

The Official Newspaper of T.F. North High School
October 30, 2026

Alexa Baker, Editor-in-Chief

The Season of Spooks (and Giving)

EDITORIAL

Ever since I was little, I have always loved Halloween. I always got so excited dressing up, trick-or-treating, and watching scary movies and shows with my dad, one of them being American Horror Story. Even though I'm 18, I still enjoy going trick-or-treating with my cousins. Unfortunately I haven't been out on Halloween in about 3 years, but in my opinion, you're never too old to dress up and have fun. Thinking about it, Halloween isn't just a holiday dedicated to binging your favorite scary movies or dressing up. Of course that is technically what it's all about, but that is just on the surface. Halloween is also about giving to your community. Not only with candy, but with other fun activities like haunted houses, crafting stations, carnivals, and Boo Night. I volunteered for Boo Night both my junior and senior year here at T.F. North, and it was such a special way to spend my time. Decorating, seeing girls get excited doing their face paint in the bathroom, walking around the stations in-costume, and seeing the excited looks on the kids' faces warmed my heart. Students were actually getting excited for this time of year because they get the opportunity to have fun and give back. Our school doesn't have to do this for our community, but it does to make those kids' Halloweens extra special, providing the parents and guardians with fond memories of their little ones as well. Halloween allows people to dress as their favorite characters and have fun with their family in a lot of different ways, and I would say that's pretty special.



Alexa Baker, Editor-in-Chief



TFN students hand out candy to trick-or-treaters. Photo credit: Rickey Juarez, Chronoscope

Story by Brianna Santa Cruz, Staff Reporter

TFN Hosts its Annual Boo Night

On Wednesday, October 21, 2026, Thornton Fractional North High School welcomed students, families, and community members to its annual Boo Night. Preparation for Boo Night began even before the event opened. At 2 pm, students and staff started putting up Halloween decorations in the cafeteria and hallways. The event began at 4:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria, where Halloween decorations helped to create a festive atmosphere. Many children and parents attended, including teachers who brought their own children too. From crafts and games to face painting and a dance party, there were plenty of activities for families to enjoy throughout the evening. The activities took place in different areas of the school, including the upper cafeteria, where families could participate in crafts, games and other activities. Children could make Frankenstein masks and paper ghosts, decorate wooden ornaments, create bookmarks, and design their own masks. They could also participate in games such as bowling and zombie eye toss. At 5 p.m., the Halloween spirit continued upstairs in the hallway used for trick-or-treating. Children had the opportunity to walk from door to door and collect treats from students helping with the event. The decorated hallway gave families another activity to enjoy while students volunteered to make the experience fun for younger children. Ms. Rising and the

Culture & Climate team organized Boo Night with help from school clubs and volunteers. According to Rising, planning usually begins in September. Organizers must gather craft supplies, prepare decorations and arrange activities before families arrive. One of the biggest challenges during the planning process was finding donations to help fund the event. For Rising, Boo Night is about more than celebrating Halloween. She explained that younger children look to high school students for guidance while making crafts and participating in games. She hopes students recognize the difference they can make by helping children in their community. As Rising explained, "I hope that the students know that they are having an impact on the kids' participating in this event." Student volunteers at Thornton Fractional North also shared their experiences helping at Boo Night. Jaiden Dabney said he was "extremely happy" to be a sign-in person this year. Diana Coronado shared that she felt "very honored" to be the sign-in person again and was excited to help the community. Other volunteers helped run the games and interacted with the children. Priscilla Castaneda helped with zombie eye toss. Zoe Flores helped with the dance party, stating that she wanted to volunteer because she thought it would be a "fun time to help out [CONTINUED ON PAGE 2]"

Last Minute Costumes

Sherae Casimiro

Don't have a costume ready for Halloween? We have some tips.

page 6

Día de los Muertos

Karen Gutiérrez

Learn more about how people celebrate their loved ones.

Page 9

Zombie Apocalypse

Na'Yanna Green

There are zombies at TFN! What would you do?

page 10

Letters to the Editor

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

I enjoyed reading "Angry Black Woman Stereotype." I like how Na'Yanna Green gave specific details about how our emotions may seem hostile and aggressive even when we're angry about the smallest things. We don't even react in such ways unless it's a huge deal or big problem. But yet the color of our skin just always has to come in somewhere as a topic when it shouldn't be. Most of the time we are silenced, as Na'Yanna said. We start to become insecure about being angry or showing emotion, and then we become even more afraid to speak up about our feelings. We're always being shut down about something. A situation happened to me as well as hers. I was at school, and someone took my clothes out of my locker while I wasn't looking (I was in the locker room). As I confronted them, they were just rambling about how they needed to borrow them, and they refused to give them back. After minutes of trying to explain how I felt, I started to raise my voice. And I ended up getting detention. Even though I wasn't in the wrong. This is just one of the many situations that can happen to us as black women.

Legacee Rodgers

[Continued from page 1]
and see the kids enjoy the games.” Cassandra Orozco helped out with the paper ghosts and shared that she enjoyed getting to interact with the kids. Through their different roles, the volunteers helped children participate in the activities and enjoy the Halloween celebration. Their experiences showed how Boo Night gave students an opportunity to connect with younger children and give back to their community. As the evening brought families, teachers and students together, Boo Night provided an opportunity for the school community to celebrate Halloween outside the classroom. Rising hopes the event continues for many years and encourages families who could not attend this year to participate in the future.

I really loved the story, "Mariachi Performance Makes History, Draws Reactions" by Brianna Santa Cruz. It was really well explained, and I truly agree with the topic. I think that the performance was really big for the Hispanic Culture despite all the hate and racist comments towards the performance. The mariachi band members focused mainly on the positive comments and on the people who supported the group. I believe this brought together the Mexican and Mexican American people living in this country because this brought a feeling of their culture, especially during Hispanic Heritage Month.

Evelyn Gomez

I enjoyed reading the Weekend Guide, Autumn Edition by Sherae Casimiro. I liked this part of the school newspaper because it gives new and exciting activities to do over the fall because summer is out. This part of the newspaper is also really thought out because it gives exact locations and the amount of time it takes to get there. Lastly, I liked this because I'm bored, and these suggestions give me things to do.

Alexander Valdez

Yearbook pictures will be taken on Nov. 5 & 6 during English classes. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors should see their English teachers for times and dates.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY


VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

See Mr. Weber for more information.

2026-2027 Theme

"What a Veteran Taught Me About America"

Student Entry Deadline: Oct. 31, 2026

Patriotic Audio Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$35,000 Award

What is the Voice of Democracy Program?

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 26,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, state and national level. National winners will be notified of their scholarship & placement. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, "What a Veteran Taught Me About America"

Important Dates

- 11/3 - Election Day (No school)
- 11/11 - Veterans’ Day (No school)
- 11/25 - No school
- 11/26 - Thanksgiving Day (No school)
- 11/27 - No school
- 12/16-18 - 1st Semester Final Exams
- 12/21-31 - Winter Break (No school)



2026-2027
Thorntonian Staff

Staff Reporters:

- Idris Adewale
- Abi Andrez
- Sherae Casimiro
- Dakota Combs
- Kordae Crawford
- Angel Diaz
- Naleny Rosales
- Briana Santa Cruz
- Ariana Terrazas
- Dalylah Thompson
- Bryan Valtierra
- Camilia Winburn

Editorial Board:

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- Na’Yanna Green, Asst. Editor-in-Chief
- Alexa Baker, 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.

MAKE TIME STAND STILL



ORDER A YEARBOOK



THORNTON FRACTIONAL NORTH HIGH SCHOOL
USE OUR ORDER NUMBER WHEN YOU LOG ON:

12143



YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM



QUESTIONS? CONTACT: MR. STEPHAN • JSTEPHAN@TFD215.ORG •

See Mr. Stephan in room 142
for more information.

Story by Angel Diaz, Staff Reporter

TFN’s Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Assembly was a Success

On Wednesday October 21, T.F. North had its annual Hispanic Heritage Assembly. The first show was during the 2nd period for sophomores and juniors. The second was during 6th period, and it was for freshmen and seniors. The hosts were junior Ariadne Cervantes, President of the Dreamers Club, and Diana Coronado, President of the Spanish Honor Society. The show started with a presentation called “How Do You Make TFN Better?” that contained what students thought would make T.F. North a better place. Shortly after, the choir played the song De Colores. “I thought the assembly was put together really well, and my favorite part was the guitar players,” said junior Mark Mcfadzean. Next Grupo Portace played their song called Recuerda. Following Grupo Portace, the Folkloric Group danced to the song “Guadalajara.” Afterward, Alonso’s dance crew performed a dance mix. Shortly after, another presentation was shown then Grupo Portace performed another one of their songs called “Me Prendes.” Later, the Folkloric Group played another one of their songs. Afterwards, the Choir performed two songs called “Dame tu Mano” and “La Vida es un Carnaval,” and they paraded with different countries’ flags. Lastly, La Vaca performed a dance with costumes. “I think the assembly was very good and fun. My favorite part was the end with all the cow dancing; it was very funny,” said junior Emiliano Meraz. The people who organized and helped with the show were Mr. Perez, Mr. Deignan, Mr. Kawa, Mr. Stephan, and Rolando Alonso.



Photo by
Monee Miles, Chronoscope Staff

Story by Kordae Crawford, Staff Reporter

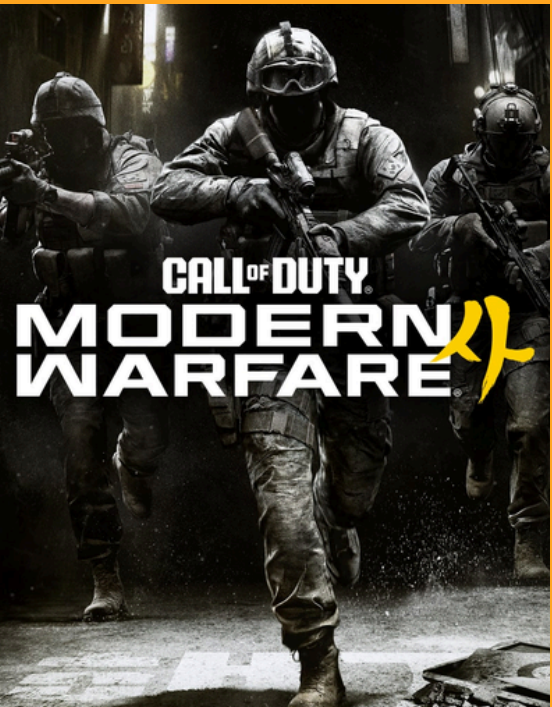
CTE Department Showcase Set for Periods 1 & 2 on November 17

With new opportunities on the horizon, T.F. North High School’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) program continues to help students prepare for their futures. Led by CTE Director Mr. Mike Zimmerman, the program gives students the chance to explore different career pathways, develop workplace skills, and discover their interests before graduating. Zimmerman believes CTE helps students make more informed decisions about their futures. “The main goal for the CTE programs at our school is to help students explore and complete pathways in CTE programs,” said Zimmerman. On November 17, freshman and sophomore students will be able to attend the showcase during first and second period. Through the CTE showcase, students can learn about programs offered at T.F. North and the district’s career center. They can ask questions, talk to teachers and current students, and gain a better understanding of the opportunities available to them. Zimmerman also emphasized the importance of preparing students for life after high school. “They continue to develop workplace readiness skills so that they’re better prepared...in some of our programs they are able to also earn college credit and be college ready,” said Zimmerman. Participating in CTE programs allows students to discover careers they may want to pursue while gaining valuable skills for the future. Some students may choose to enter the workforce immediately after graduation, while others may continue their education at a college or other post-secondary institutions. As the program continues to grow, Zimmerman and the district are looking for ways to improve opportunities for students. Whether through industry-recognized certifications, updated technology, or modern equipment, the goal is to ensure students gain experience that prepares them for real-world careers. The district is also working with South Suburban College to explore additional opportunities, particularly in health sciences, an area not currently offered within the district. With a continued focus on career readiness and student success, T.F. North’s CTE program hopes to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and experience they need to make confident decisions and build a strong future.

Story by Idris Adewale, Staff Reporter

Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 4 Brings War to a Global Stage

The newest installment in the Call of Duty franchise, Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 4, launched on October 23, 2026, bringing players into an international conflict. The campaign follows South Korean soldier Private Park and his squad as they face an invasion, while Captain Price investigates the forces behind the conflict. Players experience missions in Korea, New York City, Paris, and Mumbai, alongside competitive multiplayer and DMZ extraction gameplay. Senior Michael Coleman rated the game a 9.5/10, saying, “It’s not perfect, but the campaign storyline, multiplayer, and DMZ are all really good.” He believes it is the best Call of Duty installment since Modern Warfare (2019). Describing the campaign, Coleman said, “It’s erratic and dramatic,” pointing to its character deaths, exciting missions, and changing perspectives. He also believes the game lives up to the hype because of its quality and the two-year gap since the previous Modern Warfare release. Senior Brian Sanchez praised the game’s realistic military style, saying, “I like how they listened to fans and went back to military-style skins instead of cartoon characters.” He also praised the graphics, movement, and gunplay, comparing them to Modern Warfare (2019), one of his favorite Call of Duty games. Junior Cristian Marin said that his first impressions of Modern Warfare 4 were positive because he liked the graphics and campaign. He believes the campaign was one of the best in years, and the multiplayer was still fun. Although it wasn’t perfect, it reminded him of older games like Call of Duty: Ghosts. Overall, he believes the game lives up to the hype and can bring back the nostalgia and excitement that Call of Duty once had. It is available to play on PC, PS5, Xbox Series X/S, and Nintendo Switch; it costs \$69.99, and it can be found in retail stores or downloaded online.



NEXT ISSUE DROPS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH



TF North Student Action Team Presents:

10th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

Raffles, live music, art stations,
FREE Thanksgiving meal!

Saturday, November 7th
2:00–4:00 PM

TF North High School Cafeteria
755 Pulaski Road Calumet City, IL

RSVP By November 2nd

Questions/Contact:
Ms. Dowd 708-585-1095 ADowd@TFD215.org
Ms. Bivins 708-585-1126 WBivins@TFD215.org

*Scan to
Register*

STORY BY
SHERAE CASIMIRO, STAFF REPORTER

LAST MINUTE COSTUME IDEAS

HALLOWEEN IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, AND YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE GONNA BE? DO NOT FRET; HELP IS ON THE WAY. HERE ARE SOME LAST-MINUTE COSTUME IDEAS SO YOU CAN GO HAVE SOME SPOOKY FUN WITH YOUR FRIENDS THIS HALLOWEEN!

PLANT VS ZOMBIES

DRESSING UP AS ONE OF THE ZOMBIES FROM EVERYONE'S FAVORITE CHILDHOOD GAME, "PLANTS VS. ZOMBIES," IS VERY EASY. ALL YOU NEED IS A WHITE BUTTON-UP SHIRT WITH A RED TIE, A BROWN JACKET, AND LASTLY, JEANS. YOU CAN MAKE A HOMEMADE CONE HAT WITH SOME PAPER IF YOU'RE CRAFTY, OR YOU CAN BE ANY OTHER ZOMBIE IN THE GAME.



LIGHT YAGAMI

FOR ALL THE ANIME FANS, THIS COSTUME IS PERFECT FOR YOU, ALL YOU NEED IS A WHITE BUTTON-UP SHIRT, A RED TIE, AND KHAKI PANTS WITH ANY SHOES OF YOUR CHOICE, AND A BONUS IF YOU HAVE THE DEATH NOTE. YOU CAN CARRY AROUND AN APPLE FOR YOUR SHINIGAMI.



ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS

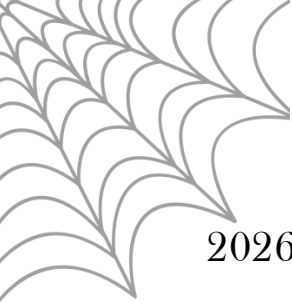
YOU WANT TO MATCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS, THEN WHY NOT BE THE BELOVED THREE SINGING CHIPMUNKS, ALVIN, SIMON AND THEODORE? THESE COSTUMES DON'T REQUIRE ANY WORK REALLY. ALL YOU NEED ARE A GREEN, A BLUE, AND A RED HOODIE THAT YOU CAN PRINT THE LETTER A (OR TAPE) ON THE CHEST OF THE HOODIE AND THEN YOU'RE DONE.



MAX GOOF

SO YOU DON'T WANT TO BE SPOOKY? THAT'S FINE, YOU CAN DRESS AS THIS WRITER'S PERSONAL FAVORITE, MAX GOOF FROM THE GOOFLY MOVIE. IT'S RELATIVELY EASY. ALL YOU NEED IS BLACK EYELINER OR SOMETHING BLACK TO PAINT YOUR NOSE, A BLACK LONG SLEEVE SHIRT AND A RED SHORT SLEEVE TO GO ON TOP, AND BAGGY JEANS WITH A BASEBALL CAP TO TOP IT OFF.





Story by Nalený Rosales, Staff Reporter

My Meaning Of Halloween

Halloween brings different people together because it is a holiday where everyone can enjoy themselves, no matter their age or background. What makes Halloween special is how unique it is compared to other holidays. People get to dress up as anything they want, watch scary movies, decorate their houses, and enjoy the spooky spirit of Halloween. I think the best part is how everyone celebrates in their own way, but they all share the same excitement. Friends, families, and even strangers can come together and enjoy the holiday. For me, Halloween is also special because I get to experience my 10-year-old sister Analiah enjoying a holiday that I was never really a big fan of. Seeing her get excited when we walk around neighborhoods in her costume that she’s been waiting to wear and being able to spend quality time with her makes me happy to know she’ll have memories to cherish, and it cheers me up to know I’ll be a part of those memories. It makes me appreciate the holiday in a different way because I get to see how much joy it brings her. Halloween creates a time when people can be creative, have fun, and make memories together. That is what makes Halloween so special to me because it brings people together and allows me to experience the holiday through my little sister’s happiness.

Curated by Dalylah Thompson, Staff Reporter

2-Sentence Horror Stories

Every time she passes me, she makes me feel unsettled, as if nobody else sees her but me. But it isn't like anybody sees me, either; I've been in this mascot costume so long that my blood matches the shirt.

Kamari Terrell

Out of breath and desperate, I run into a dead end, knowing my pursuer will be here shortly. But the footsteps have ceased, and it seems that only my reflection in a nearby mirror keeps me company, flashing a taunting smile.

Lymari Vargas

"I finally finished my homework!" I exclaim. But then I turn the page, and it's double-sided.

Legacee Rodgers

I found a photo of myself sleeping that I didn’t remember taking, so I checked the date and realized it was from last night. The creepy part wasn’t the photo; it was that my phone had been charging on my desk, facing the wall.

Kenan Eshhiba

I once went to the shark enclosure and swam with the sharks, and everything went great. That is, until I heard a shark say, "Snack time."

Giovanny Jacobo

Story by Ariana Terrazas, Staff Reporter

My very own haunted house of fears

I’ve reached a point in high school where I no longer feel motivated to do anything. From elementary school all the way to my sophomore year of high school, I was always pushing myself to do my work and to do well in school. I loved the feeling of accomplishing something, seeing my name on the honor rolls and knowing I had all A’s and a good GPA. It made me feel proud of myself. I felt like all my hard work had meant something; I was proud of the person I was becoming. But somewhere along the way, I lost that motivation. I sit in my room with the lights off, wondering where I went wrong. I now find myself struggling to care about the very things I used to take pride in, and honestly speaking, it’s scary. I know I procrastinate. I know I put things off until the last minute, but I know that I am capable of so much more than what I show. I know I have the potential to do better, which makes it even more frustrating when I don’t try. It feels like I’m watching myself fall behind while knowing I’m capable of catching up but failing to do so because I don’t have the motivation. It’s hard knowing what I am capable of, yet I’m letting that version of myself down. Junior year has been the scariest year of high school so far. The assignments seem to never stop. Before I can finish one, three more have been posted, waiting to jump scare me. Six classes worth

of work begin to pile up and suddenly, even the simplest assignment seems like too much. I have a job. I have responsibilities out of school and a life that doesn’t stop just because I have homework. Some days I DREAD getting up to do things when I have no motivation to do so and knowing I have assignments to worry about, stuff I need to catch up on. I get so overwhelmed, and I put them off even longer. It becomes a cycle of procrastination and stress. I miss the version of myself who never had to force herself to care about school because she always had everything done. I miss feeling proud of my accomplishments instead of constantly worrying about what I haven’t done. I always tell myself to get up, get up, and do it, but it's not always that simple. It's made me realize that we become so focused on everything we haven’t done rather than giving ourselves credit for the things we’ve accomplished. I'm still figuring out how to find that motivation again. It’s been a hard journey, but I’m slowly getting there. I'm reminding myself that though falling behind and struggling is scary, it doesn’t mean I'm incapable, because I’m very capable. Instead of stressing over everything, focus on one thing and move your way up from there. We don’t have to get everything done overnight; we just have to give ourselves a chance to try again.

Story by Camilia Winburn, Staff Reporter

My Pumpkin Patch Adventure

Every October, my family barely takes me anywhere fun for Halloween. I usually just binge watch Halloween movies and eat candy. So when I got word that this year, we were going to a pumpkin patch on October 25th, I couldn’t be more excited. We left around 10:30 a.m for Bengston’s Pumpkin Farm and Fall Fest in Homer Glen. It was a pretty long ride there, but in the end, it was worth it because the scenery there is to die for. I went with my mom, my two older sisters, and my two nieces. While everyone else split up to go to the pumpkin patch, my oldest sister, Jayla, and I decided to go to this haunted maze first. I was ecstatic since this would be my first-ever haunted maze, but once we got inside, the maze wasn't really...scary. I was feeling quite disappointed once we left the maze as I realized maybe this place isn’t as fun as I thought it would be. I got more skeptical when we started to go on other boring rides until we reached the “Egg Drop.” What it is is basically one of

those drop rides at amusement parks. When I looked at it, however, it didn’t look that high, so I thought it would be another kiddie ride. Man, was I wrong, though. The second the ride dropped, it felt like my entire insides shifted. It was so fun that my sister and I went back in the line again to ride it for the second time when we only had one hour left to explore everything else. I also enjoyed some other tame but adrenaline-filling rides, too, like the “Happy Swing,” which is a giant swing that rocks you back and forth, and the “Barnstormer Wave Swinger” which is, by its name, a ride that swings you and others around in circles. They also have farm animals all around that you can pet, like pigs, cows, and rabbits. Their food is also pretty good. Overall, I say this place is extremely underrated and is a fun place to go to if you want to save money, as tickets usually cost \$20-40.



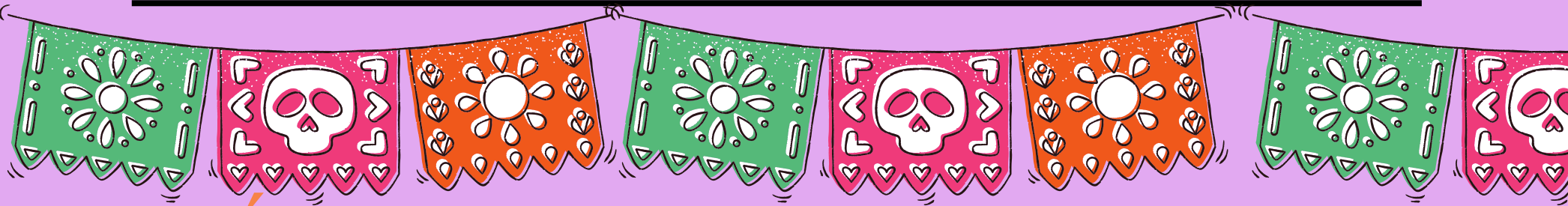
Artwork by
Bryan Valtierra

Inside the minds of horror fans

Horror movies bring viewers excitement, suspense, and fear, but everyone has different ideas about what makes a movie truly scary. Legace Rodgers, a sophomore, named "The Deliverance" as her favorite horror movie because it genuinely terrified her and had a great plot. Rodgers believes people enjoy being scared because "it may bring a sense of peace to some." Red backgrounds and lighting frighten her the most, and she recalls having trouble sleeping after watching "Momo," "Slender Man," and "Michael Myers." Rodgers considers Jeepers Creepers the scariest horror villain but believes she could survive against Chucky or Annabelle, saying, "that ain't nun." She also thinks the "Chucky" and "Annabelle" series are overrated and recommends "All of Us Are Dead." Similarly, sophomore Gladis Perea enjoys the "Chucky" series, especially its ups and downs. Perea believes horror attracts viewers because "it gives them a sense of adrenaline." However, unlike Rodgers, Perea finds unexpected moments and plot twists the scariest parts of horror movies. She names Art the Clown as the scariest villain but believes she could survive against Chucky. Perea considers "Terrifier" overrated and recommends the "Fear Street" series instead. While both sophomores enjoy horror for different reasons, junior Kenyon Winston focuses more on the tension and suspense that build throughout a movie. His favorite horror movie, "Obsession," combines a real-world problem with supernatural elements to make the story even more frightening. Winston finds it especially unsettling when viewers expect something to happen but nothing does, describing it as "a modern day jumpscare." Like Rodgers, Winston considers Jeepers Creepers the scariest villain because "he's genuinely impossible to survive." However, he sees Chucky as much less threatening, explaining that "he's genuinely a doll, just kick him." Winston also considers "The Blair Witch Project" overrated because he feels it "kinda lacked a compelling narrative." In contrast, junior Ashley Jaimes prefers horror movies with a creepy atmosphere and memorable scares. Jaimes recommends "Insidious" and its sequel to viewers who enjoy suspense, explaining that the films were "very creepy to me and freaked me out." Since Jaimes rarely watches scary movies, she gets nervous when she does. Realistic slasher films and supernatural movies frighten her the most, and she remembers having trouble sleeping after watching "IT" (2017). Jaimes names Pennywise the scariest horror villain because he is "so gross and creepy," admitting, "I hate clowns." Although she enjoys "Scream," she considers the series overrated because it has so many movies and recommends "The Conjuring" instead. Although these four students have different favorites, their opinions reveal several reasons people enjoy horror. Some prefer supernatural stories, while others enjoy suspense, unexpected twists, or frightening villains. Their opinions show that horror movies can create excitement and fear in different ways, making the genre appealing to viewers with different tastes.



Story and Original Artwork by
By Bryan Valtierra, Staff Reporter



DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Story by Karen Gutiérrez, Jefa de redacción

The Day of the Dead celebration takes place from October 28 to November 2, and each of these days has its own special meaning and significance. During this time, many Mexican families like mine honor and remember their loved ones who have passed away through traditions, offerings, and celebrations. Although every day has a unique purpose, the day we will focus on is October 30, which holds its own importance in this meaningful celebration. October 30th is a day to remember forgotten souls, lonely souls, and people who passed away in accidents. Forgotten souls are those who no longer have anyone to remember them, while lonely souls are those who passed away without loved ones by their side. People who died in accidents are also remembered because their deaths were often sudden and unexpected. We honor these souls by praying for them, lighting candles, and remembering their lives. This day reminds us that everyone deserves to be remembered and that no soul should be forgotten. This day is to remember these people because everyone deserves to have their life recognized, even if they have no family or friends left. People can honor them by praying for them, lighting a candle, or taking a moment to remember those who have been forgotten. This day reminds us that even if someone is no longer here, their life still matters. Also, this day is more of a personal day to me because my God brother passed away in a car crash when he was 18 and ever since his passing, the 30th feels different because we also commemorate people who died in accidents, especially those whose deaths were sudden and unexpected. These people may have left behind families and friends who still miss them deeply. This day gives people an opportunity to pray for their souls, honor their memories, and support the loved ones they left behind. People can remember them by lighting candles, placing flowers on their graves, or sharing memories of their lives. It reminds us that life is precious and that even when someone's life ends unexpectedly, they should never be forgotten.



Photo credit: Jose Luis Gutierrez Tovar.
My grandparents' ofrenda for the Day of the Dead.



STUDENT SURVEY CONDUCTED BY

NA'YANNA GREEN, ASST. EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

IT'S A ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE!

"THE BELL RINGS, BUT INSTEAD OF THE NEXT PERIOD, IT'S A ZOMBIE OUTBREAK! IF ZOMBIES INVADED RIGHT NOW DURING CLASS, WHAT'S YOUR PLAN? TELL US WHO YOU'D TRUST, WHERE YOU WOULD HIDE, AND HOW LONG YOU'D SURVIVE!"

Which teacher or school staff member would you trust most to lead you to safety?

“Mr. Schuldes, he’s a great teacher and coach so I would put my trust into him, and he’s a great guy which makes him a trustworthy and dependable guide,” said Emmanuel Munoz.

“One staff member I'd trust to lead me to safety is Ms. Rising from the Guidance Office. I'd trust her to lead me to safety because she's smart and probably knows all the routes to the school,” said Gladis Perea Lupian.

“I would trust Ms. Nieto to lead me to safety because I've known her for many years. She also cares about her students' safety and well-being,” said Jacquelin Garcia Cruz.

“Officer Randy Zivkovich. He has access to the police department as well as items we can use to takeout the undead. He also has a great mustache. With great mustache comes great responsibility, and he will be very responsible in keeping me safe and alive,” said Mr. Russo.

“Mr. Hamilton because he seems to be the most athletic,” said Jamari Bufkin.

“Mrs. McCraw because she would sing them an opera song in her loudest voice. This will cause them to enter a deep trance and fall asleep,” said Mrs. L. Cook.

'Ms. Ball because she's a science teacher, there's also a window in her room and plenty of space with supplies,” said Hailey Evans.

“Mr. Posely because he is really chill and the best dean to go to if you are in trouble or getting picked on,” said Jayden Miranda Perez.

Where would you hide?

“I would hide in the room where they make the stage equipment in the auditorium because its hidden and not a place anyone would usually look,” said Jessica Whitelow.

“I would hid in the lunchroom and close the shield door things because there is food in there and weapons,” said Lamyra Harris.

“I would probably hide somewhere near a stairwell since it is closest to an exit. If that isn't possible, I would hide in a science classroom since the doors are hefty and most likely sturdy. Though the windows could be an issue but that's something to think about later,” said Destin Arbas.

“I would hide in the tunnels because the zombies wouldn't be able to find me, or I would hide in a room on the first floor like the cafeteria,” said Kamari Black.

“There is a room in the 200's with a closet. Inside the closet, there is a hidden staircase with maintenance access to an attic and the roof. Nobody knows about it, and zombies can't turn doorknobs or climb stairs. I already have 4 cases of Honey Buns, a 48-pack of Strawberry Dr. Pepper Zero, and a bucket of sidewalk chalk up there. You know, just in case,” said Mr. Kawa.

“I would hide in the gaming room by the lunch room inside of the tunnel in the wall,” said Jaraya O’Quinnn.

“I would go to the area under the stairs outside of the lunch room because there are lots of steel doors there,” said Vamiyah Jernigan.

“I would most likely hide in a classroom with a window because I’m not staying here; I’m going to climb out of the window,” said Kayshla Stacker.

How long do you realistically think you would survive in the zombie apocalypse?

“I honestly think I’d survive until all the zombies decay. I’m too swift on my feet, and my knowledge is elite to a point where a zombie wouldn’t even be in the same vicinity as me,” said Omari DaSilva.

“Thirty minutes, since I value my life, friends, siblings, and family. I have no idea since I have never gone through a serious situation like zombie apocalypses,” said Daysha Jones.

“Until everyone else is dead because by then everyone would be a zombie. Also, the zombies would eventually die from starvation, and I would have the whole world to myself,” said Brianna Chrusfield.

“I honestly would survive only a few hours before I get tired,” said Larrianna Jones.

“Probably a few hours, a week, or more. Considering that some people are not good at getting out, they will probably be zombified first. It depends on what type of necessities you have on you. If not, you will probably stay alive for a short time until you die,” said Destin Arbas.

“I think I would survive for a long time because I would only be with one person and we can hide somewhere small,” said Tyron Harris.

“I would probably survive for a week because I would not be the smartest,” said Malaysia Jones.

“I would last a day because I have FOMO, and if everyone else is a zombie then I would want to be one too,” said Jacob Tullis.



HORROR MOVIE WATCHLIST

Story by
Dakota Combs, Staff Reporter

THE YEAR IS ALMOST OVER, BUT IN TRADITIONAL HALLOWEEN FASHION, WHAT IS BETTER THAN WATCHING A HORROR MOVIE ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT? MANY MOVIES HAVE COME OUT THIS YEAR, SO IT IS FINALLY TIME TO DECIDE WHICH ONES ARE THE BEST SO FAR.



Obsession was directed by Curry Baker with actors Indie Naverette, Micheal Johnson, Megan Lawless, and Cooper Tomlinson. Many people who watched Obsession felt extremely enthusiastic about it due to the expressions and actions of Indie Naverette and the descions and conflicts of Micheal Johnson. The most popular debate is the themes in the movie such as, male entitelemnt and modern dating culture. (Rated - R)



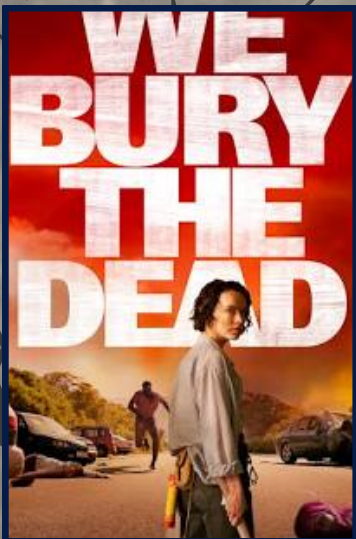
Send Help is a movie directed by Sam Raimi with actors Racheal McAdams, Dylan O'Brien, Edyll Ismail, and Xavier Samuel. It is a dark comedy, survival horror, and psychological thriller, which is what most people enjoyed about it. The best debates were the conflict between the main chacaters and how the movie sticks to the preidtible workplace troupe. (Rated - R)



Hokum is a folk horror and supernatural triller which was directed by Damian McCarthy with actors Adam Scott, Florence Ordesch, and Austin Amelio. Many people loved the atmosphere, Adam Scott's performance, and how they crafted it but people disliked the pacing and felt as though there was a disconnection between the elements in the folklore. (Rated - R)



Exit 8 is a movie based off of a video game from 2023, where someone is trapped in a looping Japanese subway, but they have to spot anamolies to stay alive and find a way out. This movie was directed by Genki Kawamura with actors Nina Kamatsu and Katsunari Ninomiya. People loved how the movie portrayed the video game and the emotional depth but disliked the pacing of the movie and character choices. (PG-13)



We Bury The Dead is an indie and psychological zombie drama that was directed by Zak Hilditch with actors Daisy Ridley, Brenton Thwaites, Mark Coles Smith, and Chloe Hurst. People believed that the movie included great emotional depth instead of just mindless monsters walking around, and they enjoyed Daisy Ridley's performance but hated the pacing and the genre mismatch. (Rated - R)



28 Years Later: The Bone Temple is another addition to the series 28 Days Later which has been out since 2002. This movie was directed by Cillian Murphy, and stars Ralph Fiennes, and Erin Kellyman. People adored the tone shifts throughout the movie but disliked how there was more of cults and psychological tension then regular zombie out breaks like to the other movies. (Rated - R)



Just like Exit 8, Resident Evil was based off a very popular video game series since 1996. This movie was directed by Zach Cregger with actors Austin Abrams, Paul Walter Hauser, and Kali Reis. Many people enjoyed how the movie portrayed the "Player Experience" and and the tone but felt frustrated with how it did not follow the exact storyline of the video game. (Rated - R)



The Backrooms was based off a anthology horror series from 2019. This movie was a mix of psychological horror with scientific fiction. The director was Kane Parsons with actors Chiwetel Ejiofor, Renate Reinsve, and Finn Bennet. Viewers adored the minmial space atmosphere and the commitment to the mystery but disliked the expectation between the internet lore and the pacing. (Rated - R)



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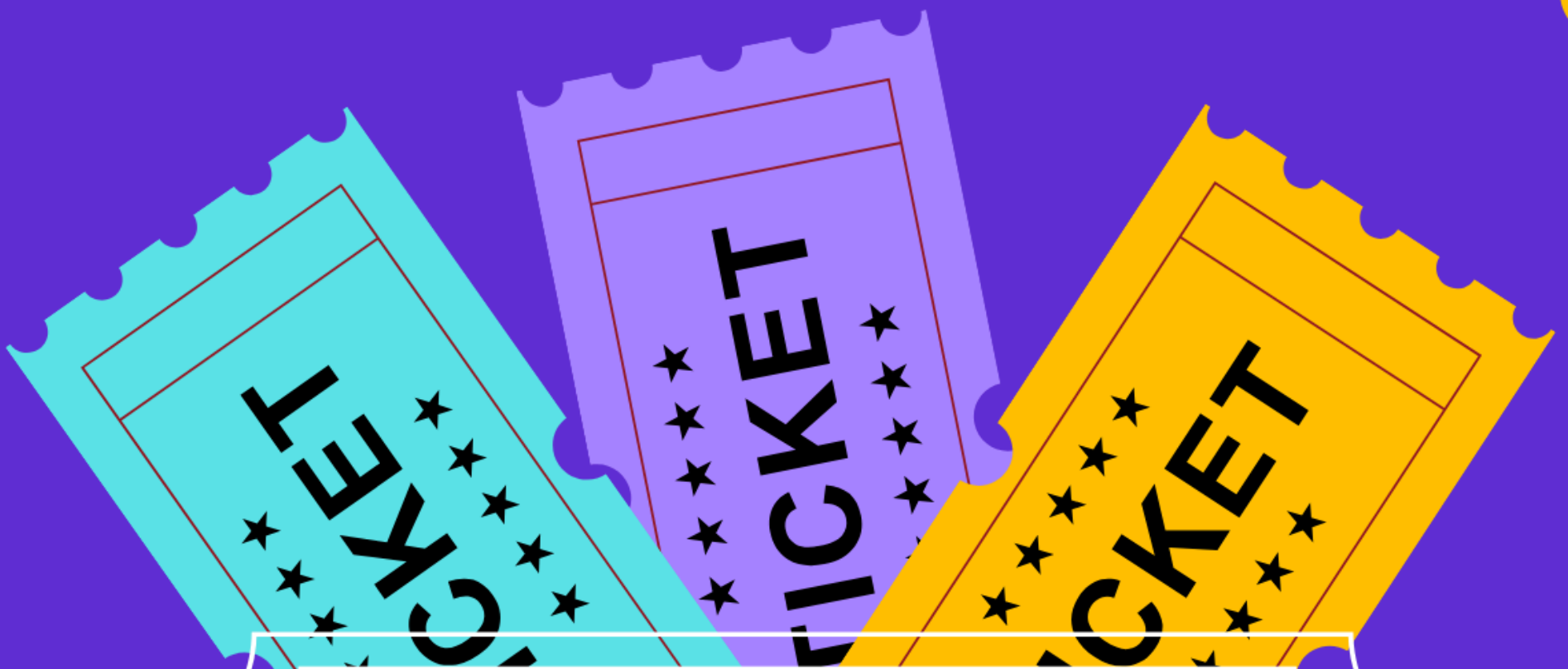
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Historia de Brianna Santa Cruz, reportera

TFN organiza su evento anual “Boo night”

El miércoles 21 de octubre de 2026, Thornton Fractional North High School recibió a estudiantes, familias y miembros de la comunidad para celebrar su evento anual Boo Night. Los preparativos para Boo Night comenzaron incluso antes de que iniciara el evento. A las 2 p. m., los estudiantes y el personal comenzaron a colocar decoraciones de Halloween en la cafetería y los pasillos. El evento comenzó a las 4:30 p. m. en la cafetería de la escuela, donde las decoraciones de Halloween ayudaron a crear un ambiente festivo. Asistieron muchos niños y padres de familia, incluyendo maestros que también llevaron a sus propios hijos. Desde manualidades y juegos hasta pintacaritas y una fiesta de baile, hubo muchas actividades para que las familias disfrutaran durante toda la tarde. Las actividades se llevaron a cabo en diferentes áreas de la escuela, incluyendo la cafetería de arriba, donde las familias podían participar en manualidades, juegos y otras actividades. Los niños podían hacer máscaras de Frankenstein y fantasmas de papel, decorar adornos de madera, crear separadores de libros y diseñar sus propias máscaras. También podían participar en juegos como boliche y lanzamiento de ojos de zombi. A las 5 p. m., el espíritu de Halloween continuó en el pasillo de arriba, donde se llevó a cabo la actividad de pedir dulces. Los niños tuvieron la oportunidad de caminar de puerta en puerta y recoger dulces de los estudiantes que ayudaban con el evento. El pasillo decorado les dio a las familias otra actividad para disfrutar, mientras que los estudiantes voluntarios se encargaban de hacer que la experiencia fuera divertida para los más pequeños. La Sra. Rising y el equipo de Cultura y Ambiente Escolar organizaron Boo Night con la ayuda de los clubes escolares y voluntarios. Según Rising, la planificación generalmente comienza en septiembre. Los organizadores tienen que reunir materiales para las manualidades, preparar las decoraciones y organizar las actividades antes de que lleguen las familias. Uno de los mayores desafíos



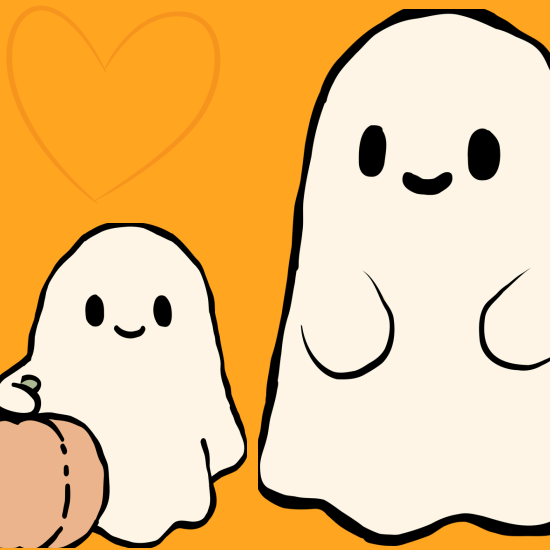
durante la planificación fue conseguir donaciones para ayudar a financiar el evento. Para Rising, Boo Night significa mucho más que celebrar Halloween. Explicó que los niños pequeños ven a los estudiantes de preparatoria como un ejemplo mientras hacen manualidades y participan en los juegos. Ella espera que los estudiantes reconozcan la diferencia que pueden hacer al ayudar a los niños de su comunidad. Como explicó Rising: “Espero que los estudiantes sepan que están teniendo un impacto en la participación de los niños en este evento”. Los estudiantes voluntarios de Thornton Fractional North también compartieron sus experiencias ayudando en Boo Night. Jaiden Dabney dijo que estaba “extremadamente feliz” de encargarse del registro de los asistentes este año. Diana Coronado compartió que se sentía “muy honrada” de volver a encargarse del registro y que estaba emocionada por ayudar a la comunidad. Otros voluntarios ayudaron a organizar los juegos y convivir con los niños. Priscilla Castaneda ayudó con el juego de lanzamiento de ojos de zombi. Zoe Flores ayudó con la fiesta de baile y explicó que quería ser voluntaria porque pensaba que sería un “momento divertido para ayudar y ver a los niños disfrutar de los juegos”. Cassandra Orozco ayudó con la actividad de los fantasmas de papel y también compartió que su parte favorita del evento fue poder convivir con los niños. A través de sus diferentes funciones, los voluntarios ayudaron a los niños a participar en las actividades y disfrutar de la celebración de Halloween. Sus experiencias demostraron cómo Boo Night les dio a los estudiantes la oportunidad de convivir con los más pequeños y contribuir a su comunidad. Al reunir a familias, maestros y estudiantes durante la tarde, Boo Night les dio a los miembros de la comunidad escolar la oportunidad de celebrar Halloween fuera del salón de clases. Rising espera que el evento continúe durante muchos años más y anima a las familias que no pudieron asistir este año a participar en el futuro.

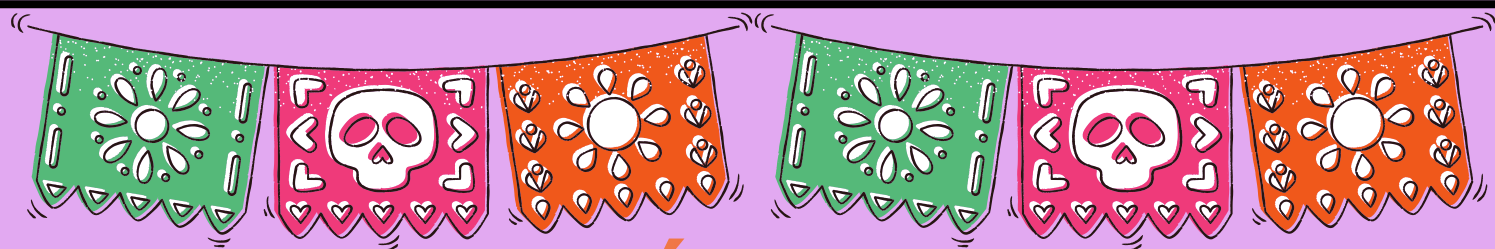


Historia de Naleny Rosales, reportera

Mi significado de Halloween

Halloween une a personas muy diversas, ya que es una festividad en la que todos pueden divertirse, sin importar su edad o su origen. Lo que hace especial a Halloween es lo singular que resulta en comparación con otras festividades. La gente puede disfrazarse de lo que quiera, ver películas de terror, decorar sus casas y disfrutar del ambiente inquietante propio de esta fecha. Creo que lo mejor es que, aunque cada uno celebra a su manera, todos comparten la misma ilusión. Amigos, familias e incluso desconocidos pueden reunirse y disfrutar de la festividad. Para mí, Halloween es también especial porque puedo ver a mi hermana Analiah, de 10 años, disfrutar de una celebración que, en realidad, nunca fue de mis favoritas. Verla emocionarse mientras recorremos el vecindario con el disfraz que tanto esperaba ponerse, y poder pasar tiempo de calidad con ella, me hace feliz al saber que guardará recuerdos entrañables; además, me alegra saber que yo formaré parte de esos recuerdos. Esto me lleva a valorar la festividad de otra forma, al observar cuánta alegría le aporta. Halloween crea un espacio donde las personas pueden ser creativas, divertirse y construir recuerdos juntas. Por eso, Halloween es tan especial para mí porque une a las personas y me permite vivir la festividad a través de la felicidad de mi hermana pequeña.





Historia de
Karen Gutiérrez, Jefa de redacción

La celebración del Día de Muertos se lleva a cabo del 28 de octubre al 2 de noviembre, y cada uno de estos días tiene su propio significado e importancia. Durante este tiempo, las familias honran y recuerdan a sus seres queridos que han fallecido a través de tradiciones, ofrendas y celebraciones. Aunque cada día tiene un propósito especial, el día en el que nos enfocaremos es el 30 de octubre, una fecha que tiene su propia importancia dentro de esta significativa celebración. El 30 de octubre es un día para recordar a las almas olvidadas, a las almas solitarias y a las personas que fallecieron en accidentes. Las almas olvidadas son aquellas que ya no tienen a nadie que las recuerde, mientras que las almas solitarias son aquellas que fallecieron sin tener a sus seres queridos a su lado. También se recuerda a las personas que murieron en accidentes, ya que sus muertes fueron, en muchos casos, repentinas e inesperadas. Honramos a estas almas rezando por ellas, encendiendo veladoras y recordando sus vidas. Este día nos recuerda que todos merecen ser recordados y que ninguna alma debe ser olvidada. Este día está dedicado a recordarlas porque todos merecen que su vida sea reconocida, incluso si ya no tienen familiares ni amigos que los recuerden. Podemos honrarlas rezando por ellas, encendiendo una veladora o dedicando un momento para recordar a quienes han sido olvidados. Este día nos recuerda que, aunque una persona ya no esté con nosotros, su vida sigue teniendo valor. Además, este día es aún más personal para mí porque mi primo falleció en un accidente automovilístico cuando tenía 18 años. Desde su partida, el 30 de octubre se siente diferente para mí, ya que también recordamos a las personas que fallecieron en accidentes, especialmente a aquellas cuyas muertes fueron repentinas e inesperadas. Estas personas pudieron haber dejado atrás a familiares y amigos que todavía sienten profundamente su ausencia. Este día les da a las personas la oportunidad de rezar por sus almas, honrar sus recuerdos y apoyar a los seres queridos que dejaron atrás. Podemos recordarlos encendiendo veladoras, colocando flores en sus tumbas o compartiendo recuerdos de sus vidas. Este día nos recuerda que la vida es valiosa y que, incluso cuando la vida de alguien termina inesperadamente, esa persona nunca debe ser olvidada.

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS



Photo credit: Jose Luis Gutiérrez Tovar.
Ofrenda del Día de los muertos.



Creado por
Abi Andrez, reportera

Historias de Terror

GRACIAS A LAS CLASES DE LA SRA. KRUSZA Y LA SRA. NIETO POR REALIZAR ESTAS HISTORIAS.

Habia una vez una nina que iba caminando por el busque buscando a su perrito, ella encontró a su perro en el bosque y lo trajo de vuelta a casa. Solo para ver a su propio perro esperándola dentro de la casa, ladrándole; el perro que había traído...no era su perro.
Ariadna Perdomo, Primer año

Llevaba dos dias y todavia seguia escondiendose de la llorona, pero la llorona no se rendia, no iba a descansar hasta que lo encuentre. Un dia el hombre se quiso ser el valiente, decidio vencer a la llorona y terminar con ella, despues de su intento nunca lo volvieron a ver.
Rogelio Munoz, Segundo año

Habia un cuento donde en la noche si hay tres velas prendidas en un cuarto cerado con sal a lado, que una mujer va aparecer y quitarle el alma a las personas que los hacen. Una mujer lo trato porque penso que era falso y que nomas es una mentira, ella desupes de hacerlo se sintio mal y se sento despues, había alguien afuera del cuarto llamando a la puerta, pero ella vive sola.
Yaquelin Delacruz, Segundo año

Le prepare la cena a mi esposo esta noche y me dijo que no le gusto mucho. Y era extraño, porque pensé que amaba a Sofia.
Ashley Jaimes, Tercer año

Mamá y papá siempre me ignoran, mi madre comenzó a murmurar de la nada. Me preguntaba cómo solían ser las cosas antes de que se pusiera así, hasta que finalmente escuché lo que estaba diciendo, dijo "nunca se despertó, mi pobre hija".
Zulydey Huerta, Tercer año

Me detuve enfrente de mi espejo en el pasillo para acomodarme mi pelo. Mi reflejo tardo 3 segundos más que yo en dejar de sonreír.
Evelyn Gomez, Segundo año

Ayer mis papas me dijeron que ya era demasiada mayor para un amigo imaginario y que deberia ser amigos en la vida real y que tenia que dejarlo ir. El siguiente dia encontraron su cuerpo.
Azul Mendoza, Ultimo año

Anoche escuche que alguien me llamaba desde mi closet, pero cuando lo abri no habia nadie .Cuando regrese a mi cama, vi un mensaje en mi celular que decia "Gracias por dejarme salir".
Carlos Lopez, Tercer año

El miedo de no volver a despertar después de mi cirugía siempre me ha causado ansiedad. Pero supongo que despertar antes de tiempo es mejor que no despertar nunca.
Michelle Zaragoza, Ultimo año

Escuché a mi madre llamándome y bajé a la planta baja, de donde provenía su voz. Alguien me agarró del brazo y me metió en una habitación; era mi madre. Me miró con miedo y dijo, "¿Tú también lo has oído?".
Mirian Martinez, Tercer año

Un día, una niña caminaba en la oscuridad de regreso a casa por un sendero de montaña cuando ella se tropezó y se cayó. Se rompió el cuello y murió, y ahora su espíritu atormenta a cada niño/niña que recorre ese camino solo.
Yaritza Alvarez, Tercer año

Después de perder la vista, mi padre tuvo que hacerse cargo de mí. Recuperé la visión, pero sigo teniendo que fingir que soy ciego para descubrir quién es este hombre y qué le hizo a mi padre.
Yamilete Pineda, Segundo año

Me desperté en mitad de la noche y vi a alguien de pie en el umbral de mi puerta. Al parpadear, esa persona había desaparecido, pero mi puerta seguía abierta.
Lyan Espino, Primer año

Un día vi un fantasma y, por alguna razón, me resultó familiar; intenté averiguar quién podría ser o si, simplemente, mi mente me estaba engañando. Pensé que se trataba de un familiar —tenía un parecido asombroso con mi padre fallecido y hasta su misma voz —, pero entonces me miré en un espejo y me pregunté: «¿Por qué no me veo a mí mismo?».

Le di un beso de buenos noches a mi hija. Cuando salí del cuarto vi mi hija y me pregunto, "con quién hablabas?"
Emiliano Meraz, Tercer año

Ayer sali a conseguir mascararas para mi fiesta de halloween. Que raro que mis mascararas salgan en noticias de personas desaparecidas.
Junior Alonzo, Tercer año

Yo estuvo durmiendo y de repente mi amigo estaba gritando como si fuera un persona que arrancó el corazón del pecho vivo. Se calmo y le pregunté si estaba bien pero no respondo en su voz pero de otro.
Allister Tinajero, Ultimo año

Hice tacos de carne y puse un ingrediente secreto que todos los gustan. Pero so saben que el ingrediente secreto es carne de humanos.
Odalys Escobar, Tercer año

Todo los cuadros en mi casa son locales. Compre una nueva, pero la nina que estaba en el cuadro no estaba en la manana.
AnaLeah Mendez, Tercer año

Cada noche escuchaba a alguien caminar por el pasillo, aunque vivía solo. Una madrugada, recibí un mensaje de mi propio número que decía: “Deja de fingir que no me escuchas, estoy debajo de tu cama”.
Fored Bueso, Ultimo año

Un día vi un fantasma y, por alguna razón, me resultó familiar; intenté averiguar quién podría ser o si, simplemente, mi mente me estaba engañando. Pensé que se trataba de un familiar —tenía un parecido asombroso con mi padre fallecido y hasta su misma voz —, pero entonces me miré en un espejo y me pregunté: «¿Por qué no me veo a mí mismo?».

Eduardo Uribe, Tercer año

Cada noche, a las 3:00 a. m., escuchaba tres golpes en la puerta de mi habitación, pero cuando miraba por la mirilla, no había nadie. Una noche, los golpes vinieron desde dentro de mi armario y una voz susurró.
Jorge Zavala, Ultimo año

Era nuestra primera vez entrando el laberinto de maiz, mis amigas jugando que nos habiamos perdido porque no enoctravamos la salida. Despues de que pasaron unos minutos, encontramos la salida donde fuemos encontrados con la policia y nuestras familias, llorando porque habian pasado cinco horas desde que entramos.
Stacy Arroyo, Tercer año

Cada noche, mi muñeca de quince años cambiaba de lugar mientras yo dormía. Anoche, abrió los ojos y me sonrió.
AnaLizbeth Arce, Tercer año

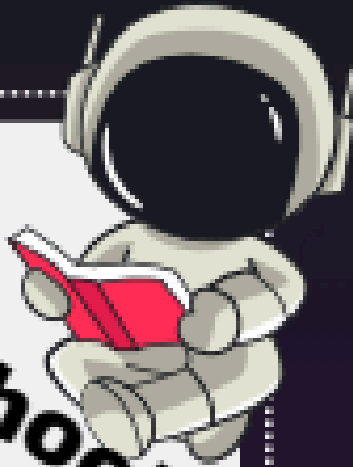
El conductor no quería hablar, así que me puse a mirar el telefono y me llego un mensaje. "Hola, soy tu Uber, te estoy esperando."
Arianna Madrigal, Tercer año

Pasé toda la noche llorando por la muerte de mi esposa, abrazando su cuerpo frío en la oscuridad. Me quedé helado cuando mi celular vibró con un mensaje de ella que decía: "Ya casi llego a casa, amor, perdona la tardanza".
Evelyn Gonzalez, Tercer año

Es una lástima que mataron a ese señor de la comunidad sin saber quien lo hizo. Estoy seguro que le hubiera gustado que alguien mas aparte de mí escuchara sus últimos gritos de vida.
Juan Meraz, Segundo año

Inesperadamente, mi hermano entró en mi habitación y me pregunto si podia quedarse ahí porque algo lo estaba asusado en su habitación, así que le dije que estaba bien, pero decidí investigar qué era lo que lo estaba asustando. Al entrar en su cuarto, escuché ruidos en el clóset y, cuando lo abrí, vi a mi hermanito sentado en la mera esquina; entonces, si el estaba ahí, ¿quien era el niño que yacía recostado en mi cama?
Jaime Hernandez, Ultimo año





Mini Meteors Preschool

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De 3 a 5 años de edad

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\$75

**Fecha:**
10 de noviembre de 2026 -
6 de mayo de 2027

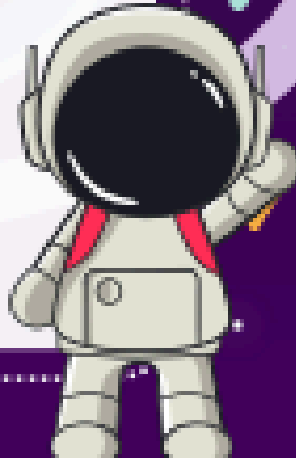
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