

#### TIGER'S PAW

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Middle School Newsletter Club
www.hempsteadschools.org 516-434-4300
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# Celebrating Black History and Our Very Own RiskTakers at ABGS

Excerpts from ABGS's "I am the Change, Being a Risk-taker in my Community"- essay contest!

Stephanie Moreno- Since the first day of middle school back in 6th grade, I've always wondered why my school is called "Alverta B. Gray Schultz Middle school?" I always found the name to be quite silly because it was so long. I never bothered to look into it because I just didn't really care. Sorry for my ignorance, but after taking some time to search it up, I realized that Alverta B. Gray Schultz was an important woman as she fought for equal rights for black people. She was a risk-taker and I'm a little ashamed that I didn't know who she was. She inspires me to be a risk-taker.

**Emerson Jean-** We can follow Mrs. Schultz's lead and be changemakers in our community. There are many things we can do to make our community better. Some of the ideas I have for how we can help Hempstead are:

- -Cleaning up Hempstead and collecting cans and bottles and turning them in to get money, to donate, to help homeless kids or kids in shelters.
- -By middle school students reading to 1st and 2nd graders in the library while being socially distanced.
- -By collecting coins and donating them, to help kids get school supplies during the school year.
- -By helping to remove guns off the street
- -By putting up signs where guns can be turned in in exchange, for free food.
- -By helping care for stray cats and dogs that have been abused or are sick
- -By teaching seniors to use the internet to make vaccine appointments

These are a few of the ways that young people can be changemakers and difference makers. All of these things mean leaving the comfort of our homes and our video games and taking risks, but we can do it if we all get together and try. We might not do as much as Mrs. Schultz did, but we can do our best.

Haley Monroy- One thing the community can do to help with poverty is provide more learning opportunities for people that didn't get to graduate. More people would have the opportunity to learn and get a job to get back on their feet especially, if they have a family getting an education would help a lot. Another thing the community can do to help the poverty is let more people work not just based on their appearance. We can make school groups that can help people get a better education to help them learn more about how to do things in life and how, to live good and get a job.

Joel Cruz- Alverta Banks Gray Schultz was an inspiration to the town of Hempstead. For many years Alverta Banks Gray Schultz had fought so that African Americans can fulfill their dreams of becoming teachers and being able to provide, an education for students. As a result of Alverta's hard work, African Americans received the opportunity to teach at the A.B.G.S today. Alverta was such an inspiration for her fight for equal rights, the school was named after her. Alverta B. Gray Schultz became a role model for being able to stand up and able to speak up for equal rights, this is how she inspired Hempstead and other people such as me to also fight for equal rights.



Javane BigBy- In the community there is a lot of garbage on the streets and all that garbage isn't going away. Instead, it just keeps adding up and that is bad for the environment. Too much garbage on the streets can also lead up to sower stoppage and flooding. By putting garbage bins on each street, it will most likely encourage the people in the community to put their garbage in it. Another way to make sure the streets are clean is to promote community fundraisers, to get donations so we could hire people, to clean the streets every week. Also, by employing community patrols that would drive around the community to make sure no one is putting their garbage on the ground and by giving people a fine to help with keeping the community safe.

Jonathan Romero-As a positive risk taker, the steps needed to bring about this change is being brave. When you're up to making a speech, you won't need to make corrections just because you said a word wrong, and you won't get nervous. Also, you must be a risk taker like Alverta Banks Gray Schultz and care about children and not the color of their skin. She cared about every child. I know this because what other reason would she have to work to integrate schools. In addition, to bringing about these steps, you must be a positive risk taker and not let anything bring your dreams down.

**Davon Colter-** I can be a risk taker like Alverta B. Gray Schultz. I am standing for a decrease in violence. As a fellow member of my community, I can encourage young people to handle situations with a non-violent approach. This will keep our community safe, and less people being injured or killed. Resulting a decrease in crime rate.

Josue Yanes- You ask yourself, "who brought change to our world, which is our community?" That question is stuck in your head throughout the day, it intrigues you. You search everywhere, until you stumble upon the name of Alverta B. Gray Schultz. You wonder "who is this?" "what did she achieve?" You want to learn more; it stimulates a feeling in you and motivates you to bring change to this world. After reading an article in NEWSDAY titled "Hidden Figures: These African-Americans with Long Island ties made history," I walk away with a new appreciation. I would love to teach you what Alverta B. Gray Schultz has accomplished throughout her life and how it motivates me to bring change!

Cathelyn Avelar- In conclusion, this is how Alverta B. Gray Schultz inspired me to be the change I need to be. I could be the change in America by being open-minded and thinking positively. I will work my hardest even though it may seem like a challenge at first. This year I have challenged myself to be the best student I can be. I made Principal's list this year, won the I-Ready award, and am the top student in my classes. Each day I take risks and overcome the challenges that come my way. Without challenges, I cannot grow into the person I am today. I know I can make a difference in my community and be the best I can be just like Alverta B. Gray Schultz.

**Christopher Mejia-** As a positive Risk-Taker, the steps needed to bring about this change is first to

pray to God and tell him what my idea and goals for fulfilling this goal is and to ask him to guide me in fulfilling it, which is to help the homeless and the destitute people living on the streets of Hempstead. Next, I would research ways in which I can help these people have a little bit of comfort. Lastly, I would write to the Mayor of Hempstead to express my ideas and intent, maybe he might be able to help me achieve my goal. These are the steps I would need to bring about this change.

Rayqaun Griggs- The town of Hempstead has its own risk-taker, and her name is Alverta B. Gray Schultz. She inspired me to make this change because during her time basically as a "civil rights leader" she had a goal for equality in education for the Hempstead community, it's a noble task and in the 1950's may seem impossible thanks to segregation, but she accomplished her goal with the odds against her. The most inspiring part about her accomplishment is it shows that we as African Americans can do more than what we think we're capable of. The only person that can tell you what you can or will do in the future is yourself.

Emely M. Rodriguez- To make the change happen, there are steps I must take. The first step I must take is to focus on my education. I must graduate middle school and high school. I must go to college and get my bachelor's degree and my master's degree. Then, I will see what I can do for my hometown (Hempstead). I will by most definitely help the schools with whatever they need help in. I will also help make every person (especially Hispanics and African Americans) in the village of Hempstead feel safe when they go out and have no fear of something happening to them. So, these are the steps I must take to make a change in Hempstead.



**Upcoming Events** 

\*ELA Exam Dates: 4/20, 4/22, 4/23 \*Math Exam Dates: 5/4, 5/6

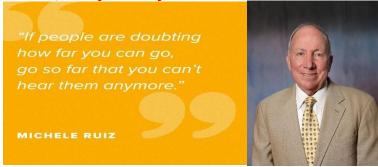
\*NYSESLAT begins: 4/28

\*Bilingual/ENL Parent Conference: 4/29 12:45-3pm

½ day for students

\*Memorial Day School Closed: 5/31

# BREAKFAST WITH MAYOR RYAN STORY by Haley Monroy



My experience of being able to sit down and have virtual breakfast with the Mayor as one of the winners from the *I am the change in my community, essay contest* was amazing! This event presented a life changing moment for me because it showed me that I should never tell myself, I can't do certain things. I have to thank Ms. Fox for pushing me to do my best in every writing that I do and showing me, that anything you put your mind to, you can accomplish. From the discussion with Mr. Ryan, I learned many things. As he stated, he was part of a program that provided jobs for kids within the Hempstead community. That stood out to me because I wrote about wanting to help kids find jobs. Being able to be part of this experience is important not only to me but my mom as well because all she wants is for her kids is to be successful and have a better life than she ever had and with this award and the many more to come, I can make her feel proud of me. Thank you, Mr. Ryan for letting me be part of this amazing experience and thank you Ms. Fox for always

### The Bully

A boy named Andrew who was 13 years old was training hard to complete his dreams. He practiced at the park every day. One day when he was at the park practicing his shots, some kids came up to him and said, "Hey kid give me your basketball!" Andrew said, "No." The biggest kid (the bully) took the ball away from him and started beating him up. Not long afterwards, Andrew was thinking of going to a basketball camp. He called and got in. Ten days later a bus picked Andrew up to go to the camp. When he got there, Andrew loved it. There were basketball courts everywhere! He began training all day. He met with a basketball hall of famer who gave him pointers. Andrew started playing on a team and his team was winning every game. At the playoffs, he saw the bully who had taken his ball. The Bully said, "What's a punk like you doing here?" Once the game started, Andrew scored 13 points in a close game against the bully's team. It was 4th quarter with 7 seconds left. Andrew saw an open shot. Then he saw the bully. Payback time. He ran toward his bully. The clock was running, Andrew went up for the dunk right in the bully's face at the buzzer! The ramp broke. Andrew's team was hyped up. Six years later Andrew got drafted by an NBA

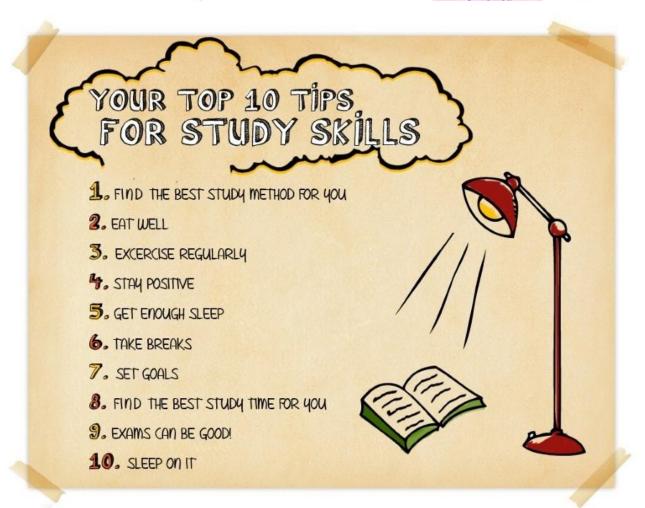
pushing me to do my best, in everything that I do.

team called Brooklyn Hoops, located not far from the park where Andrew used to practice. The bully ended up in jail. **by Emerson Jean, 7**th grader



#### Study and Test-Taking Tips- Editor's Choice







#### 1. Sashayne Smith

Two women worth knowing. Helen Keller and Bessie Coleman both went through some obstacles. both faced it successfully.

Two women worth knowing. Helen Keller her illness caused her to become blind, deaf and unable to speak. she advocated for the blind.

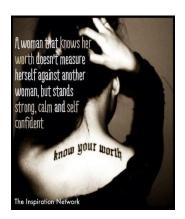
Two women worth knowing.
Bessie Coleman
the first African American, to fly an aircraft.
She did this all when
battling segregation
and fighting for equal rights.

Two women worth knowing.
They both had obstacles that were tough. but they both faced it in separate ways.
Bessie was dealing with segregation.
Helen Keller had an illness.
She could not hear, see, or talk,
But that did not stop her.

Two women worth knowing. More people should know about these women because they both gave women hope

They continued to reach their dreams and succeeded.

Two women worth knowing.



#### 2. Fernando Ordonez

Different women have done, important things for the world. Chien-Shiung Wu and June Almeida are women worth knowing

Chien-Shiung Wu is a female physicist, who disproved the law of parity conversion Helped make one of the first atomic bombs with the Manhattan Project Chien-Shiung Wu is a woman worth knowing

June Almeida found the first strand of the coronavirus, however, she never went to study science of any kind June Almeida is a woman worth knowing

More people should know about these exceptional women Both women deserve more recognition for their scientific discoveries Women worth knowing

Chien-Shiung Wu and June Almeida are Women worth knowing



#### 3. Jasmin Lopez

#### Two women

Two women
Oh, two women
With their intelligence and bravery even
through slavery

Showing us that we can do it
If we put our minds to it
Katherine said, I'll prove everyone wrong soon.
She then sent the first, to the moon.

Two women
Not caring what anyone said
But daring to do what they loved
Two women



#### 4. Janiyah Sample

Two women worth knowing are Amila Earhart and Phillis Wheatley First woman to fly across the Pacific Ocean First African American woman to become a slave and publisher

Amelia Earhart Inspired women to have opportunities in aviation Phillis Wheatley's children Taught her how to read in 1776 she wrote her first poem

These two women have made great changes

Both women have made great accomplishments in history
They believed in themselves
Push themselves,
to accomplish their goals



#### 5. Kimberly Lopez

All women can be successful and accomplish, Katherine Johnson and Abigail Adams They are women worth knowing

Katherine was so bright,
So was her mind set,
She did not give up on her dream,
Now she is an example of what
we can do, what we strive to accomplish

Abigail was a role model for other women who thought they did not have rights,
She showed being a woman,
was not easy but for sure had the same powers as men



#### 6. Osman Delcid

They never gave up on their dream.
Michelle Wie who is a professional golfer.
Katherine Johnson who is an inventor and a scientist.
accomplished many achievements.
was gifted to do incredible thing.

They never gave up on their dream.

have many differences.

Michelle wanted to be to the first woman to play in the master championship.

Katherine wanted to a mathematician.

They never gave up on their dream.

Michelle Wie turned professional on her 16th birthday.

Katherine Johnson got the, "Presidential Medal of Freedom, from President Barack Obama."

If more people knew about these woman people could be inspired into doing greater things.

"NEVER GIVE UP, EVERYONE HAS BAD DAYS. PICK YOURSELF UP AND KEEP GOING."

#### 7. Anthony Cruz Ordonez

These two women made big changes in the world.

Left their mark in history. Dealt with obstacles, racism, and women rights.

Katherine was an African American. She had a brilliant mind. Her skills drew a lot of attention. She was encouraged, she would make changes in life.

Helen Keller Was successful despite being deaf-blind but thanks to her teacher On her first day, she already knew how to describe.

Being a woman is not easy. No need to be someone specific For everyone to know who you are. Life is of trying and not giving up!



# 8. Found Poem- Inspiring Women By: Rayquan Griggs

Amelia Earhart and Katherine Johnson, their achievements told millions what a woman could accomplish both were given awesome awards they encouraged women to reject constrictive social norms and to pursue various opportunities.

They are both prime examples of what a woman could accomplish these exceptional women both has done things that changed society in fascinating ways. One was an advocate for women equality the other were huge example of what a woman could do.



#### 9. Kathy Velasquez

Many women show leadership. Two empowering women are Amelia Earhart and Helen Keller. They are traveling two different roads to accomplish their goals but they both were amazing women who left a mark on the world. They are both strong women who did not give up. They left an impact on many women and helped them build up the courage.



# **10. Samantha Guevara** History of women's movement.

Amelia Earhart & Grace Murray Hopper wanted to be respected by others.

First time trying wasn't a success. They're very similar yet so different. Very smart and important.

Both represents very different topics, Yet accomplished many things in life. They've won many awards for their actions,

And encouraged many people.

There are now very respected.

Made many differences in the world.



Spring flowers blooming on Long Island



#### 11. Ronald Maldonado

Two women worth knowing are Elizabeth Key and Anne Hutchinson. Challenged male authority. Justifications for discriminatory practices.

The fluidity of status and freedom.

Elizabeth Key

won her freedom.

Anne was a spiritual leader and challenged male authority.

They both are smart and important. a hero

Anne was a religious leader. acceptable gender roles they both accomplish many goals in their life. Anne said, only God knows.

If you truly believe



#### 12. Antonio Ramirez

Many women have done many things to contribute to society, but I feel these two women are very important in history.
Harriet Tubman and Michelle Obama had many similarities and they also had differences.

Michelle Obama helps children.
Michelle Obama helps children make healthy decisions,
so, they don't have to struggle with health issues when they get older.

Michelle Obama helps children by helping them make good eating choices. Michelle Obama also led a campaign called "Let's Move!".



Harriet Tubman helped a lot of people during her time.

Harriet Tubman made an underground railroad.

The railroad was used to help slaves escape. Harriet Tubman is a woman worth knowing because she helped slaves escape for freeing her people.

Harriet Tubman saved slaves lives.

More people should know

about these exceptional women

#### 13. Sade' Sanchez

Amanda Gorman
Toni Morrison
Both women worth knowing
Amanda is an activist and a poet.
Morrison was an intelligent author, writer, and college professor.

Amanda Gorman

first person to be named the national youth poet laureate.

Writes poetry to address social and current events.

Toni Morrison Nobel prize winning American novelist. Most famous works were, "The Bluest Eye, Sula Song of Solomon, and Beloved"

People thought she was inferior because of the color of her skin.

These two African American women Are both strong and very goal oriented. Morrison has all the prizes and awards.

Gorman has other ambitions. At the 2037 inauguration — as incoming president.

They're both women worth knowing!



#### 14. Angie Maldonado

vote as well!

There are many women
All girls get an education
All women have the right to be heard
Women stood up for what they believed in

Susan B. Anthony was a part of the Women's Suffrage Movement
Caused the 19th Amendment to pass
Malala Yousafzai is an advocate for change
Because where she's from only men could get

an education
Best known for being, the youngest woman to win a Nobel Peace Prize

These women both fought for women's rights and were willing to do anything for women to get their rights Malala wanted all girls to get an education Susan wanted women to vote because she thought it wasn't fair Both ladies got what they wanted Now girls can get an education and women can



#### 15. Haley Monroy

Jenni Rivera and Selena Quintanilla strive for their dream.

Known for her work, a fighter for immigrants. Her contribution makes her amazing, major artist in the music industry.

Were worries and happiness started anger ended,

finally realized her fame no matter what anyone has to say.

Accomplishing your dream women never give up!
Never let a single comment tell us
We are not worth it.



#### 16. Javane Bigby

Two women worth knowing,

Phillis Wheatley and Celia Cruz

Both women are similar and different

#### For example

Phillis Wheatley became the first American slave

to write books of poetry.

published her first poem, when she was just thirteen.

She was kidnaped but that didn't stop her Still push herself to became successful.

Celia Cruz Her first success as a singer

She grew up in the poor neighborhood.

She still came out, to be a successful singer.

Recorded 23 gold records.

Achieve what they wanted.

Both women went through a lot of trouble,

to get their work well known

They both struggled to become successful.

Both women teach the lesson to never give up!

#### Reasons to join MBK!

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

By: Michel Giovanni

MBK provides me with a mentor to help me, my group, and our families in the community grow. MBK does that by encouraging students academically to work their hardest to become successful in life. The activities in this program are phenomenal. From the Scholastic Literature Program and Global Resurrection, to where they both help me become a better mentor to Morrison Mentors, where they teach us coding technology and other cool stuff. MLK even helps to support Boy Scouts with Mr. Segure which we all deeply appreciate. These reasons are why MBK is the greatest program for all the community to hear about and join in all the fun.

#### SO, JOIN MBK TODAY!

Email Mr. Segure at <u>dsegure@hempsteadschools.org/</u> or Mrs. Corvi at <u>scorvi@hempsteadschools.org</u>

**MLK- A tour of the Program!** 



**MBK stands for** My Brother's Keeper, provides us with such fun activities such as Scholastic Literature Program, Global Resurrection, and Morrison Mentors. Now before I give you the "tour" of all the activities, hang on tight! MBK is the program that changed my life academically, providing me with bonding skills. Now with, lets bounce on in!

**First up, the Scholastic Literature Program!** The teacher is no other than Mrs. Corvi. This program has mentor- teachers that assist younger students with strategies to read better in their classes. There are groups based on what level you are in reading from 6th grade level to 8th grade level. There's more "tour" where that came from!

**Next up, Global Resurrection!** The teacher is you guessed it, Ms. Jones! This part of the program teaches, mentor- teachers to become responsible future leaders of the world. They each gives us roles of keeping track of our short term and long-term goals in life. For example, my short-term goals are to wake up, be on-time, and enjoy school. While my long-term goals are to become a chef or video game designer. And Global Resurrection does a superb job of making sure of that!

**And finally, Morrison Mentors.** This part of the program teaches students from 6th to 8th grade everything from creating our video games, to creating our very our websites! The teachers are members from Morrison Mentors, which are Mr. Gabe and Ms. Scott. All of these programs are so much fun. Even my little sister is in two of these programs.

**MBK** is a superb part of my life which helps me academically, to do well in life by giving me bonding skills with peers and family. This place of service is one of the best things that ever happened to me!

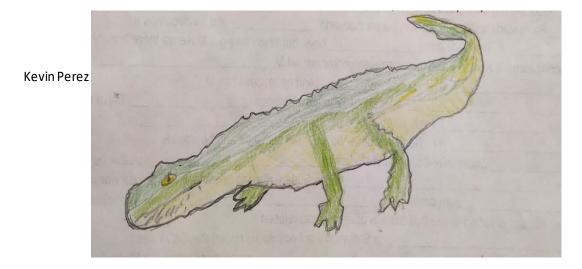
The students in Ms. Robinson's grade 7 Language & Lit class were inspired by the animals in *A Long Walk to Water* to create the following drawings. Their feeling is that the animals played important roles in the book.



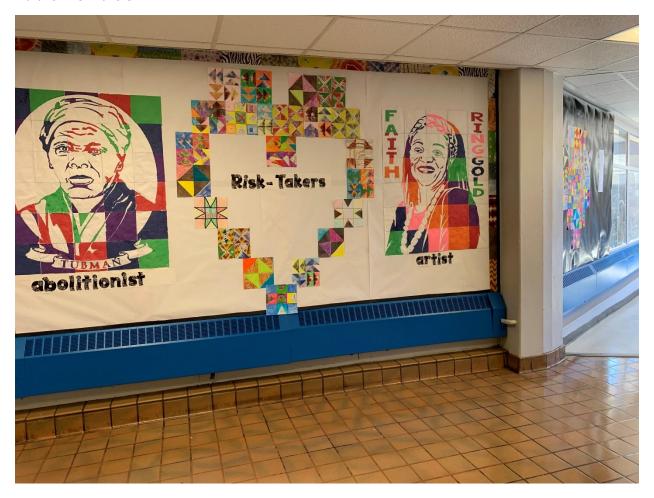
Carlos Iscoa Cenia Franco



Jason Flores



#### **Mural of Risk Takers**



The mural was created to honor risk takers that have influenced us artistically and with their bravery. These women were and are Harriet Tubman and Faith Ringgold. These two women were risk takers in that they defied the odds. Harriet Tubman took her fate into her own hands and escaped slavery. Not only did she escape, she then returned and helped hundreds of slaves escape as well. She also worked as a spy during the Civil war and helped the

Harriet Tubman achieved feats that no ordinary human being, let alone woman would have even attempted. Faith Ringgold achieved recognition and accolades for artwork that her college professors told her she could never do. They told her that she would never be an artist, that she just didn't have the talent! Yet she has traveled the world and is internationally known. Both of these brave women had two things in common, first they didn't take no for an answer. Secondly, they used the quilt as a vehicle to their success!

Our sixth graders studied the codes of the Freedom quilts that the slaves used to escape to the north. They read, Faith Ringgold's book "Aunt Harriet and the Underground Railroad." The quilt codes looked like normal quilt patterns, but they were hieroglyphics to the slaves. It was these codes that let them know where the safe

houses were on the Underground Railroad. The codes also told them where bounty hunters were and what path to follow. The codes were an intricate language. The quilt squares used in the mural were recreated by our Sixth graders.

The artists who participated in the construction of this mural were:

### **Sixth Graders**

Karesha Desport (8th grade)

Crystal Herrera (8th grade)

Nataly Benites (8th grade)

Sherlyn Gomez Pena (8th grade)

### Submitted humbly by the A.B.G.S. Art Department



## Ms. Cole & Ms. Granville's Classes Celebrate Earth Day!





### Project Hope - Therapy Dog Hook; Mr. Merolle Trainer Mr. Steven Rose (LCSW) and Mr. Peter Portello

These Earth Day pictures reflect protecting our environment through recycling common objects. As shown in the top picture, 2-liter soda bottles were repurposed by the students as planters/terrariums.

Kudos to Mr. Merolle for his foresight and for being the moving force behind this visit to Mrs. Cole's and Ms. Granville's classrooms. The therapy dog, Hook, provided the students an opportunity to relieve stress during the pandemic. The students also learned the history of Hook's achievements.



Principal/Director:

Mr. Gray

Assistant Principals / Directors Asistente:
Dr. Hill
Mr. Moore
Mrs. Moore-Drayton

Dean of Students/Decano of Estudiantes:
Mr. Davis
Mrs. Vanhook

IB Coordinator: Ms. St. John

Guidance Counselors / Guia Consejeros:

6<sup>th</sup> grade – Mr. Merolle 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Ms. Velez 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Mr. Isom

Community School Director / comunidad escolar directora:
Mrs. Sowell

Newsletter Advisors / boletin asesores: Mishka Fox & Bev Robinson

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