

## it's about making time MEGAN NGUYEN last thoughts

I think “busy” is pathetic attempt at a good excuse. I read somewhere, as I always do, when I’m in my angsty “looking-for-meaningful-quotes-on-pinterest” mood that, “It’s not about having time, it’s about making time.” Retweet! Just kidding, I don’t have Twitter, but according to my fellow Herald staff member, Maggie Foa, that’s a mistake. ANYWAYS, I see people around who suddenly don’t have time for their friends, hobbies and things that they absolutely love, and isn’t that just sad? Not the weepy sad, the pathetic sad.

There are some people that find themselves so busy that they are allowing certain grains of their lives to slip through their fingers like sand. By the time this cloud of activities and events settle, that life won’t be there anymore because they couldn’t make time. It’s not about having time, it’s about making time. I truly believe that if someone cares enough about something, he or she should seek it out and integrate it into his or her life.

I am guilty of this too. I will admit to my hypocrisy. A string of days threaded in line to each other will have me playing the motions. What did I even do? And when I didn’t play my piano just for kicks or reach out to my friend because why not, my excuse is that I was \*scowl\* busy. If I gave all my time to one thing, is it possible that I lost something else? If I care about my piano and my friend, why shouldn’t I make it a part of my life? Why shouldn’t I chisel out a chunk of time for each, as small as it may be? And so, they would contribute to my business (business, not business as in the company) and smooth my time into



something I enjoy, something balanced, rather than something spent and wasted.

There is such thing as a good busy. There are those who have mastered the art of prioritization alongside time management in order to reach the maximum productivity and pleasure in their lives. I am not one of those people, but boy do I aspire to be.

As high school students who constantly hand out time to empty obligations, I think a re-evaluation can do some good. What matters? Who matters? Well, don’t just stand there, go attend to it. Go do it! If you’re reading this, and you’re busy, and you’re happy doing what you are busy with, then you are doing something right. Say, why don’t you teach me?

## DECLAN PALMER *the other side* how stand up comedy saved my life



First things first, stand up comedy has never actually saved my life, nor have I ever been close to death. But it has allowed me to explain certain aspects of society to myself, which in a way has kept me alive within my friend groups. I firmly believe that we live in the golden age of comedy. More people than ever have been able to break through and become stars purely because of stories about their lives. Now I know that most people believe that comics embellish the truth, or just lie altogether. But I chose to believe that the only thing that comics do that we don’t is tell their stories to the world, and have no shame. We can all learn something from the likes of John Mulaney’s “Kid Gorgeous” and Bert Kreischer’s “Secret Time” (both available on Netflix streaming). Mulaney’s ability to take everyday occurrences, like going to college, and talk about it in a way that makes everyone laugh is something that inspires me to think about my life completely differently.

Even the most broken and depressed people can make people happy. Take Bo Burnham for example, he is probably one of the most self deprecating comics of all time, and yet his success is undeniable. My favorite comedy skit of all time comes from his Netflix special “what.” in which he sings a song about an assortment of sad things, along with some well placed screaming. If you want to know everything you need to about my sense of humor, just look this song up on Youtube. You won’t be disappointed.

The great thing about comedy these days is that there’s a comedy special on Netflix to cater to anybody’s sense of humor. Everything from Gabriel Iglesias and his stories of his son, to Chris Rock’s resounding return to stand up after a decade of absence. I am always looking for new specials to watch, as should everyone. If most people spend their time rewatching the same old things, they can never evolve with a rapidly changing social landscape. So please, find some new comedy, and learn about yourself through the power of laughter. Because as the old saying goes, “laughter is the best medicine.”