Synesthesia is a neurologically based phenomenon where stimulation of one sensory pathway leads to automatic, involuntary experiences in a second pathway. Over 60 types have been reported and it is estimated that it affects 1 in 23. Synesthesia generally runs in families.

- **Grapheme → color synesthesia**: individual letters and numbers are "tinged" with a color. Ex: "I realized that to make an R, all I had to do was first write a P and draw a line down from its loop. And I was so surprised that I could turn a yellow letter into an orange letter just by adding a line." "In elementary school I remember knowing how to spell the word 'priority' because ... an 'e' was out of place in that word because e's were yellow and didn't fit."
- **Sound → color synesthesia**: voice, music, and sounds like clattering dishes trigger color and simple shapes that arise, move around, and then fade when the stimulus ends. Some see music on a "screen" in front of their face.
- **Number form**: a mental map of numbers, which appears when the person thinks of numbers, months, and/or days. These elicit precise locations in space (i.e., 1980 is be “farther away” than 1990), or may form a 3D map.
- **Visual motion → sound synesthesia**: hearing sounds in response to visual motion and flicker.
- **The rare lexical → gustatory synesthesia**: individual words evoke taste sensations in the mouth.

**People with the condition include**: Leonard Bernstein, Duke Ellington, Richard Feynman, Billy Joel, Valdimir Nabokov, Stevie Wonder, Patrick Stump. (Ex: Ellington: “I hear a note by one of the fellows... and it’s one color. I hear the same note played by someone else and it’s a different color. When I hear sustained musical tones... I see them in textures. If Harry Carney is playing, D is dark blue burlap. If Johnny Hodges is playing, G becomes light blue satin.” Feynman: "When I see equations, I see the letters in colors – I don’t know why. As I’m talking, I see vague pictures of Bessel function..., with light-tan j’s, slightly violet-bluish n’s, and dark brown x’s flying around. And I wonder what the hell it must look like to the students.")

**Get out of Here!**

**Events in Boston**

- **6th Annual Sowa Holiday Market**: Sat 12/12 10a-6p Cathedral High School, Boston
- **Downtown Crossing Holiday Market**: Mon 12/7 11a-7p, Downtown Crossing, Boston
- **Holiday Ornaments – Glassblowing**: Sat 12/12 2-7p, Diablo Glass School. Learn the basic skills of gathering glass from the furnace, applying color & introducing air to create a bubble. Instructors will help you create ornaments w/ glass hooks.
- **The 236th Anniversary Boston Tea Party Annual Reenactment**: Sun 12/13 5:30-7p, Old South Meeting House, Boston

**Food for Thought**

- The World’s largest toy distributor is McDonalds.
- Firehouses have circular stairways is from the days when the engines were pulled by horses. The horses were stabled on the ground floor and figured out how to walk up straight staircases.
- There are only four words in the common English language that end in “-ous”: tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.
- The "Spanish Flu" of 1918, which killed at least 50 million people, originated in Kansas, not Spain.

**Questions to Ponder**

- What is the most important lesson you’ve learned at Harvard?
- What is your greatest temptation?
- What are you most guilty of?
- What is most important to you?
- What would you rather be doing?
- Are you running for HoCo? Why not?
- What is the most important lesson you’ve learned at Harvard?

**Command Center**

- **Sleep.**

**Upcoming Lev Events**

- **Prelaw Get-Together: The Legal Profession and Legal Internships**: Tues 12/8, 8p (SCR)
- **Sherry Hour**: Th 12/10, 5p, (SCR)
- **Holiday Open House**: Th, 12/10, 8:30p (Masters’ Residence)
- **Donut Bash**: Fri 12/11, 10p, dhall. 660 kosher donuts. One house.

**DAPA and Lev Present:**

DAPA and lululemon athletica bring you a free yoga class, delicious snacks and shopping! **Wednesday, December 9**: Free yoga class, 8-9 pm, Lev Old Library Free snacks and shopping for discounted lululemon athletic wear and accessories, 9-10 pm, Lev JCR Please bring your own yoga mat if you have one, but no worries if you don’t.

Healthy regards for reading period! Your Drug and Alcohol Peer Advisers

**A Message from Chief:**

Have you hugged your postman today? You may have noticed that the leverett mail is working unusually well. The prevailing theory is that this is the result of the hard and careful work of Ben French. Give Ben a pat on the back when you see him for a job well done!
Deadline for Leverett House Newsletter submissions is Thursday at 11:59pm.
Please e-mail Leverettnews@gmail.com. Thanks!

**Join the Force!**
**Sign Up for Winter IMS!**

- Winter Sports
  - Basketball
  - Dodgeball
  - Ice Hockey
  - Squash
  - Table Tennis

**House Life Survey**
Hey Lev! Fill out the House Life Survey! When money is tight, if students don’t care about the House system, important things may start to disappear. The Link is on the Lev website or at: https://www.fas.harvard.edu/~oire/surveys/house_life/

**Important Campus Dates**
- Dec 11th: Primal Scream
- Dec 12th: First Day of Finals

**Imagine Writing this on an Exam**
- "Computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." --Popular Mechanics, forecasting the relentless march of science, 1949
- "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers." --Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943
- "I have traveled the length and breadth of this country and walked with the best people, and I can assure you that data processing is a fad that won't last out the year." --The editor in charge of business books for Prentice Hall, 1957
- "But what ... is it good for?" --Engineer at the Advanced Computing Systems Division of IBM 1968, commenting on the microchip.
- "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home." --Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977
- "This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us." --Western Union internal memo, 1876.
- "I'm just glad it'll be Clark Gable who's falling on his face not Gary Cooper." --Gary Cooper on his decision not to take the leading role in "Gone With The Wind."

**Procrastination Corner**

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**Best of Harvard FML**
- When I saved my paper draft, I saved it as “f*ck this class and the stupid-ass professor.doc.” I just emailed it in to the professor, forgetting to change the name.
- At Harvard, I have been indoctrinated to question everything so much that now I’m afraid to say I like anything because nothing is ever good enough. I miss life’s simplicity. FML
- Today, my best friend told me that she would cut me up into little pieces, stir-fry me, and send my remainings to a homeless shelter if I stole her food.

**Submit to the Hare Today**
Deadline for Leverett House Newsletter submissions is Thursday at 11:59pm.
Please e-mail Leverettnews@gmail.com. Thanks!

**From Your Co-Chairs**
Hey Lev!
As we prepare to turn over the HoCo keys (and stop bombarding your inboxes), Isaac and I wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone in the House. From formal, to housing day, to everything in between, it was always the attending Leverites that made the event. On behalf of the senior members of House Committee, it was a pleasure (and really so much fun...especially stein club!).
Lev Love Always,
Jordan and Isaac

**Thank you!**
Thank you to everyone who came to Four and helped make it a remarkable formal!

**HoCo Elections**
Position statements due Dec 9th.
- Co-Chair: Jordan (jbock@fas) & Isaac (imarwin@fas)
- Social: Andrew (amccarth@fas) and Ingrid (akerlind@fas)
- Treasurer: Sam (sam.steyer@gmail.com)
- Secretary: Simin (siminlee@fas)
- Publicity: Jes (jcaplin@fas)
- PR: Tian (twen@fas)
- IM Rep: Tian (twen@fas)
- Stein Club: Sam (sbonsey@fas)
- Merchandise: Allison (asikora@fas)

*Remember: you can run as an entryway rep!*