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With the end of the semester approaching, finals seem to be ominously hanging over our heads. As deadlines and final assignments pile up, stress is inevitable. You can't outrun the clock, but it's only healthy to take a minute for yourself to decompress; you know what they say about all work and no play. Make the most of your personal time and your close proximity to Philadelphia with these following festive activities:

Canvases and Chill

Dec. 13, 2 p.m. in Champion North Lounge

The best, and most convenient, way to participate in holiday festivities is right here on campus. Join the Black Student Union for "Canvases and Chill," an art therapy session especially designed to help relieve stress. This is the perfect opportunity to step away from your dreaded assignments and return to them with a refreshed mind.

Christmas Village at Love Park through Dec. 24

With 110 different holiday vendors, seasonal treats and an ice-skating rink in the center, this is your one-stop shop for all things Christmas. Holiday shopping? Check. Need your peppermint fix? Check. There's even a ferris wheel for a birds-eye view of the merriment. Take a night with your friends to share in some holiday cheer.

Cookie Decorating at the Philadelphia Art Museum

Dec. 10, 5-7 p.m.

Who doesn't love Christmas cookies? This is your opportunity to learn from the experts, the Constellation pastry team, to really take your decorating to the next level. The cost is \$55 for a kit, but this covers the cost for two guests. Don't miss out on this opportunity to really up your game and impress your friends and family when it comes to baking holiday cookies.

Holiday Light Nights in Manayunk, PA every Thursday in December, 5-9 p.m.

Can't get into the city? No problem, there are more than enough festivities in Manayunk. Main Street is currently decked out in holiday lights and decorations, and every Thursday there is a Jolly Trolley to shuttle you up and down the street to take in the full display. Make stops along the way to check out local businesses, each of which offer their own flare of holiday cheer.

A Time For Joy at Reading Terminal Market through Dec. 31

This holiday season, Reading Terminal Market is offering a wide variety of festivities ranging from live music to chef demonstrations, with events such as Thoughtful Thursdays and Jingle and Mingle Sundays. They have events all month long, so don't miss out. Find more information by checking out Reading Terminal Market on Facebook.

Writing Center hosts annual used book sale

PHOTOS: KELLY SHANNON '24/THE HAWK



The Writing Center's annual book sale was back for the first time since 2019 and ran from Nov. 30 to Dec. 3 in the Merion Hall Atrium. All of the books, DVDs and cassette tapes were \$1.



Anne Gutherman '24 searches through the expansive selection of fiction books.



Michaela Walsh '24 looks at the self-help section of the sale, one of many different genres including religion, education and nonfiction.

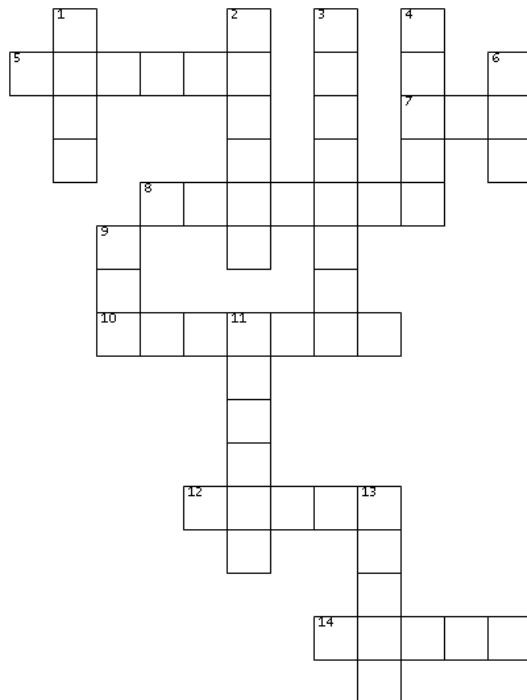


Michaela Walsh '24 and Kat Brutzman '24 discuss a book about flying that caught their eye.



CROSSWORD: Riddles

GIA LUPI '22
Special to the Hawk



DOWN

1. I have branches but no fruit, trunk or leaves.
2. What has one eye, but can't see?
3. The more of this there is, the less you can see.
4. What word is pronounced the same if you take away four of its five letters?
6. What goes up but never comes down?
9. I have cities, but no houses. I have mountains, but no trees. I have water, but no fish.
11. If you drop me, I'm sure to crack, but give me a smile, and I'll always smile back.
13. What can fill a room but takes up no space?

ACROSS

5. I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old.
7. What has to be broken before you can use it?
8. What is so fragile that saying its name breaks it?
10. What can you break, but is not tangible?
12. What gets wet while drying?
14. What five-letter word shrinks when you add two letters to it?

Follow of the Week

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Wholesome train content.