

# 7 questions we asked Bill Nye

## Bill! Bill! Bill! Bill! Bill Nye the Science Guy

by NT News Staff

On Nov. 11, 2015, the New Trier Publications class traveled to Barnes and Noble at Old Orchard in order to meet Bill Nye the Science Guy on his tour for his new book, titled "Unbreakable."

Below are the questions he was asked, and his informative answers.

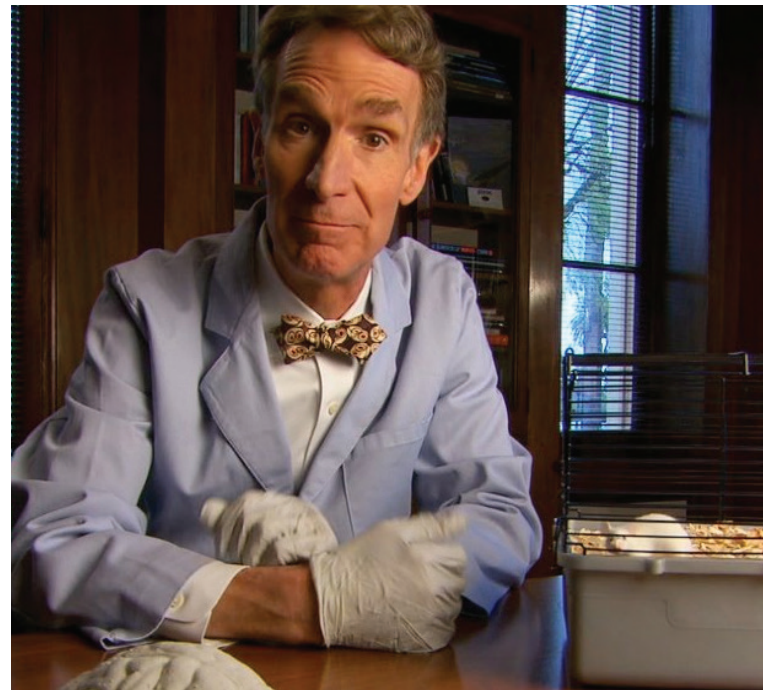
1. Q: What is your favorite planet?  
A: Mars, because there could be life there. It's always worth it to keep exploring

2. Q: What's your favorite science fiction book?  
A: The Martian. I also saw the movie but I think the book is better.

3. Q: What's your favorite element?  
A: I don't like to say that I have a favorite element. But I do have a favorite compound-- water. But then again, who doesn't love cobalt?

4. Q: Wow many bow ties do you own?  
A: Around 400.

5. Q: What superpower would you choose if you could have one?



Nye on set of his acclaimed show, "Bill Nye the Science Guy." | billnye.com

A: I would like to fly.

6. Q: What's in your Starbucks cup?  
A: Coffee, but I like tea too.

7. Q: Which scientist, dead or alive, would you hang out with?  
A: Neil deGrasse Tyson, because we're friends.

Bill Nye the Science Guy has held many professions -- actor,

scientist, beloved TV personality -- and now with his latest foray into writing, author.

In his book "Unbreakable," he writes about how climate change can affect not only our lifetime, but the future, too. Nye offers his own solutions on how to best combat this growing issue in a lighthearted, almost whimsical way that both kids and adults alike will love.

# Soundboard Soundoff

## Sophomore Galen Quinn makes waves with his app

by Emily Abt

With 196,616 downloads in over 90 countries, New Trier sophomore Galen Quinn has developed a 5 star app called Illuminati Soundboard.

Quinn produced the soundboard by using popular sound bites from MLG videos and streaming.

MLG is a group of professional gamers on YouTube who record their voices while playing video games. Some are informative videos and walkthroughs which are popular among dedicated gamers who want to improve their skills by watching the professionals.

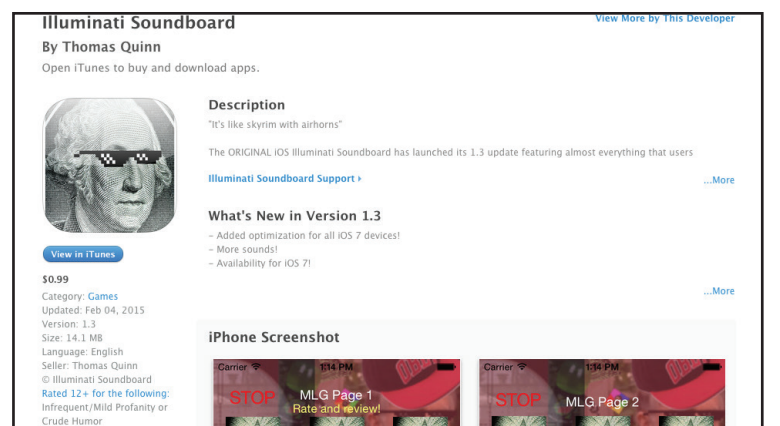
Others are funny videos of people recording their reactions while playing games like Five Nights at Freddy's, Garry's Mod, or COD.

Felix Kjelberg, known commonly by his YouTube name Pewdiepie, is the most well known comical commentator. Kjelberg's videos have a total of 10.1 billion views making him the number one YouTuber in the world, according to Business Insider.

"I enjoy video games but I'm not a die-hard gamer," freshman Aaron Schatz said. "So I spend hours watching these videos because they're hilarious. I don't do it to 'improve my gaming.' I do it because it's entertaining."

The Illuminati is a cult that believes the world is controlled by a society of wealthy and powerful leaders that can alter public opinion.

The relationship between Illuminati and MLG has nothing to do with religion or video games. "Overall the theme is a parody," Quinn said. Quinn thinks of the Illuminati as just a conspiracy theory, "Illuminati is a joke, just like MLG



Illuminati Soundboard iTunes listing, available for \$ .99 itunes.apple.com

and all of the recordings on the app."

Quinn stated, "A person would probably understand why it is a thing if they were active on the Internet when videos about 'is the illuminati real', 'mlg montages', or if they saw 'shrek is love, shrek is life'."

As a person who is unfamiliar with these internet videos, Sophomore Nina VanPopering described Illuminati Soundboard as, "a bunch of loud, random noises that don't seem to have any relation to the Illuminati."

Quinn's Illuminati soundboard app is not the only Illuminati Soundboard available on iTunes, however it was the first. While Quinn's app is 99 cents, the other Illuminati Soundboard app developed by Component Studios is free to download, making it more popular.

Even though Quinn has less downloads than the other app, it has much better ratings and reviews. iTunes user Ricky350 stated, "I had severe depression. Everyday I contemplated ending it all... as a last resort I went on the AppStore and I found this app. The memes were so dank, and the pepes were so rare that I rethought my whole life."

Quinn's app has grossed over \$50,000 since its launch in 2014. However, Quinn himself has only made \$31,000 because Apple takes 30% of all profits.

Initially the app was free but after having a rate of approximately 10,00 downloads a day, he decided to charge 99 cents.

Illuminati Soundboard is a nationally and internationally ranked app. In the US it was ranked 128th overall app and 60th most popular game app in the App Store. In the United Kingdom it was rated 23rd most popular overall app and the number one music app.

Quinn developed the app completely from scratch. He did all of the programming himself, and with help from sophomore Michael Gurtison, pulled specific sounds from the internet.

It takes time and money to develop an app. In order to get an app published, it must be submitted to Apple so they can review it and decide whether or not it is ok to publish. If Apple approves the maker has to pay an annual fee, "it costs \$100 a year to publish on the App Store," Quinn stated.

Even though Quinn himself isn't the most educated or enthusiastic MLG fan, he successfully accomplished his initial goal, "I didn't even need to understand it to make it, I just saw an opportunity to make some money from people who were watching those videos, so I took the opportunity," he said.

**NETFLIX** Browse ▾ by Sam Blanc

**NETFLIX ORIGINAL**  
**MAKING A MURDERER**

Horrifying, yet captivating, this show chronicles the story of Steven Avery, a man wrongly imprisoned for sexual assault for eighteen years.

It depicts more than three decades of repeated hope and setbacks given in commentary by Avery, footage from courtrooms and police interrogations, and interviews with key figures.

The series depicts the wicked determination of the Manitowoc County sheriff's department in their relentless vendetta against him.

This series is of pivotal importance when understanding the flaws in the American justice system and it might forever change the way you look at the law.

**NETFLIX** Browse ▾ Kids DVD

**NETFLIX ORIGINAL**  
**DRAGONS: RACE TO THE EDGE**

Dragon's Edge.

For those New Trier students who are still children at heart, this mini-series based on the "How to Train Your Dragon" movies is a great pick.

It follows Hiccup and his quirky team of dragon riders as they look for an evil escaped dragon, discovering new species and eventually building a new and distant base of operations called

Junior Allison Thabit has been watching the show with her younger sister, and they both find it enjoyable despite the age difference.

"It's not particularly groundbreaking," Thabit said, "But it's not supposed to be. It's a children's show and it's really fun."

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**NETFLIX ORIGINAL**  
**MISS FISHER'S MURDER MYSTERIES**

This unconventional crime drama follows Miss Phryne Fisher, a lady detective in 1920s Melbourne, Australia.

It's a combination of a comedy, a drama, and a thriller, all wrapped up with fun, quirky characters.

As a thoroughly modern woman in a mostly male world, she often gets into trouble, but her quick wit and skills in silver-tongued persuasion help her stay on top and keep the show wildly entertaining.

This show can go from goofy to terrifically thrilling in a second.

Awkward but loveable Constable Collins, communist taxi drivers, Cec and Bert help the show come alive—even when they're investigating a death.

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**NETFLIX ORIGINAL**  
**THE GREAT BRITISH BAKING SHOW**

The Great British Baking Show

If American cooking shows get a little too rowdy for your taste, The Great British Bake Off may be a good fit. This show has been wildly popular in the UK for sometime, but it hasn't quite caught on in the US.

Each week, competitors show off their skills in creating different types of baked goods. Then judges and expert bakers Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood determine who's done well enough to become a "star baker" and whose time on the show is finished.

It's very similar in concept to many American shows--just with a little less swearing and sabotage.

"There's actually a lot of interesting information about baking and its history," said Junior Meera Joshi. "Plus it's nice to see a reality show where everyone seems like a genuinely nice human being."