

Applause

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School of the Arts, North Charleston, SC
soa-applause.com

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Letter From the Editors

Dear Readers,

We are excited to bring you this volume's issue of *Applause*! We have all been working very hard leading up to Thanksgiving break. As we learn more about constructing this paper, we are devising better, more efficient methods to get each issue out to you all in a timely manner. Our fragmented staff will only get more unified as the year goes on.

To see stunning pictures of the 2018 Jump Jive n' Wail, along with a recap of the event, you can visit the centerfold. For an in-depth review of the senior theatre majors' phenomenal *Night of Scenes* performance, visit page 7. This issue's classic "Where Are They Now?" on page 11 features SOA alumnus **Drew Kern**, and its counterpart, "Where Were They Then?" features American Government and Economics teacher **Ms. Martini** on page 12.

As always, thank you to our wonderful patrons, advertisers, and you, our loyal readers. We hope you all have a great Thanksgiving!

Maya Cline, M. B. McConnell, Tes Smoak
Editors-in-Chief



As you can see, none of the editors are visual artists.

Applause

since 1999, the official student publication of

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Founded in 1995 by Rose Maree Myers

Editors-in-Chief:

Maya Cline

M. B. McConnell

Tes Smoak

Cover Artist:

Jaden Brown

Cartoonist:

Maddie Thomas

Business Manager:

John Allen White Jr.

Staff Writers:

River Abedon

Galen Berger

Hannah Burton

Kyliah Catalan

Lou Collins

Cecilia Connelly

Arden Dodge

Lisa Fimian

Katie Jo Gelasco

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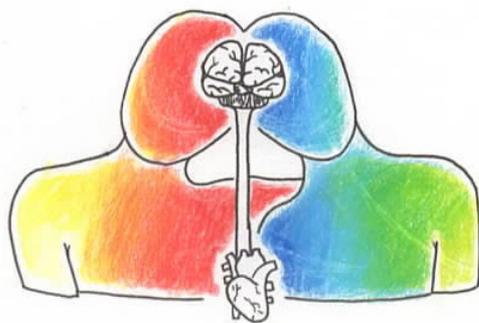
Charleston County School of the Arts

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Editorial: Artists Promote Unity in Divisive Times



Artwork by Maddie Thomas

In the four weeks since the October Applause appeared, eleven people were shot to death in a Pittsburgh synagogue and thirteen more at a night club in Thousand Oaks, California. Other mass shootings occurred in Florida, New Mexico and as nearby as Dunn, North Carolina. Letter bombs arrived at the homes of more than a dozen acknowledged humanitarians ranging from actor Robert DeNiro to former Vice-President Joe Biden. Fear seems to be the fundamental motivating factor in all these tragic acts.

Here at SOA, Student Council just conducted its annual Fall Food Festival to benefit the Lowcountry Food Bank and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program; National Honor Society is preparing for its second blood drive; and Ms. Kramer and the PTSA are cultivating a daffodil garden as part of a national project to remember children killed during the Holocaust, while middle school students become more enlightened

about such subjects as the horrors of slavery and racism through their ELA independent reading books. In addition, our theater majors recently presented their *Night of Scenes*, under the direction of Ms. McKinley, exploring such topics as the AIDS crisis and grief. Dancers prepare for their theses, which will treat such subjects as sexual abuse. Creative writers tackle socio-economic and gender concerns, among other themes, as they prepare to publish their debut books. Empathy is clearly the motivating factor in all of these charitable and artistic acts.

In a culture growing increasingly divisive, artists are needed more than ever to inspire and exemplify a spirit of unity. As the author Colum McCann, whose novel *Let the Great World Spin* was used to help survivors heal after the Sandy Hook shootings, said during his keynote speech at the dedication of the Rose Maree Myers Theater: "I've learned one thing in forty-five years: We need to be good to each other." Inspiration, imagination, talent, and commitment are all components of a sound artist, but empathy is, perhaps, the most essential. It is at the heart of the most inspirational literature, music and painting. We are always told that these middle and high school years are a critical stage in our life, and it is true. Our generation cannot continue to enable violence and bigotry or pretend our self-indulgent lifestyles are not destroying the planet for the next generation. Our hearts and minds must remain united in empathy and in action. In this season of Thanksgiving, let's make an extra effort to be grateful for one another and to share that gratitude. As a sign on Ms. McKinley's wall so aptly proclaims: "The world is chaos: be kind."

Cover Art by Jaden Brown

Dr. Cook's Corner: Voice and Choice



Adam Krasnoff

One of the best aspects of the principal's position is the opportunity to interact with students in varied settings. Whether in a classroom, on a stage or in meetings, I have the privilege to become acquainted with and appreciate gifted, articulate students who contribute to our school community in myriad ways. I love to see and hear students' voices in their assignments and creations and am thankful for the choices they make that enrich our learning environment. Voice and choice. Words that connote power and wisdom and are seen in the halls of SOA every day.

Voice and choice are integral to the artistic process. They are apparent in AP visual art portfolios and our creative writers' books, available on Amazon. Thesis performances reflect the skill and perspectives of our students and give audience members a chance to see and hear what our students have to say through their chosen art form.

Student voice and choice also play a role in student activities across our campus. Our club structure gives students an avenue to identify a common goal, shared experience or interest and come together with like-minded peers to make a difference. This year our club leaders, aka SOA Congress, will meet with administrators and teachers to explore options for improving the SOA experience. Student Council Officers and students who serve on our School Improvement Council also have a seat at the table where decisions are made about activities and changes at SOA. Community service

presents another outlet for student investment and expression; each year our students document thousands of volunteer hours and often choose or design projects that target those most in need.

Although it may be hard to believe, we have already begun work on our master schedule for the 2019-2020 school year. As we consider elective course options, voice and choice again come into play. We seek student input through surveys and work to incorporate the classes that reflect student interest.

I am eager to see the impact of SOA's artists this year as they create powerful works of art, meet local and global needs through community service and provide input and leadership for decisions that enhance the programs and culture of our school. Thank you, SOA students, for the harmony your voices bring and the positive changes that result from your compassionate choices.

Dr. Cook

Senior Theatre Majors Share Thesis Plans

by Galen Berger

On Thursday, December 13, senior theatre majors will present their fall senior theses, which will be followed up by a spring performance. Seniors shared their ideas for their projects with *Applause*.

Frances Hart's thesis is set the evening before Thanksgiving and centers on a family who is unwilling to discuss the mother's recent diagnosis with clinical depression. In **Frances Renken**'s piece, a socially awkward young man decides to finally confess his feelings to a woman that he has loved for months. However, things go south when it turns out she doesn't feel the same way. According to Frances, "It's full of twists, turns and laughs." **Molly Hunsinger** tells a love story narrated by music for her thesis. Molly is "looking forward to exploring how to convey emotion without the use of dialogue." In addition, she has really enjoyed talking on the roles of playwright, director, and actor simultaneously, she says. **Maitri Patel**'s thesis revolves around a couple, Josh and Molly, who have been dating for five years. According to Maitri, "The scene follows up on their relationship and what's to come next." **John Knobeloch**'s creation is a solo piece featuring a character named Rudy, whom John describes as "a very exuberant and bubbly man, who has been stood up at his own restaurant." **Ethan Dotta** says his thesis is inspired by "the first three years of my high school experience and the three things I've learned the most."

For her thesis, **Isabelle Chuy** wanted to shed light on eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia. "The piece also emphasises the fact that men struggle with eating disorders," Chuy says. "The entire scene consists of the recovery process and how each character comes to love themselves." **Malcolm Palmer**'s scene tells the story of Shaun and his pursuit of his love interest, Palmer. "It has a musical twist to it as well," Malcom says. A psychopath who falls in love is the main character in **Jahrez Praileau**'s thesis. Jahrez said that he's really looking forward to seeing how his characters progress throughout the scene. **Nick Turner**'s scene is a melodrama about a rich girl living in England during 1949. Her father is trying to find her a husband and she disapproves of all of his choices. According to Nick, "she finds a nice young man so now her father has to make a hard decision." **Max Martineau** has created a sketch-comedy aimed at the daunting idea of our environmental impact as a society. It centers on a teen who can't live a normal life due to his parent's absurd eco-friendly ways. He believes that his only way to rebel is to become the opposition.

For **Bennett Dickison**, the highlight has been "sharing in class and feeling reassured that my idea was real and good, and getting ideas from people in the same age group I am trying to write about." Malcolm Palmer is looking forward to seeing his ideas and teachings reflect in his work. "It really speaks for the program because it's like the finale for our overall theatre education." **Trevor Bierdz** is looking forward to the reaction of the audience, He hopes to make them laugh while also allowing them to recognize how serious and degrading his subject is. **Nathalie Delson** is "thrilled to be working with professionals such as Evan Linder, as well as my wonderful classmates." Similarly, **Gamahl Keels-Bobo** said; "I'm looking forward to the audience reaction to this scene and seeing that they've actually learned from my scene and can possibly help the next generation 'get it right' as they like to say." For **Delsharia Richardson**, the highlight of thesis has been the writing process. "I enjoy having one on one time with myself to be creative," she said. Igor Statensko says he enjoys having the freedom to write about something he feels so passionate about. "I am excited to include some of my friends and to show off some of the music we will create."

Despite the hard work and sustained creativity demanded by their projects, seniors were eager to express how much they have enjoyed the process, and I think I speak for everyone when I say SOA is excited to see these magnificent performances on stage.

Visual Arts Welcomes Ms. Richardson

by Roey Leonardi

SOA's visual arts department has gained a new instructor, Ms. Barbara Richardson, who will be teaching 9th and 10th grade art classes, as well as Drawing for Fashion Design and Senior AP Art. She was born and raised in Charleston and attended Charleston Southern University, where she was awarded a full tuition scholarship for Studio Art. Afterwards, Ms. Richardson went on to pursue her masters in education and has been an educator for twenty-six years since.

Prior to her career in education, Ms. Richardson worked as a graphic designer. Since becoming a teacher, her artistic endeavors have not been diminished in the slightest: she currently serves as art commissioner for the City of Goose Creek and works with different schools as an artist-in-residence. Painting murals has long been a passion of Ms. Richardson's. One of her favorite and earliest jobs, she says, was painting murals in daycare centers during college, which made her learn to "work quickly and stick to deadlines," invaluable skills that help her to this day.

Before coming to SOA, Ms. Richardson taught at Cane Bay High School for ten years. However, Ms. Richardson is no stranger to SOA: she has firsthand experience with the school as a parent of an SOA graduate. This unique perspective will give her quite an edge in handling issues like student workload and parent-teacher communication. Not only is SOA appealing to Ms. Richardson because of her daughter's experience here, but because it offers exactly what she felt was lacking from her own schooling: quality arts education. Ms. Richardson hopes each student leaves her classroom with "self-confidence, creativity, and motivation," elaborating that the most rewarding part of her job is when former students thank her for "helping them find their true passion."

It is Ms. Richardson's hope that her students will find such personal and professional fulfillment within the arts, emphasizing her dedication to "helping ALL of my students succeed to the best of their abilities."



Adam Krasnoff

Creative Writers Embark on Annual Lake Logan Retreat

by Maya Green

In November, junior and senior Creative Writers had a chance to become one with nature during their annual mountain retreat to Lake Logan in the mountains of North Carolina. The crisp autumn air and beautiful scenery lent itself well to outdoor activities such as a campfire, hiking, and a healthy game of "Manhunt." Many s'mores were roasted and pictures taken. However, this trip was different from the freshman/sophomore field trip to Beaufort in that it was wholly centered on writing.



A group of writers enjoys the cool weather and beautiful scenery in Canton, North Carolina.

Caitlin Shelton

In a picturesque cabin overlooking the lake, teachers led students in exercises designed to test the limits of their creativity, and students had the opportunity to share what they'd written. Most notably, juniors began to think about the genres and themes they'd like to explore during their senior year, while seniors offered advice along with emotionally raw excerpts of their current works-in-progress: their highly anticipated senior theses. These beautifully crafted books of poems, essays, and scripts will be published in the spring and accompanied by a reading that you can't miss!

Creative Writers Perform at Local Poetry Event

by Adam Krasnoff



Provided

M. B. McConnell, performing a spoken word poem on stage.

Last month, several SOA creative writing students—seniors **Adam Krasnoff** and **M. B. McConnell**; sophomores **Bojena Sabin**, **Clara Collins**, **Logan Baker**, and **Caroline Boomer**; and junior **Layla Wheelon**—performed alongside young poets from around the Lowcountry at Show and Tell Your Truth, a local poetry event hosted by Charleston poet laureate **Marcus Amaker**. The event was held at the Charleston Museum, with over 100 in attendance. Students from grades 5-12 shared work, as well as a few local adult poets.

Of the experience, senior M. B. McConnell says, "it was...kind of intimidating, considering all the talent there, but hearing from so many different people in so many different styles made me appreciate...poetry even more." A diverse variety of poetic styles were on display, including slam and spoken word poetry, work which embraced elements of hip hop and beat poetry, and more traditional free verse. Besides SOA, other schools represented at the event included Goose Creek High School, the Cooper School, and Charleston Charleston Charter School for Math and Science. The event provided a rare opportunity for creative writing students to encounter other local young writers, and to share their work in front of a large audience.

SOA Band Treats Ongoers to Spectacular First Concert

by Tes Smoak



Tes Smoak

The wind ensemble, mid-performance.

The SOA Band program’s first concert of the 2018-19 school year featured all the ensembles the band had to offer. Chamber groups with handpicked names played pieces from beautiful corales to fast-paced “hunting songs” to a storm of percussive sounds. The Jazz Ensemble played their favorite tunes from Jump, Jive & Wail, while the Jazz Lab Band tried out some new charts like “The Shadow of Your Smile” and “The Blues at Frog Bottom”. The Symphonic Band played a soothing, wind-written piece named “As Summer Was Just Beginning”, and contrasted it with the upbeat “Theme from Green Bushes”. With “Florentiner March” starting out the Wind Ensemble’s program, they also played the “English Folk Song Suite”, a band classic and a nod to the Symphonic Band’s theme and variation.

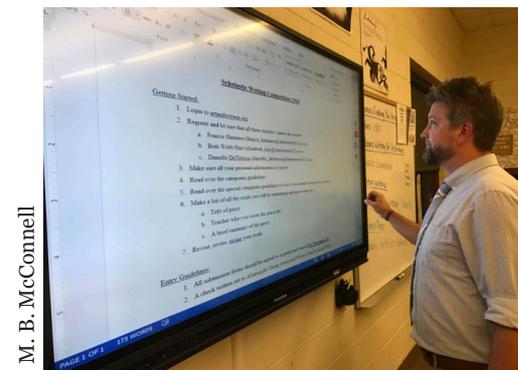
Overall, the first band concert of the year was a huge success, each band prepared with a delightful repertoire that represented the new band director, **Ms. Kindall Smith**, in a bright, exquisite light.

The Invasion of the Promethean Boards

by Acadia Reynolds, Sixth Grader

A new technology has entered the school of SOA that brings teachers to tears. They have relinquished all ties with the old and reliable and moved into an age of “What do I do with this?” and “How does that work?” Because of the invasion of the Promethean boards, teachers have even gone as far as asking their students to help them. Class right now goes something like this: The students walk into the class only to find their teacher sobbing on the floor of the classroom. The teacher has finally finished the transformation into insane because of the pressure of working the young people’s devices as an old person.

Furthermore, Prometheus is a figure in Greek lore who showed us petty humans how to create fire and was punished for it by the sky god. He was chained to a rock, and each day an eagle would eat his liver. He would regenerate at night because of his immortality, and the cycle would continue. So basically what the company who created the Promethean board is saying is that each day we will be tortured by the board, and at night we will recover, only for the cycle to continue. In the end, what I’m getting at is robots will take over the world. There is no hope. Prepare your final words now.



M. B. McConnell

Creative writing teacher F. Rutledge Hammes does his best to navigate his new Promethean board during class.

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Senior Theatre Majors Showcase Talent in *A Night of Scenes*

by Galen Berger

On October 11 and 12, Senior Theatre majors performed *A Night of Scenes* in the Black Box Theater in preparation for their senior theses. The performance was impressive in every regard. From **John Knobeloch's** astounding memorization of ten minutes of engrossing dialogue to **Malcolm Palmer** and **Molly Hunsinger's** gut wrenching rendition of a tragic true story, the seniors really brought their A game. This was the first time I have seen the all the seniors perform together, and I was unsure of what to expect. Needless to say, I, like everyone in attendance, was completely blown away. The seniors stayed steady and focused in both their memorization and delivery while ensuring that the show remained engaging and humorous. *A Night of Scenes* was a success from every standpoint, and I know I'm not alone when I say that I can't wait to see their Senior Thesis in December. The student's tackled a wide variety of, often edgy, topics.

Lucas Fancher, Deanna Schmidt, Frances Hart, and Jahrez Praileau presented "The House of Yes". This piece includes shocking developments about the true relationships between the characters and how they affect each other. Cast members describe it as "an emotional rollercoaster."

John Knobeloch and **Gamahl Keels-Bobo** preformed a scene from Tony Kushner's Pulitzer Prize winning drama about the AIDS crisis in the 1980s, *Angels in America*. The actors said that making the audience feel as if they are truly the characters was their biggest success. **Nick Turner, Nathalie Delson, and Max Martineau** presented "The Credeaux Painting". In this scene, a young suicidal con-artist tries to convince his girlfriend (and only friend) to participate in scamming an old woman. At the same time, the girlfriend falls in love with his best friend.

Molly Hunsinger and Malcolm Palmer presented "Brownsville Song (B-Side for Tray)". The actors agreed that the most inspiring thing about this scene is that it delves deeply into the human condition and the complexity of relationships between people. **Isabelle Chuy and Igor Statsenko** presented "This Is Our Youth" by Kenneth Lonergan. According to the group, the comedic writing style and strategic use of awkward moments appeal to the youth of all generations.

Maitri Patel and Delsharia Richardson preformed a scene from "Proof" by David Auburn. Maitri explained her character's complexity: "I play Catherine who struggles with mental illness and finding happiness. She feels as if she can't do anything without her father as she was very dependent on him when he was alive. Claire, her sister, is really trying to help Catherine, but Catherine ignores most everything she says."

Bennett Dickison and Ethan Dotta shared an excerpt from "This Random World" by Steven Dietz. According to Bennett, the group's biggest challenge was "reaching the emotional level that is necessary for some of the more intense moments to work." **Frances Renken and Trevor Bierdz** also performed a scene from "Angels in America". Harper and Prior are in their own hallucinations as well as each other's. Each tells the other what they need to hear, whether they like it or not.



Provided



Provided



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Provided

A collective snapshot of all the seniors' performances, each one brilliant and masterful in its own right. The seniors will return to the stage in December to perform their individual senior theses.

SOA's Theatre Instructor Kicks Off Annual One-Man "A Christmas Carol" Winter Production

by John White

SOA's very own **George Younts** will once again tour the state with his one man production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

The purpose of the "Goodwill Tour" is to make the arts more accessible to populations who might not have easy access to them. In the tour's ten year history, Mr. Younts has made 100 performances at over 60 different venues, including retirement homes, churches, prisons, hospitals, classrooms, low-income housing residences, cafeterias, gymnasiums, shelters, civic halls, and a theater for the deaf. "The message of the play is well received by certain parts of the audience," Mr. Younts says, "However, an evening theatre space with a paying audience is a wonderful place to be, too." Younts says that the most difficult part of the tour is, "Starting out like you can hold out and having good recovery between performances."

Mr. Younts will be performing his one man show December 14 through 16 and the 21 and 22 at South of Broadway, 1080 E Montague, North Charleston.

An Interview with Student Voice Creator and 2018 Graduate, Taylor Khan-Perry

by Maya Green

Taylor Kahn-Perry graduated from SOA's creative writing program in 2018 and is currently a freshman at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She spoke with **Maya Green** about her college experience so far and her work developing the Journalism Fellowship for national nonprofit organization Student Voice.

Maya Green: What have you been up to since graduation?

Taylor Kahn-Perry: I spent the summer relaxing and recovering from a busy senior year! I also started working more with Student Voice after getting involved in a few of their programs during senior year. In August, I moved into Georgetown.

MG: How is Georgetown? How have you gotten involved with the community on and around campus?

TKP: I am still an undeclared major but I am leaning towards majoring in government, so I'm taking an intro gov. Class, international relations, and a really cool seminar with 15 people called "Blackness as an Organizing Strategy," about post-Civil Rights social movements and how they've drawn on the strategies and tactics of the Civil Rights movement, as well as their relationship with contemporary black people. That's been really interesting! It's a lot of discussion, and the whole environment of it reminds me a lot of creative writing. Socially, I've met a lot of really awesome people. Especially coming up on the midterm elections, it's cool to be on a campus that's so politically engaged with people who are interested and involved with politics, and, like, want to go canvassing on a weekend. That's definitely a really exciting energy to be a part of.



Khan-Perry posing bright-eyed next to a safe space poster in her dorm.

MG: Can you tell me more about Student Voice and your role within the organization?

TKP: Student Voice is an entirely student-run, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that's broadly inspired by the idea that students should have more agency in the decisions that impact their education, and I applied to be apart of their team at the end of last year. This fall, Student Voice launched their very first storytelling program, a fellowship of 15 high school students from across the United States called the Student Voice Journalism Fellowship. I've been lucky enough to help create this program around the idea that students' stories should be driving the narrative surrounding education. Students have a really unique perspective being in schools day in and day out, and they see things that their parents and teachers and administrators don't, so they're truly the most equipped to be driving the national conversation. It's been really exciting to see that unfold and to work with so many amazing and talented young people.

MG: How have you used the skills you learned during your time in creative writing? Moving forward towards whatever you see your future being in government or the nonprofit sector, how do you see yourself building on those skills?

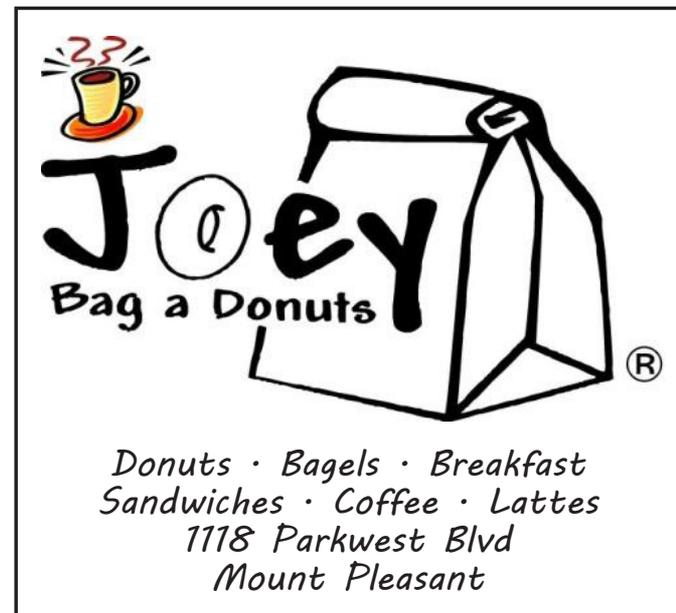
TKP: SOA's creative writing program is the best decision I ever could've made as a student. I love that program so much, and it's doing everything right with education. In that way, it definitely made me see the potential that education has to teach people to be open-minded and to have empathy for one another. My biggest takeaway from SOA's creative writing program was storytelling as a tool for social change, and it's great to stay involved with that type of work with Student Voice. Working with all of the teachers (Mr. Hammes, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. DeTiberus, Mr. Scapellato, and Mrs. Miles) taught me a lot about what it means to have adults that are advocates and allies for you and how impactful that can be for a young person. Building off of those experiences, I definitely want to do something to help improve education. I was very, very fortunate to have the education that I had. There are so many students who simply don't get those opportunities because of structural causes that they have no say in, and I definitely see education as very powerful tool to combat the inequity that's ingrained in the different parts of society. As far as after graduation, I'm probably not going to make any money [laughs], but I would love to work within a nonprofit or on a campaign.

SOA Hosts Fall Orchestra Concert

by Christina Lewis

The Fall Orchestra Concert was held on October 23rd in the Rose Maree Myers Theater. The Chamber Orchestra, conducted by **Dr. Selby**, performed first, playing selections from the "Abdelazer Suite," by the 17th century composer Henry Purcell. The Chamber Orchestra next performed a dynamic rendition of a Mozart piece, a difficult feat, especially considering the piece was played without a conductor. The SOA Symphony Orchestra performed next, accompanied by the Charleston Symphony. Dr. Selby called this portion of the evening "an incredible learning experience" for his students, as simply listening to professionals play leads contributes to tremendous growth as a musician.

To close the performance, the symphony orchestras, conducted by guest Ken Lam, played three movements of Brahms' Symphony No. 4. The hard work of the orchestra students more than paid off with a night of beautiful music, and the student body certainly is eager for another amazing concert.



Message from the PTSA President

I want to thank all of the volunteers who built and planted the Daffodil garden, a symbol of “Never Forget.”

As we mark the 80th anniversary of the Kristallnacht this month and our youngest Holocaust survivors enter their ninth decade, the School of the Arts community is proud to demonstrate “Never Forget.” This phenomenon has always been behind teaching the Holocaust in schools. And, its an ongoing story involving our ever changing political world beyond our campus. Unfortunately, the world is showing dangerous signs of memory loss. All over Europe and here in the United States reactionary fascists groups are gaining recognition in alarming numbers. This dark reality must be driven back. It’s the main struggle of modern conscience and we will all play a part.

Next Spring, with care, love, and sunshine the Daffodil flowers will bloom a bright yellow of remembrance and hope for the future. Year after year these beautiful flowers will honor the memory of those who were killed. But it will serve a higher purpose too. Eventually, each of us will graduate from School of the Arts in one form or another and I know this living garden will empower you to carry on the importance of Holocaust education. If you have a story of what this garden means to you I would like to hear it.

I remain your most humble and obedient servant,

Bobby
PTSA President

Student Council Updates

by Christina Lewis

SOA’s Student Council has been diligently prepping for many of the school year’s most exciting events. Among these activities is Spirit Week, whose days were voted on and chosen by the student representatives and included the traditional character day and Geek vs. Greek day.

Serving as a way to both celebrate the end of Spirit Week and to raise money for a local charity is the annual Fall Food Festival. This year, the organization that Student Council chose to donate the festival’s proceeds to is Lowcountry Food Bank which seeks to fight hunger throughout the Charleston area.

Sophomore Vice President **Naja Aleem** is currently working to organize the highly anticipated Winter Dance. She says that anyone interested in assisting her should listen for meeting dates because she “needs all the help she can get.” Those who want to help with Prom should also anticipate an announcement for a committee meeting sometime this month.

Overall, Student Council is thrilled to bring back some of the student body’s favorite events. We all encourage you to look out for news about special projects that are currently underway. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for the future, feel free to reach out to your grade’s representative.

An Interview with SOA’s 2018 Teacher of the Year, Ms. Alea McKinley

Applause’s John White spoke with English and Theatre instructor Ms. Alea McKinley after she was named SOA’s “Teacher of the Year.”

John White: How long have you been teaching?

Alea McKinley: This is my 11th year.

JW: Where else have you taught?

AM: Academic Magnet, North Charleston High School, and The Academy @Shawnee in Louisville, KY. Yes. The name truly had an “@” in it. Random factoid: Dr. Schuster used to work there too.

JW: What do you personally feel distinguishes you as a teacher?

AM: I have a foot in the core subject world and a foot in the art world. I also wear a smock almost every day (pockets are life).

JW: How have you developed your teaching style?

AM: This question is super hard because I’m not sure - I’m just different every year and I can’t explain it. Constant evolution is a part of this job. It happens through a lot of listening and trying new ways for new groups of students.

JW: What have your students taught you?

AM: They continue to teach me to reflect. Years of reflection finally brought me meditation, one of the best practices of my life. Thank goodness for the hard moments of this career: those have been the most shaping for me; thank goodness for the days of sheer joy: those keep me coming back (Like that time when my theatre students ran around me in circles in the dark chanting “sacrifice.” Yes. That really happened. It was so fun.).

JW: How do you intend to make use of your position as SOA Teacher of the Year?

AM: This award will enable me to represent teachers and the School of the Arts at district-wide meetings, something that I feel I can do well. Being unique even among magnet schools, it is vital that we communicate our approach to learning and our successes to representatives of the school district. I am willing to speak out when necessary.

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Where Are They Now?

*Katy Jo Gelasco spoke with SOA alumnus **Drew Kern** to talk about his studies in medicine and his artistic influences.*

Katy Jo Gelasco: What was your major at Furman?

Drew Kern: I majored in neuroscience at Furman, which is considered an “interdisciplinary” major that spans the traditional majors of biology and psychology.

KJG: What was your coursework like?

DK: As a result of attending a liberal arts university, I was (sometimes begrudgingly) pushed to read and think about subject matter that I may have otherwise left to people more inclined to reading *Heart of Darkness*, which would have been a mistake. Every Freshman was (and probably still is) required to take a reading and writing seminar. My reading seminar was focused on the “Origins of Global Poverty”, which shook the foundations of my worldview. My favorite non-science classes were intro to philosophy and philosophy of psychology. The science classes I enjoyed the most were personality psychology, biopsychology, pharmacology, neurobiology and physiology. The neuroscience major was comprised of sixteen classes (I think it’s more now) that only partially overlapped with Pre-Medical requirements, which doesn’t allow a lot of flexibility so it is only something that I would recommend to someone who really wants that particular blend of classes.

KJG: How are you enjoying your classes at MUSC?

DK: A bit of a loaded question here, but I really am enjoying my classes. It’s a lot of information to cram in your head - and there are definitely days when I don’t want to - don’t get me wrong; but studying medicine is intrinsically rewarding enough to keep me coming back.

KJG: What led you to the field of medicine? Is there a defining moment when you realized you wanted to be a doctor?

DK: Over the course of my freshman and sophomore years of high school my grandpa’s mental decline accelerated. He began exhibiting psychotic features such as hallucinations and delusions. He also progressively lost the ability to form coherent sentences. The emotional toll on him and the rest of my family helped me realize that I wanted to treat those with mental illness and combat the associated stigma with mental illness as well as those who treat it. Around the same time, I was also working on research project for Ms. Bronk’s class concerning the use and about of methylphenidate (also known as Ritalin). This project necessitated interviewing someone in the field so I interviewed a child/adolescent psychiatrist, which also spurred my interest in the brain and how drugs can alter its function – for better or worse.

KJG: In what ways has your SOA education and an arts education in general benefitted you?

DK: I credit a large chunk of the discipline I have to learning to play the bass. I learned that focus, consistency, and attention to detail are key ingredients for success. It would also be difficult to overstate how much being in the orchestra did for my confidence and ability to lead.

KJG: Do you still pursue music in any way?

DK: I mess around on guitar about every other day but my current modus operandi regarding the bass has been to only play it during the holidays; my goal this year is to play more in the on-campus group, MUSiC.

KJG: What stands out to you about your time at SOA?

DK: Several things stand out: most significantly, the friends that I made at SOA (several of which I still am close with), the time I spent in the orchestra and the sense of comfort and mutual respect that developed between the orchestra members over the six years I spent at SOA with several of them. During my senior year, I took three classes at Academic Magnet with Jordan Elum, which created a pretty bizarre juxtaposition of school cultures for us.

KJG: Have there been any artists (musicians, writers, etc.) whose work continues to inspire you?

DK: There are plenty of incredible artists out there whose work I enjoy immensely but I think the ones who truly *inspire* me personally are the people who keep working at their art despite doing something else to pay the bills. This is something that I still struggle to do, which is probably why it is a quality I value so much in others.

KJG: How far along are you in your coursework and what are your career goals?

DK: After getting to medical school I realized that I was interested in many aspects of medicine – not just psychiatry, so I am still figuring out what I want to do with my life; things seemed a lot more figured out when I was graduating high school. Currently I am in my second year of medical school. There are two years of didactic learning and then two years of rotations in the hospital learning from the people who are working on the units.

KJG: Thank you for visiting SOA as a guest lecturer. Do you have any advice to middle or high school students?

DK: Middle school, high school and college are great times for exploring your interests, but you’ll spend the rest of your life reading and learning about things that you find inherently interesting, which makes it that much more important to push yourself a bit more in that class you “aren’t good at” or start taking as many AP’s as you can because you will want all the flexibility you can get in college.

DK: I would also recommend reading *The Scarlet Letter* at least one night before you think you should.

DK: I would also recommend taking as many AP’s as you can because you will want all the flexibility you can get in college.



Drew enjoyed rock climbing at Red River Gorge, Kentucky, during the July 4th weekend earlier this year with his brother, Paul, and his girlfriend, Megan.

Provided



Drew attended the White Coat Ceremony in August of last year with his family (left to right) including his brother, Paul, his sister, Maribeth, his parents, Drs. Christi and Michael, and his grandmother, Bonnie.

Provided

Where Were They Then?

Lisa Fimian spoke with one of SOA's new teachers Ms. Alisha Martini about her background leading up to SOA.

Lisa Fimian: Where did you grow up, and what are your fondest memories from your childhood?

Ms. Alisha Martini: I was born born in Frankfurt, Germany. I'm a "military brat". I moved around quite a bit, but spent most of my young childhood in N.C., Ga. and S.C. I lived in a really small town in Georgia from the ages of 4-12, and I absolutely hated it there. I have not been back since! BUT, my mother was born and raised in Charleston, and my grandparents lived here. I thought Charleston was the best place on earth. We would visit often and rent houses on Folly Beach during the summer. Those were some of the best times of my life. Spending every waking moment on the beach.

LF: Where did you go to elementary and middle school?

AM: When I was in middle school my family moved to Charleston and I was ecstatic! I went to First Baptist School downtown and then transferred to Bishop England for high school.

LF: Where did you go to high school and how does it compare to the high school environment at SOA?

AM: I was only at B.E. through my sophomore year and we were once again transferred out of the country. I enjoyed B.E. - it's a very different environment from SOA though. It's super structured, very sports oriented, and runs on a traditional seven, 45 minute period schedule every day. I spent my last two years of high school in Guam (which is a tiny island in the middle of the South Pacific). I went to John F. Kennedy High School, which was a local school. It was a large school with the most diversity I have ever experienced in my life. Guam has so much culture. My friends were from all over the world (literally). It took a little adjusting to get used to coming from the very structured Bishop England to a large public school in the middle of a jungle. I decided to get involved in sports to make friends.



Ms. Martini, is eighteen months old in the picture above, living in Seoul, Korea.

LF: Were you involved in the arts or athletics as a child or adolescent?

AM: [John F. Kennedy] is where I discovered my love of running. I joined the track and cross country teams. By the end of my senior year I had broken every island record in my events (my only claim to fame). During my senior year, our cross country team traveled to Seoul, Korea to compete in the Far East Games. We were there for a week and got to train in the Olympic Park. It was an amazing trip, even though I placed seventh overall. We had all been

used to training and running in tropical weather. When we got to Seoul, it was 40 degrees, cloudy and the smog was unbelievable.

LF: What books, movies and music did you enjoy growing up?

AM: I grew up in the 70s and 80s, so of course I'm a huge John Hughes fan. I get super nostalgic when *Pretty in Pink* or *Sixteen Candles* shows up on Netflix. The books I liked to read are pretty cliché from my high school years...*Catcher in the Rye*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Animal Farm*, *1984* etc. I still listen to 80s music (not the "Hair Band" stuff!) every morning on the way to school. I've instilled a love of all things 80s in my daughter - at least that's what I tell myself as I subject her to my music each morning!



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LF: What other interests or activities did you enjoy as a child?

AM: I would have loved to have attended a school like SOA. When I was in elementary and middle school, I performed in school musicals, attended All-State Chorus, and was a ballet dancer for the Robert Ivy Company. I quit dancing when we moved to Guam - always regretted that! I love seeing all the talent at SOA.

LF: Did you have any memorable holiday traditions growing up? And do you continue any of them today?

AM: As far as holidays are concerned - my family has traditions that we've carried through from childhood. I tend to like Thanksgiving more than Christmas. We get together with family, cook and eat for a week, and there's no stress of having to pick the right gifts for people! I love the Christmas season as well, but I think the focus has gone a little off the chain. There's too much emphasis on the material part of the holidays - I just like spending quality time with my family. We do have one long-standing tradition of having our large family dinner on Christmas Eve, and the kids get to open one gift of their choice. It's really funny to see which ones they pick to open.

LF: Where did you go to college and what did you major in?

AM: I went to Clemson University after returning to Charleston from Guam. My father made me go there - he was a Citadel graduate, and I promise you - if the Citadel had accepted girls in 1989, he would have forced me to go there instead! I graduated with a Bachelor's in Economics and minor in Psychology. I started as a Psychology major, but my father said "you know you'll have to get a master's degree, and then probably a doctorate to make any money". So I promptly changed my major to Economics! I graduated in 3.5 years, I was so ready to get out of school! Plot twist - I went to graduate school anyway to get a master's in education.

LF: Have you always balanced a career with raising a family?

AM: Teaching is way more than a full time job. It takes a lot of effort to effectively balance work and family. I'm not that great at it. I usually spend much more time working than I'd like to. I still haven't figured out how to separate the two. If anyone is thinking of taking on teaching as a profession, I highly suggest making that a priority right out of the box! I love what I do, I just wish there were more of me to do all the things I want to!



(From left to right) Son Jack Martini, Ms. Martini, graduating son Graham, daughter Hayes, and husband Mike.

here? How do you like it so far?

AM: Before coming to SOA, I was at Bishop England. I taught all kinds of social studies there. Of course, my most favorite things to teach are Economics and Psychology. That is where most of my focus was there. It has been a bit of an adjustment coming to SOA, but I have been an "SOA parent" for the last 10 years, so it wasn't all new to me. When Mr. Brehm finally retired, I saw my chance to join my last child at SOA. Luckily, I was offered the job and the rest as they say...is history. I really like the atmosphere at SOA. There is so much creativity here and so much personality. I'm still getting acclimated to the new schedule, and only teaching one subject per semester (I used to teach at least 3 subjects everyday). Change is good! It keeps me on my toes! I hope that I'll be able to instill a love of learning in some of my students - I'm not delusional so I know it's not going to be everyone, although I wish I could!

LF: At what point did you decide you wanted to teach?

AM: I NEVER wanted to be a teacher! My mother and grandmother were both teachers, and I saw all the work they did outside of the classroom. I was not about that life. I wanted to be a stockbroker or analyst - until I realized you have to call wealthy people you don't know to try and convince them to invest with you! Nope! Right out of college I worked for an insurance company, and then in sales for a while. I was so bored. I hated sitting behind a desk all day, staring at a computer, and calling people who definitely do not want to talk to you. After spending a couple of years in the "corporate world". I longed to go back to school!

LF: Where did you work before coming to SOA and what brought you

Ms. Martini at her graduation ceremony with her step brother, Scott, in her school courtyard in Tumon, Guam.



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SOA Students Dive Into the Competitive Swimming Scene

by Kyliah Catalan

Senior visual arts major **Gigi Fusco** and freshmen band major **Maria Alexander** both swam for West Ashley High School this fall, yet they are at vastly different stages in their athletic careers. While Maria anticipates three more full seasons with WAHS, Gigi is excited to be swimming for West Virginia Wesleyan College next fall.

Gigi started swimming when she was six years old, inspired by a close friend who was already a swimmer. “I had tried dance, gymnastics, soccer, almost everything, but somehow swimming just stuck.” Maria’s parents encouraged her to join a summer swim team when she was four, and she began swimming for West Ashley Middle School three years ago. Both Gigi and Maria also swim for teams outside of WAHS. Maria competes for Parkshore during the summer, while Gigi swims year-round for Southern Marlins Racing Team, competing in the 100 Fly, 200 Fly, 400 Free Relay, 400 Medley Relay, and 800 Free Relay.

Maria says her goal this season is to lower her times. “Swimming is a race against yourself, and if you get a personal best, that is all that matters.” Gigi, who signed with West Virginia Wesleyan College on November 14th, is also thinking about the future: “A big personal goal for me right now is to not be the slowest freshman on the team going into college.” Gigi is clearly being humble, considering she has broken two WAHS team records, one of which was held since 2001.

As swimmers, both girls must prioritize their time. “I get up at 4:30 AM to practice before school, and I don’t get home until 7:30 PM after our afternoon practice,” says Gigi. Completing school work on time can be a challenge. “I try to do all my assignments the day I get them, so I don’t procrastinate,” Maria says. WHAS generally practices Monday through Saturday. “A regular comment to come out of a swimmer’s mouth is, ‘Sorry, I can’t. I have practice,’” Gigi says. Dedication is required of a swimmer. They frequently must sacrifice going on vacations or hanging out with friends because of their meets and practices. Despite the time constraints, Gigi values being able to spend so much of her week practicing and competing. “Without swimming on my plate, I wouldn’t know what to do with all the extra free time.” Maria is grateful for the fitness benefits of her rigorous swimming schedule. Gigi also cites the benefits of comradery. “Spending so much time with my teammates creates a family, and my swim family is something I love so much.” Swimming requires both strength and aerobic training, so workouts are intense. “A few teammates and I will run and lift weights in addition to our swimming,” says Gigi.

Good luck to Gigi and Maria as they continue on to the next stage of their swimming careers.



Provided

Swimming requires great rigor and persistence, as this action shot shows.

SOA Volleyball Club

by Katie Jo Gelasco

Tenth grade strings major Bella Cawley started the SOA volleyball club this fall due to her love of “getting outside” and “knowing a fair amount of people who wanted a sports club at SOA.”

At 3:45 PM every Wednesday, the team meets at its signature spot on the field between the high school and middle school since the SOA volleyball team uses the gym at this time. “We start with some stretching and warm up exercises and then we review last week’s practice and hop right into learning new drills and techniques,” Bella says. If potential members are worried about the cold weather coming up, don’t worry: “In the cold, we just wear extra clothes!”

Lack of experience for incoming members should also not be a concern because the new club has made it clear they accept all levels of proficiency: “Anyone is welcome to join!”

Unfortunately, due to the group’s being a club rather than a team, the members have yet to participate in a game. However, during practices they have practice rallies and even go to College of Charleston games to observe technique. “We do hope on playing against the Academic Magnet Volleyball team in the future!” Bella adds.

If anyone is interested in joining, they should contact Bella Cawley or Grace Vail, tenth grade fashion major, through school emails or in person. “We would love more people to be involved!”



Bella Cawley (left) and Grace Vail (right) posing with their volleyball.



Members of the volleyball club hard at work.

Student Fences Her Way to Success

by Katie Jo Gelasco

While some students at SOA play sports for their home school, senior creative writer **Elle Hueske** participates in a unique individual sport: fencing. Elle had participated in other sports but she found her “true calling in fencing.” Fencing is sometimes referred “physical chess.” “It was this necessity for quick thinking,” Elle says, “that initially drew me to it.” But the technical skills and physical dexterity that fencing hones helped developed her love for the sport.

Elle practices about three times a week, sometimes more on the weekends, to prepare for tournaments, some of which last from several hours to a whole day. Fencers are randomly divided into small groups who will compete with each other for about three minutes and whoever gets the most touches in the bout wins. The highest scorers will move onto the direct elimination, where the first fencer to get to fifteen touches wins.

One common misconception of the sport is the high cost but in reality, “it’s generally affordable.” It is also safe and Elle never been seriously injured. “At one tournament my opponent hit my mask so hard it left a bruised imprint, but he was very apologetic!”

Even with a looming senior thesis project and other schoolwork, Elle says “fencing for an hour actually relieves this stress and allows me to streamline my focus to complete my work.” She also reports that she feels healthier and more focused, and she has gained the ability to prioritize.

Elle says the most important life lesson she has learned from fencing is “to really consider my actions and the impact they will have. In fencing this corresponds to footwork or wrist position. These techniques can determine if you win or lose a round...in the real world, I use this same type of thought process. I consider how my words or actions can affect others, and I think this is essential in our society.”



Hueske, in action.

Calendar of Events

Mon. Nov. 5: High School Preview of SCTA One Act Competition play: The Revolutionist, 6:30 PM, Black Box Theater

Sat. Nov. 10: Soa Jazz Combo at Earl Klugh Weekend of Jazz, Kiawah Island, SC

Mon-Tue Nov.12-13: Piano Recital, 6:30 PM, RMMT

Wed-Thur Nov. 14-15: 10th grade theatre play: You Can't Take it With You, 6:30 PM, Black Box Theater

Tue-Wed Nov 27- 28: 7th Grade Theatre Improv Show, 4:00 PM, Black Box Theater

Thur. Nov. 29: Dance Jr Comp Show, 6:30 PM, RMMT

Sat. Dec.1: SOA's Creative Writing Department's Fall Readings @ Wordfest, Beginning at 9:00 AM, Barnes & Noble, Town Centre, Mt. Pleasant

Sat. Dec.1: from 6:30-8:00 PM, Middle and High School Band Chamber Class Performances, James Island County Park Festival of Lights (Admission Fee)

Tue. Dec. 4: Dance Fall Senior Thesis, 6:30 PM, RMMT

Thu. Dec. 6: Middle School Band Winter Concert, 6:30 PM, RMMT

Fri. Dec. 7th: High School Band Winter Concert, 6:30 PM, RMMT

Mon. Dec. 10: 6th grade Creative Writing and 6th Grade Visual Arts Bulls Island Collaborative Show, RMMT

Wed-Thur Dec. 12-13: Middle school Orchestra and Vocal Holiday Concert, 6:30 PM, RMMT (Complimentary Tickets at soarstrings.com)

Thur-Fri Dec. 13-14: Theatre Senior Thesis Show, 6:30 PM, Black Box Theater

Fri. Dec. 14: The Piano Department Presents: A Sinatra Tribute Concert, 6:30 PM, RMMT (This is a ticketed event)

Mon. Dec. 17: The High School Orchestra & Vocal Departments Present: A Holiday Spectacular, 6:30 PM, Charleston Gaillard Center, 95 Calhoun Street (Ticketed Event)

Tue. Dec. 18: 11th Grade Theatre Production: Holiday Table, 6:30 PM, Black Box Theater

Fri. Dec. 21: Early Release

Sat-Sun Dec. 22-Jan. 6: Holiday Break

Teacher Treks Formidable DC Marathon

by John White

On October 28th, high school algebra teacher Mr. Brandon Lyons completed the US Marine Corps Marathon in Washington DC.

Mr. Lyons is no stranger to marathons. In the fall of 2016, he completed the New York City Marathon in 5 hours and 20 minutes. Since then, he finished three half marathons: Kiawah, Charleston, and Myrtle Beach in 1:51, 1:47, and 1:43 respectively.

A lifetime goal for Mr. Lyons, however, had been to run a full marathon in under four hours, and in an effort to achieve his goal, he began a regimented training routine. As he set out to train for the Marine Corp Marathon, he set a plan for himself: arrive at the marathon healthy, beat his first marathon time by at least an hour, and accomplish his life goal.

The Marine Corp Marathon starts on an incline for the first 2.5 miles. “It’s always tough to start a race with a large hill,” Mr. Lyons recounts. “However, from mile three to twenty, the course was relatively flat and ran by many monuments and iconic buildings. There was much to look at.” At mile fourteen, the “blue mile,” as he put it, there were pictures of marines that were killed in action posted every five feet, making for, in Mr. Lyons’ words, “a very emotional mile.”

By mile twenty, Mr. Lyons was on track to run a sub-four hour marathon. “My fatigued calves started to cramp,” he recalled, “and the last of the race was very painful and difficult.” The race finished on an uphill, which added an additional challenge. However, when Mr. Lyons crossed the finish line, he had cut an hour and seven minutes off his best time, finishing the 26.2 mile course in 4:13.

Training for marathons has taught Mr. Lyons a lot about discipline, and he looks forward to running again in the future. As he says, “there is no replacement for hard work.”



Mr. Lyons, posing with active servicemen.

Jump, Jive & Wail



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Left: **Ms. Emma Ostapeck** conducts the Jazz Lab Band in the Jump, Jive & Wail pre-show.



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The rhythm section (Above), brass section (Right) and saxophone section (Below) of the infamous Jazz Ensemble play their hearts out during the night-long event.



Provided

Jump, Jive, and Wail 2018 is a Huge Success

By Hannah Burton

Each year SOA's very own jazz band throws the iconic Jump, Jive, and Wail, and this year certainly did not disappoint. An estimated amount of 800 people were in attendance, and SOA's student body all turned out in their best dress to dance the night away under the bus shed of Downtown, Charleston. Directed by the school's new band director **Ms. Kindall Smith**, the extremely talented ensemble composed of solely SOA students pulled out all of the stops this year. Playing jazz and funk tunes, stellar performances by the brass and rhythm sections rung out over the visitor's center for a solid three hours. Sets two and three were the band's best: "Gazpacho," "Puffy Taco," and "The Chicken" were some of the ensembles favorite charts, with high energy coming through. Student vocalists soloed to a few charts, singing like Sinatra and wailing like James Brown. Dancers **Kelsey Hansen** and **Ethan Richardson** were crowned winners of the annual dance contest, while some contestants were simply winners in their own book. On the topic of her first Jump, Jive, and Wail, Ms. Smith said "It was wonderful to see the entire school community come together, have fun and celebrate music making! I had an absolute blast showing off what our students are capable of!" Being such an important part to SOA's annual calendar (and everyone's Instagram status update), students, teachers, and parents alike all had a great time at this year's event.



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(From left to right) **Tyheme Jenkins, Hannah Burton, Stephen Polite** and **Cass Wauben** and join the other vocalists in singing thier favorite charts.



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Right: The crowd goes wild at Jump, Jive & Wail, dancing into the night.



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Sophomore **Kelsey Hansen** and Wando Senior **Ethan Richardson** (Left) along with seniors **Piper Arnold** and **Lucas Clare** (Right) win the Dance Contest with their flashy moves and swinging feet.



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The Clubs of SOA

By Zachary Shirley

Over the past week, I visited three clubs that meet during lunch. I sat in on one established club: The Fandom Club, and two new clubs: Model UN and the SOA Debate Team!

Fandom Club has become known for being a very supportive group of enthusiastic artists who share a love of a variety of artistic and commercial media. They meet every Tuesday at lunch and discuss topics ranging from movies, TV shows, books, music and more! One of SOA's most enduring clubs, it is composed of a friendly and passionate group of people and would be the perfect place to go if you just finished a really great TV show and want someone to discuss it with. Fandom Club is always welcoming more people, so if you're interested then stop by next Tuesday at Dr. Cusatis' room (1115) during lunch!

If you're interested in the workings of politics and diplomacy, then Model UN is perfect for you! Lead by Christina Lewis and Loulou Hranowsky, the club is a great way for students to practice problem solving and independence. It involves being a representative to a country of your choice where you would work closely with peers of opposing viewpoints writing assignments and it's a great way to make new friends and discuss interesting political topics. Model UN meets every Monday in Mrs. Orchard's room! Club member Izzi Lindon, who represents Argentina, says the meetings are fun and the clubs organizers are exceptionally well prepared for each meeting.



SOA's debate club in action, with the help of faculty sponsor, Mr. Cosgrove

A debate team was recently started by sophomore creative writer Katherine Forrester and faculty sponsor Mr. Cosgrove. This team teaches individuals public speaking and research skills, as well as how to best craft arguments and ideas. "Developing the ability to best craft one's argument furthers communication skills essential for any field of work students choose," Katherine says. The team's purpose is not opinionated, as it will foster the ability to argue for either side of important issues. Also, deep involvement in an academic team proves dedication on a community and school level to colleges. Several initial, internal debates within the team, presented to teachers understanding debate and communication, will help build skills necessary for the team to move to local and eventually state competitions. The team will meet in room 1115 on Wednesdays after school, and the team is open to both Magnet and SOA students of any grade. Hope to see you there!

Arts Outside Their Major

By Kyliah Catalan

Senior Dance Major **Galen Berger** is one of the many students who practice other arts outside their major. Galen has been interested in fashion since she was a young girl. "I would draw new fashions and make clothes for my dolls based off these designs." Her favorite pastime, she says, was sketching and creating new looks based on her existing wardrobe, which was relatively extensive for a four year old, since she received all of her sister's and her friend's hand-me-downs. She also took lessons from local designers to learn more about the fashion industry.

Galen enrolled at SOA as a fashion major her freshman year but switched to dance her sophomore year. Her dance and academic schedule were hard to balance with her fashion interests. "I decided that it would be better to commit myself to dance and school and then continue my fashion work in my free time."

Galen plans to major in fashion merchandising or advertising, so that she "will have the opportunity to work in a variety of fields within the fashion industry." Galen hopes to intern with a large fashion company such as Calvin Klein, Nike, or Guess.

Galen hopes to follow in her aunt's footsteps while in college, and work as a merchandiser for retailers like Gap, Ralph Lauren, and Burberry.

Last summer, Galen studied at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City, developing her passion for the industry, while taking courses in fashion forecasting as well as marketing and advertising. "I learned more in those three weeks than I ever have about a real life career skill." Galen's continues to balance her love for fashion with her interest in dance. "I want to continue to dance for as long as I can, but I will be focusing on fashion in the future."



Galen's feminism moodboard from the fashion show.

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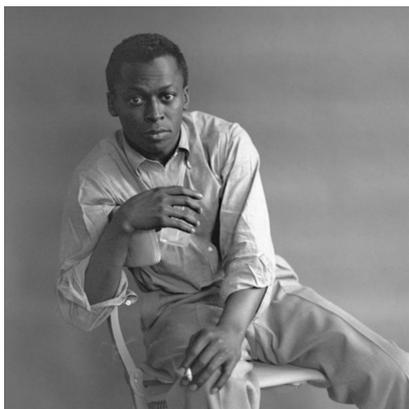
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Influential Artist: Miles Davis

by Luke Shaw

One of the most influential people in the history of jazz. Davis, the son of a popular dental surgeon and music teacher, was encouraged by his father to pursue music. At age 13 he picked up trumpet. His private teacher Elwood Buchanan helped him develop his own style by teaching him to play without so much vibrato, which Louis Armstrong relied heavily on. This would make a huge difference in Davis' music later on. By the age of 17 he was a professional jazz trumpeter and filled in for an absent band member for Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker. At 18, he moved to New York and attended Juilliard for a short time. He left Juilliard to pursue a professional career in jazz. He got together with Charlie Parker and together they created an entire new branch of jazz: bebop. His album, "Birth of the Cool" included many uncommon instruments including the tuba, french horn, and trombone. This album



defined who he was as a trumpet player. Miles Davis, unfortunately, was the victim of an unfair arrest for "loitering" in front of a venue where he was playing. He was beaten and arrested by three police officers. He did endure criticism and racism but went on to play and encourage many jazz artists, both black and white. He was a role model to many, eventually receiving the honor of being the first jazz musician on the cover of Rolling Stone. Davis wrote music for Porgy and Bess, one of the most influential operas

in recent history. He won multiple Grammys throughout his life, one even after he passed away in '91 along with Quincy Jones. Davis had so big of an impact on the jazz scene that he is recognized not so much for individual contributions but for his overall influence. Davis teaches us that it is never too early to start pursuing what you love; you can never open your heart wide enough; and that it's important to know when to assert yourself. He coined this phrase—very wisely— "Do not fear mistakes. There are none."

Say Hello to Applause's Newest Staff Member!



Katie Jo Gelasco
Junior Strings Major
Hopes and Dreams: Getting credit for the 1B Journalism class
Is: scared of climate change
Cello?: Cello

Sass Attack

by John White

"Sass Attack" was originally created by **David Sass** ten years ago, and as per tradition, Applause writer **John White** has continued its legacy, giving us his take on life's daily inconveniences.

It wasn't hard to figure out what to write about for the November Issue. The reason I say NOVEMBER is because there might be some confusion as to when it is appropriate to listen to Christmas music. Thanksgiving falls every year on the fourth Thursday of November. From November 1st to Thanksgiving is the time to celebrate family, friends, and eating dinner at two in the afternoon. These sacred four weeks at the onset of fall are NOT the time to listen to Mariah Carey on repeat, all I want for Christmas is four weeks without Thanksgiving getting upstaged. Christmas is such a social climber, don't you already know you're most peoples favorite holiday anyway? Can't you make it one year without stealing Thanksgiving's thunder? I saw the first Christmas ad back in October, now that's definitely too far but it doesn't make it okay to blast jingle bells on November 1st. Why 102.5?Pro



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Classic Album Review: The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill

by Chassee' Palmer



The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill is one of the most sonically beautiful pieces of work one could ever hear. With the mix of neo-soul, reggae, and hip-hop it tells tales of love, independence, growth, spirituality and heartbreak. The skits she provides give insight into these topics. During the time of the release hip-hop had taken a violent turn. Even rappers such as Nas who was known for his conscious flow was now rapping about drugs and violence. Lauryn Hill opened a new door in music.

The intro to the album is a forty-six second skit of everyone preparing to get started in a classroom. From the accents you can tell that they are in New Jersey or New York. It flows into "Lost Ones" where we are hit with the realness of what is going on with her and Wyclef Jean, a former group member from the Fugees and lover. With a sample from a 1996 dancehall song with the lyrics such as "L's been this way since creation/A groupie call, you fall from temptation/Now you want to ball over separation/Tarnish my image in your conversation/Who you gon' scrimmage, like you the champion?/You might win some but you just lost one." She expresses that he let other women get in the way of their relationship and now that she didn't let herself go back to a toxic situation he wants to make her look like the bad guy. With the ending line she tells him that those other women he thought he gained while cheating made him lose out on Ms. Hill. Not only does it talk briefly about their relationship as boyfriend and girlfriend, but it goes into the aspects of how the relationship ruined the business side of things as well.

Lauryn Hill's subject matter ranges from regaining her strength to recent troubles to the joy of motherhood. The source of that joy

is her newborn son Zion, a child she conceived with Rohan Marley, the son of Bob Marley. She preaches that the music labels tried to tell her to have an abortion but she refused. "How beautiful if nothing more/Than to wait at Zion's door/I've never been in love like this before/Now let me pray to keep you from/The perils that will surely come/See life for you my prince has just begun." Hill's voice with the pairing of Carlos Santana's guitarist skills creates a story of an adamant young woman who knows what she wants.

"Doo Wop (That Thing)" was a radio favorite. Drake's 2018 song "Nice for What" revived "Doo Wop (That Thing)" by sampling the tune. The resurgence served as a reminder of how influential that song was, inspiring both genders to shape up and keep the important parts of life in mind. "Girlfriend, let me break it down for you again/You know I only say it cause I'm truly genuine/Don't be a hard rock when you really are a gem/Baby girl, respect is just a minimum."

Hill lets all women know that just because a man talks a good game doesn't mean that it's all true while advising them to be cautious of who we lay with. She reminds everyone that women are incredible beings. She expresses that men need to start to own up to their responsibilities and concentrate less on hookups and clubbing. "The second verse is dedicated to the men/More concerned with his rims and his Timbs than his women/Him and his men, come in the club like hooligans/Don't care who they offend, poppin' yang (Like you got yen!)." Lauryn Hill has not released any new music since her first project in 1998 and doesn't have any plans to. She still tours using this album amidst complaints of Ms. Hill showing up late to concerts and only performing for a few minutes. Regardless, this album will always be a timeless listen.

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Resturaunt Review: Fast and French

by Maya Green and River Abedon

Name: Gaulart & Maliclet Fast & French Inc.
Location: Downtown (98 Broad St, Charleston, SC 29401)
Grade: A-

Maya and River decided to take a trip to the historic Four Corners of Law to check out a small restaurant known for their simple French cuisine, Gaulart and Maliclet, or, as the locals call it, "Fast and French."

It's a small, crowded place with communal tables and a very European feel. The kooky murals and woke flyers on the walls inside contradict the traditional architecture and give the space some cool character.

Maya ordered a Half Vegetarian Croq' Baguette, Sweet Potato Mafé, and Orangina for \$13. River ordered a Croq' Monsieur with Turkey, Cold Gazpacho, and Blenheim Ginger Ale for \$20. Maya wanted simple, well executed flavor. She's not looking for pretentious French cuisine, just a quality meal. River wants a solid meal that will fill him up without being too rich. Good ingredients and a clean presentation are crucial. Maya thinks that the Croq' Baguette never ever disappoints. Beyond a strong mustard, it doesn't take a lot of flavor risks, but you can't go wrong with cheese, bread, and vegetables. They knew what they were doing and they did it well. The soup, on the other hand, was a different story. The Sweet Potato mafé was an African-inspired daily special with creamy fall flavors and subtle spice. Maya thought it was heavenly.



River's Meal:
Croq' Monsieur
with Turkey (top
left) and Cold
Gazpacho (top
right)

Maya's Meal:
Half Vegetarian
Croq' Baguette
(bottom left) and
Sweet Potato
Mafé (bottom
right)

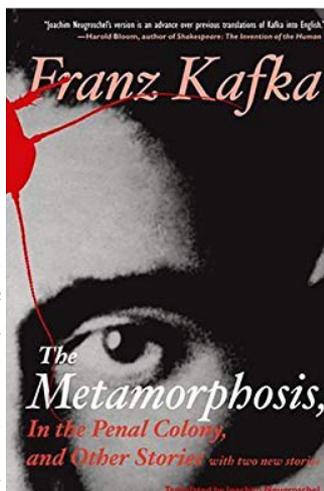
River thought that thick sourdough bread covered in crispy melted cheese filled with fresh lettuce, warm turkey, and house made dijon mustard made for a delightful, if not revolutionary, sandwich. The soup was a completely different, but similarly delectable appetizer with a healthy mix of fresh vegetables perfect for dipping baguettes into.

Sitting at the bar with a spicy ginger ale, the smell of warm bread and cheese, and the drone of conversation behind you, River couldn't help but feel he had been transported to a quaint Parisian cafe. Make sure you take a chance on one of the daily soup specials, and make sure you check out the lovely Rainbow Row while you're in the area. If you want Maya and River to review your favorite eatery, let them know; they can be found frequenting Cafe Diem during most lunch periods.

Classic Book Review: *The Metamorphosis, In the Penal Colony, and Other Stories* by Franz Kafka

by Elle Hueske

Author Franz Kafka epitomizes surrealism and absurdity. From his unusual and interesting plots and characters to his strikingly accurate comments on humanity, Kafka is well worth the read. Kafka's short stories are captivating. I recommend his work



to those students interested in surrealist writing with elements of realism. The events, plot, and broader picture are entertaining and eccentric; they often contain deeper connections to society. For students who had Ms. Drennan for 9th grade English, it is likely that you read Kafka's "The Metamorphosis." For those who have not, I would recommend this offbeat short story. A man with an overwhelmingly uneventful life, Gregor Samsa, wakes up one morning to find that he has completely transformed into an insect pest. Gregor initially simply reflects on the monotony and blandness of his life as a traveling salesman without much shock as to what he has become. The reader follows him as he attempts to complete his daily routine and interact with his family as a giant insect. It comments on alienation in society, a topic that Franz Kafka himself often struggled with. The idea of truth and identity is also recurring as suddenly Gregor's entire life has been changed by this crude transformation. Personally, I found it interesting that Gregor's new form as an insect is hideous to many, but likely the most interesting thing that has ever happened to him. Much like "The Metamorphosis," Kafka comments on societal isolation in his short story "In the Penal Colony." I would recommend this short story to those who are not opposed to a disturbing plot and eerie narration. As the title would suggest, the story is set in a penal colony (historically a place where prisoners or other individuals would be physically isolated from the main population). Throughout the entire short story, the reader gains extensive insight regarding a complex

torture device used to execute prisoners. The machine's purpose is to carve the sentence of the prisoner onto their skin before killing them. Throughout the piece, the narration could be considered unreliable which further emphasizes the bizarre nature of the short story. While intensely disquieting, the story intimately connects with the plight of suffering. In doing so, it also explores dehumanizing so-called justice systems. It is clear by the narrator's detached and almost haunting tone that fear and pain have the ability to morph an individual into something distinctly inhuman.

If looking for a novel rather than a short story, try reading Kafka's *The Castle*. The plot is utterly bizarre and the motivations of the characters seem underdeveloped. However, it is actually an intriguing read. Main character, K., is a land surveyor who comes to a town with a mysterious castle in which the governing bodies reside. He comes to know many of the town residents during his stay as well as the truth behind the castle. This novel, despite its seemingly fantastical elements, actually comments on isolation, solitude, and higher authorities, all of which are repeating themes in Kafka's work.

TV Review: *BoJack Horseman*

by River Abedon

Netflix recently released the fifth season of the animated original *BoJack Horseman*. The show follows a washed up actor, who lives in a world where humans and anthropomorphic animals intermingle, trying to get his life on back on track twenty years after the end of his television show.

The most recent season explores topics like the #MeToo movement, addiction, and mental illness all while remaining one of the funniest TV shows currently airing. The new season also proves that the idea of concept episodes is not yet tired, including a twenty-five minute episode consisting entirely of the title character giving a eulogy at a funeral. Despite not cutting away until the very end, it is one of the most captivating episodes the show has released. It simultaneously proves the



immense writing ability of the show runners and the acting chops of Will Arnett, who voices BoJack Horseman.

The four previous seasons have already proven *BoJack Horseman* to be one of the most moving, honest shows currently airing, but this season goes even further by taking a meta look at what it means to be a show about a bad person searching for redemption. It is one of the most popular TV tropes nowadays: a powerful anti-hero doing bad things and looking for redemption. Shows like *Mad Men*, *Breaking Bad*, and *House of Cards* have all explored such ideas, but *BoJack* analyzes the real world effects of creating a narrative like this: does it justify the actions of bad men in real life or teach people that these things are okay as long as you seek redemption? Is redemption even possible in real life?

It is nuanced questions like the aforementioned that guide the plot of season five, resulting in a shocking penultimate episode and cementing *BoJack Horseman* as one of the best shows to come out of the streaming era.

Fashion Column

by Adam Krasnoff

This fall, Raf Simons presented his spring/summer 2019 collection on the runway at New York Fashion Week. For inspiration, he turned to Hollywood, creating garments that hearken back to two classics: *Jaws* and *The Graduate*. Simons's nods to the former are blatant, in the form of tops plastered with the film's now-iconic poster. He goes beyond this merchandising pastiche, though, by removing pieces of garments to create a shark-bite effect. Although gimmicky, the bites alter the shape of the pieces in intriguing ways. In terms of *The Graduate*, Simons takes an equally in-your-face approach, using graduation caps as accessories and draping graduation gowns over the shoulders of some female models. Though the two movies seem to have little in common, referencing them together creates an air of nostalgia for a bygone era of American culture; *Jaws*, the first true blockbuster, was an essential '70s touchstone. Similarly, *The Graduate* depicts a generational shift, a window into the mind of youth at the end of a tumultuous decade. Simons's work has always owed a lot to memory, and with this collection he seems fascinated by the allure of a memory he does not have a firm grasp on, but one which has ingrained itself into the minds of each generation since.

Provided



“Nothing Left to Lose”

by Elle Cooper, 7th Grade

The wind was howling louder than pack of hungry wolves as the rain started to settle in. Even at fifteen, I had never heard thunder so loud, never heard anything louder than my brother’s voice when he got angry, and I had never seen lightning as painfully bright as the headlights on his truck when he backed out of the driveway at 3am and didn’t come back. But this storm, my God this storm beat all.

But right now, I wasn’t thinking about my brother, or my pa who was gone with the angels, or my mama who never talked anymore. I was thinking about the call I got from Sara Jean, asking if I had seen her little sister who hadn’t come home yet. I played dumb and said I had no idea where she was, seeing as how if I did the entire town would be driven into a frenzy, but if I knew Eliza Mae, and I did, then she was halfway to the lake by now, and I needed to stop her before she decided she was going in and not coming out.

I didn’t have a car, but I could run faster than all the other kids at school ever had been or ever would be able to. My eyes stung as my hair was flung in every direction there ever was, the dirt road slowly turning to sludge under my feet. The farther I ran, the more the rain began to feel like bullets against my skin, hitting me over and over until finally my legs gave out from beneath me and I fell to the ground. I clutched the one piece of jewelry I had ever owned, a silver necklace that Eliza Mae gave me back when we were small and afraid of nothing, in my hand with everything I had. Like it was my lifeline. Like it was her lifeline.

At that moment, all I could imagine was sweet Eliza Mae, with brown hair softer than anything else I had ever felt and eyes bluer than a clear summer morning, drowning in a cage of water that she had trapped herself in. Slowly losing breath. Fading, fading, fading. Then gone.

Gone. It was a terrible word. Not laughing in that way that makes her eyes crinkle at the sides while I turned crooked cartwheels down the church aisle before everyone filed in on Sundays. Not climbing up on the rooftop and playing cards the way her mama taught us the moment we were old enough to understand what a card even was. Not arguing with me time and time again over whether Ms. Dotson or Mrs. Gale made better pecan cookies, though in all honesty we knew they both tasted like a little sliver of heaven. Not being or doing or seeing or living. Just gone.

Shaking my head to try and stop myself from slipping into the safety of memory, I looked down at my ankle, which was hurting bad. Worse than it ever had, actually, which when I stole a glance at it, made sense. It was twisted in such a way that made me want to vomit right then and there. Water drops fell from my hair into my eyes, making my vision blur, but I still looked up through the rain, furious at the sky for letting a storm come and visit and stopping me from saving her.

“What’s wrong with you?” I screamed. “Why can’t you let me get what I want? For once in my life, why won’t the world let me save someone other than myself? To keep another person from leaving?” I gripped the necklace tighter, the pendant pressing almost painfully into my palm, my hand trembling.

“I can’t have another person leave me.”

But there was no response, just another rumble of thunder and a flash of lighting as the rain continued to fall around me, the bullets hitting harder this time, but I didn’t mind.

There was nothing left to lose.

Provided



“Distant”

by Jessie Johnson, 7th Grade

The flowers on the wallpaper had turned a sour yellow from water stains. When I was younger, I thought they might peel off onto the floor. Now, walking along the hallway, I came to a conclusion that the whole wall would simply fall down, detach itself from the fading woodliners filled with termites.

I felt one blister on the back of my heel pop. The oozing skin left a trail along the floorboards as I walked to the kitchen. The sole fit about half of my foot, and I had to cut off the back and front to keep my feet from cramping up. Whatever fabric remained was rough and covered in muck stains. They had been Patrick’s before they were mine, and Connor’s before they were Patrick’s. Sometimes I like to sit in my spider-populated corner of the feeble attic and think about what these shoes were used for. Feeding the pigs maybe, or plowing the cornfield on the outskirts of our property. But imagining always led back to when my brothers hopped into their truck and sped off through the dead, crispy, sickening grass for a life that earns something, that night when they left the boots outside my door, knowing I wouldn’t get a new pair. My mother hadn’t bought me shoes in years.

I took a light step through the doorway. Mama was there, peeling potatoes. She looked out the window, into the sky. I wonder if she sees Dad, I asked myself coldly. The few times I had seen my father, he was there for a mere night. He passed when I was four, seven years ago. When he died, mama had dragged her being with him, into a zone that’s not death but no excuse for a life either. Each moment I saw her, any icy pang struck me, then melted to cover me like a body of clean snow. She’s chosen a dead memory over me, I thought, my mind brimming with sorrow.

I cautiously approached her and stitched my fingers tightly. The knife went clean through the inside of the potato with a deflated whoosh, and the extra piece of skin flopped into our rusted sink.

“Mama?” I asked tentatively. I could see her eyes sorting through thoughts, but they were distant. She was distant. “Mama, can you teach me to sew a button? Mine popped off.” Of course I knew how to sew a button. I had done it repeatedly to my two-sizes-too-small dress. But anything more would lose her for sure.

“Can’t you see I’m busy, Edaline? The tea will sound any minute.” I looked over at the stove. The teapot wasn’t even near it.

“It will only take a minute, Mama. Just a few stitches.” I pleaded. She had slipped away long ago, long before I bothered to sew any button.

Her voice was hollowed. It took on an indirect note, like she was in another place, one without this withered life, one without me.

“Oh, Edaline...” I wondered if she even knew I was the one she was talking to, that I existed. “Mama, please, it’s just a few stitches.” My face leaned forward towards her, and my hand gripped the counter. Her eyes betrayed her, and she looked lost in her broken self. She didn’t respond.

“Mama?” ‘slice’ ‘slice’. “Mama?” I felt urgency rising in my voice.

“Mama!” I cried. Nothing. ‘Slice’ ‘slice’.

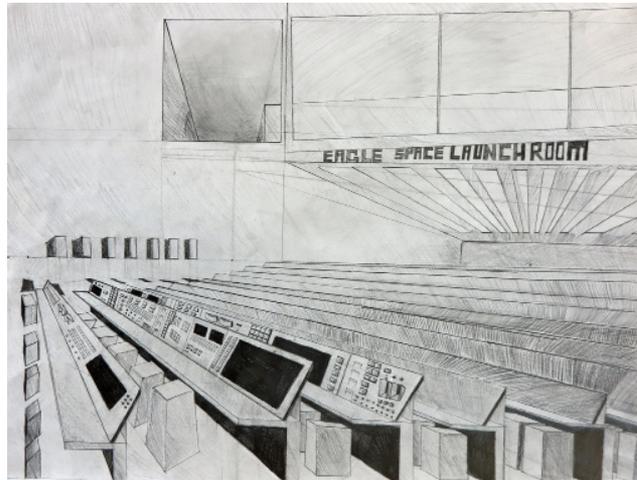
“Mama! Remember me? I’m Edaline! Remember, I spilled the cherry tarte and the whole kitchen was sticky for a week? And when there was that huge stack of paper that blew through the house when Connor opened the back door....?”

Her faced faded to a frown. Her finger pushed down hard against the knife, and a stream of blood steadily snaked its way down the blade. She was caged by that empty look. I grabbed her elbow, shook her.

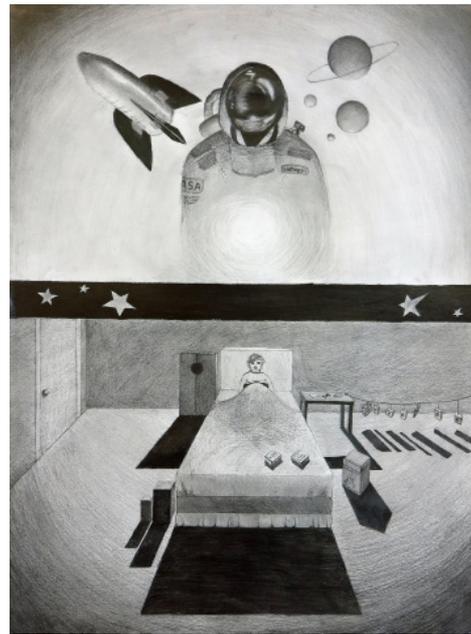
“Mama, answer me!” I screamed. I could feel my throat closing, and I choked. “Please!”

Every muscle in my body ached for her. I wanted to bury myself into her, be surrounded, loved. But no. She did not love me.

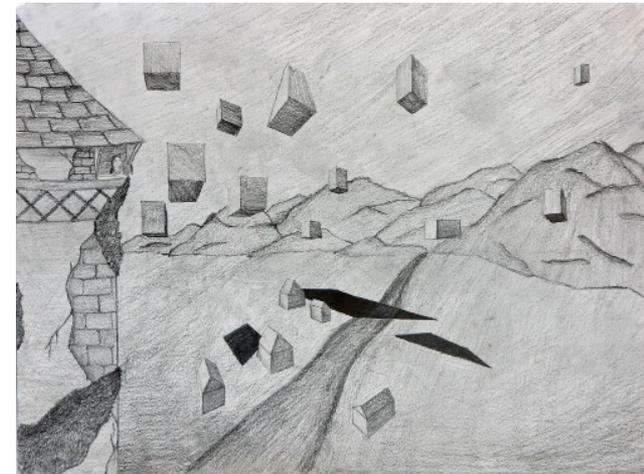
The potato had grown thin as paper now, smeared with a brilliant red. She kept slicing.



Emily Apostolico
Eighth Grade Visual Artist

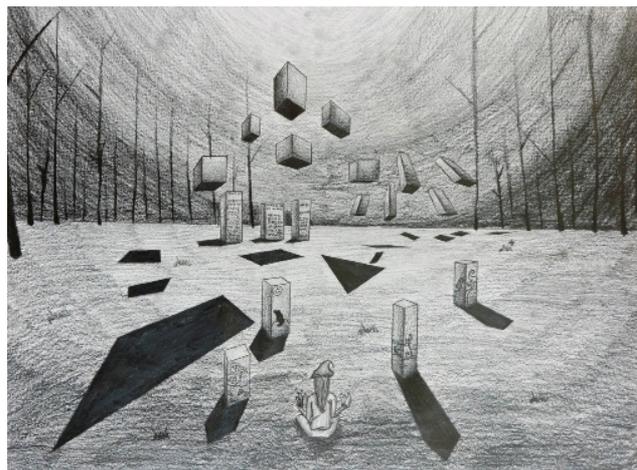


Evelyn Bueschgen
Eighth Grade Visual Artist
2nd Place Ribbon at the Coastal Carolina Fair

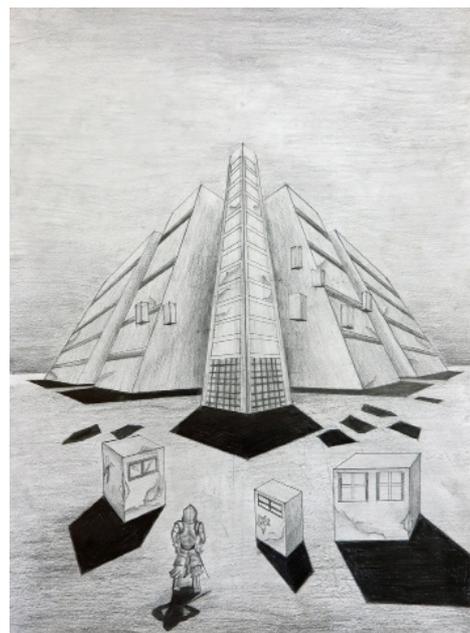


Lauren Holladay
Eighth Grade Visual Artist

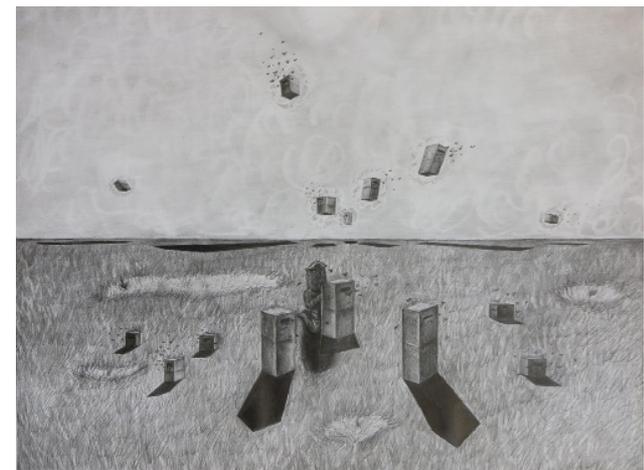
Eighth Grade Visual Artwork



Savanna Jones
Eighth Grade Visual Artist



Moyu Yamaguchi
Eighth Grade Visual Artist



Abigail Short
Eighth Grade Visual Artist
3rd Place Ribbon at the Coastal Carolina Fair



Kyliah Catalain

Mr. Tristan Hill and Ms. Alea McKinley look especially similar...



Adam Krasnoff

Mr. Karl Clark and Freshman Bryson Wood wear matching sunglasses on Twin



Adam Krasnoff

Sophomores Emma Joyce and Bella Andrews, and Junior Aidan Billings in their best costumes

Spirit Week

Monday: Twin Day
Tuesday: Greek vs. Geek
Wednesday: Character Day
Thursday: "What Are You Proud Of?"
Friday: Cowboys vs. Aliens

by Tes Smoak



Adam Krasnoff

Timothy Griffin as Naruto



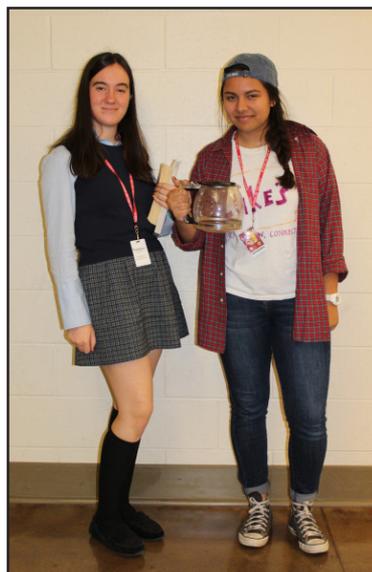
Provided

Seniors in their Greek vs. Geek attire



Adam Krasnoff

Junior Julian Griffin passes for Chicken Little



Adam Krasnoff

Juniors Maya Cline and Christina Lewis dress as their favorite *Gilmore Girls* characters



Adam Krasnoff

Bailey and Gabriella as Wonder Women on Character Day



Adam Krasnoff

Rachel Seel enjoys Character Day



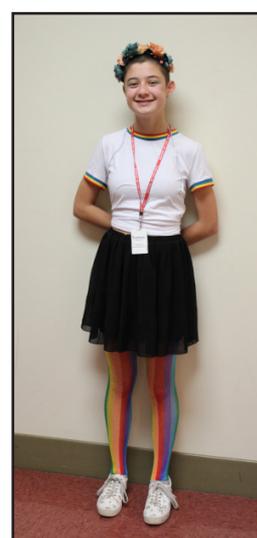
Adam Krasnoff

Sophomores in their colorful costumes for Character Day



Kyiah Catalain

Prideful students on "What Are You Proud of?" Day



Adam Krasnoff

Max Hamrick shows off what she's proud of

Spirit Week and Fall Food Festival



Adam Krasnoff

Dr. John Schuster and Manny as matching cowboys



Adam Krasnoff

Some cowboys and aliens get along for a picture



Adam Krasnoff

Aliens and cowboys at the Fall Food Festival



Adam Krasnoff

Students show off the baked goods at the Fall Food Festival



Adam Krasnoff

Senior Gray Forsberg happy to get a stick of cotton candy



Adam Krasnoff

Delicious treats at the Fall Festival!

Happy Thanksgiving, SOA!



Adam Krasnoff

Students filling up bags of delightful popcorn



Adam Krasnoff

Who wants blue cotton candy?

The articles on this page are written by 6th grade guest writers.

Woes of Being a Sixth Grader

by Ruby Varallo, Sixth Grader

Teeny tot sixth graders. I've heard it a million times. There are many of us, and we can probably all relate to these reasons why it's not so fun to be a sixth grader. To start, there's how everyone who's in 7th grade or up always calls us "adorable." Don't even try to act all innocent. You know you've done it. I'm not even going to say, "Stop calling us that, it's so annoying!" because I'm aware it's basically tradition. Nevertheless, know that it gets old. Very quickly.

The next thing that's not fun is being trampled. We can't help our tinytiness! We are crushed like the crackers that litter the cafeteria floor. Is that melodramatic? No.

Next, the sixth grader's worst nightmare: the First Day of School. Saying I was confused would be an understatement. It felt like SOA was a never-ending maze. Stress was also very common on the First Day, like being late to class even if the classroom was only a couple of feet away. Before you think, "Aw, a little sixth grader wrote an adorable article about all the problems of being a so tiny," remember: you were once a teeny tot sixth grader too.

3 Crafts For When You're Bored

By Isabella Pineda

We've all been bored before. We then might think about things to do! Like, hey, maybe you've thought, "I know! I can re-enact Hamilton!" Just kidding. But here are some crafts to try when you have nothing else to do!

3D Hand Art

This is really fun and easy to do. Get a piece of paper and trace your hand in pencil. You can then do straight lines in pencil or marker across the page, but curve the lines when you get to your hand, and then make them straight again after you pass your hand.

Painting with Tape

You will need some masking tape, acrylic paint, a paint brush, water, a paint tray, and a canvas or canvas paper. Place tape in different directions across the canvas (make sure the ends are hanging off the edge so it's easy to take off later). Using colors of your choice, paint away!. Try to stay within the spaces created by the tape, but it's okay if it gets on the tape. Make sure to clean your brush every time you get a new color. When you're done, take off the tape (can be removed when the paint is wet or dry).

Succulent Pot

You will need a small pot, acrylic paint, a paint tray, a paint brush, rocks, a succulent, soil, any accessories you want on the pot (string, rhinestones, etc), and a hot glue gun. First, paint your pot using whatever colors you've chosen. Wait for it to dry. Next, add any accessories you want on your pot with hot glue. Add some rocks at the bottom of the pot for drainage. Last, plant your succulent.



Your Guide to Thanksgiving Recipes

By Natalie Blakeslee

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and what is one of the most amazing things about it? The food! If you love cooking as much as I do, then helping out with Thanksgiving dinner is a great way to practice your skills. With these five recipe ideas, your dish could be the star of the party!

Spiced Grilled Apples with Mascarpone Cream

Ingredients: apples, cinnamon, crushed pecans, granola, brown sugar, mascarpone cream.

1. Wash and cut apples into thick slices.
2. On a small plate, make a dry mixture of brown sugar and cinnamon.
3. Cover sliced apples with a thin layer of the powder.
4. Put a small pan or grill on the stove top at medium heat. Then add the apples.
5. Cook until apples start to turn soft, occasionally flipping them. Once this happens turn heat on to a lower setting.
6. Once the apples are soft and browned to preference or caramelized, turn off heat.
7. Add the granola, crushed pecans, and a spoonful of cream.

Deviled Eggs with Paprika

Ingredients: boiled eggs, diced pickles, pickle juice, mayonnaise, mustard, paprika.

1. Peel the eggs and half them.
2. Scoop out yolk and put in small bowl and mash until you have a thick paste.
3. Add your pickles, juice, paprika, mustard, and mayonnaise to your liking.
4. Spoon your yolk mix back into the egg half and sprinkle paprika on top.

Tomato Vinegar Salad

Ingredients: Halved small cherry tomatoes, vinaigrette, diced celery, pepper, salt.

1. In a small bowl mix halved cherry tomatoes and diced celery. Add vinaigrette of your choice and incorporate thoroughly.
2. Sprinkle salt and black pepper on top.

Bacon-Wrapped Dates

Ingredients: pitted whole dates, raw bacon, unflavored toothpicks

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F
2. Wrap a date with a strip of bacon and secure with a toothpick.
3. Bake 15-18 minutes turning them halfway through so that the bacon is evenly cooked.

Homemade Vinaigrette and Bread

Ingredients: bread, honey, olive oil, apple cider vinegar

1. Mix honey, olive oil, and the vinegar to your liking (tip: taste the vinaigrette before adding more of any other ingredients). If the mixture is too strong, add olive oil or water.
2. Slice thick pieces of bread and serve with vinaigrette.



Fashion and Costume Design enjoyed a busy fall which included designing the costumes for Theater's performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



Applause, SOA's official student publication since 1999, presents

American Pie

A tribute to 1950s & 60s Rock 'n' Roll

A live documentary concert that brings the lyrics of Don McClean's 1971 classic to life. Featuring more than three dozen SOA and AMHS students, under the direction of Dr. John Cusatis and Mr. Ian Grimshaw, collaborating on adaptations of songs by Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, Big Bopper, The Monotones, The Everly Brothers, Elvis Presley, Bob Dylan, The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, The Byrds, and Janice Joplin.

Thursday, May 23, 2019, 6:30 PM

Rose Maree Myers Theater

A Free Event

Donations will be accepted for the tenth annual Rose Maree Myers Scholarship for Artistic Excellence

Horoscopes

by Liv Provosty

♏ Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Scorpio Season means one thing...and nope it doesn't mean that it is a time for you to be a total a-hole with no consequences (even though you might try) it is time to focus all this "fierceness" on your goals and getting yourself together.

♐ Sagittarius (Nov. 22- Dec. 21): So you might be going through something right now. Like very emotionally fragile like please don't even look at me the wrong way or I might cry and scare you with my tears kind of mood. But don't hide it! Tell people how you feel this could just be the convenient excuse to do it.

♑ Capricorn (Dec. 22- Jan.19): All you want around right now is your friends. School is hard and life is hard and sometimes being with your people is the only thing that makes it all tolerable. So go kick up some leaves or get coffee..you know something with a "fall"twist or the same old same old as long as you are laughing.

♒ Aquarius (Jan. 20- Feb. 18): You might be experience a light power trip...don't get me wrong I respect a strong work ethic! But make sure you just check your authority at the door and keep focusing on what matters, accomplishing your goals, not getting the last word.

♓ Pisces (Feb. 19- Mar. 20): You are feeling a little restless in your day to life...I mean we all are...but you might be experiencing a stronger than normal desire to take a spontaneous road trip instead of rolling up to first block. Just focus on taking in the world around you the best you can and live your best life. Simple as that.

♈ Aries (Mar. 21- Apr. 19): According to a source this is the time to put on your "love detective hat." Weird I know. But it could have something to do with love being all around you and you just needing to seek some out. I feel like that's a reasonable leap. And if you get rejected blame me and the stupid hat.

♉ Taurus (Apr. 20- May 20): This is the time where you might be experiencing some challenge from your enemies. I know what you are thinking...what enemies? Well not everyone's enemies are other people and you probably aren't an angel anyway...all this being said surround yourself with positive energy and the people that would fight any enemy who dare approaches.

♊ Gemini (May 21- Jun. 20): You are very detailed oriented right now. If something feels off you will find it and probably proceed to overthink it. But no need to question things that make you happy. Maybe just try to stop chewing your nails instead? This level of fierce determination must be channeled.

♋ Cancer (Jun 21- Jul. 22): You might be coming off a little bit mysterious and weird. At least a little bit more mysterious and weird than normal. But put your sleuthing skills to the test as you evaluate the world around you and get creative. At least a little bit more creative than normal.

♌ Leo (Jul. 23- Aug. 22): In my research I stumbled upon a source that simply said "This isn't really a fantastic time for you." But I have decided to take a more positive spin. Because it can't be thaaaatt bad. Focus on your family and friends and take care of yourself. You got it.

♍ Virgo (Aug. 23- Sept. 22): You are going to be very very busy so please try and stay somewhat sane. If not for your sake than for the sake of everyone around you. I mean that in the way that cares about you and is nice. I promise.

♎ Libra (Sept. 23- Oct. 22): Libra season is over which is unfortunate for you but there is a focus on money and wealth and getting material possessions so this is just like a convenient excuse to go shopping. Just take the excuse. Get yourself something nice.

November Spotify Playlist

Fall is a season eternally symbolized by change. Head over to @soaapplause on Spotify to listen to some tunes to carry you through this wonderful season.

- "Calling" by Lewis Watson
- "Light On" by Maggie Rogers
- "So Little Time" by Honeywater
- "Changes" by David Bowie
- "Crazy Bird" by Wild Child
- "Like a River Runs" by Bleachers
- "Cigarettes and Coffee" by Otis Redding
- "You're Not Wrong" by Wet
- "FIND YOUR WINGS" by Tyler the Creator
- "Hunger" by Florence and the Machine
- "Voices Carry" by "Till Tuesday
- "Pretty Shining People" by George Ezra
- "The Only Living Boy in New York" by Simon and Garfunkel



Spotify



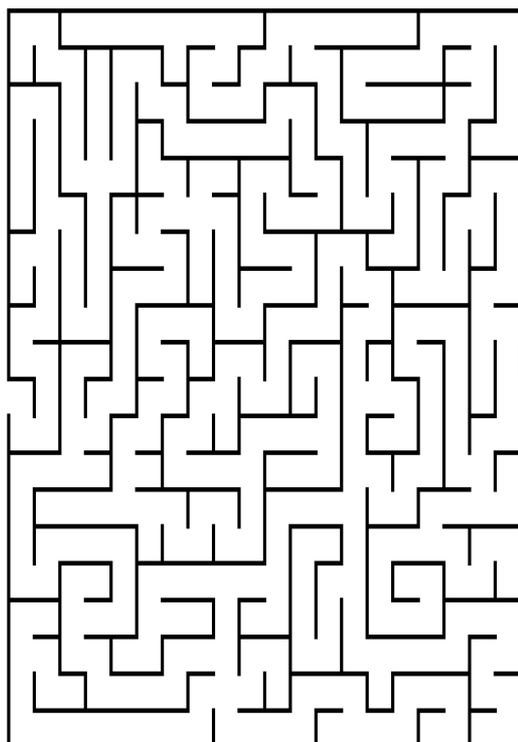
SOA's Theater majors performed *The Revolutionists* by Lauren Gunderson at the SCTA One Act Play Competition at Anderson University. There, they earned 3rd Place in the state out of the 24 competing High Schools as well as best sound and costumes. As a result of their achievements, they will be an alternate for the SETC regional competition in the Spring. The cast included **Naja Aleem**, **Cecilia Connelley**, **Alexa Smith**, and **Aidan Wunderley**. The ensemble was composed of **Tori Copeland** and **Riley Main** and the crew was made up of **Hannah Bendure**, **Mia Bowersox**, **Lizzie Herring**, **Gamahl Keels-Bobo**, **Aiden Quertermous**, and **Davis Varnado**.

Congratulations to the Theater majors on their hard work and professionalism!

SOA Sudoku

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

Help Ms. Martini find Graham!



Then and Now

Zachary Shirley investigates:

Who was/is your favorite youtuber?

Zachary Shirley



12th grade Band major **Christain Carnie** loved ZacharyShirleyFilms.

Zachary Shirley



6th grade Strings major **Aydan Caffarel** enjoys watching vidoes made by Ninja.

We welcome the newest member of the SOA family!!!

Congratulations to Mike and his wife, Kristin.



Bennett Morelli
6 lbs 1 oz

Sign of the Month: Please Pass the Potatoes

Demonstrated by Everett Ladson

Photos by Adam Krasnoff



1. Place your right hand on your chest.



2. Press your thumb against your first three fingers, palm up.



3. Move your hand forward in this position.



4. Tap the index and middle finger of your right hand on the back of your left hand.

The Trivia Challenge

by Carson Stehling and Loulou Hranowsky

This month our October trivia champion, Junior **Olivia Bouknight**, battled Junior **Hunter Garrett** in an autumn themed trivia smackdown.

Questions:

1. What is the most popular thanksgiving side dish in South Carolina?
2. In South Carolina, November is the ____ coldest month out of the 12.
3. How long did the first Thanksgiving celebration actually last?
4. About how many turkeys are cooked for thanksgiving each year?
5. Which state has the coldest temperatures throughout the fall season?
6. How many apples does it take to make a gallon of apple cider?
7. Candy Corn is flavored to taste like what other sweet treat?
8. Until about 1500 what was the official name for autumn?
9. In what country did Dia de los Muertos originate?
10. In the Northern hemisphere what is the name for the first day of fall?

Hunter Garrett 11th Grade Vocal

1. Mashed potatoes
2. 17th
3. 1 week
4. 7
5. Alaska
6. 17
7. Pumpkin
8. Summer pt. 2
9. Mexico
10. President's Day



2/10

Olivia Bouknight has emerged victorious yet again! She will join us again this December to defend her title as trivia master.

Olivia Bouknight 11th Grade Theater

1. Sweet Potatoes
2. 4th
3. 2 weeks
4. 4 billion
5. Alaska
6. 65
7. Marshmallows
8. The October Season
9. Mexico
10. Autumn Equinox



5/10

soa-applause.com

Are you interested in competing in an upcoming *Applause* Trivia Challenge? If so, email mjmcline@gmail.com with the subject line "Trivia."

Answers

1. Corn bread
2. 4th
3. 3 days
4. 46 million
5. Alaska
6. 40
7. Marshmallows
8. Harvest
9. Mexico
10. Autumnal Equinox

Happy Birthday. Mr. Sinatra!!

Friday, December 14, 2018
Show Starts at 7:00 pm

The Joe Clarke Big Band takes the stage to celebrate some of Frank Sinatra's greatest hits on his 103rd birthday!



Tickets: ~Students / SOA Staff \$10 ~ Adults \$15

Online: Bold Type Tickets, Happy Birthday, Mr. Sinatra!

Joe Clarke delivers his own take on the Entertainer of the 20th Century's famous performances: 'Lady is Tramp', 'New York, New York', 'Fly Me to the Moon' and so much more!

Rose Maree Myers Theater
5109 W Enterprise St | North Charleston, SC | 29405

Join us for a Birthday Celebration like no other!!



“I know *Howe* to run this country.”

-Olivia Howe, 11th grade Vocal



“I can’t make it any worse.”

-Delaney Faile, 10th grade Vocal



“We are better than this.”

-Mrs. Zerbst, Assistant Principal



“We want you to vote for us.”

-Piper Hamrick & Claire Vick, 6th grade Dance



“Vote for me, grass is green.”

-Ava Trolley, 7th grade Creative Writing

What would your campaign slogan be if you ran for president?

by Lisa Fimian, Evelyn Howe, and River Abedon

Photos by Lisa Fimian, Evelyn Howe and River Abedon



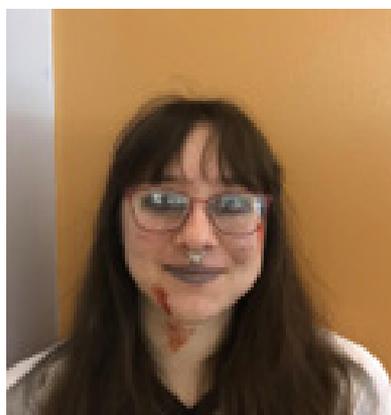
“Vote Hammond Cheese.”

-Mrs. Hammond, Vocal Teacher



“I will be the president that sees and fulfills the needs of the average American.”

-Mr. Naas, High School Computer Teacher



“Why would you vote for me?”

-Juliet MacGregor, 9th grade Visual Arts



“Wait...but I’m not 35 yet.”

-Lena Fimian, 8th grade Strings



“Yes I can because I’m Jessann.”

-Jessann Gentile, 12th grade Dance