



The NOODLE

Open up and say AHHHH!!!

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Florida Youth Council

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The Florida Youth Council is a program of The Family Café

Welcome To The Noodle!

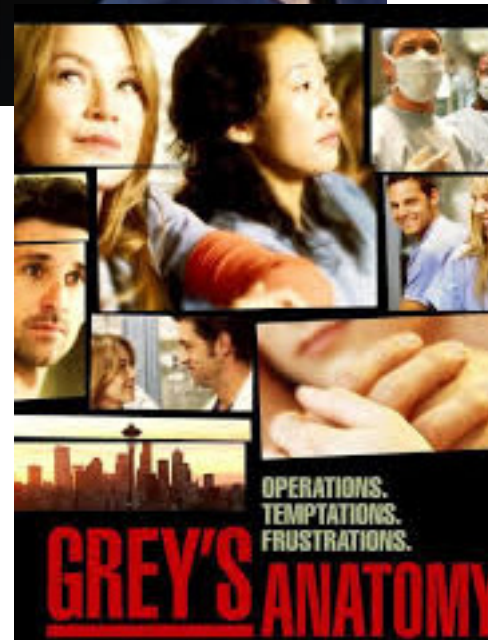
Welcome to the August 2015 edition of *The Noodle*, written and published by The Florida Youth Council! In this issue of *The Noodle*, members of the Council were asked to write about television shows that they watched when they were younger, and how they impacted their personalities. This topic allowed members to share

their thoughts on their favorite television shows. We wrote about shows such as Pokemon, Rugrats and Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. We hope you will take a few minutes out of your busy schedule to learn about our experiences and enjoy our thoughts and opinions in this August 2015 edition of *The Noodle*!

Medical Programs

By Christina Waldron

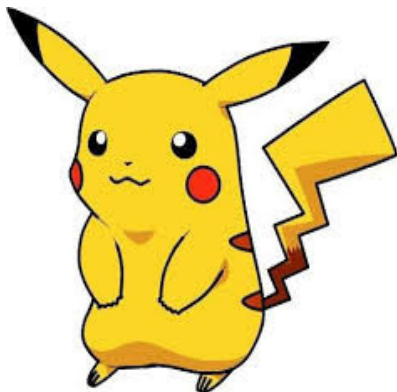
My favorite shows are Grey's Anatomy and Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman. They inspired me to live my dreams and to be whatever I wanted to be when I grew up. I want to work in the therapeutic recreation field and I also want to learn American Sign Language. American Sign Language is a way for people who are hard to hearing and deaf to understand what is being said and they also use American Sign Language to respond. Grey's Anatomy shows the lives of men and women who are training to become doctors. I love medical programs because they help save lives. Some are based on real life and others are made up. The programs also show the doctors and nurses saving lives outside a hospital setting. Jane Seymour played Dr. Michaela (Dr. Mike) Quinn. Dr. Quinn showed the world that women can do anything that a man can do.



Pokemon

By Dakota Smoot

With no doubt, my favorite show as a kid was Pokemon, and it still is to this day. Pokemon to me was like a world where I could escape to. As fun as that sounded, I could not jump though the TV, so I bought toys related to Pokemon and also the Pokemon cards. Pokemon to me shows true friends will fight, but it always comes around either for better or for worse. My favorite Pokemon growing up was Ash's Pikachu, for they had their share of fights bonds and hardships. Pikachu is truly a wonderful mystery to uncover. It's like you can't figure out what it will do next. My favorite thing about Pokemon isn't the hard times in the world of Pokemon but the friendship between the trainer and Pokemon alike. Today I still love Pokemon and the Pokemon games. The company has been a blessing to America for bringing this show from Japan to us in America and our culture of the best country in the world (in my opinion of course). I want to see Pokemon continue for generations to come so I can say that I can remember when it was the most popular show when I was just a little kid. Because of the years of my life I have watched it from age 3 to this current day, and I don't know if it's the same thing as an addicting game, but I don't care what anyone thinks. I honestly hope that this show is going to be able to continue for years to come, and I have a great hope that it continues to grow and change the way people look at life.



TV Shows That Influenced My Life

By Derek Carraway

It actually took me a little bit to figure out what shows I wanted to write about that I liked watching growing up. Then it hit me, and like many kids growing up, it involved some cartoons. There were several that I enjoyed, and they were all created and produced by the old production company Hanna-Barbera. They are famous for rolling out such classics as The Flintstones, The Jetsons and Scooby Doo, among many countless others. I enjoyed watching all three of those I just mentioned. As far as how I feel they've come to affect my current person and who I am today, I'm going to just pick one of them to use as an example. To do this, let's first take a quick look at where I am today. I've always been interested in technology and other gadgets that can help improve the quality of life and make things easier, and I recently earned a degree in Information Technology. Any ideas yet? Alright, it is The Jetsons. The first family of the future! I find it fascinating that a lot of the technology that was featured and thought of as science-fiction at the time, has become a reality in the world we live in today, such as having a phone where you can see the person you are talking to. I think this show definitely could have first sparked my interest in technology and that is why this was one of my favorite shows growing up.





Mighty Morphin Power Rangers

By Nick Grabowski

Growing up my favorite show was Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. At first I really liked the action and imitating it. However, then they introduced my favorite Power Ranger, the Green Ranger. He was kind of a dark hero, but most of the time he did what he thought was right. He would go against people who were kind of friends and risk it all to uphold his version of justice. I feel this has affected my current self to a degree. I will sometimes be put at odds with those around because of my own sense of what is right. I will try very hard to preserve my notion of right and wrong. As I get older I view this as a positive, despite some obvious negatives. I rarely regret the decisions I've made as a result of this. I am much more likely to regret not trying my hardest to preserve this trait. As a reminder of this I keep a little Green Ranger on my key chain.



Barney

By Shevie Barnes

“I love you, you love me” Words that I am sure my parents got sick of. However, they were the words to my favorite song, the Barney & Friends song which he sang at the end of every show. I remember impatiently waiting until Mister Rogers was over just so I could hear the familiar Barney & Friends theme song. As I grew up, sometimes things would happen and I would actually hear a Barney & Friends song pop into my head. The cleanup song, please and thank you: all things I learned from my pal Barney.

There are actually three things that Barney & Friends taught me that I still carry on my heart right now: how to be a true friend, to be yourself, and how to use my imagination. Learning to be a true friend is something that most adults still have to work on. However, I learned how to do that through watching how excellent Barney was to his friends. Second is how to be myself. Most people who know me would never have guessed that confidence was ever an issue. I have also been okay being me but it's because I was always told it was okay to be “special” or different. Barney has a song that he sings that talks about that and I still remember it at age 26. Lastly, Barney & Friends taught me how to use my imagination. Everyday all day I have use my imagination whether it be while walking across the street, or coming up with ways for my students to learn something difficult.

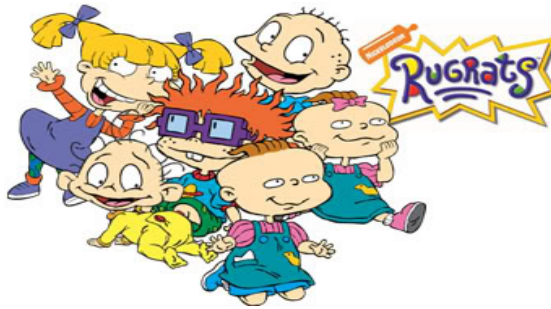
As a teacher myself now, I use many of Barney's tactics to get things done in my classroom. From Barney & Friends, I learned if you put music to anything students will happily do it. Though nowadays it's the most uncool thing to talk about Barney, he actually helped me become who I am today.

Rugrats

By Whitney Harris

Of all of the cartoons I watched when I was little, I think that my longtime favorite was Rugrats. For those of you who aren't familiar with the show, it was about a group of babies that went on imaginary adventures each afternoon while they were supposed to be in their play pen.

One of the Rugrats episodes that was my favorite was the Christmas special. Each year around Christmas time, Nickelodeon would play this special episode. During this Rugrats adventure, each of the babies were trying to get gifts for each other, but what ended up happening was that they each gave up their favorite toy in order to get the gift that they wanted for the other baby. In the end, the babies



learned that they sometimes had to give up something that they loved to be able to make their loved ones happy.

I used to think that this was such a powerful thing, wanting more for others than for yourself. I have taken this valuable lesson to heart and try to implement it every day in my adult life. It's very easy to be selfish and want the best for yourself, but it is something very special to be able to set your needs aside to give to others.



How Do I Become Part of The Florida Youth Council?

The Florida Youth Council is a group of youth (between the ages of 15 and 17) and emerging leaders (between the ages of 18 and 30) with disabilities or special health care needs that live in Florida.

The Florida Youth Council is all about getting youth and emerging leaders involved in self-advocacy, peer mentoring and other activities that will improve the quality of life for youth and emerging leaders with disabilities in Florida. The program empowers youth and emerging leaders to decide what issues are important

to their generation, to express those issues in their state and local communities, and to develop strategies to solve them.

We are seeking a group of enthusiastic, motivated youth and emerging leaders to participate. If you would like to take a leadership role in advocating for youth and emerging leaders in Florida, please visit The Florida Youth Council website at www.floridayouthcouncil.com. The program is open to application year round. We hope to hear from you soon!