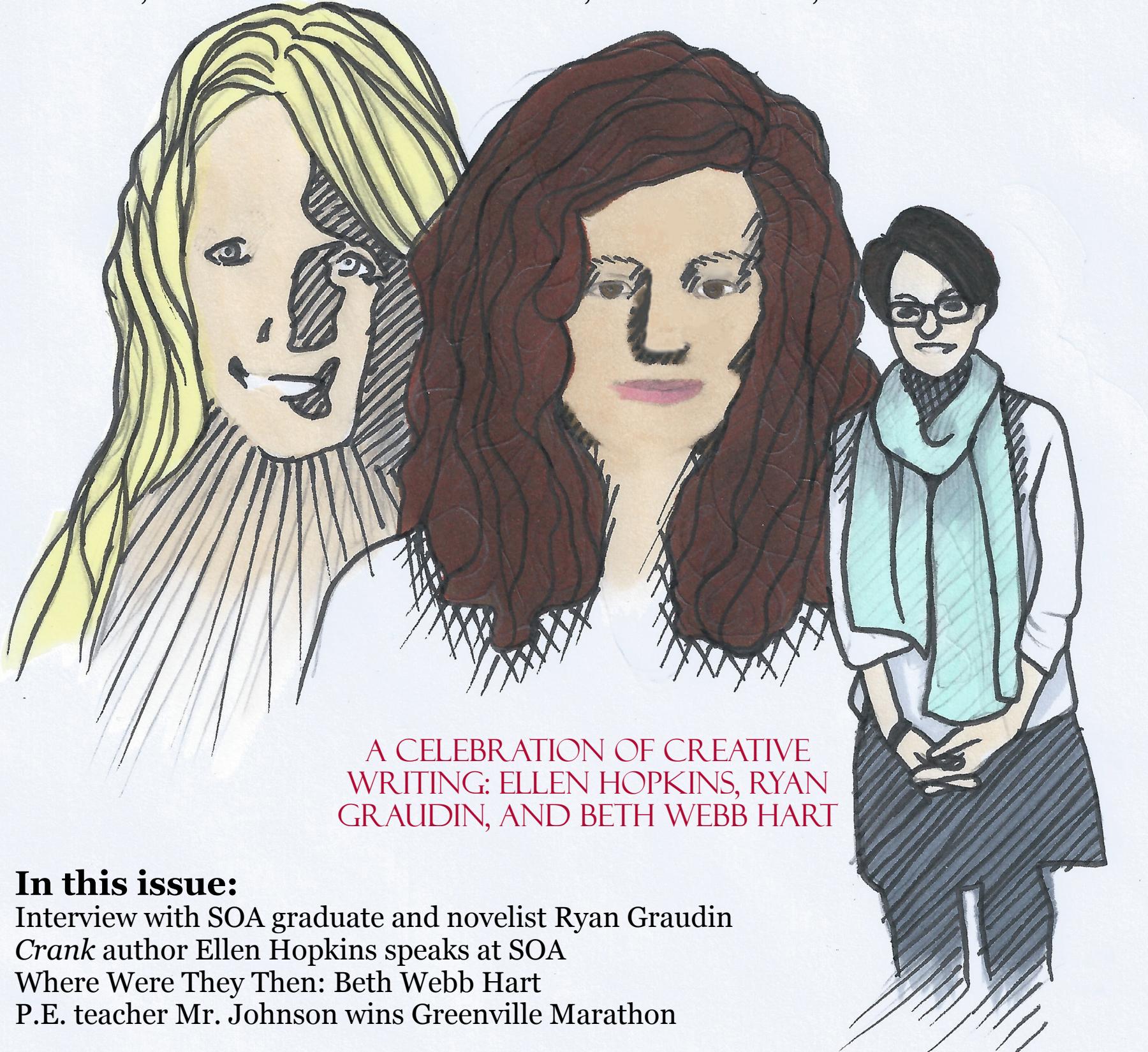


# Applause

Volume 16, Number 2

School of the Arts, North Charleston, SC

November 2014



A CELEBRATION OF CREATIVE  
WRITING: ELLEN HOPKINS, RYAN  
GRAUDIN, AND BETH WEBB HART

## In this issue:

Interview with SOA graduate and novelist Ryan Graudin

*Crank* author Ellen Hopkins speaks at SOA

Where Were They Then: Beth Webb Hart

P.E. teacher Mr. Johnson wins Greenville Marathon

**Editors' Letter**

Dear Readers,

In this issue we take a close look at Creative Writing, from the writers' mountain retreat in North Carolina to an interview with novelist and writing teacher Ms. Beth Webb Hart. *Applause* also speaks to writers Ellen Hopkins and Ryan Graudin, an SOA graduate who is now one of our Creative Writing mentors.

We take a look at Spirit Week and also Jump Jive and Wail, one of the most popular events of the school year. In addition, we talk to PE Teacher Mr. Johnson, winner of the Greenville Marathon.

December marks the 15th anniversary of *Applause*, and we are currently working on our commemorative issue. We look forward to looking back over the past issues and catching up with our previous editors. Be sure to go to [soa-applause.com](http://soa-applause.com) to view our entire 15 year archive: more than 120 issues.

Thank you for all of the continued support. Have a great Thanksgiving Break!

Love,

Taylor, Suzanne, and Graham

*Jay Rode*

**Editorial: Oooh, Barracuda!**

Thanks to the latest inconvenient and counterintuitive internet block, we are now banned from accessing the following websites: YouTube, Facebook, Google Images, and many, many more that I don't have the energy to type. Some lucky students can't even get on to their email! Students enrolled in the SC Virtual School program are unable watch assigned videos during class time. Instead, they are told they must watch these lengthy videos at home using their free time. "Free time" in this case indicates the time they have set aside for homework or studying for their six other classes.

Can anything be done about this unfortunate ban on all things productive? What's so threatening about Facebook? Five of my seven classes have Facebook pages on which students may ask questions and post our notes. We here with *Applause* post our schedule, assignments, due dates, and events within our private Facebook group. The fact that we are now unable to access this at school poses as a setback, as does the inability to locate images for use with articles.

Just as teachers can now allow their students to utilize cell phones during class, the same considerations should be made for the internet. School of the Arts is a school and therefore information should be readily available at all times, whether it's a handout posted in a Facebook group or a Google Image of a horseshoe crab.

If the past is any indication, then it won't be long until someone finds a way to get around it.

**Applause**

the official student publication of  
Charleston County School of  
the Arts

*Founded in 1995 by Rose Maree Myers*

**Editors-in-Chief:**

Suzanne Jackson

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**Business Managers:**

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**Feature Editor:**

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**News Editor:**

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John Cusatis, Ph.D., Advisor  
Charleston County School of the Arts  
5109 West Enterprise St.  
North Charleston, SC 29405

**Graphics Editor:**

Nick Scapellato

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**Staff Writers:**

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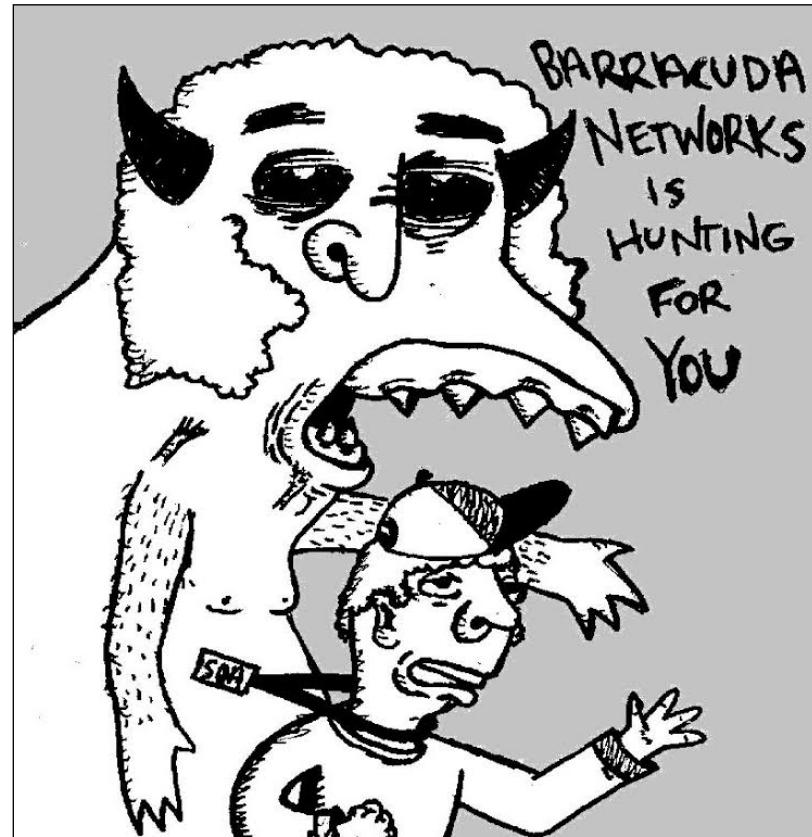
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Many thanks to **Dalton Edens** for last month's cover!

*Noah Jordan*



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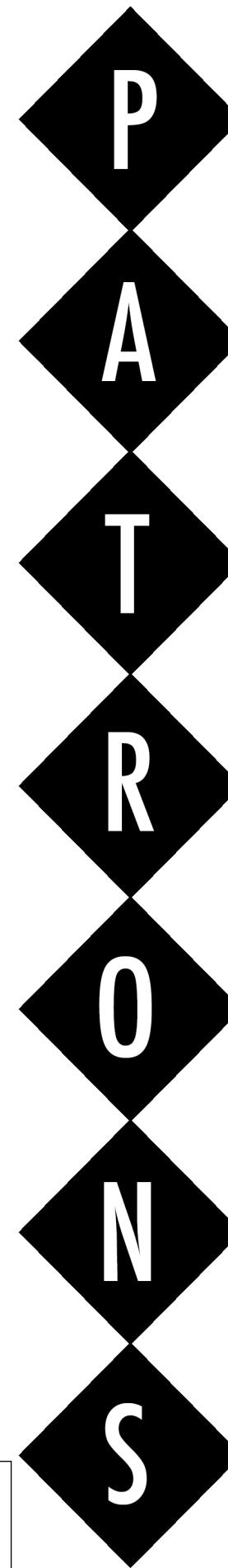
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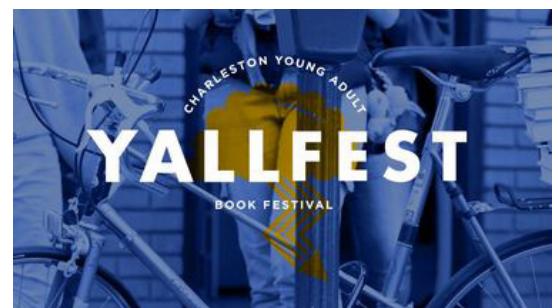
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## Creativity of YALLfest inspires Charleston's YA fans

by Suzanne Jackson

Charleston's annual Young Adult literature festival, YALLfest, took place Friday, Nov. 7, through Tuesday, Nov. 11. The festival brought sixty well-known authors of the YA genre to Charleston, including Ann Brashares (*Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants*), Gayle Forman (*If I Stay*), Veronica Roth (the *Divergent* series), Margaret Stohl (the *Beautiful Creatures* series), and SOA graduate Ryan Graudin (*The Walled City*).

Hosted by Blue Bicycle Books, tickets for this celebration of books, authors, and the art of writing were in high demand. The numerous panel presentations proved to be both entertaining and informative. For die-hard YA fans, book signings are offered throughout the day. Although the events vary in location, they always remain downtown. The setting of downtown Charleston may strike an aspiring author with inspiration as they wait in line to be admitted into the third panel presentation they have attended within a three hour period.

Any fan of the young adult genre should be counting down the days until YALLfest 2015. By then, some new authors may appear on the scene, but one thing is for certain: Y'all Fest will continue to cultivate creativity and inspire love for literature among Charleston's youth.

## Show the Creative Writers some love

by Suzanne Jackson

I am a firm believer that all of our majors here at SOA should be appreciated equally. To give one more attention than another would disrupt the balance of the whole school. No special treatment, no exception. End of story.

So please take the following not as a demand, but rather a request, spoken in a calm and controlled tone, one artist to another.

As you may know, November and December are pretty tough months for your

## SOA hosts another successful College Fair

by Cherry Hu

The College Alumni Fair on November 3rd served as a great reminder to students about college and all its intricacies. Alumni and admissions representatives came from more than 65 colleges across the nation, giving out loads of information and some first-hand experience internet statistics rarely show.

Speaking from what she has seen of previous college fairs, Guilford College alumni **Becca Nicholson** says, "I think it's hard. There are so many choices. That's why it's good to have people answer questions, talk about personal experiences." Nicholson graduated from School of the Arts in '07.

Personal experience on any subject matter only shows one point of view, and doesn't always apply to everyone. It may be a great and accurate account, but picking the perfect college is a holistic process that requires more than one such factor.

In a sense, all the aspects of college must be accounted for since it virtually defines the future. A place with every detail checked off on a list of the ideal college is rare to find. Truthfully, everyone has to pick the factors they value most, be it diversity, an alumni's anecdote, a small urban school setting, or a great program in their area of interest.

According to SOA senior **Lauren Twitty**, swag is definitely one of those factors. She says, the fair "narrows and widens your options. You decide on the colleges you would really consider, and the ones that aren't fit for you and your swag."



Cherry Hu

dear Creative Writing pals. Even after a successful fall reading at the Mt. Pleasant Barnes & Noble, we still aren't in the clear. 'Tis the season for the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. In addition, the seniors undergoing thesis are averaging three crying sessions per week. Tears of joy or tears of pain? We'll never tell.

Fellow students, I am not asking for spontaneous hugs. Teachers, I'm not requesting a decrease in homework... unless you *really* want. I certainly would not object.

Just be aware that we read. We watch. We write. And, if we're lucky, we sleep. Grant us some emotional leniency until Christmas break, and maybe we won't write sneaky things about you in our stories.

College is also a time of independence, finding oneself, and discovering a passion. For students planning to attend a faraway location, parting with family for most of the year adds another key factor to the list.

Mrs. Hoffman, the mother of SOA junior **Ava Hoffman**, agrees that she wants to know "how far you're going to go away for college," something many parents can relate to. As children finally reach adulthood, parents must pat themselves on the back for all the work they've accomplished. College is the time to sit back and let the youngsters explore their newfound independence and responsibility.

Florida State University alumni **Tricia Daughtry** also has a child and explains the intent of the college fair: "I wish I could go around and talk to all these people myself because I have a son going to college next year. I think it's very important because you want it to be a perfect match for your child and without going to the school it's hard to tell. What major, the school size, the type of other students that will be there, and how much it costs."

Despite everything that must be considered, College is also a time to have fun, and enjoy learning. Just don't be burdened by too many credit cards.



Cherry Hu

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## Poll dancing and other ways to show enthusiasm for democracy

by Dmitri Grigorieff

On Tuesday November 4th, South Carolina, along with the rest of our great nation, participated in the all-American tradition of Election Day. It's one of the few days where the citizens of America get to strut around, bastions of the democratic ideals that this country was founded on, worn on our lapels in the form of an "I Voted" sticker.

Unfortunately, I was not among those present at the polls. I registered to vote just a day after the deadline, and instead spent the day scrolling through an infinitely regenerating page of LOL Cats, just like the rest of our useless generation (according to many exit polls only 12% of the electorate was under 30).

During a short break from the internet, I read up

**"Perhaps I'll just be cooperating with the big illusion of the American Election. But what's the alternative? Do nothing?"**

on Downs' paradox, the paradox of voting. This is the idea that the cost of voting will usually exceed the benefits of voting. The benefit is, of course, having a ballot that affects the outcome of the election. South Carolina is not a swing state, and this theory certainly applies to it. A vote for the democratic candidate can be futile. And a vote for the republican candidate can be nothing more than an affirmation of one's opinion.

However, I can't condemn voting. It's a freedom for which many people are still fighting, and I intend on exercising this freedom in the next election. Maybe it will be a futile act. Maybe I will simply be supporting the lesser of two evils. Maybe the U.S. government will remain unchanged. Maybe I'll be deceiving myself into thinking I make a difference.

It has been hypothesized that voting is genetically linked to cooperative behavior. Perhaps I'll just be cooperating with the big illusion of the American Election. But what's the alternative? Do nothing?

I always encourage protest. But when that idealism wears too thin, when the hopeful horizon spits bitter rain, and when we are all wet and stigmatized and ignored and Congress remains deadlocked, it's easy to become another disillusioned

voter.

The young and the poor are mired from their voting rights by biased laws as well. In recently passed Texas voting laws, handgun licenses are allowed as proof of identity, but not college issued student IDs. In North Carolina, on-campus voting sites are disappearing.

Our recently re-elected governor Nikki Haley recently declared, "I don't want dead people voting in the state of South Carolina." Her allegation that nearly 1000 deceased voters recently cast ballots was debunked by South Carolina's Election Commission director.

Instead, the laws are discriminatory against minorities and young people, who are less likely to have an eligible ID. Luckily for them, in an election with a margin of victory

greater than one, their vote wouldn't have had any significance anyhow. However, the large number of voters restricted by this law might have made a considerable difference.

In an effort to inspire young voters, Rock the Vote has helmed a music video and celebrity fueled campaign called #turnoutforwhat. Millennial heroes such as Lil John and Lena Dunham encourage the under thirty population to turn out to their friendly neighborhood polling booths for various causes. Despite their very own music video, it seems as if they were unsuccessful in inspiring fervor.

Our generation is more apathetic than ever, not just in regard to voting, but to the entire political process. If we want to see marriage equality, economic reform, reproductive rights, net neutrality, stricter environmental regulations, or an end to police brutality, we need to take action, whether it is in the polls or on the streets.

## Same-Sex Marriages in SC: Our Right to the Pursuit of Happiness

by Savanna Osborne

In 1996, South Carolina voted unanimously to define marriage as a joining of one woman and one man. Today, in 2014, there are several active lawsuits pending in an attempt to overturn Amendment 1, a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage and any "lawful domestic union."

On October 8, 2014, the first same-sex marriage license application was accepted after a case in Virginia was resolved in favor of two men who filed the lawsuit. Just hours later, however, South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson requested an emergency stop to the issuance of marriage licenses to same-sex couples and on October 9, the state Supreme Court agreed to halt the issuance pending the outcome of Bradacs. Because a South Carolinian

couple cannot receive a marriage license until 24 hours after their application is accepted, no one in the state of South Carolina has been issued a same-sex marriage license.

Bradacs v. Haley is the case of two women married in the District of Columbia who filed a lawsuit challenging the state statute and constitutional amendment. One woman is a state highway patrol officer and the other is a disabled veteran of

**"There is something that all of us can do, whether it's signing petitions, voting, or simply advocating for the freedom that we all deserve."**

the U.S. Air Force; they are currently raising three children together as they struggle to gain acknowledgment for their marriage in the state of South Carolina.

On November 12, 2014, a ruling was made in favor of the freedom to marry in South Carolina, striking down Amendment 1. This historic ruling was made for the case Condon v. Haley, a lawsuit filed by a

Charleston County councilwoman and her fiancée. These women were the first to file for a marriage license after the announcement that Charleston County would begin issuing same-sex marriage licenses.

There are numerous groups actively working to achieve equality: SC Equality, Lambda Legal, The American Civil Liberties Union, Alliance for Full Acceptance, and Freedom to Marry. In 2012, it was found that a majority of South Carolina residents (54%) supported either marriage or civil union for same-sex couples. According to the 2010 census, 7,214 same-sex couples are living in South Carolina.

In short, the LGBTQIA community is making big steps toward equality, both in South Carolina and across the country. There is something that all of us can do, whether it's signing petitions, voting, or simply advocating for the freedom that we all deserve. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, ...with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

### What do you think? When asked about the importance of same-sex marriages, two SOA students gave their opinions.

"Allowing same sex marriage is important because it shouldn't be in the hands of strangers to determine what is "acceptable" when it comes to love especially when there's been a whole documentary highlighting a long lists of politicians who have been the most actively opposed to same sex-marriage and then end up being gay themselves."

**-Zoe Abedon**, Senior Creative Writer

"Same sex marriage isn't so much as an important issue as a denied basic right. Same sex marriages are no more extreme than heterosexual marriages and it is unjust for anyone to hold prejudice against them. Tolerance should be more important in our society as we seek equality and happiness."

**-Alika Smith**, Senior Band major

## Dance Senior Thesis *en pointe*



**Olivia Givens**, Senior Dance major, was generous enough to offer her insight to the Senior Thesis process. Below, she reflects on the challenges of dance and the importance of the Senior Thesis process.

This first thesis was a very important learning experience for me. I have never choreographed a piece that was totally mine. The music, lighting, concept and choreography all me! I completely fell in love with the idea of being a choreographer. Before this thesis, as a choreographer, I always found choreographing a struggle and had a hard time finding inspiration for new movement that would distinguish my choreography different than from others. I was always known for using my legs a lot in my dances with very basic contemporary technique. This time I wanted to be different. In the past, I think teachers expected

me to take my concept so literal and not branch out or think out of the box. With this dance, I tried my best to step out of my comfort zone and choreography a piece that challenged my comfort zone.

My respect for dance before this first thesis has changed tremendously. I have been dancing since I was three years old. I don't remember a time in my life without dance. I knew just about everything that it took to be a dancer; the type of person, the devotion, the termination to become a dancer, but I never understood what it took to see dance through a choreographers point of view. Dance was always an outlet for me and a way for me to express myself through movement but from going through the process of choreographing and learning other people's choreography it really taught me how to respect a choreographers movement and their personal dance style.

**Olivia Givens** performs with classmate **Daniel George** in part one of the Dance senior thesis.

## Vocal Fall Concert a Sold Out Show

by Sarah McCord

SOA's vocal department continues to impress with their most recent show, combining the melodies of the middle and high school choruses. The night started with traditional songs, such as "Let Everything that Hath Breath" and "Sicut Cervus" and then moved into a demonstration of each class' skills.

The middle school amazed with such developed talent and an unexpected volume of young voices. Each class sang a song they had been working on this year and performed with enthusiasm as their passion filled the auditorium.

Displaying how a typical All-State quintet sounds, **Jack Martini, Chase Goodwin, Maddy Parnall, Georgia Hunt, and Kelsey Costa** sang "Honor and Glory," effortlessly blending their voices

to create one dynamic sound that demonstrated their ability to harmonize.

Coming alive with more upbeat and modern songs, "Yesterday" and a medley of popular songs from the band Fun, the department showed off the skills of individuals through solos performed by **Shayd Williams, Jane Hilton, Sarah Sylvester, Kimberly Lowman, Emily Lanter, Jalaya Solomon, Cameron Frye**, and the incorporation of beatboxing by **Malachi Cleveland**.

For a Halloween touch, middle school performed "Monster Mash" with solo by **Zach Shirley**, complete with costumes, makeup, fake blood, and choreographed dancing. High school followed with "Thriller," solo by **Shelby Levine**, and dancing mimicking that of the "Thriller" music video. Another Halloween classic, "Time Warp," was a show in itself, acted out by soloists **Devon Nalley, Aly Wintz, Nick Shaarda, and Mia Pernice**.

Because of the support for the vocal department by both students and families, an incredible

turnout filled up the auditorium, leaving standing room only. This fall showcase highlighted individuals as well as the department's capabilities as a whole, proving once again the depth of talent of our vocal majors.



Under the direction of Ms. Hammond, the middle school and high school Vocal majors perform in their most recent concert.

## Upcoming Events:

**She Kills Monsters**, by Qui Nguyen  
12th Grade Theatre Performance  
Thursday & Friday, Nov. 20th & 21st  
6:30 pm in RMMT

Poetry Out Loud Competition  
Thursday, Dec. 4th  
3:30 pm in Media Center

For more information: [poetryoutloud.org](http://poetryoutloud.org)  
Middle School Band Holiday Concert  
Thursday, Dec 4th  
6:30 pm

**Winter Wonderland: A Gathering of the Arts**  
Friday, Dec. 5th  
6:30 pm

**Bells and Whistles** High School Band Concert  
Monday, Dec. 8th  
6:30 pm

High School Theatre Showcase  
Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 8th & 9th  
4:00pm

**Holiday Spectacular**  
High School Symphony Orchestra & Vocal Concert  
Thursday & Friday, Dec. 11th & 12th  
6:30pm  
Tickets  
Adults: \$10  
Students/Seniors/Groups: \$5

**Sounds of the Season**  
Middle School String Orchestra and Vocal Concert  
Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 15th & 16th  
6:30pm  
Tickets: \$5/person

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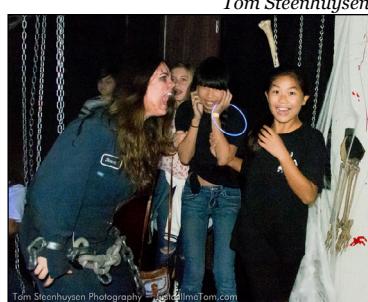
## SOA spooks with annual haunted house

by Tommy Nauman

With spooks and horrors to spare, the SOA haunted house returned to SOA on October 25. From 6 to 9 pm, many participants were sent running out of the theater while others walked out with a laugh. None were sent home unsatisfied. After going through the haunted house once, the tickets were discounted. This allowed for more affordable fun with friends and family.

The haunted house was set up for free by Innovative Event Services. Besides the eight Innovative Event Services crew members, the rest of the stage hands and actors were SOA students.

The theme for this year's haunted house centered



on classic horror movies. Characters featured included Freddy, Jason, and plenty of zombies. While walking through the haunted house, participants were filled with both nostalgia and fear. In the words of attendee, "If that had happened in real life, I would have died."

The haunted house was not only an exciting event that left students exhilarated, but also raised money for the Theatre Department.

## MEME CONTEST WINNER

**Judges:** Nikita Narodnitskiy, Noah Jordan, and Dmitri Grigorieff

Thank you **Zoe Abedon** for providing us with the best meme we have ever seen. It features her adorable dog, Buddha. We believe it captures his personality quite well. **Zoe** will be awarded with our respect and admiration.



Nick Scapellato



Last issue, we used the wrong picture for 6th grade Creative Writer **Charlie Hastings'** poem, Wave. We're sorry, Charlie!

## Features

## Middle School Piano Majors swing to success with the Spook n' Blues Festival

by Jakob Lazzaro

The middle school Piano majors became swinging jazz artists at the annual Spook n' Blues festival. With catering provided by Home Team BBQ, students and spectators enjoyed a night of music and costumes on the weekend before Halloween. The Piano Booster Club and Piano department raised over \$2,000 through the raffle and admission to go towards student trips and other activities. Congratulations!

Jakob Lazzaro



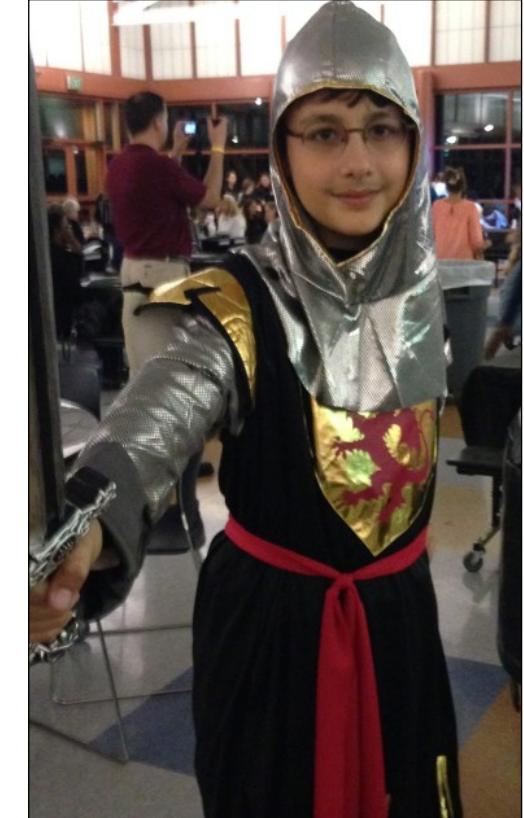
8th graders **Samantha Clarke, Rachel Smith, and Emily Turner** pose in costume

Jakob Lazzaro



Guest vocalist Jenna Brinson jams with **Ms. Benson** on the piano, **Mr. Clarke** on the drums, and 8th grader **Madi Adams** on the bass, while 8th grader **Steven Schlosser** improvises on the organ.

Jakob Lazzaro



6th grader **Sam Hagen** shows off his knight outfit during the costume contest.

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## SOA graduate now a Creative Writing mentor, successful Young Adult novelist

by Noah Jordan

**Ryan Graudin** graduated from SOA's Creative Writing department in 2005. She has published two books: *The Walled City* (Little, Brown) and *All That Glows* (HarperTeen). She is due to publish a sequel to *All That Glows* in 2015, *All That Burns*. She was a featured writer at YALLFest this year. You can stay up to date with her latest projects on Twitter (@ryangraudin) and through her website ryangraudin.com.

**Noah Jordan:** In addition to the two books you've published, and the one you're about to publish, do you have any other manuscripts you're preparing?

**Ryan Graudin:** I have two more books under contract with Little Brown. It's an alternate history duology, and the first book is due out Fall 2015. (I can't say too much more about it yet!)

**NJ: To what extent (if any) did you write before you came to SOA?**

**RG:** I came to SOA pretty late in the game. My first year was as a junior! I was homeschooled before that and actually wrote a good deal then. It was great because I had a flexible schedule that allowed me to write a lot.

**NJ: How has your relationship with teachers at SOA affected your professional life?**

**RG:** I was always very eager to hear what my creative writing teachers had to say about my assignments and craft. Mrs. Miles and Mrs. Wentworth were my two main writing teachers, and both were great about being encouraging but also constructive in their criticism. Their feedback laid the foundations for my later relationships with editors (who are also encouraging, but will tear a manuscript to shreds to make it better!). I'm still in touch with both Mrs. Miles and Mrs. Wentworth, who have both continued to show immense support in my journey as a writer!

**NJ: How do you feel now about the things you wrote while in high school?**

**RG:** I actually just went back through my high school folders, since I'm now an official senior thesis mentor and I wanted to jog my own memories of my student experience. As a writer you're always growing and becoming better, so when you look back at old writing it's easy to be horrified! But all writing is part of the journey, and I'm proud of what I accomplished at such a young age!

**NJ: You are known for writing young adult novels, how did your experience as a teenager affect your voice as a writer now?**

**RG:** Teenagers feel things very deeply, which is part of what makes writing young adult so very moving. I can still remember the highs and lows of high school—first loves, heartbreak, the strength of friendships—and try to implement these things in my writing.

What part of your life inspires you most frequently? Definitely traveling. My husband and I love experiencing new places. We've lived in South Korea and traveled all over the world together. So far none of my published books takes place in the US, and I'm quite alright with that.

**NJ: Have you ever thought about the possibility movies in the future? It's becoming a reality for a lot of writers in your genre.**

**RG:** *THE WALLED CITY* was just optioned for film, which is basically just a fancy way of saying that people have bought the rights to think about making a movie. Hollywood is a very slow and complicated business, and there are a lot of book that are optioned for film that never make it to the big screen. But it is exciting to have that possibility open up, and I do hope that one day something comes of it. *THE WALLED CITY* in particular is a very visually driven book and I think it would make an amazing film.



## New York Times best-selling author Ellen Hopkins visits SOA

by Suzanne Jackson

On Friday, November 7, students from all grades gathered in the Academic Magnet lecture hall to listen as author Ellen Hopkins told of her struggles, victories, and goals in both her personal life and her writing career. Her presentation, titled *Glimpses of my Life*, consisted mainly of pictures of her family and was projected above the stage as she spoke.

Ellen Hopkins grew up in Palm Springs, CA. From an early age, she had a love for books, supporting her later theory that "early avid readers become writers." Her first poem was published when she was only nine years old. Seeing her work in print, she says, motivated her to work harder and try to publish all that she could. Later, she followed in her father's footsteps and became a successful entrepreneur before selling her business to pursue freelance journalism. Once the spark of her love of writing caught on, her whole life was consumed by her true passion.

Her first novel, *Crank*, was published about ten years ago. Hopkins admits that this novel is

largely autobiographical, as her own daughter struggles with a severe drug addiction similar to that of the protagonist. Since *Crank*, Hopkins has published many more books, including *Burned* (2006), *Impulse* (2007), and *Tricks* (2009).

Some critics (and parents) believe that her topics are too mature for a young adult audience. Because of this feedback, Hopkins believes that she is "one of the most challenged authors in the country." She went on to state "I don't write sparkly vampires," Hopkins then reminded the audience that being

young is more difficult than one may remember. One often faces many choices that can lead to either positive or detrimental outcomes. Her outlook on the earliest stages of adult life translates into the no-nonsense style of her books.

Hopkins' brutal honesty is far from severe, however. A charismatic speaker, she sent her audience into fits of laughter as she cracked joke after joke throughout her presentation. "I'm very suspicious of any state that has no mountains," she remarked after commenting on the general flatness of South Carolina compared to her home state, Nevada.

The Bonds-Wilson campus was fortunate to have the opportunity to host Ellen Hopkins the Friday before YALLFest. She imparted a great deal

of knowledge and wisdom to students, teachers, fans, and aspiring writers alike. We hope to see her once again next year as she promotes her newest book, *Rumble*.

**"Every experience in your life, good or bad, will deepen your writing."**

Suzanne Jackson



Ellen Hopkins offered a free book signing after her talk in the Academic Magnet lecture hall.

## All's fair in love and fairs

by Sarah McCord

Greasy food produced in trailers and rides that will make you feel like your soul has escaped your body. What is the appeal of this tradition we all partake in? The annual Coastal Carolina Fair returned for its 58th year in Ladson and was not shy of great expectations.

Begun by the Exchange Club, the fair has become a community-oriented activity that raises money for scholarships and charities, including Darkness to Light, the Ronald McDonald House, American Red Cross, and the American Cancer Society. The Coastal Carolina Fair has given back to the community more than \$6 million for organizations since its beginning in 1957.

The rides at the fair are certainly not roller coasters, so they make for good beginner rides, as they are not built to be permanent-if not going upside down on a ride because the nails and bolts can't support that is your thing, then the fair is for you.

A personal favorite ride is The Gravitron, in which you lean against slanted mats and spin at a rate that could be a contributing factor to loss of brain cells. This ride requires no safety, such as seat belts or bars, because the ride spins so quickly that gravity pulls you against the mats and makes

it near impossible to stand straight or even lift an arm-quite a rush except after the second time immediately following, when exiting the ride down the stairs becomes a challenge.

For those who don't enjoy the rush, the Ferris Wheels are always fun unless you also don't enjoy being suspended in a shifty capsule more than a hundred feet above ground. The larger of the two wheels does offer a great view of the park, especially at night, when all the lights of the rides illuminate the dark.

One of the distinctive qualities of the fair is the food. If you've never had fair food, you're only missing out on any and everything fried: Oreos, funnel cakes, pickles, ice cream, Twinkies, Snickers, fruit, chicken, even Kool-Aid. Rationalizing that the fair only comes once a year somehow makes it reasonable to digest plain grease covered up with the taste of everyday snacks. How it tastes so good is still a mystery to me.

Being that the fair is in Ladson and it is a South Carolina community event, the fashion is diverse, to say the least. Ranging from the "American Dream" families dressed in their Polos and ironed khakis to the people rocking the dressing-like-a-hobo-to-stay-warm-when-it's-not-even-that-cold look to those groups with matching camo jackets as if they are on a field trip and cannot lose each other, the style of fair goers is an eye-opening experience to the assortment of people that surround us every

day.

Having gone since I was three, the fair has become a tradition. The contrast of the magic of something so amusing and the semi-permanence of it all has always intrigued me, and I look forward to it every year with the same enthusiasm that I had when I first went.

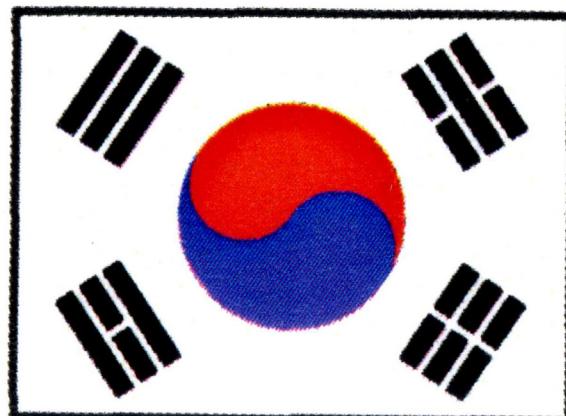


Sarah Vane

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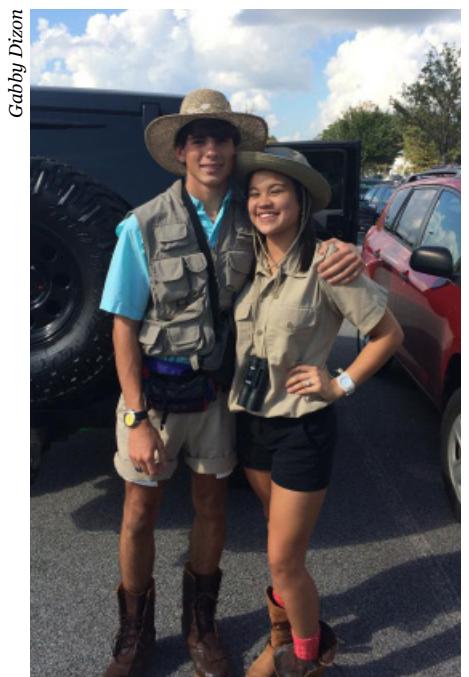


"We work hard!"

## SAFARI DAY



**Caroline Zetrouer, Jenna Farnham, Carly Edwards, Georgia Hunt, Abbi Floyd, and Chloe Hogan** show that hunters and the hunted can be friends.

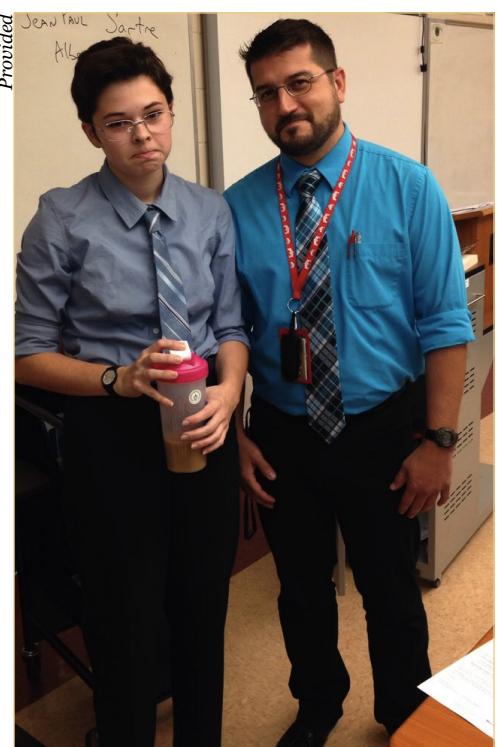


**Gabe French and Gabby Dizon** pose as the perfect safari couple.

# spirit



8th grade Creative Writers show off their spirit in jungle-ready outfits.



**Sarah Courville** used Character Day as a chance to be **Mr. Taylor's** twin.

## CHARACTER DAY



Award for most excellent costumes goes to **Suzanne Jackson** and **Taylor Dahl** for their righteous *Bill and Ted* attire.



**Daniel George** and **Georgia Hunt** dressed as Daphne and Fred

# Week

## SUPERHEROS VS. ALIENS DAY

8th grade girls Preya Simmons, Sarah R., Gray Forsberg, Elizabeth Covington, Naomi Marchant, Jenna Flaherty, Carlie Smith, Maura Welchm, and Isabel Hubbard clearly favor superheros

*Provided*



## THROWBACK THURSDAY

*Carlie Smith*



8th grade **Carlie Smith** and her friend embody Grease and the 60's for their throwback.

*McKenna Andrews*



Seniors **Hanna Demos**, **McKenna Andrews**, and **Dalton Edens** show senior spirit in these heroic costumes

## SPOOKY DAY



**Megan Hoffman**, **Emily Baxley**, **Ava Hoffman**, and **Devan Nalley** are spooky in these costumes.

## Where Were They Then: Beth Webb Hart



*Ms. Hart was one of SOA's first Creative Writing teachers in the 1990s. After working as writer-in-residence at Ashley Hall and publishing six novels, she returned to SOA last year. She and her husband Edward Hart, have two children, Edward and Frances. Her latest novel is titled Moon Over Edisto. Applause editor Graham Crolley got the chance to ask her a few questions.*

### Graham Crolley: Tell me about your childhood.

**Beth Webb Hart:** I grew up at North Litchfield Beach, an obscure nook on the South Carolina coast. Very few people lived at the beach year-round so I had just a handful of friends. My parents ran a seafood restaurant in Murrell's Inlet where they worked most nights, and so my two younger sisters and I had to create a way to entertain ourselves. In order to quell the boredom, we made up story after story with long, winding and outlandish plots, and I became aware (at age seven or so) that once a character is up and walking in your mind, they really take on a life of their own. As Faulkner once said, "All I have to do is catch up with them and write down what they say and do." After

my sisters and I finished writing a story, we'd act it out on the screened porch for our babysitters. I suppose if it weren't for an excessive amount of boredom and free time, I never would have started writing.

### GC: What is one memory that stands out to you the most from your childhood?

**BWH:** Hurricane David hit the South Carolina coast where I was living just three days after my youngest sister was born. It was 1979, and I had just turned eight. I can remember helping my mother pack up the car with our most beloved possessions (some photo albums, a few favorite books, the silver chest and our new winter coats.) We headed to Cheraw, South Carolina where my grandmother lived in an old home near the center of town. It was a strange feeling to pack up all that a trunk could hold of your life's belongings along with a fragile newborn baby, a grumpy middle sister and a worried mother. I can remember our beach home growing smaller and smaller in the rear view mirror as we drove away. I thought it might not be standing when we returned three days later so I whispered a good-bye. Thankfully, it survived the storm.

### GC: Did you know when you were younger that you wanted to write/teach writing?

**BWH:** After studying fiction writing in high school, I knew I wanted to write. In graduate school, I was able to get a tuition break by teaching a freshman level creative writing workshop. After leading the course

for a semester, I realized how much I adored working with students. As the oldest of three girls, I suppose I had been an unofficial teacher a lot of my life. My sisters still call me "the boss" because I am constantly instructing them.... Hopefully, I've put that annoying trait to a more constructive use in the classroom. It is a privilege to be a part of the writing community at SOA. Watching a young author find and cultivate their voice is a joy and an honor.

### GC: You taught Creative Writing with Mrs. Miles when the school first opened. What led you to this, and what was it like?

**BWH:** When I graduated from my MFA program, I moved from New York to Charleston because my fiancé was a professor at the college. SOA had just opened its doors, and while there were no jobs available, I sent a letter of introduction along with my resume in hopes that there might eventually be an opportunity to teach creative writing. Mrs. Miles called me days after I mailed my resume, and within a few weeks, Ms. Myers hired me to be the second ever member of the creative writing faculty. I learned so much working with Mrs. Miles. Her love for the students and the program was contagious. I left SOA when I started my family and committed to a large novel writing contract, but I missed being a part of the school and always hoped I'd have the chance to return.

### GC: If you had a high school version of yourself in one of your

### classes, what would you think of her?

**BWH:** What a fantastic question. I sure hope I would be as gracious to the high school version of myself as my teachers were to me. At first glance, I must have seemed disinterested and relatively clueless. However, both my high school English teachers and my Creative Writing teachers challenged me and held me accountable. If it wasn't for their gentle prodding and timely encouragement, I probably wouldn't be a writer or teacher. I hope I see the potential in every student. That's certainly the kind of teacher I want to be.



Provided

Ms. Hart, age 6, on Litchfield Beach, SC.

## PE teacher proves superb athleticism in Greenville Marathon

*Nick Scapellato interviewed HS Physical Education teacher Mr. Brian Johnson, who won the Greenville Marathon this month. More than 2000 people participated in the race, running through tunnels of deciduous trees on the Swamp Rabbit Trail through the Furman campus. It was a good week for Mr. Johnson, whose cross country team, AMHS, won the state championship.*

### Nick Scapellato: What are some of the key components in your training?

**Brian Johnson:** The key component to marathon training is getting in a regular long run. My long run was 20 miles which I did five in the 3 months leading up to the marathon. Some were at an easy pace and some had some "race pace" miles in the middle. The long runs and some shorter speed work were mixed in with my regular daily runs which were usually 4-10 miles at an easy pace. I averaged 50-70 miles a week for this training cycle.

### NS: Considering the distance you covered in such a short time, how did you feel during the race?

**BJ:** I felt generally good throughout until the last 5 miles. The weather was perfect and my body felt good. The last 5 miles I tightened up some and slowed down 20-30 seconds per mile but overall I felt good for a marathon.

### NS: At what point did you feel as if you would win the race and what

### is that feeling like?

**BJ:** After the 2 mile, I was by myself and could see the next two runners at a few points in the middle going through Furman and at the halfway mark. I had a pretty good lead with 7 miles to go and was feeling ok so I thought that as long as I did not "bonk" that I would hold on to win. With 2 miles to go, I looked back and knew that I would be able to hold on.

### NS: How long has it taken you to recover?

**BJ:** I took a full week off of running and have started to ease my way back into running with some shorter (2-5 mile) runs. I feel pretty good and my legs are feeling ready to start training again.

### NS: Advice for any kids looking to improve as long distance runners?

**BJ:** Start easy and make it fun. Most running should be at a comfortable pace. It does not need to be hard. I try to convey this to my PE students. You should finish a run feeling like you worked but are not exhausted. After your body adapts, gradually increase the distance and pace. Also, join the SOA running club!



Mr. Johnson and his kids, Peyton and Dylan, after the marathon.

## Album Review: Slint - Self Titled EP

by Noah Jordan

Slint is a well known post-rock band from Kentucky; they were active from 1989 to 1994. This final release in 1994—the Self Titled EP—was released by Touch & Go Records after the band's breakup.

In this 13 minute long release, the band presents two incredibly complex songs, both equally packed with raw emotion and deep thought. This style of music was unique in its time, a combination of the intensity of hardcore punk and the epic structure of some classical compositions.

In the present day, the genre of post-rock has grown immensely. There are many bands who are inspired by the music that Slint created.

Slint is typically pretty focused on lyricism in their music, for instance the song "Good

Morning, Captain" which was featured in the Larry Clark film Kids has been hailed by critics as being just as much of an incredible poem as it is an incredible song.

This album is filled with soaring guitars and tense drums; aesthetically the music is impulsive, which increases its visceral impact, but the true heart of this music is in the realm of technicality. Every note is delivered with purpose. Every smashing of the drums is calculated and carries the lurching rhythms into many crescendos, each more effective than the last.

This is surely a masterpiece, a wonderful way for the band to end its career. The last seconds of the album are filled with the desolate buzzing of feedback, and as this sound dies the listener is reminded that feeling emotionless can sometimes be one of the most intense human experiences.



## Jump, Jive, and Wail celebrates spirit of SOA

by Taylor Dahl

Jump, Jive, and Wail can be most simply described as SOA's homecoming, replacing football with a live jazz band. But, to the students and faculty it's a bit more than that. We may not be cheering on our team on a brightly lit field, but instead, high schoolers come together at the Charleston Bus Shed to try their hand at swing dancing or to just enjoy the food and company. On Saturday the 18th of October, the music could be heard from down the block: loud saxophones, trumpets, drums, a melodic voice. Students and family were roaming the street, waiting for admission to our annual event, a few had even started tapping their feet along to the music. At seven, everyone entered the shed to see strings of lights, the Jazz Band sitting on a stage, spotlights swirling around them, neatly set tables, a long buffet of food, and, the newest addition to the event, a photo booth.

As always, the music was loud and on point. People were not hesitant to move onto the dance floor almost as soon as they arrived. With music like that, who wouldn't? Friends were grabbing each other's arms and dancing together. People were lined up in the back, ready to fill their plates before joining in on the swing dancing.

The night got later and the lights got brighter, the music continued to blast. The last set the band played was "kickin". The entire ensemble changed and put on their most tacky/ridiculous costumes they could find. Who knew a tiger could play bass. By eleven o'clock the crowd had barely thinned but there were plenty of people still ready to hear the final song.

The music dimmed out and the jazz band took a bow, Jump Jive and Wail had ended for the year 2014. People filed out the Bus Shed, shoes in hands, jackets on, eagerly anticipating next year.



The SOA Jazz Band put on a wonderful performance.



Juniors Noah Rigsby and Megan Romagnuolo show off their swing dancing moves.

## Sass Attack: Drama Llamas

by Aly Wintz

Oh you darling over dramatic teenager. Yes, I am looking at you. Why for the love of all that that is "hipster" at SOA do you have to dwell on drama? Why do the petty things that won't matter in a month matter to you now? Why are you fighting with someone, entrancing those in what is most definitely the end of the world, and then resolving everything by sleeping on it?

I'm not talking about the cliché matters that we all see in High School Musical. Oh no, SOA, that died with our eighth grade year. I'm talking about the mind-rattling, hormone pumping issues that in the heat of the moment make you so angry you could punch someone in the face no matter the consequences. It's those instances that you look back on with dire embarrassment at how much you over reacted.

What causes this overreaction in you? That's simple. What happens every time your parents tell you that you did something wrong? A defense mechanism arises and you insist you're right even if you don't have a firm foundation to support that. This crosses over into your work and school life, producing the thought that no matter the question, your answer is correct. Your friend could be telling you the sky is blue and you would argue back that it is green until either one of you cracks or you escalate into a larger fight that has nothing to do with the original topic.

It's ridiculous, it's immature, and it's downright senseless. What's even worse is that this defense mechanism is not going to leave you—ever. That's why adults get into fights over the stupidest things. THAT is why we see headlines in Charleston like, "Woman Accused of Stabbing Beerless Man With Ceramic Squirrel." This amount of defensiveness is what will cause you to get into the poorest, thoughtless situations.

My point is that right now your drama is meaningless and you can get away with that. When you get older, the only thing that changes is that the detention suddenly turns into an assault charge. Learn that you aren't perfect; learn that you are not Greek God and that it is okay for you to back off and say, "Okay, you're right, I'm sorry." Even if you think you are right, this isn't a bad way to go—and as for the Drama Llama in your life? Wait ten-fifteen years and I guarantee they'll be in a similar position as the ceramic squirrel lady.

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# POINT/COUNTERPOINT

This issue, your favorite Applause staff members, **Nikita Nardnitskiy** and **Graham Crolley**, tackle the argument staples vs paperclips. Whoever wins this round will go against **Noah Jordan**.

## Nikita: Staples

It's sad for me to think that I am developing as an individual in a society that fears permanence. It cripples me to imagine that our civilization has sunk down to the point where error is something that we expect of ourselves. I implore you, the reader, to revisit US Patent No. 195,603, the document stamping a government grant on the stapler. The patent in which Henry Heyl declares our confidence as a nation with a clean staple at the top of his request. The thin strip of metal folded elegantly through the page and towards its center represents much more than a finished report, it represents our assurance that we have completed something and we have completed it well.

Lets looks past the heightened esteem that a stapler grants us with every staple and simply acknowledge the pure satisfaction that comes from the act. Close your eyes and be drawn into a white room. You are alone at a desk, in front of you, a black stapler and a still printer-warm copy of US Patent No. 195,603. It is a simple stapler, a Stanley ® Bostitch B2200 Contemporary Stapler. You position the sheets over the anvil and slowly begin to press the head towards the paper. The magazine, containing a clean slide full of staples, makes contact and begins retreating into the head. You're almost there. What follows is the greatest moment an office supply operator can achieve, the resistance. That final second where you push a little harder and feel the metal strips giving into the force of your hand. You hear the click and it echoes, ricocheting off the walls and exploding in your eyes in a thunderous ovation of unity. This is the American Dream.

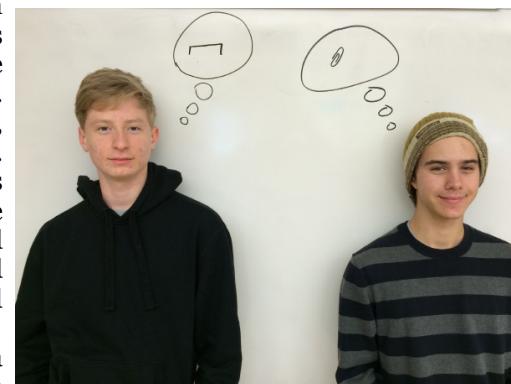
As an individual, you reserve the right to be fearful of imperfection. After all, as the old cliché goes, nobody's perfect. But that is why we've got to work it again and again till we get it right. And when it is finally right, nothing is more rewarding than binding your confidence at in top left corner with a lustrous, confident, staple.

## Stand by Me: a must-watch for all youth planning on getting older

by Graham Crolley

Like other coming of age movies from the '80s (think The Goonies or The Breakfast Club), there is something both heart-warming and boldly honest about Rob Reiner's 1986 film Stand By Me. The cult classic is based off of Stephen King's novella The Body, and recounts an adventure four boys have in their fictional hometown of Castle Rock, Oregon. When the gang of 12-year-olds catches wind that a local child has gone missing and is presumably dead, they set out to find the body.

Probably what makes this movie so memorable is the group dynamic of the main characters. Gordie, the main character is the shy and quiet protagonist, who is closest to Chris, the group leader, both charismatic and protective of his friends, not to mention main provider of the gang with Winstons stolen from his father's dresser. There is the every-angry and war-crazed Teddy, and the



## Graham: Paperclips

To strive against imperfection is to strive against human nature itself. Imperfection is not defined by fear of failure—it is what proves we are alive. The paperclip is an example of how we embrace who we are, not an invention that suggests that our society is afraid of anything set in stone.

I am a firm believer that the most pure form of beauty stems from the simplest things. A paperclip is naturally beautiful in this way, simply a wire bent into a shape so it may be utilized, every day, by people all over the world. What a paperclip lacks in so-called permanence referred to in my colleague Nikita's point, it makes up for in common sense. In order to rearrange one's papers, it takes but a simple extension of the wrist to pull off the paperclip, so unlike the jarring tear that is required when staples are

used. It is the difference between smooth, organized papers and torn, forlorn sheets.

I do applaud my classmate Mr. Nikita for the research he completed on his topic. However, I discovered some research of my own that proved quite interesting. It is true that staples are US Patent No. 195,603, but paperclips, my friends, are US Patent No. 64,088, preceding the invention of staples by an entire decade. This is only further proof that paperclips are the most natural form of paper fastener we can use.

I will rest my case thusly: this debate is not a matter of confidence or lack thereof. It is, in its heart, the quest for premium organization, and we can determine this by analyzing which tool does its job best.

It's up to you, readers. Either let Nikita instill subliminal messages of pseudo-permanence and assumptions of fear into your brains or accept the societal evidence that paperclips are superior.

painfully awkward and tubby friend Vern.

The movie does an excellent job of helping each character through their own personal conflict whether it's Chris struggling through being stereotyped as a hoodlum due to his family's reputation, Teddy dealing with an abusive father, or Gordie coping with the recent death of his older brother. There are also plenty of thrills, involving such matters as junkyard dogs, railroad bridges, and leeches.

Further conflict is introduced when a gang of older kids, around 17 or 18, play the role of the bullies in the movie, and try to get to the missing body first so that they will be seen as heroes. The viewer feels a sort of allegiance to the younger gang even more now, as they are the passionate underdogs. Though it is formulaic in plot-line and development, the movie excels due to its memorable scenes, blisteringly human characters, and nostalgic tone. When watching the movie, you are reminded of childhood, of when you first caught a glimpse into how wide the world actually stretches. You'll find yourself reminded of the time you and your friends set off on an adventure to find a dead body before realizing later that it never happened to you. That is the mark of a truly good film.

### Here's the breakdown:

**Pros:** great characters, impeccable casting, fitting soundtrack, good balance between seriousness and humor

**Cons:** mildly predictable, two very similar crying scenes

I highly recommend this movie for anyone who is curious about different views on growing up and really for anyone who has the time, the Netflix account, and an ability to enjoy fantastic films.



The Kobal Collection

## Have we forgotten the Pegasus Garden?

by Jakob Lazzaro

The Pegasus Garden, crowd funded on Kickstarter by many current and former students and staff, is a welcome addition to the campus. Originally conceived as a solution drainage problem between the high school and administration buildings, the Pegasus Garden has blossomed into a beautiful space for students to enjoy the outdoors. But many students passing by the garden during the day have noticed something strange; it is usually empty!

"I paid 75 dollars for a brick that I wasn't able to see during school hours for three months" said Junior Theatre major Emily Kucklick. "I don't feel like the money was used to the best of its ability. There are no picnic tables in it, for example. The patio is such a good space for outdoor classes, but teachers never utilize it." As many students crave relief from stifling classroom interiors, the empty garden beckons. **Dr. Cusatis**, who brought

his AP classes there during the first month of school, hopes that more people will make use of the garden during the spring. "It's easy to forget that this beautiful garden is out there. I intend to use the garden more in the spring."

"We did use the garden during the spring arts showcase for the outside musical events" said Admissions Secretary **Sylvia Edwards**. "Besides that, I haven't had anyone ask to use it. It definitely has been advertised. I think it needs to be made more aware as a venue for scheduling events. It's a great little venue and we will use it again for the next spring showcase."

Ever since the beginning of the year students have forsaken the dark interior of the cafeteria for the sun speckled courtyard, in such droves that every table and bench from the cafeteria doors to the high school building is occupied, with more sun hungry students spilling out onto the concrete while the deliciously empty garden beckons beyond the fence. Why not utilize this fantastic space for extra lunchtime seating?

The seniors manage to have grub on the green monthly in the Pegasus Garden with

no major issues. SOA's students should not be afraid to eat lunch and frolic out into the open plaza on a bright sunny day. Encouraging students to use the Pegasus Garden at lunch would help many feel like it is a usable addition to the campus.



Suzanne Jackson

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Chloe Hogan, 10th grade Visual Arts



Piper Schaberg, 12th grade Visual Arts



Jackie Berry, 12th grade Visual Arts



Jacqueline Pretorius, 9th grade Visual Arts



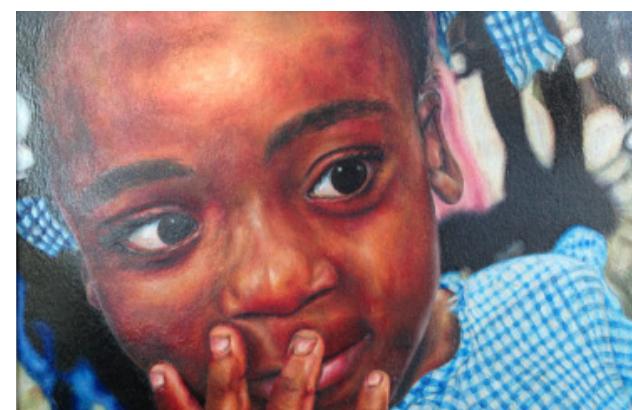
Dalton Edens, 12th grade Visual Arts



Halle Garret, 9th grade Visual Arts



Olivia Dipalo, 12th grade Visual Arts



Hannah Demos, 12th grade Visual Arts



Gabrielle Hilario, 12th grade Visual Arts

# Horoscopes



Scorpio

Use today to turn on your infinite charm, Scorpio. Make the most of your comforts while remaining within the lines. Try your hardest to respect authority and hold back your anger on those who disrespect you. The accomplishment of this challenge will reward you, potentially monetarily.



Sagittarius

Your determination is increasing, but be careful that it doesn't develop into desperation and neediness. Instead, let it turn into inspiration and cooperation. This will come in handy with matters of the heart. Put your power to good use.



Capricorn

You have the opportunity to put yourself in any position you wish, though you might choose to remain behind the scenes. The days ahead may be exhausting and contrary, but you will be able to hold it together and interact nicely without faking it.



Aquarius

Stay cool and social as time flies by. It may be a good idea for you to keep a journal so you don't lose track of any upcoming events or special occasions. Remind yourself of what you are thankful for, and remember that people are grateful for you as well.



Pisces

Keep your creativity flowing through any roadblocks that lie ahead. Someone or something wishes to prevent you from continuing down the path that you're on, possibly out of fear or envy. Do not forget who is in control—you and no one else.



Aries

You may find that your dreams will come back to haunt you, Aries. Be careful not to submit to their possessive powers. They appear to be vivid and seductive at the moment, but be wary of the outcome you fear.



Taurus

Positive news is coming your way. It will become easier for you to forge ahead without any delays or interruptions. Long-term bonds will strengthen, and you will find joy in developing relationships.



Gemini

Use your imagination to visualize your success and create a fresh idea of what you hope to achieve regarding your job, relationships, and/or lifestyle. Listen to your intuition and search your dreams to get ahead. Take a chance on a bold opportunity.



Cancer

Take some time to focus yourself on radiating love and comfort, especially in professional environments. This calm attitude and energy will prevent any upsetting events to bother you long term. Remind yourself that you don't have to hold a grudge and remember to take care of yourself.



Leo

You'll find a substantial amount of luck coming your way very soon, Leo. Your inner child will delight in the fun that awaits, but keep tabs on what you do to avoid the messy aftermath. If a persistent problem causes you stress, relax and anticipate the coming improvements.



Virgo

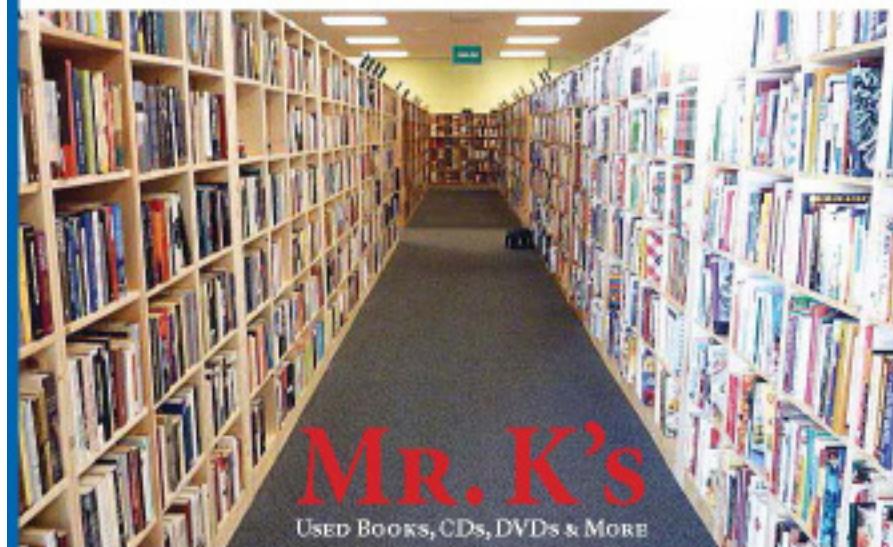
Don't let your nighttime adventures interfere with the business that must occur in the morning. Organize your productivity by working on one large thing or several smaller things and enjoy the payoff. Things are falling into place without you agonizing over little details, especially in your home life.



Libra

Do not concern yourself with others' jealousy or envy. Do not provoke them and appreciate what you have. Try to focus on what is important to you and opportunities for friends old and new will come rushing.

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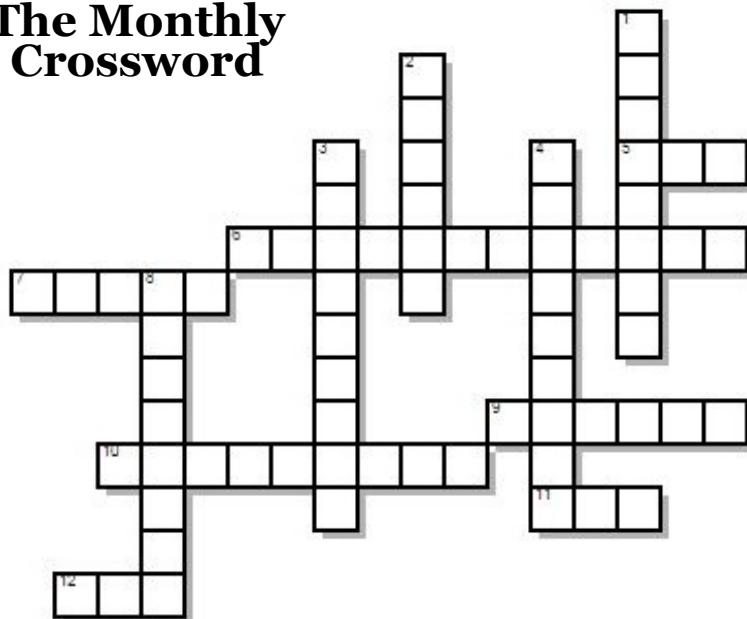
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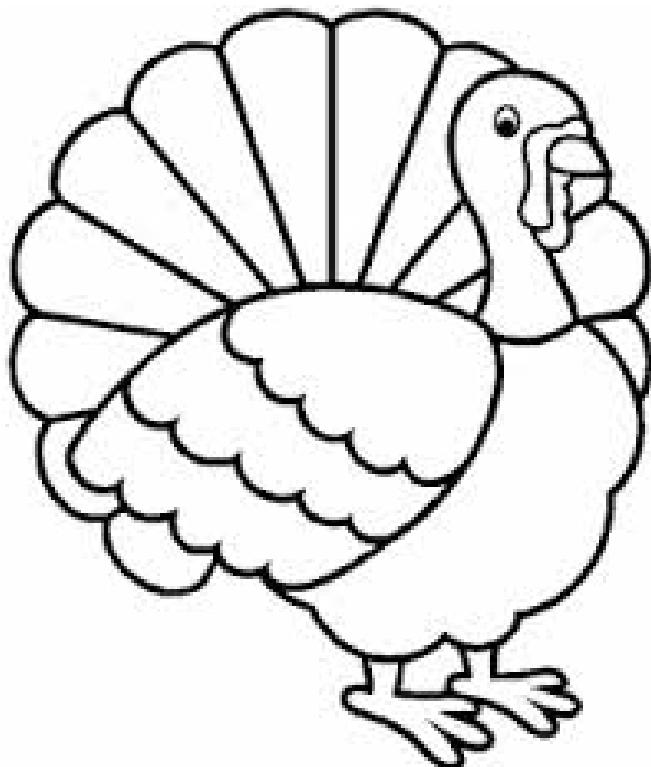
**The Monthly Crossword****ACROSS**

- 5 Crosswords are \_\_\_\_\_.  
 6 What is so special about next Thursday?  
 7 I am out of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 9 Good cop, \_\_\_\_\_.  
 10 Fill in the blank: sweet potato \_\_\_\_\_ is tasty, especially when marshmallows are baked on top.  
 11 Are you thankful?  
 12 Four and three and two and \_\_\_\_\_.

**DOWN**

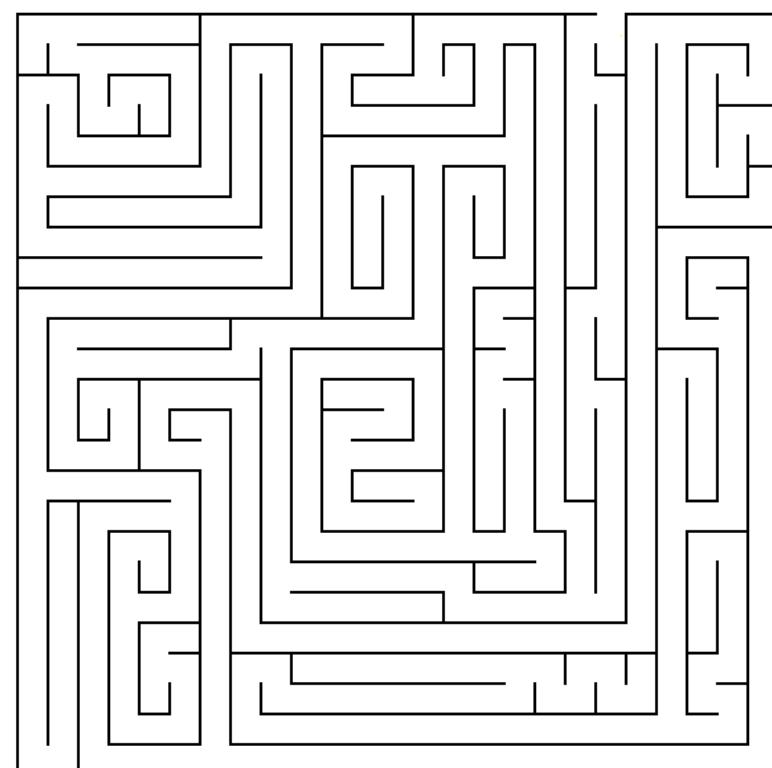
- 1 You eat so much of this delicious food that it leaves you feeling "stuffed".  
 2 What do you say when someone passes you a plate of food?  
 3 \_\_\_\_\_ sauce goes well with turkey and looks like Jell-O.  
 4 Shicka shicka chicka chicka  
 8 The best newspaper in the world is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Across:** 5. Fun, 6. Thanksgiving, 7. Ideas, 10. casserole, 11. yes, 12. one  
**Down:** 1. stuffing, 2. thanks, 3. cranberry, 4. slimshady, 8. Applause

**Sudoku**

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

**Help Ms. Hart find the cranberry sauce for her Thanksgiving turkey!**



**Paint the Town Red & Gold****Nov. 11- January 1: Holiday Festival of Lights**

*A great display of holiday cheer that is fun for all ages.*

**Every Friday and Saturday, Nov-Dec: Evenings in the Market**

*Local artists, vendors, and designers display their products for the public from 6:30 to 10:30.*

**Friday, Nov 21: Flogging Molly w/The Mighty Stef and The Pasadena Band @ The Music Farm**

*Head on out to the Music Farm at 8 pm to jam to some Irish folk punk!*

**Friday, Nov 21: James Taylor and His All-Star Band @ The North Charleston Coliseum**

*See five-time Grammy winner and member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame James Taylor play at 8 pm.*

**Saturday, Nov 22: Charleston Jazz Orchestra presents Holiday Swing @ Charleston Music Hall**

*Listen to professional jazz in a well-respected venue to kick off the holiday season.*

**Thursday, Nov 27: Turkey Day Run and Gobble Wobble 5K**

*Get motivated this Thanksgiving, and give it all you've got for this 37th annual run and 5K.*

*Applause decided to see how well you remember US History with America-themed trivia! Returning emperor Chase Godwin is battling Jack Martini in this patriotic contest.*

**Questions:**

- Which state was the first to be admitted to the union?
- How many time zones does America have?
- Who is third in the line of presidential succession after the Vice President?
- Name the president with the longest term in office.
- What is the tallest building in the United States?
- What year was the US Constitution ratified?
- True or False. The US population is greater than 300 million people.
- Who wrote The Star-Spangled Banner, and in what year?
- How many times has the constitution been amended?
- Name the largest, smallest, most populous and least populous US states.

**Competitor 1:  
Chase Godwin**

- Virginia.
- Four.
- Treasurer? Is that even a thing?
- Theodore Roosevelt.
- Is it the Sears Building? Because its not the Empire State Building.
- 1776.
- True.
- <eats salad unconfidently>
29. There are probably way more.
- Alaska, Rhode Island, California, Delaware.

**Competitor 2:  
Jack Martini**

- Virginia.
- Six.
- Speaker of the House.
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
- Chrysler Building.
- Ms. Hamilton would be so mad... 1789.
- True.
- Francis Scott Key in 1872.
- 27.
- Alaska, Rhode Island, Texas, Wyoming.

**1.75/10**

1. Delaware; 2. Six (Eastern, Central, Mountain, Pacific, Alaskan, and Hawaiian); 3. Speaker of the House; 4. Franklin Delano Roosevelt; 5. One World Trade Center; 6. 1789; 7. True; 8. Francis Scott Key did in 1814; 9. 27; 10. Alaska, Rhode Island, California, Wyoming.

**Answers****And the winner is...  
JACK MARTINI**

Well, it was almost no contest this time. Jack swooped in wrapped in an American flag on a Bald Eagle to knock Chase off of the throne of trivia emperor, calming the title for himself. Jack will be returning next month to play again.

**Last Issue's Answers**

- John Lasseter, Steve Jobs, and Edwinn Catmull.
- True.
- Luxo Jr.
- Ellie.
- False, they have won 27.
- Toy Story(1995).
- Bruce, Anchor, and Chum.
- Sunnyside.
- Cars 2.
- The Adventures of André and Wally B.

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 talk to Dr. Cusatis in room 1115 during High School lunch or email [jakob@soa-applause.com](mailto:jakob@soa-applause.com) with the subject line "Trivia."



Nikita Narodnitskiy

"The media, specifically Fox News because of the bias."

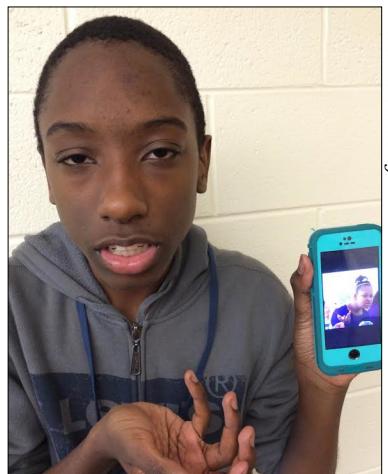
**John White**, 7th Grade Vocal



Nick Scapellato

"Not being the richest guy in the world because I can't live in a mansion."

**Mounir Mora-kpai**, 6th grade Theatre



Malachi Jones

"Annoying family members because they take all the food."

**Malachi Jones**, 8th Grade Creative Writing



Ms. Fitz

"Wrinkle cream because it doesn't work."

**Ms. Fitz**, Media Tech/Guitar Teacher



Suzanne Jackson

"Suzanne Jackson."

**Taylor Kahn-Perry and Bailey Abedon**, 8th Grade Creative Writing



Lucinda Siegler

"The death of Native Americans."

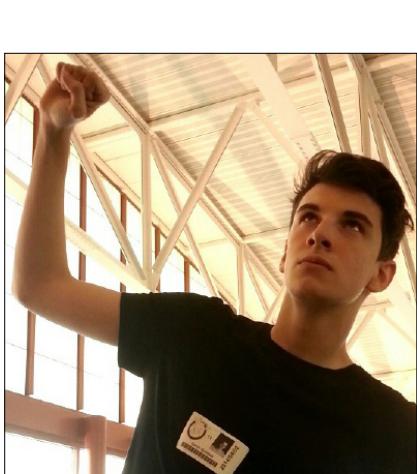
**Lucinda Siegler**, 7th Grade Creative Writing



Jarby Brown

"Jarby Brown."

**RJ Hample**, 12th Grade Band



Gavin Quinton

"Not Jarby Brown."

**Gavin Quinton**, 12th Grade Theatre



Luke Shaw

"People who hate Harry Potter."

**Luke Shaw**, 7th Grade Theatre