

LSI Newsletter Alhambra

LSI ALHAMBRA
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Scary October FUN



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Calendar of Events

- October 7th** Lunch with Andrea and Natalya at Alondra's! 12.40 pm.
- October 13th—** Scary Movie Night with Judy. 5 pm.—meet at school.
- October 14th -** Universal Studios Halloween Horror Night.
- October 21st** The Grove and Farmer's Market with Rachel. 12.36 pm.
- October 27th** Karaoke with Carlos, 10 pm. @De Club.
- October 28th** LSI Halloween Bash! 6.30 pm.

LSI Annual Halloween Party
Trick or Treat!!!



**ATTENTION STUDENTS!!!
PROMOTION!!!!
SIGN UP FOR
MORNING AND AFTERNOON CLASSES
AND RECEIVE 50%
OFF OF YOUR AFTERNOON CLASSES!**

Come and join us for a really spooky time at Oiwake (Downtown) on October 29th. It's that time a year again when ALL LSI schools get together for fun, games, food and dancing! Don't miss it!

Halloween

By Luigi



Do you want to do crazy things without anyone knowing? Would you like to express another side of your personality? Many years ago, on October 31st, which is now Halloween, people celebrated the day of the death, called Samhain. Samhain was a festival to celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of winter. It was a day where people made fires to scare the spirits and wore costumes to hide from them. Nowadays, many people don't believe in spirits or monsters and Halloween is just a holiday when people have fun. You can wear costumes so that people won't know who you are, and then you can start doing whatever you want. On Halloween people carve jack-o-lanterns, wear costumes and go trick-or-treating.

On Halloween, people make jack-o-lanterns which are hollow pumpkins with a menacing face on them. A lot of people have fun carving jack-o-lanterns, because they look scary and it's a tradition to scare people on Halloween. It's even scarier because there are many horror stories about Jack, who is a dead man rejected by heaven and hell. Now every Halloween he appears with a pumpkin head. Many people put a candle inside the pumpkin to make it look like the head is alive.

Before, people dressed up as witches, monsters, vampires, and ghosts. Now, people not only wear scary costumes, they are also dressed up as characters from T.V. and the movies. Some people wear their costumes and do crazy things like, throwing toilet paper or eggs at a house and scaring people on the street. Some costumes have fake blood on them, so people will get scared easily.

"Trick or treat" is what people say to a person in order to receive candy. Traditionally, kids wear their costumes and go to houses knocking on doors and saying, "Trick or treat." Then the person who opens the door has to give them candy. Only kids can go trick or treating, and that is the only day when kids can eat a lot of sweets.

In my opinion, Halloween is for crazy people who like to do crazy things. It is also for people who want to release stress by doing whatever they want. Of course, it's also stressful doing so much work to get ready for Halloween, then cleaning up after the celebration. But it's worth it.



Creepy Folk Tales and Traditions

By Vina, Eduardo, HeeJung, and Luigi

The Gumiho (Korea)

The Gumiho, which is a fox with nine tails, wanted to be a human. She prayed to the gods and wished to be a human. Then the gods said that she had to live with a man for 3 years in order to be a human forever. She accepted the treatment. She transformed herself into a woman and found a man. They got married and went to the forest to live together, but the Gumiho couldn't eat human food because she is a spirit. She can only eat human livers. Because of that, she went every day at night to the cemetery to find food. She dug and opened the grave, then she started to eat livers. One night she went back to the house, and her husband saw blood on her dress. He didn't trust his wife, so he followed her to the cemetery and saw what she was doing. After he saw that, he broke up with her, and she left, crying.

The Whistler (Venezuela)

There was a guy who killed his father. However, no one knows why he killed his father. The murderer walked around like a spirit with a sack full of his father's bones. He hovered in the forest, whistling.

When you hear whistling close to you, he may be far away from you. When you hear someone whistling from far away, it means he is close. The whistling sound is a sign of death.

Ghost Brides (Taiwan)

If a woman dies without getting married in Taiwan, her parents can find a solution. There is an ancient tradition of arranged marriages for ghosts. The bride's parents usually put money and the bride's birthday inside a red envelope and throw it on the road. The first man who picks up the envelope will be the "lucky guy" chosen to get married to a dead woman he doesn't even know. The brides' parents usually stay in the shadows waiting for this groom, and then the groom is ready to get married to the bride.

Street Food in Korea

By Heejung

Do you feel strange if you eat on the street? We can see a lot of street food in many countries. Street food is usually simple, popular food for common people. Korea also has a lot of kinds of street food made on food trucks or open wagons. Some, like broiled silkworms, might seem strange to foreigners or even Koreans. On the other hand, some foods taste good even to foreigners. Especially, Dukkobokki, Odang and Soondae are the most popular and representative street foods in Korea. These three go together like a set menu.

Dukkobokki, which is made of rice cake and red pepper paste, is enjoyed by people from all over the world. It is sweet, spicy, and the color is beautiful. Girls chatter with friends as they sit around a dish of Dukkobokki. They eat it together in order to become friends, and ease the strain of the boring school life. We can surely find it around schools. It is cheap, satisfying, and delicious. Besides, the red color helps people sitting around it boost up their mood.

Odag always accompanies Dukkobokki. It is a kind of soup which is made of fried fish paste. Turnips, seaweed, peppers and many ingredients are cooked to make the soup taste better. It has a hearty flavor. It cools down your mouth after you eat hot and spicy Dukkobokki. In the winter season, it is the best street food because people warm their cold body up by drinking the hot soup as they walk in the cold weather.

Another street food, Soondae, looks like a sausage. Its ingredients might seem a little bit disgusting. It is made of intestines and blood of pigs. Noodles or sweet rice with spices are stuffed in the skin of pork intestines. It gets toasty brown after it is steamed. It has a meaty flavor. It is very nutritious, and rich in protein. In the old days, it was a great source of nutrition for common people who could not eat expensive meat.

Koreans enjoy street food. These dishes sometimes become simple good meals. The three street foods have been come down through many generations. They represent the joys, hardship, sorrows and consolation of Korean people. Now people outside of Korea area beginning to taste these foods. Of the three, Dukkobokki is the best for non-Koreans. Everyone who tastes it exclaims, "Wonderful, good, delicious."



My Journey

By Ivy

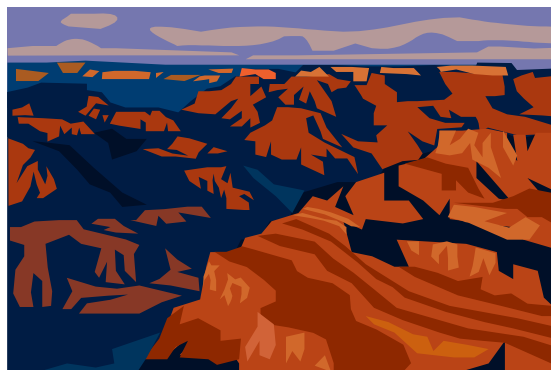
In 2010, I quit my job and came to Los Angeles. I had dreamed about studying abroad when I was a freshman in college. However, I'd never been overseas, because my parents couldn't afford the expenses associated with studying abroad. After I graduated from college, I got a job that had good benefits and salary. It was also my favorite job. Although I was very satisfied with my job, my New Year's resolution every year was to study abroad. It wasn't until 2008 that I had good fortune on my side and won a car in a sweepstakes. At the moment I thought that was an opportunity to reach my goal. So I sold the car, used my savings, and came to Los Angeles to implement my plan. I had waited eight years for my dream to come true.

My time in Los Angeles has changed me a lot. For example, my English improved. I went to a lot of places and broadened my perspective. My purpose for coming to America was to study English. My English was so bad when I came here. At the beginning, my grammar was terrible. I didn't know how to conjugate verbs like, *do*, *does*, and *did*. I didn't know how to differentiate or use those words. A few months later, my English has improved a lot. Not only can I have a conversation with other people, but I can also write an essay.

During this time, I have been to many places, like the East and West Coast. There are many places that have left deep impressions on me. The Grand Canyon is one of the 7 Wonders of the World. If you haven't been there, you would never know how big it is. Bellagio's fountain in Las Vegas is the biggest fountain in the world. They use more than half of Las Vegas' water supply. Only when you go there will you know how beautiful it is. I have also had the opportunity to try great restaurants and watch sporting events in Los Angeles. I am honored to have the opportunity to experience those things.

When I lived in my country, I was a big fish in a small pond. My perspective was so narrow. Once I experienced a lot of things, it opened my eyes. For example, in Taiwan, if you can speak two languages then you are considered intelligent but here in Los Angeles, there are many trilingual people.

I will go back to Taiwan next year, and regardless of whether I get a good job or not, at least I experienced many things here. I am so proud that I have reached my goals.



True Blood and The Vampire Diaries

By Vina

Have you ever seen vampire movies like *Dracula*, *Twilight*, or *Underworld*? If you like them, you may like vampire TV series, too. Two of the most popular vampire series are *True Blood* and *The Vampire Diaries*. *True Blood* is presented by HBO, and *The Vampire Diaries* is on the CW channel. Even though they both are vampire series, there are some differences between *True Blood* and *The Vampire Diaries*, such as the plot and setting.

Both of these vampire series are based on books. *True Blood* is based on the Sookie Stackhouse series, which was written by Charlaine Harris. *The Vampire Diaries* is based on the novels of the same name, by L.J Smith. When these stories became TV series, neither of the producers followed the original novels. They changed the plot and made the stories more interesting. The main character in *True Blood*, who is a barmaid, is a telepath. Unlike *True Blood*, *The Vampire Diaries* main character is a normal high school student. These two characters are both humans. The main plot of *True Blood* is the same as *The Vampire Diaries*. The main characters both fall in love with the male lead, who is also a vampire. Whereas *The Vampire Diaries* is a young adult series, *True Blood* is an adult series. For example, *The Vampire Diaries* issues include the relationships with classmates, parents, siblings, and lovers. Even though both series have the same family issues, *True Blood* addresses more social and life issues such like bills, jobs, and drugs. Although they are both fiction TV series, they also reflect realistic issues.

Both of these vampire series are set in present times. *True Blood* started in a small town in Louisiana. Vampires have announced their existence and can live without feeding on human blood. A Japanese company has invented a synthetic blood that can give vampires energy. Vampires have the same rights as humans. They have to pay taxes and obey the law. In contrast, *The Vampire Diaries* is set in a small, mysterious town in Virginia. They live in secret. However, both series have the same supernatural beings: werewolves and powerful witches. Werewolves and witches play pivotal roles in these two series. Werewolves in *The Vampire Diaries* can bite vampires to death. Witches in *True Blood* can manipulate vampires easily. Vampires in both series both afraid of the Sun and stakes. However, while silver can hurt vampires in *True Blood*, vervena in *The Vampire Diaries* can cause vampires to become very weak. Both of them have different details that make the series more innovative than other vampire fiction.

Now, *The Vampire Diaries* has had two seasons and *True Blood* is broadcasting their fifth season. *True Blood* has won several awards including an Emmy and a Golden Globe. Likewise, *The Vampire Diaries* has won five awards in 2011 Teen Choice. I prefer the graphic scenes in *True Blood*. On the other hand, I'm sticking with the love triangle in *The Vampire Diaries*. In summary, both of them have their special features which fascinate me.

