



From the archives: The letter on the right was originally published on Oct. 20, 1967 in response to the letter below, which was originally published on Sept. 29, 1967. The letter below contains the N-word twice, which the editorial staff has chosen to black out.

Student deplores New Trier bigotry

Dear Editor,

The New Trier Social service organization recently put up several posters in an effort to recruit people for its various programs.

On each poster, under a photograph of children from the slums of our fair city, was written the slogan "Be a Friend: Join Social Service." A few days ago, one of these posters was taken down. On it was scrawled: "To a [redacted]? Forget it!"

FOR A LONG time I have been extremely bitter about the shallow, narrow, and empty minded student body here at New Trier, and this incident can only reinforce my cynicism. The student who immortalized his bigotry on that poster is only a representative of many more like him.

There is a lot wrong with the world we live in today, and, believe it or not, some people have enough guts to actually stand up and say, "I've had enough!" Some people can change the world. "Ask not for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

WE ARE ONE nation of men, and each man is responsible for what happens to the other.

Thank God for the hopelessly idealistic teenagers who run programs like New Trier's Social service. Maybe there are enough optimists to save a sinking ship.

When kids are out everyday trying to help other people, why

must someone always hold them back? Why do people think [redacted]?" We are going to be in command of the world soon; haven't we had enough hate? Our generation is moving towards peace and a better world, and a good part of the New Trier student body is standing still.

ALAS, NEW TRIER students. When will you realize that you are the cause of the war in Viet Nam, the race riots in Detroit, and all the stupidity and hatred in this world? I've had enough. I don't know what to do but I know that I am sick and tired of people not thinking and not caring. Don't bring me down.

'Bigot' letter gets reply...

To The Editor:

I'm writing in answer to Tom Goodkind's letter in the September 29 issue of the New Trier News. I agree that the student body of New Trier is shallow and narrow concerning racial relations.

However, I believe that you are equally shallow in berating them.

YOU CAN NOT condemn a school as a whole any more than you can condemn a race. I am sure that you and the members of Social Service have excellent goals in eliminating racial tension; but the students of New Trier have no idea how to cope with such problems.

New Trier is essentially a segregated school with an extremely high average income. Integration is a concept foreign to NT students.

I am aware of this problem. Do not criticize me because I choose to do nothing. We as a nation of men are not responsible for each other. I am not my brother's keeper.

I do not feel that you have the right to condemn me and a large portion of the student body because we pursue our own goals rather than those of the human race. As long as we do not step on others, as you have done in your letter, we have the right to do whatever we wish.

Geoffrey W. Sjostrom

From the archives: The article below was originally published Nov. 11, 1920

N. T. TO PRESENT ORIENTAL PLAY

Dates of Performance Are November 13 and 14

On Friday and Saturday evenings, November 13 and 14, the New Trier Dramatic club will present to the public that fantastic drama by Percy Mackaye, "A Thousand Years Ago." It is a difficult piece to produce, especially by amateurs. The settings are beautiful, gay and fascinatingly oriental.

Unusual as are these characteristics of the play, the plot is even more unusual. The author has dipped into the dramatic lore of the middle ages, selected four of the oldest comedy characters known, and adding a fifth character of his own imagination to be the leader of this medieval quartet, he places all five in a setting of the most extreme contrast he could conceive, the imperial orient. These five maskers flash through the scenes like gay meteors leaving ragged bands of light in their wake.

Twenty centuries ago, Harlequin, the most ancient of all comedians, first delighted audiences with his impersonation of an African slave. Always since that time, he has appeared in a black mask and skull cap. When Mr. Mackaye's play is given here at New Trier, the part of Harlequin will be played by Gail Southwell. From the Italian character, "Le Capitan," comes the well-known "Scaramouche," a bold, boisterous, blustering personage, always trying to impress others with

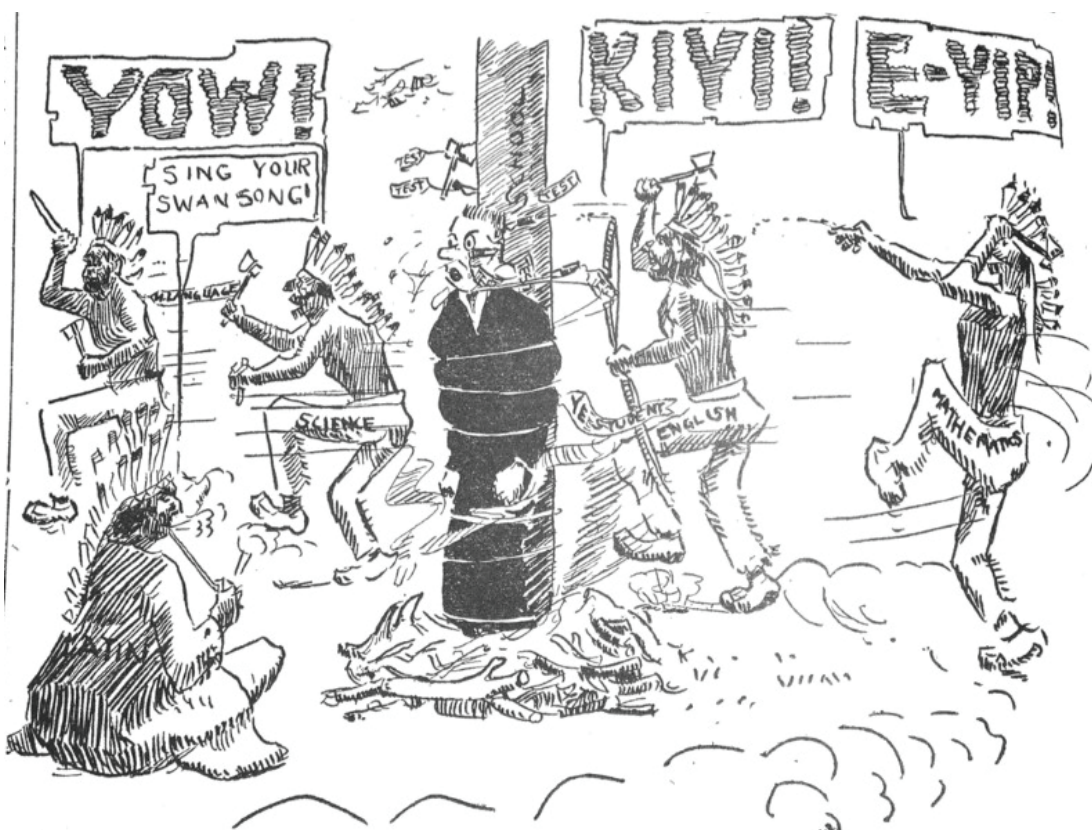
his own importance, but deceiving none but himself. This role is to be played by Stanford Sherman.

Punchinello, to be portrayed by Robert Kenyon, dogs the footsteps of Harlequin, clumsily mocking his grace and dainty ways. He is a hunchback, funny in spite of his deformity. The fourth masker, Pantaloon, is played by David Rumsey. This, also, is a type from the old Italian comedies.

Now, to act as leader of these maskers, the capricious playwright conceived the role of "Capocomico," the leading male character of his play.

Capocomico, played by Warrens Siebold, is gay, happy, never downhearted or discouraged. He is the very personification of romance and adventure, the lover of the world, meeting all difficulties with a smile. When he and his vagabond players were driven from Italy, they went to China where they found an empire in chaos because of the caprices of an unhappy princess. After the "If I Were emperor for one day in which he restores all to order and happiness. As a reward he asks for himself only a withered rose, though his four maskers receive four kingdoms as their share of his achievement. Then he springs away, and in the exuberance of his overflowing happiness, another he is off into the world again, there to seek "more roses and romance." Curtain.

From the archives: The cartoon below was originally published on Nov. 11, 1919. It dehumanizes Native Americans.



A Mid-year Nightmare

From the archives: The selection below was originally published on Apr. 20, 1920.

NEW TRIER NEWS
LETTERS OF A JAPANESE SCHOOLBOY.
Hon. Ed. (with whom am now familiar punch bag.)
Have you ever been to Hon. Mr. Harper's office? Too familiar you manufacture. Not at all to Hon. few who havn't gone there. I will circumscribe it:
ONTH. LOCATION. Somewhere near Spanish. Told to ask Hon. Bogardus.
TOOTH. SCENERY. Mostly dusty. Green and conical with some cylinders.
THREE. HISTORY. Discovered by Hon. Mr. Harper and by some who sent there.
Government. (CENSORED)
Population: varies inworsely to square of correctness of Hon. clocks.
Occupants. Hon. Mr. Harper and sinners.

Am authority on all this as was sent there last Newsday. I enter there with big leg shimmy because talk in study (?) hall. Ask why by the mean on boys. "Because can't chirp like Hon chicken" I promulgate velocipedestrianistically.
"Well go back to room," he rebate. I did same.
Hon. study hall preacher say "Don't let me catch you doing again." "Didn't mean to let catch me that time." I function. Am feeling queer in mentality.
Hoping you are the same.
HASHIMURA TOGO
Here is our weakly joke about Harlan: He's a great little ad writer. You know what we mean.
We know a reformed drunkard whose favorite hymn is: "Still, still, with thee e'er purple morning dawneth."

We need to broaden the range of racial representation in the media

Representation is including people of all backgrounds.

by Nadia Jaikaran

I'm not black. But, when I was younger, I found myself relating to black actors or black cartoon characters. Sure, I was obsessed with shows like Scooby Doo and Sam and Cat-- I loved the drama, cheesy jokes, and overly animated characters.

However, at a young age, I noticed the lack of racial representation in many television shows, and I constantly searched for a person of color. The moment they stepped on screen, I was captivated. Finally, someone who understands what it's like to live with a skin tone similar to my own. Finally, there was someone I could relate to.

The lack of racial representation bothered me, which is why I stand as an advocate for diversity in the media

because of the role it has in society. While there was some racial representation in the shows I watched as a child, I noticed "diversity" roles were mostly people of black or African American descent, which is why I identified with them.

We need role models of diverse backgrounds to show people that they aren't being categorized to society's given stereotype

Never in my life have I claimed African-American heritage. I've been raised to love my own and uplift others. I will not completely understand what it's like to be black, nor will many understand what it's like to be who I am.

But, I can relate to many struggles that I see African Americans representing in the media—like being sub-

ject to racially charged jokes or comments. There were times throughout my childhood where I was made fun of because of my skin color.

A while back, I went out to dinner with a friend and she asked if I had any illegal relatives because I am Mexican. When I was younger, a family on my block asked if my nanny spoke English, but my "nanny" was my mother. I grew up relating to black issues because it was the only minority issue that I could relate to. They were the only minorities—if any—represented in the media.

For a while, there weren't any Latinos or Caribbean actors in the media that I could see myself in. Only now as I've gotten older, I've noticed more representation, but it wasn't anything that I could personally relate to.

For example, the Hispanic characters from On My Block were in gangs or the only people of color in Bring it On were seen as sassy and brash. Both examples feed into harm-

ful stereotypes that allow viewers to subconsciously create a correlation between race and negative notions.

The media has the ability to influence the way we think and act, thus it is critical that who filmmakers choose to be on television platforms. When I say a "diverse" cast, I mean characters living in the center of their own lives—people who are doing "everyday" things, just as any protagonist, and not someone playing into a harmful stereotype. We need role models of diverse backgrounds to show people that they aren't being categorized to society's given stereotype, that they are so much more.

That being said, shows like Jane the Virgin and Fresh Off the Boat depict characters where the protagonist is living as a normal, everyday person who isn't living in the center of a stereotype.

Recently, I've noticed Latino music becoming more mainstream throughout the U.S., and honestly, it makes me super happy seeing people

outside my culture enjoying music that I grew up listening to.

I'm not saying we need to force ourselves to enjoy diverse music and television programs, but we should respect the inclusivity and support it. Inclusivity will only help society become more progressive and allow for more narratives.

In America Ferrera's TEDTalk she said "presence creates possibility" which serves as the foundation for a progressive society. Moving forward, we need to be more present—not just in the media, but in discussion. In order for society to progress, we need to embrace the diversity this country was built on.

We need to see representation in all ranges. It's not just a color wheel; this also calls for more representation in religion, sexual orientation, culture, disabilities, etc. We need to see everyday people who aren't forced into a stereotypical mold, rather people living in the center of their own lives.