

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

If you've lived in the South longer than a few months, you're likely aware that a "southern fall" is an oxymoron. While the days do grow shorter and the air manages to become a smidge drier by mid-October, the trees remain a lively green and temperatures dwell just around a tepid 50° until late November. Having only ever reached the cusp of a canonical autumn makes it hard not to long for Octobers adorned by abundant red and orange leaves and frostier mornings. A Charleston fall is not defined by characteristic atmospheric changes, but, rather, by the activities and events that celebrate the season—the most important, of course, being Halloween.

With that in mind, we've provided you all with recipes, a playlist and more than a few of our favorite ways to enjoy fall in the Lowcountry, from carving pumpkins with friends to taking yourself on a solo autumn adventure. With October 31st rapidly approaching, we have also provided a few do's and don'ts for your costume selections this year and captured the ghoulish looks of our campus' production of Rocky Horror Picture Show. We've even rated some past costume favorites on CofC's campus—warning: if you're planning on donning space cowboy garb this year, maybe avoid reading this piece.

Beyond the fictitious ghouls of October, we've also taken this issue as an opportunity to highlight the real stories that can only be likened to nightmares. We nod specifically to the oppressive social realities that 21st century women are still facing, like pink taxes and trends of non-intersectional feminism, and the questionable perception of oppression that certain audiences in Charleston have assumed under preventative mask mandates. These pieces serve as reminders that so many lived realities are not as pleasant as we'd hope for them to be in 2021.

As you read, I hope that you are inspired to embrace Fall in a new way, that you find some coziness in the very slightly cooler temperatures of a Charleston October and that you become a little more empathetic to the struggles that exist outside of your own.

Happy Fall, Cougs,



Katie Hopewell
Editor-in-Chief
Class of '22

