



# THE VOICE

Fall 2023

President

Ellora Smith

Vice President

Samhita Badhri

Editor

Misha Kapoor

Graphic Designer

Jhanvi Kichannagari

Writers

Aditya Bura

Shalini Man

Misha Kapoor

Nate Wilder

Deepika Bollu

Ellora Smitha

Jhanvi Kichannagari

Samhita Badhri

Siya Khokha



# The Voice

## Letter To Readers

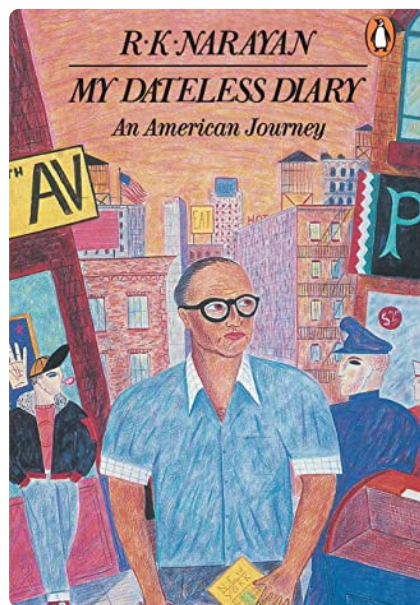
Dear Reader,

As term one comes to a close, it seems as though yesterday was the first day of school, and we were still trying to soak up the last drops of summer. Now, Christmas is only a mere month away and the school year's first issue of the student-run newspaper, The Voice, has been released. The Voice is a great way for students to express their opinions, write what they feel, and utilize their creativity. However, this year I would like to introduce myself, Ellora Smith, as the new President of The Voice. While I am currently a junior, I have been writing articles since my freshman year, and cannot wait to take on this new role after wrapping up being the Vice President. My hope for this year is for our newspaper to continue being an outlet for the voices of Chelmsford High School students. I would also like to introduce my other board members for the 2023-2024 school year: Samhita Badhri as Vice President, Jhanvi Kichannagari returning as Graphic Designer, and Misha Kapoor as Editor. We all want to put forth the best possible work for our readers. So, without further ado, enjoy reading the fall issue of The Voice!

Thank you,  
Ellora Smith

## Book Review

by Shalini Man



**Title - My Dateless Diary**  
**Author - R.K Narayan**  
**Published - 1960**

In *My Dateless Diary*, Author R.K Narayan chronicles his journey across the United States. Despite being in his 50s, Narayan views this new place through the eyes of a youngster, taking the readers on a journey through a traveler's eyes. In the book, the author describes his experiences with great detail, surprising the reader with all the things they overlook, even in today's society. The author's experiences described in the book are still very much relatable to a first-timer in the United States, despite it being written 63 years ago. The reactions towards the fast-paced American consumer system and the diversity of its cities and towns are a few of the many experiences that even today's tourists relate to. While these experiences are similar within generations, there are also a number of differences that are evident in the book. As one reads further on the author's views on the West, one also realizes the change our society has gone through. Overall, *My Dateless Diary* puts the reader in a different point of view, taking you on a time-capsule journey of a visitor to the States in the 1950s.

---

WELCOME TO

# Five O'Clock Tea

*By Sanhita Badhri and Jhanvi Kichannagari*

---

**Happy fall! Welcome to 2023's final edition of Five O'Clock Tea: A segment of The Voice where we sit down with impactful people to better understand and appreciate our community.**

---



This school year, Chelmsford High School welcomed Christina Mitza as the new dean of Hawthorne House. A former English teacher at Billerica High School, Dean Mitza shared her background, as well as a few messages for the students of Chelmsford High School.

Growing up, Dean Mitza always wanted to be a teacher and received a bachelor's degree in English from Framingham State University. She continued to achieve her master's degree in middle school education from Lesley University. Beginning at Billerica Middle School and later the high school, she taught English for eighteen years. However, her involvement in Billerica Schools went beyond the classroom.

Opening up her classroom, Dean Mitza helped mentor and train many student teachers. Along with this, she was a class advisor, and involved in many clubs such as the yearbook, book club, and student council. Recently, Dean Mitza also earned her Certificate in Advanced Graduate Studies in School Leadership from Fitchburg State University.

Dean Mitza cites her favorite part about working in education as the relationships she forms with her students. "My favorite part about CHS so far is the community. I feel like there's a very strong community between teachers and students." Dean Mitza hopes to follow the lead of current administrators and continue what they've established but also hopes to improve and help CHS grow.

In particular, Dean Mitza is excited about the upcoming football game at Fenway Park. "I am a Billerica native, so I have to sit right in the middle," she says. She jokes about her former students surprise at her choice to move to Chelmsford High School, "For my Billerica people, they were like, 'You're going WHERE?'"

**To all CHS students, she says,**

┌ "Be Yourself, get involved in something  
that you really enjoy," ┐

## Fun Facts

**Favorite color:**  
Blue

**Favorite Subject in school:**  
English

**Hobbies:**  
Crafting, Reading, and Golf

**Favorite book:**  
The Catcher in the Rye By: J.D. Salinger, but she also enjoys reading Thrillers



# FALL HOLIDAYS!

By Deepika Bollu

Holidays are right around the corner!

There is no doubt, everyone's favorite part of autumn are the festivals and the weather. With the fun, warm, holidays, come great food, family and new acquaintances. The one that kicks off autumn and one of our favorites is Halloween! Halloween is full of fun, candy, and costumes. The next one, with a magical touch, and where family and friends celebrate together is Thanksgiving! These wonderful holidays have a rich history behind them as well.

Halloween is always on the 31st of October. Both kids, teens, and adults enjoy this holiday. For kids, it's a day of fun, parties, candy, and dressing up. For adults, it's a day to reconnect with their inner-child and eat as many treats as they want. Why don't we set aside all this partying, and dive into the history of this event?

This tradition started with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Samhain was meant to ward off ghosts by wearing costumes and light bonfires. It marked summer's end and the beginning of winter's dark, cold, months. The Celts believed that October 31st was the day that the gate between the living and dead opened. Samhain was to keep these ghosts at bay. As Christianity spread around, including to the Celts, the church declared November 2 All Souls' Day. This holiday was created to honor the dead, it was very similar to Samhain. People dressed up, and bonfires and parades were made.

Halloween then made its way to America through immigrants. In the second half of the 19th-century, the surplus of immigrants brought Halloween. Our Halloween is very similar to Samhain. The costumes and dressing up is still popular as it would have been long ago. However, Halloween has come a long way since the Celts with events such as trick or treating! Happy Halloween!





Next on the list, Thanksgiving: the holiday filled with smiles and family, where people eat as much as they want. The origin of this holiday is known worldwide, don't you remember? The pilgrims, natives, and turkeys. This holiday is traced back to 1621, believe it or not! The Wamponoag Native Americans shared a feast with the colonists from England. These colonists came from England on the Mayflower, to find a home to practice their religion freely. They settled in Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth after the righteous journey across the Atlantic Ocean. They met the Native Americans who taught them about the way of life in Massachusetts land and much more. In November of 1621, the colonists harvested for the first time, which was technically the first Thanksgiving. In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday.

All holidays are celebrated and important, from getting a sugar high to having a feast with beloved family, they are equally important. It is a great way to spend time with friends and family!



# *Requiem For A Football Season*

By Nate Wilder



Snakebit. That's probably the best way to describe this season for the Chelmsford Lions football program. This was exemplified no greater than the Lions' heartbreaking 36-35 loss on their own senior night to Central Catholic. It seemed like the Lions had the Raiders in the palm of their hand the whole way. The Lions' run game was finally clicking, the defense was stellar, and the Tundra was simply electric. It looked as if the Lions had finally put all of those narrow defeats and backbreaking injuries behind them and were going to defeat one of the perennial contenders in the MVC. But like a vulture circling its prey in the barren desert, Central Catholic slowly crept back into the game. This culminated in the Raiders taking a one-point lead on the Lions with just over eleven minutes remaining in the contest.

While it's definitely not the way anyone wanted the regular season to end, it was probably the most appropriate. It was their fourth consecutive one-score loss on the year.

"Game Of Inches" is probably one of the most overused phrases in the sports lexicon. But I don't think it would be fair to say that this game, even this season, was decided by inches. It was decided by mere centimeters. Whether it was a close call that didn't go the Lions' way, or even something as catastrophic as losing their starting QB due to a freak injury. This transitions into another heartbreaking aspect of this football season.

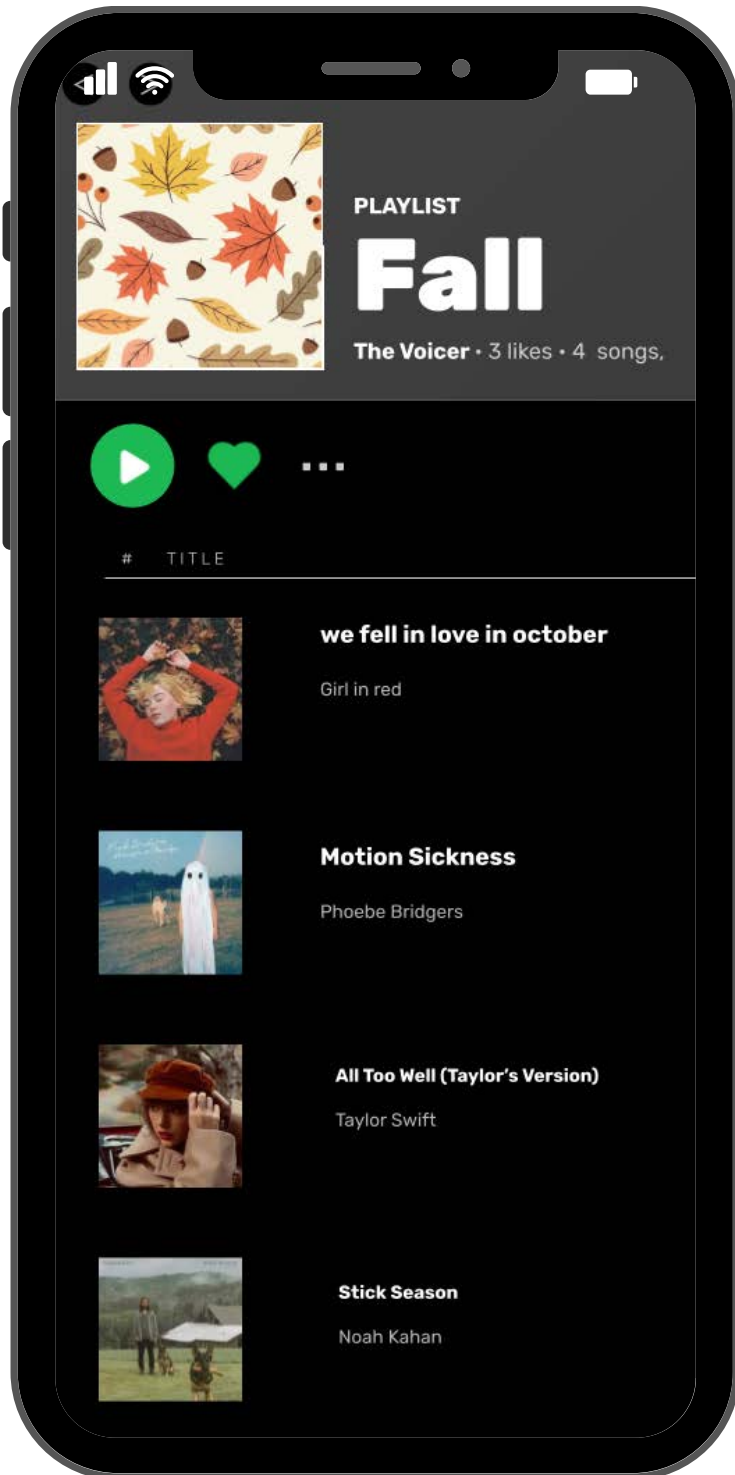
To have your starting quarterback, a team leader, a role model, and a dear friend cut down in his prime is simply tragic. There's no two ways about it. Now with any other team, this would be an issue, but the players would likely be able to move on.

You would probably hear all the right stuff from the coaches. "Well, we're praying for a quick recovery. This will be a lot of adversity for the boys, but we're on to the next one, yada yada yada..." But if that was the only angle on this story, I wouldn't still be writing, would I? But to have all of this predicated on not only the end of a career, but the end of a life mere months before, I don't even have words. It almost seems unfair. Unfair to not only the two young men who were befallen with these tragedies but to all of the ones who surround them.

Now, if you want to be optimistic about it, you could say that these events will build character with the rest of these young men and help them overcome other adversities in their lives. Sounds like a compelling argument. Or you can take my view of it. That being, luck is an exhaustible resource. If so, the Lions' well ran dry before they even got a chance to get drilling.

# FALL PLAYLIST

By Misha Kapoor



"we fell in love in october" by girl in red encapsulates the feeling of fall, where it is cold enough to layer up, but you are still warm and cozy. The song reminisces about falling in love during October and has a general sense of autumn throughout.

"Motion Sickness" by Phoebe Bridgers radiates the feeling of bundling up in a fluffy blanket while the rain dampens the ground outside. The song is about getting built up again and again, only to be let down each time. The turmoil resulted in "emotional motion sickness" which is referenced throughout the chorus of the song.

"All Too Well (Taylor's Version)" by Taylor Swift is a classic fall song and the short film of the song takes place during the season. The song is about a relationship where both parties remember their past "all too well". You could imagine walking through a deciduous forest wrapped in a red scarf while listening to this song on repeat.

"Stick Season" by Noah Kahan refers to the season between fall and winter when the leaves have fallen, but it has yet to snow. Stick Season is a time of change and is shown as the song is about moving on from a past relationship. Fall is seen as a time to change as people and to move on from past experiences.



# Anti-Ghostwriting

BY: ELLORA SMITH



When you finish writing something, you feel accomplished, right? The fact that you have applied your thoughts onto paper and gotten it all out there. You feel successful and a sense of relief that you are done. So why should people who do not write their own books get to feel this way? Why should people who only have ideas for a book, and not be able to write it, get all the credit and get to feel like they have accomplished something so profound? Well they shouldn't, and that is why using a ghostwriter is such a copout.

## What is a ghostwriter?

A ghostwriter is a person hired to write something, usually a book, for somebody else and receive no credit for it. The book will give credit to someone else, who probably had the idea for the book, but did not actually decide to write it. Ghostwriters often have to sign a contract stating that they will not reveal themselves as a ghostwriter, and understand that somebody else will be recognized for their writing. Many books are written by ghostwriters, but you would never know because they are sworn to secrecy. When authors do reveal they used ghostwriters, they often receive a lot of controversy. An example of this is popular actress, Millie Bobby Brown, revealing that she used a ghostwriter for her debut book *Nineteen Steps*.

## Is someone really an “author” if they use a ghostwriter?

Oxford Dictionary, Merriam-Webster Dictionary, and even Dictionary.com states that an author is a writer of literary work, such as a book, article, etc. While many who use ghostwriters may consider themselves authors, in my mind, they will never be an author. Sitting down and writing a book is a great task, and getting to call yourself a writer when you didn't do that is disrespectful to all the amazing authors out there. Anybody can come up with an idea, but to actually put that idea on paper and actually write a whole book, is something to feel immensely proud of. Not just anybody should get to feel that, so claiming to be an author is incredibly immoral.

## Is it ethical?

Taking credit for someone else's work is never right, so why should this be the exception? Well, in my opinion, it isn't. It is not right to get all the praise and “this was great” from people, for something that you didn't do. While ghostwriters do sign a contract and agree for it to be this way, this is not right by the so-called “authors”. They are making an unethical decision to use a ghostwriter and should not consider themselves an author.

## Is it plagiarism?

Growing up, we are always told to cite our sources for everything in school. Make a bibliography, add links at the end of a slide show, etc. This should be no different from that. These “authors” should have to cite their sources and say who their ghostwriter is, but they find ways around that. Since they make ghostwriters sign contracts, they do not have to cite them as their writer and so it is technically not plagiarism. While it may not officially be considered that, I still consider it that and think that they should be credited for all of their hard work.



## What do you think?

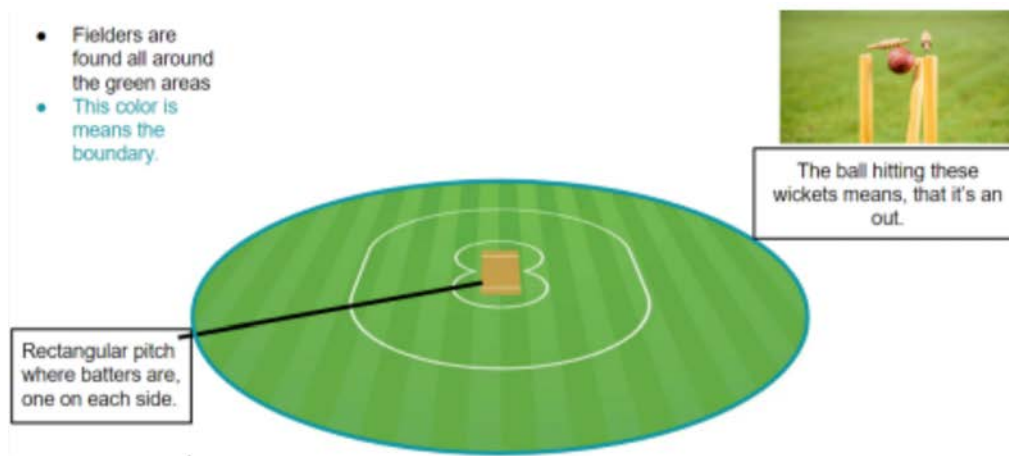
While I strongly disagree with the whole concept of ghost writing, what do you think? Do you think that it is ok for people to not get credit for their work? Or do you think that it is not ok that there are great writers out there whose names will never be spoken due to their binding contracts? The ethical choice is up to you.

# Cricket World Cup

By Aditya Bura

Cricket, what is it? Most people have heard of the sport, but nobody seems to know how it is played.

Cricket is played by many countries worldwide, the primary countries being India, Australia, and England. Originally introduced in 1611 in England, it was popularized mainly by India. The sport is played eleven versus two at once on the pitch--two being the batters, who are trying to score runs and points, and the eleven being the fielders and the bowler. The bowler, similar to a pitcher, throws the ball towards one of the batters, bouncing the ball once. The batter tries to hit the ball; if it goes into the stands, that is six runs. If it goes outside of the boundary, that is four runs. The field is one big circle. For example, if the batter hits far but not far enough to go to the boundary, he runs to the other side of the small rectangular pitch that he is on. If he makes it to the other side without getting out, that's one run. While he runs, the other batter will also run and switch places. On each side of the small rectangular pitch, there are wickets. If those get hit, that's out.



The Cricket World Cup is an event that only occurs once every four years, spanning a little over a month. The 2023 ICC Cricket World Cup is proving to be a thrilling and meaningful event, captivating the hearts of cricket enthusiasts worldwide. Hosted in India, the tournament showcased a remarkable display of sportsmanship and talent, with teams from 10 cricketing nations fiercely competing for the coveted title. Throughout the matches, the electrifying and patriotic atmosphere in the stadiums is reflected in the passion and devotion of the fans, creating an unforgettable experience for players and spectators. Memorable performances and unexpected upsets added an element of unpredictability, further elevating the excitement of the tournament.

The final match is played on November 19th and will be filled with nail-biting moments and intense competition, culminating in a spectacular display of skill and determination, solidifying the event as a significant milestone in the history of cricket and leaving a lasting impact on the global cricketing community.

In the current tournament, the top 3 teams are India, South Africa, and Australia. This year's host, India, is currently the only team that is undefeated at 8-0 so far. With one game to go, India is looking like the favorites in the cup. Their team captain, Rohit Sharma, has so far proved to the world why he holds his title. Amazing leadership, outstanding skills, and technique prove his deservance. As cricket is a team sport, he can't play without his amazing team around him.

# MAMMA MIA!

by SIYA KHOKHA



Photos by Jade Boyer

## A behind the scenes editorial from a cast member.

Chelmsford High School's current production, Mamma Mia, is sure to keep you on your toes. Set on a Greek island called Kalokairi, the music score consists of Abba's classic hit songs with a modern twist. It's a heart-warming story about a young girl named Sophie, raised by a tough loving, independent mother, Donna, but has spent all her life not knowing who her father is. Sophie's only dream is a fairytale wedding, where her father walks her down the aisle. By reading her mom's diary from when she was pregnant with her, she realizes she has 3 potential dad's, Sam Carmichael, Bill Austin, and Harry Bright.



This year, Chelmsford High School is welcoming a new director to the fall musical, Erin Maitland. When not at the Performing Arts Center, Erin works at UMASS Lowell as the Assistant Director of Community Building. She has a history with acting, and has been the lead in countless musicals. We are so honored to have such a talented person leading our show! CHS is also welcoming back our music director Martha Robertson, the chorus teacher at Parker Middle School. She is excited to finally work on a covid-free show and work with other music groups such as the pit choir and orchestra. She loves Abba and while she loves all the group's music, she adores the song Dancing Queen. We are also welcoming back our legendary tech director Craig Robertson! Craig has been working with Chelmsford High School's musicals for 9 years, and though he took a break, he is coming back stronger than ever! Him and his wife run a community theater up in Hamilton, Massachusetts. Although he has always been on the tech side of productions, he tried his hand at acting in the Children's Play at Chelmsford High, but sadly admits it was a one-time thing. We are also proud to have Matthew Buono working with our pit orchestra, to enhance the music experience for our viewers.

A hard working crew and a talented cast are the foundation of this year's musical. Now let me introduce you to the wonderful characters and give you a peek into the brilliant stories of the cast members playing them

**Donna Sheridan-** The spirited and resilient mother who is played by our very own theater thespian Maeve McNeal. She realized that she wanted to dive into the theater world in fourth grade while doing her first show in a local theater group. She finds a typical theater kid is loud and flamboyant. Her advice to all the young actors out there is to not be scared of other people, or scared of trying new things as that might prevent one from doing a lot of things they wish they had done.

**Sophie Sheridan-** The impulsive but determined daughter seeking her father's identity, played by Lilly Rogers who discovered her love for theater in 2nd grade! She thinks a typical theater person is sensitive, loves being together, a little crazy and fun and always down to have a good time. She has always loved the musical Mamma Mia and considers playing the role of Sophie a full circle moment for her.





Photo by Jade Boyer

**Sam Carmichael-** One of the potential dads for Sophie and more importantly Donna's first and everlasting love interest played by another theater thespian Haddie AlDayaa who has been involved in theater since the age of 7, when his mom told him that he was very dramatic and should do drama. He thinks a typical theater kid is open and ambitious. He thinks this experience has been magical, tiring (with a yawn!) and explorative! He had great advice for all the theater hopefuls--if they do it they are going to regret not doing it sooner!

**Bill Austin:** The adventurous travel writer with a mysterious past played by the amazing Tyler Gentry. Tyler is definitely a star on and off stage and discovered his inner actor when he was 8 at Applause Academy! He loves the transition from start to finish during a musical, the sets and lights, but most importantly, the community it provides. He also shared that he had met most of his friends through theater.

**Harry Bright:** The British banker with hidden love for Rock n Roll is played by our fabulous freshman Adam Pinto! He is nervous but extremely excited for the musical. He began his journey in sixth grade, when his friend and fellow cast member, Ethan McGuigan, introduced it to him! He also loves Mamma Mia and believes that our show will turn out great. He thinks that drama is the best place to be, and highly encourages everyone to try and find their inner actor.

**Tanya:** Donna's best friend and band member, is a spirited and confident woman--two words that best describe Maya Belmonte who plays the role of Tanya. A captain of the dance team, she was introduced to theater as a sophomore by her best friend and fellow cast member Kiki! Maya finds the typical theater kid ambitious and eccentric. A great piece of advice from her is to "Just go for it! Everybody loves a little bit of confidence and enthusiasm and with that, it can take you so far!"

**Rosie:** Another of Donna's best friends and band members, Rosie is carefree and funny on the outside but shy and kooky underneath. She is played by the amazing Kiki Deutchmann! Kiki has always been singing, be it in the shower or in front of a crowd, and this led to a love for performing and theater! She describes theater community as "almost always" kind, considerate, passionate about our work and work ethic, and hardworking in every aspect of the theater guild. She is extremely excited to play the role of Rosie and to blend Rosie's and her own personality together!

**Sky:** Sophie's fiance, who is athletic and adventurous, just like the terrific Ben Grant! Ben describes the typical theater kid as goofy, fun, and someone who loves having a good time. He said that he was extremely happy when he got Sky and that was the role he was aiming for. He encourages aspiring actors to do the musical, and believes it's a once in a lifetime opportunity

**Tech crew:** To learn more about what happens behind the scenes, sets, and props, we spoke to Michael Cunningham, the Master Carpenter and Technical Director on the student board, as well as a few others. Michael considers his job fun and time-fulfilling, but unfortunately does not get paid! Backstage crew is a fun environment and he encourages younger students to join. They are all excited to see the set and see all the actors use the set to their advantage to help them tell their story!

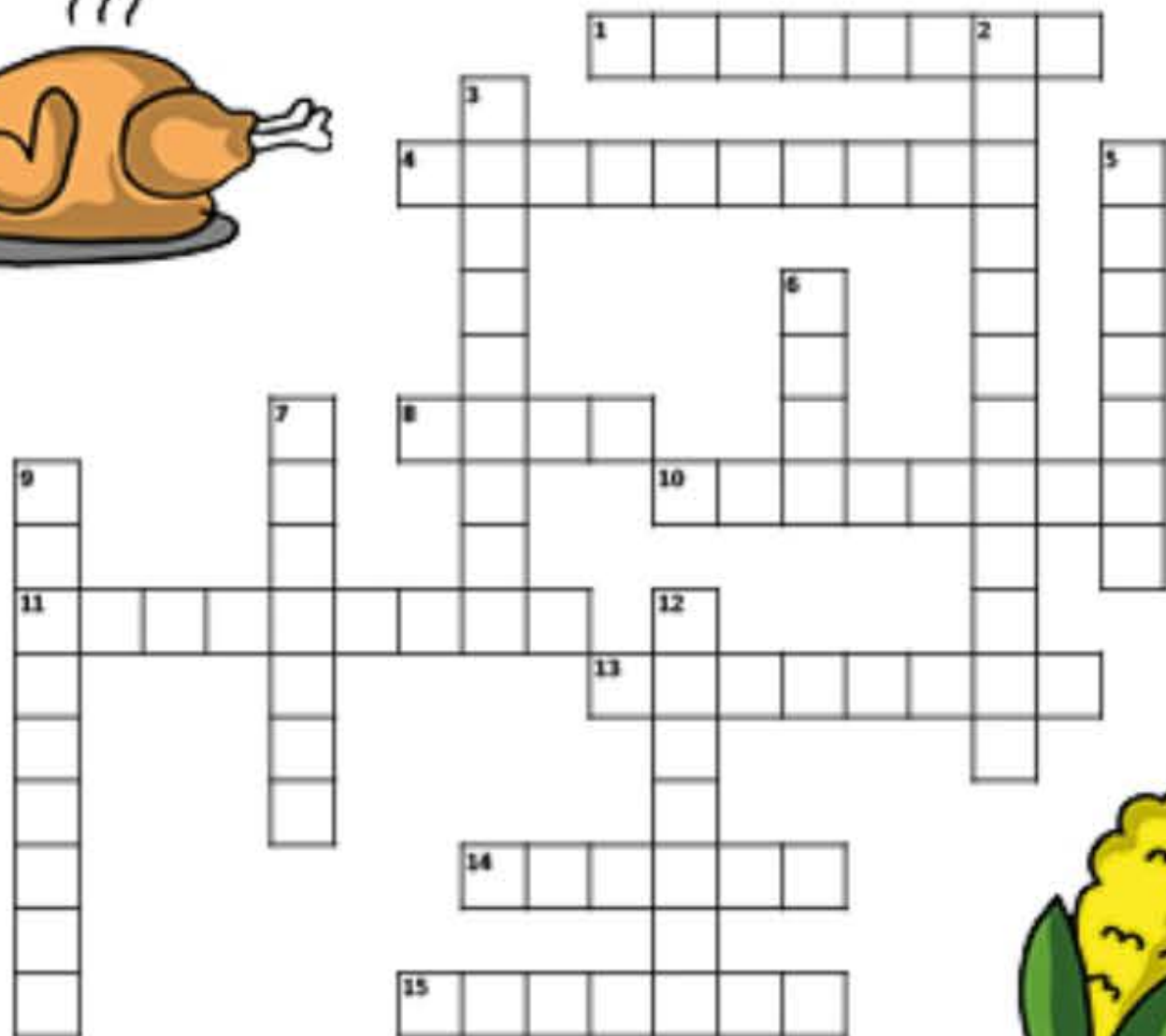
As a cast member, drama is one of the best places to be. It's an inspiring place which brings your inner confidence to life! During this process with all these amazing people, I have discovered a new part of myself every day. I highly recommend the drama club to everyone. Do yourself a favor, and enjoy all of our hard work and come to see Mamma Mia! It will be something you will never forget!



Photo by Jade Boyer

# THANKSGIVING

## Crossword



### ACROSS

1. First village established by the Pilgrims
4. Symbol of abundance and nourishment
8. An essential grain in the New World diet
10. Literally, travelers going to a holy place
11. The Pilgrims' boat
13. 16th and 17th century English Protestants
14. The traditional holiday bird
15. American Indian who taught the Pilgrims many things

### DOWN

2. 4th Thursday of November
3. A traditional American Indian dwelling
5. Gathering of crops
6. Season for harvesting
7. Country the Pilgrims left behind
9. Indigenous people who were present at the first Thanksgiving
12. Bright orange squash used to make pie