

# yeah. WE CELEBRATE OUR CULTURE

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## LULAC students host events to represent Latino community

**THE MISSION OF THE LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS (LULAC) STUDENTS** was to represent the Latino community at events. From Folklorico dancing to fundraising, the students were active on campus to get more members while also making a place for Latino students, according to Victor Hernandez '26.

"Dancing at all of these events allows us to show what LULAC is all about. It's about representation," Crisbel Perez '26 said. "We worked really hard to get each of our performance's just right. I was glad to be part of it."

In December, the organization sold candy canes. Students could send a candy cane with a special message to students. Also, on Valentine's Day, they sold roses that were delivered to students in classes. Each of these events helped raise money for the LULAC scholarship given to graduating seniors at the end of May and presented at the Senior Breakfast.

"As president of LULAC, I am usually organizing all of the events and helping prepare them to make sure that we are ready to go. I like to make sure everyone stays included, and nobody is left out," Jessvy Hernandez '26 said. "Everything we do is to make sure that people feel like they belong here at school. When we dance at pep assemblies, we work so hard to make sure that everything goes just right. When we are raising money for scholarships, it's because we want to provide students an opportunity to reach all of their dreams. It's important."

"One of the main goals of LULAC is to share culture and represent Latino people everywhere when representation is lacking," Hernandez said. "I feel like LULAC is an opportunity to get the rest of my community recognized. LULAC is much more than just a club. It feels like it's a way to represent our community and share our culture with our fellow peers."

After school, members would practice Folklorico dances in the hallways or sponsor Eugema Monreal's classroom in preparation for performances in the Homecoming Parade in September and at the Winter Pep Assembly.



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### 1. WAVING WITH PRIDE.

Victor Hernandez '26 holds the Mexican flag while walking down Southern Street in the Homecoming Parade on Sept. 8. "I was feeling proud to be representing the Mexican community because some feel like it's not represented at our school all the time," Hernandez said. photo by l.carmichael

### 2. DANCE WITH A SMILE.

Yoselin Gonzalez '26 twirls her dress while Folklorico dancing at the Winter Pep Assembly in January. "It was really stressful leading up to it, but honestly, when I got into the gym, everybody was cheering and I loved that moment," Gonzalez said. photo by n.duran

### 3. A GIFT.

Victor Hernandez '26 hands Adriana Quintana '26 flowers that her boyfriend purchased for her from the LULAC Valentine's Day fundraiser. "I didn't really expect it, so honestly I was very happy and very touched that my boyfriend thought to get me a flower," Quintana said. photo by l.pippin



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1. Dayanara Lopez Ramirez '26 tosses her candy to the kids lined up on Southern Street during the Homecoming Parade. "It's important we get Latino representation across the whole community. It felt amazing to be able to see the Latino kids looking up to us," Lopez Ramirez said. photo by l.carmichael

### 2. READY TO DANCE.

Aleida Juarez '25 slowly twirls her dress while performing at the Winter Pep Assembly in the gymnasium. "In that

moment, I felt happy and nervous because lots of people were looking at me," Juarez said. "I was glad to represent LULAC." photo by n.duran

### 3. DRESSED FOR A PARTY.

Jessvy Hernandez '26 and Viviada Apodaca '24 Wave to the crowd in their quinceañera dresses at the Homecoming Parade. photo by l.carmichael

### 4. STANDING STILL.

Jessvy Hernandez '26 waits for the Folklorico music to start at the Winter Pep Assembly. photo by n.duran

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## Seriously WE LIKE FIESTAS Spanish for Native Speakers celebrates Las Posadas holiday with piñata

**WHO:** Spanish for Native Speakers class taught by Eugema Monreal

experiences that we can," Monreal said. "We took the piñata into the Main Lobby so the student body could see as well."

**WHAT:** The class was celebrating the cultural holiday, Las Posadas, a Christmas tradition. One of the traditions is a piñata, where an object full of candy is swung by individuals blindfolded.

**MY EXPERIENCE:** "It was exciting to see that they were celebrating La Posada because it's something that we would do back home," Karen Isham, secretary said. "It's based on the Mexican tradition and around the Catholic religion, but it's celebrated more like a party."

**TEACHER PERSPECTIVE:** "I think it is important to provide students with all of the cultural

## IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT FAMILY (and we get it right) Kaishi Heu '24 explains traditions in Hmong culture



**Q: WHAT IS HMONG CULTURE?**

**A:** "Hmong culture is so complex; however, one thing we always get right is family. Family is so important because we don't have a country. We only have each other so we truly value one another. At Mr. BHS I wore an outfit to celebrate my Hmong culture because it is something that I am very proud

of. I wanted to represent."

**Q: WHAT IS HMONG NEW YEARS?**

**A:** "Hmong New Year's is based on the Hmong calendar. Hmong people don't really have a calendar, instead they track it by moon cycles. Here in the United States, Hmong New Year's is celebrated as a new dawn and our clothes stand for fruition and good fortune."