

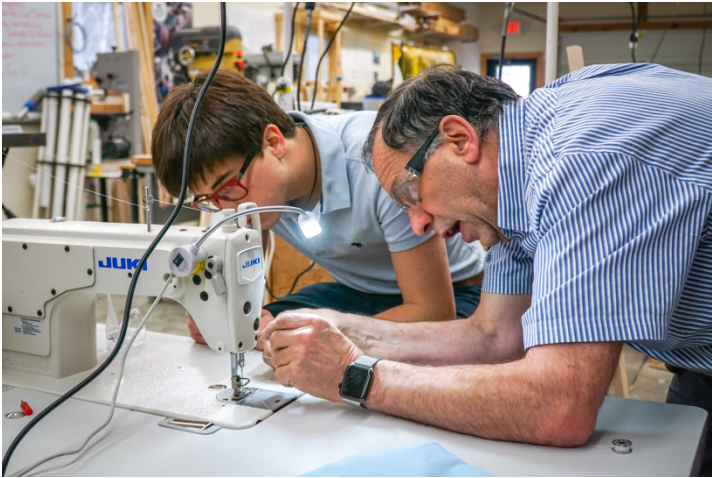
“Bringing Ideas to Fruition” Gates Program – Innovations That Could Change the World

Tony He ‘19
Editor-In-Chief

What is Cardigan’s history with the Gates program?

In 2008, I went to Denver, Colorado, to look at a program called the Gates Invention and Innovation Competition, that was in place at the Graland School. Our Gates program is funded entirely by the Gates Frontier Fund, which is run by Ms. Diane Wallach. She is the daughter of Charles C. Gates. At Cardigan, the program is currently for sixth and seventh graders together. The competition is designed to:

“encourage creative thinking , risk taking, and the entrepreneurial spirit, and to develop an appreciation for hard work and accomplishment.”



Preparing for the Gates competition Photo | Smugmug

What is the importance of Gates?

There are many facets to the Gates program. From working in the shop and learning how to use your hands, to public speaking, as you create presentations that describes the product and the work that went into creating it.

“It’s bringing your ideas to fruition”

and learning to work with various tools, such as computers and the tools in the shop. However, the most important aspect is being able to work with others. In today’s world, most people don’t lose their jobs because they can’t do the work, it’s because they can’t work with others.

With Silicone Valley’s startup culture seeming to be more important

than ever, does Gates educate and prepare students for this future context?

“No, it puts them in the situation.”

We want to educate the boys so that they become better consumers and that they become more knowledgeable users of technology. The knowledge of knowing how to make things in the shop is going to have benefits down the road. It gives students a love of doing that type of stuff. Gate’s isn’t just a course.

“The Gates program gives students a lens through which they can see the world we live in from a different perspective.”

Best of luck from the *Verbatim* team for all sixth and seventh graders competing!

“Working on my invention had its ups and downs but, in the end, I enjoyed it. I think that it's awesome that we can order anything we want to create our project. Another great resource was Mr. Auerbach. He taught me how to sew on a sewing machine which, if that never happened, we wouldn't have a project. Something I have taken away from Gates is that when you fail, you need to use that failure to make yourself better. In Gates, that applied when we messed up our project. Using the mistake we made, my partner and I made the next product better.”

- Cayden Van Dolah

“Working on Gates has been a lot of fun. There are a lot of challenges and obstacles, and you have to have the right mindset to overcome them. The most rewarding challenge has been making my own invention and figuring out all the pieces and parts that go into it. The biggest lesson that I have learned so far has been: productive failure. If you keep trying to do something, and it doesn't work out, instead of saying that you can’t do it, figure out what to change about it and make it work. You have to be open-minded. I had a lot of problems coming up with the invention. I had six failed prototypes but, in the end, it worked.”

- Estyn Elkouh

Last year, I learned a lot of lessons. I learned how to transfer electricity through magnets, and how to do pivot points. But, more importantly, I also learned how to bring my ideas to life, and how to take more chances. For example, my solar wind model would fall apart, or not have enough energy to go around the circuit. In the end, the success made it all worth it.

- Gabe Brondel



Mr. Auerbach, in the Gates shop. Photo | Verbatim

Culture

The World: According to Mr. Gartner

Mr. Gartner
“Ph.D. in Knowledge”

- Marvel is better than DC
- Dino chicken nuggets are the best tasting chicken nuggets
- Diving is not a sport
- Mr. Wight has the fastest first step, east of the Mississippi
- The “Water” and “Premium water” are from the same source
- Dogs are better than people
- New Jersey is the best state
- People in Canada (not Quebec) are too nice
- Game of Thrones is the best show on air
- Die Hard is the Greatest Christmas movie of all time
- The egg came before the chicken
- Katy Perry is the best artist to blast on an AV

Backstage @ The Spring Concert



Of all the highlights from the Wingnut’s historic performance, my favorite highlight of the night was Logan Huetter’s courageous return to the stage.

- Mr. Burritt

I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to work backstage during the concert. The excitement was palpable and the energy simply amazing!! The musicians truly poured their hearts and souls into this concert, and being so close to them allows you to feel the vibration of the instruments and see from up-close how concentrated they are. The emotional highs and lows, the stage frights, the immense satisfaction of having shared with the audience something that uplifting, was best summarized for me by Jack exclaiming "that was so much fun!"

- Mrs. Brondel

What does Multiculturalism at Cardigan Sound Like?

Mrs. Brondel
Multilingual PEAKS Coach

From the standpoint of someone who speaks several languages,

I feel it is important for people to understand that there is a certain pleasure that comes with speaking in one's native language(s).

No matter how well I speak English, when I am tired for example, words might come to me in a different language or I might make a mistake with prepositions that I usually would not make.

In any case, when speaking about multiculturalism, there inevitably comes a time when we might be faced with pronouncing foreign names, especially in a school setting such as ours. I am a firm believer that butchering someone's name and later saying "I don't if I am pronouncing this right" is simply a pale excuse for not trying, or furthermore a way to draw unnecessary attention to cultural differences. A student from Mexico from a few years ago put it best when he said to me, referring to a teacher who insisted on calling him by a name that wasn't his: 'I learned his name, he should learn mine.' As a general rule, I believe that the same applies. If you don't know HOW to pronounce it, just go with the English pronunciation and leave it at that.

Ryan Chiang ‘19 • Speaking Korean

In 1443, the Korean alphabet was made through a king and his linguists. This was a whole new alphabet that had the definition-sound correspondence of Traditional Chinese. The beauty of this alphabet is that when some word or letter is formed, there is only one way you can read it. Also, unlike Chinese, these letters are made by a set number of characters instead of random strokes. When these sounds are translated into English, there are some problems; in order to ease the pronunciation, unnecessary consonants have been added; for example, the last name Park should be more like Bak, Lee should be pronounced more like ee, and Chiang should be more like Jang with an a that has the same sound as the a in saw.

Jimmy Wu ‘19 • Speaking Chinese

Chinese culture is deep and profound. We have 5000 years of history, experienced different dynasties and creation of cultures. In order to have a better idea of Chinese culture, we can start from language. Many foreigners may feel confused by Chinese characters, which are masterpieces from our ancestors. Every character has their own pronunciation, so it is really common that different people have a different pronunciation for their names. Chinese is a language totally different from English. On the other hand, we use all the same letters as English. The differences between the two languages are different ways to pronounce our words. **Every character in China has four different pronunciations.** For example, “Zhou” can be mispronounced as “Chou”, “Cho” or “Zho”, however, the right pronunciation is called. “Zhou”.