



**BLACK EYE PEAS' LYRICS IGNITE SPIRIT!** "Lets get it started!" was played as the catalyst to promoting diversity. "Don't worry about it, people, we'll walk you through it." an excerpt from the song explained the purpose of the day: to open students' eyes to new experiences, new cultures, and new people. "I'm not even Jewish, but I was drawn into joining the Israeli dancing. And I had fun!" said **Victoria Biddle, 11.**

## day we adore [Diversity Day]

By: Tamar Ingber

**H**aitian, Venezuelan, Vietnamese, and Belgian are only a few of the diverse origins of Sycamore's student body. Diversity Day, a biannual celebration, was created to help promote appreciation of this diverse atmosphere. Mrs. **Marilyn Ray, history teacher**, planned over the course of the whole year to create this meaningful day.

This celebration was needed to emphasize the differences in the student body, so that the great similarities could become quite obvious.

"The greatest was Slammin' John. He was full of energy and had a great outlook on life," said **Nathan Schlimme, 10.**

Although **Slammin' John**, opening speaker, was in a wheelchair, his attitude soared to greater heights than most could ever hope to reach. Following, was keynote speaker **Mr. Richard Santana, Harvard graduate**, who was initially introduced as Mr. Chocolate. From gang member, to Harvard, his story captured the audience.

"I enjoyed the lunch and it made me want to take a nap on an Indian pillow because I loved the Indian food the best," said **Michael Kahan, 11.**

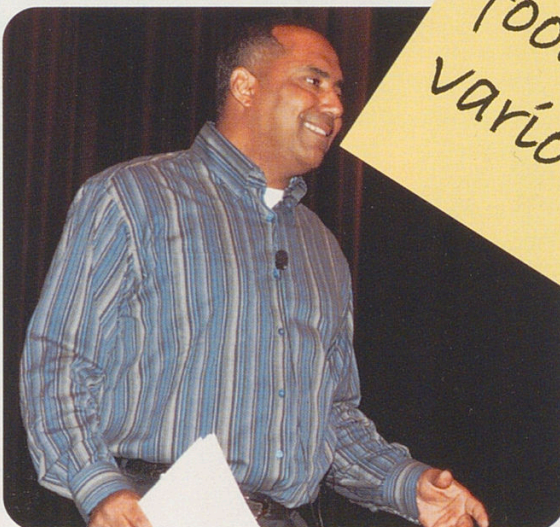
One of the greatest successes of the day was the great feast, which crossed all nation's borders and boundaries. **Kristen Holthaus, 11**, worked the Arabian Food because she wanted to display her love and appreciation of different cultures and their cuisine.

But the closing ceremony was beautifully compiled, and many saw Sycamore fuse together.

"I loved the end, and when the people in the stands ran to dance on the floor, it didn't seem like Sycamore. The truth was, we really got it started," said **Kelsey Tremblay, 9.**

**A DRAGON FIGHT?** No, way! **Chester Chen, 10**, and **Billy Tang, 10**, each manned the head and jaw of the colorful dragons. The symbol of a dragon represented wisdom in the Chinese culture.

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Students had  
a chance to eat  
food from 17  
various cultures.



### DIVERSITY IS AS FUN AS A GAME OF FOOTBALL.

**Marvin Lewis**, head coach of the Cincinnati Bengals, addressed a select group on the greatness of diversity. **Lewis** cracked jokes and commented on the Bengals season; however, his overall theme was "Lets get [Diversity] started."