

about spending time with family, enjoying them while [he] can". Hence, his best holiday memory is spending time with his nephews, because he "no longer has contact with them." "Just hanging out with family, spending time with them" is what's truly important to him this winter.



Senior Nadia Mireles has grown accustomed to her usual Christmas routine of "celebrat[ing] Christmas in Mexico with my dad's side of the family and eating some really good food that [her] mom, aunt, and grandma prepare." To her, Christmas is about healing and reflecting on the holiday, while being mesmerized by the lights and holiday cheer. My most cherished memory is when we spent Christmas at our house and our cousins got new bikes," Mireles explains, adding, "One of my cousins was riding the bike in the street and she crashed with the sidewalk, so she went flying and it's one of my favorite memories because it was one of the only times we had an accident on Christmas."

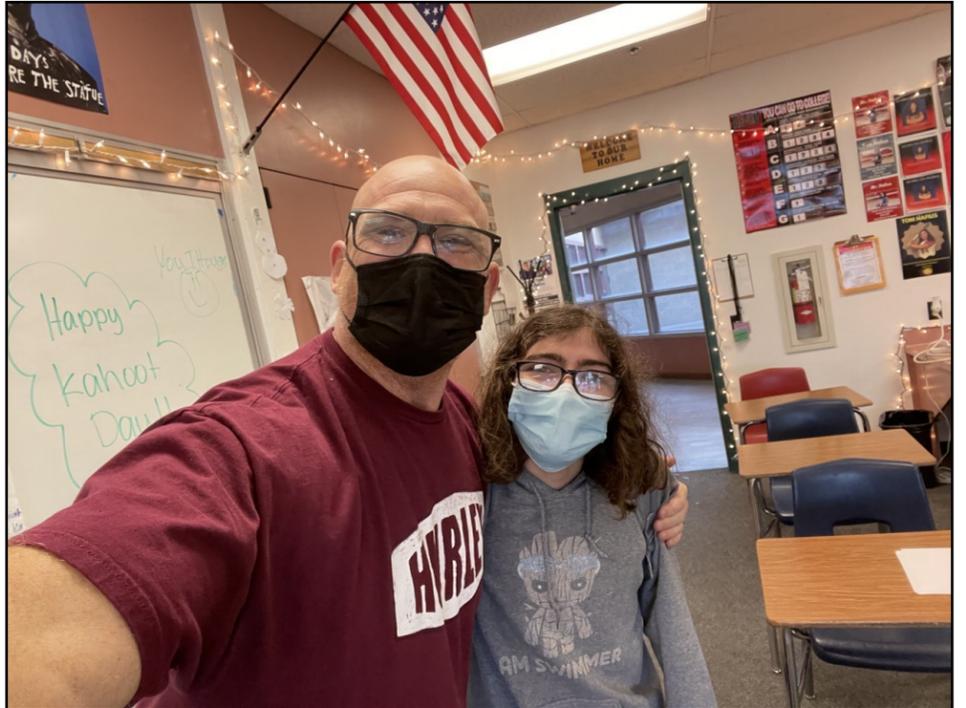
For sophomore Katherine Urrutia, Christmas is about spending time with family; she punctuates this with her idea of a perfect Christmas: "Having our entire family together and having a good time—no drama." The memory she most treasures comes from when she was around seven, her parents had given her and her siblings the unfortunate news that they simply could not afford to buy Christmas presents for them; however, after returning home from spending time with family, their parents had hidden their Christmas presents and it was now up to them to find them.

Mr. Nafius usually celebrates Christmas by decorating

his house and spending quality time with his wife." "It's not really a family holiday for us, because we don't really have extended family, so we just make it special with our animals and just us," he shares. His favorite part of Christmas is "Christmas morning, no presents or anything, just completely relaxed." The meaning of Christmas to him is found in how "everybody seems a little bit nicer; everybody just has a little more generosity in their heart."

When asked about his perfect Christmas, Mr. Nafius already has the scene in mind, and it unfolds as such: "It's going to be my wife and I, in our living room, and we're on our couch, and there's a fire on and we have our Christmas tree up, all lit up," his hand motions up and down, imagining the tree, "and in front of the fire we have a little bed and one of our cats, Maddy, loves to lay down on that bed in front of the fire. Minty, our dog, would be on us—we'll be in jammies, we'll each have, like, hot coco, and my wife will cook me cinnamon rolls, and then Margo will probably just be all over us, like—", and here, he imitates the sound of a cat happily purring—"and we'll probably just be watching the Hallmark channel, kind of just relaxed, no stress." He grins, "That to me is a great Christmas, when you can just relax, just a take a to moment to kind of relax and destress and detract from life and say, "you know what? Everything in the world is okay right now. ""

However you choose to celebrate Christmas this year, we hope that the time spent with loved ones will fill your holiday with cheer. It has been a long, hard year for all of us, so as we leave A.B. for winter break, take some time to relax, grab some hot chocolate, and partake in the holiday spirit.



**Grateful** by Sebastian Calzadilla, Anthony Lopez, and Joseph Alvarez.  
2020 was a year unlike all the others. Many events whether great or terrible happened, from the beginning of a quarantine due to a deadly virus, to families being together more than ever. We are all together now for a reason it can differ from person to person, but one thing is for sure, we all must be thankful for being here together in the school.

People can be thankful for many different things, it can be family, friends, objects that have value whether it is sentimental or money value, we can be thankful for being here today. But this is also a question that not many people are asked. That question is, what are you most thankful for?

Mrs. Jennifer Reinhart Maiorca, when asked what she was most thankful for answered: "I'm most thankful for my family my parents that pushed me to get my education and I'm thankful for my children who are now adults and continue to remind me how important it is to strive and to be the best you can be."

We also went around and asked students from different grades here at A.B Miller, we began by asking Byron Ortega, a freshman student, who claimed that "being able to be with the homies now that COVID is more stable," is at the top of his list.

"Throughout this whole year, I say that I'm most thankful for my family and those who support me and everything that I do. This year was not the best, but it was certainly life changing for me," reflected Ethan Ramirez.

Not to be confused, Alan Ramirez responded, "For this whole year, I'd have to say that I'm most thankful for all of my family and friends at home and at school. Another thing that I'm really grateful for is my pets at home."

"I guess I could say I'm thankful for being able to experience change and be patient with it, while also being thankful for my family and stuff that I have," stated Alyssa Puentes. Pablo Alvarez a senior student in our school, he added: "I am thankful for my community always caring for one another and for the opportunities I had when joining colleges." Which for a senior is one of the most important things we must worry about, our education after high school.

From these interviews we noticed something—most students are very thankful for their families, which is something that most people can agree with. Family is most of the time there for you, you can count on them, and they can count on you. For these reasons we should be thankful for our families. Not only families, but we all should be thankful for all the things that we have, for seeing a new day. Being thankful is something that we all must do to feel better in our society and improve together.



*No Songs continued from page 1.*

Those two songs are very festive and upbeat and make everyone want to sing along. Music is very important when it comes to the holidays because it has memories that go with the songs and the people who surround you during them. Listening to your favorite Christmas songs during the holidays can be very beneficial during a often busy and stressful time. Hearing your favorite holiday classics can work wonders on your mood.

Since the holidays come with positive vibes and great music, we asked our classmates what their least favorite songs are to listen to during Christmas time. Annette Alvarado said her least favorite Christmas song is "Frosty The Snowman."

"My little brother would always play that song over and over and I grew to hate it," she groaned. She says that she loved that song at first because her school would play the movies for Frosty The Snowman when it was Christmas time but her little brother would always rewatch the same movie to hear that song and she got bored on hearing the song, she can't hear another Frosty the Snowman song ever again.

We decided to ask another one of our fellow classmate, Oscar Calderon. He said his least favorite Christmas song was "The Chipmunk Song (Christmas Don't Be Late)."

"I can't stand this song hearing this song makes me hate Christmas. I remember the first time I heard this song I immediately knew I was not going to like this song. My mom would always play this song when we put up our Christmas decorations, each time I hear it makes me hate it more." Not everyone likes to listen to Christmas songs on Christmas day, or on Christmas Eve. Some people prefer to just spend time with their families and their loved ones. Gonzalo Hernandez despises "The Christmas Shoe."

"When I was eight years old, I used to love this song. I would always get together with my family and sing this song on Christmas Eve, but after singing it every year, I began to dislike the song," he said.