

## Costumes create culture

By Rachel Spivey  
reporter

One year, everyone was dressed as Harley Quinn; the next, Fortnite characters were everywhere. These trending Halloween costumes reflect cultural moments.

"The past Halloween costume that I thought stood out to me the most was Barbie because people could make their costumes in so many different ways. I thought it was very creative. I saw so many different characters from the Barbie movies," sophomore Maryn Zaborowskey said.

Senior Chloe Economou talked about her favorite costume trend.

"My favorite trend from the past was when I was 8 and everyone was dressing up as different Monster High dolls. I thought it was more creative than being a regular vampire, zombie, or werewolf. I dressed up as Dracula, which was a vampire doll," Economou said.

Here are more favorite trends from junior Michael Fisher.

"I loved dressing up as superheroes. I was Spiderman for two years in a row. I think superheroes have a wide variety of ones to choose from. I will just always remember feeling cool in a way, and it gave young me confidence," he said.

From good trends, there were also ones that people thought were bad.

"I hated when everyone would dress up as killer clowns in 2016, I just thought this trend was awful because it all started when people were dressing up as clowns to lure children in the woods. I was 7 when this was a trend, and it always really scared me and it could have been a risk for real threats," freshman Steele Swain said.

Swain talked about all of the trending Halloween costumes.

"I dressed up as a few of the trendy Halloween costumes, I dressed up as Scream one year and I remember thinking that I looked super scary even though I did not. I always loved the scary costumes. Those were the best," he said.

Certain Halloween costumes remained constant.

"I just went for what was easiest as a kid. I did not care about what I wore. I just cared about all the candy so I went as a dinosaur a lot. It was one of my favorite costumes," senior Kaylynn Leverett said.

By Alyssa James  
reporter

Halloween is not just about dressing up; it is about using imagination to create costumes.

Even though some of the costumes are basic, there are still good choices for people and their friends to participate in.

"My costume this year is a bat and having my black cat dressed up in black wings," sophomore Lucas Crouch said, "Originally, some of my ideas were being one of the Teletubbies with my friends being a scary surgeon or just a sheet ghost to be funny and basic."

No matter how old someone gets, it does not matter what kind of costume they wear. Some costumes have no age limit.

"I wasn't sure what to wear, but my aunt gave me a dinosaur onesie, so that's my costume," sophomore Treasure Radcliff-Jeffries said. "Before she gave me the onesie, I was just going to be an angel again this year, but I like dinosaurs better."

Inspiring characters can lead to truly phenomenal costume choices.

"My costume this year is Jessica Rabbit because I thought her attitude reminds me of myself and that she is very pretty. I love her outfit and the vibe it gives off," sophomore Komal Singh said. "I was going to be a cheetah with my friends, but unfortunately it became too popular, so I decided not to do it."

Onesies are one of the most popular choices since Trick or Treating at night can get chilly.

"My costume this year is the Grinch in a onesie that looks exactly like him, and my friend Giada is Max," freshman Tenley Llwellyn said. "I planned on going as Alvin from Alvin and the Chipmunks, but the Grinch was a funnier option and easier to find."

Llwellyn and junior Ava Augustine both get their inspiration from their favorite animated movies.

"My friends and I are going to go as Disney princesses this year. I love this costume because there are many different princesses to go as. We are not going to be wearing dresses, but instead wearing t-shirts that symbolize the princesses. This is my favorite group costume," Augustine said.

### PAST VS PRESENT



Freshman Gabby Cave plans on being a cow for Halloween. She has had this planned for more than a month. Catherine LaMonaca photo



Sophomore Lillian Disney dresses up as the purple Among Us character. Among Us was a popular costume last year. Catherine LaMonaca photo

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## Spooky season scares with movies

By Kate Boyce  
entertainment editor

Halloween is fast approaching and everyone is gearing up for the spooky season. One way students and teachers prepare for the holiday season is by watching their favorite scary movies.

Sophomore Biaktha Khun is an avid watcher of horror movies and shared her favorites.

"The Conjuring 2 is the scariest movie I've watched. I like how it is both psychologically disturbing and based on a true story. I'm used to predictable movies, and this was not," Khun said.

Movies can have a special place in many people's hearts, and Khun shared her memories of when she first watched the Conjuring 2.

"Eight years ago, I was a little kid, and we watched it at a sleepover. After that, I watched so many scary movies, and I was invested," Khun said.

Some students appreciate the classics and find comfort in older movies. Sophomore Carson Crosley is one of these people and shared his favorite.

"My favorite scary movie is the first Scream movie. It has a little bit of comedy and actually is kind of exciting. Most movies are predictable. The plot twists are good, like when they reveal there are two killers," Crosley said.

Scary movies have redeemable qualities and people find aspects of them that they like. Crosley shared his criteria for a good scary movie.

"It has to have a good plot and story; the chase scenes have to be actually exciting. And the characters need to actually show emotion and actually be scared," Crosley said.



Aubrey Costelow photo

Students are not the only ones who watch scary movies when it comes time for Halloween. Mr. Jeremy Runge, social studies teacher, is a big scary movie fan, and his personal favorite is The Omen. He shared why it is his favorite.

"My favorite scary movie is the original Omen. Little Damien is the spawn of Satan. I am not a religious person and this movie makes me think about religion which makes me uncomfortable," Mr. Runge said.

Even though Runge enjoys watching movies, they have to fit a certain criterion to be considered good to him.

"In general, I like movies that make me think. I don't like action movies because there is not much thought. I like when they make me question things, breaking the formula," Mr. Runge said.