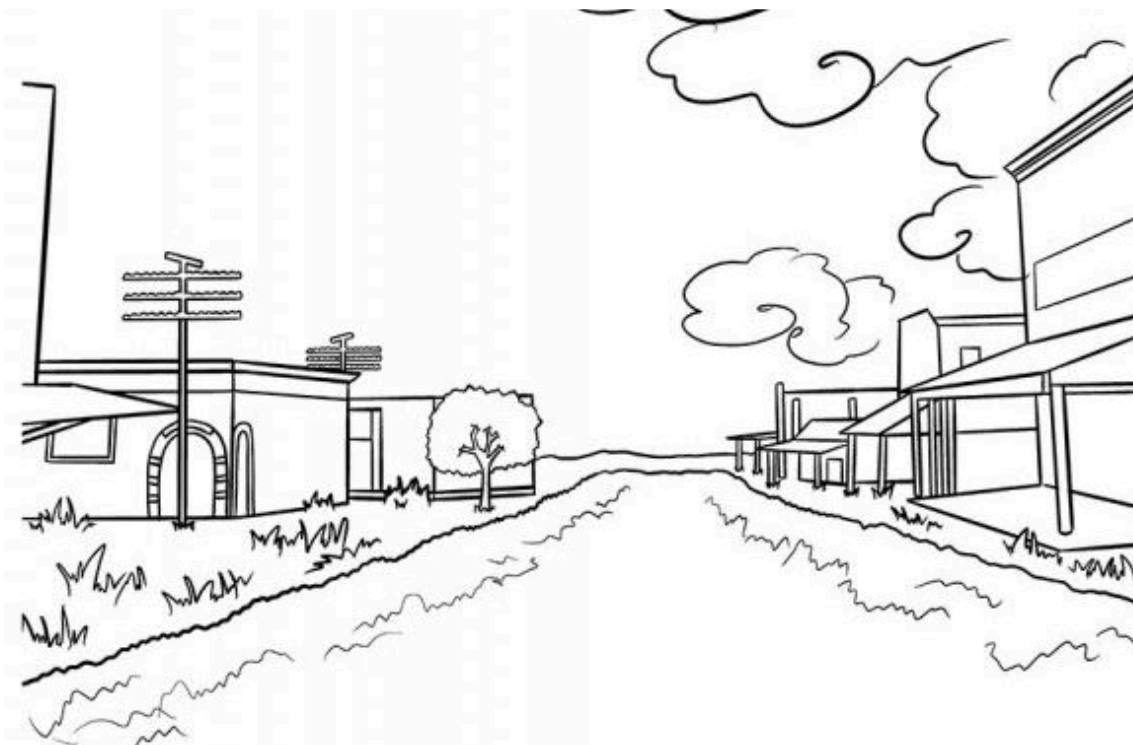


[THINGS TO DO](#)[FOOD & DRINK](#) ▾[FRISCO LIFE](#) ▾[PEOPLE](#) ▾[MAGAZINE](#) ▾[DIRECTORY](#) [Q](#)[Cart](#)[Home](#) > [Arts+Entertainment](#)

Artistic & Animation Aspirations

by **Lisa Dawson** in [Arts+Entertainment](#), [Profiles](#)[Bookmark](#)

What happens when you blend the historical focus of the Heritage Association of Frisco with the artistic aspiration of a rising young Frisco artist? The result is a beautifully illustrated coloring book that teaches people of every age about the rich history of Frisco ... and a Girl Scout Gold Award for a talented young Frisco native.

How did this all come to fruition? The answer to that question is where the young artist, Frisco's Liberty High School senior Zoie Lancaster, enters the picture. Zoie has dreamed of being an artist as long as she can remember. Her latest project is an illustrated coloring book for the Heritage Association of Frisco called *Frisco Through the Ages*. The coloring book is a historical look at Frisco's landmarks from the Frisco Rail Line to the new Star complex.





From planning to completion, it took Zoie a year to complete the project. The coloring book is her project for the Girl Scout Gold Award: a Gold Award is the highest distinction you can earn as a Girl Scout. Received by fewer than six percent of Girl Scouts annually, it requires a minimum of eighty hours of project work that demonstrates extraordinary leadership. The award requires the project to also be self-sustainable for a significant amount of time after it's completed. The coloring book is complimentary for visitors and available at the Frisco Heritage Museum.

Advertisement



"I chose this coloring book as my project after initially deciding to work with the Frisco Heritage Museum and Association for my award. After a brainstorming meeting at the museum, I came across the coloring book that was previously published in 2001. It was being handed out to the children who came to the museum. Working with the Association, we decided that updating the book to include more recent and in-depth versions of Frisco's past and present was a perfect project for my award!" says Zoie.



21

Donna Schmittler, president of the Heritage Association of Frisco, says Zoie approached the Association's past president, Bob Allen, about her project. She says Zoie worked with the Board to make sure all the historic illustrations were accurate. "It was a pleasure to work with Zoie," says Ms. Schmittler. "It was exciting for Heritage to work with someone so enthusiastic and talented. We unveiled the coloring book at our February Third Sunday, where we celebrated the 118th birthday of Frisco. Zoie came to the celebration and brought some friends with her to interact with



Born and raised in Frisco, Zoie hopes to attend Texas A&M University after graduating from high school. Her father works for Frisco ISD and her mom works for Nokia. With extended family in Plano, Frisco and Allen, she enjoys family get-togethers and time spent with the congregation of Custer Road United Methodist Church. "I'm very involved in our church. I love the mission trips we take each summer. I've been to St. Louis and Denver," she says. "We travel around the country with the youth choir, called the Revelation Choir, and we perform in various cities at homeless shelters, churches, youth detention centers and senior centers."



She says she draws a lot of her artistic inspiration from nature and other talented artists she knows and enjoys, both in illustration and animation. "Most of my close friends are artists or writers, so I always draw ideas from bouncing concepts back and forth among us. I am extremely interested in becoming a Disney animator someday; it's been my dream for as long as I can remember!" says Zoie. Disney is well-known for having the entertainment industry's top animators and animation technology. Zoie says she loves classic Disney animated films and also newer releases like *Wreck-it Ralph* and *Tangled*. Her family frequently vacations to Disney World in Florida. "Before I wanted to be an animator, I wanted to be an Imagineer at Disney World," she says, explaining that Imagineers design the rides. "They are both artists and engineers. I love the care and detail they put into the parks."

During her senior year at Liberty High School she will be taking advantage of her school's AP Drawing class, her first formal class in traditional art. She says she's excited to properly learn how to use a greater variety of 2-D mediums. To date, she's been trained in the art of 3D and digital animation, which is vastly different from traditional animation and illustration. "We use industry-standard programs, such as Maya, to model and animate things in a three-dimensional plane on a computer, instead of drawing out every frame on paper," she says. "However, drawing is still a crucial part of animation. We have to learn the fundamentals of composition and movement on paper before we can transfer those skills to digital animation. Although I do most of my personal art outside of the context of animation class, I still use the fundamentals we learn to make art that's more dynamic and captivating than static poses."



Tall buildings by the railroad tracks held grain grown on the Frisco farms. The railroad then took the grain to other towns and cities for sale.

13

After college, Zoie says her career will potentially take her away from Frisco. Still, she may be lucky enough to find work in the Dallas-area, though challenging, as there aren't an abundance of gaming, entertainment or animation companies in Dallas. California and Seattle are two areas she envisions relocating to pursue her dream career. "I love to travel and I have a long list of places I'd like to visit," she says. "I'd love to go to Washington, D.C. and visit museums like the National Gallery of Art. I'd also love to see Japan. It has a beautiful art scene and everything there seems really interesting."

Sarah Wiseman taught Zoie history for three consecutive years at Liberty High School. "Zoie's artistic talents were apparent almost immediately. She has a knack for beautiful illustrations that she frequently uses to complete assignments. I have kept several of her works, including a

sees great success for Zoie in her future endeavors. “As a student, Zoie has a knack for finding nuance in a situation and drawing that out in her work. As an artist, Zoie can seamlessly combine beautiful architectural illustrations with more whimsical figure drawings. She is an impressive young woman and I look forward to saying, “I knew her when ... ””

Related Posts

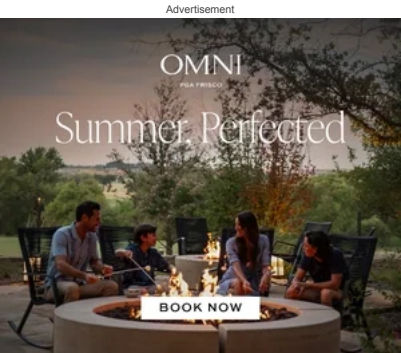
- ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

A Wheely Cool Collection
- BUSINESS

Famous in Oregon, Grown in Texas
- BUSINESS

The Architecture of Intention
- BUSINESS

Guided by What’s Right



Home > Arts+Entertainment

Clicks and Flicks: Gaining the COVID-19

by Frisco STYLE in Arts+Entertainment





Covid-19 has affected all of us in many ways. Health-wise, we know the devastation to those who have and are currently battling this unpredictable monster. In everyday life, quarantining and distancing have become the norm, and the repetitious predictability of each day takes some getting used to. Back in March, I was determined to view this newly found time as a gift – as the universe telling me to slow down a bit and take care of myself – as well as a gentle nudge to tackle my substantial list of back-burner projects and to-do lists. But as the months wear on, my gung-ho attitude has waned, and the harsh reality of my imperfections cannot be swept under the carpet, even if I were to try and do so by pulling out a broom and dustpan – which I wouldn't. All these years I blamed a jam-packed schedule for my neglectful housekeeping. The truth of the matter is, I will find anything to do other than housework. As a result, I've fallen into some habits – innocent diversions at first, but now they've grown. And so have I.



A standard ladies' V-neck tee and yoga pants are my daily go-to quarantine couture. As my closet full of fashionable frocks continues to collect dust and seemly shrink to a smaller size (though they certainly haven't been washed), I'm forced to take an honest look at myself and confront my battle with the COVID-19. Yup, I've picked up almost 20 pounds over the last few months. Sure, I've been walking and doing my best to stay fit, but this sedentary lifestyle, where snacking, online streaming and ordering-in are the highlights of each day, has taken its toll. I'm blaming binging – both with food and with all of the options that technology and streaming offer up to a girl with time to kill and household obligations to avoid.



Back when Netflix began the streaming craze, I didn't immediately jump onboard. I really never even felt a need to subscribe to the premium cable channels, and I felt that my work, volunteering and friends didn't leave me with great amounts of time to fritter away. As the old adage goes, "You don't miss what you never had," so I was good. Occasionally I felt left out of conversations about shows or series, but I didn't feel a huge void in my life. Eventually, though, I succumbed to the lure of being a cool kid and decided to dip my toes into the streaming stream. I watched a few movies, broadened my horizons and tuned in when I had time. Life went on, but the seduction of streaming hadn't yet become something I was hooked on. All of that changed when I discovered *Orange is the New Black*. I loved the plot twists, backstories and the way the storyline evolved with each enticing episode. A performer myself, I was drawn to the gritty, non-glamorous, fatally flawed quirky characters and the way each one managed to survive in the big house. Since I was late in coming to the game, I found myself playing catch-up. Setting up my tablet at breakfast so I could grab a little "Orange" with my orange juice. Joining the ladies of Litchfield for some lunch. Catching an episode before bed then being unable to sleep wondering what was going to happen next. Deep breaths. Meditation. Counting sheep. Nothing helped. It was something akin to being in my own personal prison. Finally, I would finally give in, shamefully skulking through the shadows of the house —



I've never really been a morning person, anyhow. Bags under my eyes? Time to try some new make-up! Weekends would fly by. I was tired, but I kept plodding along. Must. Watch. Next. Episode. At the height of summer, I was as pale as a ghost. My doctor said I was vitamin D deficient. My poor eyes were so dry and scratchy, I ordered a case of artificial tears from Boxed ... they delivered, so it gave me more viewing time! I found myself making excuses to stay home rather than gathering with friends. OITNB was my literal ball and chain. I was a dead (wo)man walking. Then suddenly, I was caught up. No more episodes. Left hanging in that awkward abyss between seasons wondering what to next binge on and missing my penitentiary pals. There was that odd sense of release from obsession, but also one of loss and fear that I wouldn't find anything to fill that void. Boy, was I wrong. A brief Facebook post asking for recommendations was all it took for a flood of streaming suggestions. I realized I was still quite a novice. While Netflix was the drug of choice for many, there were folks who also used Hulu, Prime Video, Apple TV and Roku. There were people even more obsessed than I was ... and a veritable cornucopia of visual vices to suit any and every appetite. Over the years I have worked my way through *House of Cards*, *Making a Murderer*, *Grace and Frankie*, *Ozark*, *Bloodline*, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, *Jessica Jones*, *The Crown*, *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*, *GLOW*, *Breaking Bad*, *Schitt's Creek*, and countless other fascinating documentaries, true-crime series, Disney movies and big-screen classics. I may be an addict, but no one can say that I am predictable in my viewing choices!

Advertisement



Since quarantine has required my husband and I to share office space (and these days we are trying to be good, distancing citizens), I one day decided to order a few things from Amazon. Much to my surprise, I found that he already had an Amazon Prime membership – and has for more than a year – something that the frugal side of me didn't allow myself to splurge on. Or, perhaps, it was my small way of proving to myself that I can set a few boundaries, knowing that Netflix was my gateway drug and that the lure of Amazon Prime Video would provide yet another


[THINGS TO DO](#)
[FOOD & DRINK](#)
[FRISCO LIFE](#)
[PEOPLE](#)
[MAGAZINE](#)
[DIRECTORY](#)


unaware of the heady allure of binge-watching. “Then, why do you have a Prime membership?” I asked. Evidently, he needed some socks at some point and ordered them online, not even realizing that he had paid for a membership. That is so very much like him. And here I’ve been jonesing for *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* for two seasons!

Since those first exhilarating experiences with binge-watching, I have learned to curb my screen time a bit. I no longer stay up all night or spend entire weekends slogging through seasons of shows. But quarantine’s gift of more leisure time has led to a new transgression. Something I never previously indulged in other than when I went to a movie, which was a fairly rare occurrence. Late at night, as a solitary treat to myself, I have become a popcorn junkie. After everyone has settled into bed, I find it deliciously satisfying to snuggle into my pajamas, tune-in to whatever my stream du jour is and dive into a freshly popped bowl of savory, salty goodness. Is it any wonder that I’ve gained the COVID-19? Not really, but at least I’m well-versed in the latest on-demand screen sensations. I can now converse with confidence and when some quarantine-bopper says that I’m not the target audience for one of their favorite streaming shows, I tell them, “*Stranger Things* have happened.” Then I invite ‘em to a Netflix Party to give me their take on the era I actually grew up in.

Sherry Etzel is a Dallas-based creative type who enjoys seeking out humor in everyday life, is a member of the Frisco Improv Players and has been seen on stages throughout the DFW area.

Related Posts

ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

[A Wheely Cool Collection](#)

ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

[Rising Phoenix: Me Ra Koh](#)

ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

[The Future of Fandom](#)

ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

[Through His Own Lens](#)

Advertisement



| COMMUNITY PILLARS |



| LEADERS |



| PARTNERS |

Collin College • Collin County Construction, LLC • Elite Remodeling • Trident Plumbing • Legacy Christian Academy • Natalie Roberson Photography •



© Copyright 2025 City Media, LLC. All rights reserved. The Frisco STYLE Magazine logo, logo block and Faces of Frisco logo are registered trademarks.

Frisko's Best Stories | About | Contact Us | Advertise | Subscribe | Legal

Donate | Advertise | Contact Us | Careers | Subscribe

Find Us



[My Account](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#) | [Enable Cookies](#)

