



OCTOBER

NEWSLETTER



A cartoon illustration featuring a black witch's hat with a white band, balanced on top of a stack of three orange jack-o'-lanterns. Each pumpkin has a unique carved face. Three black bats are shown flying in the background against a white background.

As it would seem, the studio seems to be the safest theatre in terms of non-spooky experiences. In terms of the Heymann and Randall however, clearly, something ghostly might be happening within those walls. However, some students claim to have never had a spine-chilling experience here at Pitt.

"Aside from the roach encounters, no [encounters], I wish though." – Lauren Holmes.

May the debate live on, are the Pitt theaters haunted, or... just old?

Do you have your own hair-raising story? Tell us at our next USITT meeting!

By Rachel Nolen, Vice Chair

[illegible]

1. What is a ghost's favorite fruit?
4. Which spooky Disney Channel movie series had 4 installments?
5. What are Jack-o-Lanterns made from?

2. What is the most popular Halloween Candy?
3. Which franchise is this quote from: "This is the skin of a killer, Bella"

**answers on the last page*

By Elizabeth Amstutz, Business Manager

Which Spooky Character Are You?

Based on Your Techie Answers

Keep track of your answers and tally up your points at the end to discover which character you are! (Not based in real science—just *mad science* mwahahahahahahaha)

What is your favorite spooky gel color?

-  1.G325 Bastard Amber
-  2.E797 Deep Purple
-  3.R27 Medium Red
-  4.E088 Lime Green
-  5.R23 Orange

What is your tool of choice?

- 1.Wrench
- 2.Hammer
- 3.Tape measure
- 4.Nail gun
- 5.Power drill

What's your guilty pleasure musical (we all know you have one)?

- 1.*Hamilton*
- 2.*Dear Evan Hansen*
- 3.*The Phantom of the Opera*
- 4.*Wicked*
- 5.*Cats*
- 6.Another (there are many)

Pick an area of interest!

- 1.Stage Management
- 2.Sound
- 3.Costumes
- 4.Scenic
- 5.Lighting

How scary was your high school theater?

- 1.We didn't have safety cables on our lights
- 2.I was left in charge of something as a freshman
- 3.Our drama teacher said that the decorations we put up in the booth were a "lawsuit waiting to happen"
- 4.We had a shrine to our drama teacher in the catwalks
- 5.Our equipment was older than my parents and only *some* of it worked *sometimes*

By Lauren Holmes, Outreach Coordinator



The Jack-O-Lantern | 1-7

- spooky season isn't super your thing, and that's a-okay. Football is cool too! You enjoy the occasional corn maze visit with your friends and those Pillsbury pumpkin cookies, plus all the good candy, of course.



The Vampire | 8-14

- you're down for a good spook once in a while, maybe a scary movie here or there. What you really love, though, are those costume parties. You dominate the competition with your creativity and commitment. You're the most excited about the new Hocus Pocus movie. You also love candy corn—a niche market.



The Spooker (Ghosty) | 15-20

- you're a sucker for scary movies and haunted houses. You probably listen to true crime podcasts in your free time and you're the one who gets most excited about the idea of paranormal investigations because you totally believe in ghosts. You also lowkey get jumpscared easily but you enjoy it.



The Skeleton | 21-26

- literally bff's with Pennywise. You were super into Halloween & scary things as a kid but now none of it affects you the same way it used to. You watch scary movies all year round and own almost every Stephen King book. You also went through a phase where you wanted a pet bat (don't deny it) and Dracula was your favorite Monster High doll.

My Spooky-Scary Time In A Closet

There's a lot of spooky-scary things in the world like escalators, Christmas music before December 1st, and shaved Gianni, but I really don't like small closets. My little sister and I were notorious for our love hate relationship growing up. The list of shenanigans is never ending, but there's one moment that is unforgettable and retrospectively hilarious. The image to right is my parents furiously trying to get a small closet door open as my sister takes a picture :/ "Where exactly is Ty'Mariya?" You may be wondering. Well, I was crying in that dark crammed closet. My little sister had pushed me into my tiny bedroom closet and shut the door. The door got stuck and my parents had to come to my rescue. They thought they could simply jiggle the knob or something, but nothing worked. Between the door not budging and my screaming, my parents decided the best plan was to remove the hinges off the door. I assure you my sister didn't get to find this hilarious for very long as my parents were extremely annoyed with us (I'm pretty sure it was late like 9 or 10pm, if not later). My mother would jokingly summarize this story as "Don't have kids." This is one of our favorite memories to bring up and laugh over. Though we fought often and are total opposites, my sister and I also love hard.

As we've gotten older and faced realities of life, my sister and I have become extremely close. Though we still love to tease and occasionally drive each other crazy, the "love" has outgrown the "hate" in our relationship. Ty'Mariya in the closet would NEVER believe this, but my little sister is by far one of my biggest fans, and I am hers.

To my bestfriend, my beautiful sister, Jazmin thank you for so many memories :)



Fearful Nights

With fear in my heart and no air in my lungs,
My unknown fate creeps behind me.

I'm surrounded by nothing but darkness.
The world is quiet and a feeling worse than
fear creeps over me.

My heart sinks to my stomach and breathing
starts to feel impossible. It's here.

- By Jazmin Jefferson

By Ty'Mariya Moss, Secretary



Some Spooky Cat Occurrences

Anyone who has ever had a cat knows they have a tendency to do some strange and questionable things. As someone whose parents have 11 cats, I have seen many strange and spooky things from my cats.

Starting off with a light spook, we have my cat, Luna. Some backstory about Luna is that she loves to get pets only when she wants those pets, which is frequently at 5am. So one of her favorite things to do is to listen if I move around in the middle of the night, and if she hears me she will silently appear. This game of hers has spooked me many times as it often results in her sitting silently behind doors, just waiting for me to open them unsuspectingly. This may not sound spooky but opening a door that previously did not have a cat behind it, only to see two small green eyes sitting there as though she's always been there waiting for you is a bit of a jumpscare at 5am.

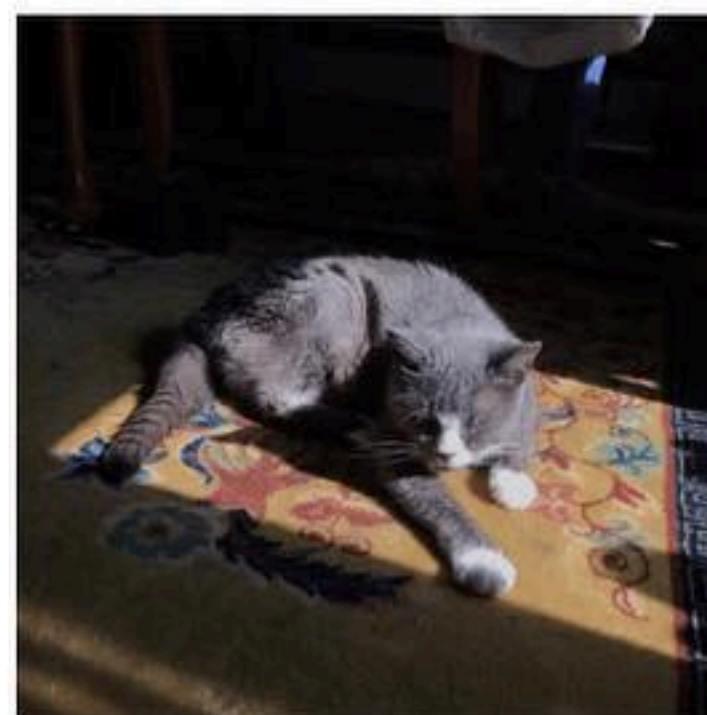
Leaning into the strange, we have a reoccurring instance that involved many of my cats. For many nights on end last summer, several of my cats would sit in the hallway in front of my front door and stare up at the door. There was never any noise coming from the door or anyone at the door.

Every night it would be a slightly new assortment of cats, and they did it every night for a while (they might even still do it to this day). To this day, my parents and I have no clue why they did this.

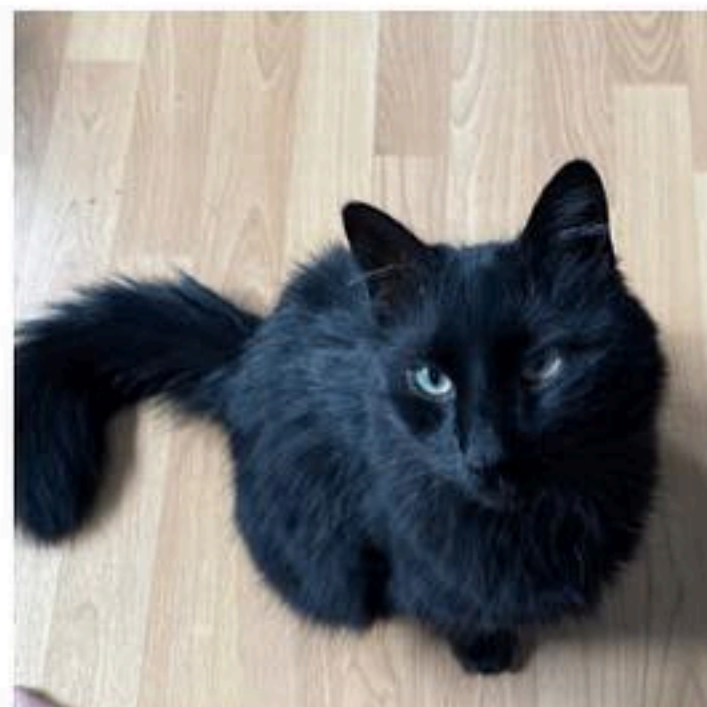
Lastly, the spookiest and strangest of them all, we have my cat Max. Max unfortunately passed away at the cranky old age of 17, back in 2020. However, we are not entirely sure he has truly left my house. Occasionally, we'll hear a cat hopping down the stairs and see no cat. My mother has reported a few occasions of feeling a cat jump on the bed, but there is no cat. My cats will stare scared and angry at the stairs, as though they've seen a cat they don't know. They've even been known to growl or hiss at seemingly nothing.

All in all, living with 11 cats is bound to lead to some strange occurrences, but sometimes these occurrences bleed into pure spooky.

By Megan Franco, Chair



Max



Luna



Staring at the door



Poppportunities

- Department
 - The 39 Steps
 - Focus is October 8th-9th, 9am-5pm
 - Run Crew members needed!
 - see dates to the right and if you can make all of them, let us or Gianni know! There's also an option for retroactive 0880 credit!
 - Dance Nation
 - Hang is October 15th-16th, 9am-5pm
 - Focus is October 22nd-23rd, 9am-5pm

What We've Been Up To

- Our first GBM was September 9th
 - we did a tour of the theatre spaces!
- Our first workshop was on September 23rd
 - thanks again to Christina for hosting our Hang & Focus workshop!

Announcements

- Our next workshop is Scenic Painting!
 - October 7th at 1pm
 - meet us in B20!
- Keep an eye on your emails for our sticker order form and the first round of USITT Conference info!

The 39 Steps Dates & Times

- October 12-CREW VIEW-8PM-10:30PM-TBA
- October 13-DRY TECH-6PM-10PM-TBA
- October 14-DAY OFF
- October 15-6PM-11PM
- October 16-10AM-3PM-TBA
- October 17-10AM-8PM-TBA
- October 18-October 20th-DRESS/TECH 6PM-11PM
- October 21-OPEN 6PM-10PM
- October 22-6PM-10PM
- October 23-12PM-4PM
- October 24-DAY OFF
- October 25-29 6PM-10PM
- October 30- 12PM-4PM-TBA-STRIKE

