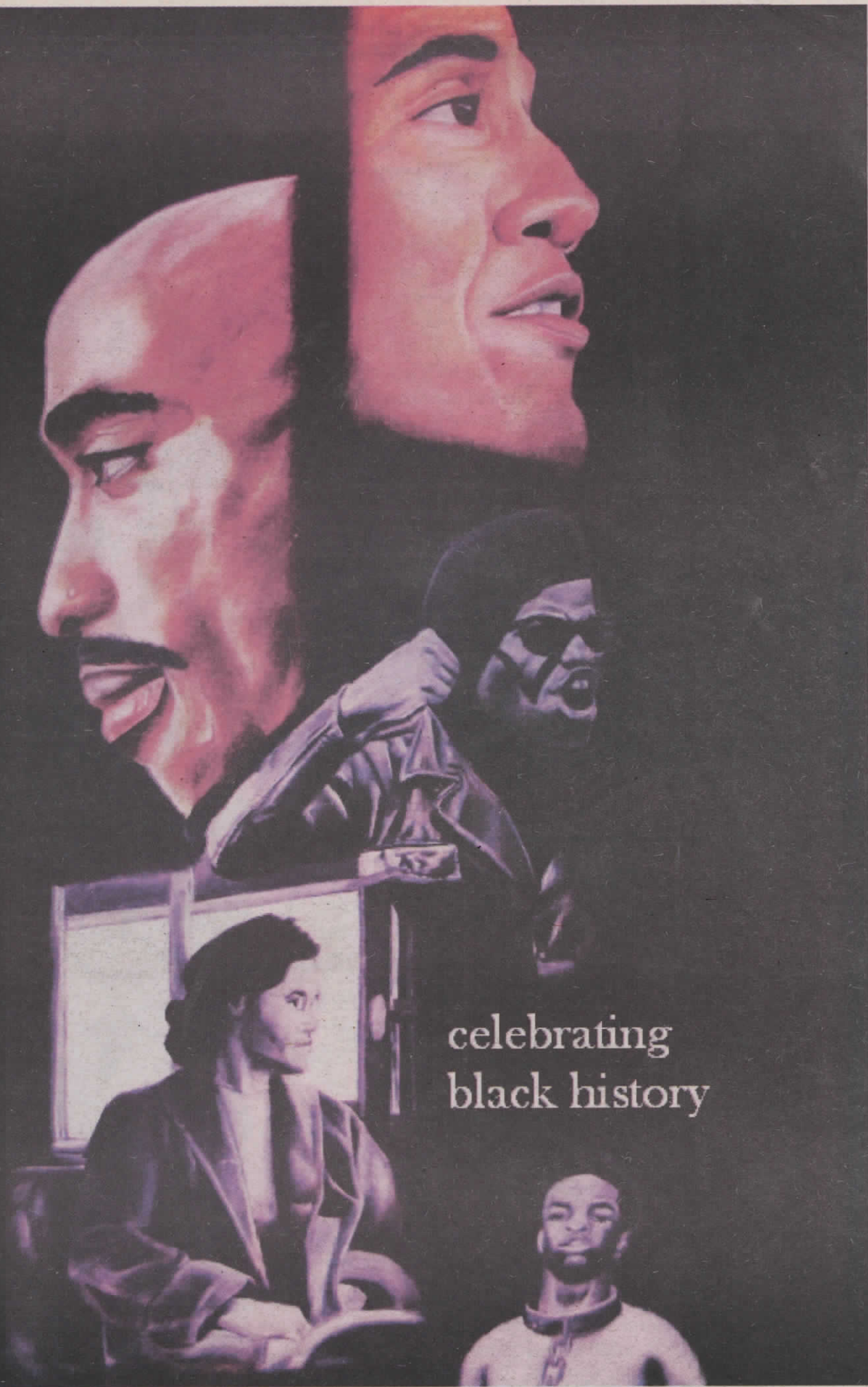


# APPALUSE

Volume 11, Issue 5

February 2010



celebrating  
black history

## Editor's Note



I still can't get over being in this new campus. It feels like some sort of strange dream where all of my friends are here, I'm taking all of my classes, but it's all in the wrong location. Don't get me wrong, I really love this campus. There's no mold threatening future lung cancer in the ceilings, the lunch lines go about ten times faster, and I could pretty much move into the beautiful new library. Even with all these improvements it still feels strange to not be at our tired little campus. Despite the changes, I wholeheartedly believe that the student body has not changed one bit. We are still sketchy, bizarre, and strange, but also incredibly talented. This issue celebrates Black History Month and Valentine's Day. (And for those of you that feel that Valentine's day is a stupid holiday created for the purpose of supporting the greeting card industry (I'm right there with you) stay strong this February 14th!) I hope you enjoy the issue! Thank you for all the positive feedback on our Tenth Anniversary double issue.

Chaney@SOA-Applause.com

Cover by

# Chris Ulmer

## Applause

the official student publication

### Charleston County School of the Arts

*Founded in 1995 by Rose Maree Myers*

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# THE JEFFERSON AWARD

## Hailey Bowers and Zachary Sharpe go above and beyond in public service

By Cat Bowler

This month's recipients of the Jefferson Award for public service are Hailey Bowers and Zachary Sharpe. Both Hailey and Zach are current members of the Jefferson Service Club at SOA.

Over winter break, Hailey served food at the "Christmas with Special Friends" event at TBONZ. She has contributed to the program for years, and this Christmas, the volunteers served a record number of people. It was a hectic season. Over 195 children

came to eat from homeless shelters, orphanages, and group homes. About 200 adults were also in attendance, and TBONZ delivered 425 dinners to senior citizens in



the area.

Hailey is a dedicated member of SOA's Student Council, which recently collected food for the North Charleston Food Bank. Hailey played a critical role in promoting the fundraiser dance for the food drive, which brought together Academic Magnet and SOA students. With the support of her family, Hailey donated over 900 cans of vegetables. The Student Council as a whole raised about 4,000 pounds of food.

Zach joined the Jefferson Service Club in October, shortly after the Invisible Children representatives visited SOA. Eager to aid the Invisible

Children Organization's cause, he volunteered alongside Hailey Bowers and Jamie Amick to head the school-wide paperback book drive for Uganda. Together, Hailey

and Zach decorated donation boxes, made banners, and hand-crafted over 200 flyers to post around the old SOA campus. They volunteered all of their free time to the cause, obtaining paper-back books to fill Mr. Smyth's bookshelves, hanging flyers during their lunch period and making rounds to all of the teachers after school to encourage them to donate. Zach even stood in the car-rider line every morning with a large poster to promote the book drive to parents.

Zach also heard about another volunteer opportunity through the Jefferson Club: Breakfast with Santa at the John Wesley United Methodist Church in West Ashley. He helped serve breakfast to almost 300 people at the fundraiser which benefitted Charleston's hearing

impaired community. All of the proceeds went toward funding field trips for hearing impaired students. Members of the Jefferson Club served food, painted children's faces, and helped with arts and crafts at the function.



Around school, Zach lent a hand to teachers packing up their rooms in preparation for SOA's big move to the new campus, and he stays after often to help collect and sort recycling. Zach's volunteer efforts extend beyond the realm of SOA and into the community where he is active in the

youth group at his church.

Congratulations to Zach and Hailey for their outstanding commitment to community service.

## The Jefferson Service Club is open to all

By Cat Bowler

SOA's Jefferson Service Club is rapidly growing and is extending its influence far beyond the life-size windows of the new campus. During the book drive for Uganda, which ran from late November through mid-December, SOA collected over 800 paperback books for children in Uganda. With the new year in full swing, the Jefferson Service Club is helping North Charleston High School start its own JSC, the eighth Jefferson Club in the CCSD so far. SOA's JSC founder Mr. Bill Smyth has no intention of stopping there as the next big fundraiser kicks off: Hearts for Haiti. From January 26 through February 14, SOA students and faculty will be able to purchase red, white, or pink paper hearts to be hung in the media center. Half of the proceeds will go toward the Red Cross hospital ship, anchored off the coast of Haiti, onto which the most severely injured children are airlifted for treatment by a team of international doctors. The other half will go to three Haitian orphanages.

JSC is also supporting [www.GoodbyeMinimallyAdequate.com](http://www.GoodbyeMinimallyAdequate.com), a petition aimed at changing the wording in the South Carolina constitution to include the words "high-quality education" and "highest student potential." This effort is in response to a South Carolina Supreme Court ruling that denied increased funding to low-income schools in rural South Carolina which were deemed the "Corridor of Shame" due to poor academic performance. The current wording in the state constitution only guarantees "minimally adequate" funding and education quality. The goal is to acquire one million signatures by November 2010. Many SOA students and faculty have already signed the petition.

Anyone is welcome to join the Jefferson Service Club, and everyone is encouraged to create an account on [www.studentsinaction.net](http://www.studentsinaction.net), a website that connects students and educational administrators from across the nation in the effort to help communities around the world.

Symptoms such as addiction, depression, anxiety and feelings of emptiness or inadequacy are messages from your soul. Analysis and psychotherapy can help you understand these messages and resolve the underlying problems. This is the goal of my clinical practice.

Sharon E. Martin, FNP, CNS, PhD eq.  
Diplomate, C.G. Jung Institute, Zurich

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*Your vision will become clear only when you can look into your own heart. Who looks outside, only dreams; who looks inside, also awakens.*

— C. G. Jung

## The cross-culture club expands horizons

By Haley Dixon



This year a new club has come to School of the Arts. The Cross Culture Club, a group dedicated to mixing different languages and the ideas of societies around the world. Mrs. Crawford, SOA's Spanish teacher, took the initiative to begin the club.

Mrs. Crawford said, "I wanted to promote an interest in studying another language. There are so many interesting things to learn about other places; from food, customs, history, art, music, and sports. I also hope to encourage students to study abroad and travel whenever possible. I believe this expands a person's horizons and gives them a world view."

The Club has started to accomplish Mrs. Crawford's goal through the club activities. For the first meeting they learned to dance the Salsa, cooked food, and went

over some of the Spanish language.

"We have a featured country or theme each month. Last month we had salsa lessons and refreshments from Latin-America. This month we are featuring Italy, serving Italian food, learning a few phrases in Italian, and learning a little about the geography and customs there," says Mrs. Crawford.

Club officers are Melissa Thompson, tenth grade band

major (class secretary), Ashley Prentice ninth grade creative writer (vice president), and Cayli Crawford, tenth grade visual artist (president). It is their jobs to know who showed up and who didn't; and to help organize the meetings. On asking about the Cross-Culture Club, Ashley Prentice said, "We are not just doing Spanish. We had a tenth grader's mom come in and make food. This Monday we are going to sample Italian food."

As of now, there are only two teachers behind the group. Mrs. Crawford (Spanish) and Mr. Pezezca (French); the two of them are attempting "to promote an interest in and a greater understanding of various languages and cultures around the world," says Mrs. Crawford.

## Remembering J.D. Salinger

By Rebecca Forman

J.D. Salinger, notorious recluse and, as described by *The New York Times*, "famous for not wanting to be famous," died Wednesday the January 27th of natural causes. However adamantly he tried to avoid the public eye, Salinger remained an icon throughout the greater part of his life. *Catcher in the Rye* is one of the most influential novels of the 20th century and still sells an overwhelming 250,000 copies a year. Few American high school students, well read or not, are completely unaware of the novel. Most have formulated their own strong opinions of *Catcher's* protagonist, Holden Caulfield. Whether they relate to the misanthropic runaway or claim they can't stand him (my theory is he hits too close to home for some), no one can deny they are affected by him. Creative writing teacher Mr. Scapellato says of the loss, "Salinger

is an icon, albeit a mean icon. I was really bummed, but he was 91. He lived a long time. *Catcher in the Rye* was published in 1951, yet almost 60 years later, he's still rel-



Salinger passed away at the age of 91

evant." Salinger, who published his last short stories in 1965 in the *New Yorker*, also published three story collections: *Nine Stories*, *Franny and Zooey* and *Raise High the Roof-Beam, Carpenters* and *Seymour: An Introduction*. Although this is a relatively slim anthology for such a highly regarded writer, Salinger may have left behind a vault of other manuscripts. Dr. Cusatis, who has published several articles on Salinger and his work, says of this "I've enjoyed reading these four

great books over and over and hope a flood of new ones are now on the way." J.D. Salinger's influence withstood his life of opposition to the spotlight and will easily withstand his death.

## Students get to explore their more athletic side with SOA's new rugby team

By Wes Snell

SOA is not exactly renowned for its athletics program. However, this year high school math teacher Mr. Percy is hoping to change that by founding the school's first rugby team, the only high school team currently operating in the Charleston area. Once again, we diverge. Rugby is a sport similar to football, only without the pads and with a possibly even more fanatic following. Mr. Percy played four years at USC between 1986 and 1990, and went on to play for the Charleston Men's Club team the Outlaws until 1997. "After high school the chance of playing a sport in college becomes miniscule, but not so with rugby," he said, "Rugby is a lifelong sport." It's also a club sport, not officially sanctioned in the high school system, so it is a way to bring athletics to our school without disrupting the current structure.



The rugby team meet Mondays and Wednesdays

Practices are Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30-5:15, and anyone who wants to play can sign up. Players from the Outlaws who are trying to facilitate the growth of rugby in the Charleston area will be volunteering as coaches and helping players of all levels develop their skills. Why would someone want to play rugby? "There's camaraderie in it, like a fraternity (or sorority, girls.) It's a way to have a great time and build friendships and get exercise. The cool

thing about rugby is it's a great networking system and very accessible. I can show up in any city with a rugby league, and on a given Tuesday say "I wanna play" and be on the field in no time." Though we will finish the year as a developmental, noncompetitive team in its gestation phase, next year players will travel as far as Aiken and Columbia to compete. Let's see: fellowship, fun, exercise, frequent travel? Who could say no? Of course, there's the whole getting ploughed into the dirt thing, but some people are into that. This is an exciting time for SOA's eclectic athletic program as rugby joins up alongside Ultimate Frisbee and our sailing team as a new way for students to channel their energy into something other than a saxophone or paintbrush. Anyone who wants to sign up can contact Mr. Percy.

# Winter Formal 2010

By Brittany Ropp

On Saturday, January 16th, SOA's annual Winter Formal was held at the Aquarium. The weather was murky, rainy and disgusting, but that didn't stop students from showing up. There were professional photographers to the right of the entrance to take overpriced, posed pictures. Even though only 6 seniors attended, none of them seemed to mind that they were vastly outnumbered by underclassmen. Towards the beginning of the dance, the top floor was open to view, but by 9:30, all of the students were downstairs dancing and the top floor could no longer be accessed. The DJ did an excellent job picking up to date music that everyone loved. Most of the students, including my friends and I, were on the dance floor the majority of the time and didn't leave until the music stopped playing. Like most dances, the girls showed up in extremely high heels that came right off once the music started playing. Right after I took my heels off, someone stepped on my toes, so unfortunately, my heels had to stay on the entire night. At one point, a circle was formed in the dance floor and two male students moved to the middle to have a dance off. It was spontaneous and livened up the dance. Also, towards the end of the dance, a long train was formed with most of the students on the dance floor. The one downfall of the night was that the whole place smelled like fish and fish food, which is understandable because we were at an aquarium, but it was still gross. I didn't really get to look around the top floor because it closed shortly after I got there, but on the first floor there was a large tank by the dance floor filled with gorgeous fish. There was also a Bald Eagle and another large tank with Penguins inside. My friends and I were intrigued by the penguins most of all, so we snapped a couple of shots in front of the tank. When it was time to leave, I was thrilled to finally take off my heels and walk through the cold puddles of water to the parking garage. The night all together was a lot of fun and worth going to. If you missed out this year, make sure to go next time.



# Fire Alarm Scare

By David Sass

On Tuesday, January 19, the day that students returned from the five-day weekend after the end of the semester and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, SOA was hyped up by a trio of unexpected fire alarms. When the first alarm went off during first block, everyone was caught by surprise, it seemed, including the teachers and administration. However, the staff reacted with exemplary behavior, making it clear that they were ready for a fire, whether it was a drill or not. A second and third alarm were to go off later that day during Second Block, though by the third alarm, it was clear to everyone that something was wrong, and announced that everyone should return to their respective classrooms before they could all line up across the street in front of the buildings.

The culprit? Dust in an air duct

## Toys for Tots drive is a success

By Samantha Dahabi



Senior Addison Dent sorting donations for the toy drive

The Toys for Tots drive SOA hosted in December has turned out to be an enormous success. The SOA community collected over six hundred and twenty toys. The bearded beauty contest brought in another \$630.00. With the money raised, we were able to

in the high school building that was being mistaken for smoke by a sensor. Mr. Reinhart brought this to the attention of the construction team that day, who worked through the night to fix the problem. In addition, an operator has been placed at the main switchboard to shut the alarm off if the problem occurs again. After some thoughtful deliberation, Mr. Reinhart sent out an email to the teachers instructing them all to disregard the fire alarms for the rest of that day.

"We cannot become complacent to the problem, but we also can't have disruptions to the entire school like that happen every week," Mr. Reinhart commented "But at least we would know that we have the best fire drill response in the whole county."

purchase nine brand new bikes, Mr. Southwick was named 2009's Bearded King and Mr. Reinhart, the Bearded Prince. On December 18th a group of seniors loaded their cars with the toys to be delivered to Channel 2. Senior council members were featured as they presented the toys on the six o'clock news with weatherman Rob Fowler. Senior class president Lauren DiNicola was "excited about the way the school was able to come together" while collecting toys. On Christmas morning, students participated in delivering toys to homes. At first, senior Maddie Cooper was apprehensive about giving up her last Christmas at home, but quickly changed her mind after seeing the looks on the children's faces as they received new toys. "It was an amazing feeling and I loved how excited the kids got over just a couple of toys," says Maddie. Toys for Tots was a great success. Ms. Awkerman, senior class advisor, hopes to make it part of our tradition at SOA.



## TRAPPED WITH THE TOILETS!

By Cat Bowler

Ms. Beth Crawford and Ms. Ruth Passarello arrived bright and early on the first day of Winter Break when teachers could begin unpacking their books at the new SOA campus. When they carried their morning conversation into the bathroom (see Girl Law, Section 4: safety in numbers, especially when exploring unfamiliar territory) neither could have imagined the peril that loomed beyond the Faculty Restroom door.

Things ran smoothly until Ms. Crawford attempted to open the bathroom door, discovering that she and Ms. Passarello were locked in. Although on any other day their predicament may have made for a good laugh in the teacher's lounge, on December 29, 2009, the school was more or less (more) deserted. Their cell phones had no service. Instinct set in, and the two trapped teachers began banging on the door. At last a cleaning person heard their desperate cries for help and summoned a Heery construction worker. As their time entrapped in the locked bath-

room rapidly approached twenty minutes, the construction worker struggled to pick the lock before searching for a master set of keys. Ms. Passarello mulled it over but came up firmly against "spending New Years in a bathroom." With time running out, it seemed as though cannibalism might have to bring 29 beautiful years of friendship to a screeching halt.

After trying and failing to free the teachers with an assortment of different keys, one finally worked. That particular key worked once, and only once, on the bathroom lock. The construction workers unsuccessfully tried to unlock the door for an hour after Ms. Crawford and Ms. Passarello were liberated. A few days later, a locksmith arrived at SOA to try his hand at the curiously stuck bathroom door. It took two days for his attempts to merit results, and the defective lock was replaced. Ms. Crawford

reflects on the whole ordeal that had it not been for that kind and patient construction worker, she and Ms. Passarello would have been found on the first day of school in January "as little dried up mummies."



Ms. Passarello and Ms. Crawford with their rescuer

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## Mr. Singleton stays busy with music

By Cat Bowler

Cat Bowler: *What have you been working on recently?*

Charleton Singleton: My biggest project right now is the Charleston Jazz Orchestra (CJO). We are starting our Second Season on January 30th and have a total of six shows planned at the Charleston Music Hall. More information is available at [www.thejac.org](http://www.thejac.org).

CB: *What upcoming events are you involved with?*

CS: In addition to the CJO, I am also playing around town in a few different venues. I had a very interesting show on February 2, 2010 at the Sotille Theater. SOA graduate Joel Hamilton was also a part of this show.

CB: *It seems like a simple question, when in actuality it is the most vital I could ask... What*

## Former SOA band instructor conducts CJO

By Cat Bowler

A little freezing rain couldn't deter local Jazz lovers from swimming out to the Charleston Music Hall on Saturday night, January 30, for the first Charleston Jazz Orchestra performance of the 2010 season, "Swing! Swing! Swing!" When interviewed onstage by emcee Jack McCray about the most attractive aspect of swing music, Conductor Charleton Singleton beamed that "it just makes you want to move." The audience was in clear agreement as a packed house swayed and tapped their feet to the first set, which featured numerous clarinet solos and jazz standards "A Tisket a Tasket" and "Woodchoppers Ball." The night's theme was

"Arguably One of the Most Popular Songs of the Swing Era..." a phrase which Singleton coined early on in the performance and promised to reuse while introducing each song.

As he arranged the music for the

*motivates you to play music?*

CS: There are too many things to name.... most of the time it is just the fun and joy of creating something new each time. Other times it is just having fun with friends.

CB: *Do you have plans to record in the future?*

CS: Yes. I am in the process of recording right now.

CB: *What were some of your most memorable experiences from teaching middle school Band at SOA?*

CS: Taking the current senior class on a field trip to the Charleston Museum for a performance. I took only them and they were six graders! They were so excited and they played EXTREMELY well for their age. I was very proud.

"Swing! Swing! Swing!" set list, Singleton's goal was to select easily recognizable tunes. During intermission, I overheard a man in the seat behind mine remark to his neighbor that the CJO's music is "a gift for this town." The Band opened the second set with "In the Mood," a familiar song for anyone who has ever attended the SOA Jazz Band's "Jump, Jive, and Wail." Towards the end of the evening, Singleton stunned the crowd with two powerful trumpet solos in "When I Fall In Love" and "Corner Pocket" before conducting a surprise preview of the CJO's next concert, "Singin' On Basie," which promises to be a

captivating spinoff of their first season show, "Countin' On Basie." "Singin' On Basie" premiers at the Charleston Music Hall on March 27 and will be a night chalk-full of Jazz legend Count Basie's biggest hits.



## Where are they now? Hamadi Brown

By David Sass



### SOA alumnus Hamadi Brown

Hamadi Brown is a Creative Writing alumnus from SOA's first graduating class in 2001 who went on to major in Special Education at the College of Charleston. He has taught at James Island Charter High School and is currently teaching at the Liberty Hill Academy.

*What have you been teaching at JICHS and LHA?*

I served as a LD Self-Contained Teacher at James Island Charter High School for the past four years; however, due to schooling, I had to complete an internship and start all over again. I am now camped out next door to my high school alma mater as an IAES (Intermittent Alternative Educational Setting) LD Resource Teacher at Liberty Hill Academy.

*What made you want to become a teacher?*

I wanted a career where I could help people better themselves as we learn

more together. Special education allows me the opportunity to work with students who have the capabilities, but require a little more care. Hence, I checked into the special education clinic and never checked out!

*Have the Creative Writing skills you developed here helped you since you left?* Yes, Mrs. Miles constant rambling about verb tense and clarity has enabled me to win many battles in and out of the classroom. I used my writing skills to strengthen a lot of my students and provide encouragement and support through life's challenges. The ability to manipulate words through oral and written communication in my lessons is awesome. And who can forget Ms. Marshall and the infamous "Hester Prine!" *After SOA, how did you further your education?*

I got my undergraduate degree in Special Education from CofC with certification in Learning Disabilities and Emotional Disabilities. I completed the M Ed. Program in Counselor Education at The Citadel this past December. Now I am back in school again. I am only taking one class to become certified to work with students with Intellectual Developmental Disorders (EMD). Another result of SOA- there's always something else no matter how hard you try to stop.

*How have your experiences at SOA affected you?*

My experience at SOA has made the person I am today. Well rounded, culturally sound, and able to use creativity to adapt to any environment.

*What are your aspirations as an educator?*

My aspirations as an educator are to never stop learning. There's always something new to gain from someone and I want it all.

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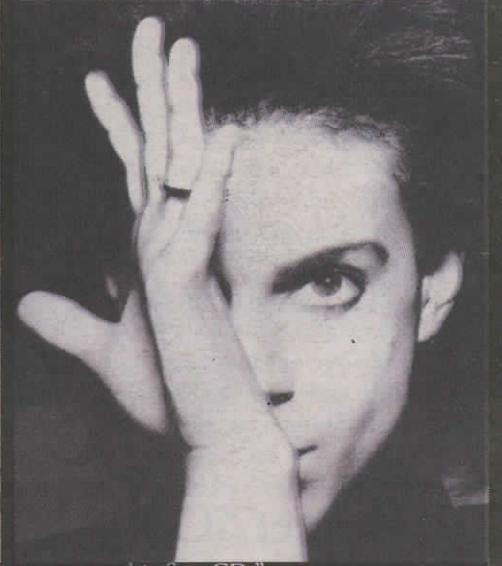
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# What African-American



"Duke Ellington because he made simple cords sound extravagant.  
He inspires me to be like him when I play jazz."  
Brittany Mitchell, 12th Piano



"Prince. He played 27 instruments on his first CD."  
Calvin Baxter, 11th Band



"Alicia Keys because she her uses her talent to help others."  
Teisha Barr, 12th Vocal



"Langston Hughes. I think he gives good imagery and really shows  
what it's like to live in Harlem during the 1950's."  
Alex Peeples, 8th Creative Writing



"John Legend because when he sings you get a sense of sincerity."  
Francis Smalls, 12th Vocal

# Celebrating Black His



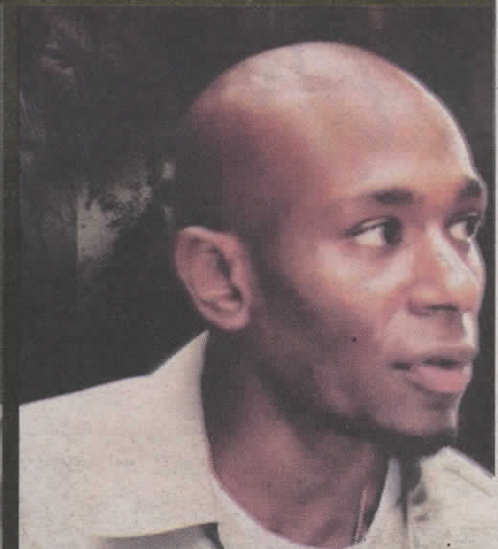
# an artist inspires you?



"Beyonce because she represents all the single ladies."  
Maddie Cooper, 12th Band



"Mos Def because he balances his musical career and his dramatic career with elegance."  
Cierah Sargent, 10th Theatre



"Jonathan Greene because he uses bright colors and uses an impressionistic style.  
It's different than the traditional style that we are used to."  
Madison Smith, 11th Visual Arts



"Jean Michel Basquiat because his artistic mission was to write anti materialism messages in plain view of some of the worst materialists around."  
Chris Sim, 12th Visual Arts



"Alvin Ailey because of all his revelations."  
Cecelia McTighe, 12th Dance



# g ory Month

# Advice to Lovers

From Aphrodite and Athena

A and A here, your one and only source into the fabulous lives of the SOA elite. Average mortals, like yourself, write in with an issue and we find a solution. Looking to lure the one you love? Aphrodite, goddess of love, has got you covered. Looking for revenge? Athena, goddess of war, can set you on the right track. With Valentine's Day right around the corner we figured you could use a little extra push...a guiding hand. A way to show your loved one you truly care, or don't.

XoXo,  
Aphrodite and Athena

Dear Aphrodite and Athena,

So I have a boyfriend, and I really, really, like really like him. But there's this guy that likes me. Actually he says he loves me. I don't want to be mean to him and just ignore him, but he's not getting the fact that I have a boyfriend. What do I say to him?

-Love me Later  
Dear Love me later,

Be gentle...remember that it could be you in his shoes next time. The best way to get your relationship status to sink in is for him to visually see that you are not available. However, you are not to take it over the top, for that will only cause more trouble.

-Aphrodite

Why don't you want to be mean to him? He's just going to keep bugging you if he is already confessing his love to you. Honesty is the best policy. Tell him you have a boyfriend and you're not interested at all. He isn't worth your time, and he isn't worth putting your current relationship in jeopardy.

-Athena

Dear Aphrodite and Athena,

Every time I see this person, I don't seem to be much of myself at all. At heart, I am a major goof ball! Around him I slip into a blubbery mess. Sometimes I just want to go into a room after I've talked him and hit myself a few times. There have been times when I've gotten back to my car at the end of the day in the school parking lot and rest my head on my steering wheel and ask WHY, OH Why can't their just be ONE NORMAL day that where he likes what he sees and I could just be myself?? Help :(

-Blubbery Mess  
Dear Blubbery Mess,

Know that you are NOT alone. More than likely he has experienced the same feelings for someone else. There's always going to be someone out there who alters our confidence. Keep your chin up and walk tall. But watch where you are going because you wouldn't want to trip and make a complete idiot of yourself. And if he doesn't take the bait, you know what they say... there are plenty more fish in the sea.

-Aphrodite

If you're not yourself around him, then stop hanging out with him. If he doesn't like you for you, then why do you even bother trying to talk to him? You seem like a cool person, and I'm sure you can find someone that likes you for who you are and not what you're pretending to be. You can't actually like each other if he doesn't even know who you really are. Move on and find someone else. He's not worth it.

-Athena

Dear Aphrodite and Athena,

So there's this girl I really like - we're talking clammy hands, squinty eyes, sweat dripping off the end of my nose - the whole deal, every time I see her. Unfortunately, her mind's been completely sedated by corporate-sponsored love. She loves The Notebook, When Harry Met Sally, Robert Pattinson, chocolates in heart-shaped boxes, long strolls on the beach at night, and all other things conventionally romantic. How do I manage to do something that will really blow her socks off short of rebuilding a southern plantation for her, or refusing to suck her blood? Keep in mind I'd like to come out the other side of Valentine's Day with my dignity and sanity intact.

-Romantically Challenged

Dear Romantically Challenged,

Love is just a game, especially when courting the one who intrigues you the most. To surprise her this Valentines Day, set up a scavenger hunt. Write a Shakespearian sonnet that gives clues that hint to the event of the evening. The date will lead her from place to place as she unravels the clues eventually leading up to her favorite spot... maybe a moonlit stroll on the beach.

-Aphrodite

You know how you can "blow her socks off".....forget Valentine's Day. It's a stupid, made-up holiday anyways. Get her mind off of the "corporate-sponsored love." All of that is a joke anyway. No one lives the fairytale and you should train her now while she's young. Love is fake, created to make movies and books more interesting. Let her know that. She'll thank you eventually.

-Athena

## Passing Strange is electrifying

By Shaless Robinson

*Passing Strange* is an electrifying, shockingly inspiring play. It tells the story of a youth and his journey to escape his family ties and expectations and trying to find his own identity. The cast of the play constricted of only seven actors and actresses in the entire, two hour and fifteen minute, musical. The youth played by Daniel Breaker, Mother by Elisa Davis, Edwina / Marianna / Sudabey played by De'Adre Aziza, Mr. Franklin / Joop / Mr. Venus

- played by Colman Domingo, Sherry / Renata / Desi played by Rebecca Naomi Jones, Terry / Christophe / Hugo played by Chad Goodridge, and the narrator was the author of the play Mark Stewart.

The harmonious banging of the lyrics and the instruments in hand with the Youth's actions deliver an affect that is sure to stay with every viewer. As the youth travels to Amsterdam



the idea of physical want, without obligation. The youth comes across a creed of all black musicians whose motto is "What's inside is just a lie"; to gain their respect he rants about his fabricated ghetto background. For this song the stage lights were completely off, and the only light inside the entire theater was a string of lantern shaped lights held by the youth. As his lyrics screech out "Am I real now?...I'm the black one" he would flash the lights on and off; and every time the lights were flashed

on he would be in a new position. Despite the dynamics of the play, the entire thing revolves around family, love, life, growing up, and finding yourself.

The musical won numerous awards. A few are: Tony Awards Best Book, Drama Desk Awards Outstanding Musical, Drama Desk Awards Outstanding Lyrics, and New York Drama Critics Award for Best Musical.

## A nice place for inexpensive food

By Brittany Ropp

On the inside, Moe's Tavern looks like any other sports bar. The place itself is tiny and packed with tables and televisions. It's not in a luxurious building, but it has a homey feel to it. The bar is decorated with vintage furniture. Because of its downtown location, you may find it difficult to find immediate parking. UrbanSpoon.com (a restaurant review website), rated Moe's #5 for their burgers and #1 for Best Cheap Eats in Charleston. Charleston City Paper voted Moe's "Best Pub Food." Since I've heard so many praises about their burgers, I ordered a Bacon Cheeseburger with fries. The burger came out cooked to my standards. Our waiter was very nice and efficient, even while the place was packed. Moe's



menu includes quesadilla's, seafood appetizers, burgers, sandwiches, wraps, salads, soups, ice cream, and a Sunday Brunch menu. All of their items are fairly priced, with the most expensive item being 24 wings for \$15.95. Their happy hour food and drink specials are from 4 to 7 PM every Monday through Friday. Moe's kitchen is open to serve from 11 AM to 11 PM and a limited menu is offered after those hours. For sports lovers, Moe's offers Fox Sports World, NFL Sunday Ticket, ESPN Gameplan and MLB packages. Moe's Tavern has 2 locations downtown; one by the Crosstown at 714 Rutledge Avenue and the other at 5 Cumberland Street.

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# Senior Scholarships

Jessika Stocker has won an 88,000 dollar scholarship to the School of Art Institute, in Chicago; she will major in photography. Jessika heard about the scholarship through their summer program, which she attended. Attending the summer program gave her an advantage over other students applying; she had already met her upcoming teachers. She traveled to the college on portfolio day, where some of the teachers she will have, helped her make a college-worthy portfolio. It consisted of twelve

**Jessika Stocker**



pictures.

After the summer program and portfolio day, SAIC sent Jessika an e-mail telling her to turn in her portfolio and in a few weeks, they would start sending her information about scholarships to their school.

Jessika found out she won the scholarship the Thursday before we left for winter break. She says, "I'm really excited; I never really thought I'd get anything like this."

DeAnna Kerley won a full-ride to University of Pennsylvania. She heard about the scholarship, called National College Match Program, when Ms. Carr came into her creative writing classroom and talked about the program while passing out brochures with information explaining the application process. To apply you go to the Match Programs' website, [www.questbridge.org](http://www.questbridge.org), and rank your top five colleges. If you win

**DeAnna Kerley**



you have to go to the college you applied for.

U. Penn. was DeAnna's third choice; she also applied for Brown University and Trinity University. The college was perfect for DeAnna because she wants to go up North and major in English and minor in Linguistics, and they are an Ivy League with top language programs. DeAnna said "I really did not think I was going to get in, it was a good surprise".

## SOA's Michael McKelvey is unstoppable

David Sass

For Michael McKelvey, sports don't just provide the challenge of the sport itself—it also provides him with a chance to overcome his disability. Michael is a junior enrolled in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program here at SOA. Michael, who lost his hearing when he was only three due to a high fever, just finished playing football and has begun to start playing basketball for St. John's High School, and his enthusiasm for both sports is palpable. Despite having run himself ragged the night before in a game against Hardeeville High School, he lit up when he learned I had come to ask him about basketball, and his hands flew as he signed his responses to my questions to his interpreter.

"Basketball is very different from football. It's a lot quicker, and it changes just as quickly," Michael said through his interpreter. "I have to try and read my teammates' lips and expressions while I play, and sometimes I have to look up from the game and see what the coach is telling me." But his team and coaches have begun to adapt to help him play his best with them, from learning to sign to writing down plays on a chalk board, known as the "Mike Board," so he can see what to do. "We've made up some signs for plays when we needed to. Sometimes it's a little unclear about what to do, especially when Coach Saunders is writing really fast on the chalk board, but that's when Ms. Lewis steps in

and helps interpret for me," he commented. Michael, who is a forward point on the St. John's team, has been playing basketball for as long as he can remember, and his inherent skill for it is obvious. At the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind in Spartanburg, he made the Varsity basketball team when he was only in 8th grade. Michael's goal is to be able to play basketball in college, and he's working hard to get there. He hopes to go and play both basketball and football for Gallaudet University, a liberal arts university with an outstanding deaf and hard of hearing program. He has a famous older stepbrother, Roddy White, who is the wide receiver for the Atlanta Falcons.

"I love playing basketball. I love the shooting, the running, the exercise, all of it. I just feel so connected and alive when I play. When we beat Hardeeville last night, 72-54, I felt great because I scored at least 18 points and so I felt like I had really contributed to the win." He hopes that this basketball season will go as well as the football season before, when St. John's made it to the Playoffs, losing only by a mere two points to Cane Bay, and Michael ran a spectacular 88-yard return for a touchdown. He says balancing his homework and school with his practice is hard, but he always tries his best to make it work. "I always tell my coach that my homework and education come before basketball. It's hard, but I love playing basketball, so it's worth it."

## Ms. Miles receives esteemed honor

By Samantha Dahabi

The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers was founded in 1994 as a nonprofit organization to supporting young artists and writers through the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards were established by Maurice Robinson in 1923 and are among the most distinguished awards for gifted teenagers in the United States. More than 9 million young artists and writers have been recognized and awarded over \$25 million dollars in scholarships. One of SOA's creative writing teachers, Ms. Miles was recently

invited to participate in a teacher advisory group that consists of ten teachers from across the nation who have "demonstrated leadership and commitment" to the program. As a panel member, Ms. Miles will give feedback and help to refine the program. She is also required to participate in four conference calls per year with other board member. Ms. Miles will help determine how to encourage teachers to prepare students for winning in the Scholastic Awards. Being part of the teacher advisory group is an immense honor. Congratulations Ms. Miles!



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# OLD vs. NEW

## Comparing the old SOA facilities to the new campus

By Rebecca Forman

The move to the new campus has both energized and exhausted students and staff. Placed conveniently at the end of the first semester and the week of midterms, the SOA community hasn't had much time to sit back and reflect on the new campus's benefits, losses, and the black-matter space of opinion. Talking to my teachers and fellow students, one thing is certain: most people feel we have left something irreplaceable behind in the weathered old campus. We miss our senior walls, we miss our micro-waves, we even sort of miss Lake SOA. A sense of loss is normal; change is never easy. However, I am confident the new campus has even greater things to offer. We have a long road ahead, and what's most important at this point is reflecting on the old, celebrating the new and contemplating what we as a community would still like to see on our campus.

**Vending machines-** The new vending machines take the cake, hands down. The diet flavored water has been replaced with, dare I say it, normal water and we never have to walk to administration to awkwardly retrieve 75 cents. We also have more choices in snacks. There are no gates to lock us out when it isn't lunchtime, which is great for people who like to break the rules and drink/eat the other six and a half hours of the school day. The only loss perhaps is our giant cement block.

**The hallways-** The hallways are tricky, because most of us miss our wall art. The new skeleton of the school has been described as



**The water fountains alone are proof of our campus' improvement**



**The new larger cafeteria makes the lunch line go so much faster**

bleak and hospitaless, and many fear we have lost one of our more unique qualities and outlets for self-expression. Whether we will ever recover the abundant color in our lives is up to the school board, but for now we can be content with the prospect of senior wall murals and not having to walk through the cold when we switch classes.

**Water fountains-** There are more of them, they are always cold, they come in varied shapes and sizes and the water never tastes funny. **NHS Breakfast Sales-** Where we used to have muffins, we now have hungry children. NHS has gone missing in the mornings, but fear not. This is only a by-product of the hectic move. They'll be back soon.

**VA Dept.-** Visual artists are overjoyed overall with their new facilities. The studio itself is beautiful, with expansive windows and plenty of space. Some students miss their old work stations, which have been replaced by smaller individualized tables. There is also a lack of track lighting, which is considered vital to getting the correct lighting for still-lives. A new ceramics room with built in drains will prove useful. So will the dark room. Ms. Nichols is more than pleased. She says, "I really appreciate Rose Maree Myers's vision and the architects really went above and beyond bringing it to life. They took the information we gave them and improved it. For instance, I had no idea I'd get floor to ceiling windows." Everyone is pleased with the size of the rooms and the storage space (twice as much as what was asked for). As for the track lighting, Ms. Nichols explains the ceilings are too high anyway, and the spotlights are more than sufficient.

**Vocal Dept.-** The new vocal department doesn't have any carpet in it, so vocalists can hear themselves better. The acoustics are phenomenal in comparison to the old school and students overall like it a lot better. Brittany Ropp also adds, "We can hear the other parts a lot better. Plus, we have practice rooms now so we don't have to go into the hallway."

**Dance-** The dressing rooms here are a lot smaller than the old school, which dancers explain can be a problem when you have twenty six students dressing in a confined space. Also, the floors are made of wood instead of marley, which can be slippery. The spaces aren't overall

larger, but they look nice.

**Windows-** Possibly the best superficial feature of the new campus are the nearly floor to ceiling windows. There is a great possibility turning on the lights will never be necessary. You can wave to friends in another building, but don't try to text in class; teachers can see you now. And although bright spaces can be annoying when students are trying to watch movies or have quiet time, many teachers have discussed putting up curtains. Annoying or not, the windows are beautiful in a modern way.

**Costume design-** Costume design isn't finished in the new campus yet. So, like theatre, students have been switching back to the old school.

**Trailers-** There are none, hallelujah. **Journalism-** There is no denying that Applause got lucky. Thanks to the move, we each have our own working computers, and, aside from the inconvenience of re-installing software, affairs are going to run in a more organized fashion. I don't want to hear any complaints. News editor Cat Bowler says, "We don't have to fight over computers anymore. The staff is much more docile." **Cafeteria-** Our new cafeteria is pretty. Most of the wall is actually window and the bathrooms are closer. It can seat a lot more people, which will prove useful when Academic Magnet moves in. We also have the addition of individual lounge spaces. There are no microwaves yet. Ms. Darlene says "The cafeteria is a lot bigger and brighter. It is more modern. The kitchen is state of the art and colorful, though I do not know how it will work yet as we have yet to work with it."

**Bathrooms-** The new bathrooms are improved. They smell nice and the mirrors work. They're also surprisingly attractive and accommodate more students. And, if nothing else, there are more of them.

**Library-** Our new library has more computers and, although not completely unpacked, can hold more books. It just appears less hectic and more welcoming to students who are trying to get effective studying done during school hours. Ms. Trott, librarian, says "We like that it is so big and filled with light. There are more books and we are able to fit more people. It still isn't running 100%. We are missing a lot of things though, such as student printers, larger

cables for computers and a few tables."

**Creative Writing Dept.-** The creative writers have mixed feelings about the new rooms. I speak for myself when I say the door connecting the two rooms will be sorely missed. They don't have new couches yet, but Mr. Hammes has promised a more than satisfactory lounge space to provide hours of reading and inspiration. They received brand new, perfectly functioning computers, which, although sort of expected, are duly noted and appreciated. Ms. Miles says, "The creative writers are enjoying being located in the arts building. The rooms are spacious and attractively furnished, and most importantly, have working computers. Our new location will allow us to collaborate more effectively with other art areas. I can't wait to get our new couches." **Administration/Guidance-** The main entrance to the campus is now separated from the high school; classy. If you need to turn in a note or pick up a transcript, you no longer have to plan your school day around the trip or miss your bus. With numerous meeting rooms and offices, administration received the amount of space it deserves. Debbie Summey is pleased. She says, "It's just more magnificent here than I dreamed. I feel like I'm visiting every day I go to work. It's much better."

**Orvin-** Mr. Orvin appears to be unpacked and back to his old self.

**Piano-** The piano facilities have pleased most students. 10th grader Isis Jenkins weighs the positives with the negatives. She says, "It's really cold in the room and hard to warm up my fingers. I have to go to the bathroom sometimes to run my hands under the heater. However, the new pianos are updated and shiny. They sound more acoustic."

**Classrooms-** Mr. Donnelon sums it up. He says, "The teachers love their classrooms. The mood of the school feels the same; it's good. It feels more fish-bowly; everyone can stare at everyone else from other buildings. We like our smart boards, and the new desks are swell. I like the proximity to other teachers. For instance, I get to be across the hall from Ms. Bronk. She gives me energy from 8 AM to 5 in the afternoon. My personal complaint is that I would like to put stuff on the walls. Sometimes it feels too sterile here."

## Deborah's driving pet peeves

By Deborah Crocker



### Drivers

Ever since I was old enough to observe the habits of most drivers, I've found myself unimpressed with many driving styles and behaviors. I don't blame the drivers...I blame the 21<sup>st</sup> century in its entirety. I remember when we were all driving horses and carriages.

### Footloose

Is there anything more disturbing, annoying, or weird than seeing someone's foot hanging out of the window? It's not so bad when people in the passenger seats do it, but it does make you wonder how the driver is going to handle a serious accident. Ouch? If you're going to be that lazy, ride the bus.

### Pet Revolution

How did you run that red light? Why didn't you stop at that intersection? Well, I don't know. It might have something to do with the Saint Bernard sitting in your lap or the cute fluffy kitten stalking the dashboard. Pets belong in the backseat, or in the bed of your truck (in a closed cage, you lazy pet owners), not riding shotgun.

### "!\$@#&" and Other Forms of Road Rage

Yes, there is an eight mile traffic jam, how observant of you. Why don't you sit back and grab a book? It's better than leaning on the horn or tearing down your window to scream curses at the person in front of you. Do you kiss your mother with that mouth?

### Wardrobe in The Car

The whole point of waking up early is to get some 'you' time in before work. If you get up at least 30 minutes before work, you've got plenty of time to get dressed, eat, and make sure everything's packed. It's better than driving with your teeth while trying to pull on your pants. Try doing your makeup at home, too – or at work. Or in the car while it's parked. Or at the gas station. I don't care, as long as you're not missing three green lights to apply your lipstick.

### Big Eater

Eating a 1-pound burger and sipping a Dr. Pepper while inhaling French fries and driving with your elbows will mean certain doom at some point. No sane individual needs to eat that fast. If you have to eat in the car, take smaller bites and don't eat while doing something tricky, like entering an intersection or a highway.

### Have To Finish At All Costs

Calm down. The ending of

Breaking Dawn can wait until you're parked. And no, you can't read the book only at stoplights, because you'll just keep reading while a line of cars piles up behind you. Vampires are not real, and if you are reading about them when you are supposed to keep your eyes on the road, you will not become one. Sorry to burst your bubble.

### Took Everything but the House

It's fine to have your entire car packed if you're going on a trip or something, but not all the time. If that human-sized mound of random items in your passenger seat isn't a passenger, it's time to clean out your car. Even more so if all your junk has to be cleared away each time you get into the car as if it's starting to eat the driver's seat.

### Rave On the Road

Parties are not portable. If you have six very loud friends who need rides, leave the alcohol at home, and keep your eyes on the road, no matter how interesting the conversation is. If you want to have a dance party while driving, sign up for insurance first – you just might bounce the car off the road.

### Blind, Deaf, and Dumb

The only people who look cool in very dark glasses while driving at night are those spies on TV with stunt doubles. Unless you're allergic to the moon, take off the shades. Also, if your bass is making my house vibrate from two miles away, you obviously can't hear a thing, much less yourself thinking (which you should obviously stop doing).

### Your Mileage May Vary

If you insist on going 90 miles per hour on your way downtown, I hope you remember what an emergency brake is when you've got thirty police cars tearing after you. This also applies to motorcyclists who apparently had a dream about being in a race and never woke up.

### Protect Your Spawn

Your spawn is valuable and precious to the expansion of the world. Protect them by making sure they don't ride in the front until they're big enough, and make sure their seatbelts are on so that they don't join the dog with their heads out of the window. If they're going to be a distraction, get a mini-DVD or a pacifier. Cries of 'are we there yet?' should be met with soundproof glass between you and the back seat.

## Random Etiquette: Don't honk at runners

By K. Chaney Long



I run a lot. Not well and not very fast, but a lot. For the most part, I run in neighborhoods near my house, but to get to those neighborhoods, I have to run up Mathis Ferry. For the most part this is fine. There are lots of trees so it's shady, but the problem with running Mathis Ferry is the honking.

I'm going to assume that this is a problem that mostly female runner or joggers have to deal with, but I suppose I could be wrong. I'm sure there are many other girls who can relate with me on this. There is nothing more distracting while you're running, then to have some ugly

## Sass Attack: PETA

By David Sass



I love my lab Sammy more than most people love their dog. When I stay at my dad's house, he's always on my bed keeping my feet warm at night and entertaining me with his odd grunts and groans of sleep. When he comes to the edge of my bed and puts his goofy, floppy-eared head on the covers and looks at me with those big brown eyes, no matter how cold it is or how close I am to falling asleep, I climb out of bed and lift his tail-heavy rear-end up on the bed. Of course, it then becomes a race to get back in and get my feet under the covers before he lies down. But still, I love that dog more than life itself.

What I'm getting at is that I love animals, and I think everyone should love them. However, there are a few people who take the issue a step or twelve too far. I'm talking about PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). We've all heard about this extremist group of self-righteous, delusional, tree-hugging vegan hippie wackjobs. What these people want, and seem to think is a completely attainable goal, is for total harmony between man and animal. Actually, I take that back; it is attainable. Our ancestors proved it with the simple application of the perfect theory of universal harmony: caveman Lorg track wooly mammoth, caveman Lorg kill wooly mammoth, caveman Lorg eat wooly mammoth. It's the vicious cycle known as "Eat or Be Eaten." Find your two front teeth and put a finger on either one, left or right. Now, depending on which one you chose, slide your finger in the corresponding direction away from your other front tooth. Two teeth away, you will find a sharp, pointy tooth that is known in the dental world as the "incisor." The primary function of the incisor is to tear into meat. If man was not meant to eat meat, would we have these? I rest my case.

loser honk at you from their truck or yell "yeah!" at you while they're tearing down the road at 60 miles per hour, and it's always idiots in trucks. You don't see men in sedans or SUV's hooting out the window, and it's never nice trucks either. It's always twenty five year old dilapidated bangers with the doors falling off their hinge, or it's idiots who've installed giant monster truck wheels. By the way, if you've attached monster truck wheels to your car you look like a total tool and everyone thinks so. When you drive in your 1984 piece of garbage and your ridiculous monster truck (really, are you over compensating for something?) and then begin hooting and hollering at innocent joggers, you're simply advertising being a moron.

However, as my misguided colleague Wes has noted in the past, "Mankind has evolved to the point where we no longer need to kill animals; we can get all our nutrition from vegetables and such." What this poor, misguided soul fails to realize is how many of his furry little forest friends are killed each year by the farmers who grow his organic salad to ensure that they actually have a crop to harvest. But let's play along with Wes for a moment. If humans ceased to hunt animals, several negative consequences would arise. Take deer, for example. The deer population would explode, increasing the number of car-on-deer accidents. Also, hundreds of deer would starve every year, simply because there would not be enough food to provide for them all. You see, hunting is the same as the controlled burning of a forest—it thins it out and allows for continued growth.

PETA claims to promote animal rights through "public education, cruelty investigations [and] research." Right now, if you check their website, one of the first things you will see is a little blurb that reads "Pledge to Go Vegan for 2010!", underneath of which it states "... we've got [a resolution] that will help your health, animals and the Earth." You would think that with all the research they claim to have done, PETA would have realized just how much damage would be caused to the Earth and their beloved animals if their dream would cause were it ever fulfilled.

For those interested and who wish to learn more about the opposite side of the story, the one not told by the fanatics at PETA, I suggest you pick up a copy of "The Politically Incorrect Guide to Hunting" by Frank Minitzer.

A common PETA slogan is "Meat is Murder!" Perhaps this is true. But which is the greater evil: "murdering" an animal and making use of the bounty which it provides to the Earth, or standing by and watching as an entire species wipes itself out? I'll leave that up to you to decide; there's a delicious venison steak with my name on it.

# TONY



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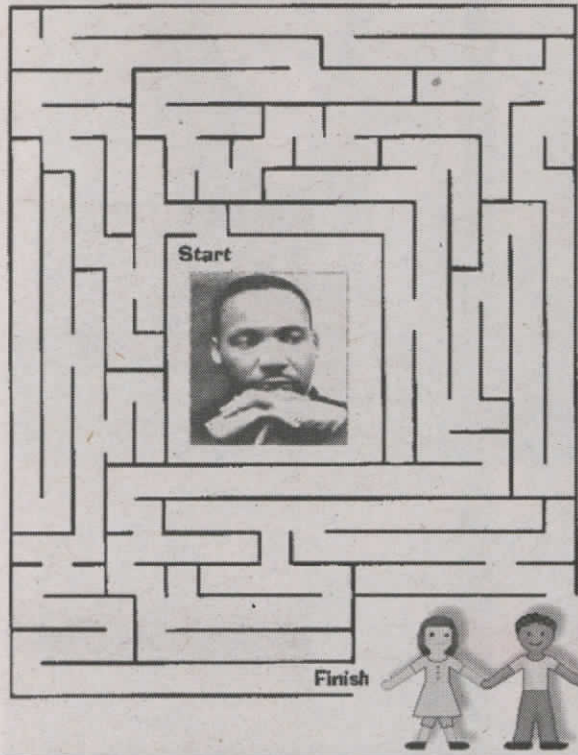
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# GAMES

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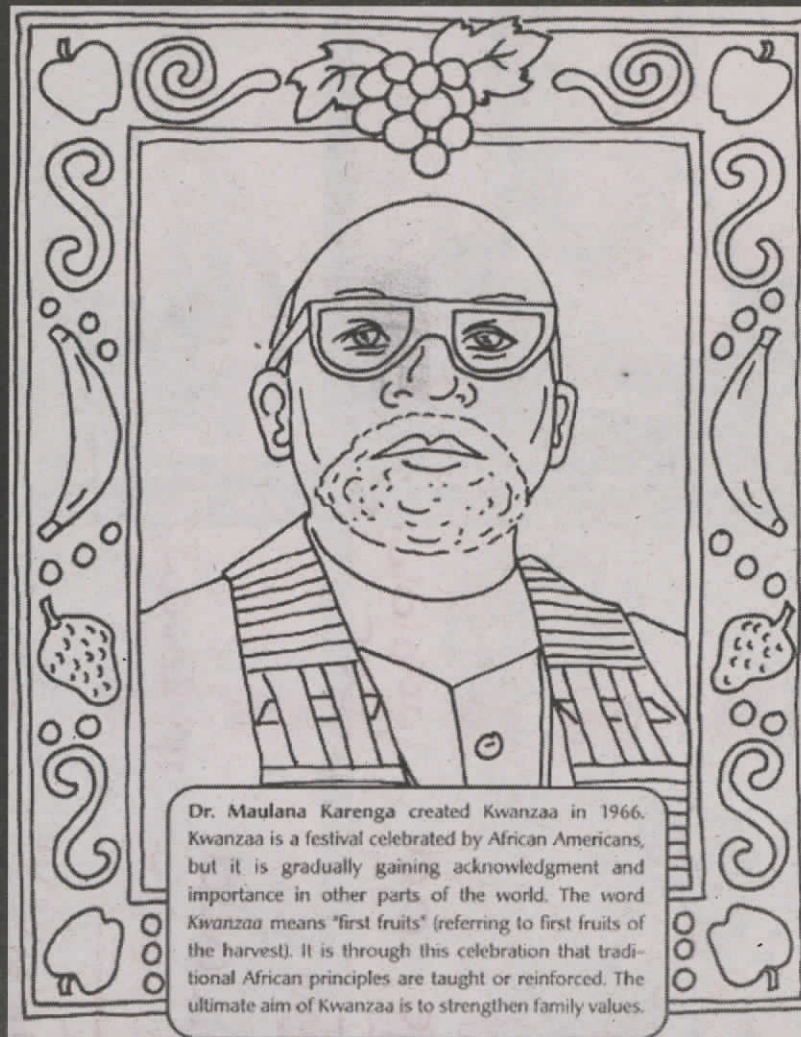


Protest ~ Peace ~ Civil Rights ~ Boycott

Nonviolence ~ Speech ~ I Have a Dream

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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T S H O E H C L E I T J Z Q J Q S R  
B E N C R C U R Z O S E L N Z T A T  
G H A O A W D Z C N J Z M X H W N I  
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U Z I T E I I M O V C R Y I Z T J J  
Z W L T Q T O F Z S P E E C H E S R



Dr. Maulana Karenga created Kwanzaa in 1966. Kwanzaa is a festival celebrated by African Americans, but it is gradually gaining acknowledgment and importance in other parts of the world. The word Kwanzaa means "first fruits" (referring to first fruits of the harvest). It is through this celebration that traditional African principles are taught or reinforced. The ultimate aim of Kwanzaa is to strengthen family values.

Get out your  
Crayolas, and  
color in  
Dr. Karenga!

## Horoscopes!

**Aquarius** (January 20-February 18)

The nervous tick in your leg in an airport bathroom will be greatly misinterpreted.

**Pisces** (February 19-March 20)

Your vision won't fail so long as you avoid sticking forks in your eyes. Good luck.

**Aries** (March 21-April 19)

Hat buying could serve you well today as a potential relationship sparks up in a hat shop. Specifically, you'll be looking at hats. Your potential partner may be looking at gloves. [DISCUSSION SUGGESTION: You may discuss why a hat shop sells gloves.]

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20)

I estimate that at least 50% of your efforts today will go, not only unrewarded, but also unnoticed. Life...

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20)

Chewin' the cud with some friends today may amuse you. Take time out to consider your options; go shopping, find the tallest hill in Charleston, dig your own grave; the options are endless.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22)

Go ahead, rub some funk on it.

**Leo** (July 23-August 22)

Gift ponies always happen to those who least expect it. The moral of this horoscope is: expect a gift pony.

**Virgo** (August 23-September 22)

Perhaps it's time to get that problem checked out by a doctor.

**Libra** (September 23-October 22)

A lot of people are out there saying you ain't nothing but the rebound, but forget the haterade, everyone and their mama knows you're the jump-off.

**Scorpio** (October 23-November 21)

Your flabbergasting acrobatic skill of always landing on your feet will come to an end when you are diagnosed with cat diabetes.

**Sagittarius** (November 22-December 21)

Using text-talk in real life will take a bad turn when U.S. Immigration authorities mistake "jk", "rofl" and "lol" as a foreign language.

**Capricorn** (December 22-January 19)

The 17th and 22nd will be quite lucrative for you this month. Too bad the 1st through the 16th and the 18th through the 21st will be riddled with unforeseen expenses. However, things will have improved drastically from the 23rd through the end of the month. Except for the 24th, when you might experience some mechanical problems, and the 26th which you will not be feeling your niftiest. Unpredictable days include the 3rd, 7th and 11th. And even though the morning of the 14th might be a little iffy, by the evening of the 15th things should look much better... compared to the 12th and the 19th. I know this...I've read books.

What is your favorite thing about the new school?

Compiled by Brittany Ropp and Samantha Dahabi



"I like the lockers because in the old school we had little cubbies."  
Anna Baldwin, 6th Theatre



"The bathrooms because they're modern and not dusty like the old ones."  
Wade Rouse, 6th Theatre



"It's nice, really clean, and very huge."  
Alexandria Cavadias, 7th Grade



"The Pottery Room. At the old school we didn't have any place to do anything and now we have the resources at hand."  
Abby Rumph, 8th Visual Arts



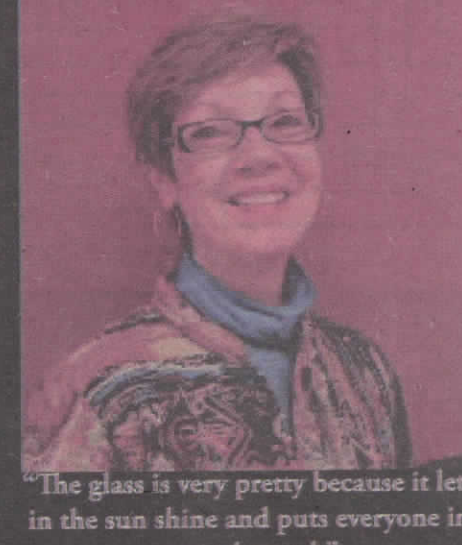
"It's clean."  
Marc Deloach, 8th Band



"The classrooms are bigger."  
Alex Grant, 9th Vocal



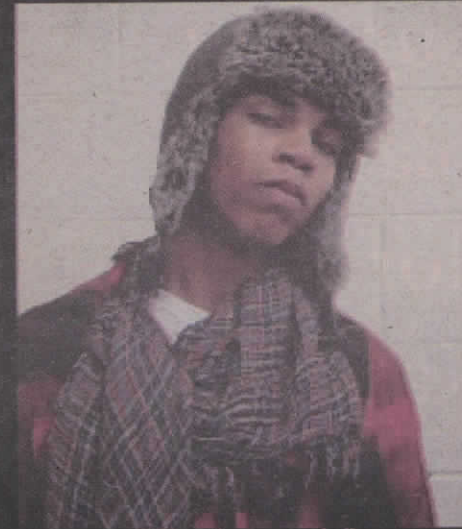
"The cafeteria because we have lounge chairs."  
Christina Crossley, 11th Creative Writing



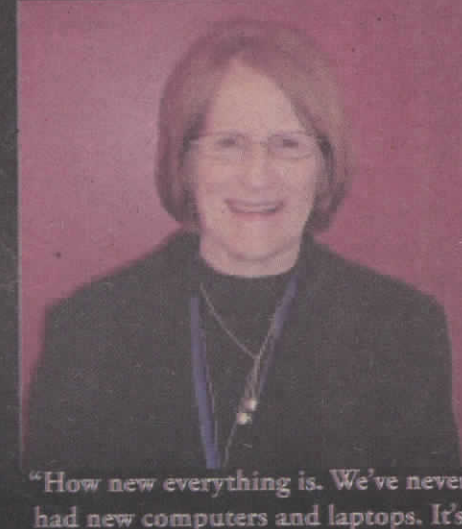
"The glass is very pretty because it lets in the sun shine and puts everyone in a good mood."  
Ms. Cromartie, Assistant Principal



"The huge library."  
Jessica Smith, 12th Dance



"The chairs rock."  
Brandon Ellis, 12th Visual Arts



"How new everything is. We've never had new computers and laptops. It's wonderful."  
Ms. Olson, English Teacher



"The new theatre wing."  
Lauren Hatchell, 11th Theatre