



REGIONAL TOURNAMENT 2020

JUNIOR/SENIOR SPEECH BROADCASTING RUN-OFF

IF NEEDED

LOS ANGELES

When Hurricane Harvey slammed into the Texas coast in 2017, displaced residents flocked inland, trying to rebuild their lives in the disaster's aftermath. Within decades, the same thing could happen at a much larger scale due to rising sea levels, says a new study led by USC Computer Science Assistant Professor Bistra Dilkina.

The study, published in the online scientific journal PLOS ONE, January 22, is the first to use machine learning to project migration patterns resulting from sea-level rise. The researchers found the impact of rising oceans will ripple across the country, beyond coastal areas at risk of flooding, as affected people move inland. In the US alone, 13 million people could be forced to relocate due to rising sea levels by 2100. As a result, cities throughout the country will grapple with new populations. Effects could include more competition for jobs, increased housing prices, and more pressure on infrastructure networks.

According to the research team, most popular relocation choices will include land-locked cities such as Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, Denver and Las Vegas. The model also predicts suburban and rural areas in the Midwest will experience a disproportionately large influx of people relative to their smaller local populations.

HOLLYWOOD

CBS has officially launched STAR TREK: PICARD, a new series focusing on Jean-Luc Picard, Patrick Stewart’s iconic starship captain from the classic TV series STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION and various STAR TREK spinoff films — and CBS’s last, best hope in the streaming war.

The series premiered January 23 on the CBS All Access streaming service and unfolds 20 years after the events of the 2002 film STAR TREK: NEMESIS.

CBS released a brief preview for the series on Facebook that provided intriguing new footage. The titular former captain of the Enterprise tells viewers, “I was haunted by my past. But now, I have a mission. I will do what needs to be done.”

While the promotional spot teases some familiar faces and places, the new mission appears to involve a mysterious new character played by Isa Briones, as well as both the Borg Collective and what’s left of the Romulans.

A second season of STAR TREK: PICARD was given the green light ahead of the series’ debut. Just like the first season, season 2 of STAR TREK: PICARD will encompass 10 episodes.

TODAY IN LITERARY HISTORY

It’s the birthday of Langston Hughes. The world-famous American author was born on this day in 1901 in Joplin, Missouri, and died May 22, 1967 in New York. Langston Hughes was an African American writer whose poems, columns, novels and plays made him a leading figure in the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s.

He attended Columbia University, but left after one year to travel. A leading light of the Harlem Renaissance, Hughes published his first book in 1926. He went on to write countless works of poetry, prose, columns, and plays.

Hughes is best known today for his poems, which are often anthologized in classroom texts, including "Harlem (What happens to a dream deferred?)" "Mother to Son" and "Theme for English B."

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