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LIVIN' IN A DAYDREAM | In the midst of her school commitments and life dilemmas, Denisse Hernandez, 12, takes a moment to savor her senior year. "I'm really hoping for a lot from this year, and I'm happy it's finally here," she said. "I want it to be over already, but at the same time, I don't."



# REVEALED MEMORIES

Each student played a new role as they walked through congested hallways exposed to the late summer heat. Sophomores faced unknown traditions as they grabbed a stranger's pinky during the first home football game. Juniors strolled to their classes and signed up for club commitments with ease. Seniors anticipated activities exclusively reserved for students in their final year. Eric Bermudez, 12, couldn't wait to be classified as a senior and join his peers on gym floor to sing the words of the alma mater.

"I remember looking at the seniors as an underclassmen and wanting to be a senior," Eric said. "It felt good knowing I was already a senior, even though the time went by fast."

Each class contributed to the student body in a new way, yet individuals also revealed who they became over the summer as a student, leader and a visionary. They took a second look at themselves and those around them. Throughout campus, a student overcame his or her shyness to become the group leader in their collaborative learning English project. A lone dancer finally set aside her apprehension to join Cardettes her senior year. A seasoned athlete exhibited leadership and led the team stretch before volleyball practice.

Ennalize Barajas, 11, exposed her leadership skills to younger players on the volleyball team. The motivation that came from her teammates and coaches gave her the ability to become outspoken in the classroom and on the court.

"I helped many younger girls with practicing a certain skill, like setting," she said. "It makes me feel like they look up to me. It's an awesome feeling knowing that."

Whether new to the campus or beginning their last year, students found opportunities to understand how places were more than just meets the eye.

The choir hall was often seen as just another classroom to passing students, but to Jazmin Almendarez, it was an uplifting haven throughout her four years of high school.

"In the choir hall, I get to be with my friends who I consider family," Jazmin said. "It's an uplifting place where I can be myself."

As we remember this year, may we pause to examine how the subjects of our memories exposed themselves in multiple ways. In the same way a photographer slows to down to study available light in creating a photo, we interrupted our scheduled routines to notice the nuance of this year. There were multiple layers to our moments, and may each story and photo in this book expose that to us years from now. ✕