



THE WESTMOUNT GAZETTE

May/June 2023

We Will Rock You: The Official Return of Musicals at Westmount

By: Lilyanna Colling-Cen

Westmount's 2023 musical, *We Will Rock You*, hit the stage on Thursday, May 18th, for a spectacular opening night performance. There had been matinee performances on the days prior for elementary schools, however, this was the first time that the people in Westmount's community could see it. Whilst the full crowd waited in anticipation and excitement, a video projected on the stage backdrop. The audience was shown some milestones in rock and roll history and then introduced to the dystopian setting of the *iPlanet*. Though this futuristic society is very technologically advanced, the government has eliminated tangible instruments and rock and roll. The absence of creativity and expression throughout the *iPlanet* has put an end to individualism and free thinking. The audience follows the story of two

outsiders, Galileo Figaro and Scaramouche, as they try to revive rock and roll and return the *iPlanet* to the way it once was. During their journey, they come across a few other people, such as Oz and Brit, that help them out on their quest.

The musical is comprised of music from the band Queen and features both upbeat and slow songs. Each of the tracks was played by Westmount students, and effectively reflected the message of each scene. To kick off the show, the song *Radio Ga Ga* set the scene in this otherworldly society. Popular songs such as *Under Pressure*, *Headlong*, and *We Will Rock You* followed. The show concluded with a captivating rendition of *Bohemian Rhapsody* that the audience sang along to. There were many popular culture references throughout the musical that gave the show a comedic aspect. There were also meaningful messages about perseverance and identity. The characters grew together and faced hardships together, which made

watching the musical a very heartfelt experience. The hard work of the Westmount Wildcats that contributed to the play really paid off. It was not just the actors on stage that contributed to the success of the musical, but the musicians in the pit, students in the tech department, stage crew, and teachers, predominantly Ms. Charters and Ms. Grant. Fantastic work Wildcats, and thank you for a spectacular show!

Student Council Elections

By: Abigail Laurens

Student Council elections are an integral part of our school system. Student Council does a lot around the school and elections are our way of recognizing that.

Elections start off with an information session where candidates get informed about how the election process works and choosing a date to hold our election. Unfortunately, candidates aren't allowed to campaign and the elections rely solely word-of-mouth.



THE WESTMOUNT GAZETTE

Election day is extremely intimidating for candidates. Everyone meets bright and early on election morning in the auditorium and we all lift each other up before a long day. After making sure all the candidates have arrived, we all get seated and mentally prepare to speak in front of the whole school.

It's very nerve racking seeing everyone's faces looking at you on stage. However, it also gives you a lot of adrenaline. We all get called up one by one to deliver our speeches and hope everyone in the audience listened. When everyone is finished, the votes get counted and the results get announced over the announcements for the school. Special congrats to everyone who won and to the whole student council for participating! <3.

SpiderVerse Review

By: Arjun Ram

Every once and a while, there comes a movie that reshapes cinema. Think of some of the most prominent films of all time: Citizen Kane, The Godfather, Terminator, and the entirety of the Star Wars franchise.

And in 2018, it was an animated one. Sony's Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse

may have been presented as your average Spider-Man story.

Instead, it was different.

For starters, the animation provided a breath of fresh air for comic-book lovers. Every frame was vibrant and colourful, and the action was exciting and suspenseful.

The emotional components hit hard for viewers, and the dynamics between several characters like Miles Morales, Gwen Stacy and Peter Parker provided unmatched camaraderie.

Sony outdid themselves with the film, so when plans for a sequel were announced, one question loomed: could it top the one that came before?

Well, according to Westmount students, *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* is just as good, if not better.

Julia Wilmot, a Westmount grade 11 student, spoke about the film, saying, "From the soundtrack to the animation, the script to the plot, everything about the Spider-Verse is unfolding, all whilst creating a complex, perfectly intricate story."

The story follows Morales meeting several other Spider heroes in the widely used concept of the multiverse.

"The entire concept of the 'Spiderverse' is quite complicated but the way it's applied makes it so fluid and you never seem to feel as though the attention is wasted on one character," said Michael McNaughton, a grade 11 student.

The animation style is similar to the first installment, but is far more renowned, with some calling it even better.

Krish Patel, a grade 11 student, told the Gazette that, "[The film] does animation in a way that isn't really seen normally; their use of colours and comic style adaptation is so cool and done perfectly."

Overall, this film is groundbreaking, not only for its animation but storytelling and concepts.

"No matter the scene, you can tell how they put so much effort into that specific character. They encompass every character with their own style," said Patel. For Michael, he was craving more, after the film left him off with a cliff-hanger.

"Honestly, [it was a] captivating movie from



THE WESTMOUNT GAZETTE

middle to end, and by the end, I was craving more.”

Another installment of this Spider-Verse saga is planned to be released next year and is called *Beyond the Spider-Verse*.

But the question arises, is this the best Spider-Man movie ever? Julia is still on the fence about it.

“This movie has been in the works for nearly 5 years! It’s incomparable to the live-action aspects [of a Spider-Man film. But we must note that this movie is a turning point for the multiverse concept itself.”



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Westmount Life in Photos



Girls Slo-Pitch



Track & Field



We will rock you



Girls Soccer





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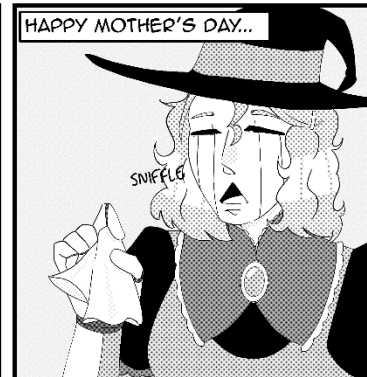
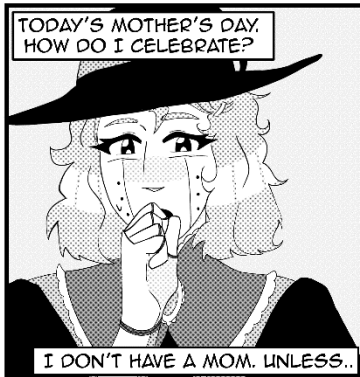
Comic

By Mimi Alghoul

CINCO DE MAYO



MOTHER'S DAY



GLITCH THE
ROBOT WITCH





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