Amber McDaniel (‘16) is a double major in English and Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice. Actively involved in the Honors Program, she is on the Honors Executive Board, an Honors Mentor, a writer and editor for the Honors Newsletter and the Compass, and a member of the Alumni Mentor Program, as well as a coordinator for various Honors activities. Outside Honors, she is on the executive board for both the Concert Choir and Cabaret Club.

McDaniel is definitely not short of excitement in her life. With the help of Under Siege, Arcadia’s student theatre production company, McDaniel will be involved in the production of a staged reading of her original play, Heart of Madness, based on the life of Zelda Fitzgerald. McDaniel originally wrote the play for her Honors project during the Fall of 2013. She is very excited to bring her Honors project to life.

“I didn’t expect to have as much support as I’ve gotten for it – it’s been amazing.” The play will show in the Castle Mirror Room (October 2nd and 3rd at 6pm).

McDaniel will also be studying abroad at Oxford University this spring, staying in Europe a grand total of eight months. During breaks, she plans on backpacking across Europe.

“A love to travel and adventure and hiking.” McDaniel said. “That’s what I want to do with my life... I feel most at home when I’m in the outdoors.”

Rocky Horror Picture Show

On many college campuses, it might seem unusual for students to dress in drag and gather in a group to dance and yell at a television screen. At Arcadia University, however, it is just part of an annual tradition the Arcadia community has come to know and love. For the past three years, the Arcadia Honors Program has hosted a screening of the cult classic movie-musical, the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

The event first began in the Fall of 2011 thanks to now graduate Joe Sperato who decided it was time to bring the “Time Warp” to Arcadia. The event was a hit, bringing in around 300 students decked in drag. Since then, the event has expanded greatly both in production and audience. What began as an interactive movie screening planned by full-scale production, complete with a live shadow cast coordinated by an entire committee. The shadow cast consisted of Rocky loving students who auditioned to act out the entire story in front of the movie playing in the background.

This year, the fourth annual Rocky Horror Picture Show will be held on both Friday, October 17th at midnight and Sunday October 19th at 8:30pm in the Great Room of the Arcadia Commons. Tickets will be going on sale October 2nd until the date of the show and can be bought in the Arcadia Chue. The $5 tickets provide both admission and a prop bag for interacting with the film. All are welcome to attend.

David Klein, a senior Honors student who has been involved with the event since its inception, says “I think that this event is kind of indicative of the Arcadia community: incredibly accepting and a little odd.”

SAVING THE DATE

The Alumni Mentor Program at Arcadia is a recently new addition to the Honors Program and a wonderful opportunity for both students and alumni alike. This year, around 100 Arcadia alumni mentors have volunteered to provide themselves as resources to current Arcadia students. These do not have to be mentors strictly for school—they are to be life mentors. It is up to the student and the mentor what the relationship will look like, and how often they will meet. Several events will be happening on campus throughout the year for mentors and mentees to attend. They feature food, fun conversation, team building activities, and leadership discussions.

For those who have applied to be matched with mentors/mentees this semester, the Matching Event will take place Thursday, October 2nd in the University Commons Great Room from 6-9pm. This reception will resemble a speed-dating event in that students and mentors will have several minutes to meet and chat with each other. By meeting everyone in attendance, they can get a feel for who might be their ideal match.

Entering the third year of the Alumni Mentor Program, Arcadia Honors hopes to see the program continue to grow so more students may find a friend among the alumni members.

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