
JANUARY

NEWSLETTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

For the new year, the employees at FLY NY took some time to celebrate the progress they've made so far this year. Between school and extracurriculars, it's easy to overlook the growth and achievements happening every day. So, each student reflected on something they accomplished, whether it was mastering a new skill or simply showing up consistently. Sharing these successes reminded us how much effort, dedication, and resilience they bring to everything they do.

a year full of *growth*

@glowfulbymaya

ALERA WILCOX

I want the rest of my school year to be stress-free, fun, and memorable. With this being my final year of high school, I wanna make it my best, and I think that with the new year finally coming, I'm going to make it my full reset to reach my goal of success. Success is my word. As I once stated, I want everything to go smoothly for my final year, and all of that will depend on how successful I am; that is my word of the year.

SUCCESS

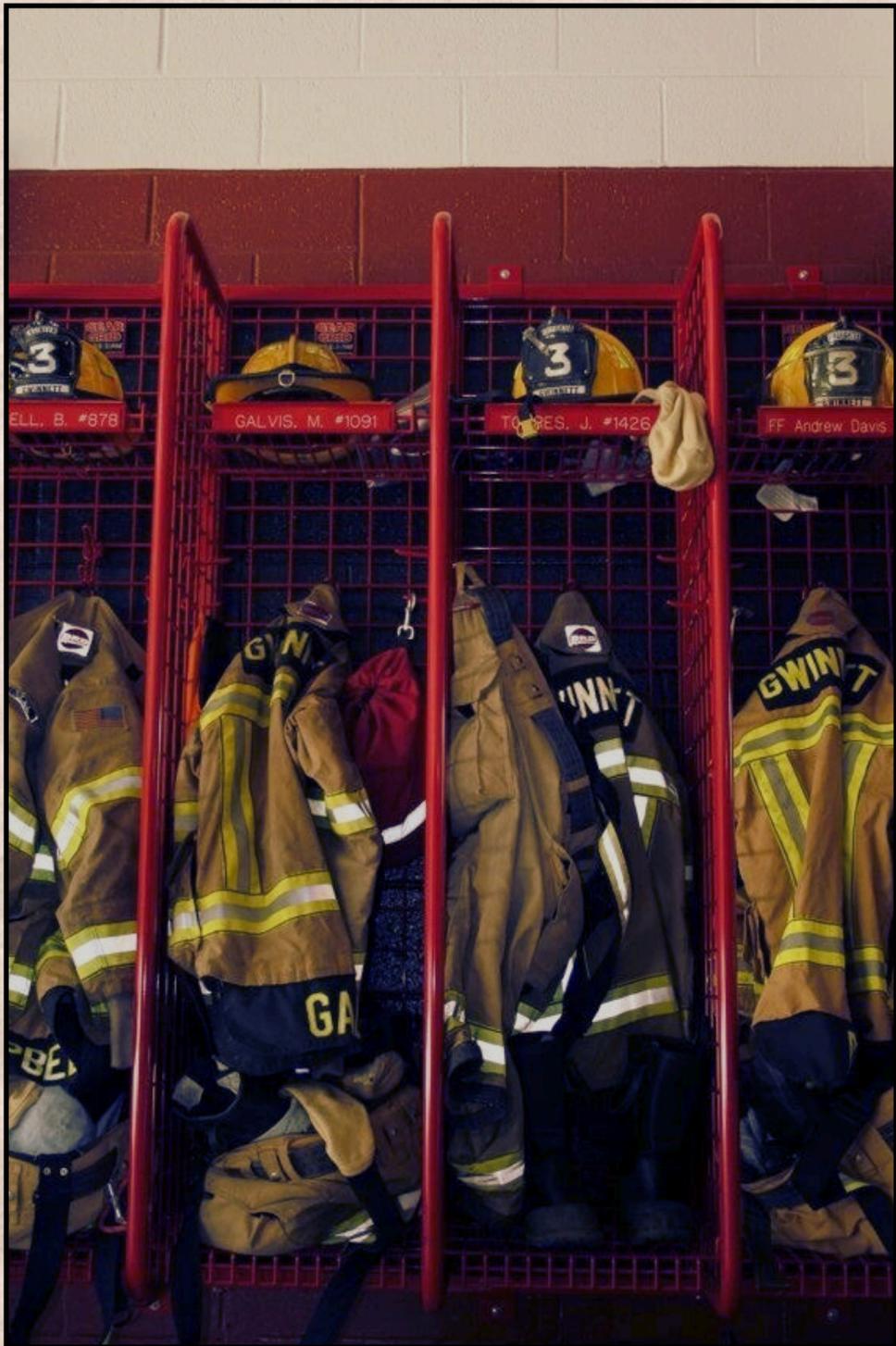
MARLO RIVERA-OPALSKI

I want my last semester of high school to simply be fun while still working hard. My main goal is to be happy with the college I choose to attend and to prepare myself for this big change. I want to live to the fullest, as this is basically my last few months of childhood, while still staying focused on my future. I also want to create memories and habits that will help me start college feeling confident and ready. Intentional. I chose this word because I want to begin being intentional with my actions and the choices I make for myself. I want to be wise about my decisions and make choices that align with my goals and values.



ANNE CANALE

The goals I have for the end of my senior year are mainly focused on preparing for college. I hope to achieve these goals by searching for and applying to as many scholarships as possible, because any amount of financial support makes a difference. Overall, I want these next few months to be eventful and be a happy ending to my senior year. A word I want to reflect my 2026 is authentic. I chose this word because, as I enter a new environment and meet many new people, I want to stay true to myself and be genuine in how I present myself to others. I believe being authentic is far better than creating a new persona for college.



ANYIS BURMAN

For the rest of 2026, I want my year to go as smoothly as it's going now. I have been accepted into seven colleges so far and I intend to get more as the school year continues. I have been excited about the many acceptances I've gotten and am proud of my success. A bigger goal I would like to set for myself is to have more side quests and make new friends with healthy relationships. I want my senior year to go out with a bang and have an adventure, too. Having access to so many things in NYC only inspires me to want to do more. I have my first side quest in mind and that's to visit a firehouse and tour it. I am already proud of myself and my accomplishments through the year, which only makes me want to do more, especially in college. My consistency in the gym has paid off and I am not afraid to say I'm a gym rat that will continue to enter the gym and enjoy my health even more. My word for 2026 is accomplishments. The reason why I picked this word is that my entire time in high school has been filled with accomplishments that I have been so proud of. I can't fathom all of the things I have accomplished and will continue to do in the coming years.

RIYAN THOMAS

Honestly, for my last year of school, I just want to be able to have fun. With all the work and effort I have put in and all of the hardships and experiences I have gained from this school, I want to leave on a good note. Obviously, I know there is still a lot of work left to do and harder work at that, but I want to be able to live out my last years of adolescence feeling. Really live out my teenage dream. My word for 2026 is Serenity. I want this year to be calmer and filled with peace. I want to be able to revel in my own world and feelings, staying untroubled and not reacting to every little thing that happens to me.

i will not
accept a
life i do not
deserve

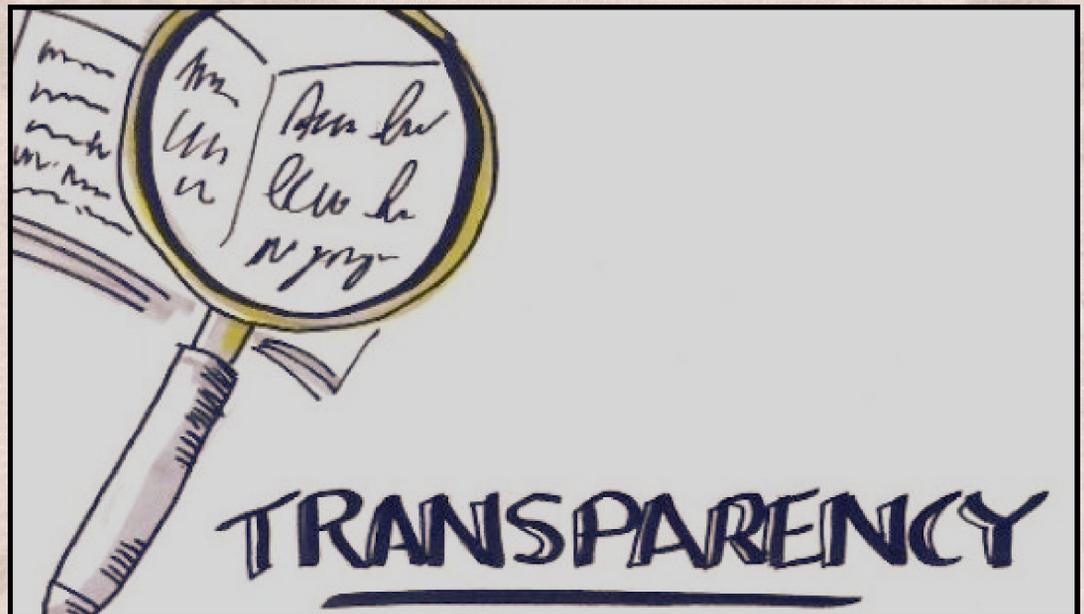


DANIEL MARTINEZ

I want the rest of the school year to pass by with my grades well-maintained. I will achieve this goal by my constant praying, and just trusting, and working it out. The type of person I will be is the type that takes action on everything and doesn't just pray and expect everything to be handed to me. A word for me in 2026 will be: "Change." Since this is the year everything will change and I will take action on things more in order to see that change.

DOMINIQUE KENNEDY

For the rest of the school year, I want it to be smooth, fun, and memorable for me and others. I want to have as much fun as possible in this school year and not stress myself out too much. My word for 2026 is transparency. I chose this word because one thing about my personality is that I will always try to understand somebody else, be perceptive, and always be dependable towards others when it comes to something personal to them.



SUMMER OTANO

My goals are to save money, become a well-educated woman, and be successful. It's not easy to earn respect, so you have to prove it with actions and not words. Success is a word I want to focus on this year because I will be the first person in my family to go to college, and I want to make them proud. I also want to travel more.

SIERRAH MARTIN

The goal I have for this year is to save money for college. Also I want to just have more fun and be more adventurous and not just be in my house. I will do this by working hard, looking for a new job and just saying yes to more things. The word I want to use is Adventurous.



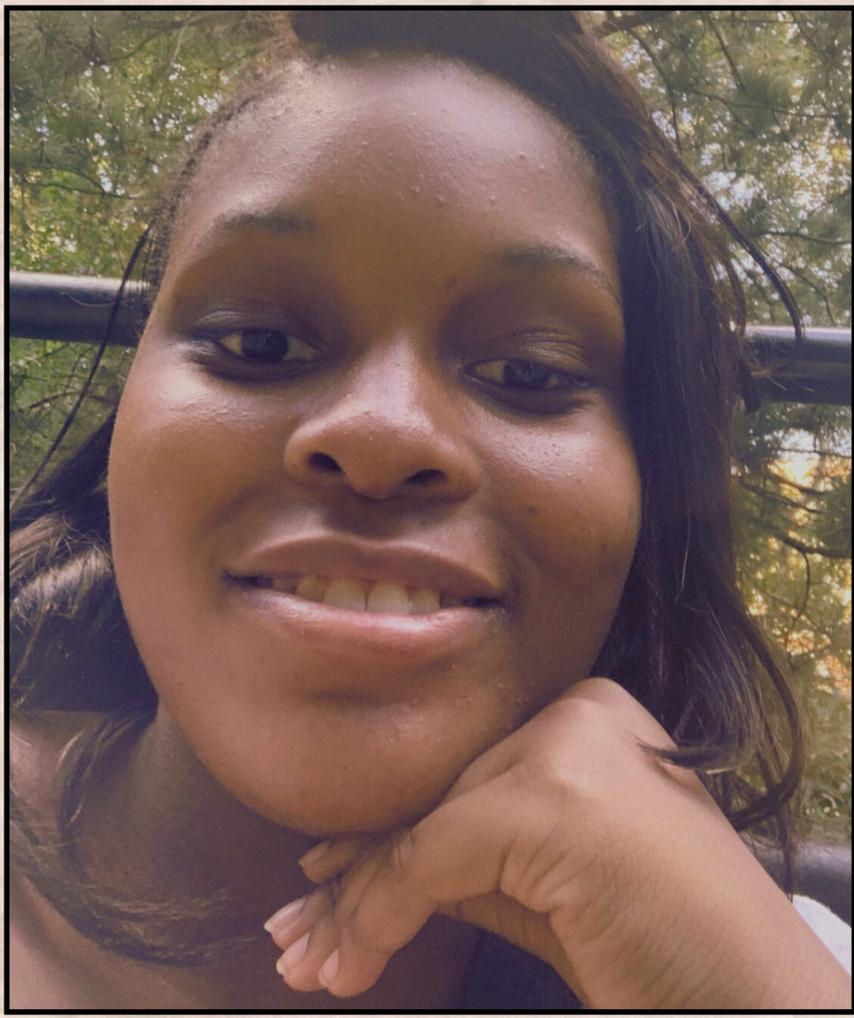
ZARA ROSARIO

I have two goals this year, and those goals are to experiment with my flavors for baking and to be organized. I was to improve my flavors because every time I watch a baking show, they are always making these creative things and adding in some elements that I wouldn't have ever thought of. And this year I want to be organized because I don't want to be a messy person when I go off to college. I'm going to achieve this goal by picking up and throwing things out in my room right away that way things don't build up.

NADJA FIGUEROA

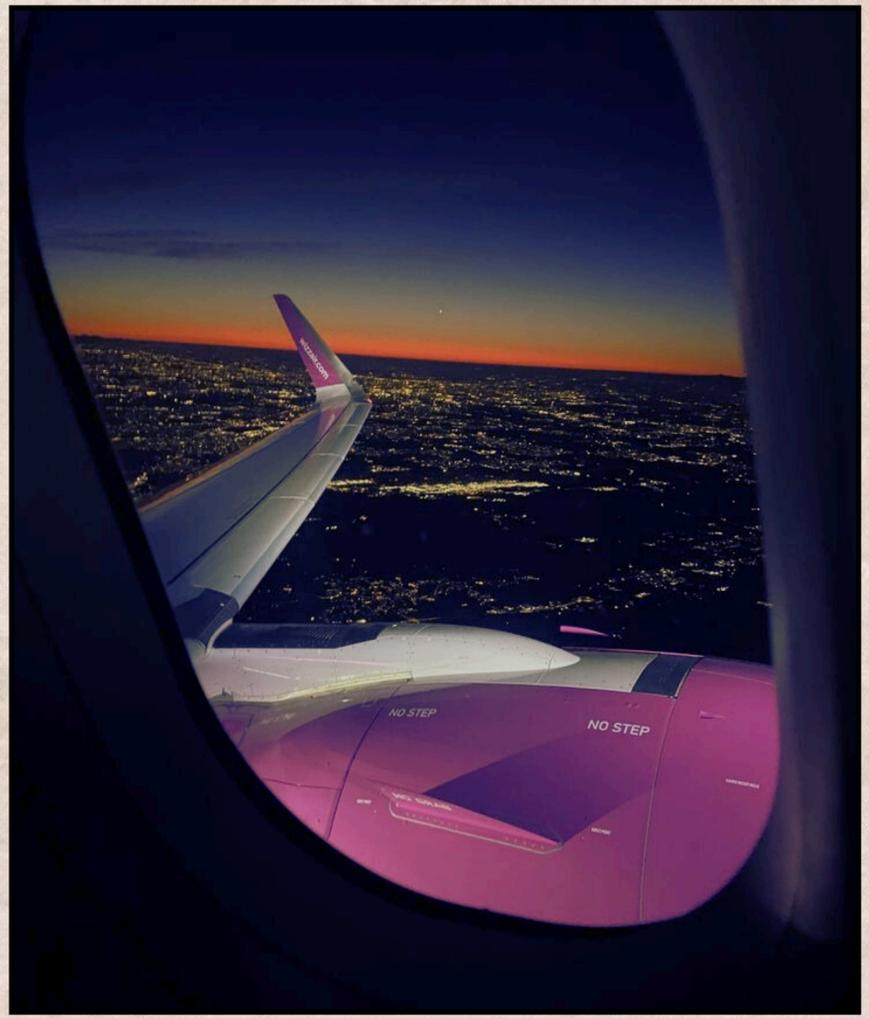
For the rest of the school year, I want things to feel calmer and more manageable. When the second semester starts, I want to begin strong by turning in all of my assignments on time and staying on top of my work. I also want to be late less often and avoid missing school when I don't need to. I hope I get into a college I feel good about and feel confident in my decision. Most of all, I want to make the rest of the year memorable by spending time with my friends and actually enjoying my last semester of high school. I chose the word success because 2026 represents finishing high school strong by graduating, getting accepted into college, and maintaining a high academic average. It also reflects my goal of starting college with confidence, good habits, and the motivation to keep pushing myself academically and personally.





LENA NELSON

My goal for 2026 would be to be stress-free because I'm always stressed out, and also to try every single thing I want to do in this school, like participating in more school shows. I want to do this by standing out more and getting over my small fear of presenting in a large crowd.



SAHARRAH MARTIN

One goal I have for this year is to hop on at least one flight this year. For the past two years I have been all work and no play. So I want to go out of the country or out of New York.

My word is brave. My word is brave because I want to go and explore the world and myself by giving myself a chance to grow. I will need bravery to allow myself this change.

SADIE KEOGH

My goal for the rest of the school year is to stay on top of my academics, while also making sure I am enjoying my senior year to the fullest. I need to procrastinate less so that I don't feel behind on my assignments. When I'm not behind on my assignments, I am less stressed and will have more time to do the things I enjoy. I want to make sure I enjoy this final year before I move on to a new chapter in my life in college, and my friends and I go our separate ways. One word I want to focus on this year is consistency. I am typically focusing on and aspiring to be perfect, even though I know that is impossible. This year, I want to focus more on progress over time and celebrate every result and improvement, whether big or small.



ALEX ANDON

My goal for the rest of the school year and throughout 2026 is to strengthen my patience in all areas of my life. I want to learn how to slow down and give myself grace when things do not go as planned, especially in school when assignments feel challenging or overwhelming. Instead of getting frustrated or giving up, I want to remind myself that learning takes time and that improvement happens through consistency and effort. I also want to practice patience with others by listening fully before responding, controlling my emotions during stressful situations, and understanding that everyone is dealing with their own struggles that may not always be visible. By choosing patience, I hope to reduce unnecessary stress and build healthier relationships with classmates, teachers, friends, and family.

KHADIDJA DIAKITE

My goal for 2026 is to finish off my senior year strong. As of right now, a lot of seniors are just finishing college applications, and many are unmotivated so I am going to try my best to stay motivated and finish my work to the best of my ability. Also, to start my businesses and new opportunities. Prom is coming up and i have to start my tailoring too, so my goal is to finish everything by April. A word for 2026 is success. I chose that word because in 2026, if you want something, you must go get it, stop delaying the process, and just start it. I recently had a conversation about this topic with my older brother, and we said that in 2026, it's no more "I think," it's "I will".



**THE
HUSTLE
NEVER
STOPS**

THE MARATHON CONTINUES

JEWEL RIVERS

I want the rest of my year to be constant growth, peace, and happiness. My goal is to find a stable job, an internship that focuses on what I want to pursue- fashion styling, continue promoting my styling business and start my next business venture, start making more content, and possibly even start my podcast (possibly). I know it may sound like a lot, however, I know what I'm capable of once I put my mind to it and I can be very determined so long as God spares life. I want to evolve in every aspect of my life and make the best of my senior year.

My word for 2026 is HUSTLE; I chose this word because I think it fits me best- I'm a hustler baby- since birth. That's also exactly what I'll be doing the rest of 2026 and until my last days because I refuse to fail or be generic.

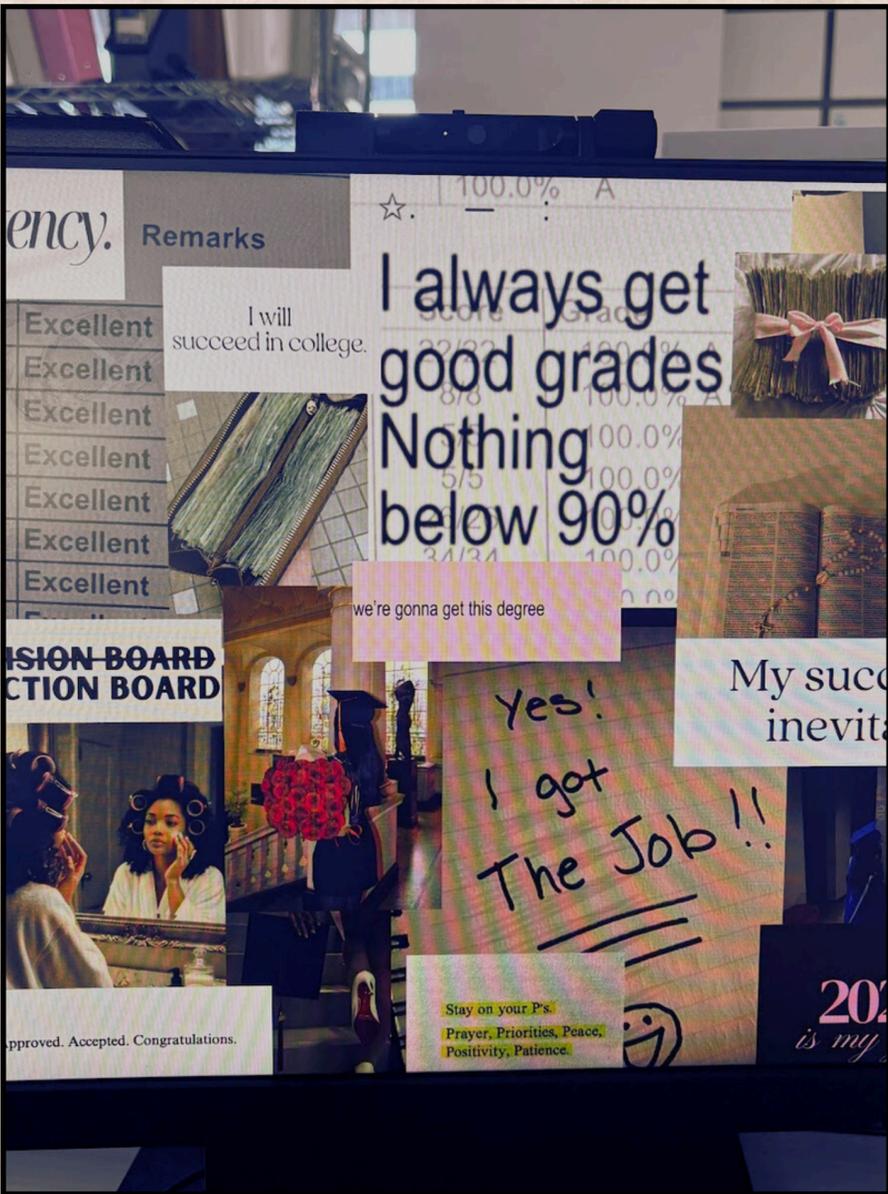
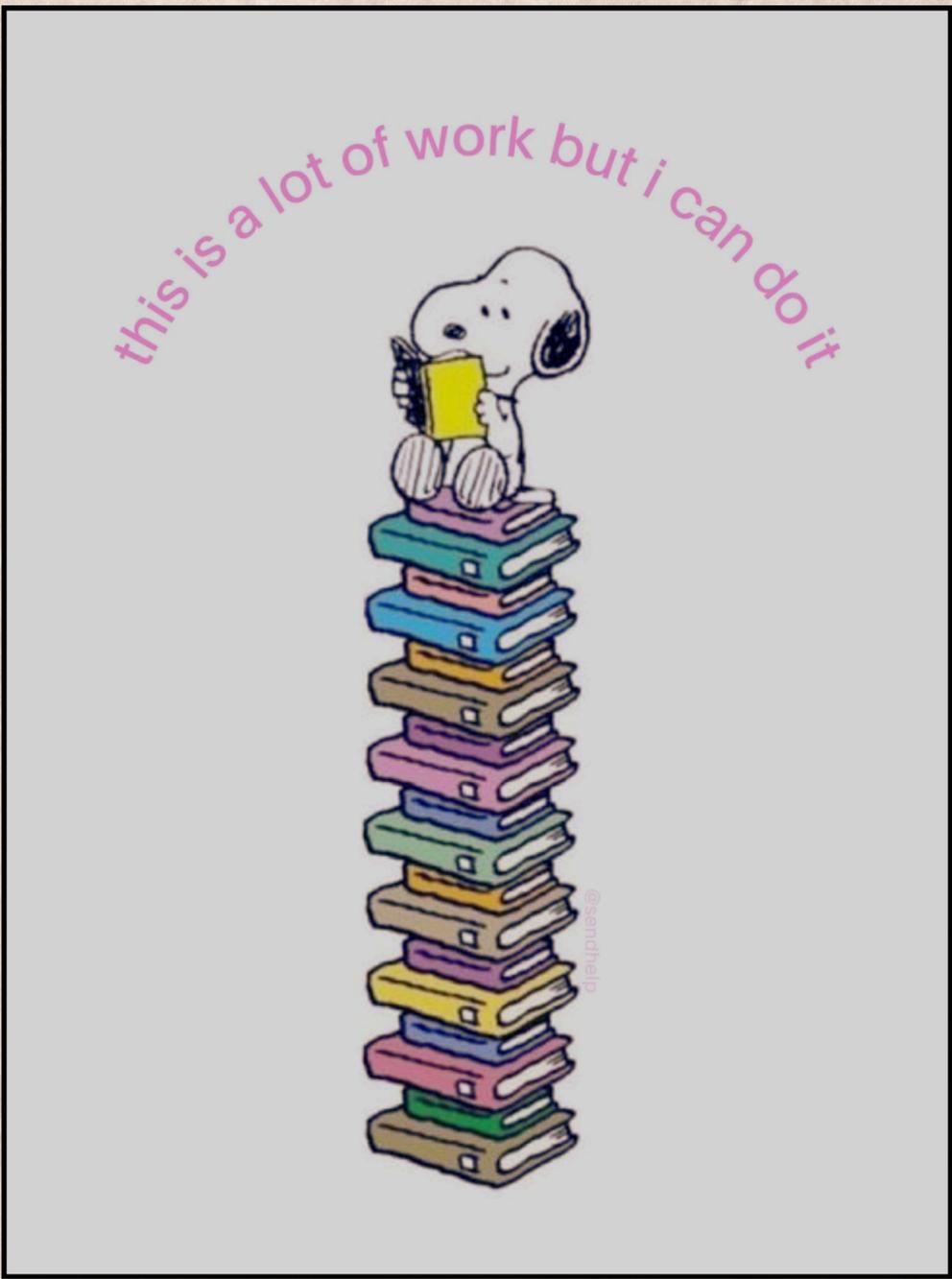
ISA HYDARA

I plan to spend the rest of my school year dedicating myself to all my passions and all the things I love while prioritizing my career goals. I'm studying to secure my ideal military job while pursuing an engineering career, continuing to stay on honor roll, staying committed to my business and starting my youtube channel. For me the remainder of my senior year will be rooted in investing in myself and setting myself up for the life I want. My word for 2026 is ASCENDANCE. I chose this word because it captures more than just "success" ; it represents a steady upward movement through effort, discipline, and consistency.

**I AM TOO CREATIVE
FOR A NINE TO FIVE**

GABRIELLA LUCERO

For the rest of the school year, my main goal is to balance out my personal life, from my academic, and possibly work experiences. I want to ensure that I take care of myself first before letting stressors weigh me down. I hope to continue to be on top of my academics and procrastinate much less especially with all these applications and scholarship essays to write + school projects and activities. One method I do that always works for me is just romanticizing things such as school, studying, and actually committing to nice self dates. I live by post-its so I think I'll continue to write reminders and lists and stick them where I can see them. My word for 2026 is discipline. This year, I am aiming to strengthen my discipline because I'm reaching the point where I'm not that young anymore and I want to prepare myself for the challenges life will bring. I want to learn how to say no and be confident in myself to feel okay when I say no. I want to commit to the things I say even if I don't want to afterwards—see it be accomplished.



LISBELLE BONILLA

The goal I will be setting is to try getting into a club this month to keep busy, since my grades are relatively okay, and I don't just want to do nothing since my internship might be starting next month if I get in, which hopefully I do. On top of that, I want to be consistent with my self-care and keep all of my connections and friendships healthy.

How I'm going to achieve these goals is by practicing consistency and managing my time wisely so I can make the effort to do all I want to do. I'm going to be the kind of person who always sees her own value and doesn't let it diminish because of others. The word I'm choosing for 2026 is successful. Because I believe that is what I will be. And will keep putting in the work to become.

LISMARIE VARELA

As we wrap up the winter semester and prepare for the spring semester, I will be setting goals based on improving what I've done beforehand. Such as continuing to keep my grades high and getting Principal's Honor Roll Certificate, I hope to maintain good attendance and not have any lateness similar to the winter semester. How I will go about achieving these goals would be through my own personal routines. Things like affirmations, maintaining a clean personal space, rewarding myself when I deserve it, et cetera. Finally, I hope to wrap up my four years of high school content with what I've done and experienced. To walk the stage with a clear mind and a clean slate. When I think of 2026, I think of the word Direction. A path toward something different and new. As I transition into adulthood, I hope to find my place wherever that'll be. I hope to change completely.



NIKO HAMILTON

A word to describe this year would be rebirth because I feel like we are starting a new life going into college. Moving forward to an environment where we are uncomfortable and don't have any familiars. .

JAE LAN CLARKE

I want to continue growing and reaching my goals for the rest of the school year. I set many goals for myself this year, such as starting my clothing brand before I turn 18, being more consistent with making content and doing more collaborations, and making money to support the things I want to do in the future. I am going to be a young entrepreneur, fashion, content creator who continues to grow and reach for his goals. Evaluation. This year will be filled with growth and just doing things to better myself.

GOALS FOR NEW YEAR: JANUARY NEWSLETTER

As we wrap up this month's newsletter, we hope these reflections on growth and achievement encouraged you to recognize your own progress. Our FLY family enjoyed taking the time to look back on how far they've come, and we're proud to share their dedication and hard work with the FLY NY community. Thank you for reading, and we look forward to continuing to highlight the growth, effort, and success of our students in the months ahead.



Photo from masterclass with Glam4Good