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ILLUSTRATION BY STEVIE ESTEBAN

Halloween costume rules to live by

Page 4



The year-long fight for fair wages

Page 3

Why do some missing persons go unsolved? | Page 5

Tacoma Art Museum workers push to unionize

Tacoma Art Museum employees have formally presented a workers' union and request to be recognized by museum executive leaders.



PHOTO BY ALEXA CHRISTIE

Tacoma Art Museum, 1701 Pacific Ave

By **KATIE SCOTT**
NEWS REPORTER

Tacoma Art Museum employees have reached a supermajority in their efforts to unionize. After the announcement on Monday, October 17, the TAM Workers' Union petition collected over 400 signatures in just a few short days.

In addition to the community support, there has been much expressed solidarity from museum donors, patrons, past employees, fellow WFSE members and artists alike.

The TAM Workers Union website reports the push to unionize has received over 80% backing from eligible employees, starting the movement off with tremendous support.

Concerns addressed by workers in their movement to unionize are long standing within the Tacoma Art Museum community. In their letter to the board of trustees, workers describe the focus of their efforts in this movement:

"We bring this museum to life everyday, but our efforts have been undermined by un-livable wages, unsafe working condi-

tions, no opportunity to provide input on policy, few avenues for review and advancement, a lack of accountability and transparency, as well as fear of retaliation when we raise concerns."

They explain though Tacoma Art Museum has committed to justice of race, gender and disability, efforts to systematically achieve and sustain this justice have not been met. Forming a union offered an opportunity to meet worker needs and simultaneously improve Tacoma Art Museum processes and functioning as a whole.

Collaboration to improve working conditions at Tacoma Art Museum began around the start of the year. During the first months, outreach conversations between museum colleagues, across departments, uncovered overwhelming, united support for unionization.

Eden Redmond, Institutional Giving Manager, explains connecting across departments helped employees realize how systemically rooted the issues were.

"A systemic issue requires systemic repair, and the union was

the tool to use," Redmond said.

Drawing inspiration from the national movement of Cultural Workers United and the UW Librarians, museum workers officially came together with the Washington Federation of State Employees in the Spring of 2022 to formally discuss the opportunity to create the TAM Workers Union.

Tacoma Art Museum workers identify the current process for submitting feedback or addressing issues as ineffective in its ability to provide consistent and restorative responses to employee concerns. Though middle and senior managers have worked to advocate for and with employees, workers are often left without information on who the grievance was communicated to, leaving them feeling as though action was not taken, there was no follow through or having feelings of fear of retaliation.

This is due, in large part, to precedent showing a difficult history in securing transparency as a consistent part of the museum's culture of communication, identifying the issue as largely systemic.

"Overwhelmingly, there isn't one bad actor here. We are pointing at a system that we want to change together (with executive leaders)," Redmond said.

Describing the vision for this movement as workers advocating for their rights and working conditions, the union members hope to bring about the best policies and practices for the museum and those who help it thrive. Redmond says pursuing unionization was an intentional effort to communicate workers' desire to work collaboratively with executive leaders. She clarifies:

"We want the board to give voluntary recognition of our union. Then, we will get to collaborate with the board and executive leaders to begin reimagining how things will work in the museum. We want to really roll up our sleeves and get to work with leaders."

In their letter to the board of trustees, workers explain that efforts to unionize are rooted in the museum's mission to "inspire broader perspectives and cultivate a compassionate future."

In response to the TAM Work-

ers Union letter, the Seattle Times reports Board President, Jeff Williams, asserted he was unaware of the worker's concerns until reading their announcement letter. He shared that the museum board will do their due diligence in efforts to address the TAM Workers Union terms in a way that is fair. Williams stated it is a priority of the Board of Trustees that workers are happy and content in their roles.

"We have been told we will not have an answer, yes or no, by Monday October 24," Redmond said in regards to a response to any of their requests.

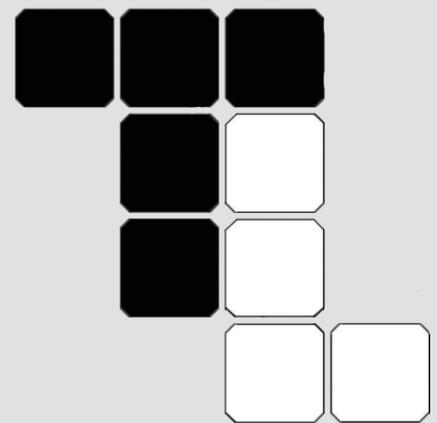
A union solidarity rally will be held, rain or shine, on Saturday, October 29. Rain ponchos and pop-up tents will be provided. The focus of the rally is to gather people together in the community to show support for the approval and formal recognition of the TAM Workers Union.

You can visit the TAM Workers' Union website at TAMWorkers.org to sign their petition of support, learn more about unionizing in the workplace, and read their full mission statement.

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The year-long fight for fair wages

The University of Washington Libraries and Press workers are on strike, striking for fair pay, racial justice and a fair workplace.

By **LESLIE CRUZ**
NEWS REPORTER

With many years since their last raise, University of Washington library and press workers took a one day strike on Thursday Oct. 13.

The strike began from 10:20 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with opening remarks on steps of the Suzzallo Library, later trickling their way down to Odegaard Library, the Medical Center, the Health Sciences library, the Foster business library and even to President Cauce.

As reported by The Princeton Review, the University of Washington ranks in the top 10 nationwide for research but ranks in the bottom 10 in library pay. After over a year of bargaining, UW libraries and press workers demand fair pay, safe staffing, diverse hiring, accessible facilities and all-gender bathrooms.

During the strike many library workers held signs with their reasons as to why they were striking for fair pay:

“If UW paid me a living wage, I could quit my second job”

“You shouldn’t have to date a computer scientist to afford rent”

“More than a raise we need a raise”

Many of the signs were held by Seattle community members who came together to demand fair working conditions.

The UW library union won recognition over a year ago and are still negotiating their first contract due to UW stalling, thus inciting 20 library employees to resign from UW and seek a fair paying employer elsewhere.

“... We deserve fair wages that match our expertise and education. We also deserve a contract and demand that UW stop delaying and prolonging negotiations,” said Chelsea Nesvig, Research and Instruction Librarian.

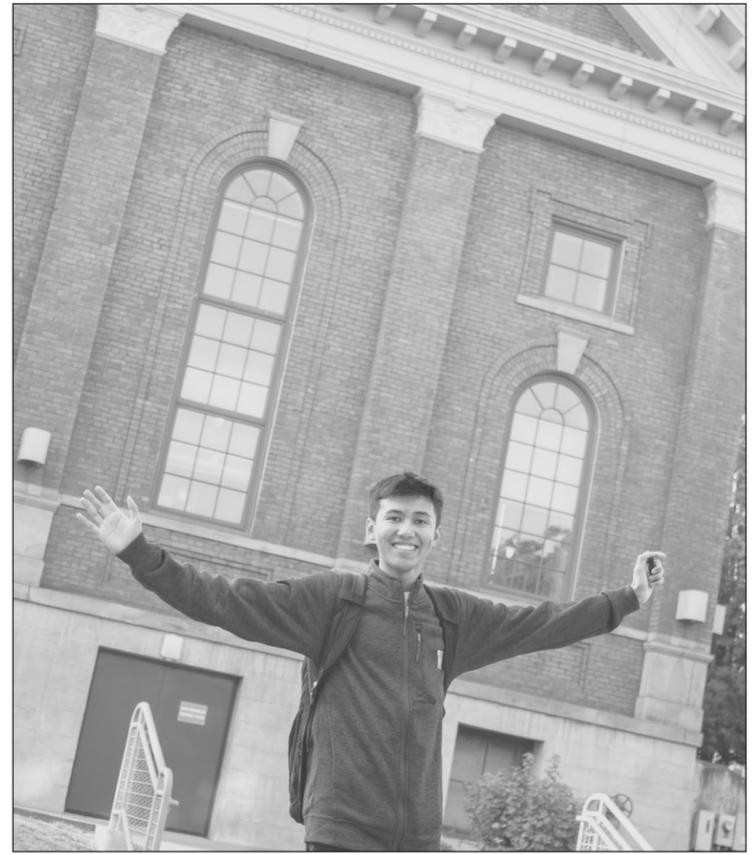
With employees resigning due to low wages it has caused a staffing shortage placing a heavier workload on existing employees, adding an extra load of 10-20

hours in overtime a week without overtime pay.

“I expect the university I graduated from to hold itself to the same standards of progress and excellence that it holds its students to. Since being employed at UW I’ve seen more lip service and adherence to status quo than I’ve seen tangible action for workers rights and racial justice,” said Alex Blair, Advancement Outreach Officer.

In current negotiations, UW has frequently proposed to eliminate many protections UW library and press workers still have, as the fight towards fair wages continue, anyone can support the UW libraries and workers by signing a community petition.

To sign the community petition:
<https://www.research.net/r/uwlu-community>



Student in front of UW Library

PHOTO BY ALEXA CHRISTIE

The midterms are next week, will you be voting?

College students voted in record numbers for 2020 but will we see this trend continue?

By **DESTINY VALENCIA**
NEWS REPORTER

With the 2022 midterms just next week and a variety of issues at stake, college students are a demographic with a growing voter turnout, but can we expect this to continue?

The 2020 elections brought in record numbers of voters. According to a report from the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education, it was found that 66% of college students voted, up from 53% in the previous 2016 election. Generally, we don’t see the same turnout for midterm elections like we do for the presidential elections, but that still doesn’t make the issues less important.

Here on Washington ballots, Senator Patty Murray (Democrat) is running to keep her senatorial seat, running against Tiffany Smiley (Republican). Running for re-election in the House of Representatives is former Tacoma Mayor, Marilyn Strickland (Democrat) and running against her is Keith R. Swank (Republican).

Currently, Democrats have a majority in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, but with this upcoming midterm, are at risk of losing seats in the House, leading to Republicans having a majority of seats. President Biden has pledged that if Democrats do keep their majority in both the House and Senate and gain more seats in the House, he will focus on cod-

ifying Roe v. Wade. This would protect abortion rights and enact these rights into law. This was a much-discussed issue over the summer with the overturning of Roe v. Wade in June.

But are these enough reasons for students to turn out and vote in these midterm elections? While many individuals may be registered to vote, voting may just not cross some students’ minds.

Han Lee, a student majoring in IT, explained why he wouldn’t be voting in these elections.

“It doesn’t cross my mind in the voting season. Just all of it slips my mind, I try not to think about it. I try to stay away from politics,” Lee said.

Other UWT students feel a bit more passionate about voting.

“I think it’s important to go and vote, especially for women... What I have learned in life as of recently, you have to take control of your own life and you can’t have someone try and control it and you have to push back, even if it is hard to push back, do all that you can,” said Taylor Curtis-Davis, a senior studying International Communications.

For younger students who may be interested in voting, there could be the issue of whether they are registered or not.

“I keep forgetting to [register], but Snapchat keeps reminding me,” said Gabby Quintinita, a freshman.

Even though they are not registered, Quintinita still expressed a desire to vote if they did so.

“I’d probably need to learn more about candidates and all that but probably,” Quintinita said.

Not all students have the opportunity to vote. Ariel Vasquez, a sophomore and DACA recipient expressed their desire to vote but acknowledged the complexities that come with voting.

“It looks pretty stressful, but it’s also stressful not being able to participate,” Vasquez said.

The last day for registering to vote has already passed on October 31, two weeks before the election, but in Washington State individuals can register to vote in-person up until the day ballots are due, which will be November 8.

If students are unsure whether they have enough time to drop off or mail in their ballot, there is a ballot box located on Pacific Ave next to the bus stops and Subway.

If you would like to check on your ballot, update your voter registration information or find more information about the issues on your ballots this November, you can go to

<https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx> to learn more.

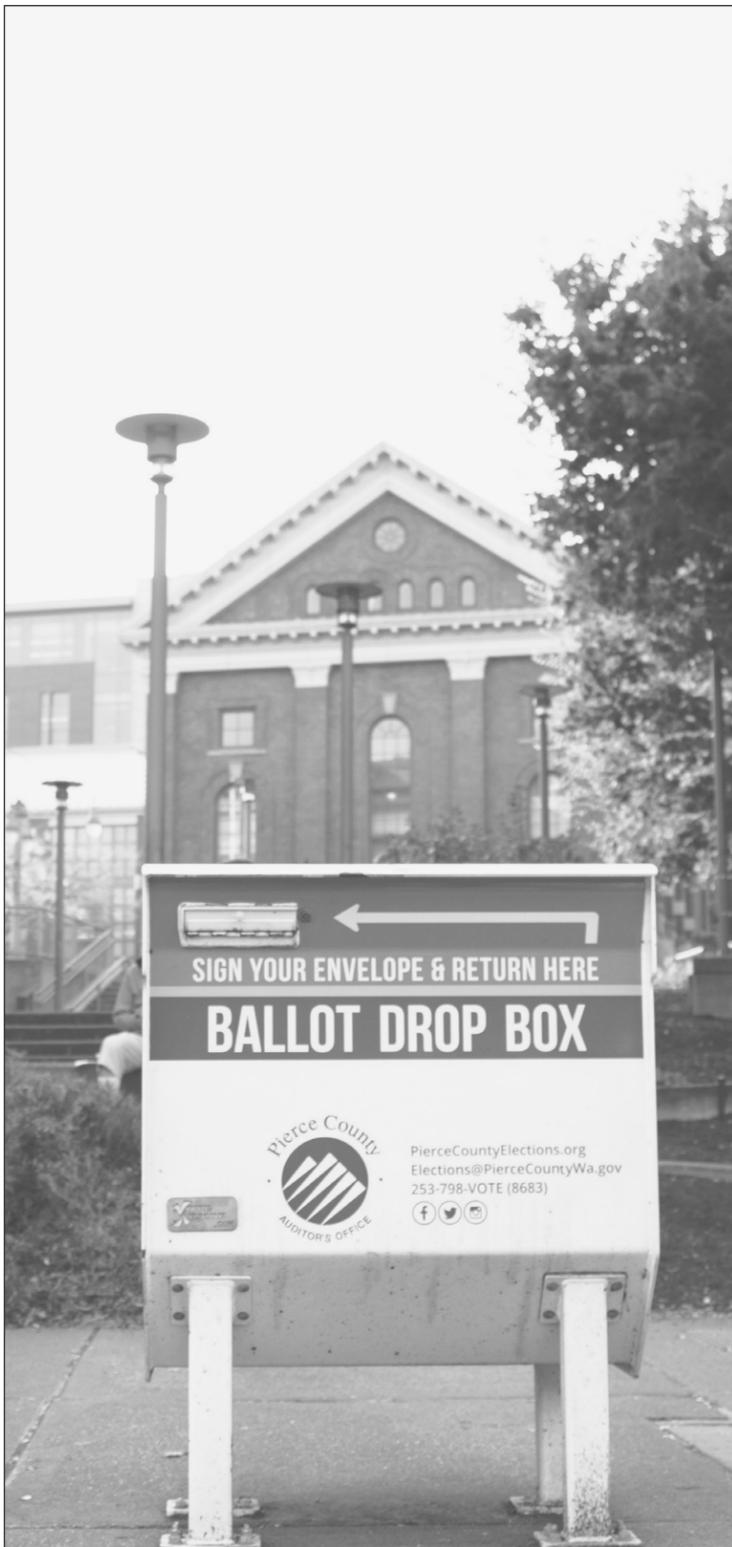


PHOTO BY ALEXA CHRISTIE

Ballot box located here on campus near the bus station on Pac Ave.



Emphasizing the importance of 'My culture is not your costume.'

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVIE ESTEBAN

Halloween costume rules to live by

Halloween costumes that may seem offensive or appropriate someone's culture.

By CELIA WILLIAMS
OPINION EDITOR

With another Halloween in the books, there is a discussion that needs to be had. Now, it's a conversation that has been had every year for what seems forever. The ol' costume v. offensive conversation.

Every year, I get so excited for the spooky season with the pumpkins, the scary decorations, the scary movies and the costumes. What is not to love about Halloween? Well, that is until the costumes make their debut. From "sexy Indian princess" to "Holocaust survivor," there is an array of offensive costumes that have been worn in years past.

Cultural appropriation is a big issue when it comes to Halloween costumes. Many people's cultural dress has many significant

meanings and purposes in their culture. For example, Indigenous people's headdresses are not only not representative of all Indigenous tribes' cultures, but they are something earned in war. The use of a headdress for a costume is disrespectful since the one wearing it hasn't earned it, nor are they Indigenous most of the time.

Romani culture is also often used for costume. The infamous "fortune teller" is a horrible representation of Romani culture and it ignores the fact that Romani people were persecuted for years for their culture.

Another popular costume idea that has gained more traction in recent years is serial killers. With the recent release of "Dahmer" starring Evan Peters, many may be planning to dress up as the psychotic serial killer. It's important to remember that this was a real

person who inflicted pain and violence upon many. That being said, it's probably better to go as Chucky instead.

In addition to cultural appropriation and real serial killers, many "costumes" promote racist ideals and/or sexualize specific groups. This includes costumes involving blackface or even dressing as a Holocaust victim. Yes, these are costumes that have actually been used for Halloween.

These costumes are very insensitive to the victims of these tragedies and the history of oppression that has followed many people. Holocaust victims spent years living in fear of being killed simply for being. The events that occurred in Germany were tragic and making a costume of this is not only insensitive, but it makes the Holocaust and its victims seem like a myth instead of a dark

part of history.

Blackface is a whole separate issue when it comes to Halloween costumes. Black face has a very dark history, often promoting untrue stereotypes of African-American people and their culture and even slavery. Dressing up in blackface is not only upholding the racist views many had towards African-American people, but it also diminishes the experience many African-American people have had.

Transphobia is also an annual issue that those part of the LGBTQ+ community face every year. In a Teen Vogue article from 2016, Walmart had released a costume named "tranny granny," which is very plainly transphobic and harmful to the transgender community. Transgender people have been targeted for years for not conforming to society's gen-

der role standards. Their identity is not a costume or some way to get a quick laugh.

Simply put, your Halloween costume should be just that: A Halloween costume. It shouldn't be someone's culture, race, transphobic, sexist, or someone's traumatic experience.

Here are some questions to ask yourself when deciding if your costume is potentially cultural appropriation or offensive:

1. Does your costume use elements of someone else's culture? (e.g. cultural dress)
2. Is your costume racist towards a particular group?
3. Does it promote violence or traumatic events?
4. Does it sexualize a particular group?
5. Does it promote body shaming?

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Letters submitted to the Ledger may be published through both TheTacomaLedger.com and our print edition.



Why do some missing persons cases go unsolved?

“Missing White Woman” syndrome impacts local missing cases in the Tacoma area.

By RUTH OGDEN
OPINION COLUMNIST

Last year, millions tuned into social media to follow the missing person case of Gabby Petito. Petito, a van life vlogger, was last seen in the company of her fiancé, Brian Laundrie. The two were traveling across the country in their van and documenting their journey on social media. When Laundrie returned home alone, Petito’s family became suspicious and filed a missing persons report. Petito’s remains were eventually recovered in Wyoming, and a notebook belonging to Laundrie found nearby contained his guilty confession her murder. Petito’s highly publicized case spawned thousands of social media posts, TikToks and YouTube videos. The masses speculate wildly, called in tips and sightings, and at times, interfered with the investigation. Considering the remoteness of where her body was found and the investigation spanning multiple states, it is unlikely this case would have been solved without the massive amount of media attention it received.

How is Gabby Petito’s case different from other missing person cases?

One aspect is “missing white woman syndrome.” An article

published in *The Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* titled “Missing White Woman Syndrome: An Empirical Analysis of Race and Gender Disparities in Online News Coverage of Missing Persons” defined this phenomena as how “missing persons with certain characteristics are more likely to garner media attention than others: namely, white women and girls” (Sommers, 2016).

This is not to say that missing white women and girls aren’t important, they just often overshadow or completely eclipse cases of women and girls of color who are missing. Missing white women and girls are more likely to receive media attention and more likely to have a larger police search response.

There are two local missing people that deserve more attention: Aidan Spear and Diana Davis.

Aidan Spear is a 21-year-old Native American woman who was reported missing on February 22, 2021. Growing up, Aidan was very close with her family and had a particularly strong friendship with her younger brother. In an interview with Q13Fox, Aidan’s mother Jessica Brown said that she was a hard worker in high school and a member of the school swim team. After high

school, Aidan encountered some personal struggles but maintained contact with her family.

At the time of her disappearance, Aidan was unhoused and dealing with addiction issues. Aidan asked her mother for help and in January 2021, Aidan and her mother arranged for her to enter an addiction rehabilitation facility. On the day that they would depart, Aidan told her mother that she would be just a little late meeting up as there was someone she had to say goodbye to first. Aidan never arrived.

This was the last time that Jessica Brown heard from her daughter. Jessica filed a missing persons case a month later.

Aidan Spear is 5’6”, 120 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes. Pierce County Police said she may frequent the Hosmer street area. Her missing person case is still active as of this issue’s printing and her family desperately wants answers to where their beloved daughter is. Any tips or information as to her whereabouts can be called into the Pierce County Sheriff’s Department at 253-798-7530.

The second case that needs more attention is the murder of Diana Davis. Diana, 50, disappeared in July of 2020 and her murder remains unsolved.

On July 27th, Diana called her

son and told him she was headed to the Proctor Community Garden. Surveillance video and cell-phone tracking data indicate that afterwards, she visited a hardware store and then drove to the Seattle area. Her last cell phone ping was at 7:35 p.m. near Lumen Field and T-Mobile Park.

On July 29, Diana’s car was found on fire in downtown Tacoma. On August 5, her body was found buried in a secluded area of Snoqualmie Pass. Investigators determined her cause of death was multiple blunt force traumas to her head. Although some DNA was recovered at the scene, it has not been matched to anyone. She had been known to use dating sites to meet people, so investigators consider it possible that she may have driven to meet the person who murdered her. In an interview with Q13Fox, Detective Jack Nasworthy was quoted as saying:

“This person went through a lot of effort to cover up this crime. Not only did they take her out in the woods, bury her in a place where they probably didn’t think she’d ever be located. But they also went through the effort to burn her car to hide evidence. And that’s not something you’re going to see usually in a random crime.”

Diana was a beloved mother and grandmother. She worked

as a caretaker and her family described her as a “free spirit” and a “beautiful soul.” Any information related to her case can be called into CrimeStoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. There is a \$1,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and charging of the person who murdered Diana Davis.

When reading about true crime cases, it is important to remember that there are real victims and real families in pain. While it is good that Gabby Petito’s family has some answers, as a community, we cannot leave the less sensationalized cases behind. Aidan, Diana and their families deserve justice.

Sommers, Zach (2016). “Missing White Woman Syndrome: An Empirical Analysis of Race and Gender Disparities in Online News Coverage of Missing Persons”. *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*. 106 (2): 275–314.

<https://scholarlycommons.law.northwestern.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=7586&context=jclc>



Aidan Spear, 21, missing in Tacoma

PHOTO FROM @NOTEBOOMKIRI ON TWITTER



Diana Davis, 50, missing in Tacoma

PHOTO FROM TACOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Top Five Halloween Franchise picks, from best to worst

Spoilers ahead!

By **KIARRA BLAKELY-RUSSELL**
A&E EDITOR

"Halloween" is one of the biggest franchises of the horror genre next to movies like "Scream," "Chucky" and "A Nightmare on Elm Street." John Carpenter's creation remains the best way to open the spooky season.

What has made "Halloween" so memorable is the ability to still have its scare factor for over 44 years. Though the franchise has had its questionable moments with the storylines and mask choices, this hasn't stopped fan bases from growing. Neither has the fright for the unintentional phenomenon Michael Myers has become, and will continue to be.

With the new "Halloween Ends" movie out, it would be appropriate to give all of you students my picks for the top five Halloween movies: from storylines to worst masks, gore effects, horror aspects, and acting. I will be excluding all movies that do not follow the original plot. The original plot would include: "Halloween," "Halloween 2," "Halloween H20," the Halloween remake, "Hallow-

een Kills" and "Halloween Ends."
WARNING: Spoilers ahead!

1. "Halloween Kills" (2021)

As my top pick, "Halloween Kills" meets every level of gore one would expect from a slasher and serial killer movie. Director David Green made sure to elevate the return of Michael Myers from the dead, as he ressurects from Laurie's burning home to continue his intense murders, causing more fright to the town of Haddonfield, Illinois. The movie picks up right away; there is no pause, no censoring and it is scary. This movie meets the expectation the trailer sets and the storyline is stable throughout. There isn't a moment as an audience member where you aren't on the edge of your seat. The critical opinion was split but as a whole, the movie was solid.

Mask rating: 10/10

2. "Halloween" (1978)

Of course, you can't have a top five without the original. While the original started this whole franchise of never-ending sagas and sequels, it is not the best mov-

ie out of the series. I will chalk it up to merely the way it was made, I get it; it was the '70s. With intense screams, sexual scenes, nudity and a babysitters' worst nightmare of the boogeyman, it has a very corny storyline. However, due to the cinematography and director John Carpenter's stylistic choices he took at that time, Halloween completely knocked it out of the ballpark upon my third watch, which is why this movie easily landed its spot at number two.

The mask that started it all is rated: 4/10.

3. "Halloween" (2018)

This Halloween remake welcomes back the original Michael Myers actors Nick Castle and James Jude Courtney. Jamie Lee Curtis reprises her role as Laurie. This movie was iconic for its time and made a wonderful comeback for the franchise. The gore level is at 100, the horror kept the theater in suspense and the storyline paid homage to the original 1978 movie. This movie introduces new characters such as Karen Strobe (Laurie's daughter) and Allyson Nelson (granddaughter).

Mask rating: 7/10

4. "Halloween 2" (1981)

This movie is a continuation from the night of the first Halloween film, where Laurie is at the Haddonfield Memorial Hospital due to a failed attempt at being killed by Michael. We see a series of events, including deaths of multiple staff members, as Michael makes his way to Laurie. In this movie, the viewer will soon discover the dark secret that is the relationship between Michael and Laurie, and the real reason he wants to kill her; she is his sister, and she was adopted. The film doesn't go overboard with nudity and ominous music is in the perfect placement as he approaches each victim. There are moments of focus on the next given cause of death, as if the director Rick Rosenthal is spoon-feeding his audience the next kill. However, he does this in a smooth way to distract the viewers from the comedic and laughable moments in this horror movie. A classic killer in plain sight, but did not stick out as a sequel.

Mask rating: 0/10

5. "Halloween Ends" (2022)

Yes, the final installment has found its way all the way at the bottom of this list. This is the worst Halloween movie according to ratings, only a 39% on Rotten Tomatoes. The horror movie – I mean romantic comedy – was the after-effect of Halloween Kills, and Michael Myers is hardly in the movie throughout. This movie made the once-known power mascot, who could not be killed, look weak and helpless until the end. A disappointment to the ending of such an iconic franchise.

"Michael Myers was the personification of evil," Jamie Lee Curtis from Halloween Ends.

Mask rating: 7/10

With all the spoilers provided above, I hope that won't stop you from watching or streaming each movie on platforms such as: Amazon Prime, Peacock, YouTube, Hulu, and Apple TV. If you plan to be out and about, I recommend watching Halloween Ends just to finish the franchise for yourself. For all those who are celebrating this season, Happy Halloween. But to those who do not, have a good weekend!

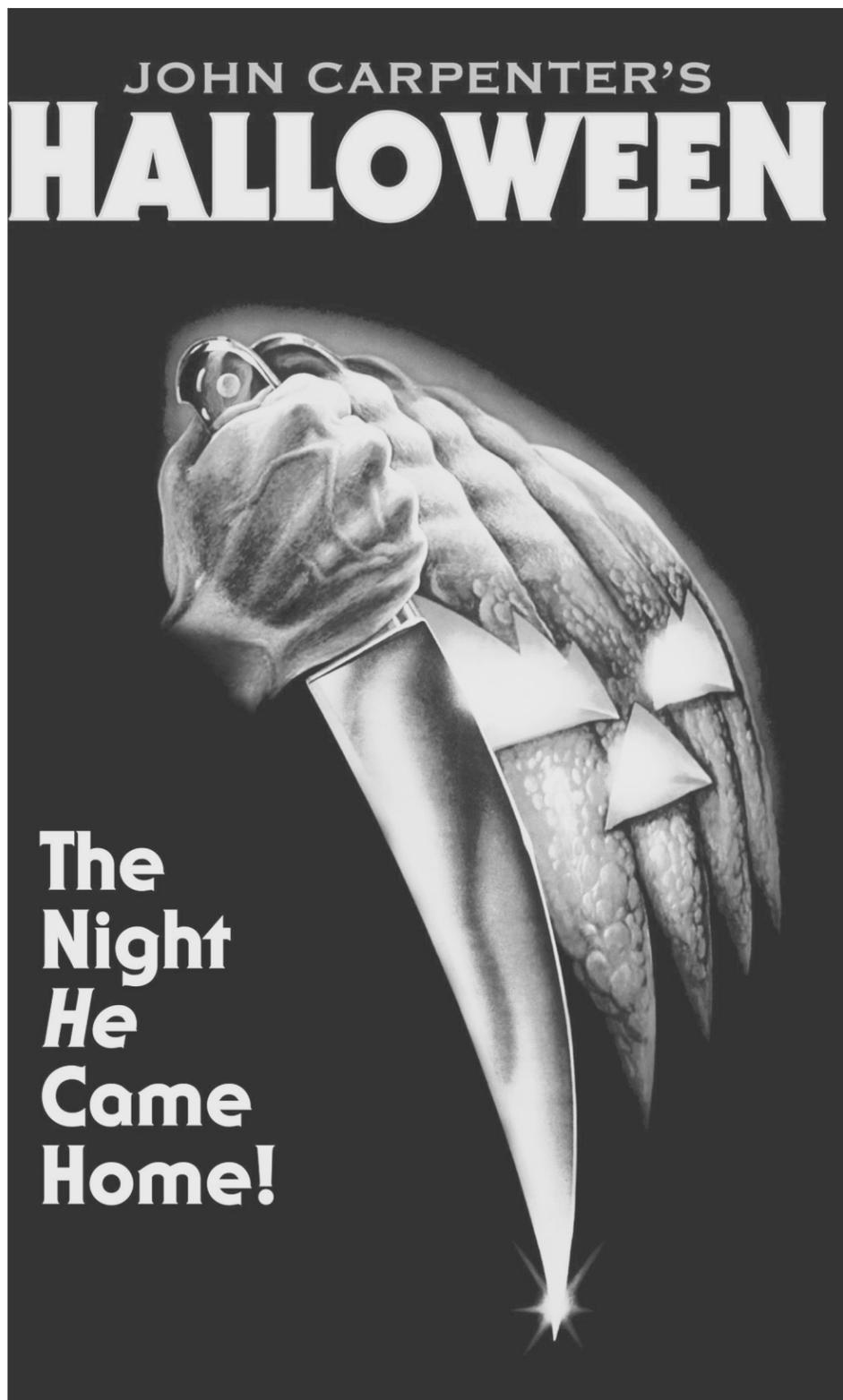


PHOTO BY COMPASS INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

Official film poster of "Halloween" (1978)



PHOTO BY UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Official film poster for "Halloween Ends" (2022)



Evan Peters in "Dahmer"

PHOTO BY NETFLIX

The delusions and dangers of 'Dahmer'

Netflix's 'Dahmer' seems to think it's different from other true crime media—but it can't avoid the repercussions of depicting serial killers.

By **EMILIA BELL**
FILM CRITIC

"This is not some Halloween story," Niecy Nash proclaims in "Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story."

Yet, in an ironic way, given the show's insistence that it's different, it has become a Halloween show. People are watching it for the sensationalized version of the story, and a serial killer is made into a glamorized character.

In an interview with Netflix, Evan Peters, who portrays the titular character, states:

"As an audience, you're not really sympathizing with him [Dahmer]. You're not really getting into his plight. You're more sort of watching it, you know, from the outside."

Regardless of show creator Ryan Murphy and Peters' stylistic choices, Dahmer is still centered as the show's main character. The show is named after him, and claims to be his story, showing his life from an early age.

The fact that this TV show centers him as the main character can be dangerous. Though Peters' portrayal of Dahmer is far from flattering; other aspiring killers or abusers may be tempted by

this level of fame, or inspired by the graphic kills accompanied by the ways Dahmer committed the crimes. This can also lead to viewers empathizing with Dahmer, despite Peters' assertion, as he is the main character.

A study was done on media coverage of the Golden State Killer by Lasherica Thornton for her 2018 thesis with The University of Mississippi. This concluded that most media coverage and articles relating to serial killers focus on them rather than their victims, which fosters empathy with the killer. This empathy for serial killers can sometimes lead to groups who consider themselves fans, as well as causing emotional harm to the victims' families. In the show, victims' families, as well as Dahmer's neighbors, are shown being unable to move forward due to media portrayal and coverage.

"Due to the nature of serial murder and increasing media attention, serial murderers have ascended to something approximating celebrity-like status, gaining recognition and a fan following," Michael Spychaj explained in his 2017 thesis that focused on serial killer interest.

Publicly centering serial killers and adding to their fame only en-

courages copycats as well. This is a hazardous phenomenon.

This is not helped by casting Peters, a popular figure who is often noted for his looks. His characters are frequently glorified, and his charming demeanor creates a disconnect between the real figure. His fans often sexualize his characters regardless of morality (such as his character in the first season of "American Horror Story"), but in this case, he is portraying a real person. There are a multitude of edits on TikTok romanticizing Peters in this role – many videos ended up with comments about Peters' looks.

While TikTok users have also taken to the platform to critique the show, there are still lots of videos on the other side of this. One particular video was posted about wishing the show was more graphic, while the user zoomed in on her Dahmer earrings. It is also not uncommon to see self-proclaimed true crime fans expressing sadness and sympathy for Dahmer himself.

Centering Dahmer is a risky move but not a unique one. Netflix faced similar criticisms in 2019 after releasing its Ted Bundy film; "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile." With the rise

of true crime, it's been noted that victims are the ones who should be featured and focused on, rather than the killer. This could be a step in the right direction, and prevent idolization in theory.

Episode 6, "Silenced," features Tony Hughes, a victim of Dahmer's who was deaf and an aspiring model. Though his mother has spoken against the show, his story is the most effective way Murphy solidified the monster that Dahmer was. This was achieved by focusing on the life and future that was lost, not the person that took the life. Of course, with shows like these, victims' families are rarely consulted. The show highlights the problems with monetizing serial killers at the expense of the victims and their families, seemingly critiquing the media that did so; for example, Dahmer's father's book, "A Father's Story." Yet, it is monetizing it as well.

In all fairness, the show properly portrayed the systemic problems with the police's handling of the case. The portrayal of the police's involvement in unknowingly aiding Dahmer highlighted their incompetence, homophobia and racism. Despite the show's other faults, Murphy was able to effec-

tively show examples of this injustice and how the system let down each family – a real-world issue that continues to this day.

There has already been controversy surrounding people who are dressing up as Dahmer for Halloween. Something that again feeds this glamorization of depicting Dahmer as a celebrity and pop culture figure, rather than a regular person who committed horrific crimes. The creators needed to be more aware of how these shows can be impactful.

Overall, the viewer can be left with the impression that the show wants the audience to feel sorry for Dahmer. His death is practically framed as tragic, and he is shown being baptized and seeking forgiveness just days before his murder. Any potential killers watching could be encouraged by this: become famous for your crimes and be immortalized through the memory of them twenty years later.

No matter how much "Dahmer" wants to set itself apart from other series, it cannot as long as it centers on a serial killer. There are too many real-world ramifications to be considered, and though the show believes it is self-aware, it does not avoid them.

Halloween gaming events you can take part in

Staying home during Halloween? Why not participate in some Halloween-themed gaming events?

By ANGELO ALEGRE
A&E REPORTER

Halloween is a fun holiday celebrated in many countries all across the globe. You can go trick-or-treating, to costume parties or even haunted houses. But as we grow older, we lose the desire to do the fun things we once did when we were younger. This may prompt you to spend the night at home. While at home, there is still a way to partake in the Halloween spirit; by playing Halloween-themed events through video games.

Fortnite

“Fortnite” is a free battle royale game that blew up in late 2017. For every major holiday, this game has always put out limited-time events for players to participate in, and Halloween is no exception. However, this year they have added a new game mode called “Horde Rush” that can be played solo or with friends. In this new mode, you face off against multiple waves of zombies, gather resources to help you survive, and challenge the final boss to win. Along with this new mode are challenges that you can complete to earn the experience to level up and even some limited-time cosmetics. If you aren’t going out to experience real-life Halloween thrills, what better than to do it at home with your friends at no cost. However, you should act quick, as once November hits, this event is gone forever. If battle royale games aren’t your style, don’t worry as there are other free games

you can try out with your friends.

MultiVersus

“MultiVersus” is a free-to-play 2D fighting game that boasts an abundance of characters from TV shows and movies we all know and love. With many interesting characters like Tom and Jerry making an appearance, many people have joined the fray and have started playing it. As Halloween is one of its first events, the creators want to give the players the chance to earn as much as they can in the event, which will be here until November 15. In this event, you play the game as normal, but you will earn candy whether you win or lose; however, winning will of course give you more candy. With this candy, you can purchase limited-time Halloween-themed costumes for characters such as: Tom and Jerry, Velma from Scooby-Doo, and even Superman. If this game doesn’t give you that Halloween spirit you remember as a kid, the next game definitely will.

Animal Crossing: New Horizons

Animal Crossing is a game by Nintendo where you, the player, act as a village chief and help build and maintain the village. “Animal Crossing: New Horizons” is the most recent game in the series and follows the player in real-time. This means that when night falls in real life, it is nighttime in the game. There are also holidays in this game, and the Halloween event is happening right now. The main event is going to be on Halloween day, where the character

“Jack the Pumpkin” will show up on your island from 5 p.m. until midnight. During the event, you can go around your island and go freely from door to door trick-or-treating, or go around and talk to the other villagers in their Halloween costumes. If you have the game and want to participate, you better act quick, as when the clock strikes midnight, “Jack the Pumpkin” and the event will be gone.

There are many more video games with Halloween events, but these three give a good mix of staying true to Halloween and giving you a slightly spookier version of your normal gaming session. Even though you might end up staying at home for Halloween, you can still be in the Halloween spirit and have some fun either by yourself or with some friends.



Screenshot from “Animal Crossing: New Horizons”

PHOTO BY @ANIMALCROSSING ON TWITTER



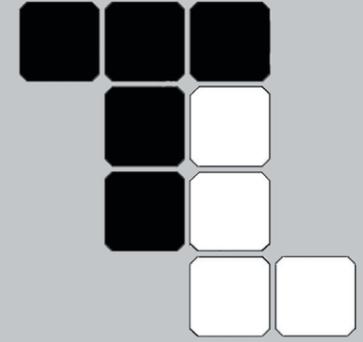
Official Halloween art of “Fortnite”

PHOTO BY EPIC GAMES

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