

# APPLAUSE

FEBRUARY 2013

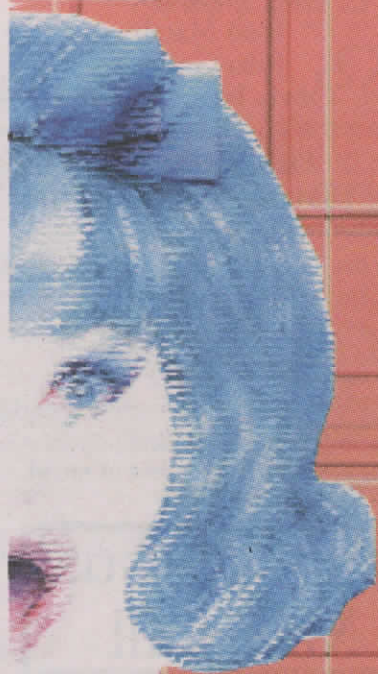
VOLUME 14, NUMBER 5

School of the Arts  
5109-B West Enterprise St, North Charleston, SC, 29405

hairspray

2013

*The Theatre Issue*



## Letter From the Editor

I'm not sure how I feel about musicals. Ever since I attended *The Lion King* on Broadway as a fledgling toddler, they've never resonated with me the way they do with my peers. Admittedly, I cried my eyes out through the entire performance, culminating in an earth-



shattering squeal when (spoiler alert) Scar killed Mufasa. Dark times in the life of yours truly.

I think it's fortunate, then, that I'm not getting that same vibe from SOA's upcoming production of *Hairspray*. With a double-casted set of performers, the hectic itinerary shouldn't slow down any of the performances, as the leads won't be affected by multiple shows per day. The story of *Hairspray* is bound to resonate well on-stage under the vision of theatre teacher and show director Ms. Link. After last year's incredible rendition of *The Music Man* and the legacy of productions that came before it, the only plausible outcome for the show seems that of legendary status. No pressure, *Hairspray* dudes and dudettes.

With this issue of *Applause* comes a change in semester and, although not evidenced by the Lowcountry's fluky weather patterns, a change in season. As we bid adieu to winter and say hello to spring, it seems I'm finally starting to hear the bells after all.

Yours truly,

**WILL DODGE**

## Upcoming Events

Jan. 31-Feb. 1: MS Theatre, *Alice in Wonderland*

Jan. 31-Feb. 2; Feb. 7-9: *Hairspray*, 6:30  
RMMT

Feb. 15: Nikky Finney Reading, 7:30  
RMMT

Feb. 16: "The Astonishing Beauty of Things," 7:30 RMMT

Feb. 4: 100<sup>th</sup> day of school

Feb. 18: President's Day

Feb. 20: Progress Reports

P

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Cover art by senior visual  
artist Colin Marshall

## Applause

the official student publication of  
**Charleston County School of the Arts**

*Founded in 1995 by Rose Maree Myers*

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## 7th graders get judicial for mock trial by Alex Berlinsky

The case of Jeremiah Birch was, for the seventh consecutive year, brought before the court of Mr. Perkins. Mr. Birch was, in a shocking verdict in Mr. Perkins' 3B English class, found not guilty of aggravated battery against Mr. Wolf.

Emotions ran high in the courtroom with lawyers on both sides grilling witnesses and suspects in their attempt to uncover the truth. Adam Beall, a lawyer for the prosecution, barked at the witness, establishing a serious tone for the trial to follow.

When Beall was asked about his preparation he quipped: "I felt like I was ready but you can never totally get the heebie-jeebies out. There are always butterflies." Despite these butterflies, Beall kept his composure and looked as though he were a veteran lawyer just going through the motions.

Daniel Brown, who played the role of Mr. Birch, could only utter a single word about his feelings on the not guilty decision: "relieved." He described his time at the bench as stressful, but in the end he was glad that the truth was unveiled and that he would be able to go free.

Mr. Perkins' mock trial has been a mainstay, a seventh grade right-of-passage as a practical example of persuasive writing. I still remember my trial, and I am sure that this year's seventh graders will remember theirs for years to come.



The students await the verdict

## Singin' the audition blues by Alex Berlinsky

Audition time at SOA: perhaps one of the most nerve-racking, tummy-turning, nausea-inducing time of the year for the poor eleven year olds who undergo the torture of standing up alone and reciting a monologue, or singing a song, or playing "Hot Cross Buns" on their clarinet for a group of espresso-filled, tired, overworked teachers who want nothing more than to end the day. It truly is a "pee-in-your-pants" scenario.

Barely a word was spoken about our theater auditions until sophomore year. We were all way too petrified to speak, paralyzed by the fear that we encountered on that fateful day. The secrecy surrounding the theater audition created a sort of taboo around it. I will never forget that day though; I came into the old Black Box and was excited to try and woo the adjudicators with my innate and unholy acting talent.

To my dismay, however, I entered my audition to find a grumpy, balding man sitting there, disinterested in my performance which I had tediously worked and reworked all for him. He didn't look at me once. His eyes never lifted from his bowl of pistachios, which he would periodically crack and eat, the sound causing me to get even more flustered than I already was.

Apparently though, something went right. I received my letter of congratulations later that year and enrolled in theater. To this day I'm not entirely sure that the hairless man caught a word of my monologue, yet here I am. Mistakenly or not, I made it into this school, but I'll never forget the nerves that the audition brought on. No stage fright will ever match that which I felt that morning, and to all of the fifth graders who recently auditioned, I feel your pain.



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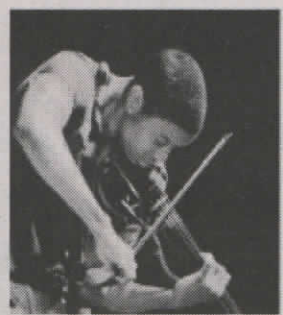
SOA Presents:

*An Evening with 2011 National Book Award Winner Nikky Finney*

Nikky Finney



Marjory Wentworth



Daniel D.

2011

National Book  
Award Winner**Nikky Finney**

FEATURING SPECIAL GUESTS:

**SC Poet Laureate Marjory Wentworth,  
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and Violinist Daniel D.**

Friday, February 15, 2013, 7:30pm

in the RMMT

Students: \$5

Adults: \$10

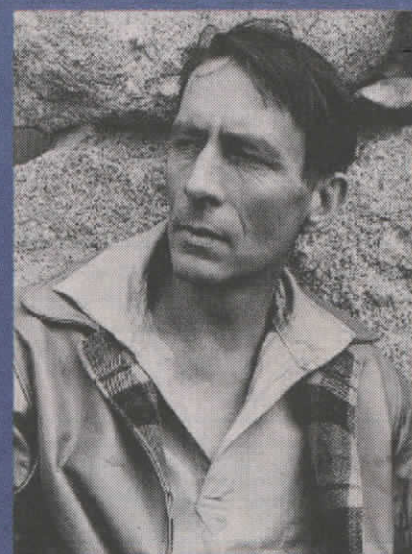
*"The Astonishing Beauty of Things, A Celebration of Robinson Jeffers  
Through The Arts"*

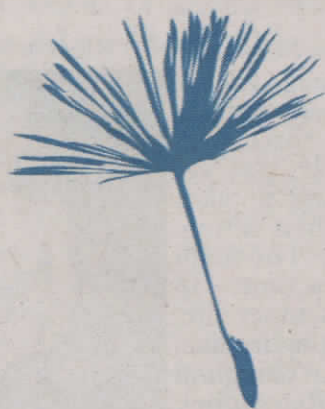
Performances by SOA Fighting Gnomes, vocalists,  
dancers, theatre majors, creative writers, an exhibit  
by SOA visual artists.

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## Angel Tree saves Christmas

by Emily Thomas

More than twenty SOA students currently volunteer at the Liberty Hill Literacy Program (LHLP). Located at the Armory (5000 Lackawanna Blvd), the program serves Title I elementary school students in Charleston County, helping to improve their reading skills and assisting with homework. Many of the students from LHLP come from disadvantaged backgrounds, so SOA's chapter of National Honor Society sponsored their second annual Angel Tree.

Students and their families were able to choose a child from LHLP to buy Christmas presents for. National Honor Society then sorted and wrapped all of the presents. The presents were then brought over to Liberty Hill the next day for the Present Opening Celebration.

We gathered together at the Armory and listened to the children sing a few Christmas carols and for Mr. Fludd, the program director, to thank all of the volunteers for their hard work. Since the beginning of the year, volunteer hours have averaged out to eight hours per volunteer and some SOA students have even surpassed that amount.

The children were really excited to open their presents. Everyone was beaming as they got to see how happy the children were and what a difference they had made. Charleston County School District Superintendent Dr. McGinley came out to show her support and find out more about how SOA is giving back to our community.

If you haven't checked out the Liberty Hill Literacy Program yet, it is definitely worth your time. LHLP runs Monday through Thursday until about 5pm. These students are sure to put a smile on your face.



Senior Keith Howard presents a boy with his very own Batman costume.

## Jefferson Service Club names latest award winners

by Emily Thomas

*Each month, the Jefferson Service Club awards students for outstanding volunteerism and community service.*

### Anna Woodward - 10th Grade Vocal



Anna worked with Operation Christmas Child this year. Shoeboxes full of toys, books, and hygiene items are sent to their Charlotte-based warehouse, and then all over the world. Anna worked at the warehouse inspecting and sorting the boxes.

She says that "the most amazing part is how big the operation is. I've been putting shoeboxes together since I was a child, but I never realized that the box I made would reach a child across the world and brighten their day. I had a fantastic time in Charlotte and Operation Christmas Child is a volunteer opportunity that I would readily recommend to anyone, young or old."

### Abby Rumph - 11th Grade Visual Arts

Abby volunteers with the sea turtle rescue team during the summer, "working with mostly loggerhead nesting females and hatchlings by looking for sea turtle tracks in the mornings, by helping locate and relocate nests, educating public, and informing beach front houses of light pollution." She also volunteers as a counselor at Camp Saint Christopher, helping keep them safe and providing religious mentorship.

She says, "it's a lot of fun, and we get to really make a difference in these kids lives, ministering to them and giving them memories that they will carry with them for life."



## Where Were They Then: Ms. Catangay

by Alex Berlinsky

Applause sat down with the theatre teacher and Hairspray supervisor to learn about what got her into the world of drama and the lessons SOA has taught her.

**Alex Berlinsky:** When did you get interested in theater?

**Ms. Catangay:** I didn't get interested in theatre until high school, but I had always been interested in acting. I was one of those kids who had a real active imagination and was always saying, "Let's pretend..." If I was imagining I was some character having an amazing adventure, I was happy.

**AB:** What was your first real role in a performance?

**MC:** Unless you count a stint as the lion (in *The Lion and the Mouse*) in 4th grade, my first real role in a staged production was Kim Macafee in the musical, *Bye Bye Byrdie*. It was in the summer after my freshman year of high school. After this, I was definitely hooked. What's interesting about this production was one of the other leads, a junior in the role of Rose, is the now, very famous Idina Menzel. I am sure my stage debut inspired her to continue in theatre and go on to win her Tony Awards...

**AB:** Where has your theater training taken you?

**MC:** Speaking geographically? My experience has mainly been focused on the U.S. East Coast (Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, NY and New Jersey). Although, I did have a summer training in Oxford, England that was transforming. Overall, my training has enabled me to work professionally in regional theaters and earn membership into Actor's Equity Association. And with these performance experiences and through learning about all types of theatre and the aspects of production, I had the nerve to eventually start a theatre company and delve into playwriting and directing. Ultimately, my training has brought me here to SOA, where I can teach what I have learned, and continue to learn more about what I teach.

## Where Are They Now: Steven Moskos

by Danie Johnson

Applause spoke to the former theatre major about his envoys into the world of dance, his time at CofC, and his plans for the future

**Danie Johnson:** How did majoring in theater help you get where you are today?

**Steven Moskos:** I am a theatre major in college, so I'd say being a theatre major was pretty darn influential. I'm about to graduate from the College of Charleston. Also, the theatre program at SOA is pretty rigorous, so I left with a well-established work ethic that prepared me both for general school work, and the acting profession. If I did not major in theatre, I would not have started writing, which is currently a big part of my life. This past fall, I directed my first original full-length play, three of my short plays have been produced during Piccolo Spoleto, a another 10 minute play is a currently a regional finalist for the 2013 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Lastly, the performance and auditioning experience I received at SOA has given me a huge leg up. We were doing a number of college level exercises and projects from sixth grade on.

**DJ:** Do you still do anything artistic? If so, what?

**SM:** I still perform a lot. I've worked at the College, at various community theaters, and a few places regionally. After high school, I began taking my dance training very seriously. I started taking classes at the College and at a variety of studios, and performing with the College and the Robert Ivey Ballet Company. I also write a lot, as I stated before. Currently, I am applying to graduate school for acting.

**DJ:** What was your favorite part



Steven (center) in his *Gnome* days

**AB:** What helps you overcome stage fright?

**MC:** I really don't get much stage fright anymore and I think there are three keys to that. First, be prepared! If you are confident in what you are doing it takes off a ton of pressure. #2...When acting, stay in your character's thoughts. The brain can only have one thought at a time. If you fill it with your character's inner life, there is very little room for thoughts like, "I wonder why the audience didn't laugh at that line." And third, enjoy it! Remember, that performing is what you love to do. Although it may seem like there are endless performance opportunities in your future, that may not always be the case. Recognize the opportunity you have and have fun with it!

**AB:** What do you think is the most important thing that you've learned as an actor?

**MC:** The importance of "play." As actors, we can sometimes take ourselves too seriously and need to remember that those stories we present on stage are called, "plays" for a reason. Through my experiences in the theatre, I have learned that imagination is not something reserved for childhood. On the stage or off, it is that sense of "play" that keeps us young at heart, gives us great ideas and lets us enjoy the time we have.



Ms. Catangay as Juliet in *Romeo & Juliet*

about majoring in theater at SOA?

**SM:** I'd have to say two things. I did not realize the quality of education that I was getting. I was stunned to meet people in college that had never gone to see a play, let alone read, performed in, written, analyzed, scanned, or scored one. The program instilled a great deal of confidence in me. My second, and equally favorite thing was being in the Gnomes. It played such a huge role in my high school experience that I do not know that I would still be performing without it. It also is an example of how advanced the program is. We were performing on stage in evenings with resident groups at Theatre 99 (often outshining them). We performed at other schools, the Gaillard, the American Theatre. Performing with the Gnomes taught me to trust myself and my impulses which has greatly aided both my acting and writing.

**DJ:** What's one piece of advice you would offer to all high school students after being in the real world for a while?

**SM:** Keep your ego in check. Don't get too proud. This is true for everyone, but especially if you're an artist. Someone will come along who is better than you. I remember seeing a guy at SETC last year. He was thinner, more attractive, and a better singer. Worst of all: he looked like me. We would be in competition for the same roles. It hurt. But it was a nice lesson. There is always room to improve. Prepare yourself now. Be confident in the skills you have and be seeking to improve. Then, when you encounter obstacles, you're ready to rise to the challenge. Otherwise, you'll give up.

**DJ:** Where do you see yourself in five years?

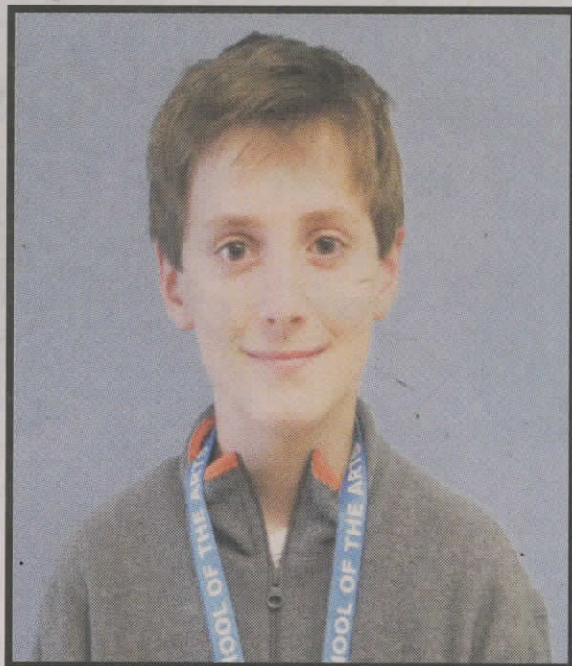
**SM:** In five years, I see myself living in New York or LA. Hopefully, I'll have an agent. An MFA would be nice too. I'll probably go to New York. I hate cars. The goal is to have my "big break" by that time. A more reasonable goal is to be Equity, and making at least half of my annual income from theatre. Eventually, though, I hope to be writing, producing, directing, and acting. I love it all, and I want to do it all.

## SIXTH GRADE CELEB CRUSHES: NOW AND THEN

### BY EMILY THOMAS

#### NOW

MEGAN FOX IS SIXTH GRADER JAMES LEPETTRE'S EYE CANDY OF CHOICE, WHILE CLASSMATE DAEVEON BURNS SWOONS OVER ONE DIRECTION HOTTIE ZAYN MALIK



#### THEN

SENIOR TAYLOR BROBISKY ONLY HAD EYES FOR ZAC EFRON, WHILE SENIOR SAM FUNK HAD AND ALLEGEDLY STILL HAS THE HOTS FOR EFRON'S COSTAR VANESSA HUDGENS



### SOA endures Bonds-Wilson traffic fiasco

by Emily Thomas

After coming back from Winter Break, everyone who headed to the SOA/AMHS campus in the morning was stuck in traffic for at least 15 minutes. This traffic jam was caused by "No Through School Traffic" signs and police officers stationed in the neighborhood surrounding our school. Traffic was restricted to one lane on Lackawanna Boulevard, so students were waiting in line just so that they could be tardy to school. Though the problem was mostly resolved, what you may not know is who was behind the scenes, working to get you to school on time.

Will Waters, a 12th grade theatre major, sought a solution to this sudden and unjust inconvenience. He comments that "after I noticed how everyone was being affected I called the District 8 City Councilman Bob King and he said, 'Son, we are gonna enforce the law.' After the conversation I felt like he didn't want to change anything."

That night, Will called Channel 2 News and arranged to meet a reporter from the *Post and Courier*. He also handed out leaflets to those stuck in school traffic with Bob King and Mayor Keith Summey's phone numbers. While handing out the leaflets, Will was interviewed by the *Post and Courier*. He believes that "the combination of phone calls and Facebook posts on the mayor's wall provided a catalyst for change."

Will says that he is "not entirely" satisfied with how things have been resolved. He says, "I am glad that a compromise has been reached but I am weary about the consistency of the police officer who is to direct traffic. Already people have told me that

the officer had left by 8:15AM when the mayor posted on his Facebook wall that a policeman would be directing traffic from 7:30AM to 8:30AM."

Will also comments that he has "lingering questions" in regards to the city's infrastructure plans. He believes that "putting five schools all within a half mile radius and thinking there would not be a traffic problem smacks of inadequate planning and poor leadership on behalf of the City of North Charleston. Grave questions regarding the City of North Charleston overstepping its bounds have arisen."

Whether or not Mayor Summey will keep his word in regards to the police officer directing traffic in the morning is yet to be determined. If you see Will, be sure to thank him for his hard work in helping prevent you from being tardy.




Senior Will Waters was key in bringing attention to the Bonds-Wilson traffic fiasco, calling local news stations and passing out flyers on the road that leads to campus.

# HAIRSPRAY

## Cast List

### Principal Characters

Tracy 1 - Ally Black  
 Tracy 2 - Rachel Hunsinger  
 Seaweed 1 - Joel Chapman  
 Seaweed 2 - Kenton Jenkins  
 Corny Collins - Harrison Carr  
 Link - Ethan Courville  
 Amber - Carly Edwards  
 Velma - Jana Miley  
 Penny - Prentice Clark  
 Wilbur - Alex Peeples  
 Motor Mouth Maybelle - Lajoyce Jones



*Hairspray* is the story of young Tracy Turnblad, a girl from Baltimore with big dreams of her name in lights, as she lives through the turmoil of the Civil Rights Era. Tracy is discriminated against for her plump figure and "edgy" hairstyle in school, and she and her group of friends get involved in various misadventures. All of this coincides with Tracy's attempt to become famous, as she tries to prove that talent can be more than skin deep.



# Applause talks to the cast and crew of *Hairspray*

## Ally Black (Tracy)

by Cameron Lloyd

**Cameron Lloyd:** How has it been working with Rachel?

**Ally Black:** Splitting a role with anyone comes with its challenges, but I've found it to be very beneficial. Rachel and I have been able to create our characters together & bounce ideas off of each other.

**CL:** What has been your favorite song to sing?

**AB:** My favorite song to sing would probably be "Run and Tell That." It's catchy and fun and I think it's a song that the crowds will really enjoy.

**CL:** What is the hardest dance number you had to learn?

**AB:** Definitely "Big Doll House," the tapping number. It's this really complex routine that I'd never really appreciated before practicing it with the rest of the cast. I've tapped before but I'm still struggling with it!

**CL:** Do you suffer from stage fright? If so, how do you overcome it?

**AB:** I definitely struggle with stage fright. I'm super self conscious about everything before I go on stage...so I drink tea & eat bananas. Usually by the time the curtain opens, the fact that there's a crowd out there makes my heart skip a beat, but I always end up feeling alright after my first couple of lines.

**CL:** Do you wish to continue a career in musical theatre beyond HS?

**AB:** I would love to continue a career in musical theater. I guess it depends; currently I don't plan on it, but if something awesome comes up, that would be cool.

## Alex Peeples (Wilbur)

by Taylor Dahl

**Taylor Dahl:** How have you prepared for your role?

**Alex Peeples:** I've watched a lot of Woody Allen movies. I wanted to do something a little different with Wilbur and after reading the script I imagined him as being a mixture of Woody Allen and The Joker from the Batman cartoon, and those are the two sources I've really drawn from. I've also had to completely change my physical presence to be more quirky.

**TD:** What have you enjoyed most about being in *Hairspray*?

**AP:** This may sound strange, but my favorite part of *Hairspray* has been working with Sam Cass, who plays Edna. I think that the two of us have worked really well together and we've done exactly what is supposed to be done with Wilbur and Edna onstage which is to make people laugh but also show a really sincere relationship. But I would be lying if I said it doesn't get a little awkward sometimes.

**TD:** How do you relate to your character?

**AP:** I can be goofy sometimes and I do like to stand out, but other than that I actually don't see much of myself in Wilbur, which is one of the reasons why I love playing him, because it gives me a chance to become someone completely new, which is what acting is really all about to me.

**TD:** How has *Hairspray* been different than *The Music Man*?

**AP:** I can't speak for the rest of the returning cast, but for myself *Hairspray* has been very different. There's a lot more going on in *Hairspray*, the musical numbers are much more upbeat, the dancing



## Rachel Hunsinger (Tracy)

by Cameron Lloyd

**Cameron Lloyd:** What has it been like working with Ally, as you two both play Tracy?

**Rachel Hunsinger:** We definitely have entered this show with different strengths and weaknesses, which have allowed us to really be able to help each other in our weaker areas. She being a vocal major and I a theatre major has not defined since we both have a musical theatre background. We also have come in having two different vocal ranges, she being an Alto and I a Soprano,

which have given our two interpretations of Tracy a unique light. The double casting routine has not been easy, if not tedious at some times, but never due to our relationship or interactions which each other, only the process.

**CL:** Do you find dancing and singing easier or harder, given that you have experience doing that in theatre?

**RH:** Musical theatre has been a passion of mine since the second grade when I played a Who in Charleston Stages Seussical the Musical. Since then I have continued to do it every summer but it definitely has been a challenge every year as every musical I've performed in has possessed unique obstacles. The great thing about having a theater background is being able to apply it to other aspects of performance. You can't sing a song in this show without acting due to the intermingled lines and spoken verse within the songs. Dancing for Tracy is not about technicalities and precision, but about soul. Her definition of dance is a form of expression that all people can enjoy together, which drives her views and morals in the midst of the Civil Rights movement. Dancing and singing do come as a challenge that I've worked very hard to bring up to par, but theatre has served as an effective catalyst throughout the whole process.



is more complex, as well as the singing. Also my character is very different, in *The Music Man* I played a rebellious kid who sets off firecrackers and in this I'm an old man who runs a joke shop.

**TD:** How is it being the only Creative Writer in the cast?

**AP:** It's actually kind of cool because people outside of Creative Writing always think of us as being really deep and reserved and then I run out onstage throwing my arms all over the place and shouting at the top of my lungs. I get asked every now and then what my major is, and I always love seeing people's facial expressions when I tell them.

**TD:** How do you balance rehearsing for *Hairspray* and keeping up with your academic work?

**AP:** It really comes down to time management and planning ahead. When I get an assignment, I have to do it asap because I never know how busy I'm going to be the next day. Surprisingly though I've actually felt more confident about my school work since *Hairspray* got kicked into high gear.



## Joel Chapman (Seaweed)

by Jakob Lazzaro

**Jakob Lazzaro:** What have you enjoyed most about *Hairspray*?

**Joel Chapman:** *Hairspray* is a different show for me. It's unlike any show I've been a part of. From the characters, to the music, to the choreography, the experience is one of a kind. Like a new day, you never know what's gonna happen, and that's most enjoyable. Living in the moment.

**JL:** Why did you decide to get involved in *Hairspray*?

**JC:** Performing in general is always thrilling, but it's very humbling. The thing that resonated with me the most after playing Harold Hill last year was receiving praise from those who came out to see the show and in return thanking each individual for being a part of the experience. As a performer,



it is my job to tell a story to the audience in hopes that they are pleased by the time I bow. Without them, there'd be no motivation.

**JL:** How has your major helped you in this production?

**JC:** Theatre is such a wide spectrum of activity that helps me get through any sort of presentation. With the help of my instructors, I've gained the knowledge to do the best that I can.

**JL:** Do you feel like you relate to Seaweed? If so, why? If not so, why not?

**JC:** Seaweed J. Stubbs is the man that I want to be. He's confident, fearless, and his moves are like no other. We're similar in that we both love to have a good time. Though I wish I had his caliber of "Suave".

**JL:** How do you feel about being double cast as Seaweed with Kenton?

**JC:** I think double casting is amazing because there is someone you can always go to if you need help with something you're not sure about. It demands the use of collaboration. It can get competitive since it's the same role. But Kenton is fabulous. Why wouldn't I feel great about working with him?

## Kenton Jenkins (Seaweed)

by Jakob Lazzaro

**Jakob Lazzaro:** What have you enjoyed most about *Hairspray*?

**Kenton Jenkins:** I've enjoyed everything about *Hairspray*! It is utterly amazing. What I've enjoyed most is learning how to act and sing and dance in the boogie of the early 60s.

**JL:** Have you been in other productions at SOA before *Hairspray*?

**KJ:** I have been in quite a few productions at SOA before *Hairspray*. Such as *Fools*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *Skin of our Teeth*.

**JL:** How has your major helped you in this production?

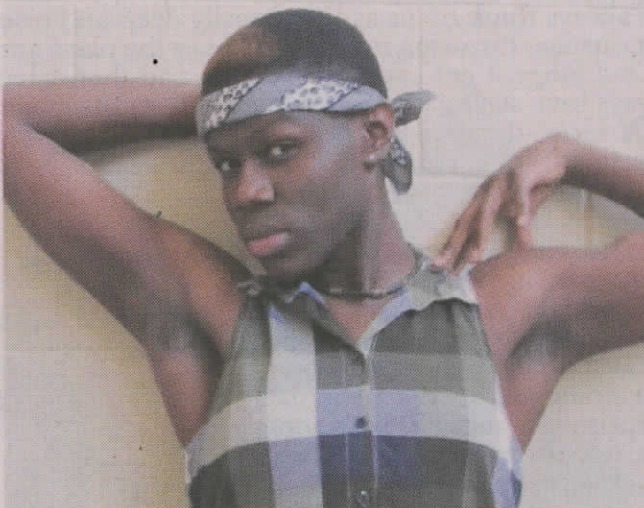
**KJ:** Theatre has been influential to the development of my character Seaweed, and his relationship with others in *Hairspray*. By using Character Analysis, questions designed for characterization, I began to immerse myself into the world of Seaweed.

**JL:** Do you feel like you relate to Seaweed? How so? If not, why not?

**KJ:** You know, Seaweed and I... We're inseparable! We both like to sing. We both enjoy dancing. We love white chicks- in my case, guys- and we both have annoying though very loving sisters.

**JL:** How do you feel about being double cast as Seaweed with JC?

**KJ:** I feel fine. JC and I are uniquely talented actors and have been working together to ensure you a high quality performance.



## Carly Edwards (Amber)

by Madeleine Vath

**Madeleine Vath:** Why did you audition for the role of Amber?

**Carly Edwards:** When I went to try out for *Hairspray* I was originally just going to audition to be an ensemble member, but when a friend sitting next to me suggested that I write Amber down, I decided that it couldn't hurt anything, so I did.

**MV:** In what ways can you identify with her character?

**CE:** Since Amber is extremely rude, I can't identify with her in many ways. However, like Amber, I can get pretty competitive at times.

**MV:** What are some important qualities that you bring to Amber's role?

**CE:** I've been working with the student directors on techniques such as chemistry with other characters, mirroring what my mother (Velma Von Tussel) does, and even doing a special walk for Amber.

**MV:** What is it like having to play the mean girl?

**CE:** Honestly, I really struggled with it for a while. I would always feel so bad about myself after I said a really rude line. I've gotten a lot better, but occasionally I have to remind myself it's only a character.

**MV:** Which character from *Hairspray* do you admire most and why?

**CE:** I really admire Tracy's parents because of how they are supportive and protective of Tracy. Alex and Sam do a great job with those roles. They're hilarious!

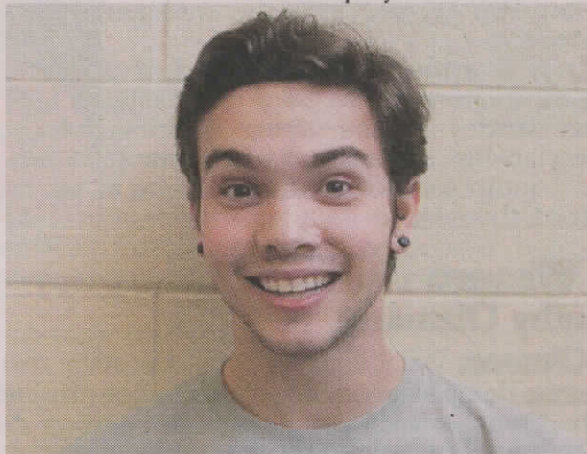
**MV:** How do you really get into character before performing?

**CE:** I usually say my lines over and over to my friends so I can see their reactions to what I'm saying and doing.



**Harrison Carr (Corny Collins)**

by Danie Johnson

**Danie Johnson:** What was the most challenging aspect of your role? Singing, acting, or dancing?**Harrison Carr:** The dancing because I don't have a set dance. I have to make it up on the spot.**DJ:** Do you think you will continue singing or acting in college next year?**HC:** Yes I will. Partly because I need the scholarship money and partly because I enjoy performing.**DJ:** If you were not a senior and would be returning next year, would you participate another year in the musical class, and if so, what musical would you like to be in?**HC:** I would only participate if they did the *Nightmare Before Christmas*. It has always been a dream of mine to play the inimitable Jack Skellington live on stage.**DJ:** Do you have a word of advice for anyone who is interested in being in the musical next year?**HC:** Make sure you will have the time in your schedule. Don't figure it out the hard way like I did.**DJ:** What is the most important thing you learned about yourself through this experience?**HC:** I learned that I hate most people.**Ethan Courville (Link)**

by Madeleine Vath

**Madeleine Vath:** Why did you audition for the role of Link?**Ethan Courville:** I auditioned for the role of Link because I felt that it would be a fun and exciting role to play.**MV:** What is your favorite scene or song that you get to perform in as Link?**EC:** My favorite song that I get to sing is "It Takes Two." In this song Link gets to shine because he sings it to Tracy alone.**MV:** What are some important qualities that you bring to Link's role?**EC:** In my opinion I bring strong vocal ability to the role of Link, as well as my decent dancing ability.**MV:** If you could be any other character, who would you be and why?**EC:** I love the role of Link, but the role of Corny Collins would also be fun to play. His role has a couple of fun songs that I would love to sing and dance to.**MV:** Have you been in any other plays? If so, what role(s) did you play?**EC:** I played a member of the barbershop group in *The Music Man* last year.**Lajoyce Jones (Motor-Mouth Maybelle)**

by Danie Johnson

**Danie Johnson:** In what ways are you and Motor-Mouth Maybelle alike and different?**Lajoyce Jones:** Motor-Mouth and I are very alike. We have the same attitude and we are very easy going on everyone. The only difference we have is that she has two kids and I do not.**DJ:** What's the most difficult part for you in the musical?**LJ:** The most difficult part for me is staying in character because I get distracted really easily.**DJ:** How will you overcome stage fright on the big opening night?**LJ:** I won't have stage fright because I'm going to get in a good prayer before the show starts.**DJ:** Do you see yourself singing, dancing, or acting in the future?**LJ:** I do see myself doing this in the future as a hobby. I will never let musical theatre go. It's my heart and soul and how I express myself.**Jana Miley (Velma)**

by Taylor Dahl

**Taylor Dahl:** How have you prepared for your role?**Jana Miley:** Well, I've seen multiple versions of *Hairspray*, so I pulled inspiration from each of those actresses. I also studied the script to see how Velma acts around certain people. Recently, our teachers gave us a sheet with about 30 questions to ask ourselves about our characters, like their background, their goals, etc. That helped put the finishing touches on the role.**TD:** What have you enjoyed most about being in *Hairspray*?**JM:** I've really enjoyed being with the cast. They're all incredibly talented and I'm constantly learning from them. We've grown so close over the past semester; it'll be weird not seeing them everyday once this production is over.**TD:** How do you relate to your character?**JM:** I relate to Velma in that everything must be in a particular order and done my way, but I don't quite take things to her extremes.**TD:** Has playing such a mean character affected your personality at all?**JM:** No, being a mean character hasn't affected my personality too badly. I'm just as sarcastic as usual, but all in good fun.**TD:** How are you preparing for the opening night?**JM:** I'm preparing for opening night just like any other performance. I've been in a constant rehearsal it seems, running through lines, songs, and dances. The day of the show I'll make sure my costumes are in place and I'm warmed-up, ready to go.**TD:** How do you balance rehearsing for *Hairspray* and keeping up with your academic work?**JM:** Balancing *Hairspray* and school hasn't been too much of a problem, but when you throw college auditions in there, it gets a little hectic. For me, performing is first priority while academic work comes as a second thought. I just remind myself that school is important, too, and the work always gets done.

## Mrs. Link (Director) by Shelby Oltmann

**Shelby Oltmann:** What all does being the director entail?

**Ms. Link:** Being a director entails the overall concept of the show... how we will convey the theme... what do we deem important to be seen and heard in order for the whole message to get to the audience. In the beginning we work closely with the design staff as well as the choreographer and Music director to make sure that we are all on the same page. Then we work closely with the actors and performers to make sure that job is being done. Finally we turn over the whole show to the stage manager and hope that all will be sustained and that is a beautiful thing. I absolutely love the process!

**SO:** Is being the director of a large production like *Hairspray* exciting? Do you sometimes find your job stressful?

**ML:** It is exciting. This is my art. I have directed many times before this both small and large productions and the feeling never changes. Balancing the theatre major duties along with *Hairspray* and family duties are what becomes stressful... but my art is never stressful.

**SO:** How much of your time does such a huge job take up?

**ML:** Time... what is that? A great deal of time. We understood what we signed up for and we don't complain. Right now outside of school hours we rehearse about 35 hours a week... So add that to our school schedule and you can deduce for yourself. In the beginning it was not

this rigorous, however, in the world of Theatre, this is normal.

**SO:** Is being the director more physically or mentally demanding?

**ML:** This is a great question. I think it depends on the day, task and what we are focusing on. I am naturally a physical person. My students laugh at me because I am always singing and moving along with them. I "live" each character. But my mind is always working. We always teach our students to look for the story and make sure that each character is listening. I am *constantly* looking for that and my brain works in over drive.... So to sum it up, being director is equally demanding in both aspects.

**SO:** How would you describe the feeling you get watching the students perform?

**ML:** It is truly a special experience. Seeing them work so hard and really make strides in their acting, dancing, musicianship... it makes my heart jump and I jump too. I am blessed to be a part of this.



## Ms. Pitman (Choreographer) by Emily Thomas

**Emily Thomas:** What kind of challenges have you faced coming up with the choreography for *Hairspray*?

**Ms. Pitman:** The biggest challenge faced with the choreography was the speed in which the songs are performed. Many of the songs are fast paced, and moving that quickly while trying to sing and remember your blocking is a tough task.

**ET:** Is any of the choreography based off of the movies or Broadway musical?

**MP:** No. There are some similar steps that are accurate to the time period, but I did not watch the movie or see the Broadway show while working on the choreography. I like it to be somewhat original.

**ET:** What kind of process do you use to adapt the choreography to the students abilities?

**MP:** I create many different levels of choreography. For the more advanced dancer I give them more technical choreography (leaps, pirouettes, etc.) and then tier down from there. I try to keep many steps basic, because I would rather everyone look together and feel good about the movement, than trying to give everyone hard steps and struggle. However, lunch rehearsals came in handy this year, as there are a lot more dance numbers in this year's musical.

**ET:** What's your favorite dance number? Anything cool we should be looking out for?

**MP:** I have two favorites but one I am going to keep a surprise. "Run and Tell That" is my favorite. I like the movement and beat of the song. Everyone seems to enjoy that one too, so the students are fun to watch during the show. My other favorite is really cool, "Big Doll House." There is a surprise that I don't think the audience will expect in terms of dance in this number and that is why it is one of my favorites! It's something different!



## Will Waters (Stage Manager) by Shelby Oltmann

**Shelby Oltmann:** What all does being the stage manager entail?

**Will Waters:** Being stage manager of a major production means working with all of the branches of a production and getting them to move in the same direction (branches include choreography, acting, costume, pit orchestra and technical). Frequently during a production questions and concerns arise that I am to document and answer. During the months leading up I meet with branch heads, sit in on production meetings and make sure actors are doing what they need to do; being on time and know their lines and blocking as well as a lot of other things.

**SO:** Is being the stage manager of a large production like *Hairspray* exciting? Do you sometimes find your job stressful?

**WW:** My job is extremely stressful. I have to get an entire company of about 115 people to move in the same direction. I am a part of everything, including producing and teching. I can do it all with the help from my student production team; assistant directors Katri Heitman and Caroline Tweedy, my assistant stage manager Erik Green as well as my deck chief Price Long.

**SO:** How much of your time does such a huge job take up?

**WW:** Most of my time. With school I can work anywhere from 45 to 55 hour weeks.

**SO:** Is being the stage director more physically or mentally demanding?

**WW:** Definitely both. Aside from needing to understand everything that is happening now and a week and month ahead I have to be able to communicate with many people in high pressure situations. Physically I do a lot of moving from different buildings to communicate with different branches.

**SO:** How would you describe the feeling you get watching the show go smoothly and knowing that its because of the work you do?

**WW:** I have not seen the show go smoothly yet...



**BREAK A LEG!**



**Cameron Frye**

Have a great show, Cameron!



**Harrison Carr**

Born to do it! Break a leg, Harrison!



**Madelyn Knight**

Shine bright like a diamond! We love your stage presence and we love you! Best of luck to you and the entire cast.

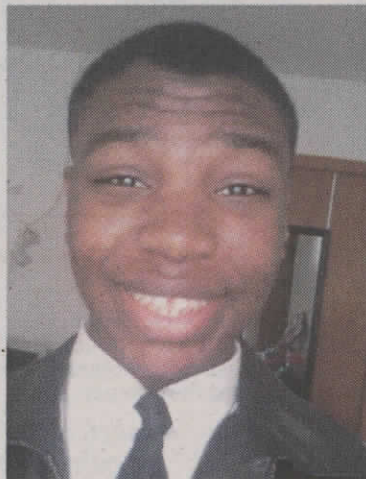
Mom, Dad, Allison, Garrett, Peeta, Katniss, and your entire family.



**Taylor Brobisky**

We couldn't be more proud of the amazing young woman you have become. You're a blessing to us all!

We love you, Mom and Dad



**Joel Chapman**

God has blessed you with talents to share with everyone. We're proud of you and we wish you and the cast of *Hairspray* good luck. We love you, Mom, Dad, and little bro Joshua



**Taylor Keathley**

Hey, Taylor! We wish you the best of luck on the show. We are all so proud of you! Love, Mom, Seth and Elissa



**Rachel Hunsinger**

Rachel we are so proud of your accomplishments in theater. You always amaze us with your talent. Much Love, Mom, Dad, and Molly



**Ethan Courville**

Ethan, good luck in *Hairspray*! We are all very proud of you and support you in all that you do! Love ya bro!



**Sam Molony**

You are such a beautiful person and we are proud of all you do and who you have become. Love, Grandmommy and Poppy

## School of the Arts and Academic Magnet to host international poetry conference

by Emily Thomas

2011 National Book Award Winner Nikky Finney among lineup of visiting artists and scholars

The Bonds-Wilson Campus in North Charleston will be the site of the 19th Annual Robinson Jeffers Association Conference on February 15-17. According to the group's website, "the Robinson Jeffers Association (RJA) is a not-for-profit organization whose members read, discuss, study and teach the work of one of America's greatest poets, Robinson Jeffers." The theme of this year's conference is "Integrity is Wholeness: The Moral, Social, and Aesthetic Implications of Robinson Jeffers's Worldview."

Jeffers, the first poet to be pictured on the cover of *Time* magazine, drew comparisons to Homer and Shakespeare during his lifetime. However, his steadfast individuality and the controversial nature of his work, which frequently criticized man's disregard for the natural environment, helped to diminish his reputation by the time of his death in 1962. According to Dr. Cusatis, executive director of RJA, Jeffers' reputation has undergone a revival in recent years. "He has something increasingly important to say to 21st century readers, and his poems are powerful without being unnecessarily difficult."

Robert Zaller, Professor of History at Drexel University in Philadelphia, will be among the scholars presenting talks on Jeffers. Zaller's latest book, *Robinson Jeffers and the American Sublime* (2012), was quickly recognized as a major contribution to American literary criticism. Zaller applauded the decision to hold the conference in the Lowcountry rather than its traditional California locale: "Charleston residents have a unique opportunity to hear this magnificent poet's work read and discussed in depth."

Jeffers reach is wide, and he appeals to readers of various backgrounds. Not only will literary scholars be in attendance, but also experts in the fields of philosophy, history, and science. Presenters will be traveling from as far as Italy. A few SOA students will also be among the presenters.

After an informal reception at the Holiday Inn Charleston Airport and Convention Center, the weekend's events will kick off with a poetry reading featuring National Book Award winner and South Carolina native Nikky Finney, on Friday, February 15 at 7:30 PM in SOA's Rose Maree Myers Theater for the Performing Arts. The

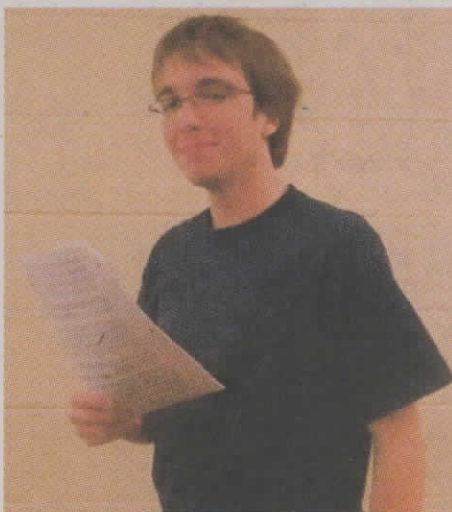
night will also include readings from South Carolina's Poet Laureate, Marjory Wentworth and award-winning Charleston poet Brian Penberthy, as well an opening performance by the SOA Jazz Band and a finale by celebrated urban-jazz violinist Daniel D., a 2007 SOA graduate, who has performed in front of President Obama, Oprah Winfrey, Jamie Foxx, Larry King, and the late Michael Jackson. Admission to Friday's reading is \$5.00 for students and \$10.00 for adults.

The academic portion of the program will take place in the AMHS Lecture Hall beginning at 9 AM on Saturday, February 16, with a keynote speech by Finney, followed by several talks and discussion on various aspects of Jeffers's work. The public is welcome to attend at no cost. Conference attendees can sign up for a harbor cruise on The Explorer Saturday afternoon with naturalist Ian Sanchez.

At 7:30 PM on Saturday in the Rose Maree Myers Theater, SOA will present "The Astonishing Beauty of Things: A Celebration of Robinson Jeffers through the Arts," featuring adaptations and interpretations of Jeffers's work by SOA's dancers, actors, musicians, vocalists, visual artists and creative writers. Senior vocal major Nicholas Bentz will debut a piece he has composed for eight-part vocal harmony, piano and percussion based on Jeffers's poem "Evening Ebb." Theater majors will present a scene from Jeffers's *Medea*. Other features will include collaboration between dancers and creative writers; a performance by SOA's improv troupe, The Fighting Gnomes; an art exhibit; and renditions of Jeffers's work translated into French, Italian and ASL. This event is free to the public. The conference will resume at 9:00 AM on Sunday with more panel discussions and lectures, again, free to the public.

Dr. Cook, principal of School of the Arts, expressed her enthusiasm about hosting the event. "As principal of a school that places high value on the arts and the study of creative artists like Jeffers, I am honored to have the RJA Conference on our campus."

In addition to SOA and AMHS, the event is being sponsored by the Lowcountry Initiative for the Literary Arts, Blue Bicycle Books, and the Coastal Conservation League. For more information please visit the RJA website at [www.robinsonjeffersassociation.org](http://www.robinsonjeffersassociation.org) or contact [John\\_Cusatis@charleston.k12sc.us](mailto:John_Cusatis@charleston.k12sc.us).



Students like senior Nick Bentz (pictured above) will participate alongside distinguished scholars during the weekend conference.

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## Paint the town red and gold

compiled by Alex Berlinsky

A list of art-related events around Charleston coming up in the next month.

### 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Charleston Boat Show 1/25-1/27

All you maritime sailors out there go check out the Convention Center as it is transformed into a boaters paradise. For just \$8, you can look at all the newest boats and boating equipment in one of the Charleston area's wettest events of the year.

### The Price is Right Live!

2/1

Come on down to the North Charleston Performing Arts Center and be a part of a game show that's been captivating audiences for years. Watch the show and have the opportunity to be called down and play the games and see if you can pick the price and spin the wheel.

### Our Town

2/1 - 2/17

Head on out to the Footlight Players and see their rendition of *Our Town*, perhaps Thornton Wilder's most celebrated play. This remains a must see for actors of all ages.

## Les Mis is lengthy, but it hits the spot

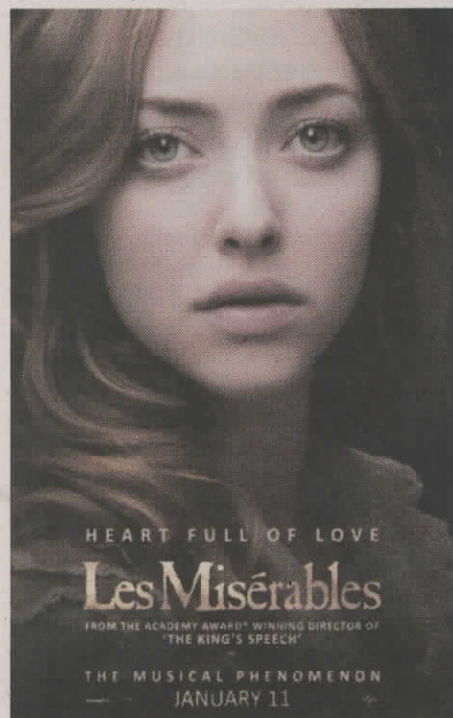
by Danie Johnson

Christmas Day, a holiday filled with laughter and glee, ironically held the opening of the aptly-titled musical, *Les Misérables*. The film grossed \$18.1 million on its opening day, which I contributed to. I usually don't like long movies, however, this particular one I happen to know quite well and it was interesting to see the differences between SOA's production of Victor Hugo's classic novel and the movies'.

The acting in the movie outshined the singing in my opinion. It seems that the actors were picked because of their acting ability, rather than their singing. Perhaps they were even picked because of their big names instead of their talent. It just doesn't seem likely to me that some of the actors/actresses were the best possible choice to fill out the role. I think some of them were picked to convince people into going to see it.

I won't say anything about Russell Crowe; I think he has had enough people critique his "unique" singing voice. I tip my hat to Anne Hathaway (Fantine) and Daniel Huttleston (Gavroche). I thought they both stole the show from Hugh Jackman, not that he wasn't amazing, but Anne Hathaway was just so great at playing the sad, pathetic, and sick Fantine that I couldn't help but cry. Daniel Huttleston was perfect at being the ambitious revolutionist, and excelled at being consistently adorable.

The movie stayed true to the play, which I was happy about. I suggest everyone go see this movie, however I don't like long movies enough to see it a second time.



## No one mourns Wicked

by Madeleine Vath

I have read many books. Too many books to count in fact. But only once in my life have I ever read a book with as boring of a plot line as *Wicked*. The fact that this book is on a list of 25 *Unforgettable Fantasy Books* greatly disappoints me. True, it is number 24 out of 25, ahead only of *From the Two Rivers* by Robert Jordan, but the fact that it even made the top 100 is very saddening. I have read fan-fiction better than this (fan-fiction not by our creative writers). To be perfectly honest with you, I could not finish it. It is just too bland. I did of course skip to the end just to see if it is as bad as I anticipated it to be and, guess what, it is. There went my last hope that this book might have any final redeeming qualities.

Granted, it was not all bad. Gregory Maguire is excellent at developing his characters and he uses some extraordinary diction; however, many times his word choice is so confusing that the reader cannot possibly understand what he is saying and misses vital parts of a character's story. So, basically, if you like reading books with weird, boring plot lines about characters that are full of holes, then this book is your soul mate.

The only thing about this book that -- if anyone decided to put themselves through the torture of reading it -- would give them some small life lesson is the different perspective of a sort of racism, or species-ism if you will, that is threaded throughout the plot. The Wizard is slowly taking away the rights of both the Animals and the animals (you would have to read it to understand) and pushing them back into their "natural habitats." At first the reader is prone to think that this is an atrocious way of treating others, but then remembers that this is exactly what American colonists did to the Native Americans. This being an important part of our history and the lone, somewhat redeeming quality of this book, I have decided to begrudgingly give this book 2.5 out of 10 as a rating, and that is being generous.

I never thought I would say this about any book, but please spare yourself the pain and confusion and do not read this book. Ever. Don't even open it. If you were considering reading it, don't. Just don't. But if you *do* end up reading it anyway, maybe you could tell me what I missed.



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## Renowned choreographer to visit SOA Traffic schmaffick

by Emily Thomas

Choreographer Kathryn Roszak will be coming to SOA to “explore creating movement phrases and choreography inspired by the poetry of Robinson Jeffers.” Roszak will be working with Ms. Cline and the SOA dancers to perform an original piece at the Robinson Jeffers Association Conference on Saturday, February 16. The dance will then be further developed by Roszak’s company, Danse Lumiere, and performed at the 2014 conference in California.

Roszak is the artistic director of Danse Lumiere in Berkeley, CA. She has choreographed dances based upon the poetry of such notable poets as Gary Snyder, Maxine Hong Kingston, and Emily Dickinson.

Ms. Cline comments that she is “really excited about [Roszak] coming to work with us. She has a lot of knowledge about dance and poetry and I think my students will love her.”



Choreographer Kathryn Roszak will be visiting campus for the Robinson Jeffers Conference in February.

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by Khari Lucas, guest writer

Traffic: peoples gotta deal with it every day. However, as soon as the opportunity arises for us angst-filled teens to use it to our advantage, a sorrowful cry echoes through the air. You lazy adolescents ought to wake up and literally smell the coffee (although I am no caffeine advocate). So there is now, as a result of somebody’s complaint or whatever it was, only one lane of traffic. The wheels of your car are not going to explode as your carburetor spontaneously combusts because you have to idle a little bit to get to school.

At those who will sneer at this article negatively as they yawn “but now I have to wake up earlier not to be late to school”, I scoff as I take my daily 4 am run. Studies have shown throughout history that waking up early leads to increased day productivity and more positive chemicals moving through your body. That means a tighter grind, and a brighter shine. It also means that just maybe you won’t forget something rushing out of the house to make it on time. Maybe you can actually take the time to cook up breakfast, which is an activity whose merits are so well know I don’t even need to preach about them. Not to mention the chance you will have now of catching that sweet morning sunrise.

Sitting in traffic also builds character. Being forced to wait in line for sometime will provide you useful practice being patient. Since you are going to school, chances are there are things you will have to wait for during the day anyway, such as bells, lunch food (if you’re buying it), or maybe your mother to pull up in her new whip so you can go home. You could also use the time you spend in the eternal automobile parade to catch up on some reading (preferably *Jet* magazine) or homework. It’s true that idling uses more gas, and you may have to throw down an extra stack or two, but that doesn’t really seem to be something that is in your control at this point anyway.

For those of you who’re still bugg’n even after I’ve dropped the good news about traffic, this could be a pretty chill time for you to sit down and practice some writing. In our system of government, there are representatives at every level who are always down to rap with the kids about important issues. I bet if you hit your mailman up with a letter to one, it could possibly create a future change for the better. And honestly, in any situation in life that doesn’t groove like it should, I think everybody would agree that it is certainly always better to take a productive step to fix the issue than to force everybody to listen to your negative jive. I’m out.

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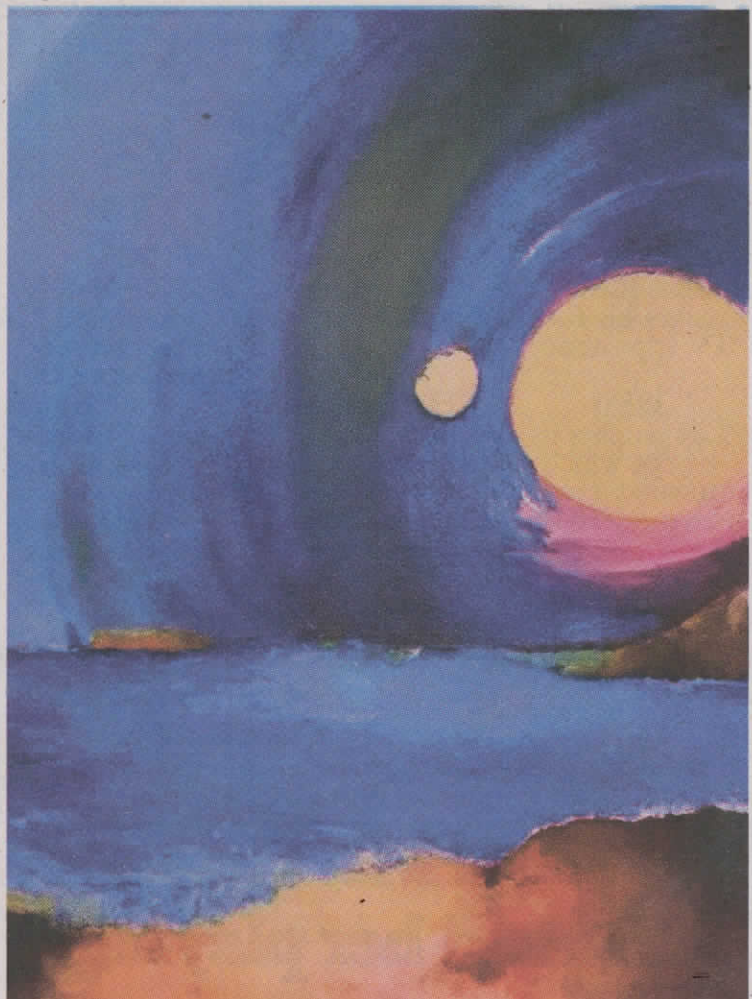
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# Student Writing & Artwork

*Jaqueline Pretorius, 7th Grade*

*Sequoia Brown, 12th Grade*



## *Excerpt from "Water, Water" by 12th Grader Rachel Lechler*

Some mornings I'll wake up really early and sit on the dock with a cup of coffee. I look out over the expanse of water, wavering and gulping beneath the wooden boards, and I sometimes think I can hear my mom's voice.

When I was young, we took a family vacation to the lake house. My mom only packed swimsuits for herself. Some days I would sit out on the dock and watch her swim. She was like a mermaid, half lounging on the bank with her feet dug into the little pebbles. She always tried to get me to go into the water with her, but I refused. She stopped asking me after a while.

One night I was up way past my bedtime. Hidden underneath my covers with a flashlight and a book, I heard the back door shut. I switched off my flashlight and looked out the window beside my bed. There was my mom, tiptoeing barefoot toward the dock. The full moon reflected off her long hair like it was the lake itself. She looked like a goddess, her skin glowing. She dove into the water, and seconds later her head popped up above the surface. The moon and stars shimmered in the water. I fell asleep watching her.

It was as if the sky swallowed her whole.



## HOROSCOPES



**Sagittarius** - That new perfume you got does not smell like flowers, it smells like rotten fish. Please stop wearing it and save everyone's nose.



**Capricorn** - It's unfortunate to tell you but there is a very high possibility that you will get hit by a train.



**Aquarius** - I recommend getting shoes with better traction. You're going to fall... A lot.



**Pisces** - Your cat has left you a surprise in your bed, now it's up to you to find out where.



**Aries** - Professional-Stalker is not a career that suits you. It's time to stop and find a new one.



**Taurus** - You think that you can get away with sleeping in science class but it's time to let you know that you snore.



**Gemini** - Someone will replace your Reese's Puffs with dog food.



**Cancer** - Today seems like a good day to do the Hokie Pokie in front of a large crowd.



**Leo** - Up in the sky! Is it a planet? Superman?! Nope, it's just a bird about to poop in your hair.



**Virgo** - Think you did well on that big test? You may want to rethink.



**Libra** - Your family is going to get the great idea to move to a small town. Do I see Manning, SC in your future?



**Scorpio** - When wandering in the woods, don't dress like a deer.

## THE TRIVIA CHALLENGE

by Jakob Lazzaro

Do you consider yourself a trivia expert? Then sign up to compete in The Trivia Challenge! Each month, two SOA students will be picked to compete against each other. Whoever wins will return next month to compete again! If you want to compete, stop by room 1115 in the high school building during your lunch period to sign up. All winners will receive a \$15 Barnes & Noble gift card in recognition for their achievement. Both high and middle school students are welcome!

### THIS MONTH'S TOPIC

This month everyone at SOA gets to enjoy the wonderful musical *Hairspray*. To coincide with this, the theme for this month is musical theatre.

### QUESTIONS!

1. What are the names of the two opposing gangs in *West Side Story*?
2. In the Broadway musical *Wicked*, what is the name of Elphaba's sister?
3. True or False: The most Tony awards ever received by a single production was the musical *Hairspray*.
4. What is the longest continually running Broadway musical?
5. What musical won the 2004 Tony award for best musical?
6. True or False: The first staged Broadway musical was *The Black Crook*.
7. What is the name of the main female lead in *Hairspray*?
8. True or False: Harold Price has won the most Tony awards of any individual.
9. How many daughters does Tevye, the lead in *Fiddler on the Roof*, have?
10. Which actress played the character of Maria in the movie adaption of *The Sound of Music*?

Contestant A: Cody Beasenburg, 9th Grade Vocal

Contestant B: Maddy Seabrook, 10th Grade CW

1. I guess the Montagues and Capulets... I know what it is based off of but I'm sure that they changed the names...



2. Nessarose. Nessa for short.
3. True.
4. I used to know this... *Guys and Dolls*?
5. Thoroughly Modern Millie
6. True.
7. Tracy Turnblad.
8. True.
9. Five.
10. Julie Andrews?

1. The Sharks and the Jets



2. Nessarose
3. False
4. One of them recently broke the record... as much as I don't like it, it might be *Chicago*.
5. I don't know.
6. False.
7. Tracy Turnblad.
8. True.
9. Five?
10. Julie Andrews!

### ANSWERS

- |   |                                  |                    |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. The Sharks and the Jets.                         | 4. <i>Phantom of the Opera</i> . | 8. True.           |
| 2. Nessarose.                                       | 5. <i>Avenue Q</i> .             | 9. Five.           |
| 3. False. It was the musical <i>The Producers</i> . | 6. True.                         | 10. Julie Andrews. |
|   | 7. Tracy Turnblad.               |                    |

### The Tiebreaker Question!

Name as many of the "big six" Tony award categories as you can.

**Cody:** Best Production, Best musical, Best actor, Best actress, Best song. **3/6**

**Maddy:** Best featured actor in a musical, Best featured actress in a musical, Best featured actor in a play, Best featured actress in a play, Best book and Best score. **4/6**

Answer: Best Musical, Best Score, Best Book, Best Performance by a Leading Actor, Best Performance by a Leading Actress and Best Direction.

### THE WINNER AND RETURNING GUEST IS...

It seems that Cody just loves to tie it up. Alas, this time the tie was not decided in his favor. By a margin of one point, Maddy won the tiebreaker question and toppled Cody from his long reign as Trivia King. This means that Maddy will return next month to play again. Stay tuned!



“Jen tripped me.”  
Danielle Dungo & Jen Smith, 12th Grade Visual Arts & Band



“I messed up and my CD didn’t work.”  
Dale Bennet, 12th Grade Vocal



“We did a lot of modern and a lot of stretching.”  
Anna Lipke, 6th Grade Dance



“I sang part of ‘Your World’ from *Little Mermaid*. I fell.”  
Madelyn Knight, 11th Grade Vocal



“I remember walking in there and being stared down, I messed up and thought I wouldn’t get in.”  
Betty Manaris 7th Grade Vocal

## What do you remember most about applying to SOA?

By Danie Johnson & Cameron Lloyd



“I had to improv being in a room that was on fire, with a snake in the room.”  
Gavin Quinton 10th Grade Theatre



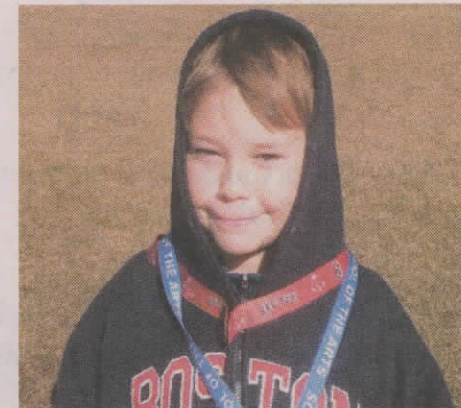
“I wrote about getting lost in the woods”  
Noah Jordan. 10th Grade CW



“I remember being so scared, I almost didn’t audition”  
Jack Stalcup, 8th Grade Theatre



“I was really hungry that day; really confident.”  
Isabella Sullivan, 9th Grade Strings



“The waiting seemed like it took forever; very nerve racking.”  
Trammell Sisson, 6th Grade CW