

THE BANNER

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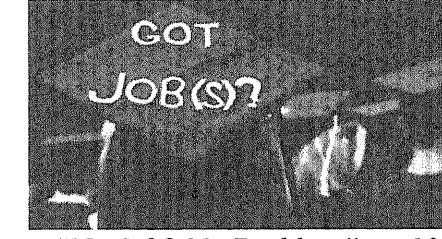
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Let the Post-Grad Adventure Begin

A Guide for Things You Can Do After Graduation

BY: VICTORIA IFATUSIN

Your long awaited college career has finally ended.

Graduation day was amazing; your family came to cheer you on and when they called your name, they held up a huge poster of your face. It was embarrassing, but not at that moment.

Pictures were taken, handshakes were given, and you probably said a speech that everyone enjoyed, and your mom cried too. But then you asked yourself, "What's next?"

Goals are usually set by students but are not accomplished due to the strenuous work that had been put on them, including you, to get them done. This comprises of homework, projects, studying for tests, and other secular activities like handling a job.

But now that it has all been put to a rest, there are many things that can be done after your college graduation, especially accomplishing your goals.

Many students are still interested in

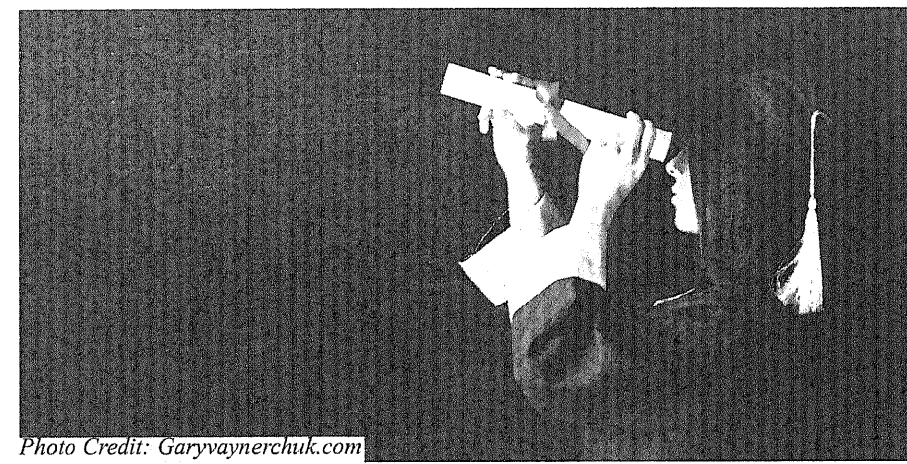


Photo Credit: Garyvaymerchuk.com

Deciding what path to take after graduation is scary, but necessary.

going ahead and obtaining further education, which is why graduate school is not a bad idea.

According to verywellmind.com, students with a bachelor's in psychology may not get as many job opportunities as one with a master's in the same major.

This is similar to other many other majors, although it can be said differently for someone who decides to get

an associate's in nursing.

Whatever the major may be, graduate school will definitely increase your knowledge in what you're pursuing. Not only that, but you will also have a higher chance of getting the desired job you want.

In college, many study abroad fairs were held, and this only increased your hopes of going to a country outside of

Continued on pg #4

Resumes, Cover Letters and CVs...

Oh My!

Looking as Good on Paper as You Do in Your Cap and Gown

BY: CLARA PEREZ

Graduation is the most exciting time in your college life and it's the start of a new adventure.

Everyone wants to land that perfect post-grad job, but you'll need to put in a little more work to do it.

With this next step, a revamp of your resume, creating a CV and a fully tailored cover letter are sure-fire ways to impress a potential new boss.

While you may have a resume saved on your computer from ages ago, you'll want to revisit it and make sure your layout, job descriptions and academic honors are all updated.

When describing previous employment, make sure to be specific, but not to a fault, and always "fluff" your de-

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Taking the Extra Step For Your Future: The Master's Degree

A Master's Degree Signifies a Higher Education, But is it Required?

BY: BROOKE PRICE

In today's workforce, some jobs prefer people to achieve a master's degree because it indicates that they are more serious about their career path. It's no secret that having a master's degree can signify having a higher education.

In an article written by fastcompany.com, over the years, companies are more likely to hire people who have a master's degree over those that do not.

The article claims that "Nearly a third (32%) of employers are bumping up education requirements for new hires. According to a new survey from CareerBuilder, 27% are recruiting those who hold master's degrees for positions that used to only require four-year degrees."

While a bachelor's degree indicates that you had received a good education, companies seem to prefer those who take the extra step and take the



Photo Credit: Bestmastersprograms.

initiative to achieve a higher degree.

A bachelor's degree generally takes around four years to achieve, while a master's degree may take six years.

While a bachelor's degree is required for most jobs, a master's degree is preferred. As a result, a master's degree recipient may get paid more than

those who have a bachelor's degree.

In an article written by study.com, a study from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) discussed the salaries of different professions who have a master's degree:

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One Degree Not Enough? CSI Has Plenty of Options

An Overview of Graduate Studies at CSI

BY: DOMINICK WOJTAS

Sometimes, having just one diploma doesn't make you feel like you've had enough education. It's okay to yearn for more knowledge, and there's plenty available if you just look around.

Perhaps four years of education is not enough to attain your dream job. Especially in today's competitive workforce, adding another degree under your belt will place you above others.

So fret no longer, because The College of Staten Island offers many post-grad education options for those striving to continue their education.

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7th Annual
Lavender Graduation Reception
Open to all graduating LGBTQ+ students

Honoring the lives and achievements of College of Staten Island's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Students

4 pm, Wednesday, May 30, 2018
1C-Green Dolphin Lounge

Please register/rsvp by going to:
<https://orgsync.com/125833/forms/304256>

For more information: LGBTQ Resource Center, 1C-226
Jeremiah Jurkiewicz 718-982-3091 jeremiah.jurkiewicz@csi.cuny.edu



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BANNER POLITICS

We Could Be The Change

The Future of Our Country Belongs in College Graduate's Hands

BY: CHERMO TOURE

With the political situation in the United States at a boiling point, it is hard to overlook and be indifferent towards politics, especially now that the real world is approaching.

Within the last ten years, many topics have become politicized. Things like Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP), to even broader topics like science, have since turned into political issues.

For instance, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), a solid 97% of scientists believe that climate change is man made and will have catastrophic effects on humans and the planet in the near future.

Yet our political leaders have not passed any substantial policy to combat climate change.

Especially due to our political leaders taking "campaign contributions" from political action committees (PACs) that represent the oil industry, the chances that there will be something done about climate change on a federal level is very unlikely.

Our political leaders are not just ignoring scientists, they are also ignoring the clamor of the people they hold a fiduciary responsible to.

In a Princeton University study on who really impacts public policy, scholars found that our political leaders barely pass laws that the vast majority of the people want. Instead, our political leaders follow their PACs and what other special interest groups want.

Furthermore, with the census, an extensive survey done by the population of the United States every 10 years, coming up soon, it is very crucial to be active and utilize your political voice in the upcoming election years.



Taking part in civic duties, such as voting, allows your voice to be heard.

Photo Credit: Gettyimages.com

When the census is taken, the district maps will be redrawn. This would allow our political leaders to gerrymander (a process of manipulating constituencies in favor of a political party or class) the district maps.

While gerrymandering a district based on the racial makeup of that district is illegal, partisan or political gerrymandering is completely legal.

Another political issue that our nation faces, is the tax system, which heavily favors corporations. Included in the recent tax cuts, which President Trump signed into law in December 2017, the corporate

tax rate went from thirty-five percent to twenty-one percent, and this is permanent.

Although there were tax cuts for middle and lower class people, those tax cuts have a "sunset" provision attached to them. After the tax cuts for the middle and lower class ends, their taxes increase.

With corporations getting tax cuts through President Trump's tax bill, corporations also get an additional tax cut through "tax repatriation."

According to Fortune Magazine, an estimated \$2.6 trillion dollars of corporate taxes lay idle in foreign banks. Corporations are demanding to pay less taxes on that \$2.6 trillion.

If an ordinary citizen was to try this, they would be in jail for tax evasion. However, large corporations can get away with it.

The military also has become a serious problem in the United States. According to National Priorities Project, the FY 2019 federal discretionary spending (\$1.19 trillion) had over fifty percent of the federal budget going to the military.

According to Forbes, the Pentagon and the Housing and Urban Development could not account for \$21 trillion that had been spent. Furthermore, the Pentagon also could not account for \$8.5 trillion that had been appropriated to the Pentagon since 1996, according to Yahoo Finance.

Time Magazine reports that the government spent up to \$1.45 trillion on the F-35 military jet. There was just one problem with the jet: it has problems flying.

Our government has plenty of mon-

ey to spend on the military, however our political leaders usually tell us that we're not able to afford tuition-free colleges.

According to USA Today, Senator Bernie Sanders's tuition-free college program would cost up to \$70 billion, far less than what our government spends on the military.

Minimum wage increase is much needed in the United States. According to the Economic Policy Institute, productivity from American workers has skyrocketed since the 1970's. However, hourly compensation for Americans has stagnated.

According to a report written by the Economic Policy Institute about raising the federal minimum wage to \$10.10, there would be an estimated net gain of \$22.1 billion in the economy, if the federal minimum wage was increased to \$10.10. This, in part, would be due to consumers having more money in their pockets to spend.

Also according to this report, there would also be an estimated 85,000 net gain in job creation. This is would also be due, in part, by businesses who would need more workers to service the consumers who have more money to spend.

With all these political issues weighing down, it may seem overwhelming to fix them. However, with more involvement in our civic duty, such as voting and activism, we can fix the situation in the United States.

As former President Barack Obama famously said, "We are the change you seek."

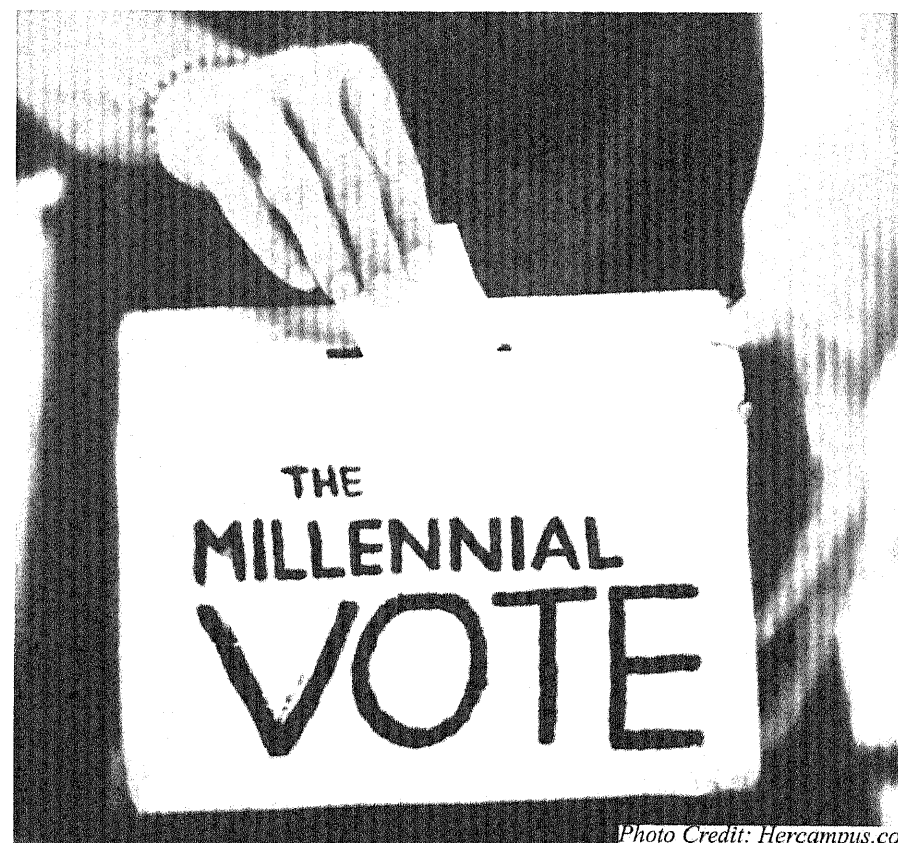


Photo Credit: Hecampus.com

BANNER NEWS

"Post-Grad Adventure" Continued from Front Page

your comfort zone. Thus, travelling could be a goal that you could check off on your bucket list.

Travelling to other places allows you to learn more about the place you're going to, besides what you've learned on the TV and in books. Along with that, you



Photo Credit: Popsugar.com

tend to learn more about yourself, what you love, and what you despise.

"But I don't have enough money for that," a college graduate may say when presented with this idea of traveling.

Yes, it is difficult to travel abroad without the financial aspect. But, you can start small by going to nearby places you've never been to.

It could be another country in your

area, or another state entirely. When you do this, you will find out if you're interested in travelling or not.

Speaking of money, finding a job with your degree is a great segue into independence.

As mentioned previously, nursing and other science related majors can get you the job you're looking for right away.

This will also allow you to make and save money for future goals like buying a house, a car, or travelling to your dream country.

It should also be noted that right after college, it isn't too late to get into an internship.

It is stressed that students should get an internship during their summer vacation before the next semester. Although, that doesn't mean you can't get an internship after graduation.

Obtaining an internship gives you more experience about your field and allows future employers to see you as a benefit for their company.

Now that you have more free time in the summer, and jobs may require experience, internships may be the logical option for you in case your field has high competition for people with bachelor's degrees.

If too much time passes with no job offers and you realize you may have chosen the wrong field, then maybe you should consider doing a trade.

As much as people put trade-learners down, they tend to make a lot more money than the average college graduate.

According to thesimpledollar.com, the average trade school graduate could make over \$70,000 a year by the time a college student graduates. This is due to the little time spent to learn the trade, compared to the time spent to obtain a degree.

Not only is it a fast program, but you are automatically guaranteed a job. It doesn't hurt to have a certificate and degree, in fact, it makes you look much more desirable to employers. Plus, you can help all your family members with their bathroom sinks.

You still want to go to school, but not now. Plus, in order to do the things listed above, you may need to consider having a gap year.

You would have the time to make money, to travel, and do other things before you go back to school. Although, one should be aware of the chance of not wanting to go back to school after the gap year is over.

During this gap year, other activities can also be done, like volunteering for a cause, meeting new people and regaining relationships, or even learning another language.

A freshly graduated student should not look at finishing college as the end of the world. Instead, it is a door opening or a new chapter that is written in your book.

Life is full of endless possibilities, you just have to take them when you can, and make it possible.

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BANNER NEWS

"Resumes, Cover Letters and CVs... Oh My!"

Continued from Front Page

descriptions to work in your favor. For instance, let's say you worked in the school's cafeteria but there's no glamour in describing that role of washing dishes and spooning mac n' cheese.

Use specifics about the job but make them work for you like instead of serving food to student body, try extensive customer service.

Instead of writing, "taking and placing customer orders," write about your experiences as a strength by saying instead, "effective at verbal communication."

Finally, instead of saying "washing dishes," use "organization and prep of services". You can do this with literally any job, no matter how unfulfilling it seemed to be.

By jazzing up how you describe your

duties in the workplace, it not only helps with resume building but can also help with interviews when asked about how such a job may have shaped you for this new one.

Be sure to keep your resume to one page. Many companies will not look at a resume that is convoluted and unnecessarily long. That's what your CV is for.

A CV is a whole other professional beast.

While most think its essentially the same as your resume, this is a misconception.

Also included in your CV is any pro-

fessional experience, certifications and skills.

While your resume limits you one page, a CV is your chance to elaborate on all of experience that makes you unique and qualified for a job or career.

Your CV should showcase anything you did in your college career that is relevant to your intended career such as term papers, final projects, experiments, publications, extracurricular activities and any courses you took that provide you with a specialized skill-set.

For example, if you want to be a journalist, you wouldn't include everything you've ever written, but instead would include papers that were highly investigative, persuasive and translative as these show skills needed for a career in journalism.

Keep the others for your portfolio-not your CV.

If you spent a semester abroad, always put that in your CV under your educational experience.

Not only does it show an adaptive and well-rounded attitude about education, it can always serve as a conversation starter for professionals to review your CV during an interview.

If you can get someone who has also traveled to that country or city and strike up a conversation about the food or the culture, you may just have a personable edge on the other candidates.

Try to keep your CV to about 2-3 pages. Anything more might seem excessive.

Finally, when it comes to your cover letter, sell yourself.

Confidence is key for a cover letter as this is your chance to write about yourself without a rigid format or in bulleted form.

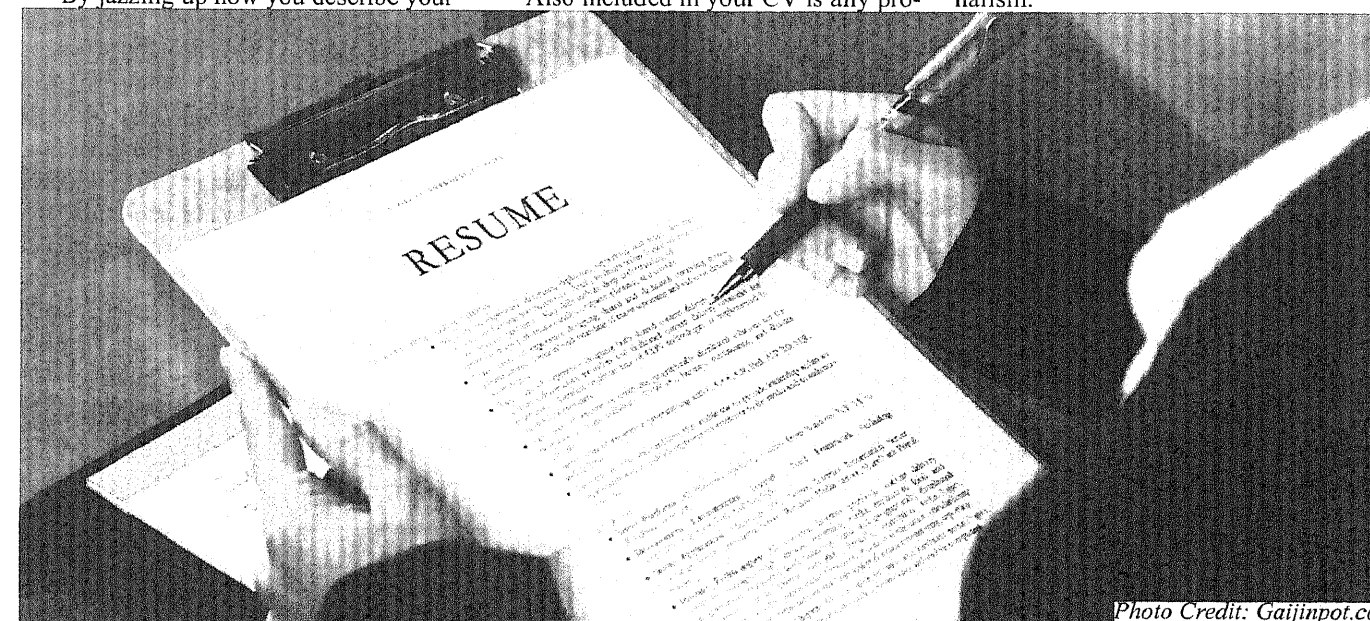
While you should always say that it would be a fantastic opportunity to work with the company, you should also tell them why you would be an asset to them.

Talk about your skills as a leader, a member of a team, with time management and adaptability.

No matter the job or company, those skills are required across the board.

Finally, make sure to thank them for their time and consideration and sign your cover letter at the bottom. "Regards" or "Best" is always classy, and is a perfect way to round up that winning cover letter.

Overall, presenting yourself in the highest regard on paper is the key to your future employers. While your college career may be over, your whole life is ahead of you-so get writing!



Revamping your resume is essential for your ideal post-graduation career.

Photo Credit: Gajinpot.com

"The Master's Degree" Continued from Front Page

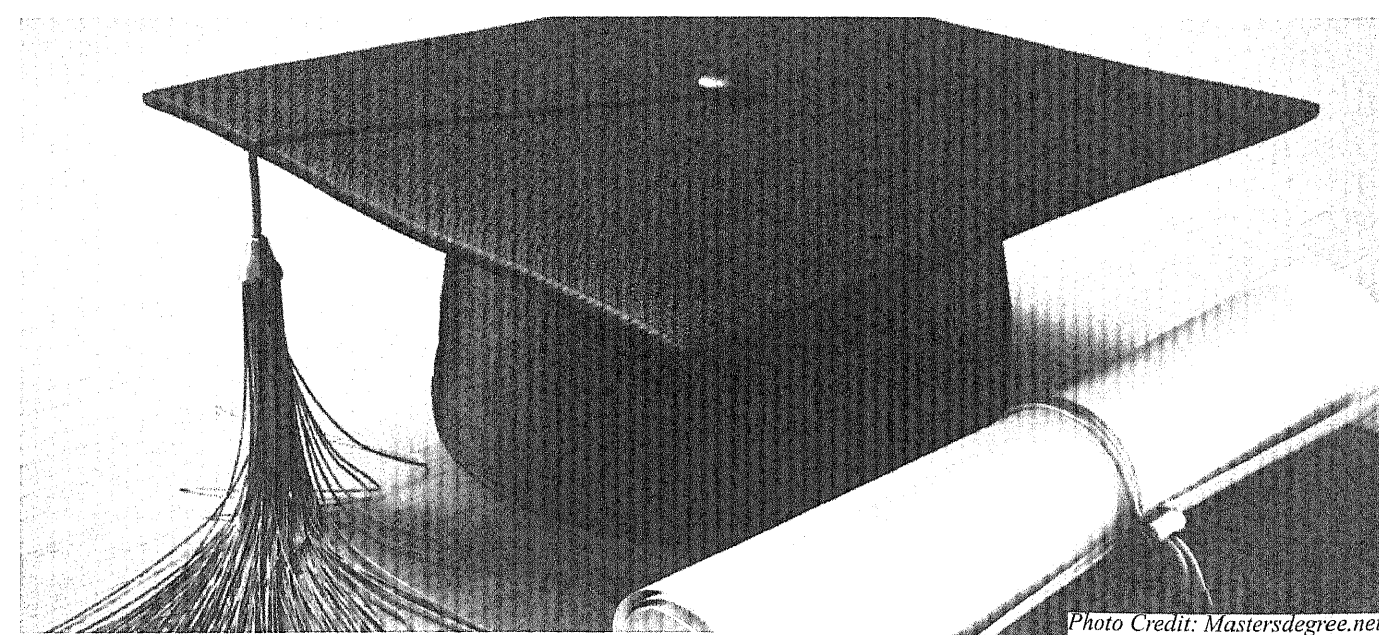
"A sample of median salaries for careers that require a master's degree, as provided by the BLS in May 2016, indicates that nurse practitioners made \$100,910 annually, education administrators made \$92,510, occupational therapists made \$81,910, physician assistants made \$101,480, and speech-language pathologists made \$74,680."

Study.com also referenced another study from The National Association of Colleges and Employers in which they recorded the salary for those who have a bachelor's degree in 2013.

They found that people who had a bachelor's degree in elementary education, history and nursing had an average starting salary of \$39,000, \$42,100 and \$52,000 respectively.

People who pursued a degree in engineering, such as chemical or mechanical engineering that only had a bachelor's degree had an average starting salary ranging from \$63,900 to \$96,200 according to The National Association of Colleges and Employers in 2013.

According to salary.com, public school teachers who had a bachelor's degree had salaries that ranged from \$52,520 to \$56,629. Public school teach-



Does the hard work for achieving a master's degree pay off?

Photo Credit: Mastersdegree.net

ers who had a master's degree had salaries ranging from \$53,045 to \$57,267.

In order to achieve a master's degree, you need to attend around two more years of college than you would with a bachelor's degree. You might even need to attend graduate school depending on the degree you want to pursue.

In addition, people can attend college to work on their degree, or they can simply take online courses from online colleges.

Information for geteducated.com in-

dicated that, "a master's degree program typically requires a year and one-half to two years of full-time study spanning 36 to 54 semester credits." This amount of credits equals around 12 to 18 college courses according to the website.

Due to the fact that achieving a master's degree requires you to go to school for a longer period of time, it can be proven costly.

Geteducated.com included that "The National Center for Education Statistics reports that the average cost for a mas-

ter's program tuition and fees is about \$16,435 per the 2012-2013 school year (based on in-state residency)."

Even though the steps to obtaining a master's degree can be quite costly and it is a difficult path to follow, it may secure a brighter future for you in the end.

By obtaining your master's degree, you have access to more job opportunities, as well as a higher income than those who apply to jobs that only have a bachelor's degree.

"One Degree Not Enough?" Continued from Front Page

CSI features 27 unique fields one can score a masters degree from. Some of the program concentrations include: accounting, biology, computer science, and a range of teaching degrees tailored to a specific grade of schooling.

Information about the various degrees can be found on the CSI website.

There, students will find a list of the graduate programs CSI has to offer as well as the coordinator/director and the application deadline for each particular program.

Prospective students are urged to apply online. The link to the application form as well as all other functions regarding the graduate admissions process can be found in the column menu on the left side of the page once you are on the graduate school webpage.

All applicants must pay a \$125.00 non-refundable fee to get their application processed.

Official transcripts from all post-secondary (education after high-school) institutions must be requested and sent CSI. CSI transcripts do not need to be requested as the Office of Recruitment and Admissions will obtain a copy.

Graduate Recommendation Forms

are not required for all programs; this will be evident once you read the specifics of your program of choice.

The format of the Recommendation Form for most programs involve the recommender to submit a written evaluation assessing the the applicant's potential for success both academically and professionally.

If an applicant has taken graduate courses within the last five years at an accredited college or university, these courses may be accepted at the discretion of the coordinator of the graduation program.

A maximum of 12 graduate credits in graduate courses, with a minimum grade of 3.0 (B) in each, may be applied toward a graduate degree from the College of Staten Island.

There are also other program-dependent forms one may have complete listed under the Application for Transfer Credit link.

All paper applications/forms must be submitted to the Office of Recruitment and Admissions; the address is provided at the bottom of the Graduate Forms page.

On campus events are also held to provide greater insight on a specific program.

During the months of February and March, potential applicants are welcomed to attend any of these events which are held in various classrooms throughout the school.

Under the "Pre-Admission Services & Events" tab, one will find the events listed, along with their date/time and specific location. The website asks you to RSVP to the events and provides a link to the online form where you may do so.

What to do post-bachelor's can prove rather frustrating. Many students often want to continue their education, but don't exactly know what type of program they'd like to pursue or their most recent school has few options.

Fortunately, CSI hosts many degree-bearing programs along with resources capable of removing any uncertainties a prospective graduate student may have.

Naturally, the answer to every question or concern one may have regarding a graduate program will not be found online.

If you have specific questions about a program or the application process, feel free to contact the Office of Recruitment and Admissions at 718.982.2019 or by email at masterit@csi.cuny.edu to make an appointment with an advisor or a faculty program coordinator for an individual pre-admission advisement session.



There are plenty of options for a student pursuing a Master's degree at CSI.

Photo Credit: Mastersdegree.net

LIFESTYLES

Special Gifts for the College Graduate

Every Graduate Can Receive a Nice Present No Matter the Budget

BY: JESSICA SCARIMBOLO

When May and June comes around every year, everyone knows it is time for an abundance of graduation ceremonies, parties, and a whole lot of gifts.

This means you too; it is about that time for you to get gifts for the special people in your life.

If your significant other, your sibling, or your best friend is celebrating a graduation, you may be worried about what to get them since they are so important to you.

Firstly, if you are interested in getting a more expensive gift, you should consider getting something personalized.

You can get a frame with their class year on it, or a piece of jewelry with the name of their school engraved on the inside.

There are endless cute ideas to choose from if you are considering a personalized gift to match your person's interests.

Another special idea that is much cheaper to do would be to create a little box or gift basket for the person you love.

You can fill the box with confetti that matches their school colors, add a mug or a wine glass, fill it with some of their favorite candy, and you are good to go.

You can make up a personalized gift box for under \$10 if you go to the right stores and get the right items. You can even get a sticker sheet filled with pretty letters

to write the person's name on the top of the box.

It is recommend getting any graduate, no matter what degree they are graduating with, a bottle of their favorite alcohol. If they went to high school, college or graduate school, they have worked their ass off and they could certainly use a nice drink to celebrate their hard work.

You can get their favorite liquor or maybe a bottle of wine that matches their school colors—make it festive.

You may want to get them a little book that is representative of what they have been studying, or their favorite class in school.

For example, you can get a psych major a book a "Psychology for Dummies" book or for an English major, a Shakespeare play.

Keep the person receiving the gifts in mind; if you are close enough to get them a personal present, you definitely know the things they would like to receive as a gift.

Another thing a stressful student would love to receive is something to help them relax and along with their drink.

If your girlfriend loves taking baths, get her a bath bomb in her favorite scent, or for your boyfriend, a shower set that he'll love.

You can even print out a bunch of photos of you and the person and write hand-



A homemade gift box personalized to give your favorite graduate.

written notes on the back of each photo, just reminding them how much you love them and how proud you are of all they have accomplished now that they are graduating.

Buy a frame set, photo album, or a scrapbook to put an assortment of photos and remind your person of all the amazing memories you have together. Leave some open space in a photo album or a scrapbook to allow them to continue adding photos as your relationship grows.

Getting a gift for someone for their graduation does not have to be expensive. It should represent things you know they love and would use, while also expressing how proud you are of them for this incredible accomplishment.

Whatever you get, make sure to include a card that you have written out. Whether you spend \$10 or \$100 on the gift, a handwritten note or card may be the piece of the gift that touches the person the most.

College Students Glam it Up for Graduation

Students Spend Massive Amounts of Money on Hair and Makeup for Graduation

BY: TAMAR BELFONT

Has anyone ever wondered why people take extreme measures to look fabulous on their graduating day as if it was their wedding?

According to collegescorecard.ed.gov, the graduation rate at CSI has been as low as 28.2% since 2014. With this in mind, students who graduate should especially be celebrated.

Even though the acceptance rate at CSI is 100%, not everyone can leave college with a degree. The college has over 13,000 enrolled on campus but only a few thousand get to throw the motorboards in the air at the end of the semester.

For many seniors, graduation is a time to dress up and spend massive amounts of money to look beautiful before walking down the aisle, looking good for the camera.

Both males and females will spend hundreds of dollars on an outfit and styling their hair.

"People from every race come over here and add little weave into their hair for a fuller

and more volume for a bounce in their hair," said Ashlyn, a well-known hair stylist who travels all over and owns a hair studio in addition to a barbershop with her friend.

"I sometimes make a little over a \$800 a day sewing and styling my clients hair because I do charge \$150 just for sewing the hair."

Penny, the owner of a hair salon called

Elan's, on Staten Island, says her favorite time of the year is graduation, prom, and wedding season because she receives the most clients.

Sometimes, she likes to give regular clients discounts for events such as weddings, birthdays and, of course, graduation.

She will give between 25-50 percent off for her client's hairstyles, and her reg-

Ashlyn is normally a very expensive hair stylist and takes care of clients from all different races.

For graduation, Ashlyn said she receives about 30 clients a year who ask her to make them look like Beyoncé, or as if they were going to be at the Grammys.

Many of her clients want a different look than on graduation than how they

makeup, such as powder, foundation, eyeliner, but nothing beats a fresh, full face of makeup done by a professional makeup artist.

Around graduation time, MAC and Sephora have special deals for students. At MAC, if a person spend around \$40-50, they can receive a free face beat, but this deal normally runs on weekends.

Future graduates pay between \$60-70 for a full-face beat, including lashes, for a flawless look, whereas at Sephora, a person pays between \$50-60 for a full flawless beat including lashes.

However, not all makeup artists work for MAC and Sephora; some own their own businesses.

Christina, a well-known makeup artist on Staten Island, charges \$70 for a full-face beat including glitter, cat eye, and lashes, but a regular face beat minus those features is \$50. Students must book her months in advance.

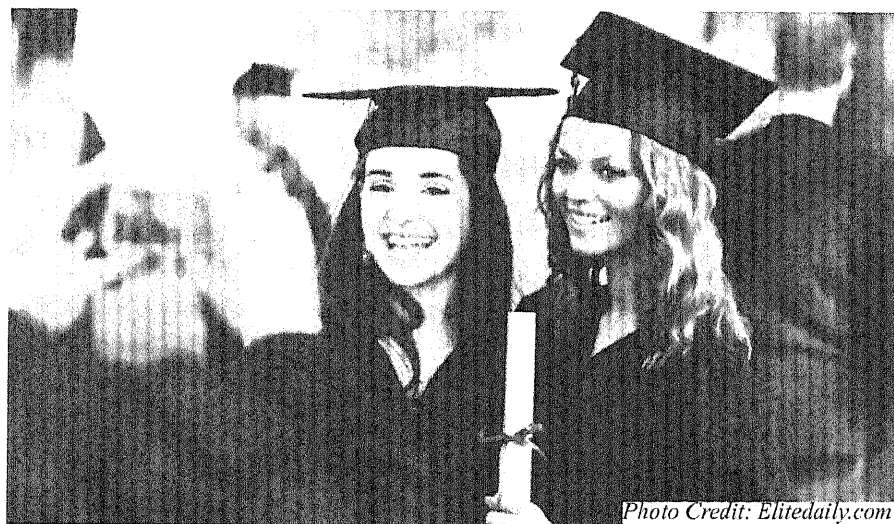
Even Christina acknowledges that this is the season for anyone in the beauty business. "Any makeup artist can agree with me, when I say they make the most money during May-August because of prom, graduation, and weddings."

On graduation day, every single person walking toward the podium has a fresh face and new hair-style. Many would say spending \$200-\$500 is a lot, but at the end of the day, splurging to look good and feel good on your special day is all worth it.

normally look for a regular school day. Her clients with long hair want to cut their hair and have a shorter look and vice versa for clients who have short hair.

Students would come into her salon with short or long black hair and leave with blonde, blue, red, or gray hair most likely to be curly.

Everyone loves putting on simple



Glammed up graduates posing for a picture.

ular clients spend around hundred dollars less for their graduation hairstyles because of the discounts.

There is nothing wrong with adding hair extensions to your already natural beautiful hair. Around the time of graduation, a lot of women love to add extensions to their hair to give it a fuller, beautiful look.

LIFESTYLES

Throwing A Do-It-Yourself Graduation Party to Remember

A Guide to Celebrating Your Commencement with a Bang

BY: VERONICA PISTEK

On commencement day, most of us would much rather be in someone's backyard having the time of our lives than listening to another long, drawn out speech.

Get ready to throw a party to remember with these creative DIY projects.

Planning a party may seem just as stressful as college, but the truth is that if you want an aesthetically pleasing event that engages and entertains your guests, putting in the work is time consuming and necessary—but totally worth it.

Reflecting on your past years of schooling will bring back a beautiful sense of nostalgia and inspire you to find photos from your youth to show how much you have grown.

This first DIY takes your life timeline and showcases all of your best moments, and ultimately how much you have changed.

For this memory board project, you will need anything from a poster board, old wooden pallets, or a couple of picture frames.

To start off, choose your preferred medium. Gather pictures from kindergarten all the way through college.

You can organize the photographs in a timeline, yearbook photo style, or even make a heartfelt collage.

Another idea that you can create is a photo board that incorporates not only

photos, but also sentimental items. Some of these items can be trophies and medals you have won throughout your youth, or your first dance costume or karate belt.

This celebration is all about you and your achievements, so showcase all of the moments both big and little that helped you get to where you are today.

Once you have gathered enough nostalgia, get ready for the decorations. Whether you have a specific theme, such as a luau, your school colors, or just a simple graduation theme, there are endless possibilities.

One essential decoration that is fun for you and your guests is a photo booth area. This does not have to be expensive or grand, but you can definitely make it cute and simple.

Head over to your local craft store and decide how you want your photo booth to look. One specific graduation-inspired idea is a streamer backdrop.

Find streamers that sparkle and grab a curtain rod to mount. Drape the streamers over the rod and cut to the length desirable.

To add some color pop and excitement, add a cute triangle banner with graduation related words and big balloons that match your color scheme.

Every fun photo-booth also needs props. You can buy a bunch of wooden craft sticks, search the web for pictures, and easily glue them onto the sticks.

This does not have to be traditional;

play around with your graduation caps and make a frame out of a white poster board, personalize it and selfie away.

One cannot forget the most important aspect of a party: the food and refreshments. This is your time to shine and showcase the cute Pinterest baking and cocktail ideas you have been dying to make.

Get that candy table ready to fill with sweets and treats. Whether you want to have a DIY ice cream sundae station with different toppings, or bake graduation cap-themed cake-pops, cookies, and cupcakes, your guests will want to satisfy their sweet tooth.

To make the most photo-worthy beverages, buy mason jars with chalkboard labels for guests to put their names on them and take it home as a favor.

Guests can fill their glasses with summer-appropriate sparkling pink lemonade, Shirley Temples, or your favorite alcoholic punches.

If you plan on having your guests, be sure to pull out a fire pit, some graham crackers, marshmallows, and chocolate.

Having a bonfire with smores will make your feel guests feel comfortable and cozy, and gather everyone together before you all start the beginning of the rest of your lives.

To remember this fun-filled party, another fun idea might be to create a hashtag or a snapchat filter that your guests can use.



Photo Credit: LaurenConrad.com
A fun DIY photo booth backdrop idea.

Gathering precious in-the-moment photos from your family and friends will be useful if you want to create a photo album or scrapbook that includes all of your guests.

These DIY projects only scratch the surface of the endless ideas that you can create. Be sure to keep all of your party elements true to your style and ultimately enjoyable for your guests.

It's almost time to throw your cap in the air. Get ready to throw a graduation celebration that you will remember forever.

Millennials Making it in the Real-World: Investing in the Essentials

Adulting Has Never Been Easier With These Items

BY: VERONICA PISTEK

Many of us go through four years of college studying for exams and making close friendships, but neglect learning how to iron our clothes for an interview—or even know to prepare a home cooked meal that is not ramen noodles.

As graduation season is nearing, it is important to remember that the real world is ahead and there are many essential items that will be needed sooner than we think, yet they have not crossed our minds.

Adulting not only calls for doing the dishes, learning how to do your laundry, and keeping your space organized and clean, but also learning how to be your own gourmet chef.

In our digital age, a recipe or cookbook app is just a click away. Whether you already think you know how to cook a mean chicken cutlet, learning new tasty experiments will make you feel like you are one step closer to having everything figured out.

Maintaining a nourished body also means a sustaining a nourished mind. As we transition into whatever our next step is: a new job, graduate school, your dream career, a new trade, or just travelling the world, missing out on a meal is just as easy as forgetting to hydrate.

In order to make sure you have the most energy for the busy day ahead, you should invest in a lunch box and reusable water bottle. A fresh lunchbox will remind you to eat, as well as saving you a few bucks from

purchasing food every time that you are out and about.

Another item that many have in the real world is a grocery store rewards card. By building up points, you can score some fresh meat and vegetables to cook for lunch and dinner without breaking your bank.

Once you learn that meal prepping and filling up your handy water bottle will save you time, money, and exhaustion, you can treat yourself with that extra money to splurge on a night out with some friends or save the cash, as a responsible adult would.

Staying healthy is the key to staying motivated. Something that many college graduates may have not invested in is a new pair of running shoes.

Buying these new shoes will keep you on track and remind you that going to the gym or walking outside for an hour will not keep you behind schedule.

So, remembering to sneak in a workout during your busy week will recharge your body and also help you maintain muscle that can quickly fade throughout your adult years.

Though college may have ended and you sold all of your expensive textbooks, reading is just as important as it was in English class.

Whether you want to kick it old school with a physical book to read on-the-go or download some e-books, maintaining the tradition of reading will keep you grounded, educated, and provide some excitement during your daily commute.

Just as important, subscriptions to a few news sources or even just checking up on the news quickly will remind you that you are an adult. The real world is here and you are living in it, so keep up with the head-

lines that might impact you and your future.

As opportunities will hopefully be knocking at your door, having a couple of business-professional outfits is a small, but imperative key to success.

Looking the part is also making the part. Head over to the mall or shop your favorite stores for a blazer, suit, blouse, or dress that strikes your style. Also, do not forget to invest in an iron to prevent looking like a wrinkled-mess.

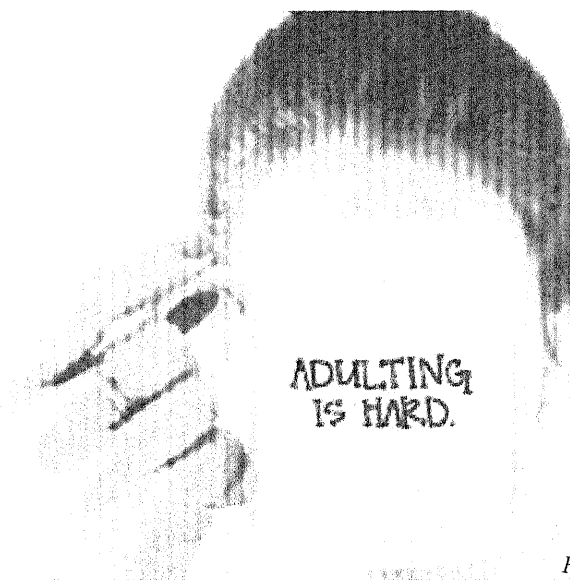
Ultimately, dressing professionally also means being taken seriously by future employers or peers and gaining respect for yourself, the potential interviewer, and the business or school you are hoping to become a part of.

One cannot forget that money is at the root of adulthood survival. Applying for and obtaining a credit card is one of the best long-term actions that you can take.

Building your credit score from a young age can help you buy a car and house with exceptional ease, and also establish you as a credible and responsible adult that can manage their own finances. So, take it step by step. Download your credit card app and stay on top of your balance.

Last but not least, never forget where you came from. Whether you are still living home after college or embarking on a new journey into an apartment or house, print out some nostalgic memories and frame them.

It is easy to get caught up in striving for success and working long hours to prove something for yourself. If you go home and are reminded of the love and support from your family members and close friends, making it in the real-world will seem a bit more possible.



Navigating adulthood is about maintaining a healthy balance.

Photo Credit: Google.com

POST GRADUATION

Leave Your Love After College or Go Long Distance?

How To Consider Your Relationship After Graduation

BY: DOMINICK WOJTAS

You can see it now—dressed in a cap and gown, smiling as your family forces you to pose for graduation pictures.

Everything is going well—no more night-shift cramming sessions, no more college-level arthritis from typing pages without end.

You may have a job lined up now, perhaps in an exciting foreign location.

Yet there is a biting aspect of your life that needs to be dealt with. It lingers in your mind as they call your name, about to walk across the podium.

What is to become of your current relationship?

Perhaps your secondary school bae has been there by your side through the thick and thin of college life. You've stood your ground, disregarding the mating calls of various temptors or temptresses.

You both have safely drove each other through the mental breakdowns associated with excessive schoolwork.

But, the truth is that times are changing. You're both about to start the next chapter of your lives, it's title: "Reality."

In this new chapter, you'll have to weigh certain factors certain to challenge your current relationship.

The job market now has no borders. Your dream job may have opened its arms to you on the other side of the country.

Your significant other has landed a job 10 miles away from campus.

Turning down your dream job just to be near your significant other may very likely become a decision that will infinitely haunt you with regret.

Essentially, planning your post-graduation life around your current partner will only cause you to resent them as they are the indirect cause of you giving up on your dreams. In the back of your mind this offense will be unforgivable.

The only way around this is a

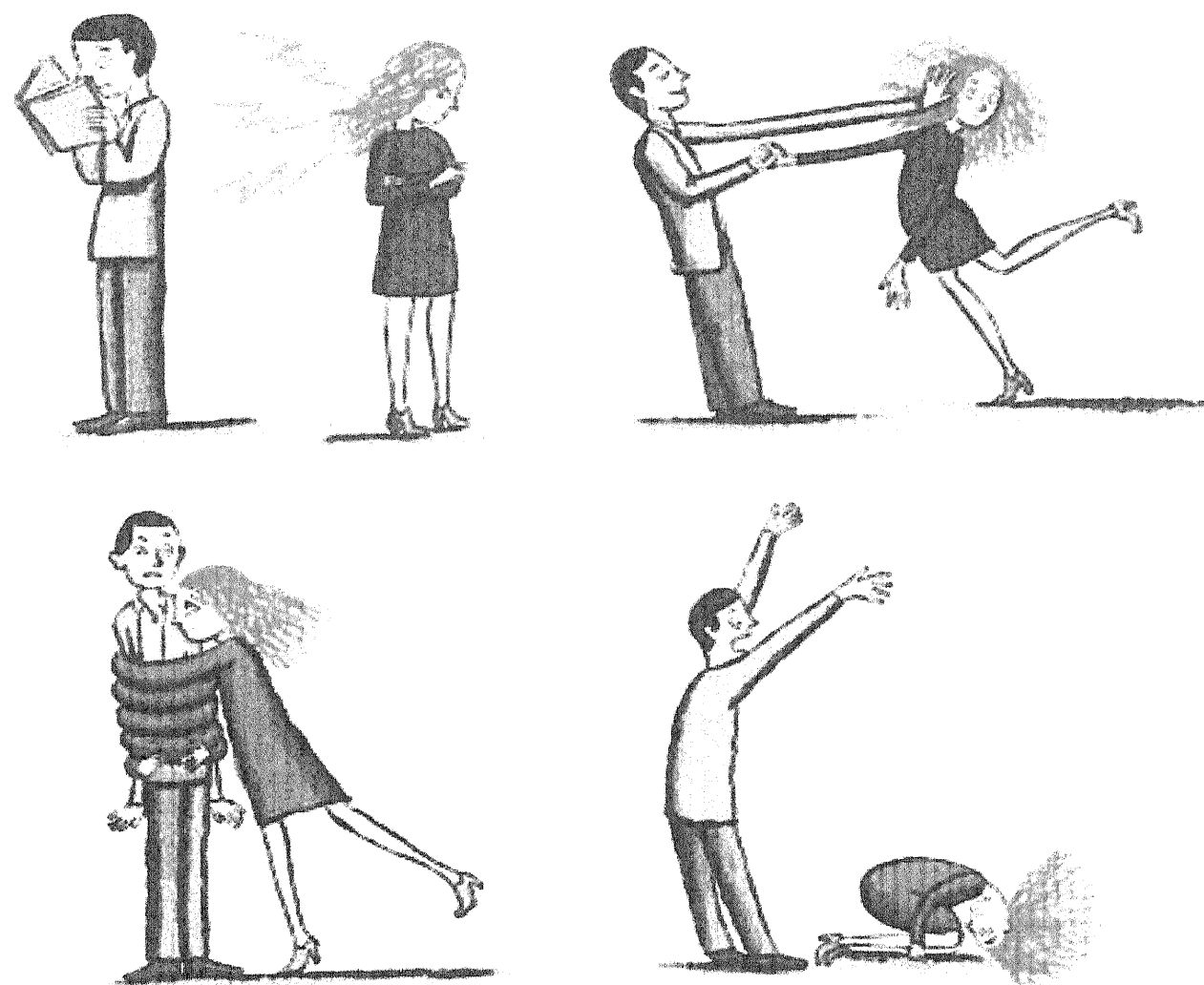


Photo Credit: Theispost.com

Juggling relationships and career pursuits can be quite a challenging obstacle to overcome.

long-distance relationship.

These three words alone are enough to cause significant grief, but this grief is honestly unwarranted, for long-distance relationships may actually improve communication.

Studies show that in a long-distance relationship, couples share more about themselves through different platforms of communications such as SMS, chats,

video calls and phone calls.

This distance can help you express deep feelings toward your significant other without the fear of being judged or respected in real-time.

Statistics show that 75% of all engaged couples have been (at some point) in a long distance relationship.

Long distance love is common. Millions of people are loving each other from

afar at any given time. Though it is not ideal, long distance love may cause the heart to grow fonder.

Fortunately, due to the advent of smartphones and the internet, it has become easier for couples remain in each others pockets at all times.

The only unreplicable key component of a relationship is physical touch. The absence of it comes easier for some than others. Remaining alone for an extended period of time is a test of will. If you both pass, it will only bring you closer.

If you falter out of temptation or loneliness, perhaps it was never meant to be anyway, and being in this LDR brought you necessary clarity.

Maybe you guys are quiet liberal. You still love each other but feel that remaining alone will significantly reduce your access to life's pleasure.

Seeing other people while apart may even strengthen your bond. Dating new people can either prove or disprove the solidity of your current relationship.

You may date others only to realize that with each date your longingness for your significant other only grows. Or, perhaps you might end up finding a suitor more tailored toward your needs.

Whatever the case, despite all of the post-graduation emotional uncertainty, it is important to remember that the universe has a way of working things out.

Photo Credit: Hercampus.com

POST GRADUATION

The Uncertainty of Life After Graduation

Graduation is Over, Time to Make Decisions That Affect Your Future

BY: JESSICA SCARIMBOLO

So, you're graduating college with your bachelor's degree...what now?

For some, you are free to begin your career now that you have your degree; however, for others, you need to get your master's degree before even being considered for a job in their field.

You are probably being bombarded with the question: "What are you doing after graduation?"

Remember not to panic. Whatever you choose to do will be the best for you; no one can make this decision for you, though many will try to offer their opinion.

Other friends who are graduating may feel that they know exactly what they want to do with their lives, and it is okay if you don't yet.

Your own personal question still stands: should you graduate from your undergrad studies and go immediately into your graduate studies or career, or should you take a year off?

Some may fear that after you take a year off, you will lose motivation and you won't want to continue after that year is over. This is definitely a reasonable fear, but if you know yourself and understand that returning back to school will help better your credentials for your career, it should motivate you to continue.

You may even be worried that you could lose a job opportunity if you take a year off. If you are being offered a job position that seems like it won't wait for you, it may be best for you to take the job and

avoid that year off.

If you are someone who is choosing a career that makes them happy, maybe taking a year off after graduation feels unnecessary for you.

Remember your happiness and your mental state. If you feel that jumping into your next phase of life immediately after graduation will only overwhelm you and make you unhappy, it is unnecessary.

Taking time off after graduation may be healing for you; if you are going to take time off, you should use it to relax and learn who you are before you go into the job force.

Maybe you are going to spend that time off working full-time to prepare you for your career, or maybe you will travel abroad or do a dream internship.

You may be graduating and do not feel completely confident in your job choice. This may be the perfect reason to take a gap year.

It also may be scary to think that from when you entered kindergarten to when you graduated college, the average American student spends 17 consecutive years in school. So maybe you feel that before you enter the job force for the rest of your life, you have some unfinished things you want to accomplish.

If you have made the decision to take time off after graduation, make sure you are doing something to better yourself.

Don't take a year off just to sleep and eat chips on your couch while binge-watching Netflix, though that does seem incredibly tempting.

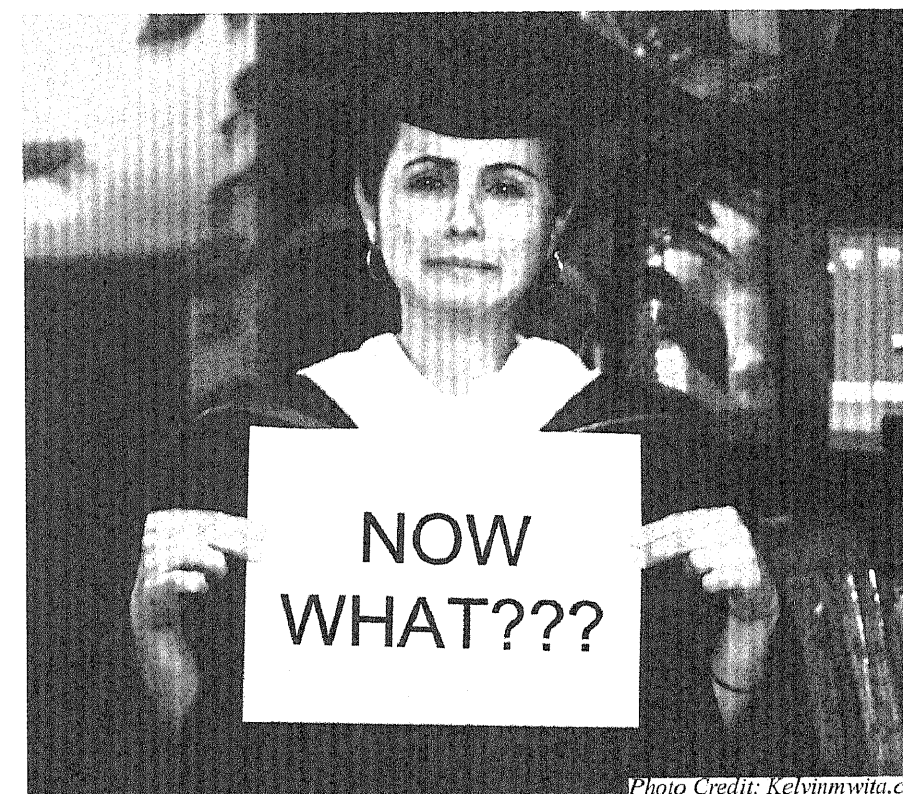


Photo Credit: Kelvinnwita.com

Stressing about how much your next decision after graduation will affect your whole life.

Research from the American Gap Association showed that taking gap years after graduating has an abundance of benefits, such as helping you feel confident in your career choice and being more successful in your career.

Some who have chosen to go abroad while taking their time off have found that they learned valuable skills while being away, like learning things they would not have discovered about themselves if they had not chosen to take the year off.

No one will be able to tell you what is

best for you and your future. If you decide to take the year off to better yourself, do it.

Go travel the world or do things you have always wanted to do but couldn't because of your school schedule.

If you want to put your career first and jump right into it after graduation, you are free to do that, as well.

Your life and your future are yours to create, so make sure you do whatever will help you enjoy it to the fullest.

Breaking Down the Post-Grad Blues

Self-Doubt Getting You Down? You're Not Alone.

BY: LUCIA ELMI

Graduation is slowly creeping in and for those of you that are still kicking, you're putting your last power kick into getting those papers in, and studying to get those A's on your finals.

For the rest of you, well—you know who you are. You're waiting around for the end to finally come so you can finally stop making excuses for why you've been slacking off. Using the cliché "senioritis" excuse has become used up and dried away, and quite frankly, no one buys it anymore.

Then we have the next subcategory



Photo Credit: Dalgazette.com

Many of us may find ourselves in midst of post-grad blues this graduating season.

of people, branched off into two groups. The first group are those that are relieved to finally break free from the shackles of the all-night gloom and high-strung stress routine of college life.

All you're dreaming about is the bliss of soporific relaxation and a rule-free lifestyle. For you, now that timelessness is a virtue, the sky's the limit.

Then we have the next group, the not-so-peachy people that shrink away at the mere inkling of anything related to graduation. It makes you tense up, and then your thoughts start spinning with a single question in mind: now what?

You are about to enter a new phase in your life, one where routine is just a thing of the past and all of your friends will take their own roads less traveled.

This world is big place—there are so many people to see, so many new experiences to have, and with that comes challenges you may have never faced before. It makes you wonder where your place is in the grand scheme of things.

First thing to recognize is that you aren't alone. There are plenty of soon-to-be graduating students that have those same worries, although you may not realize it.

Everyone seems to have their life together, and they keep their heads up high, like nothing can knock them down. They appear to know what they're going to do once they graduate and enter the real world.

That's where the truth ends: they seem to know what they're doing. But, do they really?

That's the beauty of a thing called survival bias, the ultimate puppet master of reality. Survival bias or survivorship bias is the false assumption that someone or something overcame a difficult conflict or life circumstance, making it seem as though success seems to be within reach of everyone else (the supposed majority) except you.

This fails to take into consideration that the number of failures is actually much greater than the number of successes, and the only reason no one knows this is because those failures remain largely invisible.

For example, let's consider this. Turn the clock back a bit and recall the time your high school senior class got their acceptance letters from colleges. Day after day, your classmates came in with the exciting news that they got into Harvard or Yale or any of those top universities you could dream of getting into.

And then you receive your letter, disappointed (but half expecting it) to find that you got into a local community college. Not that that's a bad thing, but it definitely doesn't bring the same glory if you were getting into a top university across the country.

This does not mean you are doomed to fail. It means that it pays for you to look at things from a different perspective.

Life is about the journey, not the destination. If you don't know what your future looks like, it's okay.

We all go at our own pace, so take your time and enjoy the little things that come your way. You'll find your way there soon enough.

GRADUATE ADVICE

Confessions of a College Graduate

What You Need to Know From an Experienced College Student

BY: JESSICA SCARIMBOLO

As a soon-to-be college graduate, it is only fitting to enlighten people on what to expect in their four years and as graduation gets closer.

First, saying that college is "the best four years of your life," is definitely subjective. Commuting during my college years felt very much like my high school years, except much less fun.

When your mom tells you to get involved in activities and clubs in school, listen to them. It is important to stay true to yourself and continue doing the things you like to do, even throughout college.

Also, your high school teachers were right; your college professors will not care if you're there or not. While you may have a select few professors who will reach out to you when you're absent, it is often your responsibility to catch up if you are absent from class.

You may even have classes so big that your professors don't know your name, or even your face. This becomes dangerous because the urge to be excessively absent increases, especially if your professor does not take attendance.

Weigh your options. If your professor uploads all the notes to Blackboard and does not take attendance, take your absence.

If you know you are going to miss an abundance of notes that will prepare you for the final exam, it may be a good idea to go to class even when your professor doesn't take attendance.

This college graduate will never tell you to go to every single meeting for every single class. You get those absences for a reason, and I have never let an absence go unused.



Graduates throwing up their caps at the end of the commencement ceremony.

Photo Credit: Freeimages.com

Most importantly, senioritis and more fittingly, "spring semesteritis" is still so real. Since most colleges go by semesters, you now have two seasons where you lose motivation way faster than you should.

The first is usually after Thanksgiving break in the fall semester. It is basically a proven fact that you are now in "end of semester" mode.

The semester officially comes to an end in the middle of December and even professors start to lose their motivation

after returning back from Thanksgiving break.

Even worse than this, though, is the time following spring break in the spring semester. Even though you still have nearly a month left of school after spring break, sometimes even two months, it is undeniable that at this point, you are ready for the semester to end.

I'd love to tell you that it is okay to slack off at these times in the semester, but you have to push through. Remember

that you can cry and sleep after you get your degree.

It also may be assumed that once you graduate college, you have your whole life together. This is quite the opposite.

After you graduate college you may have a degree, but you do not necessarily have your whole life planned out the way dreamed it would be when you were younger.

You may be graduating and going back to live with your parents, or you may be receiving your degree without an actual job waiting for you.

All of these things are okay. College is a place and a time when you learn about yourself and who you are.

For some people, college education takes eight years, while it may take three for others.

You may have switched your major multiple times or you may have been offered a job at your dream location after graduating.

Remember, the person you are sitting next to at graduation will be at a different place in their life than you are—and that is okay.

College is absolutely not the end of your life, it is just the beginning.

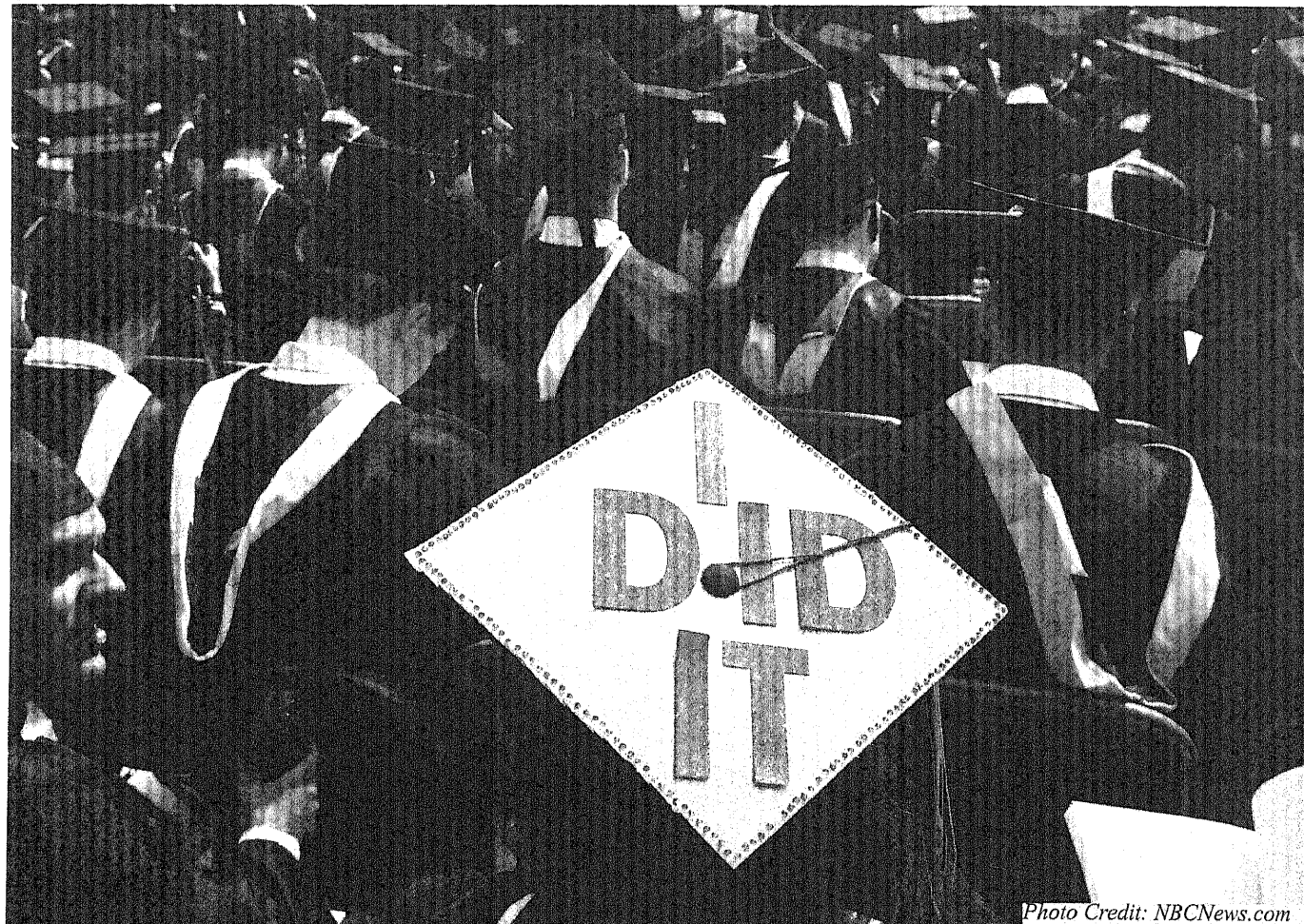


Photo Credit: NBCNews.com

WHAT'S NEXT?

Tying Up Loose Ends Before Graduation

Putting in the Last Effort Before Your Special Day

BY: ROSEANNE CASSAR

For all students who are graduating on May 31, there is still time to make sure you are ready for commencement. Get ready to use your last drop of motivation for your last final exams and preparing for your special day.

It is almost your time to shine, so get cracking and finish off your college education on a high note.

Students still have to study, as the need to pass all of your classes is essential. Yes, it's a pain in the neck, but nothing tops the feeling of accomplishment that comes along with pushing through.

Remember to double or triple check your syllabi to make sure you are caught up on handing things in. If you have any late or missing work, than you might miss out on some crucial points.

As a student, a checklist is always a helpful tool to use when things come to the wire during the semester. Be sure to submit the last minute assignments to end college with your best efforts.

You can also use a planner or calendar to write important information down,

such as the important due dates. Once the heavy workload is somewhat lifted off your shoulders, then you can finally think about what to wear for graduation.

For most ladies, picking out dresses, booking hair, nail, and makeup appointments is imperative at this point in the semester.

For most guys, picking out the perfect suit and dreading about wearing uncomfortable shoes is the present reality.

So, start making plans for an after-graduation party with family and friends. If you are planning to drink, remember to drink wisely and responsibly.

This is not only time for freedom and fun, but also the time to reflect what we have accomplished in the last four years. As students, we all have come a long way and owe ourselves a huge pat on the backs.

There will also be mixed feelings on commencement day. While every student who made it through should be proud of their accomplishments, there will be bitter-sweet goodbyes.

Saying goodbye to faculty that you be-

came close with, your fellow classmates, and lifelong friends is never easy. However, this is only the beginning of your journey and will meet new people along the way.

Graduation will also bring feelings of excitement, butterflies and nervousness all wrapped up into one. Ultimately, graduation is all about you and your accomplishments.

Though it is a painstaking to hear your name get called, then walk on stage to get a rolled up piece of paper, the smile on your family and friends' faces will be totally worth it.

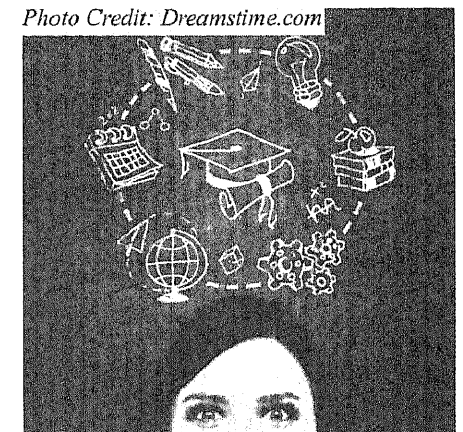
Importantly, be sure to take tons of pictures. Gather all your friends phone numbers and email addresses so you can keep in contact.

You may be headed in different directions, but staying in touch with your college buddies will help you transition into the real world.

Overall, graduation day is a special day to remember— it is once in a lifetime.

If you want that golden opportunity to walk on that stage and receive that honorable piece of paper, stay focused for the re-

Photo Credit: Dreamstime.com



Remaining driven at the end of the semester will make graduation day that much more special, maining days of the semester.

Now, the future is in your hands and there is no time to lose focus on our biggest dreams and goals.

Your degree is what will open many doors for you in the near future. Picture yourself in just a few years, holding down jobs and doing what you love.

So, to all of the the graduating students of 2018, stay motivated, driven, and congratulations!

Seeing The World Through Fresh Graduate Eyes

Travelling Post-Graduation Prepares You for the Real World

BY: ROSEANNE CASSAR

While many college students who graduate on time feel the need to travel the world, some students feel they need to work to pay off their student loans.

If you are one of those students who are looking to travel once school is finally finished, go and do it—have some fun and enjoy yourself.

Travelling maybe your ticket to finding yourself. Maybe you have questions that need answers.

Seeing what the real world is like will definitely open your eyes, as you will gain a lot through being exposed to different experiences.

By travelling alone, it will make you see the world in a brighter light, broaden your horizons, and maybe even will bring out the next steps you will need to take

to expect out there in the real world.

You will be making decisions that you would not have thought about as much in the past. For starters, many graduates have similar questions, like "Where will life take me?" and "What are my next steps?"

Deeper questions will arise, such as "Am I ready for the job field?", "What about a family life?" and even, "Am I ready for children?"

Among these, the biggest question is: "How responsible am I in life in general, and am I ready for what is really out there?"

Contemplating life decisions will certainly continue circling around our heads until we get dizzy.

So, travelling around the world can be beneficial to prepare yourself for what

to expect out there in the real world.

For example, when visiting another country, whether you are with another person or by yourself, what if things do not go as smooth as you would have liked them to be? What do you do in case of serious trouble?

By facing new situations in a foreign place, potentially with a language barrier, you are sure to grow as a person. By enduring all of these boundaries, travelling would definitely smarten you up quite a bit.

You will even begin see things differently. Discovering a new part of the world will make you more aware of your surroundings and will help you grow internally to feel more mature.

Travelling not only helps you feel fully on your own, but also requires you to

be responsible.

For instance, travelling the world also provides you with better insight regarding financial need and give you a better idea of how to save some money.

Despite the stress that comes along with travelling situations, there is nothing wrong with wanting to have some fun in life and exploring new adventures and cultures.

This includes meeting new people, sightseeing, partying, and who can forget wine and fine dining.

As a brand new college graduate, you deserve to have some fun and learn new things before diving into reality.

Once you return back home, the "real-world" will set in.

The realization of responsibility begins when the fun and games comes to an end. The expression "work hard, play later" will certainly apply.

Down the road, you can teach your children what you have learned and share your personal experiences, or simply tell your stories of how and why you decided to travel to find yourself.

When you hit a certain age, you can thank yourself for travelling when you did.

That is because you will feel smarter, wiser and know more things now than you did when you were younger. You will have seen things that no one else has.

Seeing the world can empower you to voice your opinions about anything, open your mind to different cultures and diversity, and ultimately help you become a better person altogether.



Photo Credit: Yp.scmp.com

Traveling may, in fact, be quite beneficial for a recent graduate.

CAREER BUILDING

No Job In Your Major? No Problem!

A Guide to Some of the Best Trades to Pursue

BY: BRIELLE SPARACINO

It's a pipe dream that upon college graduation, former students start working at a job they actually enjoy.

It's even more rare for one to secure a job based on their major or in a career they're passionate about before they even receive their diploma.

Sometimes, however, plans change; the four-plus years you may have put into college may have nothing to do with the career you end up falling in love with or pursuing, and that's okay.

Changing your major is one thing, but changing your career path is another. It takes a lot of courage to essentially start from scratch, but if you're really passionate about working with your hands, or you just want to explore a road you've been too afraid to travel on, a trade might be the perfect way to go.

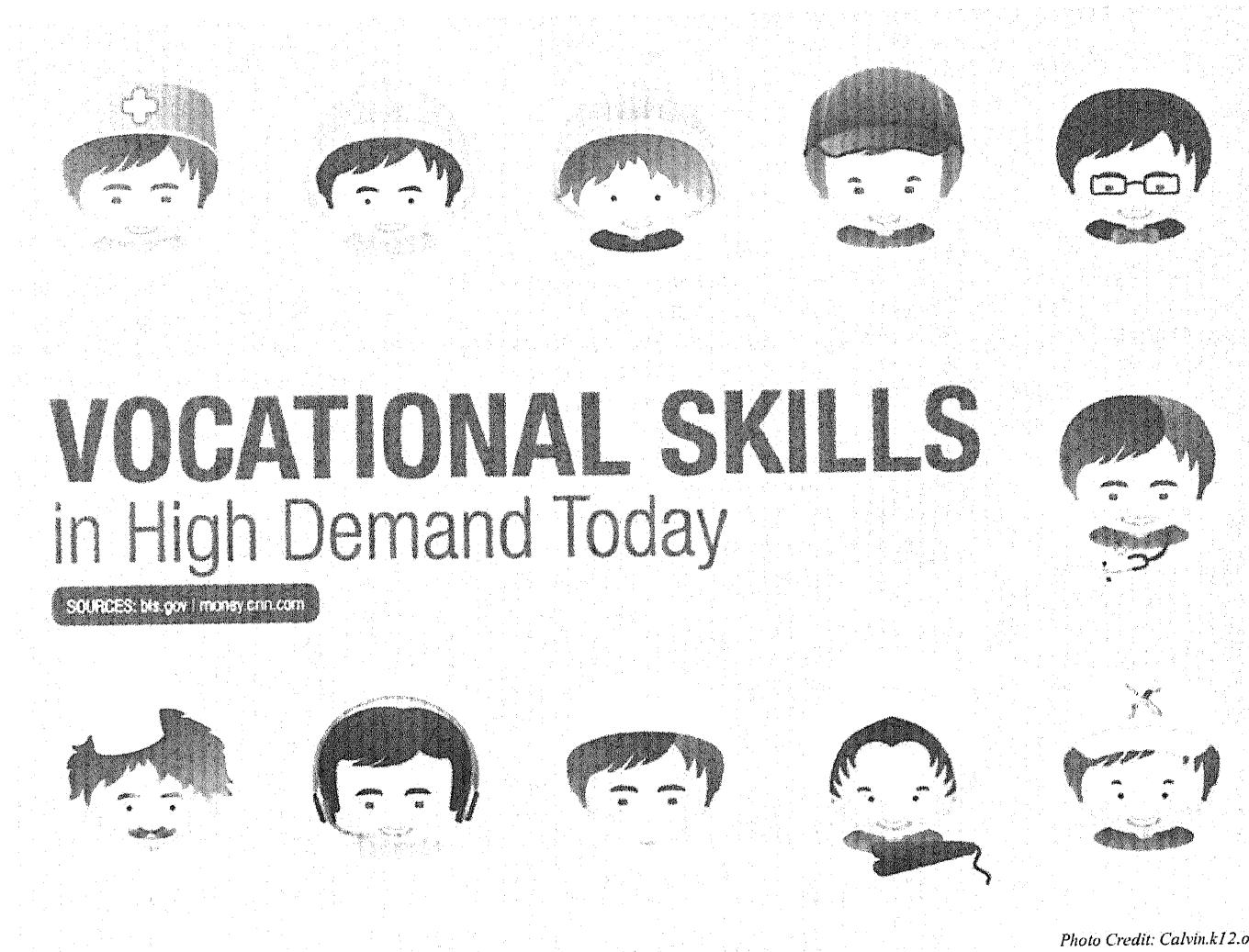
One of the best trades for the artistic and creative individuals is cosmetology. One of the coolest things about cosmetology is the amount of career paths that fall under this umbrella, including makeup artistry, hair, esthetics, and eyebrow/body waxing.

Essentially, there's something for everyone.

Another great aspect about cosmetology is that you don't have to stick to one subcategory of the career; in fact, the more you learn, the more valuable you'll be to current and future clients. You can also make your own schedule and charge your own rates.

A downside to this career is that if you aren't able to get into the makeup artists and hair stylists union or if you choose to freelance in your abilities, you're without necessities like health benefits, insurance or a 401k. Your workflow isn't constant either, leaving you to make sure you're constantly booking clients.

The creative route isn't for everyone; you might be just the opposite and have a strong desire for order and organization. With that said, a legal assistant, otherwise



A trade career is a great idea for graduates who decide to change their career path.

Photo Credit: Cabink12.okus

known as a legal secretary or paralegal, could be the perfect choice for you.

The job of a legal assistant seems pretty mundane, but because you'd serve as administrative support to a lawyer, there are still tons of tasks you'd be assigned on a day-to-day basis. Most paralegals work in law firms, but definitely not all, so you may or may not be in a standard office.

In an article on onlinecollegeplan.com, it states that "As a legal assistant, you would be responsible for maintaining case files and putting that information into a case management system. Keep up

with important dates and deadlines, helping with scheduling, and preparing care materials are all things that you would need to do."

"...You will also be the person in charge of keeping clients informed about their particular case. You would also be the one filing discovery requests, preparing subpoenas and summons, keeping evidence organized, and preparing exhibits for trial."

There's no particular degree one needs to receive in order to be a legal assistant, but attending a career training program will get you prepared for the job.

Onlinecollegeplan.com states that most paralegals receive a nearly \$50,000 projected annual salary, and the projection for this career shows an 8% rise.

Of course, there are still those who love and want to explore the STEM field. Luckily, the need to fill jobs in engineering, coding and software development is crucial, especially for women who want to learn more about STEM.

Jobs like a sound engineering technician don't pay much more than \$40,000, but if you enjoy music and engineering, you can combine both of your passions into a career that requires your presence at concerts and recording studios, according to an article on stemjobs.com.

Film and video editing is another job in STEM that is overlooked by many, especially if you like more of a behind-the-scenes approach in your work. Video editing requires serious tech skills, but learning the necessary components of the job is half the fun; the other half is being able to create a product that both you and your employer (if you're working for someone else) can be proud of.

Many underestimate the amount of trades that exist today. College isn't for everyone, and even if you have already obtained a degree from a college or university, that doesn't mean you'll end up using that degree right away or ever if you decide to go in another direction.

The key to success isn't dependent on the amount of money you make or the school you attended; it's dependent on whether or not you choose to think outside of the box and how passionate you are about things you enjoy.



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