, who once weighed 240 pounds, on his weight-loss journey to under 200 pounds

"So you gotta learn to be confident in your own skin and your own body: be healthy mentally and physically."

*Photo Courtesy of E. Pillado*



Send us your reader response through CPS email with the QR code.



## Poem: My Name is Valeria

By Valeria Izaguirre, a member of Identity Crisis, Hancock's Poetry Slam Team



Sometimes I forget what my name is.  
On purpose.  
I change the very last letter of this seven-letter word,  
For a split second;  
A derivative of time.  
It feels infinite.



## Do We Shape Our Destiny?

By Melissa Luna

Hancock grad Jennifer Luna navigates what it's like being in her first play as a Latina: "I felt like I was just not meant for it, I shouldn't have been there, I shouldn't have been cast."

*Photo: Gabby Hiatt*



## Falling In Love with Football Changed This Young Man's Life

By Steve Huizar

Nikko Robinson did not have much experience playing tackle football until he was about 14. Now, he's about to get his master's degree because of a football scholarship.

*Photo: Steve Huizar*

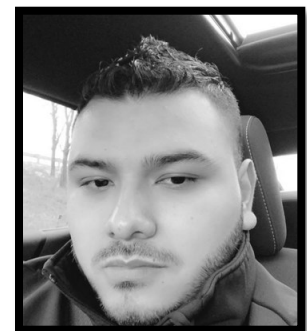


## How Do We Know We Reached Success?

By Ernesto Cortez-Garcia

Diego Landa found success after struggling for years to adapt to a new world. "Aprender inglés sin duda, el idioma fue algo de lo que me costó mucho

*Photo: Diego in his new car*



## Man Finds Inspiration and Entrepreneurship with Camera in His Hands

By Ivan Arenales

Mario Arenales didn't have experience with photography. But 4 years ago, he started a photography career.





## What's It Like to Be a Flea Market Vendor?

By Anthony Estrada

When my brother started selling at flea markets, he was not very successful. None of his products was selling, and he didn't know what he did wrong.



## How Was It Being a College Student and a Parent?

By Alondra Alcantar

Before interviewing my mom—she told me she had never achieved anything. Blinded by regret, she failed to recognize the gravity of being a first-generation student parent. She became the first in her family to graduate college

*Photo courtesy of my mom*



## When Did You Do Something Once Thought of as Impossible?

By Claire Sanchez

"The true rationale to why I began to workout more was because I was told I was getting obese in my 30s."

*Photo at 10K Spartan Race*



## Mother copes with a serious illness; Stevens-Johnson syndrome

By Lucia Casas

"I felt like an intruder in a body I thought was once mine."

*Photo courtesy of my mom*



## How Can Family Serve as a Support for a Cancer Patient?

By Alex Valle

For my aunt Diana, there were other difficulties growing: asking questions. She states, "It was very difficult, difficult for me to make those kind of questions at the beginning with my diagnosis." She didn't want to hear stuff that would make her dread the future.



## How Do We Know When to Stop Helping Someone?

By Jazmin Mandujano

My mom is the strongest person I know, being able to grow from pain and trying to move forward, while still honoring her sister who was addicted to drugs.

*Photo by her sister Patricia (left) around 2014*



## How Does a Father Deal with a Prostate Cancer Diagnosis in His 40s?

By Xander Rivera

“What makes you a man is who you are and what you are and what you show people.”

*Photo courtesy of Xander Rivera*



## How Does Love Transform a Former Gang Member’s Life?

By Aaliyah Solis

“He wanted to define his identity, and gangs were the only reason he knew how.”

Photo from the 2000s of my father and my mother, the woman who changed his life.

*Photo courtesy of Jose Solis*



## Poem: An insight into consumer-driven teenage dysmorphia

By Elena Jarm, a member of Identity Crisis, Hancock’s Poetry Slam Team coached by Ms. Chapman

The little girl looks at me  
We are one.  
Please little girl, don’t be burdened with the responsibility of being over 12 years old.

once the joys of womanhood hit you,  
The mirror will reflect a body you don’t recognize.





## Immigrant Mom Fulfills Dream of Being a Cosmetologist

By Jennifer Antunez

"I felt great pride that my children saw me make my dream a reality."

*Photo courtesy of Jennifer Antunez*



## What made this South-west Side Latino Be a Police Officer?

By Isabella Claudio

As for what pushes him to have continued everyday for the past 27 years is simple: people. "Just the way people need mechanics, people need doctors, people need lawyers. People need the police."

*Photo: Isabella Claudio*



## At What Point Do We Take Responsibility For Our Own Education?

By Alyssa Garcia-Ocon

"It was my father's sophomore year at Whitney Young and already it felt as if the walls were closing in on him."



## Does Leaving an Abusive Relationship Lead to Triumph?

By Valeria Guzman

A conversation with my grandmother.

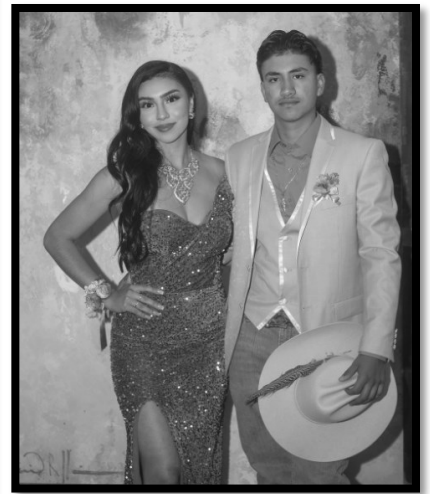
"Estaba muy mal económicamente. Quería vivir mejor, darle más oportunidades a mis hijos. Quería salir adelante."

*Photo courtesy of my grandmother Juana*



# Prom 2023

Photos courtesy of Ms. Salgado



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*The Signature* is published about every month October through May in print and on our Website. Students can submit art, photography, or writing. See Mr. Salazar in 316.

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## **Hancock College Prep High School**

A Selective-Enrollment Chicago public school serving mostly Southwest side families that empowers students through academic and social engagement to create change in their personal lives and in their communities.

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