

*Marshfield High School Literature Club*



# The Tiger Journal

February 2018 Issue



# Note from the Editor

We would like to thank Mr. Rick Michalec, the advisor of the Literature Club, and Mr. Wilhelm, Marshfield High School Principal, for their support and encouragement in publishing this magazine. We also sincerely appreciate the environment provided by our teachers at the Marshfield High School that allows us to develop our self-potential and seek new opportunities that keep us positively challenged.

We hope you enjoy!

- *Muhammad Abidi, editor of The Tiger Journal, Founder and President of the Marshfield High School Literature Club*

# Current Events

## **Marshfield High School Mock Trial Advances to State Contest**

The Marshfield Mock Trial team will be going to state for the third year in a row after their second place finish on Saturday the 10th's regional competition in Wausau. The team competed against 14 other teams losing only to their 3rd round competitors of DC Everest.

Mock trial is a speech-based competition where teams are asked to prepare an argument based on case materials given to them in October. Once at competition teams must present their defense or plaintiff arguments depending on what is asked for each round of the competition. Each side must present 3 witnesses led by 3 attorneys. The attorneys lead their witnesses in direct examinations creating a narrative for the case, the witnesses are then cross examined by the opposing attorneys in an attempt to break down their arguments.

This year the case was centered around a vandalism that occurred at an iron mining site in Clearwater WI. The defendant Jessie Green was accused of spray painting the phrase "we are water" as well as pouring sugar into the hydraulic system of a mobile mining crusher. Jessie's argument was supported by two other witnesses the security guard Charlie Baker and Jessie's friend Bobbi Markings. The plaintiff was on the side of the Iron mining company and was supported by the mechanic Karl Campbell, the private investigator Ellis Gran, and another security guard Perry Blart.

The team of 10 this year consisted of two time-keepers, three graduating seniors, three juniors, and two sophomores. All of the seniors have competed for three or more years, and previous teammates have gone on to compete in college level Mock Trial. The night before the competition the team got together to eat pizza and watch Monty Python and the Holy Grail, after cleansing themselves from the last years competition the team was ready for a fresh start.

The team will be competing at the state competition in Madison on March 9th, 10th, and 11th against teams from all areas of the state. Competition begins at 4 o'clock on that Friday with the final round Sunday morning.

- *Contributed by Emma Gilkerson*

## The Decline of Cinema

Have you been to the movie theater lately? Most of you would probably say no. Why is that? Are our phones consuming too much of our time? Even though our lives revolve around the phone and it is useful for everyday life, it's also partially responsible for the collapse of the classical cinema. None of this is really the consumer's fault, it's just how our society has progressed. There are 2 parts that have caused this problem: our ever-growing reliance on technology and on our phones and the movie studios lack of connection to the public's fluctuating desires.

The major reason for the current time is the movie studios' lack of connection with the shifting preferences of the mainstream consumer. For example, the upcoming movie Red Sparrow. This movie is about a Russian girl trained from early on to be one of the best spies in the world, and she must complete a mission. This sounds eerily familiar to the Marvel Cinematic Universe's Black Widow. No one needs a duplicate of another type of character already in current movies. By being out of touch with the public, the movie studios don't cater to what you want to see in the movie theater. These slumps in movie-going loses money for these big companies and for the movie theater chains, forcing some to go bankrupt. In my personal opinion, I think the movies in the first half of this year are better focused on what the public wants, making this a good time to visit the movie theater.

Another cause for your lack of motivation to go to the theater is technology. With our phones, tablets/iPads, computers, tv, and phones, and with streaming companies like Hulu, HBO, Netflix, Amazon Prime, Sling TV and the like, we don't have a need to go to a physical place to watch movies when we can watch them from our own room. With the instant access to any movie we pretty much want a couple months after it gets released, what's the need to go to a theater. You have comfort and food at home, plus it's cheaper overall. These new competitors in the streaming business are keeping your attention on their apps and away from the movie theaters. This, therefore, is hurting these cinema chains. This will only grow and eclipse the aforementioned problem, becoming a big factor for movies in the future.

Enjoy the movies!

- *Contributed by Jacob Gilbertson*

# Poetry

## **Glasses**

Little pop-up books piled on the floor.  
I used to listen to the soft lullabies before.  
I laid on the table while you snored.

Little blue tricycles lie in the corner of the garage  
with your costumes packed up; they are like camouflage  
blending with the rest of the brown boxes. It's all a collage.

Worn-out shoes in the bottom of the closet.  
Empty shelves with layers of dust deposit.  
In silence, I observed from where I used to sit.

Textbooks with lots of doodles and some highlighter marks.  
Some pictures of boats, and some of sharks.  
All those wasted study sessions in the park.

I am those spectacles you used to wear  
before you chose those contacts on a dare.  
Now you are addicted to their itchy flare  
with the blurry sky and the opaque air.

- *Contributed by Muhammad Abidi*

## **Theorizing a Butterfly**

With joy, a butterfly flutters and sings  
showing its stark, white wings, it looks and sees  
unbridled, budding roses - what joy it brings  
to behold the horizon atop trees.

However, it must fight and struggle with  
itself and the dense, foggy air around,  
seeking a safe petal to land and sit  
and stay above the bitter, crack-filled ground.  
Flying through abandoned paths, the butterfly  
felt the thick air surround it, constricting.  
Between the dark trees, it had no ally  
and the butterfly continued resisting.

The garden was surrounded with barbed wire  
and tall trees, but the butterfly flew higher.

- *Contributed by Muhammad Abidi*

*Awarded Honorable Mention*

*2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Midwest Region*

## **On the Train**

The air without your breath.  
Jewelry shops pass by without rings,

without necklaces. My wallet  
without your tattered picture.

At stoplights, green lights without cars.  
The junkyard without your crushed car.

Mechanics without customers.  
School buses without children.

The graveyard approaches  
and passes.

Your grave without my name,  
growing weeds.

- *Contributed by Muhammad Abidi*

*Awarded Silver Key*

*2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Midwest Region*