

DeKalb School of the Arts

# OVER THE EDGE

Catching what you missed!

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HAPPY HALLOWEEN!  
October 2014

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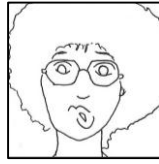
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# Scary Stories by the 2014-2015 Over the Edge Newspaper Team



Etienne Smith

Holding his mother's hand, the little boy finally had the courage to leap from the summit of the jungle gym. He walked to the sandbox where his mother lay surrounded by colorful buckets, shovels and toys on a bed of damp, reddened sand. He thanked her for quenching his bloodlust.



Darya Mack

I laid my head on my pillow and got under the covers as my husband wrapped his arms around me and gently brushed the hair off my neck. This would have been a normal occurrence if not for the fact that he passed away a week ago.



Abrianah Witchett

I just got out of a coma and the past few nights have been strange...I keep seeing my reflection in the mirror and hearing it scream, begging "let me out!"



Janae Beasley

I open chrome and go to the website. The worse message possible is on my screen. Commonapp is down.



Holyn Thigpen

The girl told him she loved him, but, alas, he could not believe it. Her heart lay lifeless on the pavement next to her.



Zahria Moore

She opened the letter with a giant smile. The smile remained when she passed out. *We are sorry to inform you....*



Imani Andwele

He laid in his bed fast asleep. He didn't believe in monsters in his closet. Then he heard a painfully slow scratch from inside his closet door.



Anna Caldwell

I always thought it was my cat who left the little dead "presents" at my doorstep daily until the day he was my daily present.



Maddy Laing

We watch horror movies to forget that the real monsters are inside of us.

Arlena McClenton

"All we need is a prick. That will do the job."

# Take a Rest on All Hallows Eve

By Zahria Moore



It's the season of All Hallows Eve, known popularly as Halloween! Though it's nice to discuss who's throwing the best Halloween party and the hottest costume this season, what about those who don't celebrate this cavity-seeking holiday? Do these people just sit at their front window watching the mass of trick-or-treaters ring their doorbells disappointedly? I would hope not. Since the holiday falls on a Friday this year, here are some interesting things to do on October 31<sup>st</sup>, for those of you who do not celebrate Halloween.

Something seasonal to do is attend a harvest festival. Many churches host these festivals with alternatives to trick-or-treating: music, games, and food. For the record, one does not have to be Christian

to attend or host a harvest festival. So if you hear of one in your area, don't be afraid to take part. General admission is usually affordable, so invite your family and/or friends to join you.

Are you a fan of scary movies? Awesome! October 31<sup>st</sup> is the one time of year when you can get a marathon of scary movies on cable. So if you have cable, specifically that which carries HBO, Showtime, Cinemax, etc., pop some popcorn and watch some scary movies. Don't think of it as celebrating the holiday, but taking advantage of the opportunities that come with it.

If you just don't have the time, the ride, or the money to do anything, do not fret. The best thing in your interest to do is rest. DSA senior Alexander Williams, a non-celebrator of the holiday, comments saying, "I just stay home and chill...like any other day." As anyone should! Treat the day as any other day. There is never a need to do anything that suits the season. If you can, get some extra sleep or get some homework done or just lie on your couch and look at TV...whatever makes you happy.

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## Spooky Happenings

By Holyn Thigpen



Well, it's that time of year again. Decorations are up, costumes are ready to be worn, and most importantly: creepy stories are ready to be told. We asked two of DSA's most mysterious teachers, Mongo and Mr. Yon about their creepiest experiences. Their stories may shock you...

Jeffrey Nealer was hired to work lighting at a newly renovated gymnasium. Arriving, he was told that the only man who knew how to run the lighting panel had died quite recently. Thinking nothing of this, Mongo started setting up and trying to work the lights, but encountered some extremely strange problems while doing so. Lights that were not meant to come on would flash at the pull of a handle, while lights deemed good for usage refused to turn on. Not only this, but lights came on without anyone around the board to test them. During the show lights were unplugged and disconnected in the hopes of creating a blackout. The power cord was completely cut off from the circuit. In fact, Mongo himself held it in his hand, but the light still shone across the stage.

Mr. Yon used to live in an older home in Charleston, South Carolina. Built in the mid 1800's, this house had always had a slightly creepy feel to it. The only room in the house with a lock was Mr. Yon's bedroom, and paranoid, he locked himself in every night before he went to sleep. One night while he was lying in bed, he thought he heard footsteps outside of his bedroom and in the neighboring rooms. He tried to ignore it and go back to sleep, but within seconds the bedroom door flew open. Mr. Yon, armed only with a baseball bat, ventured throughout the house in desperate search for the intruder. After checking every floor and finding nothing, he came to the conclusion that it must have been something paranormal or supernatural. After all, there were rumors that a man working on the house long ago had fallen off of a ladder to his death. Who else could it have been?

Were Mr. Yon and Mongo really visited by ghosts? Were the things that happened to them real, or merely products of the imagination, maybe even an insane coincidence? We may never know...and perhaps that's for the best.

# Last-Minute Halloween Costumes



By: Maddy Laing

Excited for Halloween DSA students? But did you make sure to get a costume? Whether you're trick or treating, going to a party, or having a horror movie marathon, dressing up is a must. But what if in all the excitement, you forgot a costume? Don't fear; here's a list of some quick, cute, DIY (Do It Yourself) costumes you can throw together with things from around your house!

1. The classic, black cat: For this costume there's quite a bit of flexibility, but the essentials are a black marker or eyeliner, and an all-black top and bottoms combo. Then you can use the eyeliner to draw some cute whiskers and maybe a nose. This is a purrrfect costume!
2. For a more innocent look, you can always depend on an angel! Find either a white dress or white pants and shirt combo. After that, all you need is a crown. You can either make one out of pipe cleaners, or cut one out of white paper!
3. If you're looking for a creepy yet modern costume, zombie is the way to go. Take an old shirt and pants and tear some holes in them. Once you've got the perfect outfit, use eyeliner and eyeshadow to give yourself that back-from-the-dead look. Finally you are going to fix your hair for that perfect messy yet cute mix, and you've got a fun and easy look!
4. One last look is a classic hippie. You can achieve this chill look with some simple steps. First you're going to find your hippie clothes (if you're not sure about what to wear you can find some great examples on the internet.) Then you're going to get a headband to wear around your forehead and if you've got them, the classic circular John Lennon glasses.

Well now that you've got your fun, homemade costume, you're ready to have your best Halloween yet! Have a spook-tacular Halloween DSA!



# Dark Night

By Arlena McClenton

Anticipation runs high for DSA's most popular fall show, Dark Night, which premieres on November 14th and runs until the 16th at DSA's Kyle Theater. This year, the three-night-long show will showcase the works of twenty-two second year creative writers who've been busy penning their plays since September.

The process was intense. The second years in 4th period often went to the library to discuss ideas, write, and later, peer edit and critique their completed plays.

Yet that was only the first stage. In keeping with a new tradition, the writers then gave their scripts to students from Drama Ensemble, DSA's premiere acting group. Since last year, Drama Ensemble has had the privilege of casting and directing the plays.

Previously, Dark Night writers had the opportunity to direct their own plays from start to finish. Some people miss the old arrangement, but others believe that the new process more closely mimics the real world.

In addition to Drama Ensemble members, advanced drama students like Darya Mack were invited to cast and direct the latest crop of plays. A fourth year, Darya wrote and directed her own play for Dark Night a few years ago. This year, she's eager to direct someone else's.

"I'm so excited about the play I'm

directing," she said. "It's about Chance the Rapper and Childish Gambino, who are people I'm not super familiar with. It's a good learning experience." After mentioning that she's listened to some of their music and liked it, she also said "that the casting process was really difficult, but I ended up with two great people in the end."

Elizabeth Kiefer, a senior, wrote a play that flirts with many different genres, including comedy, drama, fantasy, and mystery. She described it as "an action-packed monologue." When asked how she felt about giving her work to Drama Ensemble, she said she felt "pretty chill" about it and trusts their vision.

Nasreen Abd'Elal, a junior, wrote a play for Dark Night last year called "Low Exit". It was based on a Jean-Paul Sartre play called "No Exit" about two people trapped in a waiting room. She says she's very excited about this year's Dark Night. "I've been in a creative writing class with a lot of second years who are writing their plays. I don't know much about it, but what I've seen looks promising and cool."

Though some authors enjoy explaining their plays in great detail, others prefer to give their plays an air of mystery. Beatriz Mora, a senior, is also writing a play for this year's Dark Night. "My play is about an impersonator. Just before a show, he has some . . . troubles. But I don't want to give too much away."

This offers only a snippet of Dark Nights both past and present. The legendary collection of plays will always make one laugh, cry, and think.



# Cinematic Nightmares

By Anna Caldwell



Ah, it's finally Halloween. October is the perfect time of the year to watch horror movies every night without being considered strange. However, for every scream-inducing piece of cinema, there are some movies that do not live up to cinematic standards. These two horror movies are scary for all the wrong reasons. Take a look... if you dare.

**Troll 2 (1990), PG-13-** Don't worry, no knowledge of the first *Troll* movie is necessary to enjoy this movie. In fact, this film isn't even an official sequel to the B-Movie *Troll*, and was produced independently from the original. *Troll 2* is a movie about a boy's family taking a vacation to the town of Nilbog, only for the child to discover that the townsfolk are secretly goblins (an odd choice of creatures for a movie with *Troll* in the title.) but plant-eating goblins who wish to transform the family into half-plant beings so that they can be eaten. This concept, bizarre writing, and over-the-top acting make this film less of a horror and more of a comedy.

**Birdemic: Shock and Terror (2010), Not Rated-** To fully appreciate this film, one must first consider Alfred Hitchcock's 1963 film *The Birds*, a suspense/horror film about avian wildlife growing increasingly hostile and attacking the residents of Bodega Bay, California. Now imagine, if you will, if Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* was produced in the modern day with no budget and a script that only remembers it was supposed to be a horror movie halfway through. That movie would probably be much better than *Birdemic*. The first half of the movie follows the life of Rod, a man whose life is perfect, and Nathalie, his love interest. This half of the movie can be difficult to watch, as there's nothing for the characters to actually do. However, as the two take a romantic getaway to a Motel 6, disaster strikes California in the form of the most poorly animated birds to ever hit the silver screen. Even though it's only four years old, this film is upheld as one of the best bombs out there.



## DSA Secret Societies: Culture Club

By Darya Mack



This year, with the support of students such as Darya Mack and Lauren Smith, Mr. Dickson, DSA's French teacher, has started the International Culture and Language club.

This club is meant to highlight and explore the cultures that we have within DSA's doors as well as those that we don't know as much about. The club plans to hold a culture day,

various food days, and foreign movie nights. Atlanta has a lot of events year round such as the Greek festival, and the club will attend some of these events as a group.

In addition, Culture club will publicize various countries' independence days and have one-day language lessons in languages that we don't offer at DSA such as Italian, Russian, and German.

So far, there have been two meetings, but the club usually meets the second Wednesday of every month at 8 AM. Keep your ears open for more announcements and check out the DSA International Language and Culture Club!

# Why are the Ceilings Crying?



By Abrianah Witchett

Many of us have come to the conclusion that DSA's ceilings are "crying" because of the water buckets we see in the hallways. When really, it's a bit more technical than that.

According to Principal McCauley, the roofs are not leaking, it's the air conditioning units that are. AC units cool the air by removing moisture and humidity. When it is really warm out, there is lots of humidity in the air. When this happens in our school, sometimes the dehumidifying parts of the AC units, which is what removes humidity from the air, can not keep up, causing condensation and water to drip in places.

While we are unsure if the leak is what is causing

some rooms to be warmer than others, we are sure that it won't be here much longer. McCauley says that generally in the winter time, we won't need buckets because we are more focused on heating the school rather than cooling it. Therefore we won't have to worry much about the AC units or dehumidifiers.

McCauley also states that it is tamed, and she has no concern that the water buckets being in the hall are causing any health or safety hazards. The buckets are emptied regularly, keeping mosquitos and other insects from breeding in the units. And it is made sure that when not necessary, we do not have the buckets lingering. Therefore it is not putting any of us at risk of danger or illness.

We are not the only school in the state undergoing this problem, McCauley says, in fact, we may not even be the only school in the district. This assures us that our school is in good condition, and there are no health hazards. It is all just a matter of the weather.

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## Recipe of the Month: DIY (Healthy-er!) Pumpkin Spice Latte



By Darya Mack

### Ingredients

2 tablespoons canned pumpkin	2 tablespoons vanilla extract
½ teaspoon pumpkin pie spice	1 cup milk
½ teaspoon black pepper	½ cup black coffee
Honey to taste	Whipped coconut cream* (or regular whipped cream)

### Directions

1. Heat and stir the pumpkin and spices in a pan on medium heat until it is hot; about 2 minutes. Then add honey.
2. Mix in the milk and vanilla and warm the mixture.
3. Pour the coffee into a mug and top with the milk mixture and some whipped cream.

\* Making whipped coconut cream is super easy and delicious, and better for you than traditional whipped cream! All you will need is a can of full fat coconut milk, and maple syrup, honey, or another sweetener. Don't shake the can, and once you open it, scoop out the densest top cream. Put that into a container and add sweetener to taste. Shake it up for about two minutes, and you've got a fantastic healthier alternative to whipped cream!



A D3A  
EXCLUSIVE  
COMIC

By *Frank Jones*

# The Adventures of **SUPERGIRL**

EPISODE 2



# HOROSCOPES

*By Madame Esmeralda*

## **Scorpio**

(October 24 - November 21)

Try to let your troubles go, relax. Put your legs up, and kick back. Focus on your own needs and let others worry about theirs.

## **Taurus**

(April 20 - May 20)

Focus on what you love to do. Furthering your experience and ability in this will bring you a greater sense of yourself and overall happiness.

## **Sagittarius**

(November 22 - December 21)

Your life has been filled with twists and turns, winding roads. Some journeys will end, but your future holds many more adventures.

## **Gemini**

(May 21 - June 20)

You have recently been made more aware of yourself, your passions, and what makes you tick. Run with this. This introspection is healthy.

## **Capricorn**

(December 22 - January 19)

Try to think through your decisions. Obstacles will be thrown your way. It would benefit you to handle them with care and thought.

## **Cancer**

(June 21 - July 22)

They say, "forgive and forget." Well, you should at least try to forgive. Move on and put the past behind you. This will give you room to grow.

## **Aquarius**

(January 20 - February 18)

If you keep pushing forward and maintain a pleasant state of being, you may find yourself a new friend or companion as Uranus (your ruling planet), Mars, and Jupiter will align in your astrological triangle.

## **Leo**

(July 23 - August 22)

Search for and find what challenges you. Embrace these challenges and face them with everything you're made of. You can do anything if you try hard enough.

## **Pisces**

(February 19 - March 20)

Life will be pushing you out of your comfort zone. Accept it and embrace your newfound courage. You've got this.

## **Virgo**

(August 23 - September 21)

Recognize your true worth. It will do you the most good to recognize just what brilliance you are made of and share it with the world.

## **Aries**

(March 21 - April 19)

Be aware of the loved ones in your life. They're there for you, and now it's your turn to be there for them. They may need you more than you know.

## **Libra**

(September 22 - October 23)

You can be very sensitive, and right now, your environment is asking a lot of you. The people around you may not always understand, so take the time and get yourself on track.