



# CAMYL CONNECT



## Letter from the Editors

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams” (Eleanor Roosevelt). Young voices are change-makers. They are advocates; they are visionaries. They see the future with optimism and curiosity. In our communities, the youth represent an enormous amount of talent and potential.

At CAMYL, we are committed to empowering those voices. With an emphasis on authenticity, we want to foster the importance of identity and culture. This issue takes readers through the creativity of our young artists, the imagination of our young writers, and the political literacy of our young activists.

**From the  
CAMYL Director:**

***Sunil Varghese,***  
*MANCA Vice President*



Dear Reader, During the preceding years many advances, and transformations necessitated our ability to interact with society and community through innovative channels. Audio-visual aids raised the bar with path breaking innovations. We CAMYL team value staying connected with community throughout these difficult times. I hope “CAMYL CONNECT” is a channel for our kids to stay connected with our community and its activities through creative writings and expressive art forms. The goal of our quarterly e-newsletter is to motivate, elicit, and provide a platform to our kids to express their artistic and writing skills. To all those who have offered the support – we sincerely thank you. I hope that you all will continue to support this initiative.





### Letter from the Editors (cont.)

As we sifted through submissions, we were excited to see the enthusiasm of the youth in our community. We only hope that their zeal will grow over the course of our issues. In the past few months CAMYL has also experienced the election of new leaders and the first of their ventures. Our team has started with service projects and is looking forward to organizing more initiatives.

Rooted in fellowship, CAMYL is inspired to use their resources equitably and constructively. This newsletter is our journey and the impact of our youth community. We hope you enjoy!



Meryl Mathew, President (1st term)



Annmary Antony, Secretary



Niranjn Shankar, President (2nd term)



Neil Alappatt, Board Member

### Spotlight: MANCA Christmas and CAMYL Inauguration





# Literary Submissions

Want your work to be featured in the next edition? Submit art and/or writing to the form at [camyl.org/camyl-connect/](http://camyl.org/camyl-connect/), or email us at [camylonline@gmail.com](mailto:camylonline@gmail.com)

## The Zombie Zone - Short Story

One day Zombie Zone was supported by the zombies of zombie world. They were destroying and stealing goods from the people in the entire city they were taking over. Zombies threw metal creaky poles at people. People in the city were all frightened by the attack of zombies. Orlghosta, the leader of zombies, emerged from the ground in the zombie zone that day. The leader went into the city and hunted people.

A zombie didn't come up from the zombie zone when all the other zombies did; instead,

he saw a key under the ground. He was searching what the key was used for. He did not discover the key's use, instead he took part in the battle against city people.

The people in the city got angrier and angrier. They got swords and knives and killed the zombies. Under the leadership of Orlghosta, the zombies fought back, but now they had lost the war for the first time against the people in the city. The zombies ran to their zombie zone.

The zombie who took the key from the ground

gave it to their leader Orlghosta. Using the key, Orlghosta unlocked the secret door. He unlocked another world with a big market full of gold and food and all zombies thereafter began living there without disturbing the people in the city.

**- Daniel Joseph**

*1st grade, San Jose*



## A Winter Poem

Tearing through the air, a powerful breeze,  
Snowflakes falling, twirling with ease.

Soft mounds of snow, glistening, sparkling,  
Accepting each snowflake, drifting, dancing.

At home, the Christmas tree shines,  
Filling the room with a cozy, golden light.

Children zoom with their sleds down the snow-covered hill,  
Not even for a moment, will they stay still.

A cozy little house with a roaring fire inside,  
Urges the children to take a break from their ride.

Hot cocoa with marshmallows fills everyone with spirit,  
Christmas movies are watched, with popcorn as a benefit.

Winter, though cold, is a festive time,  
Where warmth and love will always shine.

**- Anumitha Arun,**

*5th grade, Pleasanton*



## The USA Immigration Law - *Opinion*

“The US immigration laws are bad – really, really bad. I’d say treatment of immigrants is one of the greatest injustices done in our governments today.”, by Bill Gates. The Immigration Law is a law that regulates who can enter into the country and how long they can stay and can determine what rights and responsibilities noncitizens have while they are here. Many parents and children are in stress because they are not able to visit their families who live in other countries. Also, many people who are not citizens yet are put under many restrictions. Many parents, families and people are not living the life they want to with freedom and togetherness as a family.

The first main problem with the Immigration Law is that it separates families. My grandparents and family members couldn’t come to US because of this law. If the Immigration Law was abolished, then many families living across the world could reunite.

Secondly, another problem with the Immigration Law is that the economic growth may decrease. The productivity of the people will decrease and there will be less jobs. This could be a disadvantage the government too because they will get less money from taxes since

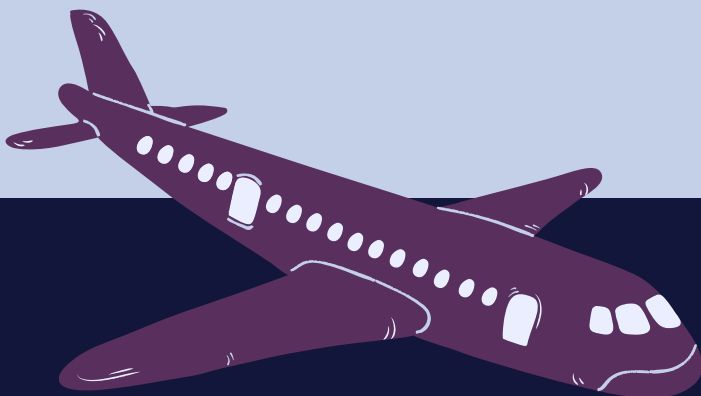
there are a lot less people living here. This will not be good at all. This is because of the government is getting less taxes or money from the people, then inflation will be higher, taxes will increase significantly.

Also, many skilled workers from various countries land to United States to build their career with the hope to have better life. Current immigration law puts them and their families in stress with lot of uncertainty and long waiting process to get the Permanent Residency. This is now causing shortage of skilled work forces.

One benefit of this law is, it controls overpopulation and put restrictions on people entering into the county illegally. If this law was not there, then there would be crowding on the streets, in stores, homeless etc. Also, there would be more unemployment because if they are unskilled, they will not really be needed in many jobs.

Families are separated and non-citizens will have some rights taken away and can get kicked out of the country at any time by the government. To revise the concepts, the problems with the Immigration Law is that families will get separated. As Bill Gates said, the treatment of immigrants is a great injustice. If I could, I would go up to the government and tell them to abolish the Immigration Law.

- **Leon Varghese**, 6th grade, Union City







## Consumption: The Vote that Really Matters – Opinion

Most people have heard the phrase “vote with your dollars” before, but few realize the extent to which it’s true in the modern world. Our lives revolve around consumption, monetary and otherwise. And that leads to an interesting phenomenon: the power structures of our society have to obey popular demand, or they risk losing whatever it is that drives them. When we buy from a company or follow media from a politician, we’re giving them business. Our consumption—of products, energy, media, and even beliefs—is what makes the world go round. Companies will do anything as long as it’s profitable. Politicians will say whatever wins them popularity for re-election. Conviction, in the era of mass media, is as fickle as the weather. Of course, that comes with both positives and negatives. Just like your votes have power, your consumption does too. Every shirt you buy, every YouTube video you watch, every ad you click, even something as simple as typing ‘eco-friendly clothing brands’ into Google, is a signal that the patterns of our consumption are changing, and that those in power need to adapt to continue to benefit. We inherently have the power to change what we don’t like

about our world, if we have enough numbers to do it.

And this idea shines a new light on the concept of ‘corporate activism’—because let’s face it, they’re not activists. A post from a company raising awareness about an issue is, however, a litmus test of sorts for popular belief. See, if a corporation only does what is profitable, then they will endorse whatever beliefs earn them business without causing too many losses. Evidently, posting means that society in general has changed its view enough to force them to support the issue or risk losing customers. The same logic applies to lobbyists and politicians/political parties. The only reason so many politicians use certain rhetoric or emotionally charged theories is because they’re still benefiting from it, i.e. there are people who buy into it. As soon as it’s not profitable, they have nothing.

So every individual choice has immense power, magnified when other people make those same choices (strength in numbers and all that). Considering most people know how twitter works, that’s not exactly a new concept. Then the question becomes how do we effectively effect change.

There are a few essential

questions there when it comes to advocating to solve an issue. Who has the power to fix the problem? What do they benefit from? How do you force them to fix the problem in order to continue benefiting? In this new age of endless digital consumption and a surplus of opinions voiced online, perhaps the old tools of change—petitions, reposts, strongly worded rants—might not cut it anymore. Instead, changing what we as a society consume is the single most impactful signal we can send. Consider the power in your choice to purchase a product, subscribe to a channel, or use a service. In short, boycott thoughtfully. Everyone has the power to regain control over their consumption, and it only takes a few seconds of thought to do it. If you really believe in something, put your money where it counts.

**- Meryl Mathew**

*11th grade,*

*Fremont*





## CAMYL Volunteers with Kids Against Hunger!

On March 12th, many CAMYL volunteers joined Kids Against Hunger to provide nutritional food to families in poverty. On this day alone, CAMYL packed enough food to feed over 6000 Ukrainian refugees. Volunteering for charity events is a fun and engaging way to help those in need. It was truly a unique experience knowing simply packing food can change lives around the world. If you or your organization would like to volunteer at a food packing event, you can sign up at [kidsagainsthunger.org](https://kidsagainsthunger.org)







# Art Gallery.

**A Deep Water Wonderland**



**Samuel Joseph, 6th grade, San Jose**



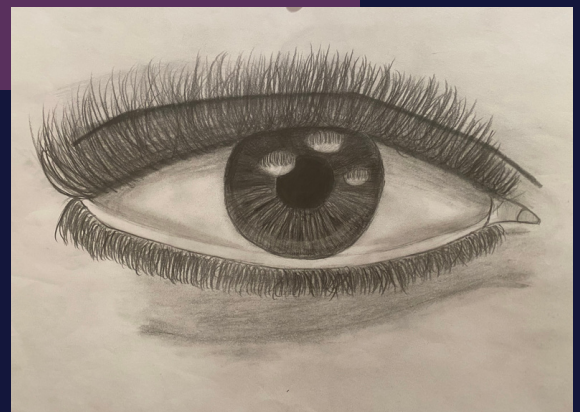
**Daniel Joseph, 1st grade, San Jose**



**Parvathy Nair, 12th grade, Santa Clara**



**Niya Justin, 9th grade, San Jose**



**Elisa Varghese, 9th grade, Fremont**



# Thank you for reading!

*Want your work to be featured in the next edition?*

*Submit art and/or writing to the form at [camyl.org/camyl-connect/](http://camyl.org/camyl-connect/), or email us at [camyloonline@gmail.com](mailto:camyloonline@gmail.com)*



**To join CAMYL visit:**

[camyl.org/camyl-registration](http://camyl.org/camyl-registration)

Make sure to keep an eye out for upcoming CAMYL events!

