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Viking Runes

Viewmont High School's Literary Magazine — Bountiful, Utah — April 2019

Special Issue: Viking Legends

A message from Mr. Bartholomew

The desire to leave our mark on the world is all too human. From ancient handprints on caves to modern stories on social media pages, people throughout time have felt compelled to reach out and change the world—to leave behind evidence that they lived, observed, and loved. Of course, the evidences of our lives will fade over time. Digital records join the ever-increasing flow of information on the internet, and (as impossible as it may seem to many of you) society changes and moves on from certain mediums (remember MySpace?). Even physical evidence of our existence, such as statues and headstones, must be constantly cared for or they will eventually disappear. Indeed, people often go to extreme and inappropriate lengths to get their name and face in the news for the sole purpose of getting their “fifteen minutes of fame.”

If you've ever had something you created go viral, you know what a rush it can be. And yet, people who have had these experiences know that after their meme or video has run its course, their voice quickly fades away down the flowing river of information we call the internet.

If you're anything like me, these wonderful existential thoughts induce a certain quickening of the pulse and shortness of breath that those unfamiliar with my exercise habits might attribute to a light cardio workout. My students, who are all too familiar with the amount of caffeine I consume on a daily basis, might say that I have again succeeded in giving myself a case of the jitters. In reality, however, I have confirmed Nietzsche's observation that if you stare into the abyss for too long, something stares back at you.

For me, that something is life itself, asking me what I'm going to do with the opportunities I have been given

That something is a blank cave wall, asking me to place my hand upon it and leave a record of my thoughts and experiences—proof that I was here. Judging by the graffiti in the bathroom stalls, I'm not the only one in the building that feels this compulsion. But we can do better than cave walls and bathroom stalls!

Our “cave wall” is our annual literary journal: *Viking Legends*. This bad boy is a physical, professionally-bound book that features artwork from the school's most talented students. The pieces are curated by my Creative Writing 2 class, and the book comes out in the latter half of 4th term.

We are accepting pieces until the 18th of April, and we want to recognize and give a

voice to as many students as we possibly can! This is an incredible opportunity for you to share your work and leave your mark on the world. And guess what? Published authors get a copy of *Viking Legends* for free!

If seeing your name in print isn't enough motivation for you, keep in mind that if you're published you get to call yourself an author and flex all over your friends (T-posing optional). Also, it looks pretty dope on a resume. Just saying. Oh, and I'm sure your grandmother will be super proud of you too.

This issue of *Viking Runes* is dedicated to our awesome annual literary journal.



Prompt Response

The prompt from March was as follows:

Create a poem, short story, painting, meme or anything else you want about our favorite morning announcement.

Here is our top pick for this prompt:

Driving Range

by Emma Blood

Roses are red,
(though violets aren't blue),
And each Viking's heard it—
You know that it's true.
Day in and day out
With the bright morning dawn
Comes the cold, lifeless cry
On the dread Intercom
I beg you—please listen
Please give them their rest
The SBOs suffer,
We all can attest.
Their frustrated anguish
And strained, weary voice
Will echo these halls
Until you make the choice.
You made an agreement,
An oath based on grace
In order to park
in this bright, hallowed space.
"I never shall park there
past time of 2:30!"
You solemnly swore
in a contract quite wordy.
However, you lied!
Like a beacon of shame
2:30 comes round
and the cars still remain.
So now I beseech you,
Not just forest fires—
Only you can prevent
All these driving range liars.



Become a Published Author!

Submit your:

- Poetry
- Short stories
- Photographs
- Drawings / paintings
- Other visual art



to be considered for publication in the Spring 2019 issue of *Viking Legends*! In addition to the satisfaction of sharing your work with others, contributors will receive a free copy of the journal.

Send all work to:

VikingLegendsJournal@gmail.com



Viking Legends Cover Competition

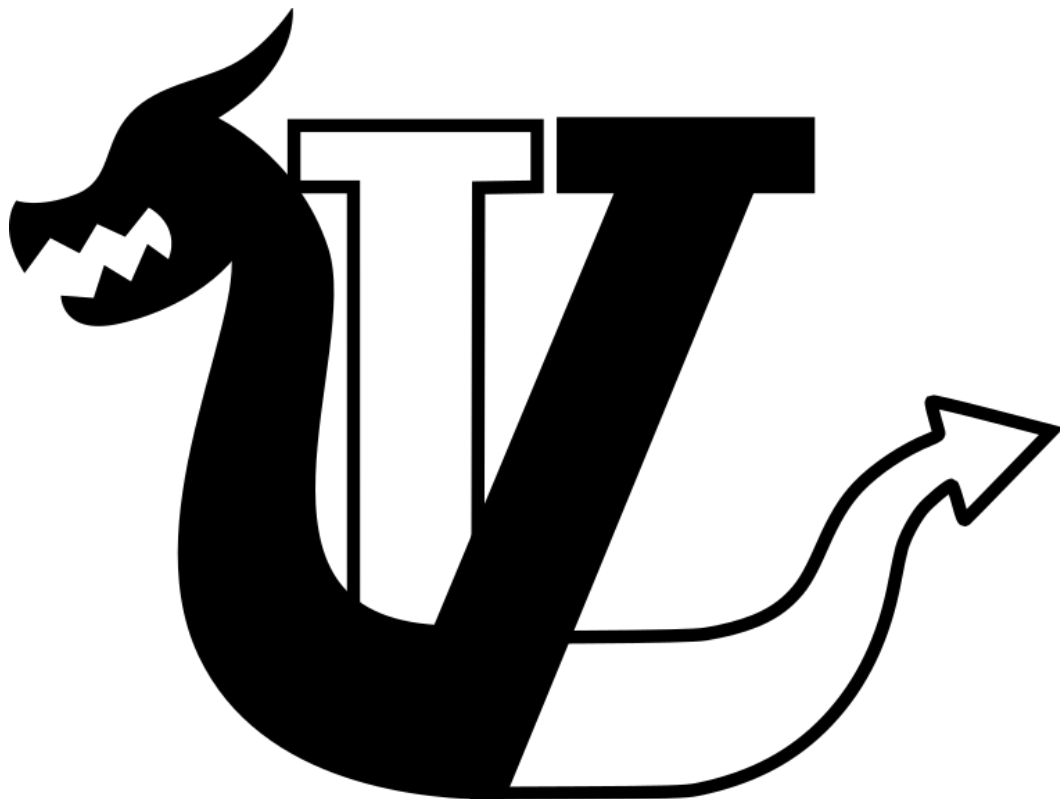
Each year students have the option to redesign the Viking Legends logo. You can see last year's on the front page. The only guideline students had was that they needed to incorporate the V and L from last year's; the rest was up to them! The designs were awesome, and the competition was fierce. The winner, as decided by the editors of *Viking Legends*, was Joshua Day. You can see his design and the two runners up on following page.



by BrookLyn Prisbrey



by Denim Keith



by Joshua Day

Last Month's Puzzle

Last month you were given a coloring page to complete for the chance to win a Thor's Hammer Keychain. Congratulations to Jaxon Lyman, Gavin Toomey, Jacob Wach, Claraliese Allen, Calvin Albertson, Charlie Love, Hannah Crosby, Jasie Rast, Hailey Ovitt, Landon Giles, Rhys Harwood, Janos Fitzner, and Mercedes Macias who all won a Thor's Hammer keychain for their wonderful coloring skills.

Check back each month for new puzzles and prizes!

April's Puzzle: Word Search

Send your completed Viking-themed word search to ViewmontVikingRunes@gmail.com or bring it to Mr. B's room (220) to be entered to win a \$5 Amazon gift card! We're offering 5 of them, and we'll announce the winners around the beginning of May. The cards will be delivered digitally. Happy hunting!



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Z	A	S	D	N	E	G	E	L	G	N	I	K	I	V	Z
X	C	I	V	H	X	U	S	D	W	Y	E	D	X	X	D
C	H	Y	L	R	L	S	Z	R	O	T	O	D	Y	H	A
P	I	G	K	E	C	N	E	L	L	E	C	X	E	T	F
G	E	V	I	E	W	M	O	N	T	D	T	V	B	S	V
W	V	W	Z	R	V	B	V	B	U	B	Y	K	X	I	G
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VIKING LEGENDS
ACHIEVEMENT
OPPORTUNITY
EXCELLENCE
VIEWMONT

BOUNTIFUL
RAGNAROK
VIKINGS
SUBMIT
VICTORY

ARTIST
RUNES
HOPE
ROW
PUBLISH