

THE POINT

The Official Newspaper of Poinciana High School

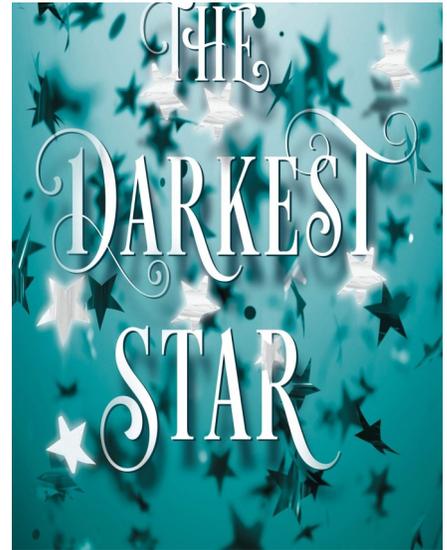
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Book Review: *The Darkest Star*

By Jalise Martinez

“That was what I wanted at some point in my life, for someone to look at me like I looked at tacos,” said main character Evie Dasher, a quirky seventeen-year-old girl with a complicated past. Featured in Jennifer L. Armentrout’s book *The Darkest Star*, Evie Dasher finds herself in a sticky situation when she is caught up in a raid at a notorious club known for being one of the few places where humans and the surviving Luxen alien race can get together freely. Her world is flipped upside-down the moment that she is face to face with Luc, a captivatingly beautiful boy that she assumes is a Luxen. What she doesn’t know is that Luc is much more than just a Luxen, and he is much more than a stranger to her. Her mixed feelings for Luc catapult her into a world of uncertainty, revealing secrets about the world around her and those closest to her.



Jennifer L. Armentrout pulls the readers in with her portrayal of Evie Dasher, as she is a very relatable character. She struggles with her identity as she moves forward, which later becomes a very prominent plot element as it controls many aspects of her life and point of view that the reader sees her world through. With twists and turns at every corner, Armentrout keeps her readers on their toes with this series, constantly revealing new elements to this sci-fi dystopian world.

The conflict for our main protagonist Evie Dasher begins when she meets the mysterious Luc who leads her to question the events that led up to her present. Luc greets her for the first time as if he knows who she is, reciting her name without ever being told it. Before getting the chance to truly process that this stranger knows who she is, the club they’re in gets raided by the police who were in search of unregistered Luxen, sending the entire room into chaos. These events naturally freak Evie out and leads her to avoid Luc at all costs. Unless, of course, that cost is her phone and her mom killing her if she were to find out that she not only lost her phone but lost her phone in one of the most infamous clubs in town at the minor age of seventeen. When Evie returns for the phone, she has no idea the wild ride she boarded.

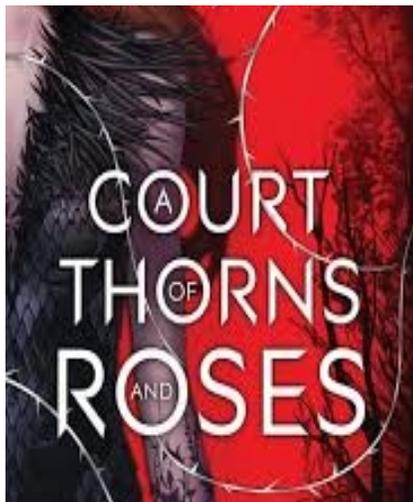
“Let's start over. Completely. You'll pretend that the mere idea of being attracted to me doesn't freak you out, and I'll pretend that you're not thinking about how I'd feel under your fingers. Hmm? Sound like a plan?” Luc, our charming and immensely attractive supporting character, is an eighteen-year-old boy who never fails to be chock-full with sarcasm. While often incorporated for comedic relief, Luc has a complicated and dark history that bleeds into his everyday actions and shapes him as a character. He serves as Evie's’ love interest throughout the series, constantly showcasing his deep admiration for Evie through his cheeky compliments, genuine conversations, and actions of love. It’s near impossible not to be enthralled by Luc’s character as he is multilayered, leaving the readers pining to understand him on a deeper level.

Careful when reading this book as you will find yourself fully immersed in this sci-fi dystopian world, hooked on what each page will bring. If you’re a fan of dystopian themed books; try an alien-themed dystopian book. You might be surprised at how quickly you will be wrapped up in this trilogy.

ENTERTAINMENT

Book Review: A Court of Thorns and Roses

By Amir Cherrou



“When nineteen-year-old huntress Feyre kills a wolf in the woods, a beast-like creature arrives to demand retribution for it. Dragged to a treacherous magical land she only knows about from legends, Feyre discovers that her captor is not an animal, but Tamlin--one of the lethal, immortal faeries who once ruled their world.”

A Court of Thorns and Roses is a passionate, flaming story set in a world divided between human and Fae, where one lives in luxury and by the other in poverty. This storm of emotions and actions draws us in with the wit and beauty of Feyre and all the supporting characters. It begins in the deep of winter, where we see Feyre Acheron holding her broken family’s hunger at bay.

Feyre Acheron is our main character. Dragged across the border between separate and different worlds, she falls into the Spring Court of Prythian. The Fae, who are older than any human alive, have become a constant fear and legend hovering over the minds of all humans. Now that Feyre has been ushered into the politics of the court by our handsome love interest, Tamlin, we become entrenched into the lives of all in the land of Prythian.

Tamlin is the High Lord of the Spring Court. Described as incredibly handsome and young with a heart of a warrior, he is the ruler of the court and the one he and Feyre call home. He is a dynamic and diverse character who has unclear intentions. Tamlin hopes to protect the Spring Court, much as his father did from the mysterious “her” that recurs throughout the book.

This collection of complex entertaining fantasy all ties together to create a story unlike any other. You become drawn into the courts present throughout the trilogy, fall for characters, and wrench in disgust at others. This series has some adult content between different love interests, and it becomes a recurring event throughout as characters grow closer and relationships advance. If you enjoy an elaborate story with multiple characters dying for attention, and magic that sometimes cannot be explained, then this is a read for you!

The Mandalorian Returns

By Paola Andujar

The Mandalorian season two was released on October 30, 2020. The series kicks off right where we left off with Mando continuing his task to find the Jedi for the Child. He has traveled to even the outer rims in order to find any information on the Jedi and the remaining Mandalorian. This season has introduced many new characters so far and has already presented the viewers with unforgettable action-packed fight scenes. It is safe to say the Mandalorian does not play when it comes to the Child's safety.

It appears that returning the child to the Jedi will not be an easy task, as the Mandalorian has been tied into side tasks on his way to the Jedi. It seems every town he visits needs his help with something. The first episode alone was impressive as Mando, along with some sand people and townspeople, work together to kill a huge beast that looks like something out of the Chamber of Secrets. The end of the episode reveals a shocking surprise as a familiar face joins the Mandalorian.

This season has gone through a lot regarding the pandemic. Production was halted for some time until it was deemed safe to continue shooting, and some of the locations had to be moved to remote areas because of this.

It has been confirmed that viewers can expect an eight-episode season this year from the Mandalorian. However, it seems his story is far from over as a third season was officially confirmed back in April of this year.

From the few episodes that have been released so far, anyone can tell the team working on this project put a lot of thought and hard work into this season. This season surely holds a lot for the many Star Wars fans.

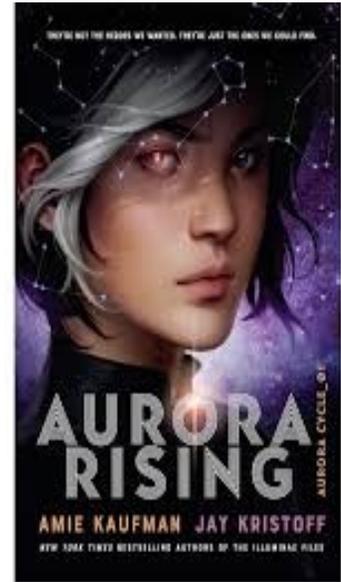


Auroras Rising– Book Review

By Amir Cherrou

“The year is 2380, and the graduating cadets of Aurora Academy are being assigned their first missions. Star pupil Tyler Jones is ready to recruit the squad of his dreams, but his own boneheaded heroism sees him stuck with the dregs nobody else in the Academy would touch...”

When Tyler Jones stumbles upon an emergency pod in space, he gives up his chance at the crew of his dreams and is left with the bottom of the barrel from the Aurora Academy. When his ragtag group of graduates stumble upon a hidden mystery that could lead to the destruction of the universe, they try their hardest to stop this monster from being awoken once again.



Personally, I have not enjoyed a sci-fi book as much as this in a long time. The collection of fast paced action that does not slow throughout and the look we get into each of the characters unique personalities and even abilities, didn't cease to amaze. Aurora and her psychic space powers, Scarlett and her sensitive yet confident personality, and Finnian who never backs down yet is disabled and must wear an exosuit. Something about this book was comedic and fun yet drew me in and made me want to keep reading.

A few negatives about the book would be that frankly the book is too short for the fast-paced action that we see going on. We are never really given an in depth look into any of the characters' lives or pasts as we continue to jump from galaxy to galaxy on a journey in space. Fortunately, this quip is excellently covered by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff in the sequel where we really start to get a look into certain characters' lives, and the connection between reader and character begins to develop.

Overall if you enjoy any kind of science fiction books, I advise giving this one a read. It's very fun and upbeat and really draws you into this other space world that the authors have created for us to enjoy. Trust me you will enjoy the personality of every character, the conspiracy hidden beneath the shadows, and the ragtag crew of Tyler Jones.

ATHLETICS

From Rim to the Net

By Johvan Merilus

The basketball season has officially begun at PHS with such an anticipated reaction. With the season kicking off, the Eagles have been set to go up against challenging competition as soon as they jump in for the first few games. Poinciana High School has always been known for our phenomenal talent in basketball, but also our ability to sustain a winning season.

Last year the Eagles were in a back-and-forth situation regarding the win and losses, which ended up causing them to come up short in making the playoffs. This year the team is determined to redeem themselves and make up for the lack of dominant presence last season. Though, the faces on the team aren't all as familiar as years before. There has been a change which can give the team an advantage in not being as predictable.

Last Friday night, the team went into their second game facing Osceola High School in what's known to be a big-time rivalry game. The game might've been slow paced, but the action was an all-out chest match with both defenses performing well. Considering this being the team's first official season playing together, they played well and were fiercely competitive. Frustrations may have flared during the match but were met by the leadership of Coach Walls rallying his players to see the bigger picture and take a breather before going back at it. At the end of the game the Eagles came up short in a loss with the score being 54-39. But let this be known the season has begun, so don't count those boys out yet. They might've started off slow, but they'll be back on top like always.

“Sangiving” (Thanksgiving)

By Arelise Vasquez



The word “Sangiving” is a humorous Latin translation for “Thanksgiving”, commonly used throughout Hispanic families to address the holiday in a much easier way. Gratitude should be demonstrated every day, for we have a reason to be thankful the second we wake up.

Traditions Made New

Families across the globe are curious to see how their Thanksgiving will be celebrated during the pandemic. Many may not be able to see their loved ones this holiday season. Between social distancing and the losses of those most dear to us, the dynamics we came to recognize for this holiday has shifted drastically.

Where’s the Gravy?

Even amidst the sappy, saddening reality we are all living, there is still a bright side (there is always a bright side, sometimes it just takes more effort to find it)! One of--if not the *most*--thrilling facet to Thanksgiving is the food! Let us talk about what dishes our students at Poinciana High School will be topping off their Thanksgiving with!

Two students with different ethnicities were interviewed to share with us the difference in platters served at their thanksgiving dinner. Each were given the questions, “What does thanksgiving mean to you?” and “What do the Thanksgiving traditions look like at your house?”

“The meaning of Thanksgiving is to unite with family, sharing that moment you have with one another in an all-you-can-eat-buffet,” states PHS graduate, Yuliana Santiago. The usual Puerto Rican feast is brought with at least 3 choices of meat, including the turkey. There’s turkey, pork, and ham with your well-known sides of mac, pasta salads and potato salads, topped off with the infamous yellow rice with pigeon peas (Arroz con Gandules). Desserts like pumpkin pie, sweet potato pie, flan and everything PIE is what we expect to see at our table, except for log cake, or in French “Buche de noel”. Ethan, a sophomore here at Poinciana High, informs us that “log” is a French caked traditionally served on Thanksgiving in the Heydel house. Crafted by his father, it contains cream, chocolate, caramel and plenty of sweetness!

Thanksgiving may be spent peculiarly this year, but our reasons as to why we celebrate could never be changed. Take the time to let someone know why you’re thankful for them! Let the people closest to you feel how loved they are as we should every day.

History of Christmas

By Haley Dornberger



What is Christmas?

Christmas is a well-known Christian holiday set in December and celebrated in different parts of the world. Christmas means “Feast day of Christ.” It is a yearly celebration marking the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas is observed on the 25th of December as a cultural and religious celebration among plenty of people all over the world. Christmas is celebrated in all Christian countries but there are differences in the way each nation celebrates this date.

History of Christmas

The history of Christmas is one that dates back a very long time. The first Christmas was celebrated in 336 A.D. in Rome. It played a very important role during the famed Arian controversy that took place in the 300s. During the early years of the middle age, epiphany overshadowed it. Christmas was brought back to limelight around 800 A.D. when the emperor Charlemagne received the crown on Christmas day. During the 17th century, the Puritans had Christmas banned because it was associated with drunkenness and different other misbehavior. It was made a proper holiday around 1660, but was still quite disreputable. Around the early 1900s, the Oxford movement of the Anglican Communion church started and this led to the revival of Christmas.

Preparations for Christmas

Christmas is a cultural festivity that entails a lot of preparations. Preparations for Christmas start early for most people so that celebrations begin on the eve of Christmas. People usually buy decorations, food, and gifts mostly for friends and children in the family. Some families shop for matching Christmas outfits for everyone. The common preparations include decorations of the place with Christmas tree-lighting. The Christmas tree brings the Christmas spirit in homes.

Presents are placed under the Christmas tree in wrapped gift boxes and are not to be opened until Christmas day. The church is also decorated for the special event. Thorough cleaning of the churches is also done to usher in Christmas. Songs and skits to be performed on Christmas day.

People usually spend a lot on Christmas and so saving money for these plans should be the earliest preparation among all these. Families also plan to travel to stay together during this celebration period. Traditionally ham is the common meal across the world in this day. Cards are also written to friends and family to wish them a happy holiday and to show love.

Improving Mental Health

By Michael Colon

For a vast majority of students and workers, exhaustion is inevitable. We wake with doubts of our character and our goals, and experience trepidation in the notion of simply carrying on. It can be both tedious and frustrating having to deal with these pressures, though there are ways to alleviate them.

Therapy, though effective and helpful, can be an expensive resort. Most adolescents don't have access to this outlet, nor the time in their schedule to maintain sessions. However, relieving pressures on mental health can be done with other options such as meditation, exercise, and various healthy coping methods.

Meditation, derived from religious practices such as Buddhism and Hinduism, is just as effective as it was in 5,000 B.C.E. While it follows the premise of controlling respiration, clearing the mind, and disengaging from distressing environments, there are many individual ways meditation can be practiced. It serves as a quick and simple method of relieving your senses and does not require any extraneous materials. Amidst panic and consistent workloads, it's vital to refrain from losing yourself. Prevention of this is executed through pausing for a moment to simply breathe, and to register your current situation from perspectives varying from being planted right within it.

Exercise, too, is an effective outlet to resort to as you can fixate your attention—for however long—on something differentiating from the source of your stress. Exercise shifts the pressure from your mind to your body. Many find that diverting your focus elsewhere is a reliable way to reclaim your mental health from antagonizing factors. Another way this can be done is by listening to music. While this is a form of entertainment and fulfillment for most people, music can also herd your attention from outside factors. Concentrating on lyrics or following a rhythm is an active way to block out stress.

Veritably, there is a broad variety of ways to improve your mental health even throughout trying times. While some of these may work for most people, personalized, healthy means of stress reduction is always worth attempting!

Singing During a Pandemic

By Paola Andujar

Covid-19 has intruded into our lives this year in more ways than one. It has altered the way we interact with one another and how we take care of ourselves. This pandemic has completely changed the way we go to school, and now it has also transformed the way we sing.



The students of the choir program must adapt to new restrictions enlisted by the CDC in order to take the necessary safety precautions to avoid spreading the virus. Student must keep their masks on at all times and aren't allowed to sing indoors. The students of the choir program now focus on musical theory; they are learning about music notes and rhythm as well.

As for singing, Chorus will not back down and has continued to find alternative ways to sing. As of right now, the choir instructor has found a way to have his students sing. The main concern for the CDC was that singing indoors in such a proximity to others will spread the virus more than simply talking, however, singing outside with fresh air and more than six feet of distance between each person resolves that issue.

Mr. Ziegler is very aware and cautious of the virus and always reminds his students to keep their masks over their nose and mouths. He has remained positive during this time to ensure his students and himself make the most of this school year. Singing during a pandemic makes this a bit difficult, singing outside with other factors that can influence or harm a performance is also a bit difficult, but the students in this program continue to strive and work hard.

Choir student and senior, Jalise Martinez, shares this about her experience with chorus this year. "It is definitely disheartening but we are making the most out of a difficult situation."

The choir program has had to cancel many events this year including concerts, Candlelight, and many other events they had planned. The times we are going through are utterly complex, there is not much we can do but adapt and change out lifestyle to fit this new environment. Things have changed, and we have changed with them. The choir program will continue to adapt and change to fit these times and they will continue to make the most of this situation.

3 Things to be Hyped About for the Playstation 5

By Shanece Griffiths

CALLING ALL GAMERS! The time has come. On November 12, 2020, the PlayStation 5 will be released and the anticipation for it is astronomical. The Sony company is launching their newest edition to the PlayStation series just in time for the holidays. Here are three reasons to be excited for the PlayStation 5.



1. The Games

A new console means new games. Since the announcement of the release date for the PS5, games like the new *Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War*, *NBA 2K21* and many others for the console have been announced to the public. These new games, along with previous ones from the PS4, can be played on the PS5.

When asked how he feels about the new PS5 games, Doel Montes, a senior, said, “I feel that graphics and movement of the games will be more efficient and better looking as well.”

Everyone has a game they are looking forward to playing. Doel says he is excited for the new Spider-Man game which talks more about the back story of how Spider-Man came to be.

2. Backwards Compatibility

When fans first heard there was a 5th PlayStation in the making, word of the backwards compatibility feature spread throughout the community. With backwards compatibility, PlayStation 4 games are playable on the PlayStation 5 console and the same applies for the PS5 games being playable on the PS4. Unfortunately, backwards compatibility does not work with the PlayStation 3, 2, or 1. Due to the confusion of the initial announcement for the backwards compatibility feature, fans were excited to play games that were older than the PS4 on the new systems assuming all previous games would work.

“I think it is a great feature that every system should have, but it should be for all the games, not just the PlayStation 4,” says Michael Colon, a junior.

3. The Look

The look of the PlayStation consoles have had major changes over the years. The PS5 has a futuristic look to it; the console itself and the controller is white (not black or gray like the previous systems). For the PlayStation 5 there are two types of consoles, the regular one and the digital one. While both have the same white futuristic look to it, the regular console has a slot for the gaming discs to go in. In contrast to that, the digital system allows players to download the games off the PlayStation store. Additionally, the digital system is cheaper than the regular system. The unique and original style of the new consoles are mind blowing to the gaming community, but others are still getting used to it.

“It’s not my favorite look for the PlayStation, but it’s completely changed from the first one, and I think a fresh, yet new look could be really fulfilling”, says Michael Colon.

With the new design, features, and games there are so much to look forward to for the new PlayStation 5. Although, Sony has received negative feedback on backwards compatibility only working for the PlayStation 4, people are still looking forward to the new system. The series has evolved since their first console and whether people are excited about the new look, the improved quality of the graphics or playing the new and remastered games. One thing is certain, this will be a console like no other.

Everything Begins With a Vision

By Arelise Vasquez

As a junior attending Poinciana High, I have been given the opportunity to make a mark at PHS. This school has enabled me to make observations and talk to staff and students on areas of the school that need improvement. In this case, physical appearances. During the summer, various renovations were made including the Osceola Business Academy! But at a certain, special place, students, staff and teachers come together to chat, study, test, and most importantly, *read*.

The Library and its Elements

Our school library has been serving students every year for decades. Throughout my journey of volunteering around the media center, I have seen and learned so much! Many students in hopes of occupying their free time with something of utmost productivity should definitely try this too. You don't know how many phenomenal books are on those shelves until you peek yourself. Every part of that library holds an old story, possibly even books that our own parents may have checked out back in the day.

Now our school library deserves a new story to tell.

Newly Improved Library (Coming Soon)

We won't be revealing just yet what our new addition to the media center will look like, but we have a blueprint for you: our vision!

“My vision is to create a media center that is more than just about books but also welcoming, warm, and inviting. I believe with the love I've brought in for the students, all we need to top off such a spectacular place are corners that emphasize on relaxation.” - Brandi Malloy
(*library media specialist*)

Stay tuned, as we turn the library into some place special!



Chorus Winter Event

By Jalise Martinez

With all the athletic events that are occurring, it's easy to overlook our arts programs such as our chorus program. Taught by Mr. Ziegler, the chorus program has faced various obstacles throughout the 2020 schoolyear. With Covid-19 rampaging the streets, Ziegler has had to be innovative with his methods in order to allow for his students to sing safely.

"We've had to sing in the tunnel by the chorus building," says Paola Andujar, a senior and chorus student, "it's different but it definitely has it's perks! The echoes come in handy."

While our chorus is not able to perform chorus concerts due to health concerns, Ziegler decided to host a winter event that would be recorded, showcasing two songs: *Songs from Silence* written by Elaine Hagenburg, and *Lift Every Voice and Sing* by James Weldon Johnson. When asked about his motivations for holding the event, Ziegler responded, "This is a chorus class, right? So, we must learn how to sing but figure out how to do it safely. I stepped back and looked at what other schools were doing and what other people around the country were doing and what happened was, I saw Olympia Highschool in Orlando host a recorded concert and I said, you know what? I could probably do that."

To meet social distancing standards, Ziegler chose to have his students spread out amongst the 900's buildings for the event. "Last year, when the eagle singers went around the school caroling, we walked into the 900 courtyard, and I thought wow! The acoustics are awesome in here! So, I put the two together and said, let's do a concert outside," describes Ziegler as he reveals the details behind his choice.

His song choices had no less thought into them as well. *Lift Every Voice and Sing* by James Weldon Johnson is a historical piece with deep meaning, rooting back to the 1900s. Often referred to as the "Black National Anthem," this piece represents faithfulness and freedom for the Black community in America. With the events conspiring in 2020, Ziegler feels that it is more important than ever to spread unity through his lessons, stating "this song was chosen for its teachability—the song's meaning is what's most important in the piece rather than the notes."

Though it is the last choir event for the 2020-2021 schoolyear, the learning experience that it gave its students will last for a lifetime.

Positions Review

By Michael Colon

Ariana Grande's new album, *Positions*, is everything I've needed since the beginning of quarantine and more! It's heartfelt, fun, and the emotional vibes are all that was anticipated. Her new use of strings, which were the center of instrumentals for her songs, helped the progression of album. This album might not be for everyone, but I'd recommend giving anyone a try at least once!

The order of the setlist is:

Shut Up
34+35
Motive
Just Like Magic
Off The Table
Six Thirty
Safety Net
My Hair
Nasty
West Side
Love Language
Positions
Obvious
POV



This album has taken me on a roller coaster of emotions. The first time I listened to it, it didn't make sense to me. But once you dive directly in, it's this cast amount of pain, love, and healing. It's honestly one of my favorite albums, and I do not think I would be as happy as I am right now without it. *Positions* has helped me reflect and partially come to terms with past trauma. The whole album to me is overall amazing and I'm so happy about the outcome of it.

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Hamontree

By Doel Montes

Ms. Hamontree is one of Poinciana High School's environmental science teachers. She is truly grateful and passionate about building a relationship and showing true encouragement towards the students. Her inspiration for teaching goes back to when she was a young kid helping her fellow classmates and offering guidance. No matter the circumstances, she was there with a cause!

Even during college, she was already working at a press school and enjoyed the passion found in kids who were inspired to learn new and exciting things. Her goal for her students in PHS is to have them leave with more confidence in who they truly are and knowing they are brilliant students and get to learn something. She enjoys teaching freshmen since she gets to see them all grow from teens to young adults and throughout their journey in high school.

Hamontree taught pre-school and exclaimed that pre-school students have a lot of curiosity when it comes to learning, which was fun as she exclaimed. From this, we can already see that Hamontree is a sweet and heartwarming teacher who truly cares for her students and others and believe me when I say if I was a freshman again, I would enjoy taking her class to not only learn, but also get to know someone who's always there to help guide me throughout high school.

A Crazy Covid Year

By Shaneece Griffiths

On March 13th the U.S. was shaken to its core after news that schools would be closing due to the spread of the deadly virus called "Covid 19" Schools in dozens of states shutdown and non-essential businesses were under lockdown. The country was shut down because of this virus. News channels were constantly talking about the shutdown & things were just getting started. Along with the new changes due to the virus, it was the start of festival season, festivals like: Ultra, Coachella & warped tour were cancelled or postponed, and people were not happy.



During the month of June, summer was starting, and schools were going on vacation. Around this time and a month prior graduation was a big deal and with Covid negatively affecting the class of 2020's end of year activities traditional graduation along with other things were either cancelled or held virtually. A lot of students didn't have a graduation ceremony, prom, or grad bash but people everywhere came up with creative ways for their students to graduate in style. Places like Target & Walmart held graduation ceremonies in their stores. Schools did drive up graduation, parents did graduation parades for their kids and schools even delivered diplomas to students houses.



October is the month of Halloween but Halloween this year was not traditional. Parents had mixed emotions about having their kids go out, being around other kids and other people during a pandemic. Halloween parties went to virtual and Halloween events at most places were cancelled. Theme parks like Universal Studios cancelled their events like Halloween Horror Nights, and other places like Busch Gardens still held events but made customers wear masks, socially distance, and limited the number of people allowed in the haunted houses at a time.



In the month of April schools were closed and the country was still on lockdown. School boards across the country informed students, teachers and parents that they would be doing online school. April 15th marked the first day of schools trying out this new form of learning. Sites such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Canvas, and ClassLink were full of students and teachers on it, there were technical difficulties state-wide due to the large number of people using those sites, but everything corrected itself. The month of April is also when U.S. citizens first started getting stimulus payments due to the country on lockdown and no one working.



It's gotten to the time where summer vacation ends, and school starts to reopen. With this year being a mess, the 2020-2021 school year was not certain, and things were complicated. School boards across the country were debating whether they should reopen the school doors to allow students in. Some states and country's only allowed schools to do virtual classes while others allowed schools to reopen but with health precautions put in place.





Tis the season for family gathering Christmas shopping, & traveling to seeing loved ones... BUT NOT IN 2020!!! With the year being affected because of Covid-19, the Christmas holiday won't look too different than Halloween and Thanksgiving this year. Traveling is not recommended, neither is having social & family gatherings. The Macy's Christmas parade will be held with no spectators, it will be a televised event only. Most people prefer doing Christmas shopping online but when people do go to the stores, masks are worn, and social distancing is used. A lot is different this Christmas, but it will still be the most wonderful time of the year with or without Covid.

Thanksgiving was like no other this year. With Covid-19 making the year chaotic, traveling was not recommended by the news or the CDC. Normal Thanksgiving traditions like the Macy's Thanksgiving parade was done without spectators at the parade. Families had their Thanksgiving dinner without family members or with less family members. Some Thanksgiving get togethers went virtual. Other Thanksgiving festivities were cancelled this year because of the virus.



POV from a student's experience

A college student at 'Atlantic Technical College' in South Florida says that the Coronavirus has not been easy to deal with and transferring from going to school to doing virtual learning has been the hardest thing he has to do as a student. However, the coronavirus has allowed his teachers to be more lenient in school which gives him more time to finish his schoolwork.

POV from an employee's experience

A Target employee shares the health precautions her store must take while in a pandemic. She says that the store installed plexiglass on registers, the employee's clean heavily touched objects like door handles, shopping carts, price scanners and customer service phones every hour. And the employees and customers socially distance. Whenever employees have problems with a customer refusing to wear a mask the employees call the security team about that customer. But things haven't been all bad, the employee says that because of the pandemic the store she works at is not as crowded as it would normally be before covid-19.

POV from a medical staff's experience

A nurse at Broward Health Medical Center in South Florida shares the things her and her fellow coworkers must do to stay safe, being the most essential business during this time. She says working in a hospital right now means there are many restrictions, same as many other businesses during this time but it is just more heavily payed attention to. People are not allowed in the hospital without a mask or receiving a temperature check by security first. Equipment cleaning technicians are required to clean the instruments used in things like surgery and other precedes. Along with all the steps taken to make the hospital as safe as it can be at this time, hospitals have a separate floor for patients with the virus, to keep the patients without the virus safe as well as the Covid patients.