

"The Grinch hated Christmas! ... No one quite knows the reason....But I think that the most likely reason of all may have been that his heart was two sizes too small."

FROM "HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS"

Reel holiday classics

Students decided newer movies lack the simple pleasure that old-time holiday favorites bring

BY ALLISON PARKER | DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

In "It's a Wonderful Life," George Bailey reminds audiences to celebrate their lives. His angel, Clarence, shows that everyone can have an impact on the world and reminds viewers of the importance of cherishing loved ones.

"Miracle on 34th Street" makes audiences believe in Santa Claus, or at least wish for the possibility. As Kris Kringle persuades a young Susan to have faith, people will want to discard pessimistic facts in favor of sending Christmas wish lists North.

Each year, audiences eagerly await Christmas classics such as these. Eliciting laughter and smiles, the movies also present special and profound messages.

"My favorite Christmas movie is 'A Christmas Story' because every kid can relate to wanting something that badly," University student Mindy Fryback said.

Student Jenny Mullins said she gets annoyed with her mom's eagerness to watch "A Christmas Carol" every year, but admits that she has her own favorite.

"I like 'Miracle on 34th Street.' It's a happy movie, fitting for this time of

year," she said.

University student Derrick Louie said when he thinks of holiday favorites, he thinks of modern films such as "Elf" and "Bad Santa," but also sneaks older movies onto his all-time favorite list.

"The Rudolph and Frosty the Snowman puppet Christmas shows are really old-school," he said.

Some newer movies aren't as simple or easy to watch as the old-time favorites.

One classic favorite that proves this point features cartoon characters the Grinch and the Whos of Who-ville. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" was produced and directed by Chuck Jones and Dr. Seuss himself in 1966. At only 26 minutes long, its simple plot captures audiences every year.

In contrast to this original and still-popular cartoon version, Ron Howard directed the complex and humorous remake, starring Jim Carrey, in 2000. Although Howard's film is longer — clocking in at an hour and 42 minutes — and takes slightly more effort to follow its twists and turns, Carrey's funny and modern interpretation of the role makes the audience laugh.

TOP TEN HOLIDAY MOVIES

1. Dr. Seuss — The Grinch Who Stole Christmas
2. A Christmas Story
3. Planes, Trains and Automobiles
4. It's a Wonderful Life
5. The Nightmare Before Christmas
6. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
7. A Christmas Carol
8. Miracle on 34th Street
9. Scrooged
10. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Source: www.dvdwolf.com



COURTESY

Jim Carrey brought the Grinch to life in Ron Howard's 2000 remake of the classic cartoon.

MOVIE COMPARISON

"Grinch" (2000)

Director: Ron Howard

Starring: Jim Carrey, Anthony Hopkins, Molly Shannon and Clint Howard

Tactics: Live filming and cast, fast-moving script and heavy special effects

Length: 1 hour 42 minutes

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (1966)

Directors: Chuck Jones and Ben Washman

Starring: Boris Karloff as the voice of the narrator and the Grinch

Tactics: Animated, heavy music, relies heavily on original book text

Length: 26 minutes

Source: IMDb.com

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