

Blazer News

LATEST NEWS, COMMENTARY AND JOURNALISM FROM THE HEART OF NORTH LAKE ECHS STUDENTS.

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Winter Wonderland

As the semester's chill truly sets in, this December edition celebrates the incredible hard work and dedication you've poured into your studies. From late-night study sessions to ambitious projects, your efforts have truly paid off. Now, with final assignments wrapping up, the well-deserved excitement for winter break is here! Blazer News wants to wish everyone a good luck on finals and a relaxing and rejuvenating break!



Christmas Gifts

Last Minute Edition



Sleep sets, or self-care items can do wonders for someone whose constantly on the move. It serves as a reminder to look after themselves!



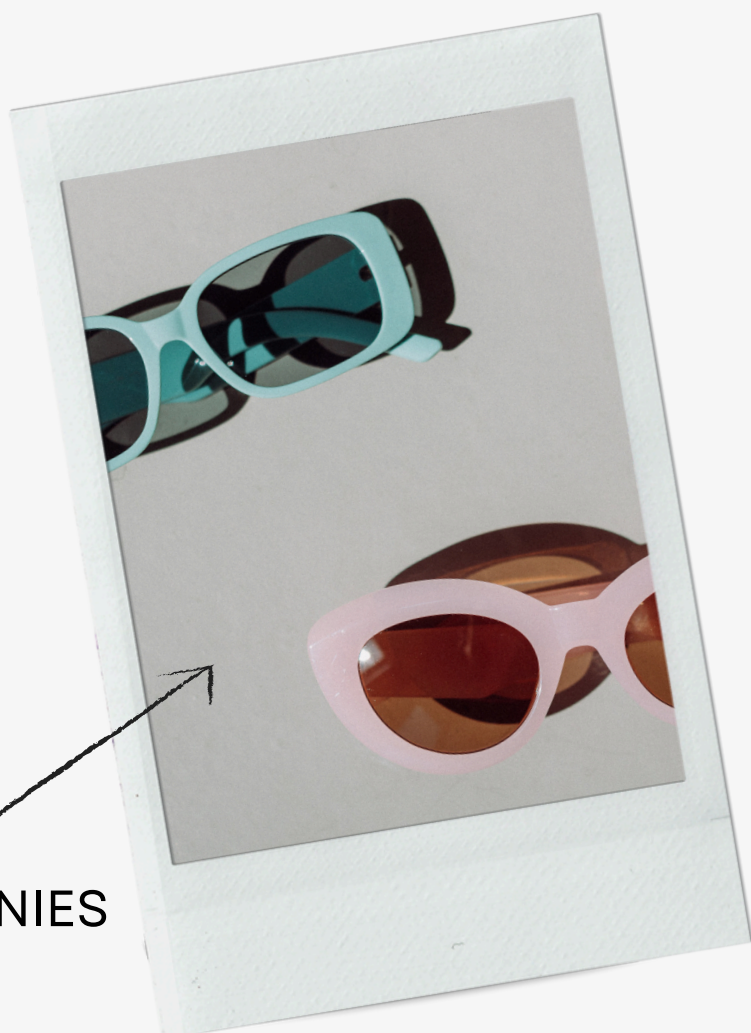
SCARF



SCARF



EARRINGS



COLORFUL SUNNIES



SWEAT SETS

PRACTICE SELF CARE

Finals are stressful!!!! Here's a few self care tips!



Take Time to Relax

Take time every day to rest and relax. Whether it's by reading a book, taking a warm bath, or listening to your favorite music, give your mind and body a break from daily activities.

Get Enough Sleep

Getting enough sleep is essential for mental and physical health. Aim for 7-9 hours of sleep every night and create a relaxing bedtime routine to ensure quality sleep.



Utilize Resources

Talk with your friends, family, and professors about what's stressing you. Dallas College has many resources to help students through finals.



University of Tübingen

The University of Tübingen, officially the Eberhard Karl University of Tübingen, is a public research university located in the city of Tübingen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

The University of Tübingen is one of eleven German Excellence Universities. The University of Tübingen is especially known as a center for the study of plant biology, medicine, law, archeology, ancient cultures, philosophy, theology, religious studies, humanities, and more recently as a center of excellence for artificial intelligence.

Opportunities:

The University of Tübingen offers more than 200 different study programs. This reflects the broad, interdisciplinary spectrum of research in Tübingen. Research-based learning from the first semester onward is one of our principles. But we care about more than just communicating knowledge; it is also important to us that our students learn universal professional skills to equip them for their whole future lives

Innovative programs include Machine Learning, Medical Technology, Molecular Medicine, Geocology, Nanoscience, Media Informatics, Sports Management, and Islamic Theology

International programs include Behavioural and Neuroscience, Computational Linguistics, Applied & Environmental Geoscience, International Economics and Business Administration



International Studies and Student Life



At the University of Tübingen, one of 11 Universities of Excellence in Germany, you can explore global issues and experience the world at the same time. It is home to around 1000 international researchers and more than 4,100 international students, helping to make Tübingen a young and vibrant place of academic and cultural exchange. With its 575 partnerships in over 75 countries, the University of Tübingen is the ideal starting point for a stay abroad. Furthermore, it provides a safe environment and inspiration to those coming from abroad.

In addition to regular classes, institutions at the University of Tübingen also offer many interesting lectures and themed evenings to which the public is cordially invited. Regular events on special themes, panel discussions on current topics, and exhibition openings ensure a diverse range of events that allow all interested parties to experience research in a variety of ways.



Guatemala

In Guatemala, the start of the Christmas season is marked by *la quema del diablo*, or the burning of the devil, on Dec. 7, the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Guatemala City's patron saint.

At exactly 6 p.m., Guatemalans burn devil effigies, as well as other items they want to dispose of as part of a larger spiritual cleansing. Though the pyromaniac's dream event has been criticized for causing pollution, and the country's Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources has pushed for greener alternative celebrations.

Philippines

The festive season in the Philippines spans what's locally known as the Ber Months (September, October, November, December) and are heralded on Sept. 1 by the sounds of Jose Mari Chan—the Southeast Asian country's answer to Mariah Carey—blaring in malls and the sales of holiday decorations such as parols (star-shaped lanterns). It's traditional in the Philippines to celebrate Christmas Eve with a *Noche Buena* feast, and some devout Catholics will head for the Midnight Mass. After Christmas Day, there's no clear date on when the season ends, but some consider the Epiphany in January as the last day.



Czechia

While turkey or ham may be the centerpiece of the Christmas meal elsewhere, in Czechia it's carp. The fish has become "an indispensable symbol of Czech Christmas," and even those who don't wish to eat it can partake by buying one and keeping it in the bathtub for a few days before letting it go. Another carp-related practice is to put one or two scales in your wallet to ensure there will always be money in it throughout the year. A less fishy but just as traditional Czech superstition, according to the tourism agency, involves women throwing a shoe on Christmas Day: if the tip points toward the door, she's destined to be married within a year.

Ukraine

According to the Ukrainian government, public Christmas festivities have been toned down because of the ongoing war with Russia, but the holiday is still celebrated by families putting up the *didukh* (a sheaf of wheat stalks) that symbolize their ancestors' spirits. It is believed that during these holy days—their ancestors return to spend time with their families. Another Ukrainian Christmas tradition is to decorate the tree with spiders (*pavuchki*) and spiderwebs. The Legend of the Christmas Spider is an Eastern European folktale which explains one possible origin of tinsel on Christmas trees.



- Home
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Christmas playlist!!!!

With the holidays rapidly approaching, it's important that you have a playlist ready of good songs to play! Here is a collection of popular, all-time favorite Christmas songs!

lunaloveschristmas

6h 7min



- + Add
- Mix
- Edit
- Sort
- Name & details



All I Want For Christmas Is You
Mariah Carey



Jingle Bell Rock
Bobby Helms



White Christmas (1994)
Frank Sinatra



Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree
Johnny Marks



Feliz Navidad
José Feliciano



Happy Xmas (War is Over)
John Lennon, Yoko Ono



Santa Baby
Laufey



Underneath the Tree
Kelly Clarkson



Santa Tell Me
Ariana Grande



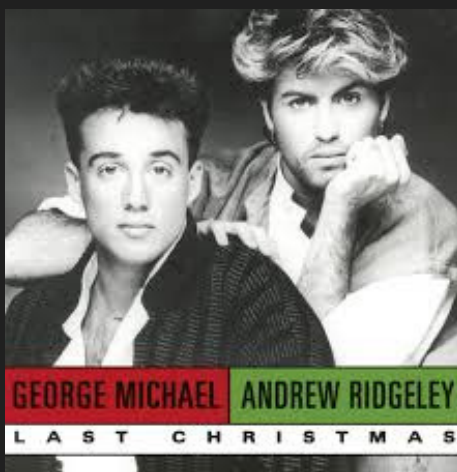
Sleigh Ride
Ella Fitzgerald



White Christmas
Bing Crosby



Snowman
Sia



Last Christmas
Wham!

01:10 / 04:10

⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭

TOP 10 CHRISTMAS MOVIES

The holidays are nearly here, which means it's the perfect time for cozy nights in and quality time with family. We've polled our peers and compiled a definitive list of the most recommended Christmas movies—perfect for a relaxing break or a festive family gathering!



1.) Home Alone

The epitome of a holiday classic. Watch Kevin McCallister defend his house from bumbling burglars after his family accidentally leaves him behind. Fast-moving and family-friendly!



6.) Gremlins

A young man receives a strange creature called a Mogwai as a pet, but when he fails to follow the three crucial care rules, the friendly pet spawns destructive, mischievous monsters.



2.) The Nightmare Before Christmas

The King of Halloween Town, Jack Skellington, discovers the magic of Christmas Town and attempts to take over the holiday with hilariously spooky results.



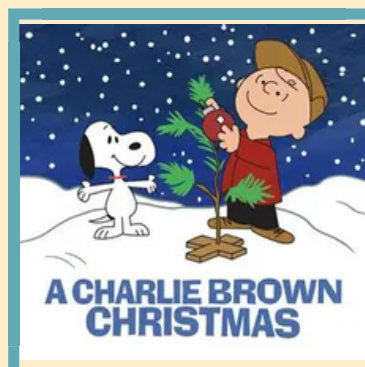
7.) Home Alone 2

After accidentally boarding the wrong flight, Kevin McCallister finds himself alone in New York City and must fend off his old enemies.



3.) Polar Express

A young boy who doubts the existence of Santa Claus takes a magical train ride to the North Pole on Christmas Eve, where he learns about belief and the spirit of Christmas.



8.) Charlie Brown

Depressed by the commercialization of Christmas, Charlie Brown tries to find the true meaning of the holiday.



4.) The Grinch (Live)

The grumpy, anti-holiday recluse, the Grinch, descends from Mount Crumpit to steal every trace of Christmas from the perpetually cheerful residents of Whoville.



9.) Klaus

A spoiled postman is stationed in a perpetually feuding, gloomy town and reluctantly teams up with a reclusive toymaker to bring joy—and presents—to the local children, creating the legend of Santa Claus.



5.) Elf

A modern favorite! Follow Buddy the Elf's hilarious journey from the North Pole to New York City. It's a spirited, good-natured comedy that will get everyone laughing.



10.) Christmas Chronicles

Siblings Kate and Teddy accidentally cause Santa Claus's sleigh to crash, forcing them to work with him throughout the night to save Christmas.



THE NORTH POLE POST

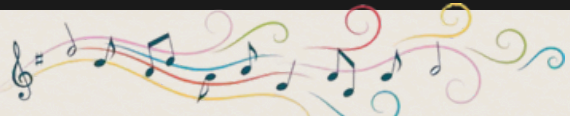
Adalee C.



My birthday is tomorrow



4 December, 2025



Jingle Bells and The Festive Calendar

For many North Americans, the main celebrations revolve around December 24th and 25th. However, in many different parts of the world, the holiday season either starts much more earlier or extends into January.

The Christmas Lights Conspiracy In the Philippines

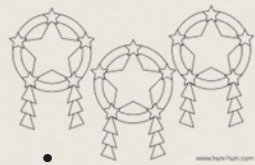
NEIGHBORS BATTLE FOR THE BRIGHTEST HOUSE ON THE BLOCK

In the Philippines neighbors are in constant battle on who has the brightest Christmas lights on their home.

In the Philippines, Christmas festivities are renowned for being the longest in the world, often beginning as early as September.

This is due to the "Simbang Gabi" which is a series of nine pre-dawn Masses leading up to Christmas Eve. This allows the Catholic Filipinos to spiritually prepare for the birth of Jesus. It is not nine different masses,

but rather the same nine masses celebrated for nine consecutive days. They also enjoy a large midnight feast called "Noche Buena" featuring dishes such as lechon (roasted pig) and Christmas ham. They also like to wear polka dots for goodluck.



The Great 3 Gingerbread Heist:

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE NORTH POLE

In Mexico Christmas traditions begin on December 12th and run until January 6th, the Dia de reyes (Three Kings Day), which essentially honors the arrival of the Magi.



In Mexico it is also common to celebrate "Las Posadas" which is the nine-day reenactment of Mary and Joseph's search for shelter, then followed by Nochebuena on Christmas Eve with a family feast and midnight mass.

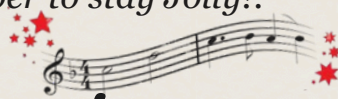
Furthermore, due to the use of ancient Julian calendar by the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Christmas, known as "Ganna" is celebrated on January 7th.

Pre snowfall Christmas Gift Givers



WEATHER FORECAST PREDICTS A WHITE CHRISTMAS FOR MOST OF THE WORLD

As a result, a 43-day fast precedes the holiday, ending on Christmas Eve. Egypt is also known to celebrate on January 7th following the Coptic Orthodox calendar. Many European countries have mixed dates for gift-giving, different from December 25th. Remember to stay Jolly!



Wishing You a Joyful Merry Christmas!



MERRY KRAMPUS

THE LEGEND OF KRAMPUS & HIS RISE TO FAME IN AMERICA

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rampus is a horned creature from old Alpine folklore who punishes misbehaving children during the Christmas season.

For centuries, he appeared in European celebrations like Krampusnacht, where people dress up in scary costumes to warn kids to behave. In the U.S., Krampus stayed mostly unknown until the 2000s, when social media, memes, and the 2015 Krampus movie brought him into pop culture. Today, he appears in parades, holiday events, and even Christmas merchandise. His rise shows how Americans are embracing darker, more playful holiday traditions.

The Deep Roots: A brief History of the Krampys legend

The legend of Krampus comes from Alpine regions like Austria and Germany, where he appeared alongside St. Nicholas in early December. Villagers believed Krampus punished naughty children while St. Nicholas rewarded the good. The tradition dates back hundreds of years, blending old pagan beliefs with Christian celebrations.



A Global Icon: Krampus in Modern Holiday Traditions

In today's world, Krampus has become more than a scary European legend—he's a full holiday phenomenon. Cities across Europe and the U.S. now host Krampus parades, where people dress in elaborate costumes with horns, fur, and rattling chains. Some towns even hold Krampus Runs, where performers chase (and harmlessly scare) crowds for fun.

In America, the creature appears in holiday markets, themed photo booths, pop-culture merchandise, and even charity events. What began as a local Alpine custom has transformed into a global tradition embraced by people who love mixing spooky energy with Christmas cheer.

Meet the Staff

2025 - 2026



Paris Chang



Benji Galvan



Yamileth Hernandez



Bailey Hockman



Dayani Lopez



Kevin Araujo



Justin Rabun



Nicolette Ortiz



A. Trujillo

A Warm Welcome to our New Staff!



Luna Reza



Maily Perez



Emma Blair Polk



Adalee Castillo



Maria Ruiz



Regina Titus

upcoming members!



Rose Jovel

wait to see what she has in store!

Catch up on the latest!



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