



LSI ALHAMBRA  
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# LSI Newsletter Alhambra



## June Calendar of Events



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**June 3d**

*Practice Tennis in Alhambra Park with Jose*

**June 3d**

*Trip to Griffith Observatory with Andrea aright after yummy Vietnamese food in one of the best Vietnamese restaurants in the area.*

**June 5th**

*Flea Market with Jose*



**June 8th**

*Exit test! Prepare your pencils and all the knowledge you've received at school!*

**June 13th**

*Horseback riding with Justin in Hollywood Hills!*

**June 17th**

*Tennis Fun with Jose and Natalya.*

**June 24th**

*Graduation Day! Big party! Big Time!*



# Beat the Heat With These Treats!

By Yvonne Aritonang, Mika, Keisuke and Naoki



As it gets hot, people want to eat refreshing foods to cool their bodies. There are many summer foods from around the world. Our classmates from LSI Alhambra shared some of their favorites with us.

In Japan, people eat *somen* in the summer. Somen is a very thin, smooth noodle. First the *somen* is boiled, then cooled with ice. Somen is served in a *zaru*, which is a wooden bucket. Sometimes people stream water and somen through bamboo, then try to catch the noodles with chopsticks. The noodles are dipped in a cold soup, which is salty and sweet.

Papaya salad is popular during summertime in Thailand. The salad includes five tastes: spicy, sweet, salty, sour, and bitter. The ingredients are papaya, sliced garlic, red hot chili peppers, green beans, special sauce, vinegar and sugar. It's easy to make. Just mix the ingredients in a bowl.

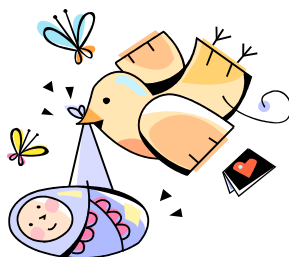
One of the summer specialities from Indonesia is called Es Cendol. It's a cold beverage that contains green spiral tapioca jelly, coconut milk, water, and brown palm sugar. It is very refreshing and tastes sweet. You can buy it from a side street vendor, or in a restaurant. To make it more unique, many Indonesians like to add chopped avocados, jackfruit, or young coconut meat.

People in Hong Kong believe in yin and yang. If your body is hot, you need to consume something cold. When the summer season arrives in Hong Kong, many people will consume cold food. They like to eat watermelon, winter melon, mangoes, lychee, or dragon fruit. Sometimes they will freeze it or make it into a soup. For the older people, they enjoy cold herbal tea like lemon tea or ginger tea.



## It's a girl!

Congratulations to LSI Alhambra students Hansu and Rura on the birth of their daughter Sophie! Best wishes to the family.



# Harajuku and Melrose Avenue

By Naoki



Every place has fashionable spots, like Harajuku in Japan and Melrose Avenue in Los Angeles. There are several differences between Harajuku and Melrose Avenue: the customers, merchandise, fashion style and prices. I have noticed these differences since I came to L.A.

Nowadays, I think Harajuku is a fashion capital of the world and popular among the younger generation. You can afford cheaper things. However, it's so full of people that it's difficult to walk on streets on holidays. You might mistake it for a carnival. You can enjoy street performers and many types of fashion like rockabilly style, gothic lolita, hip hop, and punk. Cosplayers, dressed up as their favorite movie or anime characters, spend the day in Harajuku socializing. Harajuku is a large shopping district that includes international brands and shops selling clothes young people can afford. Harajuku is denser and has many narrow streets, and there are famous spots nearby like Shibuya and Aoyama. Actually, Harajuku has two main shopping streets, Omotesandō and Takeshita Street. You can go on foot easily.

On the other hand, Melrose Avenue is an equally cutting-edge and internationally renowned shopping, dining and entertainment destination in Los Angeles. If you're lucky, you might be able to see a Hollywood star and paparazzi. Melrose has many stores along the street, from cheaper stores to expensive stores. Melrose Ave used to have many vintage stores which were popular among young people, but almost all those stores are closed now. Some merchandise is more expensive than in Harajuku. Unlike in Harajuku, you can see some rich people, and most of the the people are young or middle aged. Rodeo Drive and Hollywood are a short drive from Melrose.

Both places have interesting points, and you can enjoy your time and feel different things. For example, in Harajuku, you can find stores and shops which you like, because some stores and shops are hiding on narrow streets. Have fun!

# Teacher Profile

By Peggy

Do you know who this teacher is? Here are some hints, so try to guess. She has taught in this school for six years. She is not tall, and her hair is blond. She has two kids. One is sixteen years old, and the other is fourteen years old. However, she looks young and you would never know her kids were so big. She likes traveling, reading, and interior design. Still find it difficult to guess? Okay, here is a big hint. She lived in Japan for a long time, and she is multi-lingual. Yes, you are correct! It's Judy.



Judy is one of the most experienced teachers at LSI Alhambra. She teaches Level 6 and Level 7 Speaking, Level 3 Reading, and the GRE/ GMAT class. Judy said one of the reasons she teaches at LSI is that she likes to meet people from different countries, so that she can interact with people from different cultures and have different cultural experiences. Furthermore, because she has learned multiple languages, she knows how difficult it is to learn a new language. She wants to help people to learn the language in an easy and fun way. Therefore, she is using different teaching methods to teach her students in different levels in order to facilitate their study progress more effectively.

Judy likes reading and traveling. She has not traveled a lot because she has been busy taking care of her kids, but she is planning to travel when her kids grow up. She loves interior design, especially learning about how to renovate houses. She likes to read design magazines and watch home decoration and renovation series on TV.

Judy lived in Japan for 16 years, and she came back to the States six years ago. Her life was difficult when she first went to Japan. Because of the language barrier, she could not communicate with people, and she felt lonely and isolated. However, she learned Japanese, so the situation changed in one year's time. The other issue was the climate. There are significant climate differences between Japan and the States. The summer months in Japan are very hot and humid, and the rainy season lasts for a few weeks in summer time. Even now, Judy still finds it too hot and humid, and she cannot adapt to the climate there. Besides, the huge cultural differences made it hard for Judy to integrate into Japanese society at the beginning. Japanese people don't say things directly, so it was really hard for Judy to understand them. Although life was hard, it was also an unforgettable experience for her.

Judy has a great passion for teaching; she will never forget her students. She is multi-lingual. She can speak English, Japanese, French, and Spanish. She has great life experience. If you want to learn more languages, know more about Japan, or even want to get information for your Japan vacation, you can go to her and she will be more than happy to share her knowledge and experience with you.

# President Thai and Sanamluang Thai Restaurant

## Yvonne

America is the land where each cheese actually has its own name: cheddar, mozzarella, blue cheese, marble cheese, Swiss cheese, provolone, pepper jack, cream cheese, and goat cheese. Americans put cheese on almost every food, even salad. It tastes awesome, but too much can kill your appetite. Thinking about this makes me crave my homeland specialties. Spicy fried rice with salty fish; beef ball noodle soup; fried noodles with soy bean sauce and eggs; and my favorite, fried fish balls and tofu with peanut paste, are calling me from far away. Where can I find these foods in America? The answer is at a Thai Restaurant. There are two Thai restaurants that caught my Indonesian taste buds. They are President Thai and Sanamluang Thai Restaurant.

When I saw President Thai from outside, the details reminded me of the traditional houses in Indonesia. It was built with bamboo, and the roof was made of dried grass. When I came inside, I was greeted by the waiters speaking Thai. They were wearing light blue Thai traditional clothes, and all the waitresses had their hair in ponytails. After I was greeted, I was seated in their waiting room. The walls were painted white, so the room looked clean and bright. There Thai landscapes hanging on the wall, and one of the pictures was a goddess with six arms, surrounded by baskets of fruit. Outside the window, I could see a lot of banana trees and green plants which reminded me so much of the country side in Indonesia.

As I was seated, I immediately looked at the menu. The pictures of each food were very intriguing and suddenly my mouth was drooling. Lunch specials ranged from \$5.99 to \$7.99. The food was presented in a delightful design and I could taste the spices melting in my mouth in every bite. They had many varieties of desserts too, like mango and sticky rice, ice cream, and fried bananas.

From the outside, Sanamluang Thai Restaurant looked like any other place. There weren't any decorations, yet it was packed with hungry people. When I entered the restaurant, I had to line up to be seated by a waiter, who wore a black top and pants. The waiters were not as welcoming, and they hardly smiled. It was bothersome to me. The walls were painted orange, and the floor tiles were black. The lighting was dim and romantic. I was cheered by the song they played even though I didn't understand what it was saying. I also could see the kitchen from the table I sat in and I thought to myself, "Uh oh. My hair is going to smell like food".

The prices were reasonable, but they didn't have any lunch specials on the menu. The menu didn't really elucidate what the food was going to look like, so I was just guessing how it would look. The plates were also orange, and they were small and square. As the waiter served the main course, I wasn't really drawn into, it but as I tasted the first bite I was amazed. I felt like I was home at last. I loved it! There wasn't much variety of desserts but one of my favorite was pink shaved ice fruit. It contained rambutan, lychee, young coconut meat, almond jelly and jackfruits all together in a shaved ice jungle drenched in red syrup. YUMMY! (continued)

# Santa Monica and Old Pasadena

**By Mika**

Have you ever been to Santa Monica and Old Pasadena? Santa Monica and Old Pasadena are two of my favorite places.

Santa Monica faces the sea. The climate always changes easily there. You might think that it's always warm or hot, but I'm sorry, sometimes it's very cold and windy, so I recommend taking a jacket. Santa Monica has a good shopping area. Especially, Third Street has a lot of different kinds of shops. You can buy clothes, shoes, bags, accessories, letter sets, and cosmetics. Third Street has also surf shops. On average, the prices are reasonable. Third Street is located near the beach, so customers wear beach clothes, like colorful T-shirts, big sunglasses, casual caps, shorts and beach sandals. Along the street, there are many performers. You can also enjoy music, dance, magic and comedy there. Santa Monica has a fresher atmosphere than Old Pasadena.

On the other hand, Old Pasadena has a more historic flavor than Santa Monica. The architecture is traditional. Old Pasadena also has many shops for different generations. On average, prices are not so different from prices in Santa Monica. Customers in Old Pasadena wear basic clothes, like cute tops and jeans. However, at night some people wears light dresses, because there are many stylish restaurants and bars. If you walk along the street in the evening, you can hear great music from restaurants.. In Old Pasadena in the evening, it's colder than you might expect, so I recommend taking a jacket there too.

Although both Santa Monica and Old Pasadena have many similar famous shops, like Whole Foods, Forever 21, and H&M, they have many different attractive points. When I want excitement, I prefer to go to Santa Monica, but when I want to enjoy the mood, I prefer to go to Old Pasadena. Anyway, you should go to both places once at least.



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I couldn't believe I found my little Indonesia in the middle of America. It's the best getaway for me whenever I miss the food from my homeland. I was astonished that Thai food has many similarities to the food back home, especially when it comes to the taste and also the spices. So, whenever you want a new variety of taste, try these restaurants and you will enjoy them.