

Drive-Through, Halloween-Themed Theater Outside Newark High School October 29th

On October 29th, the Newark High School Drama Club will present "The Halloween Bandit" a unique, drive through, family-friendly theater experience at NHS.

Emily Howard, Drama Club advisor, asked club members in September to creatively think of a way to bring theater to live audiences in view of COVID-19 regulations and restrictions.

In response, they created this drive-through theater experience based on a script written by NHS junior Cody Acquista, a member of the Drama Club planning committee.



Above, Cody Acquista, left and Veronica Swann

"We thought this would be a fun way for some families to celebrate the Halloween season since it may look a little different this year," Howard said. "I am so proud of this group of students for creating this idea, writing and editing a script and producing this unique experience in which guest participants, from the inside of their cars, will solve a mystery case as they interview suspects in check points stationed around the school bus loop in front of the high school.

"The best way to describe this theater experience is that it is as a mix of a mystery dinner party game and the wax museum project that Kelley School students participate in each year."

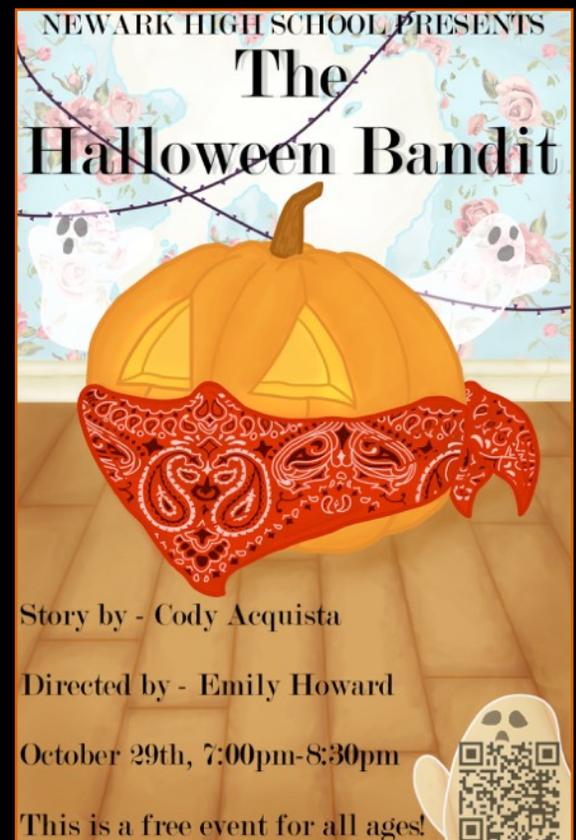
Acquista thinks guest participants will really enjoy the event. "The script is about multiple robberies of Halloween decorations and there are six suspects. One participant in each car will act as a detective and ask one question of each of the suspects _ who will all say they are innocent. The final stop for each car is at the sheriff's station where they will learn if they picked the real bandit."

Upon arrival at NHS October 29, guests will watch a video on their cell phones inside their cars that will also provide introduction material, directions and "case files" with information and clues Cody and Veronica developed about each of the characters. View them here at: <https://www.newarkcsd.org/Page/8462>

Drama Club members participating in the event October 29th will be Acquista, Brooklyn Baker, Jaston Brooks, Dylan Burley, Jack Comella, Ryan Hermenet, Rachel George, Sara George, Beatrice Van Riper, Swann, and Amber Wilson.

The event will run from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Howard stressed audience members must wear masks and stay inside their cars at all times.



Poster designed by Veronica Swann