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Jay Rode

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

SOA's got a new semester, new classes, and a new *Applause*. As we draw ever closer to finals and AP exams (!), we hope Volume 5 will help you cope. In addition to the latest news and features, *Applause* is focusing on February's Black History Month.

Inside, we've got an interview with 2014 graduate and current YouTube star Matt Watson (5), a closer look at Ms. Amick and the Hearing Impaired department (6),

an interview with local jazz legend Charlton Singleton (7), SOA's cutest couples (10-11), our editorial and cartoon on modern American racism (18), and three black musicians you need to know (16), a closer look at the audition process (4), and a very special edition of Point/Counterpoint: Nick vs. Nick (17). Remember to complete this month's crossword featuring fictional heroes (20) and learn how to say "Happy Valentine's Day" in American Sign Language (19).

Remember, soa-applause.com is your one stop shop for submitting artwork, letters to the editor, and writing. Miss an issue or want to travel back through the *Applauses* of the past? Our website is waiting for you. We're also on Facebook at "Applause 2015-2016" and on Twitter @SOAApplause.

Keep on being awesome,

Jakob Lazzaro, Editor-In-Chief

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Applause

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Cover by Holly Rizer and Jay Rode

February 2016 Page 4 **News**

Eighth graders bring history to life

SOA's eighth graders crafted exhibits for a classroom civil war museum. show off knowledge with Later, they will deliver the objects to nearby schools for display. Applause's geography bee

Nick Scapellato headed out to document the feat.



Oliver Lewis, Theater, and Erik Jonsson, Vocal



Rebecca Clyburn, Vocal.



The varied array of historical projects in the classroom museum. Nick Scapellato



Leroy Thompson, Vocal, and John White, Vocal.

Auditions the gateway to the SOA experience

by Nick Scapellato

The SOA audition process holds a different meaning for every person in the SOA for the 2016-2017 school community, and a large part of that has to do with the simple question that floods the minds of every applicant: "What does it take to get in?" While the answer to that **year** may remain similar through the years, it's never the same. That's because talent isn't quantifiable. Kids applying for a spot here aren't expected to be artistic masters. AP Psychology - Kimberly Zerbst Instead, they must show potential for growth.

While many things change, there remain a few constant factors in every teacher's Placement Psychology next year. Instead of a evaluation of a potential student. One is passion. Nearly everyone, be it alumni, mundane, book-centered curriculum, Ms. Zerbst current student, faculty, or staff, is passionate about the arts in some way. It is this will spend class time applying the material to enthusiasm, this fervor for the artisan life, that pulls SOA together. If you don't like the real world via group and class exercises dancing, you're not going to like doing it for ninety minutes, five days a week, thirty- and demonstrations. Students will learn what six weeks a year.

Perhaps the most important factor in the consideration of applicants is potential. applied on our day-to-day lives. And yet, this is also the hardest aspect to gauge. A student may not be the best trumpet player but they instead have excellent rhythm. This could mean they are a modern- CSI Forensic Science - Robin Greig day Mozart who lacks training, or it could mean they've listened to too much dubstep. After showing interest in the class for years, Robin Those decisions are up to SOA's major teachers, who have all worked and continue to Greig will finally be teaching CSI Forensic Science work as artists outside of teaching at SOA.

Of course, the most obvious factor is talent. At the end of the day, those who get will perform lots of labs including crime scene into School of the Arts deserve it. The application process here is a highly-competitive investigations, DNA fingerprints, and handwriting system. It does it's best to create a filter that only accepts those who embody the SOA analysis. Greig says that the course combines Spirit. If you're in, be proud; and if you're applying, good luck.

Middle school students

Nick Scapellato by Mia Pernice

Sweden's highest peak, Kebnekaise, is located in the Kjölen Mountains. These mountains run along Sweden's border with which country? Independence, a starting point for expeditions along the Oregon Trail, is a town in which state? If you know the answers to those questions, you would have done well in SOA's recent middle school geography bee directed by history teacher Kyle Wells.

The sixth through eighth grade students were put to the test during their individual history classes to see who would compete against one another in the finals. Ten students won out to be challenged with easy to not so easy questions: eighth grade Creative Writer River Abedon, sixth grade Theater major Lawson Adams, eighth grade Piano major Pearl Ayiku, eighth grade Creative Writer Maya Cline, eighth grade Piano major Robert Gourdie, seventh grade Creative Writer Charlie Hastings, seventh grade Band major Rebecca Levis, sixth grade Strings major Presley Mettler, sixth grade Strings major Rylie Tart, and seventh grade Visual Artist Lily Bluestein.

Lily Bluestein was victorious and will now take a statewide test online to see if she will qualify for the State Geography Bee. If she succeeds and wins the state placement, she will move on to the final round in the National Geography Bee.

SOA gains two new courses

Kimberly Zerbst will be teaching Advanced psychology is, how it is performed, and how it is

next year. Throughout the course, the students Biology, Chemistry and Physics all into one class.

Provided

From SOA graduate to YouTube star: the story of Matt Watson

Former Visual Arts major and 2014 graduate Matt Watson is making it big in online video. Since the summer of 2015, Matt has lived in Los Angeles working as Markiplier's video editor while simultaneously creating his own content with his channel KidsWithProblems.

Matt attended the University of South Carolina for his freshman year before meeting a few people who ran a YouTube channel called Cyndago, which had about 150,000 followers. Matt had a small channel of a few hundred subscribers at the time. A friendship was born.

"For some reason," he said. "They thought my videos were funny."

When Cyndago moved to Los Angeles, Matt visited them. It then he met and befriended Mark Fischbach: better known as Markiplier, a YouTuber who makes primarily gamingrelated videos and currently has over 11 million subscribers. Matt's visit wasn't permanent and he soon flew home, but not before making a few videos with Cyndago and Markiplier.

"Only a month later, I got a call from Markiplier," Matt said. "He wanted me to be his video editor."

So, Matt moved to Los Angeles in pursuit of his dream, eager to start on his video career in a new city with new friends. He now lives with Markiplier and his own YouTube partner Ryan Magee. He's making videos, gaining subscribers, and living the dream.

Day to day, Matt works as Markiplier's video editor and with runs his own YouTube channel Kids With Problems, where he posts various comedic sketches and music videos. These videos are created with the help of Ryan, Mark, and an additional friend Jackson.



Matt admires one of his cacti.

Cheyenne Koth: What does a normal day look like?

Matt currently has over 90,000 subscribers.

Matt Watson: My normal day goes like this: I wake up at seven AM with Mark and Ryan. Then we go straight to the gym for an hour, then we go out and get breakfast. After that, we come home and spend the day filming new videos, editing, writing, and just hanging out. It's honestly a dream job and I never take a moment of it for granted.

CK: What is the main motivator for you to create videos and other media?

MW: My main motivator would be my fans. Knowing that there are almost 100,000 people out there who actively watch my videos and laugh and enjoy them is a really awesome feeling. It always keeps me on my toes to create something new and funny for them.

CK: What do you seek to accomplish with your videos?

MW: Well, if you watch my videos, you'll see that they don't really have any purpose or social statement. They're literally made to make people laugh. Ultimately, the goal is to entertain. A lot of people use YouTube as an outlet from stress and anxiety, so being able to laugh at an asinine video is always nice.

CK: How did your attending SOA help you to accomplish your goals?

MW: SOA was the place where I realized other people like making videos. I met a lot of cool people who I made videos with throughout the years there. If I hadn't met those people, I probably wouldn't be where I am today. It was an awesome outlet for art.

SOA wins big at Poetry Out Theater earns one of Wonka's golden tickets with Loud The Factory

by Alissa Melsopp

On Sunday, January 24th, College of schools in the lowcountry performed poems for *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. a seat of three judges. Students memorized two rounds, judged accordingly.

major Nicole Sadek. She placed second after Nicole says that reciting her poems was "a great watch. experience," and she is looking forward to the state finals.

by Etta Elliott

SOA's sophomore and junior Theater majors presented *The Factory*, a rendition of Charleston hosted the regional competition of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, on January 8th and 9th. The theater majors created Poetry Out Loud. Eight representatives from the show by blending elements from Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory and

The show followed Roald Dahl's famous book very well while also featuring stellar poems each from a list chosen by the Poetry Out comedy. The diversity of characters, a motley mix of children and parents from across Loud foundation and competed in two separate the world obsessed with finding their golden tickets, really allowed the cast to shine as everyone had important roll in the story. The show's main theme is that people tend to This year, SOA's representative for the third be greedy and malicious. By sending out the golden tickets, Mr. Wonka hoped to find a consecutive time was senior Creative Writing worthy heir to his candy empire: someone unlike most of the "brats" in the world.

Nick Fisher, Taylor Kornegay, Harrison Reed, Matthew Grant, and Drew Cauthen her moving recitations and will be going to the play Wonka. The five actors rotate throughout the show, providing five different Wonkas state competition, which she won in 2014, at for the five infamous scenes exposing the flaws of the golden ticket winners. Therefore, the Columbia Museum of Art in on March 12th. Wonka's personality changed throughout the show, making it very entertaining to

> In the words of Mr. Wonka, there is "no life that compares with pure imagination." *The Factory* shows that the Theater department has plenty.



work!

A heart full of love: Ms. Amick and the hearing impaired department

Author Thomas Monson stated, "When we treat people merely as they are, they will remain as they are. When we treat them as if they were what they should be, they will become what they should be." Few people know that as well as SOA's own Kathy Amick, who arrived at SOA in 2009 along with our hearing impaired program.

Ms. Amick grew up as a military brat in Germany, Oklahoma, North Carolina and South Carolina. Because of the education credits she received overseas and in other states, Ms. Amick was able to start attending the University of South Carolina at 16 before transferring to the deaf program at Converse College. She began teaching deaf children when she was twenty-yearsold, and has now been helping deaf children get the best education possible for 33 years. Her passion for teaching the deaf stems from an experience as a 13-year-old girl.

"I had a three-year-old deaf cousin perform in the Nutcracker at the North Carolina School

for the Deaf," Ms. Amick said. "That was when I decided I wanted to teach the deaf."

Although Ms. Amick loves her job, her workplace, and the people that she encounters every day, her students have a special spot in her heart. This past summer she and some of her colleagues opened their homes up to a student facing homelessness: one of the toughest challenges a young adult can encounter. Between helping this student acquire a part-time job and facilitating a safe home environment, Mrs. Amick kept her hands full, but she wouldn't have it any other way if it means that she is helping someone. Her students and fellow faculty members love her and she is well known for her generosity.

"I like Mrs. Amick because she helps me a lot and she changed my life," said ninth grader Kendi Garcia. "I can ask her anything and she understands me. I appreciate her so much."

I had the pleasure of watching Mrs. Amick work one-on-one with sixth grader Rio Dong. She teaches with jokes and laughs and her methods are formulated to fit each individual child.

"We have some of the best kids around," Ms. Amick said. "They have so many different backgrounds, but we're to help them in any

way that we can." In my experience, the most beneficial teachers are the ones that go beyond the requirments of a professional contract to help promote

are grateful to have Mrs. Amick. **SOA's internship program still** going strong

by Chevenne Koth

Internship programs can give students the drive to career path. The program also lets students make needed connections in fields of interest, which may benefit students in the future. With so many choices, and so many speakers to visit. They are tentatively scheduled for February 19th. possibilities, it's hard not to be drawn to the program.

Any SOA student interested in getting an internship should speak to Mr. Smyth and the district internship Interns generally spend three to four hours a week right after school. That's about an hour and a half every around Charleston. other day.

the time they spent working there.

should speak with Mr. Smyth.



Ms. Amick works with sixth grader Rio Dong.

positive welfare, even if they know that their good deeds may only benefit one child and even if their love goes unnoticed by some. We All seventh graders walk for water

by Nick Scapellato

SOA's seventh graders took a five-mile walking field trip to Water Missions International while carrying a gallon of water per person to raise awareness over the lack of access to clean drinking water in much of the world. Inspired by the With several courses of interest including journalism, novel A Long Walk to Water, the seventh graders hope to draw attention to the computer animation, wildlife management, and much fact that kids from South Sudan must carry gallons of water many miles every day more, Bill Smyth's internship program is still going just to bathe, drink, and eat. While the comparison is not exact, seventh grade strong. New students are also able to create new branches English teacher Carrie Horschel is very excited by the awareness the kids are

The seventh graders also raised money for Water Missions International, who make big decisions like choosing college majors or a supplies clean drinking water to those in need. Many of the students donated portions of their Christmas money for the cause.

To top everything off, the middle school has arranged for two South Sudanese

SOA Jazz Band swings at local festival

by Taylor Carnie

Over the weekend, the SOA Jazz Band participated in the second annual Jazz coordinator Chad Vail to get their start with any business Artists of Charleston as the last act of the weekend long event. The band shared or industry. Once this is organized, an internship awaits. the stage with the Charleston All Star jazz band, which is made up of students picked by their band directors from around the Lowcountry, and the Jasmine working with their chosen business during 4B, 4A, or Saxophone quartet, which was made up of various saxophone professors from

The SOA jazz band played for an hour. The set list featured classics from Count Before starting, every future intern is required to fill Basie to Frank Sinatra in addition to several pieces written by students. At the end out an internship agreement. A student must accumulate of the event, Basil Kerr and Ken Foburg both won awards for their leadership of sixty hours of experience in their internship over the the Jazz Band. The band also received personal thanks from the coordinator of course of a semester, and write weekly summaries about the event, and has been invited back to play again next year.

SOA Visual Arts teacher Damond Howard will be giving a talk on Any student interested in SOA's internship program | his art at the Columbia Museum of Art on Friday, February 12th! Check him out!

Features February 2016

Charlton Singleton: perspectives and advice from a local jazz legend

Former SOA band teacher Charlton Singleton is a nationally renowned jazz artist who has been playing since he was three years old. This Black History Month, why look anyplace else for black excellence? Applause's Jada Orr sat down with Mr. Singleton to hear about his advice to young artists, and details on his influences, inspirations, and accomplishments.

Jada Orr: What elements of black and Gullah culture have

impacted you as a musician?

Charlton Singleton: That's a tough question because there are so many things that HAVE impacted me. Our history is full and rich! With regards to music, we can trace the roots of jazz, pop, gospel, and other great styles of music to black AND gullah culture. Just speaking quickly on jazz alone, the Lowcountry of South Carolina is FULL of people and stories that have laid the foundation to many things that we see and hear now in jazz. The state of South Carolina has produced legends and it is still happening today! It is



quite an account of truth and in many ways I feel as if I am supposed to be spreading this culture and information.

JO: Which black jazz musicians have influenced you?

CS: WOW! There are too many to name, but here are a few that stand out: Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Wynton Marsalis, Harry "Sweets" Edison, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and Clifford Brown.

JO: Of all your accomplishments as a musician, what are you most proud of?

CS: The ability to perform for a living and support my family. The hard work and sacrifices have paid off. As a former full time educator, I am proud of seeing some of my students still in the field of music well after graduating. Some of them have made careers of it and some of them call me to work with them and/or vice versa. It is a very rewarding feeling.

JO: What advice do you have for young artists who want to turn their passion into a career?

CS: 1: DO YOUR HOMEWORK: Make sure that you listen to and study people that are doing similar things to what your passion is. Watching, listening, and learning from them is all a part of your education. 2: PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE: There is no one in the history of entertainment that can wing it through everything. If you really want to be a PROFESSIONAL then practicing is a given. I can't become the greatest trumpeter in the world if I don't practice the essentials and stay on top of my game. 3: TURN YOUR PRACTICE INTO PERFORMANCE: I love being on stage. I want to show everyone what I have worked on. I want to showcase the songs that I have composed. I want to present my new technique. 4: MAKE EVERY PERFORMANCE COUNT: Every performance should be treated as if it is an audition for your next show. Always go out there and give it your all. You honestly never know everyone that is in the audience.

JO: If you could have a jam session with any three artists, who would they be? CS: Prince, Stevie Wonder, and Marcus Miller!

A tribute to three great artistic visionaries lost too soon

David Bowie - Chevenne Koth

On January 10th, 2016, singer-songwriter David Bowie died of cancer. In the course of his 69 years, Bowie altered so many lives. As an artist, he was a veritable cultural giant, a fashion icon, a staple of the music industry, and a pioneer. To SOA, Bowie continues to be a source of inspiration. His style lingers through the way a pianist plays and a visual artist's painting or sculpture. Now, I'm going to get a little bit personal, because David Bowie, his songs, and his message are very important to me. As a child, David Bowie was a large presence in my household. His role in Labyrinth was our main interest, of course, but we moved on to his other music when we wanted more. It wasn't until I was older that I began to understand what Bowie truly meant to people, and how heavily he impacted the music world. Even now, the saddening melody of "Life on Mars" causes me to reminisce. I'd like to say it now, on behalf of SOA and Applause, how truly grateful we are for the art that he created in his lifetime and how much it helps people still today.

Alan Rickman - Alissa Melsopp

The world lost another great star on January 14th. Alan Rickman was one of Britain's most well-loved and well-respected actors. He began his career working on stage in the Royal Shakespeare and in English television projects. His movie career began with his role as the memorable villainous counterpart to Bruce Willis in 1988 film *Die Hard* and he later went on to win a BAFTA for his performance in Robin Hood. However, we know him best as the antagonistic Professor Snape in the film adaptations of JK Rowling's Harry Potter novels. Although he accepted the role without knowing much about the character, he amazed fans of the original books with his ability to take on the persona of Snape almost exactly as they imagined him to be. His role was crucial to the success of the franchise, and millions of people around the world will be mourning the loss of an amazing man who made our lives brighter with his talent.

Glenn Frey - Alissa Melsopp

Glenn Frey has made countless contributions to the music industry and the culture of American music as a whole. He is best known as the founder of the critically acclaimed band The Eagles, who were prominent during the 60s and 70s with hits including "Take it Easy" and "Hotel California." While involved with The Eagles, the band won five American Music Awards and six s Awards. In 1998, the band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, an honor all musicians hope to achieve during their careers. Frey was incredibly successful even in his solo career. His first release was No Fun Allowed, which began a period in which eight of his songs were Top 40 hits. Apart from his awards and recognition, Frey aided in creating a hybrid brand of music that combined rock and country into the perfect mix. His style created a culture that represents what American music inherently is, and for that he will be dearly missed.

Where Are They Now: Tavaris Brooks

Tavaris Brooks, class of 2015 Visual Arts major and winner of the 2015 Applause-sponsored Rose Maree Myers Scholarship has been busy. Majoring in architecture at Clemson Tavaris hopes to one day design aquatic buildings.

Applause's *Mollie Pate* caught up with Tavaris on his collegiate life.

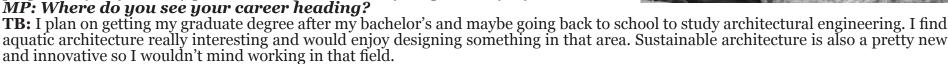
Mollie Pate: What is your college experience been like so far?

Tavaris Brooks: I've discovered that in college there is much less class time when compared to high school but much more work, especially when taking my major classes into regards. For example, last semester I would usually be done with all my classes by eleven am but would spend several hours in the architecture studio working on projects. You are given lots of free time, so time management skills are very important. When I don't manage my time well I'm usually in the studio till sunrise finishing a project.

MP: How did visual arts influence your decision to study architecture? Is it

helpful now?

TB: I can't say that Visual Arts really influenced me to become an architect because architecture was not huge part of what we studied. I was probably more influenced by the buildings I read about in AP Art History with Ms. Cimballa than anything. The skills that I've learned in my major at SOA do have a huge influence on many of the designs I create, though. SOA taught me to think with a creative and innovative mindset, and that has translated pretty well into my study of architecture. Also, as a design major architecture follows the same principles of art and design as painting, drawing, or sculpture. Therefore, a lot of the basic things we learn in class I already have a decent knowledge of. SOA also helped me develop my drawing and painting skills far beyond the point of a lot of other people in my major, so my professor and peers are always impressed by my 2-D work.



MP: What's a special memory from your time at SOA?

TB: Some of the most memorable and funniest moments of my life occurred in the Visuals Arts room. There are too many to choose from. I think we all had way too much fun in Visual Arts, especially with Mr. Moore. I sometimes stop and ask my myself how much better of an artist I would have become if I focused more in major, but then again I would not have as many fun memories and made as many friends!

Where Were They Then: Ms. Peeler

She's giving you a slip for being late or letting you sign out early, but how well do you really know attendance clerk Gwendolyn Peeler? Applause's **Mollie Pate** caught up with her on pre-SOA life.

Mollie Pate: What was your childhood like? Gwendolyn Peeler: I was born in Charleston and raised in Chicago. I am one of five siblings. I had

raised in Chicago. I am one of five siblings. I had a very bubbly and energetic personality as a child that staved with me into adulthood.

personality as a child that stayed with me into adulthood. I attended Fort Johnson High School, I was involved in mar

School. I was involved in many activities and clubs including as a cheerleader and majorette. Two of my favorite activities were joining the chorus and being a part of the school band, which helped contribute to my love of hearing music as well as performing it.

MP: Can you tell me a little bit about your education?

GP: I attended Kennedy King College in Chicago. I majored in medical transcription, secretarial science, and business.

MP: How did you end up with us at SOA?

GP: After college, I was offered the opportunity to work at SOA with such wonderful students and staff. I have worked twenty plus years for Charleston County School District, and it is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of the School of the Arts team. My passion for students and their education is unconditional.







SOA lost a dear friend when John Brisben passed away on December 31. He was a familiar face here, substitute teaching on a daily basis until just a few years ago. Known for his kindness and generosity, he was a favorite of students and teachers. Mr. Brisben was a dedicated *Applause* reader and supporter, and even created the artwork for our November 2003 cover. He is shown in this 2006 photo with former *Applause* editor Cait Brennan.

Winter Break Highlights

Applause *staffers* Anizia Fulmore, and **Annika Gadsen** headed out to see who had a cool time over break.



Mia Pernice, Senior Vocal

"I went to Costa Rica for two weeks with family. The scariest moment was flying in a tiny shaking plane from the mainland to the coast. While ziplining over the treetops, I saw spider monkeys, sloths and toucans. We stayed in a little resort called Iguana "The day after Christmas, I flew to Lodge in Puerto Jimenez. We climbed New York City for a week and had the an eighty-foot tree, bungee jumped chance to experience the Rockettes down a waterfall, and went surfing over perform their Christmas Spectacular. a coral reef. The funniest moments I saw The Curious Incident of the included encountering a Jesus Christ Dog in the Nighttime on Broadway. lizard clawing at our cabin wall, and my I visited the top of the Empire State grandfather riding a pig. I celebrated building as well as the Rockefeller my birthday on New Years by setting Center observation deck. I also went



Provided



Fiona Lewis, Senior Dance

Anizia Fulmore, **Senior Dance**

"I spent New Year's in New York with my maternal extended family. When we arrived in the Big Apple, I visited Coney Island to enjoy an authentic Hero sandwich at the local bodega. I also experienced a three-hour subway ride to Washington Heights to visit my ninety-one year old great-grandmother. We celebrated my aunt and uncle's fiftieth wedding anniversary on Long Island at a party with over four-hundred guests and lots of Dominican music."

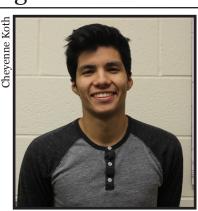


Maggie Scapellato, Sophomore Band "I went camping on a beautiful beach in Beaufort, SC. Every day I had the chance to wake up to a stunning view.



Dr. John Cusatis, high school English off paper lanterns, shooting fireworks, ice-skating at Rockefeller Center, "My family traveled to North Carolina and then to and having a big BBQ. We also visited spent a day at Times Square, and Pennsylvania, and stopped, as we always do, at El a chocolate farm and experienced the watched the light show on the side of Charo's Mexican Restaurant in Fredericksburg, VA, on process of making authentic chocolate." SAKS Fifth Avenue in New York City."

New Year's Day for my birthday dinner." New Year's Day for my birthday dinner.



Adonis Pineda, Senior

No Real Martyrs

Limp bodies herd us back together every time we forget.

Our convention would not happen any other way. Time whittled away at the rage, the need to confront, the burden of guilt. Safety, a luxury.

But again, the bodies corral us like an audience, who refuse to be bored.

Some of us are grown now, with children to scold and love. Those who cannot afford to be absent.
They are not men, but the very children they condemned.

Last names, my last name, is enough to cause grown hands to point curled fingers to flinching arms.

Arms that held toys, arms that held newborns, arms that held arms.

Senseless savages, at the mercy of their impulses and emotions, return to the soil they fight over. A few came to entertain. Some to be gladiators.

But they all become flowers and candles and framed pictures.

And what is left?

Janitors to thanklessly sweep and clear the stadium.

Ill-equipped, we scoop the blood with our hands, almost beseeching the crowd and the fighters for an end, at the risk of becoming an attraction.

And the audience? They watch.



broken man broken truck sits in his yard breaking his back to walk a few miles broken arm in a cast knocks on a broken house.

rocks, that aren't so hard to break.

They sizzle and pop and crack in his cracked pipe and for a moment the pieces come back together.

He is then a visionary, a virtuoso, one of the finest minds of our day and age.

He finally breaks once he is broke.

Like a ceramic vase that he can't ever bring himself to fix.



Holly Rizer

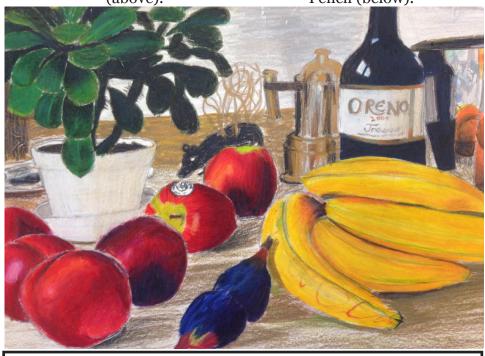
Holly Rizer



Noah Evans, Senior. Colored Pencil (above).



Kayla Mcgary, Sixth grade. Colored Pencil (below).



Artwork collected by Holly Rizer: hrizer1219@gmail.com

Writing collected by Cheyenne Koth: kothcheyennekoth@gmail.com



Clara Smith, Sixth grade. Mixed Media (right).





Nicole Sadek, Senior Excerpt from We Have Seen Štrange Things

first thing discovered as we reeled in the streams that came You thought nothing of it ourselves down was that pitch from his mother's mouth. until you noticed black wasn't darkness—it was around our ears, so that all ears that made him think Dear Julia, that could pass through was her damp, heavy whispers, When I come out to Dad, a hollowed-out buzz. Like thick with I-love-you's, I don't have to worry. free-falling, like drowning. were actually screams. But as we moved down, deep we began to hear something fluid. They were loud, no and say new, a sound that was full but doubt, but their loudness, "This is my daughter – no, this is my son, ragged around the edges, a their bluidity, came from JJ."

my voice came out with a flush else. Things like the peas In all these years we've been together, of air, the kind that's salty and sticks to skin. "Allison?" But no one answered as we inched our ways down, the moon suspended above yet barely peeking out against the sides of the pit's opening. Its white fill in with magic markers. In all these years we've been together, there were a lot of promises I didn't keep. It can't give you those children you've always wanted.

In all these years we've been together, there were a lot of promises I didn't keep. It can't give you those children you've always wanted.

Solution of the pit's opening. Its white fill in with magic markers but to say. of the pit's opening. Its white fill in with magic markers. but to say light filtered through, and for All the edges of his world thank you now, that was enough.



Gretchen Hertel, Senior. Pottery (above).



Maddie Rae DePuy, Senior Excerpt from Untitled

It was as if the universe and said, every fallen Oreo wrapper, every torn postcard from You don't remember, but I promise every last little clipping of the newspapers from the You grew up so fast swimming championship Daddy's little girl playing in the mud

hissing.

"Sam," I whispered, little fragments of life that He still loves you. leaning closer to the sides, and drowned out everything that he could never line up. for listening.



JJ Goller, Senior Excerpt from Dear Julia, a letter to the girl I once was, with credit to Ethan Smith

The sound of her still slick and screaming, bluidity was deafening. Your mother looked into your eyes

had gathered up every "I'm going to love this little girl for the rest dark blue water bottle cap, of my life."

the lakes in Oregon and that for those three years, she did.

day and mashed them up Daddy's little girl playing house into her screams. When With her make-believe wife and children she yelled it was all so something she always dreamed of having blue Joshua could hardly but girls can't marry girls, they say function without drowning so you yelled, "fine! I'll be a boy instead." black wasn't darkness—it was silence, a stifling sensation that a single finger was sliding down our spines. All we could hear was that black, black pitch, like hands cupped around our ears so that all core that

I don't have to think Her words weren't about running away from home. into the mouth of Oak Island, choppy or violent or clipped Though our stepmother might not see me clouded by Jonah's cigarette like scraping or smashing behind the arctic blue in her eyes and heart breath and gray clots of rocks, down walls. They were so our father will take me to dinners

SOA's Cutest Couples

In honor of Valentine's Day, Applause staffers **Meagan Horres**, **Emily Dail**, and **Erin Molony** headed out to find the most adorable pairs of lovebirds.

Meagan and Noah:

This happy couple has been together for a total of sixteen months. Noah's favorite thing about Meagan is her heavenly scent, while his least favorite thing is that she tends to burp quite frequently. Meagan finds Noah super sweet and cute, but disapproves of the fact that he never has his phone on. Their song is "Out of My League" by Fitz and the Tantrums and their couple name is Moah. The two can be seen on a fancy date night downtown on Valentine's Day.



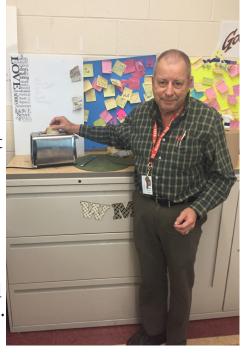
Holly and Nick:

Holly and Nick have been together for a whopping two and half years. Holly loves the fact that Nick isn't only her boyfriend but also her best friend. Nick can't pick a favorite thing about Holly because he loves so many things about her. However, the two differ when it comes to pineapple. Holly is disgusted by Nick's love of the fruit while Nick disapproves of her hatred towards it. Their pet names for each other are Kitten and Nickie Bear. The two enjoy dramatically bursting out into "Bohemian Rhapsody."



Mr. Nass and Toast:

These two have been going steady since August when they met on the very first day of school. They have built their strong relationship by being very supportive of one another. Mr. Naas enjoys the smile that Toast brings to his students' faces each and every day while Toast appreciates all of Mr. Nass' uplifting words and mentorship. The only complaint Mr. Naas has about Toast is the occasional crumbs and ielly that they leave behind. Their song is "Hit The Quan" by iLoveMemphis.



Cheyenne and Alissa:

Cheyenne and Alissa have been together for five years. Cheyenne's pet name for Alissa is sof n' low while Alissa's pet name for Cheyenne is Xerxes IX. Chevenne's least favorite thing about Alissa is that she doesn't think vaping is "that bad," while her favorite thing is that Alissa is the master of karate and friendship for everyone. Alissa's least favorite thing about Cheyenne is her dog's smell and teeth, while her favorite is that she's is a good navigator. Their song is "The Humpty Dance" by Digital Underground.





Hayley and Elliot:

These two juniors have been together for three and a half months. Elliot loves to call Hayley his Babealicious Queen while Hayley calls him baby (most of the time).

Elliot's favorite thing about Hayley is the way she smiles and laughs while his least favorite thing is that she bullies him. Hayley said she has too many favorite things about Elliot to list, but she dislikes the fact that he bullies her. On Valentine's Day, the couple plan to

either "watch The Notebook six or seven times while trying to keep the tears in" according to Elliot or "cuddle and watch all of the *High School* Musical movies" since, according to Hayley, they are Elliot's favorite.



Angie and Adam:

Sophomore Adam has been with junior Angie for a little over a year. Adam's pet name for Angie is Ang

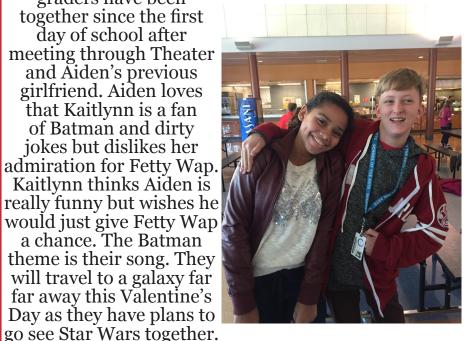
while Angie's pet name for Adam is Addie. Adam's favorite thing about Angie is when she makes him laugh, but he dislikes when she calls him Addie. Angie loves how Adam can make her smile with his cheesy pick up lines,



but doesn't like it when he tickles her until she cannot breathe. Their song is "Lucky" by Jason Mraz. This Valentine's Day, they plan to go get Chinese food.

Aiden and Kaitlynn:

This pair of seventh graders have been together since the first day of school after meeting through Theater and Aiden's previous girlfriend. Aiden loves that Kaitlynn is a fan of Batman and dirty jokes but dislikes her admiration for Fetty Wap. Kaitlynn thinks Aiden is really funny but wishes he would just give Fetty Wap a chance. The Batman theme is their song. They will travel to a galaxy far far away this Valentine's



Elizabeth and Terry:

This pair of seniors have been dating for a year and four months but Terry savs "It feels like it's been like 2 days underwater, because imagine how long that would feel like." Elizabeth's least favorite thing about Terry is that he plays Runescape. Whenever they want to think about each other, their go-to



song is "Hello" by Adele: the souped up deluxe trap remix. If you want to see the fire of their love in person, you can usually find them sitting by themselves at lunch. As for Valentine's Day, Elizabeth says "We'll see if we

make it." Jokingly, we think.

Peter Gair: NHS leader to soccer captain

In addition to being president of NHS, senior Band by Jacob Fairchild major Peter Gair is using his leadership skills as captain of Wando High School's soccer team where he plays defensive center midfield. Applause's intrepid sports reporter Jacob Fairchild spoke with Peter about the life of a soccer team captain.

Jacob Fairchild: What leadership skills does being

captain of the soccer team require?

Peter Gair: Trust and respect are probably the most fundamental components required in order to be captain. You have to make High School. Sophomore Band major Maggie sure that your teammates trust you like a brother and that they respect you. I hold the best interest of everybody on the pitch and love all those guys. Lastly, it takes a vocal person, someone who isn't afraid to be heard or speak in difficult times.

JF: How do you manage to juggle being NHS president, Wando soccer captain, orchestra, and any other do a lot of running while also doing skill work and

activities you do?

PG: [Laughs]. It's amazing that I keep my sanity to be honest. I don't have a good answer for that one. I guess a positive, reassuring attitude and a loving, supportive family is definitely a big reason as to why I'm able to do it all. Most nights I don't get much sleep these two athletes are preparing themselves for the while trying to do everything and please everybody, but in the trials to come. end I just push through. I think being able to prioritize and juggle several things is helping me to become a better man.

JF: What should we know about Wando soccer?

PG: Wando soccer is incredible. The camaraderie and the passion that flows throughout this team is unreal. It is the greatest group of guys I've ever been a part of, and what ices the cake is the fact that it is a group of the greatest players around. Get ready for big things to come from Wando soccer.

But wait! The world of SOA soccer gets even better with junior Vocal major David Seim. He is ALSO a center midfielder but for Wando rival West Ashley High School. The season begins this February and according to David the team is in great shape. Will the two SOA soccer stars face off? Be sure to check back as we follow these two athletes throughout the soccer season.



Two SOA students gear up for lacrosse

Lacrosse, abbreviated as lax, is a high-intensity team sport that requires high levels of hand-eye coordination, focus, and endurance. Lacrosse is played with 10 players of each team on the field at the same time. Each player carries a lacrosse stick with a net, or head, on the end which is used to retain possession of the ball. In order to score, the players must get the ball into a net guarded by a goalie.

Two SOA students play lacrosse for West Ashley Scapellato started to play last year and junior Strings major Jane Brandon has been playing for about two years. Maggie plays defense and midfield when needed, while Jane exclusively plays midfield.

Maggie and Jane greatly emphasized that they weight-lifting in practices. The two girls have a common goal: trying to win more games than last year, as they did not win very many. With practices starting now and the season quickly approaching,

Crossword Answers Across 16. McClane

Toaster 14. Brave Little 11. Batman

10. Highwayman

8. Dorothy 6. Ваутах

4. Don Quixote **Down**

> 15. Abu 13. Percival

12. Ant-Man

9. Lara 7. Sherlock

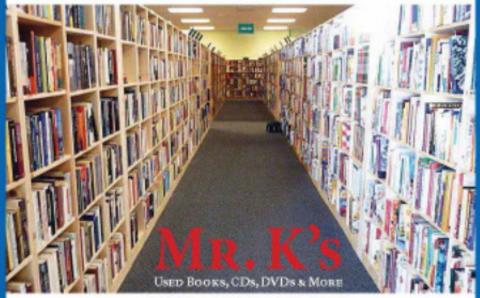
5. Odysseus

3. Воо Касцеу

2. Jay Gatsby

1. Frodo

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Spotify

Bombay Bazar and Indian Restaurant an unexpected gem in North Charleston

by Chevenne Koth

North Charleston is too commonly overlooked the food-scape Charleston, often in favor of Mount Pleasant or downtown. As a result, many quality restaurants go unseen. Bombay Bazar and Indian Restaurant is one of those establishments. On Rivers avenue, this grocery store/ restaurant of crossover is frequently underestimated. Though understandable, this could be a grave mistake on the part of the foodie in search tastes. There are not many Indian restaurants in the Charleston area and I urge you to come as one visit is sure to make you a regular.

Google Maps 6216 Rivers Ave

Open 7 days a week. for new experiences and 11:00AM-3:00PM 5:00PM-10:00PM **Price Range: \$\$**

Though the location may deceive you, Bombay Bazar and Indian Restaurant has a calm and classy mood, with dim (but not too dim) lighting perfect for a romantic encounter at dinner or a business or casual lunch. By the time the appetizer is out, the intimacy of the restaurant is evident. Family fun is encouraged! I have eaten at the restaurant and perused the grocery store several times.

For appetizers I recommend the Paneer Pakora: cottage cheese fritters that are perfect precursors to the wonderful meal you're in for. My favorite main dish is the Goat Curry, which comes with a side of basmati rice. Cooked in coconut milk and curry sauce, this dish is perfect for the spice lover and those of a more sensitive pallet. When you get ready for dessert, I urge you to the rugby world cup. This glimpse into consider the homemade mango ice cream or the Mango the future at the beginning ends abruptly, Lassi, a yogurt based smoothie. After your meal, visit the and the reader is launched into Mandela's connecting grocery store and take some of the wondrous prison cell 21 years into his life sentence, food home with you! To conclude, Bombay Bazar and which he received for plotting to overthrow and over again.



February Spotify Playlist

Your monthly Applause certified list of jams- just head to **cusatisoa** on Spotify to listen.

"Changes" - David Bowie "Brazil" - Declan McKenna "Elsewhere" - Heyrocco

"Renegades" - X Ambassadors "Can't Take My Eyes Off of

You" - Frank Valli

"Another Life" - D'Angelo "Rock 'n' Roll Lifestyle" - Cake "Sum" - John Frusciante

"Vienna" - Billy Joel

"Heroes" - David Bowie

"Jars" - Chevelle "Celeste" - Ezra Vine

"Codes" - Ellie Goulding

"St. Stephan's End" - The Felice Brothers "One Headlight" - The Wallflowers "Thinking Out Loud" - Ed Sheeran

"I and Love and You" - The Avett Brothers

"Infinite Cities" - The Bright Light Social

John Carlin's *Playing the Enemy* craftfully chronicles South Africa's transition from apartheid to equality Goodreads

by Alissa Melsopp

In honor of Black History month I chose to review Playing the Enemy by John Carlin, a chronicle of the events put into motion by Nelson Mandela after South Africa's first free election. For those who don't know, although you totally should, Nelson Mandela was the president of South Africa and a long time fighter for civil rights. He was elected after aiding in ending apartheid once and for all.

The book opens on the day of the rugby tournament that somehow healed an entire nation. Thousands of people who had been oppressed gathered with their oppressors under one cause: seeing the South African rugby team beat the infamous New Zealand "All Blacks" in

Indian Restaurant is a worthwhile restaurant to visit over the racist regime. In that year, rising discontent culminates in the government realizing they need Mandela if they want the rebelling townships to ever be united under the same nationalist sentiment again. From then on the story speeds forward with interesting characters from all walks of life.

Author John Carlin goes incredibly in depth into this historical account, having sought out and interviewed many people close to the events leading up to the 1995 World Cup. He weaves together the separate accounts into one story that flows smoothly and invokes emotions over the struggle to create a nation safe for people of all creeds. The book also shows Mandela in his prime, a true form of a persuasive man who could influence friends and foes with his

This historical nonfiction book goes into depth on just how South Africa moved from an era of discrimination to one of love and acceptance. Carlin's writing style reflects the feelings of the time throughout the book and makes it an unforgettable read.

PLAYING THE ENEMY

NELSON MANDELA

GAME THAT MADE A NATION

JOHN CARLIN



Three black artists YOU need to know

by Jada Orr

Erykah Badu- "The Queen of Neo-Soul"

Since the 90s, she's been able to make you put in 2009 by Nathan Merli your phone down and pick up a book or rock a headwrap with deep pride. Her music consists of hip hop and R&B elements. Songs like "On & On," "Next Lifetime," "Window Seat," and "Tyrone," have former SOA band major, found love from rappers to the everyday woman.

She's influenced artists including Solange, their debut album Teenage SZA, and Willow Smith. In 2015, Erykah released Movie Soundtrack in June a mixtape titled But You Can't Use My Phone. of last year. Afterword, they Currently, there's buzz that her and ex-husband headed on their European Andre 3000 are working on some music together. tour last year supporting British artist The Xcerts.

Her new mixtape should hold us over as we wait.

Common- "A Flow That's Timeless"

An exceptional storyteller, Common is a true representation of the spirit of hip hop. From the who influenced some of this generation's most famous artists such as Kanye West. He effortlessly holds a flow that's timeless, evident in his tracks by Nick Huss from the 90s like "I Used to Love H.E.R." or from the 2000s like "They Say," featuring Kanye large. Harold and Maude (1971) West, "The People," and "Glory," a powerful track centers on the wealthy twenty-year-old, featuring John Legend from the movie Selma.

Perrineau recommends checking out Lyricist drives a hearse, and goes to the funerals Lounge Volume I, which features Common and of people he doesn't even know to similar artists like De La Soul, Mos Def, Q-Tip, and

Kendrick Lamar- "The Intellectual Gangster"

Lamar's work is slowly raising the bar for the mindsets about life, they become best rappers of this generation. The Compton native friends, as Harold finds something in refused to be a product of his environment, but Maude's lifestyle extremely appealing. he's always had a street element to his music. After spending time with Erykah Badu, the rapper through Maude, as she takes him on input his intellectual side into his music. To Pimp adventures and shows him that he A Butterfly, an album that topped charts in 2015 shouldn't care about what other people and received much praise, was the result. Radio think of him. They plant trees, steal singles such as "Alright" and "These Walls" detail cars, and play music together. Harold Kendrick's understanding of troubles in the black eventually stops being obsessed with community and within himself. President Obama death and decides he wants to spend even told *People* magazine that his top song of 2015 the rest of his life with Maude. is Lamar's "How Much A Dollar Cost."

of greats like Nas and Mos Def.

he will."

Heyrocco brings authentic grunge sound to Charleston

by Jackie Evans

Heyrocco is an American grunge band born right here in Charleston. Formed guitar and vocals, Christopher Cool on bass, Tanner Cooper, a on drums, they released



Nathan Merli and Tanner Cooper met in middle school. Christopher Cool joined the duo in high school. In April of 2012, the band released their first recording: Comfort, a collection of demos. Soon after the band recorded their first EP, Dark Summer, but it was never officially released. After releasing their album in June their European tour was a huge success, including a sold-out headline slot at KOKO in London. Go check them out!

south side of Chicago, Common is a pure lyricist Harold and Maude seamlessly blends tragedy and comedy

For Harold Chasen, death looms and he is obsessed with death. Harold If you are looking for similar artists, Dr. performs extravagant fake suicides, satisfy his obsession. While at a funeral, Harold meets a 79-year-old poor woman named Maude who embraces life even with what little she has. Even though the two have very opposite

Harold begins to find joy in life

happy, The yet

Guidance counselor Mr. Marcellus Holt sees heartbreaking. Director Hal Ashby did a magnificent job with the movie. Even Lamar as a "real lyricist." While counselor Ms. though there is a sense of sadness throughout, Ashby sprinkles in little bits of Williams agrees regarding his talent, she believes humor to make the movie even more enjoyable. Bud Cort shines as the fabulously he's got more work to do before getting to the level wealthy Harold and Ruth Gordon also delivers a stellar performance as Maude. The soundtrack is by Cat Stevens who deserves commendation, as it really adds depth "He doesn't get it yet," Ms. Williams says. "But to the movie. If you haven't seen Harold and Maude, do yourself a favor and head to Netflix.



POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Nick Huss and Nick Scapellato are both valued members of the Applause staff. But which Nick is the better Nick? Cheyenne Koth fights for Nick Huss as Alissa Melsopp battles alongside Nick **Scapellato** in this very special addition of Point/Counterpoint:

NICK VS. NICK!





Though Nick constant spring in and Nick Scapellato his step, one can is clearly the way to never go wrong go. when they go with Nick... Hüss. Don't Nick sit back, enjoy the he eats ride, and open Nothing many wonders.

bit about Nick other things that Huss. A junior once lived in dirt. Band major, Nick Only a true Nick

beautifully. He is a twin to his sister Sydney Huss, and we all fantastic friend to the planet by eating so healthy. know how cool twins are. Nick is on the more easy-going side of the sibling equation, which is a good quality in itself. Being a known worldwide for his spoonerisms. You might know twin means, obviously, that Nick is very good at sharing. Most him better by his true name: Sick Napelleto. Only Sick of you didn't share a womb with another person, which makes could master such an ancient and delicate art. Nick all the better for it.

His humor is never any run-of-the-mill immature stuff. It's sweater enthusiast on the Bonds-Wilson campus. Nothing a real homespun sort of thing. He is a comedy craftsman, a says a winner like five pounds of cotton keeping you warm connoisseur: just a funny fellow. His key act? Impressions. Nick during these cold times. has a treasure trove in his repertoire and will demonstrate his talent to anyone willing to see them. If you're lucky, he even has a recurring member of the Applause staff and is a wellone of you. Who can hate a comedy man?

With not much space left, and so much more to go over, let me list some more wonderful qualities of Nick Huss in a lightning round sort of deal. Nick Huss wears neat t-shirts, is dating is was determined by our finest Applause scientists. If you the coolest kid on the block, doesn't play Runescape (cough Scapellato), loves animals, is humble, and HATES MINIONS.

See, readers? Anyone who hates Nick Huss also hates fun, want to win this incredible challenge, then I don't know dogs, the sun, all animals, and music itself. You must also love how I can help you. For you, and only you, dear reader, can minions. And who can actually admit to that?

Although Scapellato is a don't like to pit beloved classic, the friends against each more modern and other, sometimes it up-and-coming must be done. In the Nick Huss is truly case of Applause's the better Nick. own Nicks we need With a beautifully to see who will goofy smile and a come out on top,

starters, Scapellato believe me? Then loves our planet: salads. your mind to his environmentally friendly To start off, let consuming pieces me tell you a little of leaf covered in

Nick also wears the coolest sweaters this side of the Along with all of that, Nick is always the first to make joke. Breezeway. The sheer variety is enough to amaze any

> This isn't Nick's first time at the rodeo, either. He is disciplined journalist. Nick's Creative Writing major is the cherry on top of his already long list of qualifications.

> The final piece of the puzzle to prove who the best Nick take out the "N" in Nick Huss and rearrange the letters, you can spell the word "suckish." If that's the type of person you pick the true winner of this fight.



plays the trumpet could be such a

I always find it pretty interesting how everyone blows their money differently. I've invested more money in my 3DS than I'd care to admit, and each month Ting collects quite the sum of money from my bank accounts for my rather absurd cell phone usage. Some people spend their money on fancy clothes, others buy virtual food for their virtual cats in Neko Atsume, and still others fish pennies from couch cushions for new comic books.



But I'd like to share the most amazing one yet: gourmet water.

Yes, gourmet water. I don't mean something as truly plebian as Voss or, ha!, Fiji. I mean Ferrarelle and Badoit: truly gourmet waters with distinct, delicate bubbles and that are only harvested in truly exotic, highly-esteemed sources such as Val D Assano-

Guys, I'm not kidding. This is real.

I mean, sure, you'll find some outrageous, so-called "premium" varieties of everything from computer cables to pens, but I believe that much more nuanced. In many ways, it appears we have replaced gourmet water truly tops them all.

You may think I am simply some naysayer with no experience with such breathtaking waters. But you would be wrong. I have sampled some.

A year ago I purchased a whole case of Iskilde, a Danish brand of gourmet water, for a close friend whom I had originally discovered the County? world of fine waters with back in eighth grade. So late at night, us standing barefoot in her kitchen, she cracked open a bottle (one for the both of us. We could not possibly enjoy such delicacies in high volumes, of course) and lifted the gorgeous glass container to her lips and sipped, holding some in her mouth as she handed the bottle to me and gazed at the ceiling thoughtfully. I took a small sip and was plunged into the incredible world of gour-

Well, that was anticlimactic. I mean, it tasted exactly like the cheap water you can buy at your neighborhood Publix. It was... wet? That's the

She kept the box (a twelve pack, mind you) and says she still has an

unopened bottle of it in her room for the memories.

Oh, eighth grade me, how you found such wondrous corners of the Internet instead of working on your homework; it seems not much has

Except that now I've wasted forty dollars on melted, Danish snow.

Sass Attack: Facebook

by Chevenne Koth

Children, we're all powerless in the face of this great void: our lives, the universe, and time. Endless time. There's nothing we can do to combat it. Of course, there are small things that we can do to gain some semblance of control over our wildly spinning lives. Like raising children, making friends, and buying your own things.

Or there's the classic option of annoying the

snot out of your classmates on the class Facebook page. That works too. Actually, it really doesn't.

Look, I really do understand the whole "find meaning in the meaningless" and "control what you are able to," but there is a very small intersection between what actually matters and what you can control.

Let me try to simplify it for those who aren't able to understand. Just because you can make yourself and your friends in charge of the page in order to exact control over your peers, it doesn't mean you should. This also applies to trying to dictate what the class discusses on the page. Just. Don't. I understand that the notifications are annoying, but you can turn those off, you know? Please, kids. Live and let live.

If you think I'm calling you out, I probably am.

Confession: I'm [not] a water elitist Jay Rode Editorial: Racism remains a part of modern America

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, I stood on a frozen Chicago train platform and witnessed America's silent division. As if on cue, entering black passengers quickly turned left to board trains for the South Side. The northbound trains? Filled almost entirely with

The irony is staggering. Fifty-two years after the passage of Civil Rights Act, 48 years after King's assassination, seven years after Barack Obama's inauguration: so much progress. And yet, an invisible racial divide continues to snake through America.

At first this may not seem to be the case. After all, there are no Jim Crow laws. Crosses aren't being burned. Governors aren't standing in schoolhouse doors. Unfortunately, racism didn't just magically disappear after the Civil Rights Act. Both the 20-year-old racist and the 20-year-old protester grew up to be 70-year-olds in 2015. There are people alive today who wore white hoods in the 1960s. Although we've progressed as a society, American racism is still here. It's just legislated segregation with economic segregation.

Higher performing elementary schools have more money and resources. Those schools tend to be mostly white. Is it racist that Academic Magnet doesn't fully reflect the diversity of Charleston

Jay Rode

The state-appointed emergency manager of Flint, Michigan decided to switch their water source to save money. They neglected to treat it for higher acidity levels. This caused lead to leech out of the pipes and poison the city. Flint is predominantly poor and black. Is it racist that the state's response to the water crisis in Flint was so

There are more potholes and broken streetlights in poorer neighborhoods in comparison to more affluent areas. Is that racist?

There are no housing segregation laws anymore, yet most only attribute I can ascribe to the elite Iskilde. A waste of money, I'd say. neighborhoods in America are still mostly segregated. Is that racist?

A new multibillion-dollar highway to the suburbs was just green lit while the budget for mass transit was sharply reduced. Is that

Our answers to questions like these will determine how we evolve. The willingness of Americans to publicly discuss racism in our society is one of America's strengths. Acknowledging that there is a problem is the first step towards change. We've come very far since the 1960s, but there is still a long way to go. By remembering the horrors of our past and acknowledging the failures of our present, we are slowly moving towards the American ideal: liberty and justice for all.



21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
1821- Mexico becomes independent from Spain. 1914- Frank Craven's "Too Many Cooks" premieres in New York City. 1940- Frances Langford records "When You Wish Upon a Star." 1998- Elton John is knighted. 2015- "One Last Ride," the last episode of Parks and Recreation, airs. Flag Day	1859- The first use of the insanity plea to prove innocence. 1932- Adolf Hitler gets German citizenship. 1957- Buddy Holly and the Crickets record "That'll Be the Day." 1988- Bruce Springsteen's Tunnel of Love Tour begins in Worcester, MA. 1994- Earl Sweatshirt is born. National Chocolate Covered	1917- The first jazz records are recorded: Dixie Jazz Band One Step and Livery Stable Blues by the Original Dixieland Jazz Band. 1955- Peter Pan closes at Winter Garden Theater in New York City after 149 performances. 1960- The classic "Mirror Image" episode of The Twilight Zone airs.	1827- The first Mardi Gras celebrations take place in New Orleans. 1883- Oscar Hammerstein patents the first cigar-rolling machine. 1981- Paul McCartney and Stevie Wonder record "Ebony and Ivory." 1986- JWoww is born. 1992- Tiger Woods, 16, becomes the youngest PGA golfer in 35	1943- Porgy and Bess opens on Broadway with Anne Brown and Todd Duncan. 1972- President Richard Nixon ends his historic weeklong visit to China. 1993- The seventh American Comedy Awards take place; Seinfeld wins. National Science Day	1504- Christopher Columbus uses a lunar eclipse to frighten Jamaican Indians. 1692- Sarah Good, Sarah Osborne, and Tituba are the first people accused of witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts. 1916- The minimum age to work in mines and factories is raised from 12 to 14. 1940- Gone With the Wind wins eight Oscars. 1956- The Islamic Republic of Pakistan forms.	1962- The first K-Mart opens. 1969- Jim Morrison is arrested for public indecency. 1978- Charlie Chaplin's coffin is stolen from a Swiss cemetery. 1978- The Eagles' "Best of My Love" reaches #1. 1988- Pontiac announces the end of production for the Fiero automobile.
(Mexico)	Peanuts Day		years.			National Pig Day

Sign of the Month: Happy Valentine's DayIn our newest feature, Applause's **Savannah Porter** heads to the deaf and hearing impaired department to teach us all a common phrase in sign language. This month, **John Small** demonstrates "Happy Valentine's Day."



Happy: Move hands out and up, slapping the chest as you pass by. Repeat.



Valentine's: Move both hands in a heart shape.



Day: Lay right arm flat on top of left arm.

Jay Rode

1. Dress incognito.

Just wear sunglasses so they don't know who you are, or wear camouflage. #blockoutthehaters

from annoying people

2. Just walk away or move away from them, make excuses.

Having to listen to annoying people talk is unfortunate, so just get yourself out of that at all costs. Tell them you have an appointment with destiny or that a congressman is calling you and you can't decline.

3. Don't be mean. Just tell them to back the fudge cake off. "I'm sorry... but when you talk it gives me anxiety." For health purposes, ask them to please not talk about stuff that drives your blood sugar level sky high.

4. If they look you in the eye, cross yours.

This is a very useful tactic that makes you seem like a weirdo but is usually affective. #worthit

5. Do some breathing exercises .

When an annoying know it all is trying to look like the smartest person in class and you are just sitting there like "please get me out of here, I'm going to vomit" breathe in and out. It lowers your blood pressure and calms your heart rate so you don't explode.

6. Sometimes telling them to shut their hole is just the way to go. Unlike me, most people are too considerate to do so. When a person is outwardly trying to be annoying or rude I feel it's my duty as a truthful person to say something.

7. Never allow them to be near you.

When they come near, cross your eyes in case they look at you and keep walking. Don't look back, ignore them calling for you. Give them a peace sign.

8. Sometimes annoying people are people who think they are amazeballs.

They may get the message if you look like you're losing brain cells. I doubt they'll go on with their boasting if they see your unhappy facial expressions.

SOA Willer Formal

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Horoscopes: Valentine's Day Edition

Applause mystic *Holly Rizer* reveals what the signs say you desire.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

I see two men entering your life this month: Ben and Jerry. #OTP #CutestCouple2k16

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

A love potion may be the key to all your troubles! You'll need one strand of Harry Style's luscious locks, the gag worthy cologne of a pubescent teenage boy, and as much glitter as your inner five-year-old diva self desires.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

I bet you can't eat a whole box of chocolates in two minutes... I bet you can't do it again.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Table for one this year? No worries, there are actually some restaurants that only have tables for one. On one hand, you're knocking down societal norms. On the other hand, guess who doesn't have to share their cake? You.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Look's like someone has a crush... Wait! No, no this can't be right! I thought we had something you villainous sheep-biting pignut! Hmph.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Disney movies and Chill? Minus the chill. Don't look at me like that! I don't like the cold; do I look like a penguin to you?

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

We all know that deep, deep, deep, deeeeeep down inside you're a really sappy person. Don't be afraid to let your emotions go free this Valentine's Day like they did when you saw the new Star Wars movie... too soon?

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Set your inner lion/lioness free! Okay, now lock it right back up. Sorry honey, but your date does not want to have to pay for steak. I hope you enjoy the McDonald's dollar menu.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Flowers are nice and all, but we all know what your sweetheart really wants: Krispy Kreme, duh. Don't judge, you know it's true.

Libra (September 23-October 22)

Dancing to avoid cupid's arrows? I can totally relate *attempts winking attractively but awkwardly blinks instead*

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Some say Valentine's Day is a stupid holiday. I say any holiday involving this much chocolate is fine by me. And not to mention, once you devour every chocolate in the box that box is perfect for throwing at happy couples.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Planning on fixing a romantic dinner for that special someone? Consider a fire extinguisher, or just do both of you a favor and order take-out. Trust me on this.

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

Sixth grade then and now

Applause's *Nick Huss* takes a look at how times have changed. What is/was you favorite article of clothing?



Sixth grade Creative Writing major **Lauren Center** loves beanies.



Senior Piano major **Nolan Tecklenburg** loved his good old hoodie.

Dream Interpretations

Each issue, Applause asks students to share recent dreams. Then, our dream analyst **Holly Rizer** interprets them.

I had a dream that I was Martha Deen's Instant Cooked Scalloped Potatoes that were one sale at Publix.

Interpretation:

The potatoes symbolize laziness, and the discount symbolizes you underestimating yourself. I think your mind may have combined Martha Stewart and Paula Deen into one person, but that combination is probably a fantastic cook so I suppose I can let that go. This dream could indicate that you've gotten lazy and are underestimating your true potential. You should put in a little more effort to accomplish your goals.

I had a dream that I was in a jungle running from a lion. I ran over a bridge as it collapsed, but I made it over and the lion didn't. Then I kept running because a whole pack of lions started chasing me.

Interpretation:

The jungle symbolizes chaos, the lion symbolizes obstacles in your life, being chased symbolizes overcoming those obstacles and the bridge symbolizes a decision. Your life seems a bit overwhelming lately. You might feel that right when you've overcome one issue in your life, another gets it your way. Keep persevering and don't be afraid to ask for help.

Dream 3:

I dreamed that I was a potato and I exploded.

Interpretation:

The potato symbolizes laziness and the explosion symbolizes self-destruction. Your lack of initiative lately may be causing your own self-destruction.

Dream 4:

A really big dog was chasing me. Then I fell in a hole and everything was black.

Interpretation:

Being chased symbolizes overcoming an obstacle, the dog symbolizes loyalty and a friend, falling in a hole symbolizes being stuck, and darkness symbolizes desperation. While trying to overcome an obstacle you may have reached out to a friend for support and been met with disappointment. At this point it's likely you're feeling trapped and lost about what to do. Try looking at the issue in a new way. Don't lose hope.

Dream 5:

I dreamed that I was at an outdoor movie theater with a friend. Her mom came and she was really mad at us, so we had to run away. We went to this children's playground.

Interpretation:

The movie theater symbolizes protection from your actions/ emotions, your friend symbolizes an aspect of yourself that you miss, your friend's mother symbolizes your ideal mother figure, getting in trouble symbolizes guilt, and the playground symbolizes a desire to escape current issues. You could be feeling a bit guilty about some of your actions. Life is more stressful now, and you miss the simplicity of the past. It's not too late to reach out to old friends and old interests.

Dream 6:

I was with my friend's family and we went to this Chinese buffet restaurant. It started raining from the ceiling. For some reason the owner and my friend's family thought it was my fault, so I ended up getting in trouble and it was really stressful.

Interpretation:

Your friend's family symbolizes your ideal idea of a family, the location symbolizes seeking emotional support, the rain symbolizes uncertainty, and getting in trouble symbolizes your guilt. Your life likely feels uncertain and confusing lately, and you might want emotional support from your family. You're worried that if you talk to a family member about issues you're having they'll make you feel guilty. Let them know you need them to be understanding.

Nooks and Crannies: the lesser-known spots

Applause's monthly feature of a location somewhere in the greater Charleston area. The places we feature will be relatively unknown, and the description may help in locating the place... or it may be far too vague. Maybe a description will reference a featured place from an older "Nooks and Crannies." Regardless, we will not disclose the location. Ever. Happy hunting.

Enjoy the view from this hidden city park, located on one of Charleston's many islands. Jakob Lazzaro



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Paint the town Red and

by Nick Scapellato

Lowcountry Oyster Festival at Boone Hall Plantation (January 31st).

Do you like shucking oysters but hate eating them? Do you like eating them but hate shucking them? Do you like both? Do you hate both? No matter what kind of man or woman you may be, the Greater Charleston Restaurant Association is bringing 80,000 pounds of oysters out to Boone Hall Plantation to celebrate the last day of January 2016. Be there. It's only 25 dollars.

Theatre Senior Thesis One-Act Performances (February 8th-9th), Black Box Theater

Seven years of work have led the current senior theater class to this moment. Do your part as a member of the SOA community and come out to show your support for these guys. The event is free, so you practically have no excuse.

Southeastern Wildlife Exposition (February 12th-14th), Downtown If you've never been to SEWE, then you've

gone about your whole life the wrong way. With live showcases of beautiful animals and their capabilities, (not to mention food, drink, games, stunning visual art, and much more), the Exposition is going to be big this year. Tickets start at fifteen dollars.

African American Heritage Day (February 26th), Wannamaker County Park

Come on out to North Charleston's Wannamaker County Park and experience authentic drumming, storytelling, and much more. It's only ten dollars to get in.

Holy City Poetry Slam (February Black 13th), **Box Theater**

If you've been looking for an excuse to meet SOA's own Mr. Matt Foley, look no further! Holy City Youth Slam, which is led by Mr. Foley, will be hosting a slam competition the day before Valentine's Day! Admission is free.

The Trivia Challenge

by Jakob Lazzaro

February is when we remember and celebrate the contributions black Americans have made and continue to make in our society. In honor of black history month, Applause is bringing you trivia about famous black Americans. Get ready as current emperor Parris Byars faces newcomer Noah Jones in this historical contest.

Ouestions

1. Name the first black Major League Baseball player.

- 2. What West African country was founded as a colony for freed slaves?
- 3. Where was the first "sit-in" at a segregated lunch counter?
- 4. Name the first black Supreme Court justice.
- 5. What constitutional amendment granted voting rights to African Americans?
- 6. When was the 13th Amendment ratified?
- 7. What was the first state to abolish slavery? 8. Name the first black secretary of state.
- 9. What was the trans-Atlantic slave route from Africa known as?
- 10. What city is Martin Luther King Jr.'s hometown?

Noah Jones, **Senior Band**

- 1. Jackie Robinson.
- 2. Nigeria.
- 3. Gainesboro.
- 4. Thurgood Marshall.
- 5. 15th.
- 6. 1865.
- 7. Pennsylvania.
- 8. Condelezza Rice.
- 9. The Slave Way.
- 10. Montgomery.



Parris Byars, Senior Band

- 1. Jackie Robinson.
- 2. Libva.
- 3. Greensboro, North Carolina.
- 4. Thurgood Marshall.
- 5. 15th.
- 6. 1865.
- 7. Massachusetts.
- 8. I don't know.
- 9. The Middle Passage.
- 10. Montgomery.



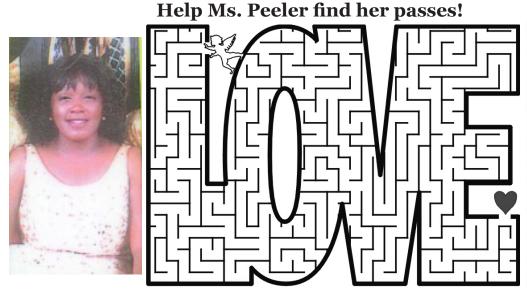
Answers

10. Atlanta. 9. The Middle Passage. 8. Colin Powell.

2. Liberia. 1. Jackie Kodinson.

The Victor

Noah was unable to topple Parris from ·9981 ·9 his throne. Parris held on to the crown and scepter throughout the attempted 2. The 15th amendment. niege attempted attempted on the Attendance of Thursood Marshall. as the Trivia Emperor to compete again.



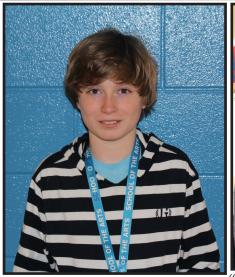




"The presidential inauguration of Nelson Mandela." Keegan Vath, Sophomore Piano



"The Montgomery bus boycott." David Andrews, Junior Band



"George Washington Carter's invention of peanut butter." Simon Hughes, seventh grade Creative Writing



The passing of the fourteenth and fifteenth Amendments." Marcellus Holt, high school guidance



"The March on Selma." Solomon Adams, Freshman

WHAT EVENT IN **BLACK HISTORY** DO YOU FIND MOST SIGNIFICANT?

BY NICK HUSS AND RYAN BIDDEX



"The Apartheid." Izzy Gustafson, Sophomore Band



Renaissance." Charlotte Nofsinger, Sixth grade Creative Writing



"Barack Obama being elected." Jackson Averill, Eighth grade Piano



"Martin Luther King's speech." Adam Riesberg, Junior Vocal



"The Million Man March." Dr. Robert Perrineau, high school principal