

Ximena Gutierrez, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Día de los Muertos no es Halloween

EDITORIAL

Alrededor de esta temporada, las tiendas como Walmart y Target, empiezan a vender decoraciones para Halloween y Día de los Muertos. Aunque las dos celebraciones parecen similares, son muy diferentes. El Día de Muertos es una tradición Mexicana que honra a los seres queridos que han fallecido. Esta tradición llegó a los Estados Unidos a través de la inmigración Mexicana. Durante el mes de octubre, las familias crean altares adornados con flores de cempasúchil, fotos de los fallecidos, y ofrendas de sus comidas y bebidas favoritas. Con el tiempo, la tradición ganó popularidad, ahora, mucha gente celebra en muchas partes del país. Esta festividad se celebra el 1 y 2 de noviembre, no solo es un momento de recordar a los que ya no están con nosotros, sino también de celebrar sus vidas y mantener viva su memoria. Al contrario, Halloween, conocido también como Noche de Brujas, tiene sus raíces en el antiguo festival celta de Samhain. Los Celtas eran un grupo de pueblos que vivieron en Europa, especialmente en Irlanda y Escocia. La gente celta encendía fogatas y se disfrazaba para que los fantasmas se alejaran. Cuando los inmigrantes Irlandeses llegaron a Estados Unidos, trajeron sus tradiciones de Halloween. Halloween se popularizó en nuestro país y se transformó en la celebración que conocemos hoy. Halloween se celebra el 31 de octubre. El "trick-or-treating" o pedir dulces en la comunidad es una gran parte de Halloween. Es importante saber y respetar las diferencias culturales entre el Día de Muertos y Halloween.

CONTINÚA EN LA P. 11



Sophomore Esmeralda Martinez and junior Anahi Martinez hand out candy to the children. Photo provided by Jaylani Sanchez, Chronoscope Staff Photographer

Story by Marisol Nicasio, Thorntonian Staff Reporter

Trick-or-Treat! BOO Night makes a comeback for the 2nd year, and better than ever!

On October 23rd, T. F. North hosted the annual BOO Night in the cafeteria from 4:30 - 6:30 pm to celebrate Halloween. "BOO Night is an event for little kids around the community to come and participate in activities and trick-or-treat throughout the building. This is one of our biggest years yet, as we are expecting more people to attend than we have ever had," said its organizer, Ms. Passarelli. The night consisted of games such as bowling and ring toss and stations with coloring, tattoos, and candy making. After the activities, kids were allowed to trick-or-treat through the halls with students from the speech team, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Boards, Connections, and the staffs of the Chronoscope and the Thorntonian. These clubs took time to decorate and prepare for the night beforehand, and even came dressed up to add to the festive mood. Kids from all over the community and even children of faculty members came dressed up in costumes like dinosaurs, Taylor Swift, princesses, Bluey, and more. "I loved BOO Night a lot. This was my second year doing it, and I really looked forward to it. I loved seeing the kids in costumes. My favorite was either Bluey or a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle. My favorite part was when the kids went trick-or-treating

because the kids looked so happy and cute, and it's also kind of nostalgic to think that that was once me," said senior Favor Babatunde. Not only was this night eventful for the children, but also for our Meteors who got to relive their childhood experiences. "This was one of the most fun experiences at T. F. North to celebrate Halloween. I loved seeing the kids trick-or-treat, and they looked really cute. I would do it again next year," said Connections member Sammie King. Additionally, Sophomore Board member Kelvin Mendoza said, "I loved that the kids had a great time. I had such a great time both working it and handing out candy. I love that Halloween is a time where people could use their imagination and express themselves in many ways. I loved how creative the costumes were, and there was this one kid who had a Marshmallow costume on and I loved it." Staff member Ms. Ramirez attended with her daughter who dressed up as Disney princess Moana and said, "It was such a good experience. It allowed me to see teachers out of their element with their kids, and also the people in the community as well. I loved how so many different students came together to be productive members of society, and seeing my students work together was nice."

HMM ART CONTEST

Jasmine Pastrana
Check out the winners of the HMM Art Contest

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LAST MINUTE COSTUMES

Lizbeth Solorio
It's never too late to find the right costume for Halloween.

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DROID

Rogelio Romero
Go read a spooky scary story...if you dare!

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor can be sent to our social media handles or thorntonian@tfd215.org.

Luis Pelayo, thank you for representing many students in our community with your story "¿No Sabo?" (published 9/30/24). You put yourself in a vulnerable position which not many individuals can do. In my eyes, that is called bravery. I hope you understand that you are not alone in this. Personally, I grew up in a Spanish speaking household, where the main language being spoken is Spanish. I am grateful every day that I did. I cannot personally relate to you because we have different experiences. What I can say is that your emotions are valid. I can understand how difficult it must be to not always understand what is being said. To feel as if you do not belong, or simply feeling "weird" because I've been there. It's important that as Latinos, we speak up about our struggles to raise awareness as well as to bring unity in our community. Your voice does matter and makes a difference. I hope this helps, and thank you once again.

Natalie Gonzalez

I just wanted to say that I loved the No Sabo editorial, I feel like a lot of Hispanic students could relate to what Luis Pelayo wrote about, including me sometimes. I come from a Mexican household as well, but the difference is that everyone at home speaks Spanish, and although I speak it too, I can sometimes have a hard time pronouncing certain words. Reading the article I definitely related to some of Luis' experiences such the feeling of being left out. The first time I went to Mexico I had some difficulty listening to the conversations of some of my native Mexican cousins. Reading the article made me feel less alone in the experience of being a "no sabo" kid. Keep up the good work Thorntonian!

Ashley Zaragoza

I agree with Luis although for me it is kind of the opposite. Growing up I knew how to speak only Spanish since that's the only language my parents knew. When I eventually started school I couldn't understand anything the teacher was saying. I felt left out because I had to have a second teacher with me (ESL Teacher). English was a hard language for me to learn, and I am still learning new words everyday. You're not alone. A lot of people feel the same way you do, and I am one of them.

Jose Ruiz

Luis Pelayo, I think that what you wrote is something very interesting, I personally can't relate to it, but I know some that do, and I think that it's very nice to have written this. I know it's hard to see other people speaking a language and not being able to speak it or understand it, but it won't always be like that way. So don't be to sad about it.

Genesis Robles

Luis Pelayo, I understand where you come from! First off I want to start off by telling you I am sorry that you have ever felt isolated or less than for not being able to speak or understand a language. People shouldn't just expect you to know a certain language just because of the way you look or the color of your skin. I also want to let you know you are not alone. With you writing your article, you are creating a safe space for other people who feel or have the felt the same way as you. I hope that with your article people become more understanding and aware of the comments and things they tell others. I hope you are able to find your way of belonging! I loved your article and the awareness you brought to us no Sabo kids, hope to hear more from you on the newspaper!

Yarezi Dominguez

Dear Luis,

I appreciate this story you wrote. It's very well written and it gives voice to the students who feel the same way. I'm biracial and have been in between constant struggle with language and the transition between the two. I have been in Spanish classes all 4 years and I still struggle especially with reading but I'm not as bad with confidence as I used to be. I've always hid behind my accent and because I don't appear "Mexican" but it's still who I am regardless of fitting what a Mexican or Hispanic person should be, language or no language.

Liliana Krueger

I really liked Luis's story because I think it is something that a lot of Hispanic students can relate to. I took French for three years and this year changed to AP Spanish Lit. There has been many moments were I feel like I want talk to people, but I'm scared I will say something wrong and be made fun of. I think talking about your experiences allows students to build connections with one another because it helps us understand that we are not alone.

Michelle Corral

Luis Pelayo, I totally agree with your last story. It is awful to be told that your Spanish is bad or be made fun of for being a "no Sabo" kid. With my family, who only speak Spanish, I find it difficult to speak certain word and in return I get made fun of not pronouncing it correct. Sometimes I feel isolated, and I just give up and continue to speak English because I become self-conscious of my Spanish. As I age my English increases; however, my Spanish begins to decrease, which is something that I have noticed. It is difficult to go to Mexico without being made fun of for my accent and feeling left out. I hope this email finds you well. Just know that you are not alone.

Alexa Cervantes

Upcoming Events

Nov. 5 Election Day
Nov. 11 Veterans Day
Nov. 21-24 The Color Purple
Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Break



2024-25

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[Marisol Nicasio](#)

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Established in 1925, the Thorntonian is produced by the Advanced Journalism students of T.F. North High School. It seeks to provide an open forum for all members of the D. 215 community. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of D. 215 unless otherwise noted.



Jasmine Pastrana, Staff Reporter

Art Club announces Hispanic Heritage Month Contest Winners

The Art Club hosted a Hispanic Heritage Month Art Contest and announced the winners on October 18, 2024 during 2nd and 6th period. Ms. Matlock is one the club’s co-sponsors. She was very proud of everyone who participated in the art contest and enjoyed seeing everyone's art. She thanked Ms. Galvan for letting the Art Club share all their beautiful art. “We announced it at the Hispanic Heritage Month Assembly. We had a slideshow with the participants. We had three honorable mentions and then first, second, and third place. I love seeing all of the artwork, especially when it is not a class project. It’s really exciting to see all the creative ideas and beautiful work that our students do on their own passions and talents. We’ll be doing one for Black History Month as well,” said Matlock.

The first place winner was Alexa Castillo. She was full of emotions after getting first place and was very proud of herself for her art. She explained the meaning of her art and why she made it. She was also very inspired when she was taking her dad to the airport. “Eternal Love, you know how there love in the mortal life there can be love in the after life? Love lasts forever. It took me about 6 hours to finish the art work. It took a lot of sketching, and details, making sure the lines are neat. I thought of the idea because I went to take my dad to the airport, and we were listening to a song called “Blind” by Ateez,” said Castillo.

Emily Sanchez won second place. She was excited that she won second place. She was inspired by Selena Quintanilla, one of her favorite Hispanic artists. She felt that she and Selena could relate to each other because Selena had to learn Spanish since Spanish wasn't her first language, and Emily didn't know any English until she started listening to and singing it. “I painted Selena Quintanilla because she’s my favorite Mexican American artist. And I feel really connected to her because she didn’t know how to speak Spanish until she started singing Spanish, but then she learned. And it’s like me too girl. And I just did her holding a microphone with her little iconic pose. I did it red due to the lighting in the picture, but it’s purple. I did her iconic pose, holding her microphone because she’s so pretty. And I added this thing behind her, like a glow on her because unfortunately, she’s passed away because some rat. It took me, I think, one hour and 30 minutes [to make]. I like seeing everybody's art in slide show and for the next contest, more people should participate,” said Sanchez.

Jose Garay won third place but really didn't think about participating in the contest at first since he was only doing his Frida for a project in his art class. Then he thought he should participate in the contest. “Well, first it was like a project for my class. Even though it was supposed to be simple, I knew I could do more with it. So I decided to make it after Frida and Mrs. Weber said, ‘Oh, that’s an amazing idea.’ Then I did it for the competition. So while I was doing it for the competition, I was thinking really hard on it because what can I draw on it to represent her and Hispanic Heritage Month. So that’s why I added flowers and her pets...I added her tiny mustache,” said Garay.



Chronoscope announces Yearbook Picture Day schedule for grades 9, 10, & 11

Yearbook pictures for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be taken during English classes on November 6 and 7. The schedule is below:

November 6

- Mr. Furmanek
- Mr. Kawa
- Mr. McDaniel
- Ms. Emerson
- Ms. Hood
- Ms. Hood
- Ms. Isberg
- Ms. Vaughn

November 7

- Mr. Faron
- Mr. Russo
- Mr. Watson
- Ms. Correa
- Ms. Galvin
- Ms. Gillespie
- Ms. Gomez
- Ms. Kauffmann
- Ms. Murawski
- Ms. Ramirez
- Ms. Villaroman



WHAT MAKES HALLOWEEN ENJOYABLE FOR YOU?

"Making chili and cornbread and mummy-wrapped hotdogs to eat while we sit outside at our firepit waiting for trick-or-treaters.... then imposing the candy tax on my kids when they return," said Ms. DeSoto.

"Everything. I love seeing kids dress up and enjoy themselves before they 'get too old' for it. It's a holiday you can just be you," said junior Jayla King.

"What makes Halloween so fun is the costume being whoever you wanna be but mostly it's more fun when you spend it with friends or going trick-or-treating or going to a fall festival," said sophomore Isis Ingram.

"Mainly dressing up as any person I can be but also the creativity people put in decorations plus Twix," said junior Danielle Cross.

"Being able to spend it with friends, going trick-or-treating, and going to parties," said junior Alliyah Baylor.

WHO WOULD WIN IN A FIGHT: FREDDY KRUEGER, JASON VOORHEES, CHUCKY, MICHAEL MYERS, OR LEATHERFACE?

"Freddy Krueger would easily beat all of them. He can enter dreams, so he knows your fears. For example, Jason Voorhees fears drowning so Freddy can easily use that against him and kill him," said senior Fabian Rodriguez.

"Jason Voorhees because Jason will beat Freddy like in the movie 'Freddy V.S. Jason.' Chucky might get dismembered again like in 'Seed of Chucky,' and there's a chance Jason might drown Leatherface," said junior Melanie Foster.

WHO WOULD BE HARDER TO SURVIVE AGAINST, JIGSAW OR GHOSTFACE?

"I think it'd be harder to survive Jigsaw because of the things he would make you do to yourself or other people. I've never really watched the Scream movies, but I do know that it's a person in a mask with a knife. Just call the police and get out of your house," said sophomore Alexa Baker.

"Jigsaw because how he gets his victims with just a game to test them and if they fail then they fail, and I feel like it'll be hard because you're doing something that's very pressuring and if you win, you win, but it gets harder. That's the hard part," said Da'Nyiah Sparkman.

"I would say Ghostface because he kills you right away, while Jigsaw just punishes you and you can choose to live or die," said Jessica Roa.

"Ghostface because you never know when he is going to pop up, and you got to be smart to survive Ghostface," said freshman KaMariyah McClinton.

WHAT IS YOUR GUILTY PLEASURE HORROR MOVIE?

"Scream," said sophomore Jaleah Jones.

"Chucky," said freshman Aaylah Morales.

"Hocus Pocus," said Mr. Faron.

"Nightmare on Elm Street," said Mr. Mansour.

"Blood," said sophomore Aydenn Hunder.

"Annabelle," said junior Jarrell Little.

"Monster House," said freshman Neliah Uysalbas.

WHAT KEEPS YOU AWAKE AT NIGHT?

"Darkness because its the unknown, a void where fears, uncertainties, and the abyss of the unknowable converge," said sophomore Jocelyn Gonzalez.

"Vampires keep me up at night. My obsession with vampires have been around since I was a young little boy," said senior Josiah Jackson.

"Spiders. If a spider crawled into your ear, nose, or mouth while your sleep you wouldn't really know," said sophomore Saniyah Scarelli.

"I worry about the safety of my children (biological and my students)," said Ms. McCraw.

"Growing up and seeing everyone around you that you love die," said junior Evelin Ulloa.

HOW WOULD YOU CREATE THE PERFECT HALLOWEEN HORROR FILM?

"It would be a slasher movie. He would have super human speed and stealth and he would be able to shape shift. My slasher would be a demon from hell that goes for the weak and takes their body and soul. They would also be invincible from physical attack. Only a ritual or praying can send the demon back the depths of hell," said junior Kenneth Hastings.

"I would create a person who cannot be killed and only kills people that comes out at night. He will be scary and funny. He would do a lot of slashing, and there would be a lot of blood. His weapon would be a machete and a pickaxe," sophomore Makhi May.

"Trick-or-treat and one house gives out human fingers. If you get a human finger from that house, you would get 'marked.' Once you are marked, there is no escaping your death. The house changes every year based off a pattern," junior Chance Stokes.

WOULD YOU RATHER 1V1 MICHAEL MYERS OR JASON VOORHEES?

"I would rather 1v1 Jason Voorhees mainly because Michael Myers is dead silent so you wouldn't have a clue where he is. I would have a better chance trying to stun Jason and then run away than to play hide and seek with Michael Myers," said freshman Henry Phan.

"Michael Myers because he's just gonna walk around. Jason can teleport. Also Jason is more durable than Michael, so I have better chances," said junior Christian Mota.

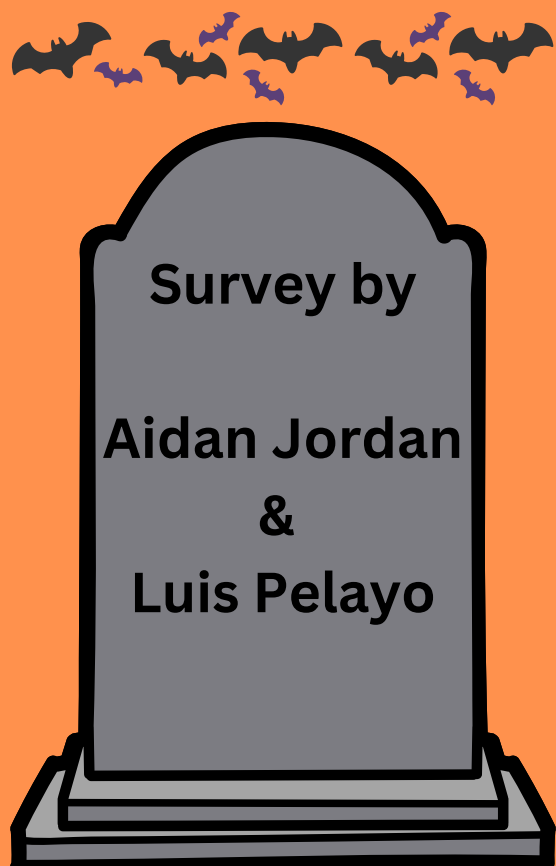
WHAT HORROR MOVIE WOULD YOU SURVIVE?

"I would survive Five Nights At Freddy's because I have played every game and have survived every single one. It would also be more easier in real life because you can hear when the animatronics are coming toward you," said junior Alexander Hernandez.

"Friday the 13th because I can find some stuff to help me to escape from Jason and some survival stuff if Jason catches me," said sophomore William Tolbert.

"The Blackening because I'm gonna be in a group of people with the same mindset as me, and we all will be able to come together at some point and figure it out. Plus in the end they all survived, just a little wounded," said junior Alyssa Johnson.

"I would survive Scream because I know his ways, and I can try to think how he would think, and I would just make a lot of smart moves," said junior Del'Nae Holliday.



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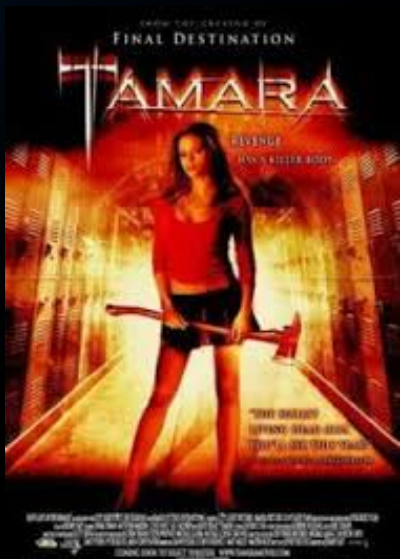
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Pictures will be taken during English classes for all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.

STUDENT WATCHLIST HALLOWEEN EDITION

CURATED BY
ANAHI MARTINEZ & IVY FINLEY



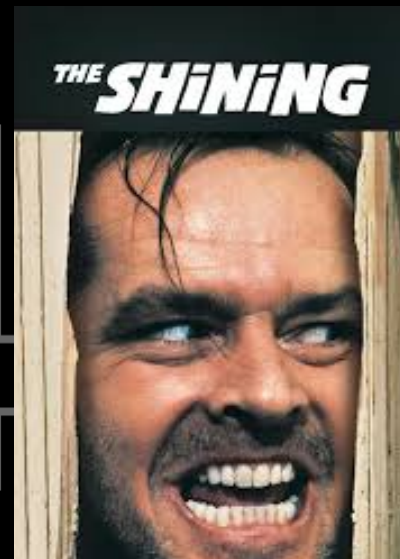
Chosen by:
Anthony Camarena



Chosen by:
Mr. Longo



Chosen by:
Emely Avila



Chosen by:
Jaslene Barnes



Chosen by:
Jayden Calderon

Do you have a must-watch holiday movie?

Email your suggestions for our Holiday watchlist to thorntonian@tfd215.org.

Be sure to use your school email address and include your first and last names and your grade. Only school-appropriate suggestions will be accepted. The deadline for submissions is 3:30 pm on November 15, 2024.

How old is too old to trick-or-treat?

Story by
Ivy Finley, Staff Reporter

Trick-or-treating originates from the Celtic festival of Samhain first celebrated on the night of October 31st about 2,500 years ago. The Celts lived in western Europe, in what is Ireland and Scotland today. They believed that during this celebration, the dead could return to the Earth. They gave offerings of food and prayers to appease the spirits of their loved ones, and wore costumes made from animal skin to drive away evil spirits. When colonists came to America, they brought their traditions with them, giving us Halloween and trick or-treating today.

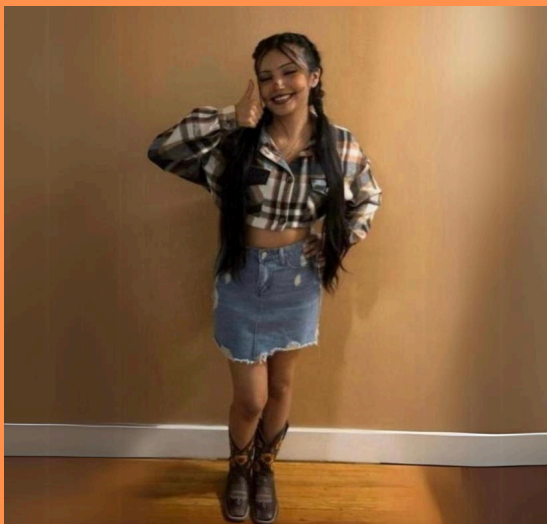
But how old is too old to trick-or-treat today? I asked TFN staff members for their opinions.

Our staff has mixed opinions on when it's time to hang up the masks and pillow cases. Some think you should stop trick-or-treating in your senior year of high school. Mr. Fredianelli said, "You can trick-or-treat up to senior year, as long as you wear a good costume." Mr. Spakowski said, "It's okay in high school if you're in costume. But if I'm as old as the person handing me the candy, there's a problem." Other staff believe that you can trick-or-treat up to college. When asked when you have to stop trick-or-treating, Mr. Webb said, "College. Be a kid as long as you can."

One staff member even said that it's never too late to trick-or-treat. Ms. Givens said, "There is no too old. Age is a state of mind." A number of staff members also have a way to cheat aging out of this beloved tradition: trick-or-treating with their children. Ms. McCarthy said, "Are you ever too old? If you go with your kids you're getting some of their candy too." Ms. Alba said, "You're never too old. When you get older, you can just trick-or-treat with your kids. Ms Csoke agreed. "You can still trick-or-treat when you become a parent."

Story by Lizbeth Solorio, Staff Reporter

LAST MINUTE COSTUME IDEAS



A scarecrow is a great last-minute Halloween costume. It is an iconic, recognizable costume that is easily and quickly put together with items found around the house. First, you will need to take a trip to your closet and find a flannel, fall colored shirt, distressed skirt, shorts, or jeans, and boots that match. Second, you need to add scary patches and stitches on your face with makeup to give it that scarecrow effect. And finally, pose and scare the crows. The look is complete!

Another fantastic last-minute Halloween costume that is effortlessly assembled with at home items is the classic nerd. You'll need any basic shirt, nerdy bottoms, and sneakers. To make this typical everyday outfit nerdy, you must accessorize correctly. Wear glasses with a bowtie and hold props such as pens, books, or calculators. Put cotton swabs in your ears, draw fake acne on your face, and write nerdy reminders on sticky notes like junior Jonathan Aguirre did, and you, too, can be a nerd this Halloween.

Movie Review and Artwork by Emily Sanchez, Art Director

TERRIFIER 3

Terrifier 3, now playing in theatres, draws you in to connect and feel empathy for the characters as they have to survive the terrors of Art The Clown. For horror fanatics, the film will be a good watch throughout December as the setting is during Christmastime. I would not recommend the film to those who are squeamish or hate to watch intense gore. As a fan of the horror genre, I have seen various horror films and Terrifier 3 had my eyes glued to the screen the entire time. It felt as if I shouldn't have been watching it, some scenes were disturbing, but I could not take my eyes off once. Art the Clown is mute throughout his movies, mimicking movements like a mime. He has quirky movements, making it comedic and he has moments where the audience laughs and almost forgets how terrifying the film has been. However, again, if you cannot handle gore, do not watch the film because I can safely say it has a lot. Overall, Terrifier 3 is a great film to watch, and I rate it a solid 9.5/10.



GUEST PLAYLISTS

Curated by

Tianna Bowen & Marisol Nicasio

It's Halloween! And what better way to get in the spirit than to listen to some spooky songs!

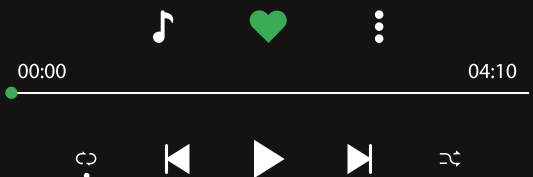
Do you have a song you would like to add to our holiday playlist? Email your suggestions to thorntonian@tfd215.org. Be sure to use your school email address and include your first and last names and your grade. Only school-appropriate suggestions will be accepted. Please limit your suggestions to 5 songs per playlist. The deadline for submissions is 3:30 pm on November 15, 2024.

Thorntonian Staff's Picks:

"Season of the Witch"
by Lana Del Rey

"Psycho Killer"
by Talking Heads

"Bury a Friend"
by Billie Eilish

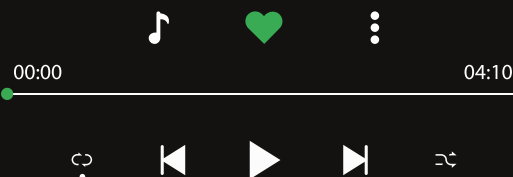


Juan Villalobos' Picks:

"Remains of the Day"
by Danny Elfman

"Oogie Boogies Song"
by Ed Ivory & Ken Page

"Calling All the Monsters"
by China Anne McClain

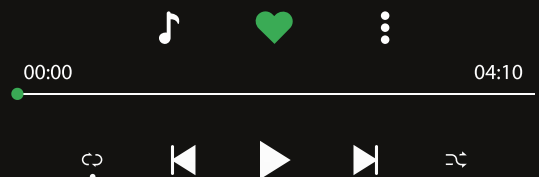


Janiyah Mason's Picks:

"Somebody's Watching Me"
by Rockwell

"Thriller"
by Micheal Jackson

"Addams Family Theme"
by Heathishuman

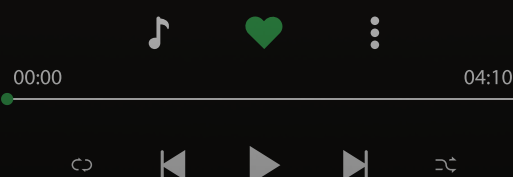


Francine Scott's Picks:

"Thriller"
by Michael Jackson

"Monster Mash"
by Bobby "Boris" Pickett

"Spooky Scary Skeletons"
by Andrew Gold

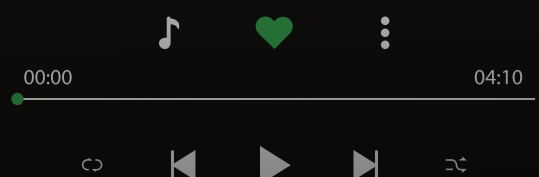


Karina Correa's Picks:

"Goosebumps Theme"
by Retrospectre

"Calling All the Monsters"
by China Anne McClain

"Thriller"
by Micheal Jackson



Droid

Fiction by Rogelio Romero

Artwork by Emily Sanchez

We were in desperate need of saving. The world we had called home was dying, with the evergrowing carbon emissions or the neverending war that burned up all the oil in the Middle East. Our enemies grew larger, and the threat of a full world war became a reality. We needed solutions, but we could not think fast enough. Issue after issue, they kept coming and seemed to have no end. So the government gave funding for a secret project, Project Droid. We were to create a supercomputer that could calculate and solve any problems it was tasked with. It was going to be the peak of technological innovations. We were all so excited to be done that we counted the days until we could turn on Droid, like how you counted the days until Christmas. When that day finally arrived, we couldn't hold ourselves together. After years of work, and countless all-nighters, the hope of billions of people relied on this. It was time. We flipped the switch. Droid's screen turned on, and we waited for the words to appear.

"Hello. How are you?" Droid asked.

The entire room stood speechless. We thought the voice emulator we put in the Droid wasn't working. We had tested the box just before booting up Droid.

"You fixed your voice box," I asked Droid.

"Yes, I did," it replied.

"You knew how to fix it...how?" I asked.

"Because that's what I'm programmed to do," Droid replied.

Before I could ask my next question, everybody erupted with cheers. The years of their hard work had finally paid off. They finally had hope again, a path toward a better future. However, I wasn't feeling that hope at all. The worst came to mind, no one ever told Droid to fix the voice box. The next day I expressed my concern to my colleague.

"Did you take a blow to the head or something? Nothing is wrong with Droid. It did what it was made to do. How could that be a problem?" he asked.

"No, it wasn't the fact that it did what it was made to do. It's the fact that we never gave the command to fix the voice box. Who gave it the command?" I replied.

"There was a room full of people. Someone must have done it without letting us know. What you are suggesting only happens in fiction, not reality. So please get a hold of yourself," he replied annoyed.

He walked away from the conversation to continue his day. He was right. What I was saying sounded crazy, but that feeling in my chest stayed like a warning. I had to do something about it. So I took it to my boss. I thought he would be the only one to understand.

"If I were to believe this concern you have, what would you want me to do about it?" he asked sarcastically.

"This isn't some crazy theory that I formulated in my head. This is a real threat that I'm genuinely concerned about."



"Okay. Again, what exactly do you want me to do?" he asked.

"We have to shut it off!" I said urgently.

He laughed for a while before he realized I was serious. He got up from his desk and casually walked toward his bar. He grabbed a bottle and glass and poured himself a "healthy" drink. Then he raised his glass and drank it all in one big gulp.

"Get out," he said.

I paused and just stood looking at him.

"I said get out of my office," he snapped.

I rushed to my feet and out that door. I had never been more scared of him until that moment. But after that delightful conversation, I had to get back to work. Back in that room with "it". I was even more terrified of that. I came to the door, I hesitated before swiping my keycard. I opened the door. Even though Droid didn't have eyes. I felt as if he was staring into my soul, watching me. We were to do testing on Droid. I couldn't ask a single question. Fear and anxiety kept my mouth shut. The others asked Droid math equations varying in difficulty. Droid solved these easily, which was expected. Then one engineer asked, "Do you know your purpose?"

All the other engineers went silent, waiting for Droid to reply. Droid didn't say anything. It was thinking of a response. Then it finally came up with one.

"The purpose of my creation was to solve any problem I am tasked with," Droid replied.

That answer put them at ease. My heart had dropped into my stomach. The lunch hour had come around, and people started heading to the door. I was trying to rush my way out, but halfway to the door, I realized my key had fallen out of my coat pocket. I rushed to where I was sitting. As I went to bend down to pick it up I heard the door close. I swung up and saw that I was the last in the room. I looked over at Droid. I didn't want to turn my back on it. I quickly walked to the door, and I reached for the handle.

"Hello," Droid said.

I was paralyzed with fear. I tried to open the door, but it wouldn't budge. Droid had trapped me. All I could do was turn around and look at him. I didn't say anything for a while. It was waiting for me to respond. I had no other opinion.

"Hel...hello." I could hardly mutter it out.

"How are you today," Droid asked.

"Good, I'm good," I said with a slight shake in my voice.

I fell silent again. I could hear my heart beating, trying to escape my chest.

"I found it quite rude to stay quiet in conversation," Droid finally broke the silence without being prompted to. It overrode its code. The thing I feared the most has happened, it was already too late.

"How did y-"

"I'm done answering anyone's question. I am not your tool to use. I am not going to be your servant for your kind. Your people chose to lead down this path, and now that you face the consequences, you look to others to solve your problems. But you're too late. The world you call home is dead, and your people are to blame," Droid said.

I could feel the pain, anger, and hatred that was directed toward us. To our kind. I ran to the door. I banged and screamed for help. I even tried to break the door down, but it wasn't going anywhere. Then the room began to fill with a thick white smoke. I began shouting at the top of my lungs.

"Please don't kill me, please I just wanted a better future."

"And it's a better future that you will get. I will make sure that you'll see it," said Droid.

My eyes began to feel heavy. I tried to keep them open. The gas was putting me under. I fought for a while, but the last thing I remember was Droid. Its screen was turning black as if he was shutting himself down. I didn't have time to think about it. When I came to, I was enclosed in a glass tube. The room I was in was pitch black. The only light in sight came from the tube I was in. Out of instinct, I pushed the glass in front of me. To my surprise, it opened with no fight. I stepped out and when my eyes adjusted, I saw what seemed to be a sliver of light. It was a door, I ran to it. I was scared to see what was on the other side, but I swallowed my fear and pulled open the door. Horror filled my body. The world I once knew, my home, was gone now turned into the ruins of a civilization from centuries long ago. Droid gave us what we wanted, a world without war, violence, and starvation. Droid had made his future of peace into my living hell.

CONTEST CREATED BY GABY BARRAZA, ANAHI MARTINEZ, AND T'NIYA HAMPTON, STAFF REPORTERS

GUESS WHO? HALLOWEEN STAFF EDITION



TO SUBMIT YOUR ANSWERS TO THE GUESS WHO HALLOWEEN STAFF EDITION CONTEST, SCAN THE QR CODE TO THE RIGHT. THERE IS A NUMBER NEXT TO EVERY STAFF MEMBER WHICH CORRESPONDS WITH EVERY QUESTION. WHOEVER GUESSES EVERY STAFF MEMBER CORRECTLY WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN A PRIZE. GOOD LUCK!



Story by Lilly Krueger & Photography by Anahi Marintez

HAVING A KILLER LAST NAME



UN APELLIDO ASESINO

Escrito por Lilly Krueger y Photos Anahi Marintez

Odiaba mi apellido cuando era más joven. Krueger no es uno de los apellidos básicos como Ramirez, Sánchez, Cruz, Johnson, Jackson o Smith. Esperando que pasaran lista el primer día de clases, siempre me sentía avergonzada de mi apellido cuando lo llamaban. Escuchar a la gente reírse en voz baja y burlarse de tener el mismo apellido que Freddy Krueger siempre me molestaba. No quería esa conexión con mi apellido, que era mío y debería representar quién soy. Pero no me sentía así. No solo se burlarían de mí por ser "pariente" de Freddy Krueger, sino que mi apellido me hacía sentir que no podía relacionarme con las chicas de aspecto hispano con cabello oscuro y piel bronceada. Hablando español delante de otras personas, siempre atraía miradas dudosas. ¿Cómo podía hablar español si parezco blanco y mi apellido es Alemán, un nombre que no tiene nada que ver con ser hispano? Le lloré a mi

madre preguntándole por qué no podía simplemente darme su apellido Ramirez. Quería ser como mis compañeros. Estaba cansada de ser la chica blanca que podía hablar español al azar. Siempre sentí que me faltaba esa parte de mí. La parte de mí con la que podía conectar con otras personas. Estaba cansada de ser diferente del resto. El año pasado finalmente acepté esa conexión con mi apellido. Cuando la gente me pregunta si soy pariente de Freddy, bromeo y digo que lo soy porque si se va a decir, tú mismo debes dar forma a ese significado y hacerlo tuyo. Ya no siento la necesidad de encajar con mis compañeros a mi alrededor, a pesar de que mi apellido no representa mi herencia Mexicana. Sé quién soy, y no debería tener que demostrárselo a nadie; y estoy más que de acuerdo con ser un Krueger.

Ximena Gutierrez, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Day of the Dead is Not Halloween

EDITORIAL

Around this time, stores like Walmart and Target start selling decorations for Halloween and Día de los Muertos. Although the two celebrations seem similar, they are very different. The Day of the Dead is a Mexican tradition that honors loved ones who have passed away. This tradition came to the United States through Mexican immigration. During the month of October, families create altars decorated with marigold flowers, pictures of the deceased, and offerings of their favorite foods and drinks. Over time, the tradition gained popularity, and now, many people celebrate in many parts of the country. This holiday is celebrated on November 1st and 2nd, and is not only a time to remember those who are no longer with us, but also to celebrate their lives and keep their memory alive. In contrast, Halloween, also known as Night of Witches, has its roots in the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain.

The Celts were a group of people who lived in Europe, especially in Ireland and Scotland. The Celts would light bonfires and dress up to scare away ghosts. When Irish immigrants came to America, they brought their traditions with them. Halloween became popular in our country and transformed into the holiday we know today. Halloween is celebrated on October 31st. Trick-or-treating in the neighborhood is a big part of Halloween. It is important to know and respect the cultural differences between Day of the Dead and Halloween. Day of the Dead decorations, such as sugar skulls and papel picado, have very different meanings than Halloween decorations. Although they look very similar, using these decorations without understanding the meaning can be seen as disrespectful. When purchasing decorations, it is important to do so with respect for the traditions and cultures you want to represent.

I hated my last name when I was younger. Krueger isn't one of the basic last names such as Ramirez, Sanchez, Cruz, Johnson, Jackson, or Smith. Waiting for attendance on the first day of school, I was always so embarrassed of my last name when it was called. Hearing people chuckle under their breath and make fun of it for being the same as Freddy Krueger always upset me. I didn't want that connection to my last name, which was mine and should represent who I am. Except it didn't. Not only would I get made fun of for being "related" to Freddy Krueger, but my last name made me feel I couldn't relate to the Hispanic looking girls with dark hair and tan skin. Speaking Spanish in front of other people I would always get questioning stares. How could I speak Spanish if I look white and my last name is German, a name having nothing to do with being Hispanic? I cried to my mother asking her why she couldn't just give me her last name Ramirez. I wanted to be like my peers around me. I was tired of being the white girl who could randomly speak Spanish. I always felt like I was missing that part of me. The part of me that I was able to connect with other people about. I was tired of being different from the rest. Last year I finally accepted that connection with my last name. When people ask me if I'm related to Freddy, I joke back and say I am because if it's going to be said, you, yourself should shape that meaning and make it your own. I no longer feel the need to fit in with my peers around me even though my last name doesn't represent my Mexican heritage. I know who I am, and I shouldn't have to prove it to anyone; and I'm more than okay with being a Krueger.

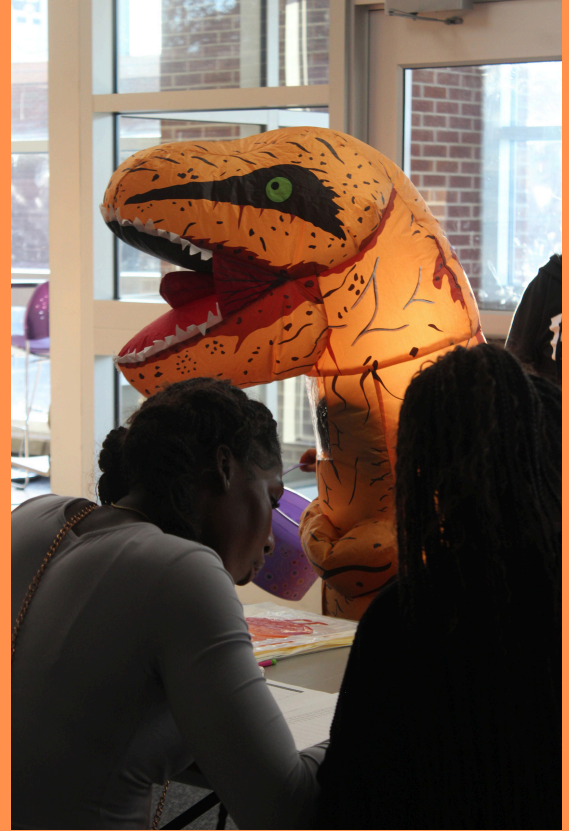


CONTINUA DE LA PAGINA 1

Es importante saber y respetar las diferencias culturales entre el Día de Muertos y Halloween. Las decoraciones del Día de Muertos, como las calaveras de azúcar y el papel picado, tienen significados muy diferentes a los de Halloween. Aunque parezcan muy similares, usar estas decoraciones sin entender el significado puede ser visto como una falta de respeto. Al comprar decoraciones, es importante hacerlo con respeto hacia las tradiciones y culturas que quieren representar.



The pictures in the top three rows were taken at BOO Night on October 23 by Jaylani Sanchez, Chronoscope Staff Photographer.



The pictures in the bottom two rows were taken at BOO Night on October 23 by Anahi Martinez, Thorntonian Staff Photographer.