

Applause

Volume 16, Number 1

School of the Arts, North Charleston, SC

October 2014



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Letter from the Editors

Letter from the Editors

Dear SOA,

Welcome back! As your new editors, the three of us are beyond excited to keep *Applause* clapping, bring you up-to-date with what's happenin', and, as always, provide entertainment.

In honor of the upcoming fifteenth anniversary of *Applause*, we have continued to enhance our publication, including the development of a new state-of-the-art website, www.soa-applause.com, which will feature our 15 year archive. Also, please like our page on Facebook to keep up with activities, events, performances, and the general goings-on at SOA.

In this issue, you'll find an overview of our new major, Costume and Design, as well as a look at the origins and accomplishments of the program. On pages 6 and 7, you can get to know SOA's new teachers. And we know you will enjoy our interview with Dr. Perrineau, the new assistant vice principal. Who knew that Dr. Perrineau is a *Star Wars* fan? Check out what everyone was up to over the summer in our colorful "Summer Highlights" centerfold.

We will continue to feature plenty of student artwork and writing, because after all, this is your newspaper. We want to make sure every student, teacher, and parent can take a look into our pages, appreciate the value of our school, and be proud of the unique contribution each person brings to SOA. Thank you to all our patrons and advertisers!

This one's for you, Mom.

Love,

Taylor, Suzanne, and Graham

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Editorial: Disappearing Ink

As members of the SOA *Applause* staff, we have important roles we must take on. We are writers, publishers, reporters, photographers, and more recently, preservers of printed news. Our goal in the end is to produce a newspaper, the final product of weeks of research, interviewing, and editing.

When we complete a paper, it is right there in front of us. We can hold it in our hands, feel the weight of the pages, see our articles and pictures set down in neat margins, smell the ink. Putting out the newspaper is a tradition we seek to continue— it is essentially a log of human communication. It is us giving you the news via a tangible product.

On the other hand, as the age of technology extends its influence into the media, *Applause* embraces it. Our website, soa-applause.com, is yet another way for our readers to connect with us. Readers can also provide feedback on articles or features they have read. The Internet is extremely important in the exchanging of news in this way— but we can't stress enough the validity of an actual newspaper.

More and more information in the 21st century is making the transition from paper to pixels. Poet and former President of the National Endowment for the Arts Dana Gioia refers to this modern phenomenon as "disappearing ink."

Keeping this in mind, our gratitude towards those who have provided financial and moral support is without bounds. Your generosity ensures that we can keep *Applause* in print and continue to strengthen our presence online, not as a replacement for our physical paper, but as an extension of our publication.

As the new generation of *Applause* staff, as lovers of the printed word, as maintainers of a newspaper now 15 years strong, we promise to our readers that we won't let our ink disappear.

Applause

the official student publication of
Charleston County School of
the Arts

Founded in 1995 by Rose Maree Myers

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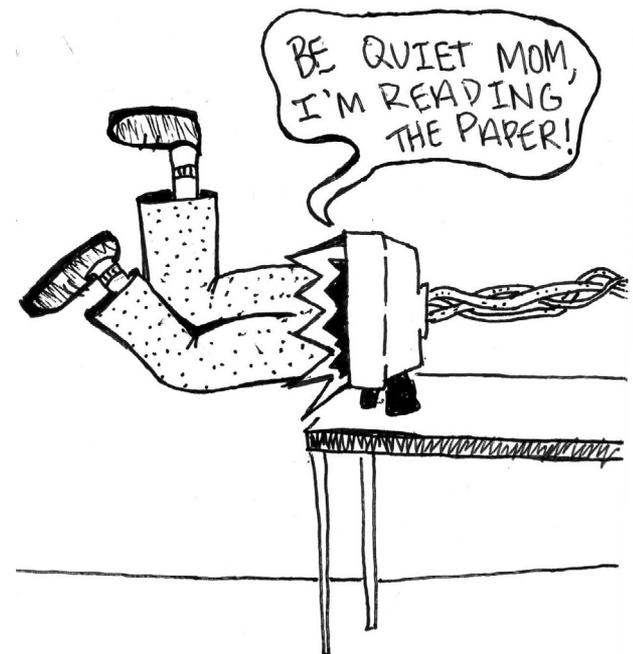
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taylor@soa-applause.com.

Catching up with Madeleine Vath, outgoing *Applause* editor

by Suzanne Jackson

This fall, our beloved 2014-2015 Applause editor left Charleston for Columbia to study at the University of South Carolina Honors College. We're curious to see how she's spending time now that she is no longer yelling at us to turn in our assignments on the due date.

Suzanne Jackson: What is your favorite part about college so far?

Madeleine Vath: It's so hard to pick just one thing! I am torn between taking naps—I mean doing homework in my hammock and sleeping past 8am every day. Having a meal plan is pretty great too, especially seeing as the best food is on the first floor of my dorm!

SJ: What do you miss the most about the 2013-2014 *Applause* staff?

MV: Ted Anastopoulos.

SJ: What advice would you give the current editors?

MV: Delegate, delegate, DELEGATE! Do not stretch yourselves too thin. You have a huge staff this year; take advantage of that manpower.

SJ: Are you involved with anything pertaining to journalism?

MV: Well first of all, I am majoring in print journalism. This semester I am taking a class called "Writing for Mass Communications" taught by a professor who was the editor of a newspaper for 22 years. It's all grammar, phrasing, and style, so you can imagine how incredibly excited the grammar nerd in me is to be taking that class! I am also planning on writing for *The Daily Gamecock*, USC's daily newspaper, and possibly *Garnet & Black*, the university's monthly magazine.

SJ: How did being editor of *Applause* prepare you for any aspect of college, if at all?

MV: Being on the *Applause* staff for two years gave me invaluable experience, not only in journalism, but also in time and stress management. In college, you have a lot more "free time" out of class, but more than enough reading assignments to fill it with. Basically, if you don't know how to buckle down and focus, it is difficult to get anything done. Being a big part of the staff prepared me for the inordinate amount of outside work I now have. Like seriously, I had to read *The Tempest* in five days. I am extremely grateful I had already read it once in Ms. Bronk's class.



Photo Credit: Provided

Meet Your 2014-2015 SOA *Applause* Editors



Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Graham Crolley
Senior Creative Writer
Known for: The hair
Smells like: Teen spirit
Favorite movie: *Almost Famous*
According to Carly Simon: Probably thinks this song is about him

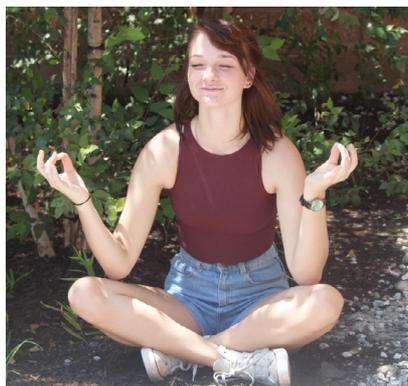


Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Taylor Dahl
Senior Creative Writer
Known for: Giving bad advice and being sarcastic
Can be found: Sleeping in unusual places
Favorite hobby: Sleeping
Favorite Cookout milkshake: Banana Pudding



Photo Credit: Taylor Dahl

Suzanne Jackson
Senior Creative Writer
Favorite unappreciated breakfast cereal: Raisin Bran
Can be found: Asleep in various locations
Best friend: F. Rutledge Hammes
Skills: Mad

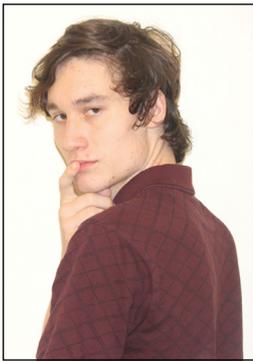


Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Dmitri Grigorieff
Senior Creative Writer

Likes to: Participate in Arts & Crafts.

No: Flex Zone

Yes: Would you like a ripe plump peach?

Likely to be found: Chasing hope



Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Jacob Lazzaro
Junior Piano Major

Favorite books: Too many

Favorite online link aggregator: Reddit

Favorite foreign candy: Picnic Bar

Has lived in: Sydney, Australia for 2 1/2 years.



Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Sarah McCord
Senior Piano Major

Celebrity crush: Shaggy Rogers

Favorite documentary: *Twilight*

Dream job: Writing for the school newspaper

Short term life goal: World Peace



Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Aly Wintz
Senior Vocal Major

Favorite anime: Hetalia

Favorite pair of socks: Black mustache crew socks

Pastimes include: Pretending to be Iron Man in the local Mount Pleasant Walmart.



Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Nikita Narodnitskiy
Senior Creative Writer

Loves: Long drives

Eats: Golden earlobes of the finest beef

Has never: Been on a long drive

Can be found at: Who's asking?



Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Savanna Osborne
Senior Creative Writer

Favorite late night horror movie: *Silent Hill*

Can be found: Holed up in my room playing Bioshock

Favorite book focusing on the flaws of modern society: *Fahrenheit 451*

Most likely to: Fall flat on face in front of a large crowd



Photo Credit: Graham Crolley

Nick Scapellato
Junior Creative Writer

Also known as: Sick Napellato

Can be found: Frolicking

Feelin': 22

Favorite article of clothing: Socks



Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Noah Jordan
Senior Creative Writer

Popular pseudonyms: Scrapdog Johnson

Favorite restaurant: Captain D's

Employed by: Taco Spot



Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato

Cherry Hu
Senior Strings Major

Favorite fruit: Mango

Coffee or tea: Tea

Likely to be found: Searching for the truth in fiction

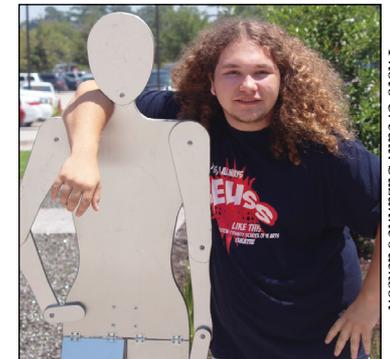


Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Tommy Nauman
Junior Theatre Major

Direction I want to go in life: Backwards

I enjoy: Making my own food, even if it's really simple.

Favorite topping: Bacon

2014-2015 SOA Applause Staff

Meet SOA's New Teachers

by Graham Crolley, Savanna Osborne,
and Tommy Nauman

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Ms. Stallsmith

Middle School Guidance

Ms. Stallsmith has lived in Charleston her entire life. She says there is something about the area that she couldn't get away from. She completed her counseling internship at Fort Johnson Middle and James Island Charter High School. Last year, she was a counselor at C.E. Williams Middle School. Ms. Stallsmith received a B.S. in Psychology at The College of Charleston as well as a M.Ed. in Educational Counseling

at The Citadel Graduate College. She has always aspired to be a counselor so she can help children of all ages with their problems. She stated in our interview, "I feel as though I have found my calling as a school counselor." She loves being able to positively impact the lives of students here at SOA. She has three children of her own and loves to spend time with them out on the waters of Charleston.

Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson



Ms. Tillotson

Dance

Becoming SOA's newest dance teacher is something that just makes sense for Ms. Kristin Tillotson. She attended a performing arts high school in New York and went on to teach dance for four years at a magnet school in Philadelphia called Hill Freedman World Academy, where she co-directed and choreographed the annual musical. She earned a BFA in dance education from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and a Masters in Dance/Movement Therapy

from Drexel University. She told us her first day was exciting and that she loves meeting new people. She enjoys all types of music and likes movies and books ranging from *Top Gun* to *Watership Down*. She loves her dogs, Brutus and Pita, her cat, Alora, and getting to see her family more often now that she lives here in South Carolina.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Ms. Yackey

High School Math

Ms. Yackey grew up in Columbia, SC, and received her undergraduate degree in mathematics from the College of Charleston. She then moved to North Carolina and stayed there for six years. Five of those years she spent teaching math at two different schools. "I missed Charleston so much that my husband and I decided to move back," she stated. They have 3 cats, love math and both play Ultimate Frisbee. As a child, she wanted to be a professional soccer player, but that all changed after she discovered Ultimate. She went on to be on Team USA when they won the 2009 Kaohsiung World Games. She has "always loved math and teaching Geometry, but I love teaching Cadet Class - a class full of students who want to be future teachers." She continued by noting that her "classes are also full of amazing and AWESOME KIDS who care, attempt to do homework, ask questions, and are respectful to their teacher (which is pretty exciting when you ask a teacher)." She finds teaching here completely different and cannot wait to continue teaching such respectful students.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato

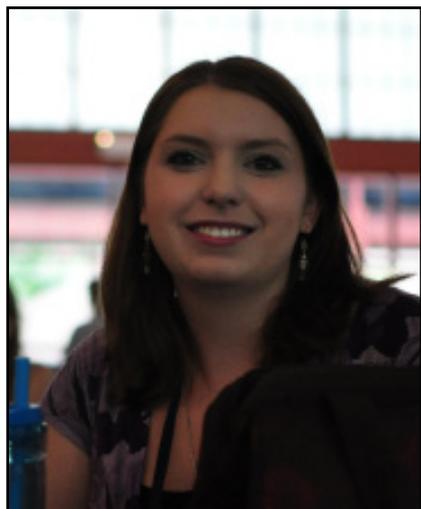


Ms. Bourgeois

Middle School Social Studies

Ms. Bourgeois graduated from to Oakland University in Michigan. Before coming to SOA, she taught grades 6-8 at South Lake Middle School for two years. Her first day teaching at SOA "was full of emotion. I was excited and nervous at meeting my new students and being at a new school. This was by far the best first day of school I have had teaching." She says that social studies was always her favorite subject in school, and that she had considered teaching for as long as she could remember. She decided she would be a teacher when she took a high school course where she helped to run a pre-school. If she attended SOA, she says that she would choose dance as her major. She wants her students to know that if she's ever in a bad mood, to tell her a corny joke.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Ms. Pennetti

High School Math

Ms. Pennetti graduated from West Chester University. Prior to SOA, she taught in the Downingtown School District and completed her student teaching in the Upper Darby School District of Pennsylvania. When asked how her first day teaching at SOA was, she responded, "It was amazing! The students are so kind and genuinely excited to be here. They were the most polite and sweetest group of students I have ever experienced on a first day."

She says that she loves the unique atmosphere of SOA, and that her major would be visual arts as she loves sketching, painting, photography, and metal-smithing. She says that math has always come naturally to her, and that she finds it fun to create new ways to solve problems and come up with new methods and approaches. Ms. Pennetti knew she wanted to be a teacher when her third-grade teacher made such an impact on her life that it made her want to do the same for others.

Photo Credit: Graham Crolley



Ms. Luzier

High School Science

Growing up in Maryland, Ms. Jessica Luzier was uncertain of her career interests until she discovered her love for science in high school. She received her education from Salisbury University and the University of Maryland, where she studied chemical engineering. She then worked as an analytical chemist. She later became a chemistry teacher at Parkside High School in Maryland. Ms. Luzier says "Chemistry is an amazing subject. It's always exciting to know why something happens and to further understand the world around you." She moved from her self-built home in Maryland to Charleston this summer to be closer to her husband's family. She and her husband have a 40 gallon saltwater tank where they grow coral and take care of salt water creatures. The couple has a Siberian husky named Hannah. She said that SOA's diverse student body reminds her of the students she taught at Parkside.

Ms. Bridges

Fashion Design

Ms. Bridges graduated from the University of Georgia. She taught high school in Athens, GA and elementary school in Atlanta, GA for four years before coming to teach costume and design at SOA. She says, "I have always been interested in fiber arts and I learned to sew at a young age. I really enjoy the spatial challenge of turning a 2D material into a complex three dimensional sculpture." She says that her first day was a joy, and that SOA is a friendly and welcoming school. She loves how talented and

engaged the students are. She didn't always want to be a teacher, though; when she was young she wanted to be President of the United States.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Ms. Lebrun

Middle School/ High School Math

Ms. Stacey Lebrun received degrees from both Boston University and Central Connecticut State University before she first started teaching at Windsor Locks High School in Connecticut, eventually moving on to Woodrow Wilson Middle School in Middletown, CT. When she moved to South Carolina, she taught at Gregg Middle, Timberland High, West Ashley Middle, and Burke High before moving to Savannah, Georgia where she taught at Beach High School. After that, she found her way to SOA and says she intends to stay. She described her first day on the job here as "a joy" and her students as "well behaved, kind, and receptive." She says she would be a Visual Artist if she could have a major, and enjoys older Stephen King novels. Outside of school, one could find her doing fun activities such as kayaking, riding her bike, watching TV shows on Netflix, and searching for a pet puppy.

Mr. Wells

Middle School Social Studies

Mr. Kyle Wells received his education at Otterbein College and Miami University (OH). Before coming to SOA, he taught at West Ashley Middle School, and he described his first day here as "awesome." One may find him partaking in various outdoor activities such as sports or hunting. On the great frontier of the indoors, you may find him reading *The Green Mile*, watching *The Lion King*, or jamming out to Bruce Springsteen. He loves his family, and enjoys "having the freedom to live somewhat spontaneously."

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Meet SOA's New Assistant Principal, Dr. Perrineau

Applause staff member Jakob Lazzaro sat down with Dr. Robert Perrineau, Jr., the new high school assistant principal, to get a picture of life before SOA.

Jakob Lazzaro: So you grew up in Charleston, like many of us. Do you have any exciting memories of your childhood?

Dr. Robert Perrineau, Jr.: The most exciting thing about my childhood was that I had the opportunity to spend lots of time with both sets of my great great-grandparents, great-grandparents, grandparents and parents. I grew up in a very close-knit family.

JL: How did you become interested in the arts and music?

RP: Charleston County's Arts Program was very vibrant and widespread throughout the district schools when I was growing up, so I got involved with the arts in 3rd grade through the schools. Love of the arts also runs in my family, as my older siblings were gifted both instrumentally and vocally. I also have one uncle who is a published writer and another who is an artist. My first instrument was the cello, but I later moved on to the baritone tuba, trombone, and drums.



Photo Credit: Jakob Lazzaro

JL: Where did you earn your degrees?

RP: I got my undergraduate degree at both Florida A&M and Florida State University. My graduate degree came from studies at Southern Wesleyan University, the Citadel, and the College of Charleston. My doctoral and postgraduate studies were at Argosy University.

JL: What made you interested in education as a career?

RP: My best friend's dad, one of my mentors growing up, was a longtime educator and school administrator and that definitely influenced me. Alongside that, my parents always pushed education as the key to being successful despite any obstacles or challenges one may have to endure along the way. I love educating and the desire to give back and positively influence the lives of students. I believe that teaching is innate. In most cases, people who become educators were born wanting to do that. It's a profession of passion, and I really love it and care about the well-being of the kids.

JL: What do you want the student body to know about you the most?

RP: I'm transparent with everyone and focused on everyone reaching his or her potential, both students and staff. I am collaborative in nature and a supporter of individual success.

JL: Do you have a favorite book/movie/album that you would like to share?

RP: My favorite movie is the original Star Wars trilogy. Everything starts with *The Empire Strikes Back* and ends with *Return of the Jedi*, and all of the prequels were just someone's imagination of what life was like in the galaxy before Luke Skywalker. I don't have just one favorite book, but what got me interested in reading for pleasure was *The Norton Anthology, Volumes 1 and 2*. Those were my 9th and 10th grade English textbooks and they opened up a whole new world of literature to me with works like *Dante's Inferno*, *The Iliad*, and *The Canterbury Tales*. As for music, I listen to everything but if I had to pick a favorite album it would either be *Maze* featuring Frankie Beverly or something by *Earth, Wind, and Fire*.

JL: What are you looking forward to the most about being at SOA?

RP: I am most looking forward to the experience of working with the staff and the students. It's different here, and that is a good thing. When you've been an educator for a while you need change so you don't become complacent in what you do. Change reinvigorates your passion and drive for teaching. I'm living the dream.

JL: Can you tell me a bit about your family?

RP: I have a large and very close-knit family. Immediately, I'm married and have three kids. The value of a strong family is one my family holds dear, and that's why I approach people the way I do. I believe in genuine relationships. That's what family means to me -- close, and full of shared experiences.

JL: As a Charlestonian since birth, what is one thing you would change about the city if you could?

RP: There are some human attitudes and behaviors that are innate to growing up in Charleston and that's what I'd want to change. Other than that, it's a beautiful place to live, close to the beach and not too big or small, moderately sized.

JL: What arts major do you identify with the most?

RP: Band, since I play instrumental music!



Photo Credit: Jakob Lazzaro

Dr. Perrineau watches while 8th grade Band major **Thandi Nixon** practices clarinet.

SOA Piano scores with night at the Charleston Battery

by Jakob Lazzaro

SOA's Piano majors had a stellar kickoff to the year with the fundraising concert night at the Charleston Battery. Students from both the middle and high schools chose times and prepared pieces the week before, with the live piano extravaganza beginning an hour and a half before kickoff.

Photo Credit: Jakob Lazzaro



The Charleston Battery outmaneuvers the Pittsburgh Riverhounds to enter the postseason playoffs.

"In previous years we worked with the Charleston Riverdogs," said Piano department head, **Debbie Benson**. "But their final home game was before school started so instead we decided to team up with the Charleston Battery."

Students played a wide array of tunes, ranging from Jazz classics such as "Take the 'A' Train" to classical numbers, both well known pieces such as "Für Elise" by Beethoven and more obscure songs like "Run, Run!" by Pinto. The Piano department had procured a prime location directly next to the ticket gates and box office, ensuring that many passers-by heard the Piano majors perform. As the kickoff neared, the Piano majors retreated to the bleachers to get a look at the Charleston Battery vs. the Pittsburgh Riverhounds.

The game went splendidly, with the Charleston Battery demolishing the Pittsburgh Riverhounds 4-0. The four fantastic goals were scored by forward Dane Kelly, earning him a "hat trick" and the Charleston Battery a place in the USL PRO postseason playoffs. To cap off the victory, the night ended with a fireworks display. It was a good night for both the Battery and the SOA Piano department, which raised over \$700 for the Piano Boosters, scoring a great start to the year.

Photo Credit: Jakob Lazzaro

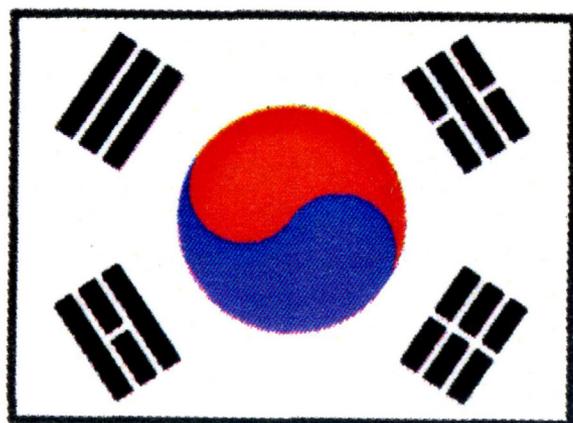


Freshman Piano major **McCormick Emge** performs at Blackbaud Stadium.

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Where Were They Then: Mr. Taylor

by Suzanne Jackson

Mr. Roger Taylor teaches honors and AP statistics as well as an audio engineering course. He grew up in Toledo, Ohio, with two siblings. We decided to interview him about his past- and get some great pictures.

Suzanne Jackson: What is the first thing you can remember from your childhood?

Roger Taylor: My mother and father married very young and we did not have much. My first memory of my childhood is sharing a room with my brothers and parents. This is how we lived when the blizzard of 1978 hit northwest Ohio. My father did not come home for three days since he was stuck at one of his many jobs. By the time he was able to come home he had to climb the very large snow drift just to get to the front door. We all stood at the door watching him climb, what was to us the largest mountain of snow we have ever seen. Of course, this memory sounds like a story in which the father coming home was so joyous we all cried and hugged when he entered the door, but unfortunately my father slipped and fell on the way down and kind of rolled to the door. There were tears... of laughter. I wish my 40 year old self could finish this memory with a “moral” to the story or make some odd connecting metaphor but I cannot. It was just

Photo Credit: Provided



The picture we have all been waiting for... Young Mr. Taylor showing off his trend-setting style.

funny.

SJ: Looking back, what do you think is the most regrettable fashion choice you have made?

RT: I feel I do not need to answer this considering I am sure you will just show the picture as my answer.

SJ: From the classes you teach, we all know you are interested in both music and math.

Did you ever experience a realization where you found that you could combine the two?

RT: Mathematics is inherently connected to music and to be honest, this realization occurred early in life as I have had band and choir teachers in high school that made a point to ensure we understood it. Their teachings allowed me to mature in my understanding of music composition when I played in bands as a young person. Of course, the music I was writing appeared to only be enjoyed by a small few but when I was twenty I picked up a CD from a band called Polvo who was from Chapel Hill, NC. Even though they hated the title, they were considered one of Math Rocks founding fathers. “Celebrate the New Dark Age” was such a well composed and produced album it sort of became my muse and I started playing with immediate tone and meter changes. This seemed to appeal to a greater audience in our area and the band was even interviewed by the University of Toledo’s student lead radio station.

SJ: If you had a high school version of yourself in one of your classes, what would you think of him?

RT: The same thing I think when I look at all of you, “I hope I do not fail him.”

SJ: We know you’ve had some pretty cool jobs before. What made you want to start teaching?

RT: I have always wanted to teach. This occurred when I was in high school. I had a really cool chemistry and physics teacher. They worked in the private sector and became teachers late in their lives. Their lessons always seemed to have depth to them as they could relate the material to some real life event.

Back in those days, music slightly edged out physics and computers so I followed that ambition after graduation. I was okay with this since I figured I would teach once I retired from whatever it was I found myself doing. Time moves on and life happens. After a major life event (yes, I am purposely being vague), I sold all of my music equipment and moved to Columbus, Ohio, to go to school. I was hired into a good job doing network and cyber-security for a company called Battelle.

I majored in math and through this was given the opportunity to become a teacher. Now I am not quite at retirement age, but I am glad I made the transition. I have been teaching for going on three years now -four if you count the year I spent student teaching- and I can say with much joy that I have never found such enjoyment in my work. This year I have been give the extra opportunity to bring music back into my profession by teaching the basic audio engineering class. Working with the talent at School of the Arts in this medium has brought all of the things that I have ever enjoyed doing all into one. The circle is complete.

Photo Credit: Provided



Mr. Taylor, left, playing in his second band, Qronos.

Classic Album Review: *Bridges* by Gil Scott-Heron



by Dmitri Grigorieff

Let's get the history out of the way first. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Gil Scott-Heron: he was one of the most influential black musicians of the 20th century. A writer, self-proclaimed "bluesologist", and, primarily, musician, his work transmogrifies elements of jazz, soul, spoken word, pop, blues, early rap, and funk into a sound that can sometimes only be identified by his husky trademark voice, but is satisfying in terms of its emotionally resonate and political content

and its lucid musical sensibility. He is largely (and maybe accidentally) responsible for a lot of modern rap music and is considered a pioneer to the genre. Brian Jackson is a pianist, flautist, producer, and composer, known most for his work with Heron, most notably on 1974's critically acclaimed *Winter in America*. However, the pair released several projects together. *Bridges* arrives in the latter half of their discography.

"Hello Sunday! Hello Road!" opens the album in a familiar upbeat funk groove. I use 'familiar' not to refer to typicality to Heron or Jackson's style but to the style (or really rhythm) of the time. The track rides a playful synth line (Jackson plays a Rhodes electric piano) that sounds like something emerging from an orange juicer, and even though it's not as new or haunting as some of the duo's other work, I have not been able to get sick of it.

The album's second track "Song of the Wind" is one of my favorites on the album. Jackson's notes get stuck in the song's space, as if caught in honey, while Heron's voice wanders and blows around, very much like the wind. Heron sings clearly and beautifully about the international nature of the wind, and at no point does the song grow stale.

I should mention, at this point, the large themes of the record: cultural exchange and travel. The themes exist in the songs explicitly, such as in "Racetrack in France," the next song on the record. It's a fun, synth-driven, danceable, and lighthearted number about the cultural bridges built by music (although it does get somewhat repetitive towards the tail end). It also is present in less obvious places like the playful and easy to appreciate jazzy keyboard solo at the end of "Vild (Deaf, Dumb, and Blind)," which bursts from a slower and grimmer instrumental, full of horns and bass, essentially beckoning an unfamiliar listener to embrace something they might usually cast as a side. For this reason, as well as the message Heron invokes-- being hurt by America, born a pariah and desperate for company, turning to drug use to escape loneliness, only to discover America there as well-- the song is also a favorite.

"Under the Hammer" stands up solidly, containing wandering narrative verses whose meanings are evasive due to Heron's faucet-like lyrical style and delivery. However it has a strong chorus with clear meaning "Under the hammer since the day you was born."

"We Almost Lost Detroit" is far and away the most famous song on this record. It takes its title from a John G. Fuller *Reader's Digest* book about a nuclear meltdown at the Fermi Atomic Plant in Michigan. Critics and scientists alike agree that Fuller's book does not deserve its title, but luckily Heron's song absolutely does. The instrumentation is immediately different from the danceable nature that most of the rest of the album contains. It is sparse, eerie with a darker, freer melody. As Heron sings the track builds and crescendos in a swelling synthesizer pad and he belts out "When it comes to people's safety money wins every time."

"Tuskegee #626," a 33-second long track I believe is about the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment is short and hardly a song, although it does manage to be catchy because of its rhythmic relationship between voice and drum. However, I wonder if the work as a whole really benefits from its presence, as it certainly cannot stand alone.

The record ends on a high note though, with "95 South (All of the Places We've Been)." An acoustic guitar's presence in the melody provides a pleasant variation in sound, albeit at the album's closure. But with this it seems to shift into another culture, in keeping with the record's theme, which is evident even in its title, *Bridges*. As the song ends Heron's unaccompanied voice fades away singing "All of the places we've been down / been down a lot of roads together..."

Contemporary Album Review: *Caustic Window* by Aphex Twin

by Noah Jordan



Aphex Twin has been one of the most reputable underground producers to surface on the Internet. He was born in England and has been called "the most inventive and influential figure in contemporary electronic music" by *The Guardian*. This description rings true in the ears of electronic musicians everywhere, and in this re-release called "Caustic Window", originally created in 1994, we can hear the technically rough but creatively insatiable roots of this composer.

The album opens with a minimally thumping bass, a frame that is very familiar to the world of techno. But, only seconds in, it is easy to see that this is no generic album.

In the opening track "Flutey," we are introduced to a mesmerizing rhythm, with sparse snares and highly condensed, fast-paced synths and kicks. There is a certain element of Drum and Bass influence in the high end of this track and many other songs in the album, with strange sounding hi-hats that skip across the surface of the song elegantly painting a smooth industrial aesthetic.

My favorite track on this album is "Fingertrips." It has kicks and shakers reminiscent of a hip-hop drum kit, though a bit more hollow and dark. The song is at first carried by a spooky sounding synth with a lurching rhythm which levels out to become a landscape of ambience and more spaced out percussion with cascading open hat sounds that are soothing and bold like a ballad of sorts. At times the compositions are incredibly simple, yet the depth of the sound and the amount of space they take up is nearly overwhelming.

The sounds created on this album are very progressive, and the composition is also very intelligent, but my main problem with the album is that there is a very clear pattern in the composition of these tracks. Aphex Twin first isolates a shocking, strange noise for a couple of seconds and then brings in fast-paced percussion. He then typically begins to introduce a second strange sample or synth in the middle of this first section of percussion and then isolates this new sound, a slightly different beat then begins again over this new sound with the same mesmerizing drone as before.

This of course is a very broad quality of his composition, but the fact that it is used in nearly every track on the album is a bit disappointing. This can be attributed to the fact that this was one of Aphex Twin's very first releases, and his level of experience was very low.

It's this lack of experience which is also possibly the greatest part of the album; it is the raw fury and hopeless descent into insanity which enthralls the listener. This more simplistic style from the usually mind-bogglingly complex Aphex Twin is somewhat relatable rather than alienating, and due to that aspect I was more emotionally involved with this album than many other things I've heard from Aphex Twin.

I give this album 8 out of 10 for its innovative sound design and influence on modern tech-house.

Work of SOA students and staff published in esteemed new collection

By Graham Crolley

"I really enjoyed talking to everybody today," says former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins, in an interview with SOA students included in the recently published literary reference book *Twenty-First Century American Poets*. "If you can't bring a lot of authors into the classroom, why not just call them up?"

The book is the latest volume in the highly regarded *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, which *Library Journal* has called "hands-down the best overall literary reference work ever published, a proverbial diamond as big as the Ritz."

Collins is one of nearly fifty major American poets who agreed to be interviewed by **Dr. John Cusatis's** AP English Literature class over the past five years. Ten of these interviews appear in this collection of literary biographies, published in June by Gale Cengage Learning.

The book not only includes the words of the more than sixty School of the Arts students who arranged, conducted, and transcribed the interviews, but also in-depth critical essays by SOA creative writing instructors **Mr. Sean Scapellato** and **Mr. Rutledge Hammes**, as well as former assistant principal **Ms. Gretchen Looney**, who taught AP English before becoming an administrator. Dr. Cusatis edited the book and contributed the "Preface."

Collins goes on to suggest in his October 2010 interview, "Why not use Skype next time?" The class took Collins' advice and began conducting interviews face to face. The first was with poet Kim Addonizio, who spoke from a medieval castle in Italy where she was staying as part of a literary fellowship. The book, which features hundreds of photographs, includes one of Addonizio speaking to SOA student Haley Malone via SMART Board, with Malone's Skype image in the corner of the photo. At the close of the interview, Addonizio performed a blues harmonica solo.

Another photo shows the octogenarian Peter Meinke addressing students in person in Dr. Cusatis's classroom. Upon Mr. Scapellato's invitation, Meinke, who lives in St. Petersburg, FL, visited the school for two days last November. His interview appears alongside Mr. Scapellato's essay, which traces the development of Meinke's career.

Other poets interviewed in the collection include the famously candid writer and activist Nikki Giovanni, who talks about the day Dr. Martin Luther King was assassinated, the shooting at Virginia Tech where she teaches, and her antipathy for the late, "ungracious" novelist Ralph Ellison. Her interview is also filled with humor ("I'm not a fan of marriage. But I *am* a big fan of divorce.") as is that of Collins, who, when asked why he has chosen to write exclusively in verse, responds, "It's like this: Poetry is a bird, and prose is a potato."

Each poet begins his or her interview by reading a poem at the students' request and then commenting on its origin and development. Collins read a poem he wrote earlier that day and granted students the exclusive right to publish it, as it has not appeared in any other book or magazine.

In their respective interviews, Tony Hoagland speaks of his rebellious childhood, and Dean Young reads and comments on a poem about his heart transplant. Amy Gerstler, who rose early to speak to a first block class from her home in California, discusses lessons we can learn from animals. Mr. Hammes wrote the accompanying essay on Hoagland, while Ms. Looney penned the article on Gerstler. A 7,000 word interview with Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner Philip Levine is perhaps the book's crowning achievement. Levine, 82 at the time, was named U.S. Poet Laureate the following year.



Collins



Giovanni

Students prepared carefully for the interviews, studying a substantial selection of each poet's work, and reading a brief biography as well as previously published interviews before writing and revising their questions. Later, the poets provided manuscripts and typescripts of their work, complete with dozens of penciled-in corrections, to be used as illustrations for the book. "The purpose of requesting these from the poets is to show students who use this book that writing is serious work," said Dr. Cusatis.

Florida poet David Kirby had a lot of laughs with two dozen seniors who came to school on senior skip day to interview him. At the start of the interview, Kirby picks up the phone, shouting: "Who's this!" When senior **Henry Cain**, who arranged the interview, responds, "This is Henry from the School of the Arts in Charleston," Kirby yells, "Don't give me that crap! Put me on the 'Don't Call' list!"

Before saying "goodbye," Kirby explains, on a more serious note, that such conversations with likeminded people justify both his work and his day to day existence: "I've had a great time talking with you. And that's all I need for this morning. That's all I need for this life are these kinds of exchanges."

Levine also expressed his gratitude. In a follow up e-mail to Dr. Cusatis, he wrote: "I enjoyed talking to the students. Their questions were more interesting than I usually get, but then I'm usually questioned by students in writing classes. They want to know if I write in the morning or late at night, with a pen, a #2 pencil, or a computer. These young people went to the heart of my concerns."

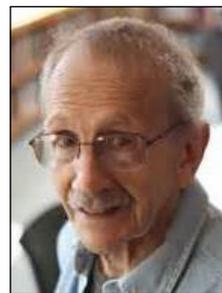
Addonizio was equally pleased with the interview, pausing before answering a question to interject, "These are such good questions, you guys, just so you know. They're really smart, so much smarter than those of a lot of interviewers I've talked to." And it was Gerstler, who had just edited *Best American Poetry 2012*, who suggested the students consider publishing their work: "I wish I could hear all these conversations. You guys might think in the future about editing a book of these interviews."

DLB 374 is the second of two volumes. The first, which included fourteen other interviews by Dr. Cusatis's AP classes, appeared in 2013 and also included the work of Mr. Scapellato and Mr. Hammes, as well as more than 100 SOA students. All participating students are identified by name in the published interviews. The two volumes represent the first time the work of high school students has been included in the *DLB*. A small group of students is preparing two dozen remaining interviews for publication.

According to WorldCat.org, the books have been acquired by the University of South Carolina and Clemson libraries and are also available at academic libraries such as Harvard, Cornell, Princeton, Stanford, and Notre Dame in the United States, and libraries around the world such as Cambridge, Glasgow, and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Both books are also available in the SOA media center. In addition, the interviews and essays can be accessed on the online data bases "Literature Resources from Gale" and "Gale Virtual Reference Library."

"This project represents academic research taken to its highest level," Dr. Cusatis said. "It's gratifying to see scholars around the world beginning to cite these student interviews and accompanying essays in their own books and articles."

Staff members who contributed essays enjoyed the challenge of what Mr. Scapellato described as "intense scholarship." He noted that the amount of "reading, rereading, researching and drafting" demanded by the project was "all-consuming, but in a soul-satisfying way."



Levine



Hammes



Scapellato

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Sass Attack: Less Hate, SOA

by Aly Wintz

Sass Attack was created by David Sass in 2008. Although David has long since graduated, our staff has continued the legacy.

I'm sure this will surprise many of you, but SOA is actually not the third circle in Dante's *Inferno*. You are not in hell. You are just being overly dramatic.

If you sit around the cafeteria, you'll often hear crude remarks with a sparkling sense of sarcasm over the newest teacher, the dumbest assignment, or you'll complain once again about how ridiculous you think our ID policy is. These petty things actually do not compare to the number of positive milestones SOA has crossed.

The School of The Arts is really amazing! We have a huge sponsored garden, filled with shards of colorful glass. Our school is on a beautiful campus with a better theater than some of South Carolina's college campuses. Also, most of your day is dedicated solely to your art, your passion. You're in between the ages of 11-19 and can confidently say that you have a major in school!

Even though your parents always discourage comparing yourself to others, when we compare ourselves to the local schools around Charleston County, it's obvious that we kick butt. How many schools get to have a dance centered ENTIRELY on the Jazz era? In how many schools is it normal to be relaxing in the halls or being on a first name basis with a teacher you haven't even had yet? In what school is there such an aspect of trust that students AREN'T constantly threatened by faculty, or called upon for a signed pass when roaming the halls?

So look up, SOA. We're an arts school filled with students who DEEP DOWN really do have that raw passion for what they do. We may not be *Victorious*, or *High School Musical*, but we are uniquely us, and our school is pretty cool.



Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



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Where Are They Now: Louisa Ballou

Louisa Ballou, SOA's class of 2011 salutatorian, is currently enrolled in Central Saint Martins College in London, England. Nick Scapellato spoke with Louisa about the success she has found on her journey as a fashion major.

Nick Scapellato: How has your SOA major, Visual Arts, affected you?

Louisa Ballou: It was wonderful in middle and high school to be taught to my strengths daily. The academics also profoundly impacted my future. The critical thinking and writing skills I learned are invaluable in the research I do for my projects and the papers I write for my cultural studies classes.

NS: What made you decide to pursue a future in fashion?

LB: I've wanted to be a fashion designer since I was in 3rd grade.

NS: What's an average day like for you?

LB: Everyday is different and always presents its challenges, but I generally work at school daily from 8 AM until 10 PM when the college closes. Our projects usually last about 3 weeks. We are given a design brief, and the first and most important part is research which consists of gallery and museum visits, library research, observational drawing, literature and any other form of inspiration that would impact the project. I fill at least an entire sketchbook for one project. I then start an exhaustive design development process which leads to toiling and eventually the final garment (toiling is the process of making a prototype for a garment). London itself has been an eye opening experience. I love the city and all of its complications. Central Saint Martins is known for its renowned fashion program and has impressive international student population. The friends I have made complete my experience; I work with them now, and they will be my future colleagues in the fashion industry.

NS: What is your fondest memory of SOA?

LB: I don't have a specific memory, but I loved having thought-provoking conversations with my teachers.

NS: Is there any advice you'd give to the members of the new fashion and design major?

LB: Push yourself, go outside your comfort zone, and always learn from and accept your mistakes.



Photo Credit: Provided

SOA's New Intern Program Producing Professionals

by Nikita Narodnitskiy

Mr. Smyth, world history and arts and humanities instructor at SOA, has added one more program to his repertoire: Interns that Work.

"I feel a huge sense of responsibility," says Mr. Smyth, regarding sending students out to various job sites to intern with professionals. "It doesn't bother me." Mr. Smyth has full confidence in his students' ability to develop a professional contact with someone in their field of interest. It all started with just a few students needing help finding internships. Mr. Smyth was more than ready to take over and help these students follow their passions.

The program is very young; however it is very well constructed. Every detail is thought out and put on paper. Mr. Smyth keeps a log with each of his students names, the internships that they set up, prospective internships for the future, and the dates each student will meet with his or her intern. Each student is responsible for getting to and from their mentor meetings. **Tevin Deas**, who is working as an engineering intern has to deal with such concerns as "where to pick up a hard hat," says Mr. Smyth. When I spoke with Tevin he was very grateful for everything Mr. Smyth had done to help him: "Mr. Smyth set up this entire thing for me, which is awesome."

Other students, such as **Mattie Smith**, set up their internships by contacting professionals around the city. "I got the internship by emailing the editor at the *Charleston City Paper*." Later this school year she will be interning at the *Post and Courier*.

According to Mr. Smyth, the program is important because it allows high school students to establish professional relationships with potential future employers. Students need to acquire professional habits, he says. "It could lead to a job in five years."

Sophie Kendrick, who is hoping to start interning with a mentor in the field of occupational therapy, says that "actually getting to see and experience this practice will be something completely new."

Mr. Smyth hopes that most high-schoolers at SOA will be part of an internship within a few years because of the countless benefits of a program like this. These internships provide a great opportunity. As Mattie Smith says, "students can follow all kinds of dreams."

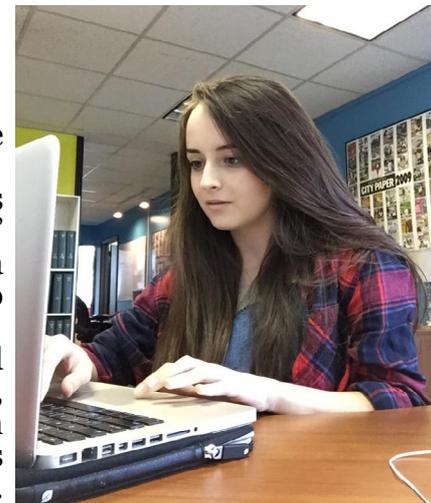


Photo Credit: Provided

Mattie Smith, Senior Theatre Major, works on an article for the *Charleston City Paper*.

Restaurant Review: Zia Taqueria

by Nikita Narodnitskiy

Being extremely hungry after school, Dmitri and I were very excited to be preparing for this review. We drove to Zia Taqueria, located on 1956A Maybank Highway, James Island. Upon entering the building, we noted how clean it was. A soft, pleasant aroma of freshly pressed flour tortillas and peppers permeated the room.

It was hot outside and the A/C was blasting, which was great. Overall It's a very pleasant atmosphere. The dim orange lamplight inside provides a glow that is both comfortable and eerie, although if you walk in at the wrong time (say, right after happy hour) you might catch some hyper-muscular goons with bottle openers on their hats heckling the bartender. We went during a lull in the day, and because you order your food at the bar (a convenient service because you usually get your food pronto and don't have to wait around on busy servers). I ordered the Carne Asada Plato Mexicano --which are served with a main choice of meat, guacamole, sour cream, jalapeño relish, pico de gayo and tortilla shells-- and Mexican rice and pintos as my two sides. Dmitri ordered portabella mushroom tacos, Mexican street corn, and frijoles negros. The server who took our order was *muy* professional, polite and welcoming.



Cleanliness/atmosphere: 5 tacos

Price: 4 tacos

Service: 4.5 tacos

Food: 4 tacos

Overall:



We chose a table near the window and almost immediately a server was handing us tortilla chips and salsa. Both were good, especially when the great service and unlimited free chips and salsa (an item you can't extract from many Mexican restaurants for less than \$5) are taken into consideration. Our food was brought out in approximately seven minutes.

My food was *delicioso* and *yo quiero mas*. All the toppings for the Platos Mexicanos are brought out as sides so you get to choose what goes into your tortilla, and the proportions are also up to you. The meat is prepared well-done as it is in traditional carne asada recipes, but I tend to like steak more on the medium rare side. The sour cream balanced things out. The side of rice was delicious, possibly some of the best rice I've eaten. Zia mixes tomatoes, garlic, onions and carrots into the rice to enhance the flavor.

Dmitri's portabella tacos were *riquísimo*, although they were the only vegetarian taco option (if you are not a vegetarian, Dmitri recommends the baja fish tacos). The seasoned mushrooms went together well with the sour cream. He also ordered the black beans, which are not just scraped out of a can, but have a distinctly well-seasoned flavor. The street corn was a little more withered than usual, but its excellent spices and preparation made him overlook that aspect. We tried to get a tres leches cake as a dessert, but learned that they did not carry the traditional vanilla cake, only chocolate. Tres leches cake is a three milk sponge cake made with evaporated rum, and while delicious in vanilla, is only mediocre in chocolate. However, this did not sour his experience.

As a whole, the food was great. Everything was prepared exceptionally, and I will definitely be returning to Zia for some more *comida Mexicana* in the near future. Dmitri and I both agree that Zia is hands down one of the best restaurantes mexicanos we've been to.

Arriba!

SOA SPIRIT WEEK

Monday, Oct. 13: Safari Day

Watch The Lion King to prepare yourself.

Tuesday, Oct. 14: Character Day

Want to dress like Harry Potter? A teacher? Your best friend? Take advantage of Character Day and get creative.

Wednesday, Oct. 15: Superheros vs. Aliens

It's self explanatory.

Thursday, Oct. 16: Throwback Thursday

Analyze some old pictures and scrounge up a wonderfully embarrassing outfit from the back of your closet.

Friday, Oct. 17: Spooky Day

To scare your classmates, dress as a ghost, a zombie, or even a math test.

Saturday, Oct. 18: Jump, Jive, and Wail

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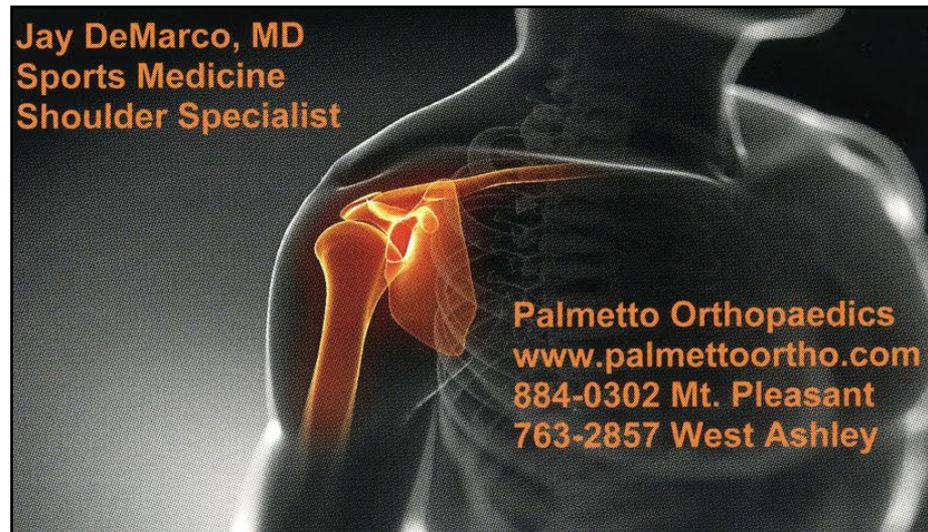


Photo Credit: Provided



Dr. Teseniar
Social Studies Teacher

“Here I am with new friends, Adella and Pura, on Lake Atitlan, Guatemala.”

SUMMER

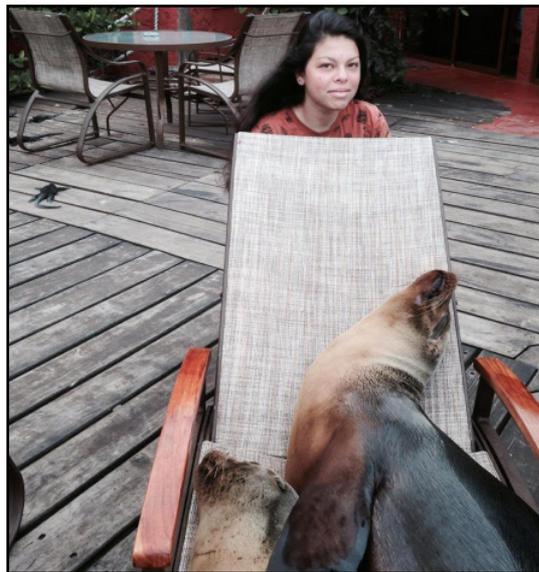


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Zoe Abedon
12th grade Creative Writer

“I went to the Galapagos Islands at the beginning of the summer.”



Photo Credit: Provided

Kannon Rickell
12th grade Visual Artist

“At SCAD, we did this LARPing thing called humans vs zombies, and we all dressed up like nerds.”



Photo Credit: Provided

Abby Edwards
10th grade Theater Major

“My cousin and I went to Sacre Coure in Paris.”

Photo Credit: Provided



Christina Simpson
12th grade Visual Artist

“This summer I went to France, Monaco, and Italy with my French class. I liked Monaco the best, and I had an extremely fun time with my classmates and Mrs. Bednarczyk.”

Photo Credit: Provided



Chisolm Jackson
7th grade Creative Writer

“I went hiking in North Carolina.”

HIGHLIGHTS

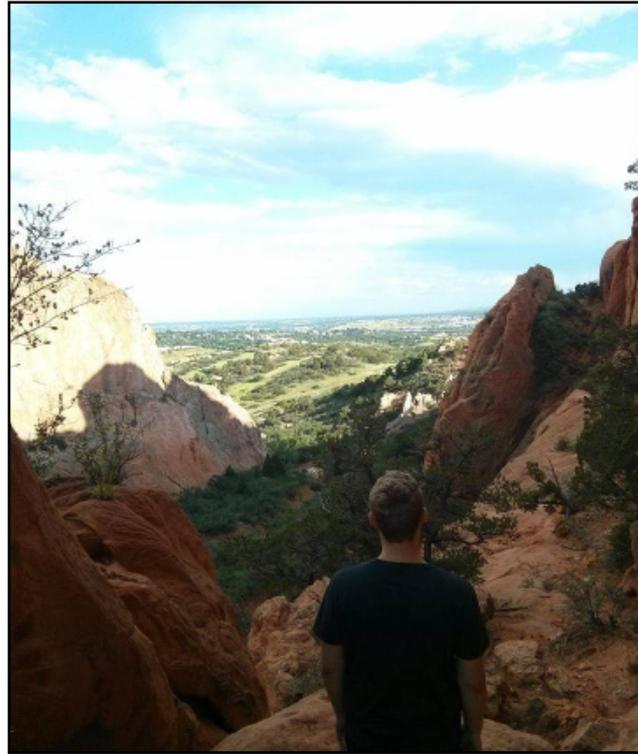


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Dalton Edens
12th grade Visual Artist

“I went to a place modestly called ‘The Garden of the Gods’ over the summer while in Colorado. It’s a series of amazing natural rock formations that came by its name due to my visit.”



Photo Credit: Provided

Zachary Shirley
8th grade Vocal Major

“I went to LA and hung out with Tobuscus.”



Photo Credit: Provided

Lilly McCully
7th grade Piano Major

“I went to the beach and went surfing for the first time.”



Photo Credit: Provided

Igor Statsenko
8th grade Theatre Major

“I went to Niagara Falls, and I can still remember the roaring of the falls.”



Photo Credit: Provided

Mr. Lindgren
High School Physics Teacher

“I spent the summer in Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Russia, and best of all, ICELAND! Go. It’s awesome!”

Teacher turns overcrowded class into dual-teaching effort

by Cherry Hu

This year, sixty-five students needed to take Arts & Humanities in block 3A. That's almost three times the number of students in a normal classroom. While agonizing over this unlikely situation, Mr. Smyth, the main teacher of Arts & Humanities, found about 30 students on his roll. The other half of the 65 went to Ms. Bridges, the new Costume & Fashion Design teacher. Though this split-up may seem like a tolerable solution, a huge problem still existed: only one set of course materials was available for two classes taught at the same time.

Photo Credit: Cherry Hu



Mr. Smyth and Ms. Bridges sit down to discuss lesson plans.

As people may know, 3rd period in SOA high school is divided into two 45-min sections this year, set before and after lunch. Using this split schedule to his advantage, Mr. Smyth determined an ingenious system of content vs. project lessons taught by the two teachers. "She is providing 45-minute project lessons, and I am providing 45-minute content lessons," said Mr. Smyth. Before lunch, half of the students learn content covering art, music, dance, and more while the other half of the students create projects corresponding with what they've learned. Students switch to their other class after lunch.

"It's working well," remarked Mr. Smyth. He speaks for Ms. Bridges and himself when he says, "we highly recommend it to others."

Both well-traveled, the two teachers bring outside knowledge and experience to the course. Mr. Smyth explains that he gives the historical perspective in his lessons while Ms. Bridges adds the creative, design perspectives. During planning, the two teachers meet several times a week to discuss ideas that make lessons "meaningful for everyone." These ideas flow naturally as one mind inspires an idea in the other and vice versa. Though a widespread system of team-teaching may be a long way off for SOA, some schools such as Wando High already have established systems of "curriculum teams" to insure the best education. Since retiring as Wando's vice-principal to return to SOA, Mr. Smyth inspires to bring about faculty collaboration and teamwork. "The students get the best of both worlds: two teachers who enjoy working together and creating something that's new and exciting," said Mr. Smyth.

Ms. Pass's class celebrates summer reading



(Above, from left) **Sam DuPree, Noah Rigsby, Noah Evans, and Taj Horton** present a work of art they have crafted relating to *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.



(Left) **Julia Goller and Rhyanna Breadlau** dressed up for their summer reading presentation. Julia Goller says, "I dressed as Lieutenant Henry from *A Farewell to Arms* because he was a symbol of corruption in the book." Ms. Pass encourages her students to show creativity along with their understanding of the novel.

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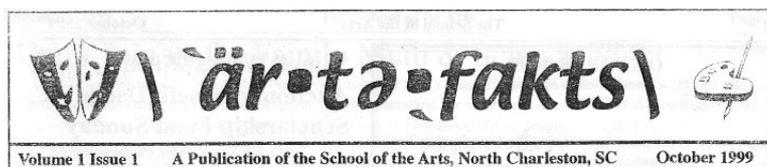
Applause prepares to celebrate fifteenth anniversary

by Suzanne Jackson

To prepare for the fifteenth anniversary of *Applause*, the staff has implemented some enhancements to our publication. Thanks to staff members **Aly Wintz** and **Jakob Lazzaro**, the *Applause* has a new, state-of-the-art website. Everything is up and running at www.soa-applause.com.

For all you fans of a tangible paper, do not worry; we'll still continue our regular printed newspaper every month. A website simply means a better ability to communicate with the student body. For instance, perhaps you disagreed with one of our columnists and wish to share your opinion. You can easily submit a Letter to the Editor and let us know what you think. We want to hear from you!

And finally, after what has seemed like years of listening to **Dr. Cusatis** talk about preserving old copies, we have started to scan the previous volumes of the *Applause*. Soon all copies from 1999 to 2014 will be available under the "Archive" tab. Back in October of 1999, what is now *Applause* was known as *Artifacts*. It certainly does seem like an artifact now that it has been in print for fifteen years.



We would like to thank each of our patrons and advertisers for their generosity. With our increase in funds, we have purchased the latest Adobe software, a large, high-tech scanner, and a 4 TB drive to back up our publications.

Stay tuned for everything that we've been working to bring to you, whether it is on a screen or in print. With our new staff, we hope that we can carry on the legacy of the *Applause* as best we can.

Mr. John Cusatis

Mr. Cusatis teaches English enrichment, honors English II, journalism, and language arts skills for sixth graders. He taught six years at Cedar Crest High School, Lebanon, PA and four years at St. John's High School, Johns Island, before beginning full-time doctoral studies at USC in Columbia. He is currently working on his dissertation regarding the poet James Dickey. In June Mr. Cusatis completed the Mayors Midnight Sun Marathon in Anchorage, Alaska, and raised \$9,000 for leukemia patients.

In the first issue Dr. Cusatis was introduced as a new teacher. The fact that Dr. Cusatis used to be a "Mr. Cusatis" seems strange. I, for one, thought he was born proudly bearing a Ph. D.

SOA Fall Semester Performance Schedule

All performances are at SOA and are free, unless otherwise noted.

October

Surprise Concepts, Senior Thesis Dance Performance: Thursday, Oct. 16 6:30 (1st half G, 2nd half PG)

7th Grade Theatre Showcase: Thursday & Friday, Oct. 16th & 17th, 4:00pm

Jump, Jive & Wail, High School Band Fundraiser Saturday Oct. 18th, 7:00pm-11:00pm (Downtown Visitors center Bus Shed; Tickets: \$25 advance \$30 at the door)

6th Grade Monologue Show: Thursday, Oct. 23rd, 4:00pm

Spook n' Blues Haunted House and Blues Festival Fundraiser: Saturday, Oct. 25th, 6:30pm (Tickets: Haunted House \$5; Blues Festival \$10 students \$12 adults, tickets include a BBQ dinner)

Harvest of Harmonies, Vocal Department Fall Concert: Tuesday Oct. 28th, 6:30pm (Tickets: \$5)

Visual Arts Student Display at the Coastal Carolina Fair: Oct. 30th-Nov. 9th (Ladson, SC)

College Alumni Fair

If you are beginning to look at colleges, come ask alumni about their college choice and receive advice concerning the application process.

Monday, November 3rd, 2014
6:30-8:00 pm in the SOA Cafeteria

Haikus of the Month

No
by Ms. Pajic

No no no no no.
No no no no no no no,
no no no no no.

Editor Troubles
by Suzanne Jackson

Come on guys, submit.
Haikus are super duper.
Don't be so darn lame.

Have you been dying to show off your poetic side? You can submit your haiku to the SOA *Applause* 2014-2015 Facebook page and you could see your haiku featured here!

Point/Counterpoint

This year, we're doing something a little different with our beloved Point/Counterpoint. Three of our staff members will be participating this year: **Noah Jordan**, **Nikita Narodnitskiy**, and **Graham Crolley**. Whoever wins the argument will move on to "compete" in the next issue. Starting off, we have Graham and Noah taking on the old argument...

Graham: Cats

Majesty— that's right, beloved readers, majesty. A quality that has largely been lost in the human quest of pet ownership. *Look at that lovely little cute hamster, Daddy*, the children of America croon. *Oh, Johnny, just look at that adorable puppy! Its tongue is all the way out of its mouth!* There is something missing still. *Veronica, dear, would you take a gander at the Robinson's dear pet cockatoo? Why, it's got feathers!*

Here, try this: *Look at that cat.*

The cat as we know it today is a creature that retains both the cuteness desired in a pet, and also the untamed and dangerously beautiful majesty of a hunter. They roam our homes in a sort of unfettered grace, the great haunches of a jungle cat tensing and un-tensing as they cross the floors, the eyes of a night-time prowler alert in their feline skulls, the teeth of a deft carnivore in their whiskered mouths. They are a breath of cool wilderness inside our pampered homes— even as we feed them mushed kibble, or dangle Toys-R-Us's plush take on a dead mouse in front of their faces, we are fascinated by their reactions, how they strike with their paws, how they meow almost inquisitively.

Ultimately, cats are the most versatile of pets, therefore making them the utmost best. One second, they can be donning a sweater for a feline photo op that will forever brand them into the churn of the Internet, and the next minute, they can be pouncing upon a tree frog in the backyard, courteous to leave the less desirable innards of the amphibian on their owner's front steps. They are at once a cute thing to dote upon and a slinking predator that deserves respect.

When it comes down to it, the cat has always been there, worshipped for centuries by olden cultures, keeping the neighborhood mole population under control, and kneading the quilt on their owners bed, perhaps purring softly, a sound both gentle and proud.

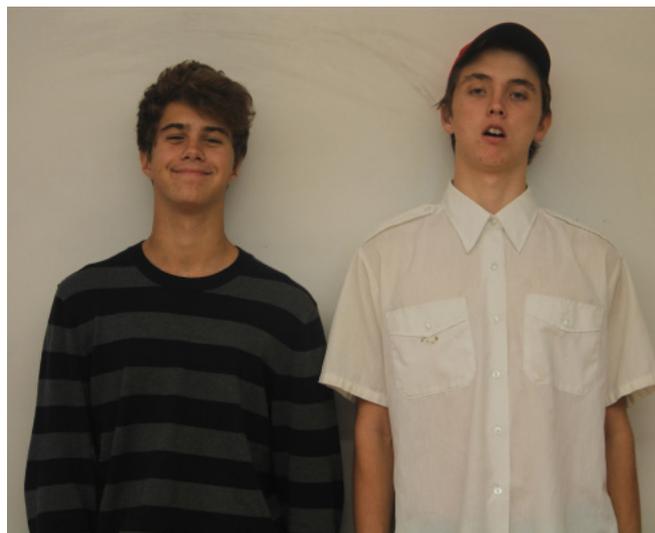


Photo Credit: Suzanne Jackson

Noah: Dogs

This ageless debate between cats and dogs is nothing short of pointless. It takes no more than a real American soul to know that dogs were born as the superior beings and will remain as such until the great spaghetti monster comes down to smite us all.

The dog is a plucky, warmhearted member of the family. Your dog is not just an accessory to be toted along on trips to the beach. A dog is a true blue companion who will dash through the waves to retrieve any ball you throw and will return to your side with the slobbery thing plopping from its mouth onto the ground by your feet.

The dog lover is hardcore by birth. What's the point of owning an animal that can't also be trained to be a deadly weapon? I support any and all purchases

which further the true patriotic right to bear arms, or any other right which makes me feel real good about all the different things I can buy.

Dogs are real with themselves. They roll in the most disgusting pile they can find, and still come home expecting a big fat rub on the head. Dogs eat what they are given and never question or complain. We could hope to be such carnal and ignorant creatures.

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Who Won?

The *Applause* staff voted... and **Graham Crolley** put the best paw forward. He was not kitten around! Due to his purr-fect argument he will return next month to go up against **Nikita Narodnitskiy**.

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“Paris”

Abby Edwards, 10th grade Theatre major, snapped this shot in Paris, France, while on top of the Montparnasse Tower. She enjoyed the experience. “It was really cool to be on top of such an iconic city.”



Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



“Journey”

Melanee Taylor, 12th grade Vocal major, eloquently describes her piece: “Of course there are many different interpretations. The moon changes gradually overtime and throughout its short life, the dragonfly will do the same. Journeying day by day from place to place, becoming an even more distinctly beautiful creature. The moon phases are supposed to symbolize the change of time and we are the dragonfly.”



Photo Credit: Taylor Dahl

Excerpt from "Chestnuts in the Summer"

by Maddie DePuy, 11th grade Creative Writer

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Through the fence she sees the same tree line of the neighboring farm that she had always seen. But it seems one of the big pines has been taken down. It is almost harvest, after all. She feels a rush of adrenaline. Her parents have always told her never to look over there and never to go over there, but now, now she can see. Sight is powerful. She can lay her eyes on a sliver of the forbidden land, which makes it all that more foreboding. And yet at the same time, beckoning. She can see a small building in the distance, one she has only ever seen the chimney of. The pines around the hole seem to bend and stretch towards her side of the fence. They are leaning over enough

that they could pick her up, like a father and his infant. I hope they don't break, I better go over so they won't break, she thinks. So she shimmies her way under the fence, and begins to run through the trees. Her feet pump, her boots now make indents in the dark ground instead of hay. The greenness surrounds her; she can see the sky through the hole at the end. Sky of blue and sea of green... the lyrics move through the trees with her, the Beatles creep along the ridges of her mind.

She finally reaches the hole of sky she had seen through the fence, the chestnut girl almost cracks. She sees everything here is strange. Nothing here is shining and slick like her barn she so loves. There is that same small building, its brown closest to the trees. It is wicked and rickety and black. Smoke pours through the top and then an awful stench pours into her nostrils.

And then come the sounds. They are squeals, they travel along the ridges of the wooden building and then the dark ground and then her small ears. There is something intriguing though, the squeals are like sirens calling from a rocky shore. She inches closer towards the building, as if turning a cold doorknob with her small fingers, her small feet turning along the ground.

She is almost to the back of the building when she sees him. His broad shoulders, his small head, his boots. It is Father's silhouette.

Her heart drops. He cannot see her here. He will kill me, she thinks. She now remembers he had said he was going over here to help his friend. She darts the rest of the way to the buildings edge, the closest place to hide. The stench overcomes her and now she wishes she had thought of a better hiding place.

The smell is all pink and the squeals are red, but not because of the bloody tone. They are red because they make her feel scarlet. A little fear, a little embarrassment for disobeying her father. The emotions mix and plaster themselves on her face. The red moves through the entirety of her and her surroundings.

Her focus shifts from her father, though, when she sees the hole. There is a small opening on the side of the wall, just above where she is crouching. She moves upward till her brown eyes can see through. The squeals increase. She blinks and then focuses.

A few hundred ropes. The ropes close around hundreds of pink feet. Pigs, pigs, pigs. A man, not her father's friend, she is sure, moves through the forest of hanging bodies, slicing, slicing slicing. He stops at one pig. The pink thing is screaming all red and the man carefully saws through the flesh. It is acrid. It is acidic to her small heart. The heads fall to the ground with a thud. She is still a chestnut and the pressure is rising- she feels the cracks coming- they are here, they are here- they break across the walls- she crumbles. She was wrong. Everything is shiny here. It's dark and pouring onto the ground, the sharp stench fills her. She picks up the pieces of her nutty, cracked, ten-year-old body and runs.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Luke Christy, 6th grade
Creative Writer

Power Belongs to the Beautiful

Power belongs to the beautiful:
Angels with immense features
The talons of an eagle that symbolizes
freedom

The glow of a sunset,
That glazes the skies with colors of joy
The towering mountain
That casts a shadow over the vast land.

Power belongs to the hideous:
The infectious wound that reaches
To your mind,
The boils the begins to pop from heat on
A zombie's gruesome face,
Cruel words that lash the victim's heart
An unused play doll that is old and falling
apart.

The Red Cardinal

The red cardinal comes back each and every day
The afternoon sun catches on its back
Giving me a glimpse of its dark, glaring eyes
That make you want to run away
but get closer at the same time
The lamp holds the bird
As it stands like a statue
I walk by over and over again
but it seems that the red cardinal doesn't move at
all

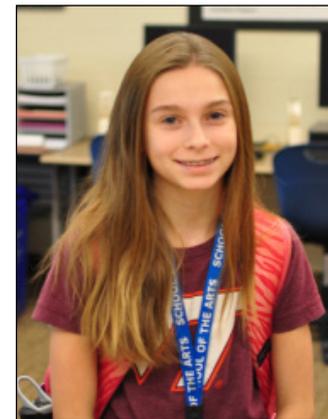
The bees buzz past it
It doesn't give a sign that it cares
So I walk away stepping in cracks on the walkway
I run as dandelions blow
And fall as the fly away in the wind
I love to fall sometimes
It feels like falling until you hit the ground

The leaves and flowers of the trees
Fall onto the grass as you stroll by
It looks like Heaven on Earth
The flowers stand up straight
Like tiny soldiers marching into
The tiny leaves as their swords
The wind can't knock them over

The scent of the barbeque lingers in the air
Mixed with the sweet smell of flowers
And the noise of the laughing children
Playing in their backyard
I feel safe
In a place that gives me hope
This is what home feels like to me

And when the sun sets over the horizon
And the bees buzz away to their little, yellow hives
The red cardinal flies to his nest
That sits upon a twig
As I fly to mine
That sits right around the corner
Goodnight

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Hanna Elledge, 6th
grade Creative Writer

Night is Stunning

Night is stunning
 The slab of
 creamy white rising leisurely
 above the horizon ,
 and the flickering luminescence
 of lightning bugs
 are all treasures
 only to be seen
 when the light
 escapes the sky.
 Day is stunning.
 The radiant tangerine
 And fiery red orb
 Hovers above us
 Providing light
 and beauty,
 birds the color
 of sapphire
 soar down
 from maple trees

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Clair Martin, 6th grade
 Creative Writer

Wave

I stroll down an old splintering boardwalk
 On a clear, sunny day
 With a scratched surfboard resting
 On my head
 And I smell the salty air

 And gaze at the waves crashing
 Onto the quartz sand beach
 Feeling a charge
 Of excitement as I run toward
 The ocean

 I splash into the water
 And paddle out to sea
 Then I am met by
 A towering wave glistening in
 The hot sun

 I start to move with it
 As if I'm being pushed
 By a moving wall
 Then it falls on me like a child
 Tripping over a stone

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Charlie Hastings, 6th
 grade Creative Writer

**Are you interested in seeing your writing in
 print? Send your submissions to:**

suzanne@soa-applause.com

We welcome all majors! Let's see what you can do.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Autumn Chaveco, 6th
 grade Creative Writer

Sharp Things are Beautiful

Sharp things are beautiful:
 The tip of a blade,
 The claws of a cat,
 And bolts of lightning
 Striking in to the shade.
 The tip of a page,
 Cutting in to my finger,
 The very sharp words,
 That seem to linger.
 And dull things are beautiful:
 The sparkling white edges
 Of shiny hospital walls,
 And the soft clean voices,
 In dull brown halls.
 With the sleek wet rain,
 Come inky storm clouds,
 And a dusty old book,
 That was once read aloud

Fire and Frost

Heat is gentle
 Like the warming of a
 Hand
 An oozing marshmallow
 Just slightly tanned
 The fiery blush on young girls
 Soft cheeks
 A hug from a
 Loved one in their final
 Weeks
 A droplet of blood
 On a pale piece of paper
 The quick pang of guilt
 From a skilled nighttime caper
 And cold is gentle
 The slight winter breeze
 The snowflake that falls
 On the brown crispy
 Leaves
 A fluffy cloud
 At a high altitude
 The peak of a mountain
 As it comes into view
 The frost covered balcony
 Of lonely princess
 And the thin line between
 Hate and forgiveness

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Bojena Sabin, 6th
 grade Creative Writer

**Thank you to Ms. Beth Webb
 Hart and her Creative Writing
 students for submitting their
 work to Applause. We look
 forward to featuring more in
 the future!**

Black & White

Black things are beautiful
 The pupil of an eye
 Dark night sky
 Tip of a pencil
 An abyss of the ocean
 White things are beautiful
 The sclera of an eye
 The twinkle of the night sky
 Snow falling from above
 White chalk against a dark surface
 Black & White things are beautiful

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Breona Green, 6th grade
 Creative Writer

Good Morning, Vietnam: a Showcase of an Actor's Genius

by Graham Crolley

I was sitting in a movie theater when I found out Robin Williams died. It was fitting really, sitting there in the dark of the room, digesting the loss of the beloved comedian, actor, and performer as Hollywood previews flashed across that great screen, the immortalizer of countless performers including Williams. As with any artist, he is alive still through his works, appreciated, studied, loved, and remembered with a laugh. I took all this into great consideration whilst choosing what movie to review for this first issue.

The manic genius of Williams is captured in all of his movies, but *Good Morning, Vietnam*, from writer Mitch Markowitz and director Barry Levinson, is a perfect example of his captivating onscreen persona.

The 1987 war drama/comedy follows an armed forces radio DJ, Adrian Cronauer (Williams), as he is sent to become part of the broadcast in Vietnam. The conflict is reminiscent of the ever-popular "stick-it-to-the-man" paradigm—Robin Williams opposes all efforts of the authority to regulate the radio broadcast and starts actually entertaining the soldiers listening, boosting morale, and spreading the feel-good attitude of old rock-n-roll into population of American recruits.



The movie has plenty of standout qualities, from the largely improvised machine-gun-pace broadcasts of Robin Williams, to the evolving friendship between Williams' character and the good-natured private, Garlick (played by Forest Whitaker), to undercurrents of the political confusion that came with the Vietnam War.

When watching it, I felt there was a definite parallel; in one scene, Williams' character is emotionally beaten down, convinced he should discontinue his involvement in the broadcast,

when several trucks of soldiers roll up next to him in the streets of Vietnam. After all he has been through, he still makes the choice to stand up and entertain, make the men laugh, inspire them. That scene, perhaps one of the best in the film, is directly applicable to how humor creates a link within us all, and that link is facilitated by an entertainer. Viewing that scene, I saw the character as both Cronauer and the man Robin Williams at once.

Here's the breakdown:

Pros: great character development, Williams' dialogue in the broadcasts, clever humor

Cons: somewhat predictable progression of events, unneeded and pointless love interest as an aside unsuccessfully forced in

I recommend this movie— it isn't exclusively for Robin Williams fanatics or people who love war movies. It is more a movie about communication and human morale, and that is something we can all appreciate.

SOA's most fashionable major has early origins

by Sarah McCord

The costume department began in 1997 when SOA was putting on its first musical, *Oklahoma*, and was in need of costumes. Being a new art teacher who could sew, Ms. Nichols stepped up to take this on. It started out as an after school club with only a few students interested in learning how to sew and design wardrobes for the musical.



Photo Credit: Sarah McCord

Because of lack of money and resources, the department just had to alter costumes the theatre department already had. The club started out in the theatre classroom with one sewing machine that Ms. Nichols brought from her home. In 2001, the department had developed enough to have its own trailer behind the theatre. This was also the first year the costumes were made from scratch for the musical, *Peter Pan*. In 2002, one student

from the class, Paul McRae, decided he wanted to do costumes for his thesis so costume design became an official class, a class of one, but a class nonetheless. By this time, the costume department had a second trailer just for wardrobes. This was the same year Venus Williams won the Family Circle Cup, and because she was interested in design herself, she donated a generous amount of money to the department for new sewing machines.

Over the years, the class grew from one to eight to ten students to multiple classes with about twenty-five students in the program, as it is today. About fifteen SOA graduates who were in costume are now pursuing garment and fashion design, most of whom are in the United States with a few studying in Europe.

In class, students learn multiple types of stitching as well as how to use a sewing machine. They put this into practice by making or altering costumes for the musical each year and for the annual fashion show. This year is the first year that costume is offered as a major for ninth graders. Each year, a grade will be added for high school until all four years offer the major.

Students in the major use their advanced skills to improve their abilities and have more hands-on time, as they already know the basics. The requirements to get into the major include a submitted folder containing sketches or photos of original costumes or fashion ideas and at least one constructed or significantly altered piece.

For the audition, the students must bring their best example of constructed or altered design. They have an eighty minute design assessment on-site, similar to a Project Runway challenge. Based on the specific topic, the students create a sketch design to make an outfit for a 12-16" wooden mannequin. They are not allowed machinery but can use fabrics, paper, needles and thread, hot glue guns, and other materials and tools.

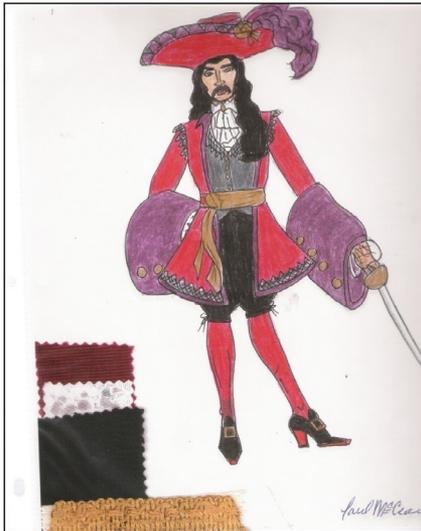
The costume department has grown substantially over the years to now have its own wing and extra level just for garments and enough sewing machines for every student in a class. All thanks to Ms. Nichols, and now Ms. Bridges, for creating the program and making it what it is today.

Evolution of Costume Design

by Sarah McCord

In honor of SOA's newest addition, Costume Design, we're taking a look back at the program's progression over the past few years. From providing costumes for numerous productions to putting on fashion shows for the school, the program has served as an unofficial major since the founding of the school. We're thrilled to now welcome our ninth major.

Photo Credit: Provided



Paul McCrae's sketch for Captain Hook's costume for *Peter Pan* (above) and his final thesis (below), 2001.

Photo Credit: Provided



Margaret Szvast (Class of 2014) mans a sewing machine in the new building while preparing for *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, 2014.



Photo Credit: Provided

In 2005, 18 Costume Design students provided 85 actors with 125 costumes for the musical *Big River*.

Photo Credit: Provided



(Right) **Paris Scott** poses with **Madelyn Knight** before the first performance of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, 2014.

Photo Credit: Provided



(Left) **Julia Dotson** puts the final touches on **Maddy Seabrook's** costume.



Photo Credit: Provided



Photo Credit: Provided

(Above) Costumes made by the students for the 2009 production of *The Wiz*.

(Left) **Abbie Reynolds** works diligently to master the sewing machine in the old building.



Photo Credit: Provided

SOA Embraces the Pegasus Garden

By Nick Scapellato

After a minor setback caused by some unauthorized mulching, The Pegasus Garden is back on the journey to reach its final form. Some changes to look for in the near future include dwarf palmetto trees to be planted when the cool weather hits (around the time the fair comes to town, if Mr. Orvin's prediction proves true for yet another year), sculpture plaques completed by Mr. Brehm and Mr. Davis, and mounts for the wind chime sculptures. Here's a look at the Pegasus Garden and how far it's come since its early genesis.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Many organizations and clubs donated a bench to the garden.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Students, parents, or teachers sponsored bricks that could bear the name of a fellow student, staff member, or influential artist.



Savannah York, 11th grade Strings, recites poetry in the Pegasus Garden during Dr. Cusatis's AP English Literature class.

Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato



Photo Credit: Elle Root



Photo Credit: Elle Root



Photo Credit: Nick Scapellato

(Above and Left) The meticulous landscaping of the Pegasus Garden includes a birdbath, a sundial, and a variety of plants.



Photo Credit: Elle Root

Photo Credit: John Cusatis

This Week in History

by Jakob Lazzaro
Source: wikipedia.org

SUNDAY 10/12	MONDAY 10/13	TUESDAY 10/14	WEDNESDAY 10/15	THURSDAY 10/16	FRIDAY 10/17	SATURDAY 10/18
<p>1692: The Salem Witch Trials end.</p> <p>1810: The first ever Oktoberfest was held in Munich.</p> <p>1971: Jesus Christ Superstar opens on Broadway.</p> <p>2000: The USS Cole is bombed.</p> <p>2002: The Bali Bombings occur, killing 203.</p> <p>Columbus Day</p> <p>Free Thought Day</p>	<p>1792: The cornerstone of the White House is laid.</p> <p>1974: Ed Sullivan dies.</p> <p>2006: Ban-Ki Moon becomes the current United Nations Secretary General.</p> <p>2010: The 33 Chilean miners (trapped for 69 days) were rescued.</p> <p>International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction</p>	<p>1586: Mary, Queen of Scots, goes on trial.</p> <p>1890: Dwight D. Eisenhower is born.</p> <p>1947: Chuck Yeager becomes the first human to break the sound barrier.</p> <p>1964: Martin Luther King, Jr. wins the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> <p>1986: Elie Wiesel wins the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> <p>1990: Leonard Bernstein dies.</p> <p>World Standards Day</p>	<p>1783: The first human ascent occurs when the Montgolfier brothers launch a hot air balloon.</p> <p>1815: Napoleon I begins his exile on Saint Helena.</p> <p>1951: <i>I Love Lucy</i> premiers on CBS.</p> <p>1990: Mikhail Gorbachev wins the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> <p>1993: Nelson Mandela wins the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> <p>Global Hand Washing Day</p> <p>White Cane Safety Day</p>	<p>1781: George Washington captures Yorktown, VA.</p> <p>1793: Marie Antoinette is executed.</p> <p>1859: John Brown raids Harper's Ferry, VA.</p> <p>1978: Pope John Paul II is elected</p> <p>1923: The Walt Disney Company is founded.</p> <p>Boss's Day</p> <p>World Food Day</p> <p>World Anesthesia Day</p>	<p>1777: The British forces at Saratoga, NY surrender to American army.</p> <p>1931: Al Capone is convicted of tax evasion.</p> <p>1933: Thomas Edison patents the first movie.</p> <p>1979: Mother Teresa wins the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> <p>1985: Orson Wells dies.</p> <p>International Day for the Eradication of Poverty</p>	<p>1851: Moby Dick is published.</p> <p>1867: Russia sells Alaska to the United States.</p> <p>1922: The BBC is founded.</p> <p>1968: The U.S. Olympic Committee suspends two black athletes for giving a "black power" salute as a protest during a victory ceremony at the Mexico City Olympics.</p> <p>1972: The Clean Water act is passed by congress.</p>



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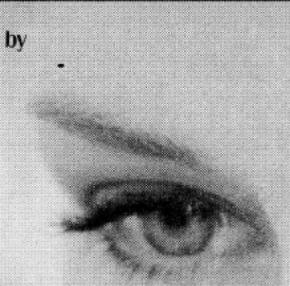
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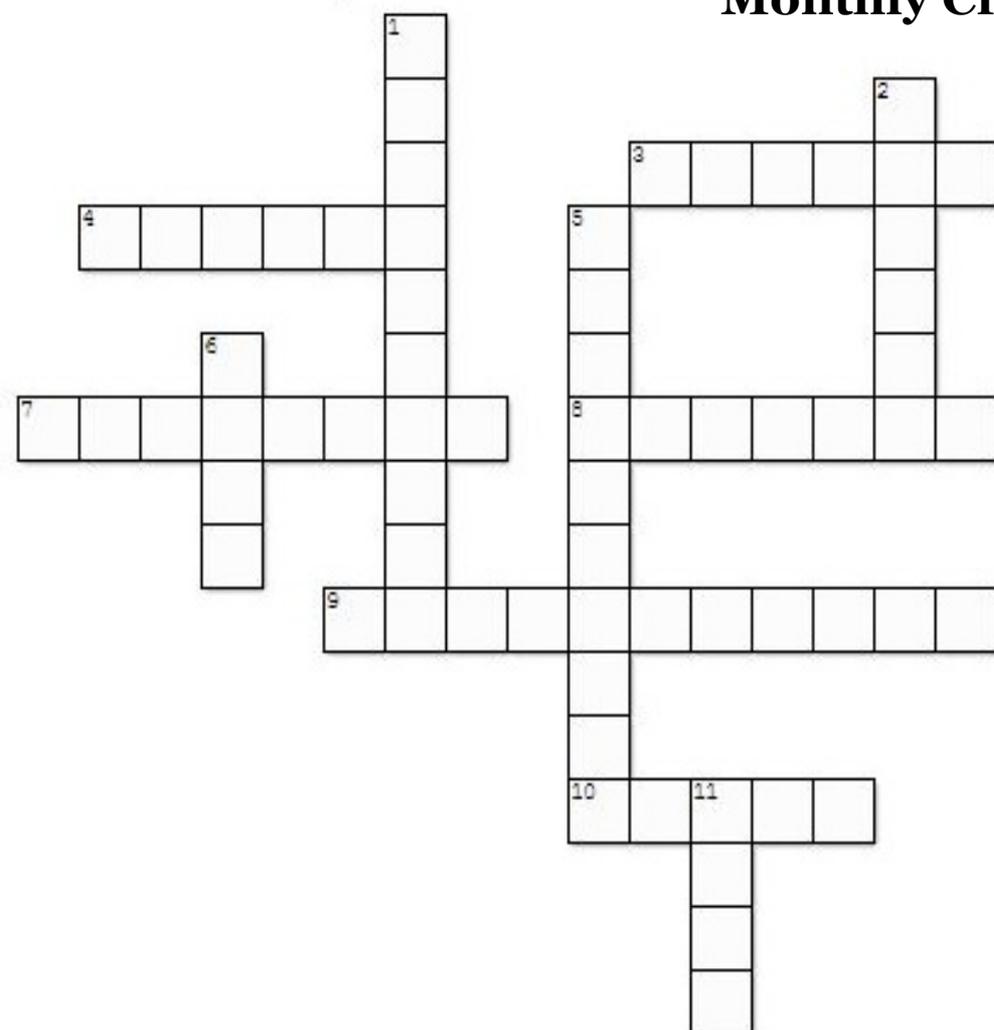
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Monthly Crossword



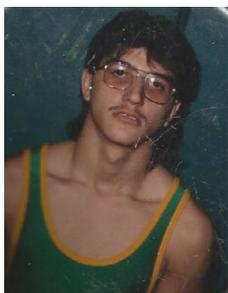
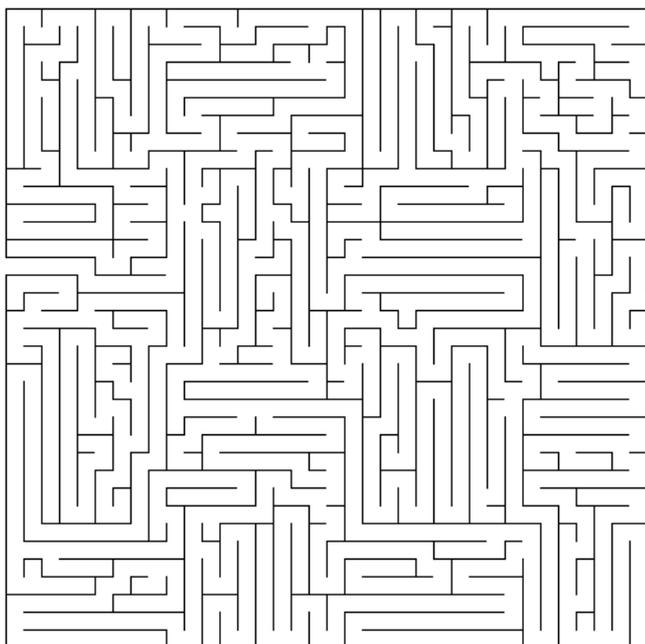
Across

3. With this invention, you can look through a wall. It is a _____.
4. Finish the lyric: 'Chillin' by the fire while we're eating _____.'
7. He has married many women, but has never been married. He is a _____.
8. What is greater than God, more evil than the devil, the poor have it, the rich need it, and if you eat it, you'll die?
9. Which word in the dictionary is spelled incorrectly?
10. What species has four legs in the morning, two legs at noon, and three legs in the evening?

Down

1. There was a green house. Inside the green house there was a white house. Inside the white house there was a red house. Inside the red house there were lots of babies. What is it?
2. Who makes it, has no need of it. Who buys it, has no use for it. Who uses it can neither see nor feel it. It is a _____.
5. There's a man in the cabin in the woods and he's dead. There are no weapons and he was healthy. How'd he get there? (two words)
6. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?
11. Paul's height is six feet, he's an assistant at a butcher's shop, and wears size 9 shoes. What does he weigh?

Help Mr. Taylor comply with the dress code!



SUDOKU

4			8	1	5	6		
		7			3		1	
8			4	7				
2			1			7	9	8
1	7	5				2	4	6
6	8	9			7			1
				8	1			2
	2		9			1		
		4	5	6	2			3

Then and Now

What was/is the hottest outfit in sixth grade?



Photo Credit: Aly Wintz

Sarah Courville, a 12th grade Creative Writer, claims she often saw bell-bottom or severely flared jeans. She also is guilty of sporting the fantastic, never outdated, Jean-on-Jean ensemble.



Photo Credit: Aly Wintz

Lena Matthews, a 6th grade Vocal major, sports floral skirts and Jack Roger sandals. When asked this month's question, her instinctive response is, "Anything that's not Justice."

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HOROSCOPES



Libra - It may be in your best interest to remain detached from the war that is likely to follow today's tension. Try your best to keep things light on your end; your strong spirit will follow you through this situation. Take some time to heal yourself and you'll begin to thrive.



Scorpio - Keep things positive today, Scorpio. Wake up on the right side of the bed and you'll find that it's much easier to keep from fighting against a brick wall. Make sure you stay open to all points of view. Socialize, talk, listen and share what's in your head and heart.



Sagittarius - You may feel an especially strong connection with your emotional side today. You may find yourself daydreaming as the day goes on. However, there are strong forces that oppose these dreams. Use this time to assess your options and possibilities.



Capricorn - This month you will need to come back to reality. Lately, you might have found that you have intense ideas to improve the world around you. Instead of snuffing out these desires, simply set them to the side for now. You will need them for later.



Aquarius - Now is the time for decisive action. You may feel that some of your choices have and are being opposed lately. It may feel like a tedious balance between war and peace, so share the calm that you feel and it will mellow out as time goes on.



Pisces - Restless energy urges you to take action but the nervousness you feel is preventing you from making any movement in either direction. If you find yourself in a slump today, Pisces, don't worry. Give it some thought and you will find your answer.



Aries - Due to your energetic nature, Aries, today will hold many opportunities for you to take control and make something happen. What you begin today will resound throughout the coming days. This is no time for bluster or false confidence. Go for it.



Taurus - Beware of misinformed people and false information. Misguided dreams presented as truth can easily create fights, so keep your temper cool. Learn to find joy in the smaller things for right now, Taurus; you're going to need it for the coming weeks.



Gemini - Things have been moving fast for you lately, Gemini. What has happened has happened, and you must move on from it. Use these next few days to take the focus back to your own self and security. There is a whole, wide world out there for you to explore and conquer when you're ready.



Cancer - Take some time to renew your contacts and get caught up on what's going on around you. Remember not to lose touch with those that don't often cross your path. You have incredible gifts to be proud of and thankful for, so work on finding your outlet.

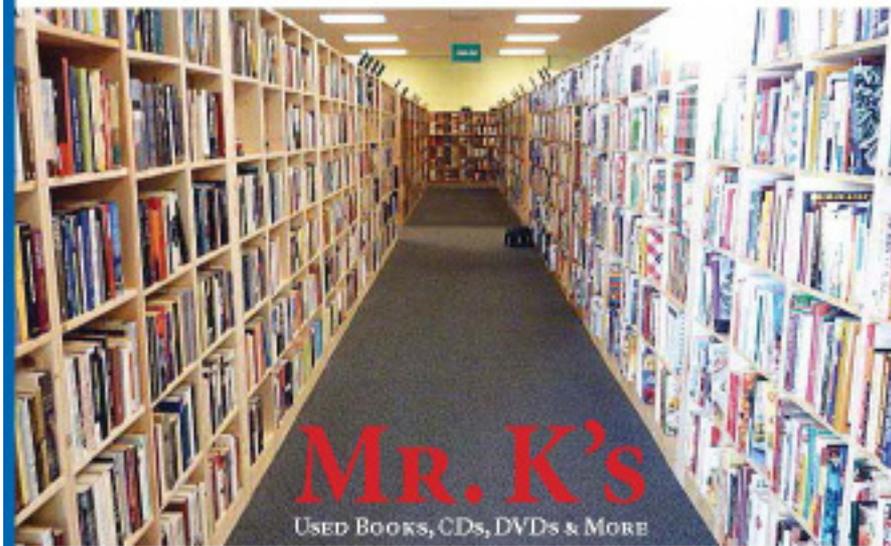


Leo - Remain aware of a certain powerful, self-centered energy working against your peaceful position. Stick with what you know and don't stoop to another's level to win; keep your balance and things should smooth out in the end.



Virgo - You may be called to stand today, so be careful that your viewpoint does not become fixed and stubborn. Use these next few days to keep your ears open and your mouth shut: you might just find that you learn a few things.

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Paint the Town **Red** and **Gold**

by Taylor Dahl

Every Monday

Monday Night Poetry and Music at East Bay Meeting House is back! Come and see live poetry readings and music. An open mic is following the feature.

September 26- November 1st

It's finally Halloween season which means all the fun spooky events are up and running. Get scared at Boone Hall Fright Night! It's filled with heart-racing attractions that will leave you shaking.

October 17th- November 2nd

Mel Brook's Young Frankenstein will start playing at the Dock Street Theater. It's the perfect spooky play for Halloween.

Now- December 29th

It's a thrilling and comedic murder mystery at The Black Fedora Comedy Mystery Theatre. Come see Inspector NoClue's Murder Mystery and witness a gut-rupturing mystery. Not one for something goofy? The Black Fedora Comedy Mystery Theatre is also showing Sherlock Holmes and the Charleston History Murder. Explore Charleston's past from your seat!

The Trivia Challenge

by Jakob Lazzaro

Amid the hectic rush of heading back to school many students feel lost and overwhelmed, in need of a way to relax after a crazy day. And what better way to relax then watching a Pixar movie! Yes, this month's trivia will be themed around Pixar, with

Teresa Elj battling **Chase Godwin**.

Questions:

1. Name two of the three founders of Pixar.
2. True or False. The Pizza Planet truck appears in all Pixar feature films.
3. What is the name of the Pixar desk lamp character that appears in the logo?
4. What is the name of Carl's wife (UP)?
5. True or False. Pixar has won more than thirty Academy Awards?
6. What was Pixar's first feature film?
7. Name all three sharks in Finding Nemo.
8. Name the daycare center in Toy Story 3.
9. What is generally considered the worst Pixar film?
10. What was Pixar's first animated short?

Competitor 1: Theresa Elj

1. Colin O'Donoghue and Winnie the Pooh.
2. False.
3. The Lamp.
4. Ellie.
5. True.
6. A Bug's Life
7. Fish are friends, not food.
8. These questions are too hard.
9. I think it's a Bug's Life, but I hate Cars.
10. "Laughs ironically"



Photo Credit: Jakob Lazzaro

Competitor 2: Chase Godwin

1. Steve Jobs...
2. True.
3. Steve.
4. Ellie.
5. True.
6. The Incredibles.
7. Bruce and... that's all I got.
8. Sunnyside.
9. A Bugs Life?
10. I don't know.



Photo Credit: Jakob Lazzaro

And the winner is... CHASE GODWIN

Chase recalled more cherished childhood memories about Pixar movies while Teresa fell short (although she would like to point out that she knows more about Disney). Thus, Chase will return again next issue as Applause's reigning Trivia Emperor.

Are you interested in competing for the title of Trivia Emperor in The Trivia Challenge? The winner will receive a \$15 Barnes & Noble gift card and eternal glory. If you are interested in competing email jakob@soa-applause.com or message us on Facebook. We hope to hear from you!

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“‘Problems’ by ASAP Rocky”
Douglas Smith, 12th Grade,
Creative Writing



“‘Happy’ by Pharrell Williams”
Gorge Medina-Valencia, 6th
Grade, Vocal



“‘No Flex Zone’ by Rae Sremmurd”
Rylee Puckhaber, 11th Grade,
Theater



“‘I Am a God’ by Kanye West”
Sasha Grigorieff, 9th Grade,
Visual Arts



“‘Thriller’ by Michael Jackson”
Max Rosenberg, 7th Grade,
Strings

“What song describes the way you felt on the first day of school?”

**By Dmitri Grigorieff
Photos by Nikita Narodnitskiy**



“‘We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together’ by Taylor Swift”
Cassie Simpson, 9th Grade,
Dance



“‘Fancy’ by Iggy Azalea with Charli XCX”
Kanisha Coleman, 9th Grade,
Fashion/Costume Design



“‘A lullaby because I was very tired.’”
Molly Weaver, 7th Grade,
Theater



“‘War Ready’ by Rick Ross”
Jarby Brown, 12th Grade, Band



“‘One Foot Wrong’ by P!nk”
Mrs. Wright, Teacher