

Celestev Caballero, Staff Reporter

Día de los muertos: embracing culture & processing grief

EDITORIAL

Día de los muertos is a special holiday to celebrate the dead in Mexican culture. I've always wanted to celebrate this holiday as a proud Mexican-American, even though I don't speak Spanish fluently or fit the usual stereotype. Through different times in my life, I have been told to embrace my culture or I have been told I am just white. It has made it difficult for me to understand my own identity and try to be comfortable with being in touch with my Mexican side. It has been getting easier to do. Being on the Thorntonian Staff and hearing other people's stories has helped me be more comfortable with embracing myself and my culture. I have lost many people in my life, and my grief is a big setback. It also gives me motivation to want to be a social worker in the future. Día de los muertos is from Oct. 27th-Nov. 3rd, and each day represents a different group of souls to visit. The way to celebrate is with ofrendas, which are altars made by the loved ones of the souls coming. A photo of them is placed on the altar with welcoming gifts and offerings for the dead. Marigold flowers are especially important for the multi-day holiday. They help the spirits be guided by their bright colors. A white candle is lit, and the altars are decorated with colorful papel picado and calaveritas. Ofrendas are made in households or in cemeteries so those can visit their loved ones. I am making an ofrenda to honor my loved ones I have lost, even though it has been a tough experience trying to navigate this tradition alone. I am determined to do it for my family who have passed on, especially for my mother. Grief is the hardest thing to experience because it doesn't go away. This Mexican tradition makes death so beautiful. Dealing with the loss of a loved one can lead you into many different rabbit holes. Being able to celebrate and honor the dead is a healthy way to get through your grief and even if you aren't Mexican, a picture of your loved one can always go on the altar to honor their spirit. This commemoration is also a good way to get in touch with your culture if you are feeling disconnected or would want to be closer. Día de los muertos will always be a celebration of both death and life. Whether the tradition is being passed down or just started, it is open to all those who are mourning or trying to connect.



TFN students pose for a group photo in the cafeteria before Boo Night.

Photo credit: Alejandra Vazquez Nevarez, Staff Photographer

Story by Florah Dismuke, Staff Reporter

TFN hosts Boo Night for the community Over 140 children attend annual Halloween tradition

T.F. North held its annual Boo Night event that took place on October 22, 2025 from 4:30-6:30 pm in the cafeteria and English Department hallway. Boo Night is an event for families to bring their children in their Halloween costumes to do crafts, play games, and trick-or-treat. The event was organized by Ms. Pasarelli, Ms. Galvan, and Ms. Rising, along with support from students, who helped plan the night as a safe and creative way to celebrate Halloween. Several teachers from different departments and students worked together to bring the event to life, helping with decorations, games, and supervision throughout the night. The event would not have been nearly as enjoyable or successful without the assistance of the students and teachers. The purpose of this event was to unite the school community and highlight how wonderful the students are for contributing to the fun. "I want everyone to have a good time and for the community to come together. I hope the students see the best in themselves, each other, and the community," said Pasarelli. Many of the young children who attended Boo Night might eventually grow up to be high school students wanting to volunteer for the event, therefore, the participation of the teachers and students is important. The

success of the event was largely due to the creativity of Galvan, who planned the layout and design. "We usually start planning about a month before. Since we have to send out the Google Form for families to register, then the staff and [their] families to register, and then a few weeks before the actual event they have the guidance office call the families out to remind them, and then we just wait for turnout on the night," said Galvan. Thanks to Rising and the students' commitment, the event remained well-organized and fun for all. Rising arranged the spooky hallway in close collaboration with the students and made sure that everything went smoothly without any trouble all night long. "We made sure that the kids who were volunteering knew what they were doing. We let them choose what they were doing, get acclimated to that section, but beforehand, we started decorating, getting everything ready right after school," said Rising. Students who dressed in their own Halloween costumes handed out candy to the children as they trick-or-treated. "Dressing up adds to the fun of Boo Night because you're not yourself, you can be different and express whatever you want to do," said senior T'niya Hampton who dressed as Stitch.

Spooky Cookies

Cris Flores

Want to learn how to make spooky eye cookies for your Halloween party?

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Scary Movies Recommendations

Malayah Whitted

Easily spooked? Check out some horror movies you can actually enjoy.

page 13

Supernatural Scares

Alejandra Vazquez-Nevarez

Learn more about stories and myths that have been passed down for generations.

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Letters to the Editor

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

Thanks for sharing a very powerful and personal story [Anahi Martinez]. Reading your story, "Not Hispanic Enough...", has given me a different perspective. The honesty and emotion you expressed about how you don't feel "Hispanic enough" showed another side of who you are that many people cannot understand. Even though I am not Hispanic, your story could apply to some of us because I understand what it's like to feel like you have to prove who you are to others or to feel like you don't fit in. What I loved most about your writing was how real and vulnerable it was. You didn't try to be perfect, you just told your truth, and that made it even more inspiring.

Zyerra Rogers, TFN

I want to thank the writer of "Not Hispanic Enough..." [Anahi Martinez]for sharing such a personal and powerful message. It takes a lot of courage to speak openly about things like your identity, especially when it doesn't always fit into other people's expectations. It reminded me that no one should have to prove how connected they are to their culture. Language, appearance, and fluency do not define someone's heritage or worth. It reminded me that everyone's experience is different, and that diversity should be accepted, not judged. What stood out most to me was how the writer moved from feeling ashamed to feeling inspired. That's something many people, from all kinds of backgrounds, can relate to. Just because someone doesn't meet a stereotype doesn't make them any less a part of their culture. Thank you for showing that there isn't just one way to be who you are, and that being proud of your identity matters much more than meeting someone else's standards.

Ariyah Bradford, TFN

The latest newspaper story, "Not Hispanic Enough...", relates to how I've experienced growing up with "Sangre de Mexicana" but "nacida en America." I've had two sides of expectations, whether that being following the expectations of an American or the expectations of a Mexican. I speak two languages, and I'm still not understood. My Mexican roots mean so much to me, I try to embrace my features in a society where people cover and change them. I know I'm not the perfect representation of a Mexican daughter because I'm still figuring my own life out on my own. When I was a child, I didn't know Spanish not because I didn't want to, but because my parents never had time to teach me a language that wasn't used in school. I spent more time surrounded by people who spoke English than Spanish. I've grown. I taught myself my father's language. I learned how to write, speak, and understand it. It might not be perfect, but it's more than others who don't try. I grew up surrounded by a mother who taught me to never depend on others but myself, in a community where they usually tend to depend on a "Man". I've matured. I've grown. I've learned on my own, and it's never enough. I do believe the newspaper has a deep connection to my own personal experiences, and I love being able to read things related to those topics. Thank you for speaking out!

Naleny Rosales, TFN

When reading "Not Hispanic Enough...", I've never related to something so much before. It brought a sense of comfort into my heart knowing I am not the only person who struggles with not fitting in the Hispanic standards. Growing up, Spanish was my first language, but as I grew up and entered school I lost it. I lost it because it was tiring being constantly shamed for not knowing my native language or for not having the features of a Hispanic person. As I continue to grow and mature, I regret not knowing how to speak Spanish as fluently, simply because I cared about the opinions of others. Nowadays, shaming people for being "no sabos" or not having the appearance of a Hispanic person is normalized when it shouldn't be. It's heart-warming to see that these types of topics are being spoken about more. Thank you for speaking out about this.

Ariana Terrazas, TFN

When I finished Anahi Martinez's article, "Not Hispanic Enough..." I really liked how she expressed how she felt about being placed in a stereotype just because of her appearance. I feel like most of the time people judge because they are not educated, so judging seems like the easier way out. But what is not always noticed is how being put in a box can make someone feel. In her writing, she spoke up, and that can be very hard to do. I truly felt moved by her courage and honesty about struggling to feel accepted by her own community. Reading this reminded me that culture cannot be determined by how someone looks or speaks because you cannot take someone's culture away from them just because you don't understand them. There isn't any specific way to be Hispanic or to be who you are, and that is something that makes every person unique in their own way. I just wanted to applaud Anahi for staying true to who she is and for learning to not let anyone's opinion take that away from her.

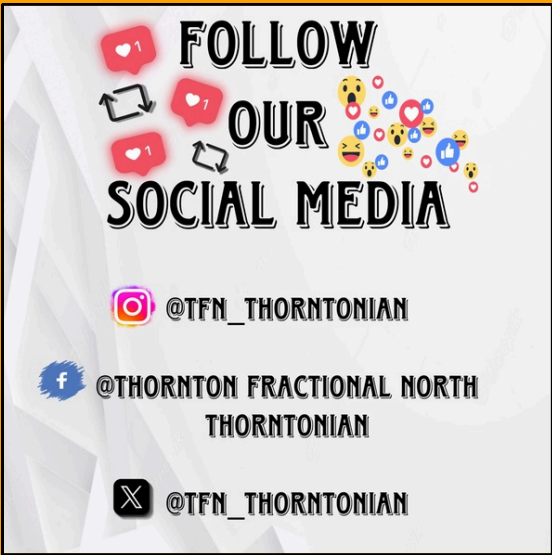
Zamariah Roper, TFN

I really enjoyed reading the Culinary Arts story [by Ms Bartlett]. I think it's great that a former alumna came back to visit as a guest speaker and provided them lessons, too. I thought it was really nice that she challenged the culinary students to a showdown to see if anyone could beat her whipping cream by hand. That sounds fun and difficult at the same time. What caught my eye the most was that the culinary classes also helped Gabi prep for a community fundraiser at the Jones Center in Chicago Heights. I love it when people help other people, especially when it comes to helping people that need help. It's very inspiring and kind. Gabi sounds like an amazing chef, also. Her achievements don't go unrecognized either...I think even being able to be a head chef is amazing because my cooking skills aren't the best. This story was very inspiring. I've never thought about being a Chef, but this article makes it very convincing that you can do whatever you put your mind to, maybe even being a head chef one day.

Lauren Carter, TFN

Upcoming Events

- November 11 - No School Veterans Day
- November 26 - No School
- November 27 - Thanksgiving Day
- November 28 - No School



2025-2026

Thorntonian Staff

Staff Reporters:

- Monica Aceves
- Alexa Baker
- Celeste Caballero
- Florah Dismuke
- Cris Flores
- Maritza Gonzalez
- Na'Yanna Green
- Jaylani Sanchez
- Alejandra Vazquez Nevarez
- Malayah Whitted
- Amare Wilson

Editorial Board:

- Lizbeth Solorio, Jefa de redaccion
- Anahi Martinez, Editor-in-Chief

Faculty Advisor:

- Mr. Joseph Stephan

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 District 215 community. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of District 215 unless otherwise noted.

National French Week begins Nov. 3

Story by
Alexa Baker, Staff Reporter

National French Week is an annual event to celebrate the French language and Francophone culture in the U.S., and was originally created by Charles A. Downer, who was the first president of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) at the time, in 1927. The National French Week events at T.F. North will take place on November 3, 4, and 6th. On Monday, November 3, the Société Honoraire de Français will be hosting a screening of Ratatouille after school in room 131. Snacks will be provided. On Tuesday, November 4, the LRC will be hosting a French cultural discovery experience after school from 3:45-4:30. Student favorites such as the Mona Lisa scavenger hunt and Eiffel Tower building contest will be back as well as some new activities. The week concludes on Thursday, November 6 with the annual crepe party to celebrate the new members of the Société Honoraire de Français: Alexa Baker, Angel Black, Jabari Jones, Jayda McDonald, Vanessa Perez, Madelynn Smith, Allister Tinajero, and Andrea Vargas. “For \$5 (cash only), students will be able to make unlimited crepes and decorate French-themed cookies,” said Ms. VanRoosendaal. If students haven’t signed up and still want to attend, see Mrs. VanRoosendaal in room 131. It’s necessary for students to sign up via the QR codes around the school. “French Honors Society students will be preparing the batter and are responsible for organizing and making sure that this week goes off without a hitch...It brings me a lot of joy to see how students have responded to and participated in French Week the past few years, and I’m very happy to continue this tradition [for the students],” said VanRoosendaal.

La Semaine Nationale de Français débute 3 nov.

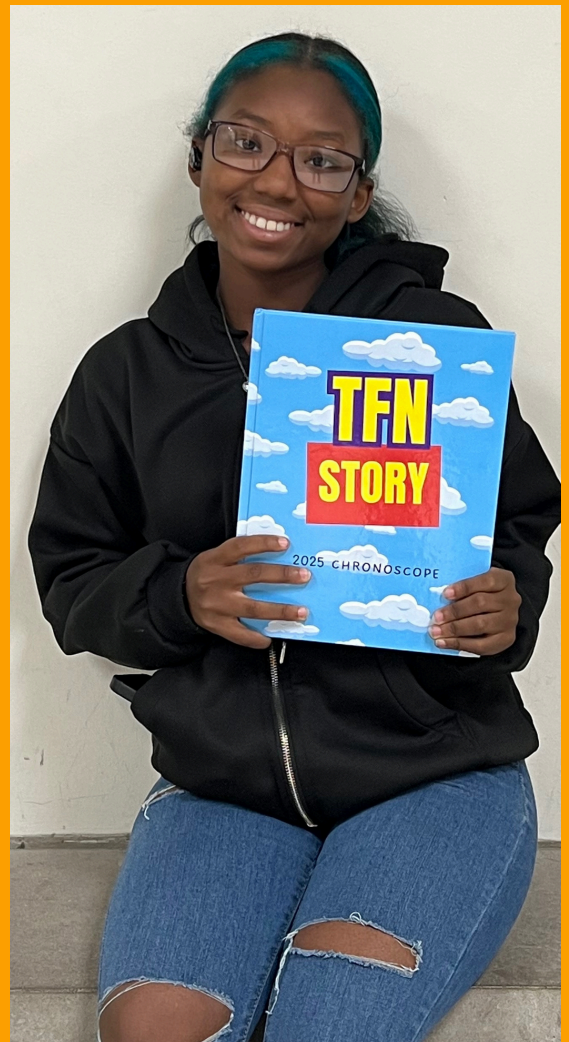
Article de
Alexa Baker, journaliste
Traduit de
Ms. VanRoosendaal, TFN personnel

La Semaine Nationale de Français est un événement annuel pour célébrer la langue française et la culture francophone aux États-Unis, et a été créé par Charles A. Downer, le premier président de l'Association Américaine des Professeurs de Français (AAPF) en 1927. Les événements de la Semaine nationale français à T.F. North aura lieu le 3, 4, et 6 novembre. Lundi, le 3 novembre, la Société Honoraire de Français sponsorisera une séance cinéma dans la salle 131 à 3h45 pour voir le film Ratatouille. Mardi, le 4 novembre, Il y aura une fête culturelle dans le LRC avec beaucoup d'activités amusantes et enrichissantes. Jeudi, le 6 c'est le grand jour - l'induction des nouveaux membres dans la Société Honoraire de Français. Ils sont: Alexa Baker, Angel Black, Jabari Jones, Jayda McDonald, Vanessa Perez, Madelynn Smith, Allister Tinajero, et Andrea Vargas. “Pour \$5, les participants peuvent faire des crêpes à volonté et décorer les biscuits en forme de France,” a dit Madame VanRoosendaal. Si les étudiants ne se sont pas inscrits et veulent toujours assister, voir Mme. VanRoosendaal dans la salle 131. Il est nécessaire de s'inscrire pour les événements avec les codes QR partout dans TF North. “Bien sûr, les membres de SHF sont responsables de tous les préparatifs. Ça me donne beaucoup de joie d'offrir ces activités pour les élèves de TF North. Elles sont toujours bien reçues et j'ai hâte d'accueillir tout le monde la semaine prochaine. Je suis aussi très reconnaissante de mes collègues qui soutiennent notre programme,” a dit Mme. VanRoosendaal.

Final call for 2025 yearbooks

Story by
Jaylani Sanchez, Staff Reporter

Have you purchased your 2025 yearbook yet? There are only 10 copies left for sale. They are \$30 each, cash only. You can get yours from Mr. Stephan in room 142 while supplies last. Once they're gone, that is it! Make sure to grab yours before it's too late!



Chronoscope Staff member T'niya Hampton shows off one of the last remaining 2025 yearbooks. Students can purchase them in room 142. Photo credit Jaylani Sanchez

Story by Monica Aceves, Staff Reporter Photo by Mr. Stephan

TFN writers attend SSC Publications Conference

On October 24, the newspaper staff along with members of the yearbook and literary magazine staffs attended the SSC Publication Conference at Reavis High School. 14 schools attended the conference. The newspaper, yearbook, and literary magazine students were able to pick different workshop sessions and connect with other students. The Thorntonian Staff felt proud to speak on their favorite part of the Thorntonian which was the bilingual stories in Spanish and a new story in French. Liz Solorio, the Jefa de redaccion, and Anahi Martinez, the Editor-in-Chief shared their leadership experiences with other Chiefs. The SSC schools that were in attendance shared that they do not have an additional language added to their papers. “It’s really cool to be in an inclusive paper, especially in these hard times for Hispanics in the U.S.

I’m really proud that I was there when we began writing in Spanish last school year and that I was able to carry it on to this school year,” said Solorio. “As an editor, I’m proud to be able to represent multiple cultures in our community,” added Martinez. The yearbook and literary magazine staff members also found the workshops helpful. “The photography tips were my favorite part because a lot of schools get professionals to take pictures, and teaching students on how to take good pictures gets the students to engage more with journalism and gives them more options in the future,” said senior Alejandra Vazquez, who is also a member of the Chronoscope Staff. “I got new [ideas for] narratives and stories,” added junior Diana Martinez of the T.F. North Literary Magazine.

Liz Solorio and Monica Aceves compare notes on the ride home from the conference.



What was your worst nightmare?

Survey conducted by Staff Reporters Amare Wilson & Na’Yanna Green
Layout designed by Anahi Martinez, Editor-in-Chief

“Demon attack,” said Isaac Major, TFS.

“When I was younger I had a recurring nightmare about a rooster's shadow that appeared on my wall. I was like 5 and it felt super scary. One night I was so scared that I kicked my wall while sleeping and the plant on the shelf fell on me. I woke up with a mouth full of dirt. See? Terrifying!,” said Ms. Biegel, TFN.

“A zombie apocalypse happened and I was the last one standing,” said Za'Nayvieah Barnes, TFS.

“Being silent, no one hearing what I have to say, and being completely invisible or ignored,” said Naxieli Martinez, TFS.

“Crashing my car off a bridge and into a lake and only having time to rescue two family members before it sinks,” said Mr. Kawa, TFN.

“Being in the woods and hearing screams growing closer but not seeing anything,” said Ryan Palevino, TFS.

“Falling from the sky,” said Jordan Russell, TFS.

“Getting chased by some type of killer,” said Kaleb Watts, TFS.

“Sleep paralysis,” said Jordan Russell, TFS.

“Something tall chasing after me,” said Qelsen Jones, TFN.

“Getting my car stolen,” said Jose Gonzalez, TFN.

“6 ft. tall weird looking bugs surrounding me when I was a kid,” said Gabriel Herrera, TFN.

“My worst nightmare I was stuck in school but I was abandoned and there were zombies trying to get us (it was recurring) and basically it was like hide and seek and if you get caught, you get eaten,” said Danielle Cross, TFN.

“Getting chased by a group of clowns,” said Amani Gomez, TFN.

“Being chased by something and not being able to run any faster,” said Ava Collins, TFS.

“Having a nightmare within a nightmare about gorillas and dinosaurs eating humans,” said Christopher Wilbourn, TFN.

“When I got stuck in a porta potty,” said Oluwatumise Ogundeyi, TFN.

“When my parents brought the Annabelle doll home,” said Jalen Griggs, TFN.

“My worst nightmare was losing to T.F. North,” said Marvin Gains, TFS.

“Something chasing me and I was running too slow,” said Angel Washington, TFS.

“I was being rejected by my friends over and over, no matter what I did they shut me out,” said Darryl Klain, TFS.

“Where I was trapped on a roller coaster under water,” said Ranay Peters, TFS.

“Being on the toilet while being robbed,” said Ezekiel Castillo, TFS.

“I was getting chased by this tall, dark figure with no face,” said Jekira Coley, TFN.

“A bunch of bugs coming out of me,” said Camden Young, TFS.

“My worst nightmare was when I was alone in a forest in the dark and saw a person walking around trying to stay hidden every few minutes while I tried to find someone I knew,” said Juan Meraz, TFN.

“Disappointing people,” said Kaitlyn Knight, TFS.

“I was back in my old house surrounded by bugs, spiders, ants, and just all the horses,” said Anthony Brown, TFN.

“A bird pooping on my head,” said Shekkinah Ogedegbe, TFN.

“Uhhhhhh I had a nightmare that my house got swatted,” said Anthony Guerra, TFN.

“Truck grabbers,” said Amontay Williams, TFS.

“Dying in my dream, because something that is a sign of something,” said Caleb Weathers, TFS.

“Snakes,” said Ruben Pastrana, TFN.

“Being stuck in the middle of the ocean at night and a gigantic boat just drives by,” said Ja'Zyria Willis, TFN.

“Being part of war as a soldier,” said Miguel Cross, TFN.

“Spiders,” said Ahnesti Covington, TFN.

“I went to school with no pants multiple nights over and over,” said Stephen Jones, TFN.

“Michael Myers,” said Makhi May, TFN.

“My worse nightmare was when I was little, I was dreaming that I saw a man getting in my yard and trying to get in my house,” said Brenda Munoz, TFN.

“My mother chasing me with a belt saying why didn't you take out the chicken,” said Quwamdeen Oshota, TFN.

“My mom being kinda homeless,” said Diego Morales, TFN.

“Waking up broke” said Josiah Magana, TFN.

“Zombies ” said Alysya Morrow, TFN.

“A ton of shadowy silhouettes running towards my family from our backyard,” said Lamar Sherard, TFN.

“Failing a test on a final exam day,” said Marco Cuanetl, TFN.

“Drowning,” said Breanna Merkson, TFN.

“Failing a grade or being separated from my family,” said Amaya McClinton, TFN.

“My worst nightmare was when I was little I had this nightmare that this scary person with a mask picked me up then dropped me but I was dropping in slow motion so I woke up in sweat and was scared,” said Kenailah Barnes, TFN.

“Falling from a Ferris wheel,” said Azumi Guzman, TFN.

“That I fell off earth,” said Jamel Walls TFN.

“Getting cat called,” said Aniyah Forbes TFN.

“My worst nightmare was when I had seen 3 zombies in my room eating me alive,” said Ximena Gonzalez, TFN.

What is something you think is scary?

Survey conducted by Staff Reporters Amare Wilson & Na’Yanna Green

Layout designed by Malayah Whitted, Staff Reporter

“Centipedes,” said Kat Wood, TFS.

“Climate change,” said Ms. Biegel, TFN.

“Slenderman,” said Za’Nayvieah Barnes, TFS.

“Moving shadows,” said Alex Bouck, TFS.

“Big bodies of water,” said Mikayla Brooks, TFS.

“Death,” said Nathan Garcia, TFS.

“Trump,” said Adrain Orozco, TFN.

“Another you,” said Khalil Norris, TFN.

“Someone following me,” said Jaliyah McMillian, TFN.

“Actual haunted places,” said Miguel Cross, TFN.

“Animal remains,” said Rodney Barnett, TFN.

“A person with no skin and the movie slugs,” said Jason Harris, TFS.

“Sink holes,” said Ms. Gross, TFS.

“Haunted objects or people, being stalked, paranormal interactions,” said Lymari Vargas, TFN.

“I think in my opinion that it is really scary how there are real haunted places in the world that have a very powerful aura that can attract demons and other paranormal entities. They can really control the vibe the place gives off. Also, sleep paralysis seems very scary to me since I have heard of real life experiences of it,” said William Jacome, TFN.

“Someone being around you that you don't know and they scare you and chase you,” said Bryezel Landeros, TFN.

“Being broke,” said Anothony Ruth, TFS.

“Anything that crawls too fast,” said Dasia Wilkins, TFS.

“Killer clowns,” said Lukas Rincon, TFS.

“Job applications,” said Ezekiel Castillo TFS.

“Bugs,” said Raina Wilson, TFS.

“Being tickled, it sends me into a manic panic,” said Sharyell Reynolds, TFS.

“Being alone in an open field with fog,” said Landon Spivey-May, TFS.

“Zombies and spiders,” said Oluseun Oyeyemi, TFS.

“I think that tornadoes and thunder is scary to, also spiders that are filled with poison,” said Sergio Valles Gutierrez, TFN.

“People climbing up walls while doing 360's with their head,” said Jekira Coley, TFN.

“Newly discovered, uninhabited places,” said Josiah Stokes, TFN.

“Demons because I've encountered many,” said Carlos Silva, TFN.

“Getting chased by someone in a costume with a weapon,” said Diego Morales, TFN.

“Fake dollar bills,” said Brayden Booth, TFN.

“I think anything related to cults is scary,” said Brenda Munoz, TFN.

“Any type of monster from the analog horror genre,” said Stacayla Martin, TFN.

“Being attacked by cats,” said Taniyha Berry, TFN.

“La Llorona,” said Daisy Solis, TFN.

“Something I think is really scary is sleep paralysis,” said Andrea Renteria TFN.

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“Fright fest,” said Zion Hill, TFN.

“The realistic costumes,” said Kylar Nicholson, TFN.

“Chainsaws,” said Pierre Dunlap, TFN.

“Doppelgangers,” said Kamoni Love, TFN.

“Walking alone at night,” said Armani Williams, TFN.

“Being deep in the woods by yourself or with friends at night,” said Chris Oliver, TFN.

“The deep ocean. I have Thalassophobia,” said Stephan Kaczmarczyk, TFN.

“The dark, but having very detailed things to it like clowns,” said Ashley Toledo Arellano, TFN.

“I think witchcraft is really scary even though some people don't believe in it. I do because it can make someone's life become awful,” said Brianna Flores, TFN.

“Biting my tongue and getting a bump,” said Makhi May, TFN.

“Any thing with a lot of legs, especially if they're like spider legs or something similar. Also just bugs/insects in general,” said Anthony Brown, TFN.

“A bunch of little holes because I have Trypophobia,” said Anthony Guerra, TFN.

“God denying me,” said Nykeria Dunbar, TFS.

“Spider-Man Earth 9591,” said Jonathan Weaver, TFS.

“Getting chased by fake chainsaws in haunted houses,” said Elijah Harvey, TFN.

“I think homework is the scariest thing ever,” said Faith Adesuyi, TFN.

Thank you
to all the teachers at
T.F. North and T.F. South
who shared our survey
with their students.

Spooky Eye Cookies

Recipe by Cris Flores, Reporter

There are a lot of different routes people can take on a Halloween night when the weather's too rough to go outside and trick-or-treat. Some activities on a Halloween night might include watching scary movies with your friends or maybe playing some board games. A really fun activity people might not think about is making spooky cookies with a loved one. Even someone who isn't very good or confident in their ability to bake at all can still have fun making these cookies, and they're very simple to make.

Ingredients:

- 2 stick of butter
- 1 cup of granulated sugar
- 1 cup of brown sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 2 eggs
- 3 cups of flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp sea salt
- Candy eyes
- However many cups of sprinkles and chocolate chips as you want



Directions:

1. Leave your butter out for a few hours to soften if you don't have a mixer.
2. Add a stick of butter, a cup of sugar, and a cup of brown sugar and stir until all your ingredients are thoroughly mixed.
3. Add 2 tsp of vanilla and 2 eggs and stir again until all ingredients are mixed.
4. Add 3 cups of flour, 1 tsp of baking soda, ½ tsp of baking powder, 1 tsp of sea salt, and your chocolate chips and sprinkles together then stir until everything is mixed.
5. Put your dough into the fridge for about 10 minutes so its able to be molded.
6. When your dough is ready, form them into little balls onto your sheet tray. Make sure that your balls of dough are evenly apart from each other, and do not overcrowd your sheet tray as cookies can spread onto each other.
7. Let your batch bake for 10 minutes at 375°F.
8. When your cookies are ready, take them out and as they are still hot and squishy add your candy eyes wherever you would like.
9. Wait 5 minutes so they can cool down, then your cookies are ready to enjoy!



GUEST PLAYLISTS

**Created by
Monica Aceves**

Spooky Season is here.
These are our favorite
Halloween songs.

Do you have a song you would like to add to our next playlist? Email your suggestions for our Holiday Playlist 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 December 1, 2025.

Thorntonian Staff's Picks:

"Ghostbusters"
by Ray Parker, Jr.

"Gods and Monsters"
by Lana Del Rey

"Calling All The Monsters"
by China

00:00 04:10

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Mr. Longo's Picks:

"Time Wrap"
by Nell Campbell

"Thriller "
by Michael Jackson

"Spooky Scary Skeleton"
by Andrew Gold

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Ms. Biegel's Picks:

"Monster Mash"
by Bobby Pickett

"Pyscho Killer"
by Talking Heads

"Somebody's Watching Me"
by Rockwell

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Odalys Escobar's Picks:

"Insomniac"
by Memo Boy

"Calling All The Monsters"
by Anne McClain

"Running Up The Hill"
by Kate Bush

00:00 04:10

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Venicia Gutierrez's picks:

"Monsters"
by China

"Seasons Of The Witch"
by Donovan

"I Put a Spell on You"
by Hocus Pocus

00:00 04:10

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Historia de
Celeste Caballero,
Traducida por Lizbeth Solorio, Jefa de redacción

Día de los Muertos:
Abrazando la cultura
y procesando el duelo
EDITORIAL

El Día de los Muertos es una festividad especial para honrar a los difuntos en la cultura mexicana. Siempre he querido celebrar esta festividad con orgullo, como Mexicana Americana, aunque no hablo español con fluidez ni encajo en el estereotipo habitual. En diferentes momentos de mi vida, me han dicho que debo abrazar mi cultura o que simplemente soy blanca. Esto me ha dificultado comprender mi propia identidad y sentirme cómoda con mi lado mexicano. Sin embargo, cada vez me resulta más fácil. Formar parte del equipo de Thorntonian y escuchar las historias de otras personas me ha ayudado a sentirme más cómoda aceptándome a mí misma y a mi cultura. He perdido a muchas personas en mi vida, y mi duelo es un gran obstáculo. También me motiva a querer dedicarme al trabajo social en el futuro.El Día de los Muertos se celebra del 27 de octubre al 3 de noviembre, y cada día representa a un grupo diferente de almas que visitan a los difuntos. La tradición consiste en hacer ofrendas, altares elaborados por los seres queridos de las almas que vienen. Se coloca una foto de ellos en el altar, junto con regalos y ofrendas de bienvenida para los muertos. Las flores de cempasúchil son especialmente importantes durante esta festividad de varios días, ya que sus brillantes colores ayudan a guiar a los espíritus. Se enciende una vela blanca y los altares se decoran con colorido papel picado y calaveritas. Las ofrendas se hacen en los hogares o en los cementerios para que las personas puedan visitar a sus seres queridos. Estoy haciendo una ofrenda para honrar a mis seres queridos que han fallecido, aunque ha sido una experiencia difícil intentar comprender esta tradición sola. Estoy decidida a hacerlo por mi familia que ya no está, especialmente por mi madre. El duelo es lo más difícil de experimentar porque no desaparece. Esta tradición mexicana hace que la muerte sea hermosa. Afrontar la pérdida de un ser querido puede llevarte por muchos caminos diferentes. Celebrar y honrar a los difuntos es una forma sana de sobrellevar el duelo, e incluso si no eres mexicano, una foto de tu ser querido puede colocarse en el altar para honrar su espíritu. Esta conmemoración también es una buena manera de conectar con tu cultura, si te sientes desconectado o deseas sentirte más cerca de ella. El Día de los Muertos siempre será una celebración tanto de la muerte como de la vida. Ya sea que la tradición se transmita de generación en generación o sea de reciente creación, está abierta a todos aquellos que están de luto o buscan conectar con sus raíces.

TRABALENGUAS DE HALLOWEEN
EN ESPAÑOL

Brujas bailan bajo la luna.
Fantasmas felices flotan afuera.
Cuatro calabazas curiosas cocinan con canela.
Vampiro veloces vuelan sobre velas violetas.
Tres traviosos trasgos traman trucos terribles tras el tronco.

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Historia de
Florah Dismuke, Reportera
Traducida por Lizbeth Solorio, Jefa de redacción

TFN organiza una
Noche de Sustos para
los niños de la
comunidad

La escuela T.F. North celebró su evento anual "Noche de Halloween" el 22 de octubre de 2025, de 4:30 p. m. a 6:30 p. m., en la cafetería y el pasillo del Departamento de Inglés. "Noche de Halloween" es un evento para que las familias traigan a sus hijos disfrazados para realizar manualidades, juegos y pedir dulces. El evento fue organizado por las profesoras Pasarelli, Galvan y Rising, con el apoyo de los estudiantes, quienes ayudaron a planificar una noche segura y creativa para celebrar Halloween. Varios profesores de diferentes departamentos y estudiantes colaboraron para que el evento fuera un éxito, ayudando con la decoración, los juegos y la supervisión durante toda la noche. El evento no habría sido tan divertido ni exitoso sin la ayuda de los estudiantes y profesores. El propósito de este evento fue unir a la comunidad escolar y destacar la valiosa contribución de los estudiantes a la diversión. "Quiero que todos se diviertan y que la comunidad se una. Espero que los estudiantes vean lo mejor de sí mismos, de los demás y de la comunidad", dijo Pasarelli. Dado que los niños pequeños que asistieron a la Noche de Sustos eventualmente crecerán y se convertirán en estudiantes de secundaria que querrán ser voluntarios para el evento, la participación de los maestros y estudiantes es importante. El éxito del evento se debió en gran parte a la creatividad de Galván, quien planificó la distribución y el diseño. “Normalmente empezamos a planificar con un mes de antelación, ya que tenemos que enviar el formulario de Google para que se registren las familias, el personal y las familias, y luego, unas semanas antes del evento, la oficina de orientación llama a las familias para recordarles, y luego solo esperamos a ver si hay mucha gente esa noche”, dijo Galván. Gracias al compromiso de Rising y de los estudiantes, el evento se mantuvo bien organizado y fue divertido para todos. Rising preparó el pasillo decorado con temática de Halloween en estrecha colaboración con los estudiantes y se aseguró de que todo transcurriera sin problemas durante toda la noche. “Nos aseguramos de que los niños que participaban como voluntarios supieran lo que tenían que hacer. Les dejamos elegir su actividad, familiarizarse con la zona, pero antes, empezamos a decorar y a prepararlo todo justo después de clase”, dijo Rising. Los estudiantes, disfrazados para Halloween, repartieron caramelos a los niños mientras pedían dulces. “Disfrazarse le añade diversión a la Noche de Halloween porque no eres tú mismo, puedes ser diferente y expresar lo que quieras”, dijo T’niya Hampton, estudiante de último año que se disfrazó de Stitch.



Historia de
Alejandra Vazquez-Nevarez, Reportera
Traducida por Ms. DeSoto

Folclore Mexicano:
¿Algo más que una
simple coincidencia?

Como alguien que creció en un hogar mexicano-estadounidense, el folclore mexicano era todo lo que me contaban. La Llorona y el Cucuy eran las principales historias de miedo que nos mantenían a mis hermanos y a mí a raya. Cuando empecé la escuela y llegó Halloween, me contaron historias diferentes a las que estaba acostumbrada. Eso me confundió. La primera historia estadounidense que escuché fue la del Coco, y me hizo darme cuenta de que el Cucuy era casi la misma. El Cucuy es un monstruo que persigue a los niños desobedientes para que dejen de portarse mal. En el folclore, los padres cantan nanas o recitan rimas advirtiéndolos a los niños que no desobedezcan a sus padres o el Cucuy vendrá y se los comerá. En cambio, el Coco estadounidense es el que vive debajo de la cama o se esconde en el armario. Sale para asustar a los niños y que se porten bien. Otra historia del folclore que mi familia contaba era la del Chupacabras. En las regiones hispanas y latinas de América, el Chupacabra es una criatura reptiliana con púas, colmillos afilados y ojos rojos. Es una leyenda vampírica que, según se dice, ataca y bebe la sangre de animales de granja, incluyendo cabras. Merodea por zonas rurales como bosques y desiertos. Investigando, descubrí que el Diablo de Jersey es similar al Chupacabra. El Diablo de Jersey, originario del sur de Nueva Jersey y Filadelfia, suele merodear por los bosques de Pine Barrens. A menudo se describe a la criatura como una mezcla de cuerpo de caballo, cabeza de cabra, alas de murciélago, cuernos de diablo, brazos pequeños con manos con garras, patas con pezuñas hendidas y cola con púas. El Diablo de Jersey se convirtió en leyenda debido a los avistamientos de los primeros colonos ingleses. También existen similitudes con el folclore latinoamericano en Europa. La Llorona es otra leyenda del folclore mexicano, y la Banshee es una leyenda del folclore irlandés. La Llorona es una figura fantasmal vestida de blanco, con larga cabellera negra, que vaga por lagos y cuerpos de agua llorando por sus hijos, a quienes ahogó en un ataque de celos tras descubrir la infidelidad de su esposo. Según la leyenda, quienes oyen sus lamentos sufrirán desgracias o la muerte. La Banshee es como la versión irlandesa de la Llorona. Viste una larga capa gris sobre un vestido verde, tiene larga cabellera negra y llora y grita constantemente. La Banshee se aparece antes de la muerte de algún miembro de la familia. Si bien no causa la muerte, advierte a las familias sobre un ser querido que podría fallecer. Como alguien que creció fascinado por lo sobrenatural, descubrir que todas estas leyendas y relatos populares son similares me hace pensar que lo sobrenatural oculta algo más profundo. Además, cuanto más folclore escucho, más conexiones encuentro. Esto demuestra que cada cultura tiene sus propias leyendas. Nunca se sabe si a alguien al otro lado del mundo le podrían contar la misma historia que la de tu cultura, pero con alguna variación. Me dan ganas de descubrir la verdad sobre todos estos misterios.

Muchas Gracias Anahi Martínez por tu historia, “No soy lo suficientemente hispano.” Me sentí profundamente conmovida. La historia me hizo reflexionar sobre lo diverso que puede ser el significado de ser hispano. Mi perspectiva, sin embargo, fue lo contrario. Yo crecí en un hogar donde nomás se hablaba español porque siempre fue importante para mi mamá que yo hablara español. Para ella, mantener viva nuestra lengua era una forma de honrar a mis abuelos, quienes migraron de México a Estados Unidos en busca de un futuro mejor. Crecí rodeada del idioma español; desde pequeña fue una parte esencial de quién soy. Mi mamá, aunque nació aquí en los Estados Unidos, nunca quiso que se perdiera nuestra conexión con las raíces mexicanas. Gracias a eso, el español no fue solo un idioma en mi vida, sino un símbolo de amor, herencia y orgullo. He visto a otros “no sabos” que tienen dificultad para hablar o traducir el español y me siento muy afortunada de no tener ese problema. Le agradezco a mi mamá por haberse asegurado de que conociera mis raíces y por haberme enseñado a sentir orgullo por mi herencia desde niña. Al leer la historia de Anahi, me di cuenta de que, aunque nuestras experiencias son diferentes, compartimos un mismo deseo: sentirnos aceptadas y seguras dentro de nuestra identidad. Mientras ella aprendía a reconciliar su relación con el español, yo aprendía a valorar el privilegio de haber crecido rodeada de él. Su historia me hizo ver que no todos los caminos hacia la identidad cultural son iguales, pero todos son válidos. A veces, se asume que quienes hablamos español con fluidez entendemos por completo lo que significa ser hispano, pero la verdad es que cada uno lo vive de manera única. Lo hermoso de nuestra comunidad es precisamente eso: la diversidad de experiencias que nos unen a pesar de las diferencias. Aprecio profundamente que The Thorntonian haya publicado un editorial tan honesto y que brinde un espacio bilingüe donde podamos compartir nuestras historias. Leer las palabras de Anahi me recordó que la identidad hispana no se mide por la forma en que hablamos o lucimos, sino por el orgullo y el amor que llevamos en el corazón. Gracias a el Thorntonian por celebrar esa diversidad y por inspirar conversaciones que fortalecen nuestra comunidad. Ser hispano no tiene una sola definición y esa es, sin duda, nuestra mayor fortaleza.Finalmente, quiero darle las gracias a Anahi Martínez por su valentía al compartir su historia. Su voz abrió un espacio para que muchos de nosotros reflexionemos sobre lo que realmente significa ser parte de esta hermosa herencia. “No importa cuántas veces cambie el idioma en nuestros labios; lo importante es que el corazón siempre hable nuestras raíces.”

Layla Jaylene Espindola, PCHS

Estimada Anahi Martinez, Realmente me encanta el articulo llamado “No soy lo suficientemente hispano...” Lo que me gusto mucho sobre este articulo es el punto principal de sentirse insegura por las personas que asumen. No tengo experiencia personalmente pero puedo entender que pueden doler. Cuando dice “No tengo que encajar en las suposiciones de nadie..” estoy a su lado porque creo que no tienes que explicar tu identidad a nadie. Realmente me encanta este articulo.

Muchas gracias,
Aniston N. Coates, TFS

El articulo de "No soy lo suficiente hispano" es muy inspirante y el tema que es otra experiencia gracias a el escritor Anahi Martinez. Comparte su opinion que da una diferente perspectiva por eso lo elige. Mi reaccion era de aprendizaje por no saber como tambien la complexion tambien se toma en cuenta se me olvida que personas precibe eso cuando hablas espanol. Es algo que yo no conosco por mi complexion mas oscura pero todos hispanos y latinos tienen diferentes apariencias. Es bueno ver una perspectiva que no muchos piensan o toman en cuenta pero eso nos puede unir mas como comunidad y entender uno al otro.

Roxanna Araujo Robles, TFN

Me encanto su historia de como tu te sientes ser insuficiente hispano. Puedo entender como tu te sientes sobre la apariencia talvez no aparecido como un hispano. Miran el color de tu piel y juzgan mucho, a veces me llaman a mi el guerito o gringito. Y unas personas de este paiz tambien no piensan que soy hispano hasta que hablo de mi origen. Muy bien articulo y que sigue escribiendo mas.

Hector Curiel, PCHS

Estimada Sra. Anahi, le escribo para expresarle el impacto que me causo leer su historia en el periodico. Creo que muchos estudiantes, incluyendome a mi, podemos identificarnos y sentir empatia hacia quienes comparten las mismas experiencias. Elegir esta historia por su titulo. Yo siento que aveces no soy lo suficientemente hispano porque crecí en un hogar donde no se hablaba mucho español y no se seguían las tradiciones regulares, por eso a veces mi español es limitado y no conozco algunas de las tradiciones que mis compañeros hacen regularmente. Espero leer mas articulos tuyos en un futuro proximo y estoy muy agradecido por poder leer tu historia.

Erick Alvarado, TFN

La historia de "No soy lo suficientemente hispano" me impactó porque me sentí identificada con ella. Su español no es perfecto como el mío y al igual que ella algunas veces yo me siento apenada por mi acento al no hablar correctamente español. Además, cuando hablaba y me equivocaba en una palabra, todos tenían que corregirme. Pero eso no nos detuvo a seguir hablando español. Al ver que sus compañeros sabían mucho la motivaba a aprender más para poder ser como ellos. El no hablar español con fluides no le impidió indentificarse como hispana pues el amor por sus raíces y el esforzarse por hablar español la motivaron a no sentirse mal si alguien la corregia oh su apariencia de como se miraba eso no le impidió seguir hablando español aunque no fuera perfecto.

Amy Andrade, PCHS

“No soy lo suficientemente hispano..” de Anahi es algo que muchos relacionamos. Por el simple hecho de ser criados en los Estados Unidos para muchos que no lo fueron no nos consideran "completamente hispanos" y por eso creo que muchos no se sienten ni de aquí ni de allá. Tambien por la forma que hablamos nuestro español a veces se siente que nos critican porque lo mezclamos mucho con el spanglish, aunque lo hablemos con fluidez por el costrumbre de estar aquí se mezcla mucho. Pienso que Anahi es muy valiente de poder hablar de algo que muchos por pena lo esconden.

Daisy Martinez, TFN

Quiero darte las gracias por escribir “No soy lo suficientemente hispano.” Tu historia me llegó mucho. Fue honesta, poderosa y reconfortante leer sobre alguien que ha sentido lo mismo acerca de su identidad y el idioma. Expresaste algo que muchos sentimos pero no siempre decimos. Gracias por compartir tu experiencia y recordarnos que no hay una sola manera de ser hispano. Tus palabras me inspiraron y me hicieron sentir orgulloso de quién soy.

Alan Ramirez, PCHS

Hola , yo me llamo Mia Murrieta Juarez y en la Historia de Anahi Martinez, "No soy lo suficientemente hispano" aprendi que solo porque no habamos suficiente espanol no significa que no somos hispanos. Ami me gusta escuchar musica en ingles porque me gusta como me hace sentir. Cuando estoy escuchando musica en ingles en ves de espanol no segnifica que eso me hace menos hispana, ay muchos ejemplos que yo puedo darles. Yo pienso que en esta generación, debemos dejar de normalizar la idea de que no hablar español o hablarlo mal los convierte en personas no hispanas. Un buen ejemplo de esto es decirle a un estadounidense que no comer comida estadounidense no los hace estadounidense. Cada persona puede elegir lo que le guste. Me encanta comprar en una tienda de ropa estadounidense llamada Brandy Melville y hablo bastante bien español. Ir de compras allí no me hace menos hispana., Yo tengo 15 anos, cumplo 16 en enero, y cuando era chiquita era como Anahi no sabia como hablar mucho espanol. Y si, mi familia se burlaba de mi porque no sabia como decer unas palabras. Me llamaban no sabo porque yo no sabia como hablar en espanol muy bien como ellos. Me senti tan insegura conmigo misma, con el idioma que no sabia hablar muy bien hasta mi mama me dijo " Mia porque no hablas espanol? debes de hablarlo." Ella me dijo que ser bilingue es una cosa buena, porque por ejemplo te dan mas dinero cuando trabajas, te puedes comunicar con las personas que solo hablan espanol, y mas que todo tus habilidades de comunicacion mejoradas. Un dia mi mama es estaba arregelando para ir un cumpleaños de su amiga y estaba escuchando musica y de pronto le pregunte a ella "mami que estas echuando?" y ella me dijo" Los Angeles Azules Mia porque?" desde ese dia yo me puse a escuchar ese tipo de muscia. Ahi desde ese momento estuve aprendiendo mas espanol y mejorando en las formas en que yo habalba. Conoci a mas palabras y aprendi como decirlas bien con solo escuchar muscia en espanol. Unos meses pasaron y ya sabia hablar fluido el espanol con toda mi familia. Estar leyendo estas historias tan hermosas me ha ensenando muchismo sobre la cultura de Mexcio y los que todos an pasado. Saber otro idioma es amor, entender a otras y estra ahi junto con ellos cuando nesistian ayuda. Para concluir de la historia, también aprendí que el mensaje principal es que la hispanidad no se mide por el color de la piel, el acento, o la fluidez en el idioma, sino por las raíces, los valores y el amor hacia la cultura. La autora muestra un proceso de aceptación personal pasar de la vergüenza y la inseguridad a la inspiración y el orgullo. Finalmente, la carta invita a otros que se sienten “no lo suficientemente hispanos” a reconocer que no hay una única manera de serlo que la identidad es diversa, válida y profundamente personal.

Mia Murrieta Juarez, PCHS

Cartas a la Editora

Monica Aceves, Staff Reporter
@monicaacevess



Estimados participantes,

Gracias a todos por responder a mi pregunta y por sus amables palabras. Agradezco profundamente su tiempo y esfuerzo al relacionar sus respuestas con la cultura. Me alegra haber escrito esta historia porque pude conectar con todos a un nivel más profundo. Mi historia no se trata solo de noticias externas, sino de la situación personal que atraviesa nuestra cultura. Quería recordarles que el hecho de estar pasando por momentos difíciles no significa que estemos viviendo una mala vida. Los latinos/hispanos nos necesitamos más que nunca. Quiero mantener vivo este entusiasmo escribiendo sobre la presentación de Bad Bunny. Espero que hayan disfrutado leyendo mi historia tanto como yo disfruté escribiéndola.

Monica Aceves

Gracias por compartir una noticia tan importante para nosotras la sociedad hispana, elegí tu historia por que opino lo mismo y ante la situaciones que estamos presentando los hispanos en Estados Unidos tenemos que correr la voz, y sentirnos orgullosos como lo esta haciendo Bad bunny al representar a los nuestros, yo apoyo a Bad Bunny por su gran talento y el apoyo, Aun que el presidente de los estados Unidos y La mayor parte de personas del pais esten en nuestra contra, seguimos alzando la voz y apoyando a los nuestros Bad Bunny es el claro ejemplo de poder y fuerza Latina. Opino que no nos quedemos callados ante el racimos que esta pasando en este pais que estamos en pleno 2025 y los tiempos han cambiado y la violencia nunca ha sido la clave. Muchas gracias por tu informacion Monica A.
America Lopez, TFN

Yo siento que en estos tiempos es muy importante pa que una de nuestras personas de nuestra cultura que tengo una voz Y una así de grande como Bad Bunny va tener esa noche. En estos tiempos es importante que tengamos un simbolo de poder y ojala Bad Bunny pueda ablar de las cosas pasando en este tiempo porque la verdad es que es muy triste y no sabemos si se va ponerse mejor en el futuro. agradezco que hiciste una storia de este topico porque es muy triste y muy real que algunos de nosotros estamos pasando.
Miguel Romero, TFN

Gracias por escribir la historia “Bad Bunny Rompe Barreras”. La noticia de que Bad Bunny sería el primer artista latino solista en actuar en el de medio tiempo del Super Bowl 2026 me hico sentir orgullosa. Su historia me impacto porque representa mas que solo una presentacion musical si no que esta representando a todos los latinos. Tambien me inspiro su respuesta a las criticas por que en lugar de dejarse afectar, el tomo la oportunidad para motivar a otros y defender el valor del idioma español y la cultura latina. Su historia me recuerdo que no debemos avergonzarnos de quienes somos sino usar nuestra voz.
Zaidee Abarca, PCHS

Gracias por escribir el artículo "Bad Bunny rompe barreras". Fue muy informativo y estoy emocionado de verlo en vivo en el Super Bowl. Coincido con las opiniones del artículo.
Sandro Prilusky, PCHS

Gracias por el oportunidad para leer este articulo. Monica Aceves es una reportera tan fantastico, y este articulo es muy informativo. Bad Bunny's historia fue muy passionante y me motivo a hacer lo que quiero en mi vida, sin importar mi nacionalidad. Estoy motivado para haver bueno en escuela y tambien en mi musica.
Roman Anyaeji, PCHS

Acabo de leer tu historia, "Bad Bunny Rompe Barreras", y estaba muy impresionado. Primeramente, me impresionó la forma en que escribiste todo para que el que esté leyendo entienda quién es Bad Bunny y el evento importante que va a tener en el Super Bowl. Yo ya sabía quién era Bad Bunny antes de leer esto y me gustan unas cuantas de sus canciones también. Aunque este evento es muy emocionante para el mundo de la música, estoy de acuerdo en que es más importante para la comunidad latina. Yo soy parte de la comunidad latina y explicaste todo de la misma forma que yo lo hubiera dicho y estoy de acuerdo.
Camilo Arrechadera, PCHS

Muchas gracias Monica por tu historia. Tu historia me intereso mucho porque yo tambien he escuchado las noticas sobre Bad Bunny en el Super Bowl el proximo ano. Me gusto mucho tu historia porque hablas sobre como la representacion latina en estos momentos es muy importante, y como Bad Bunny esta rompiendo barreras estando ahi cantando en el Super Bowl. Yo tambien estoy muy emocionada de ver a Bad Bunny ahi. Esta sera la primera vez que veo el Super Bowl, y sera porque el va a estar ahi. Yo creo que va a usar ese dia para demostrarle a todo el pais que los latinos y los inmigrantes si contribuyen al pais y son fuertes. Gracias otra vez por tu historia!
Valeria Meraz, TFN

Gracias por escribir esta historia para saber más sobre las presentaciones de Bad Bunny. Estoy de acuerdo creo que es increíble que Bad Bunny represente a los hispanos. No sabía que Donald Trump había dicho algo sobre este tema hasta que leí este artículo. Es realmente una cultura increíble poder estar separados y celebrar.
Elizabeth Marquez, PCHS

Disfruté mucho leyendo su artículo "Bad Bunny rompe barreras" porque es un tema muy popular y un gran logro para la comunidad latina. Me alegró mucho saber que Bad Bunny se presentará en el espectáculo de medio tiempo del Super Bowl este año. Me decepciona que tanta gente se oponga a la idea de que un artista latino como Bad Bunny actúe. Parecen ignorar nuestra cultura, a pesar de que lo que hace a nuestro país tan especial son todas las culturas diferentes y únicas que tenemos.
Marco Sampaio, PCHS

Yo estoy totalmente de acuerdo con los estudianted de T.F North sobre el toma de Bad Bunny en el Super bowl. Yo pienso que a pesar de todo lo que está pasando actualmente en los estados unidos, la actuación de Bad Bunny es casi nuestra manera de decir que nosotros, como latinos, seguimos aquí causando impacto, y que nadie jamás nos podrá quitar eso. Y pienso que es algo hermoso.
Lourdes Hernandez, PCHS

Gracias por escribir este artículo, realmente aprecio el esfuerzo que pusiste y sentí un profundo significado en lo que escribiste. Una forma en que los artículos me impactaron fue que escribiste sobre cómo algunas personas (como yo) sienten que no son lo suficientemente hispanas como para ser consideradas hispanas. Siempre he sentido que, aunque soy español, no me siento lo suficientemente español como para ser considerado hispano. Otra forma en que los artículos resonaron conmigo fue cuando escribiste sobre cómo a través de la música Bad Bunny ha ayudado a romper las barreras entre la cultura hispana. Personalmente, me gusta escuchar a Bad Bunny y siempre he pensado que su música resono conmigo de una manera profunda, más que otros artistas podrían.
Nico Spaulding, PCHS

Me gusto mucho tu articulo "Bad Bunny rompe barreras" porque siempre me a gustado ver el medio tiempo del superbowl nunca veo el partido pero el medio tiempo siempre sin falla. Ahora que incluyeron a un hispano, seguramente va a ser uno de mis favoritos, este acto si rompe barreras nunca a pasado antes pero ojala pasara mas seguido y no solo mas hispanos pero mas culturas de todas partes. Yo creo que este evento va atraer mas atencion hacia hispanos y las injusticias que estan pasando hoy en dia. Tambien me gusto mucho como usastes a alumnos de T.F. North para difundir los pensamientos de compañeros.
Bryan Alvarez, TFN

Me encanto su articulo Bad Bunny rompe barreras. Estuvo muy bueno e interesante. Es bueno porque me gusta Bad Bunny y quiero verlo cantar. Es muy importante para la cultura latina.
Marco Angulo, PCHS



PROGRAMA PREESCOLAR MINI METEOR DE T.F. NORTH

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TWO SENTENCE HORROR STORIES
SELECTIONS CURRATED BY ANAHI MARTINEZ EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

“I woke up to my mom calling me from the kitchen, but as I opened my bedroom door, I heard a whisper from the closet. It was my mother’s voice saying, “Don’t go out there, I heard it, too.”
Jlen Mitch, Sophomore

“My phone buzzed with a new picture. It was of me sleeping. I live alone.”
Jessica Ogochukwu, Sophomore

“I came back home from my night run to an unlocked front door. As I opened the door, trying to remember if I locked it, I saw a black figure run past my peripheral.”
Maurice Coleman, Sophomore

”‘There's nothing there,’ I told my daughter as I looked under her bed for monsters. She asked, ‘just come sleep with me tonight.’ As we left the room, I hoped the man-like creature underneath the bed didn't see me see it.”
Mikeala Smalley, Sophomore

“I'm walking home down the street when I turn to see my friend standing behind me. I look down at my phone as he texts me ‘Where are you?’”
Anthony McKinney, Sophomore

“I woke up to the noise of a little girl laughing, but the laugh was strangely familiar, I feel nauseous because before I got up to turn on the light. I recognize the laughter that sounds exactly like my younger sister who passed away a month ago.”
Naleny Rosales, Sophomore

“I tucked my husband into bed after he came home late and fell asleep beside him. Then my phone buzzed with a message: ‘Don't open the door, I'm still on my way home’.”
Ariyah Bradford, Sophomore

“I woke up to hear my mom calling me from the kitchen. When I got there, she was asleep in her bed.”
Brianna Santa Cruz, Sophomore

“As I watch over my neighbor’s children, I stumble around in their living room and see a creepy clown statue they bought. When they call to check up on us I ask them if I could move the statue because it creeps me out; they never bought a clown statue.”
Kassandra Martinez, Sophomore

“When I awoke, my reflection was winking at me even though I wasn't. It's smiling now, but I'm not.”
Jayda Riles, Sophomore

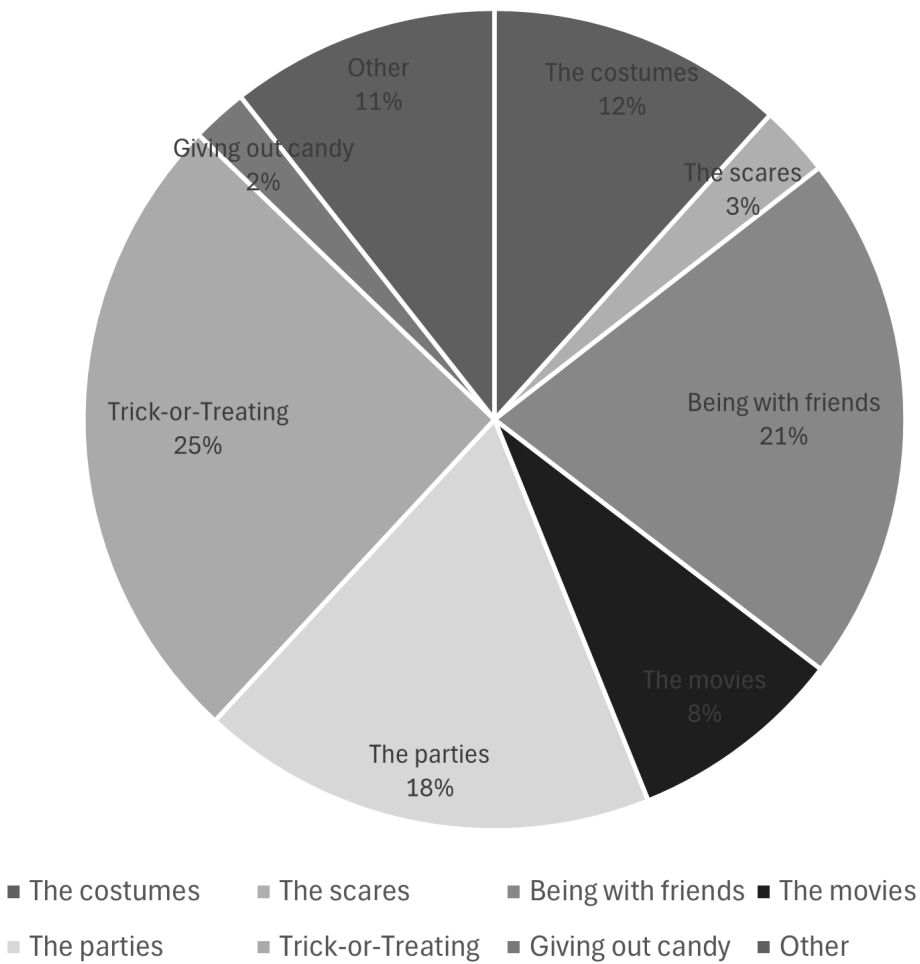
“Someone left one of the dogs outside, as soon as I was about to walk to the door I heard whimpering behind me, and as soon as I turned around I saw both dogs shaking behind me. After turning back around to see the mystery dog on its high legs, I realized it wasn't a dog.”
Melanie Foster, Senior

“It's red eyes, malicious smile, and its unsettling demeanor carved my skin open as if it wasn't human. Ripping my body apart like my soul was the only thing it was hungry for.”
Jon’ye Law, Senior

“I would hear my grandmother walk around the house, scream and yell. I went to her grave and asked if she could stop.”
Kamari Elliott, Senior



318 people from D. 215 were asked:
What is your favorite part of Halloween?



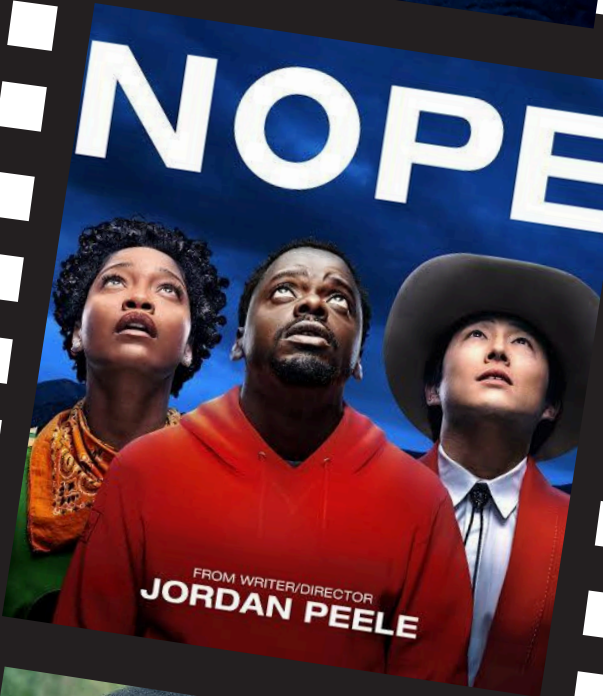
HORROR MOVIES FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T LIKE HORROR MOVIES

Many people avoid scary movies because of the concept of demonic scenes. However, movies like Jordan Peele's *Nope*, *Get Out*, and *Us*, and movies like *The Black Phone* and *Coraline* show that scary movies do not have to contain those things. In *Nope*, a brother and sister discover a mysterious object in the sky that only appears during a certain time above their ranch in California. This object seems to be a UFO that captures living things that look directly into the eyes of it. This movie is a combination of a thriller, a comedy, and a horror movie. This movie challenges viewers to think about the plot and pay attention to the details to figure out the plot. *Nope* brought out ominous presences to life. The key details for this movie are cameras, since the brother (OJ Haywood) and the sister (Emerald Haywood) use the cameras to capture the alien on film and to discover what it is. The movie "*Get Out*" is based on the racism that's happening in the world today. This movie is more than a horror movie, it has copious amount of satire and comedy. The movie "*Get Out*" is about a black man visiting his white girlfriend's parents, but it was disastrous. The parents of the girlfriend hypnotize their daughter's black boyfriends to be their slaves. A big part of the movie symbolism is deer; the family has many deer heads to represent what the daughter's boyfriends would be. *Get Out* is another movie that would have the viewers thinking about answers. *Us* is about a family who lived in Santa Cruz, California, where they were visiting their summer beach house for vacation. As they were visiting the beach house, they ran across their evil doppelgängers. The doppelgängers, who lived underground, were made by the U.S. government in an underground lab, to represent an underprivileged version of the people who looked just like them but as normal beings. The movie gives off mysterious qualities to make viewers understand why people want to have someone else's life. *The Black Phone* is based on events that have happened in real life. Many children around the world have been kidnapped from walking home, to the park or even being taken in their front yard. The Grabber is the kidnapper and maniac killer in the movie. The Grabber kidnaps a 13 year old boy named Finney Shaw. He's locked away and does not have any contact with anyone. Finney is able to contact the previous children from a disconnected phone to set himself to freedom. *The Black Phone* demonstrates a deeper message towards the audience. Since a lot of kids are getting kidnapped, this shows an outline of what kids are going through once they get kidnapped. This movie has mysterious connections, it's suspenseful, and will keep viewers on the edge of their seats.

Coraline is about a 13 year old girl moving into a new home after an accident with her parents. She discovers a new door with secrets and a new world behind it. The world behind the door mirrors the world she's in now. She finds her other parents which mirrors her parents in her world. Her new parents give her the nicer things that her real parents can't afford. All the nice things are to bribe Coraline to stay in their world and forget her real parents. Coraline uses bravery and her resources to get back home to her world. *Coraline* is a kid-friendly movie, but it has mysterious and suspenseful scenes. This movie is very adventurous and has lessons about bravery and not wishing for the perfect life. Most of the time having a "perfect" life can be a bad thing because it's not realistic, everyone makes mistakes. With the mistakes people make, people should learn from them. *Nope*, *Get Out*, *Us*, *The Black Phone* and *Coraline* all contain mysterious, suspenseful, and thought-provoking scenes. These movies have messages behind them that would possibly help you in this world today and are very entertaining. Movies like these would leave viewers wanting more.

**STORY BY
MALAYAH WHITTED,
STAFF REPORTER**

**LAYOUT BY
ANAHI MARTINEZ,
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**



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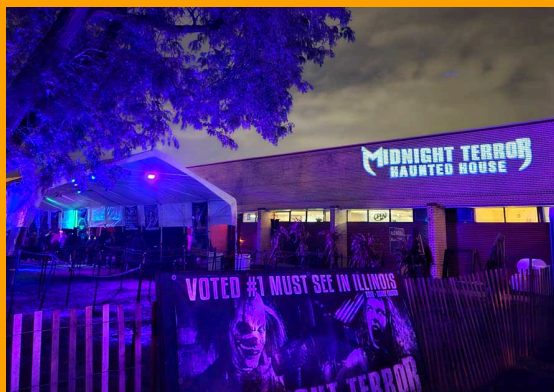
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INFORMATION**



Things to do for Halloween

Story by
Maritza Gonzalez, Staff Reporter

Need somewhere to go for Halloween? Here are some places for you and your friends & family to visit.



Midnight Terror Haunted House

If you want more activities than just a haunted house, then this haunted house is for you. They hold a bunch of creepy attractions like the Black Oak Grove Hallows Eve and the Laugh and Slash Carnival. If you're interested, head over to 5520 W 111th St, Oak Lawn, IL 60453 or check out their website <https://midnightterrorhauntedhouse.com>.



Jack's Pumpkin Pop-Up

Chicago's largest fall festival with loads of pumpkins if you want to do some pumpkin carving after your visit. They have activities such as axe throwing, gem mining, and a corn maze to get lost in. They're holding this festival at 1265 W Le Moyne St, Chicago, IL 60642 or look at their website <https://www.jackspumpkinpopup.com>.



Bengtson's Pumpkin Patch

This festival has more of a mechanical lean with their amazing farm-themed rides. They have rides such as the Egg Drop, Happy Swing, Barnyard Dance, and more. They also have a petting zoo and delicious food to pair with it. They're located at 13341 W 151st St, Homer Glen, IL 60491 or check out their website <http://pumpkinfarm.com> if you're interested.



Voodoo Doughnuts

Want to have somewhere to eat instead? Then I have the place for you. Voodoo Donuts are all about spooky humor with their Memphis, Diablos Rex, Dirt, and a lot more silly donuts. If you're interested in their delicious treats, take a look at their website <https://www.voodoodoughnut.com> or drive over to 945 W Randolph St, Chicago, IL 60607.



The 13th Floor Haunted House

A terrifying haunted house with a lot of jump scares. This year's attractions are Shattered Skyline—a place set where Chicago no longer belonged to the living and was completely dystopian—and Nocturne 1893—a celebration yet somewhere methodical and monstrous hunts in silence. They're located at 5050 River Rd, Schiller Park, IL 60176 or see their website <https://13thfloorchicago.com/> if interested.



Massacre Haunted House

With 3 haunted attractions under 1 roof, this haunted house will leave you with a bone-chilling experience with their different rooms and scenarios full of scares. You'll be followed by the most intense clown-themed attraction named "Freak Show." And if that's not frightening enough, you'll take the elevator down to their next attraction "The Underground." Check their website at <https://fearthemassacre.com/> or go over to 299 Montgomery Rd, Montgomery, IL 60538.



Six Flags: Fright Fest

Six Flags is hosting their annual Fright Fest this year with new attractions based on horror films like the new Conjuring Maze. They also have other activities like sinister scare zones, exhilarating live shows, and rides. If you're interested in this frightful event head to their website <https://www.sixflags.com/greatamerica/events/fright-fest-2025> or drive to 1 Great America Parkway, Gurnee, IL 60031.



The Brewed

If you enjoy coffee and tea then this horror-themed cafe is for you. They have a variety of flavors when it comes to their drinks with the addition of their unique names. Their specials include, Root of all Evil, New York Sipper, Wassail Cider, Firestarter, and Elvira. If you're interested take a look at their website at <https://www.thebrewedcoffee.com> or drive over to 2843 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60618.

Mexican folklore: more than just a coincidence?



The Banshee



El Chupacabra



El Cucuy



The Boogeyman



La Llorona



The Jersey Devil

Story by
Alejandra Vazquez-Nevarez,
Staff Reporter

As someone who grew up in a Mexican-American household, Mexican folklore was all that was told to me. La Llorona and el Cucuy were the main scary stories that kept me and my siblings in check. When I first went to school and Halloween time came around, I was told different stories than what I was used to. It made me confused. The first American story I heard was the Boogeyman, and it made me realize el Cucuy was almost the exact same story. El Cucuy is a monster that comes after disobedient children to discourage them from misbehaving. In the folklore parents sing lullabies or tell rhymes warning children not to disobey their parents or el Cucuy will come and eat them. While with the Boogeyman from America, he's the one that lives under your bed or hides in the closet. He comes out to scare children to behave well. Another folklore that my family told stories about is El Chupacabra (in English referred to as the goat-sucker). In Hispanic and Latino regions in the Americas, el Chupacabra is a reptile-like creature with quills, sharp fangs, and red eyes. He is a vampire legend said to attack and drink the blood of farm animals, including goats. He roams in rural areas like forests and deserts. Through research I found that the Jersey Devil is just like el Chupacabra. The Jersey Devil from South Jersey and Philadelphia is known to roam around in the forests of the Pine Barrens. The creature is often described as a mixture of horse body, goat-head, wings like a bat, horns like the devil, small arms with clawed hands, legs with cloven hooves, and a barbed tail. The Jersey Devil became a legend due to sightings of early English settlers. Similarities to Latin American folklore also exist in Europe. La Llorona is another folklore legend from Mexico, and the Banshee is a folklore legend from Ireland. La Llorona (in English, the weeping woman) is a ghostly lady in a white dress with long black hair known to roam around lakes and bodies of water mourning for her children, whom she drowned in a jealous rage after she discovered her husband was being unfaithful to her. According to the legend, those who hear her cries will experience misfortune or death. The Banshee is like the Irish version of la Llorona. She wears a long grey cloak over a green dress, has long black hair, and is constantly weeping and screaming. The Banshee appears before the death of a certain family member. While she does not cause death, she warns families of a loved one who may pass. As someone who has grown up fascinated by the supernatural, discovering all these different legends and folklore being similar makes me feel like the supernatural is a disguise of something more. Also, the more folklore I have heard, the more connections I have made. It shows that every culture has its own legends. You never know if someone across the world could be told the same story as your culture's but with a twist. It makes me want to know the truth about all these mysteries.

Photo Dump

