

Out-of-this-world hit

Caitlin Salomon
News Editor

What do a tree, a raccoon, and an alien all have in common? They're all superheroes, of course.

No, really. In Marvel's newest movie, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, a band of misfits, including a gun-toting raccoon by the name of Rocket, a half-tree, half humanoid, Groot, and a human named Peter Quill, the main character, must work together to help save--you guessed it--the entire universe, hence the title.

Alongside Gamora, an orphaned alien, and hot-headed warrior, Drax the Destroyer, this team has more diversity than our entire school--and they are just five characters.

This film, which debuted August 1, will no doubt be the first of a series, as it was confirmed by both of the movie's writers, and they hope to share the similar successes of the recent, and ever-popular, Avengers franchise.

While the film itself is not based off of any one comic book, the characters each are featured in a comic series, though it is not necessarily their own.

It is no surprise that a series is planned for the film, since it was extremely well-received by critics and fans alike -- it made over \$90 million dollars in the first week at the box-

office alone.

In less than a month, the film has earned more than \$500 million dollars, and those numbers continue to rise.

The movie is slightly reminiscent of sci-fi favorites *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*, and it's easy to see why.

The main character is in many ways akin to a young, rebellious Captain Kirk, and actor Christopher Pratt (who plays Quill), even admitted that his character was inspired by Han Solo.

Not only that, but Rocket and Groot are bounty hunters, which is more than similar to Chewbacca and Solo in *Star Wars*--but Chewy is a bit more friendly than foul-mouthed mammal Rocket.

Add in similar sounding names-- the enemy in *Guardians* is "Ronan" as opposed to *Star Trek's* "Romulans"--and you have yourself this generation's version of a space-themed movie series.

While it may be like *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*, in contrast to most Marvel movies, though, *Guardians of the Galaxy* is unique because of the way it features music from both the 70's and the 80's, whereas most movies nowadays feature music made specifically for the movie by current artists.

That being said, the soundtrack was a huge hit in the

music world; in August, the album topped the charts of the Billboard 200, making it the first time in history in which an album made of previously released songs reached the top.

Not only is the movie centered around a cast of colorful characters and set to some groovy tunes, it was co-written by a woman, which is another history-maker for the film.

Marvel hired comic-enthusiast Nicole Perlman in 2009 as part of their screen-writing program.

She chose to work on this film, much to the surprise of the directors, who were expecting her to choose to work on a different Marvel film that vaguely resembled a romantic comedy.

Stereotyping much, Marvel? Interestingly enough, though, the writer-director of the film, James Gunn, said the script "didn't work for him" and took it into his own hands to rewrite large portions of it, essentially making him not only a jerk, but an insincere louse as well.

Gender equality once again gets trampled by Hollywood.

Despite the debate over the majority of the film's writing, one thing is for certain: the imaginations of those who worked on *Guardians of the Galaxy* are bigger than the cosmos itself, a fact that is evident throughout the film.



Photo by :Logan Williams

Students walking across the Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge in Northern Ireland, U.K.

People to people trip

Mikala Hollingshead
Reporter

Over the summer a group of students who were with People to People went on a trip to Europe and the United Kingdom.

People to People is a program for ambassadors that travel to different continents.

For 50 years, People to People Ambassador Programs has provided educational travel for students across the globe.

The students who went on the trip from our school are junior Rachel Thompson and junior Logan Williams.

This year, the students traveled to Scotland, Northern Ireland, Ireland, Wales, and England.

The price for the trip was \$7,500 dollars.

To raise money for the trip students held fundraisers, which included: pitbeef, sandwich, and Joe Corbee pizza sales, as well car washes

Williams made duct tape roses and sold them for a dollar in effort to raise funds.

"The duct tape flowers came in many different colors, the flowers sold really well. It

was a big help for me. I raised six to seven hundred dollars for my trip," said Williams

The students from our school went on the trip with other students from a variety of states, including: Pennsylvania, Florida, and Maryland.

Once in the U.K., the students were there for five weeks.

Each week, the students would stay in a different place.

At the end of the week the students would get on a bus and go to a new place and stay there for a week.

Students stayed in London, where they had the opportunity to visit the London Eye, the Buckingham Palace, and Big Ben.

The London Eye is a giant Ferris wheel that is enclosed and has a view of London.

In Wales, the students scaled down a 100 foot castle wall.

In Ireland and Northern Ireland, they went to Cork stadium in Dublin where Penn State played football.

Another activity they did in Ireland was walk back trails to get to a small town.

In addition, Students learned how to play Galtin football.

Galtin football is like soccer but, more physical. You are allowed to use your forearms as well as your feet.

All the students stayed with a host family while they were there in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

All the host families treated the students very well and treated them all like they were their kids.

Junior Rachel Thompson said " My host family was very nice the treated me like I was part of the family I had a great time staying with them I would love to go back and visit them."

In Scotland, the students stayed at the hotel where Prince William and Princess Kate met.

Also, the students went white water rafting and went rapid rafting.

The students took a boat ride in the Lock and the students even looked for the Lock Ness monster, known as Nessie.

While in the U.K., the students loved the food, and claimed it was healthier than the United States.

New Assistant Principal Doug Bryant has arrived



Photo by: Chance Shipley

New Assistant Principal **Doug Bryant** makes sure that students are getting off the bus safely at the beginning of the school day.

Chance Shipley
Reporter

As soon as students arrived to their first period class on their first day of school, they saw that we had a brand new face on our morning announcements.

This new face is the school's new assistant principal Doug Bryant.

"I am very excited to work at Kennard-Dale. I absolutely love being an administrator because of the number of opportunities you have to positively influence people's day and be helpful to them. More than that, though, I am excited to be here because of the people at this school. I feel very blessed to have the privilege of being the assistant principal here at Kennard-Dale," Bryant said.

Bryant is not only the new assistant principal but he is also the district truancy officer.

State law requires that any student under the age of 17 must attend school. Truancy is a situation where a student has more than three "unexcused/unlawful" absences during the year.

An unexcused/unlawful absence is when a student is absent from school without an excuse note.

"As an administrator, a person can be helpful in a lot of different ways. Sometimes it is by taking care of an issue for someone.

"Other times, it actually might be something like giving a person an answer or an outcome that he/she did not want," Bryant said, "For example, even when I am handling a discipline situation with a student and have to assign that student a discipline consequence, I am actually helping that student, even though he/she might not realize it at the time. I am helping them learn that there are rules

in life and in 'the real world' and that not following them results in consequences. It is an important life lesson to learn."

Before coming to our school, Bryant worked in a variety of positions at West York, which include: assistant principal, English teacher, educational media specialist, and social studies department assistant teacher.

"My initial impressions are great! Everyone, from students to staff to faculty, has made me feel very welcome. I am really enjoying working here," Bryant said

Bryant has a Bachelor's degree in communications from Elizabethtown College, Master's degree in education administration from McDaniel College, and teacher certification from York College.

Outside of school, Bryant enjoys reading history books, playing ice hockey--both on the ice and on an Xbox 360--and golf.

Prior to getting into education, Bryant worked as a radio news broadcaster in Harrisburg..

"My favorite part about Kennard-Dale is working with the students, staff, and faculty. I enjoy working with people and trying to be helpful to them," Bryant said.

"My goal is to be as helpful as possible to the students, staff, faculty, and parents of Kennard-Dale! There are a lot of great things being done here in this district.

"We have great students, outstanding staff, an excellent faculty, and dedicated parents.

"I hope to simply do my part to help Kennard-Dale continue to be a great school," Bryant stated.

Bryant is anticipating his first year at the school to be a great one and the first of many to come and hopes to accomplish many things in the 2014-15 school year.

A new school year brings a set of new music

Abby Swoboda
Editor-in-Chief

New school year, new shoes, new book bag--new music. In the season of new, music is an essential, and in the month of August, as students go back to school, musicians are closing out the summer with some sweet new albums.

Just on the cusp of August, indie rocker Jenny Lewis released her new album *The Voyager* on July 29.

The Voyager is Lewis's first album in six years after her last, *Acid Tongue*.

And as the genre-surfing songstress has proven in the past, she can be quite the sound chameleon. In *The Voyager*, Lewis comes off her punkier *Acid Tongue* and shifts into a laid-back, nostalgic indie rock.

The Voyager contemplates identity and the landmarks

found in life, all while bouncing along to a shimmering, pool-side vibe peppered with synths and soft harmonies to close out July.

From another genre explorer comes pop-singer Kimbra's August 18 release *The Golden Echo*.

This is Kimbra's second album, but her first, *Vows*, was largely overshadowed by her Gotye collaboration success, springing from song "Somebody That I Used to Know," and in her sophomore album, she proves she will not fade into the background as she shows that she is not just "that girl from the Gotye song."

In *The Golden Echo*, Kimbra explores touches of R&B, sticky-sweet pop, electronica, and even disco, as she puts their spin on her own form of pop music, all of which is set to unique beats that unify and drive the tracks along in her breakthrough solo album.

Still on the topic of uniqueness, FKA twigs released her risk-taking debut album *LPI* on August 11.

FKA twigs first emerged in music videos dancing behind the likes of musicians Kylie Minogue, Jessie J, and Ed Sheeran, and in 2012, she made her musical debut with *EPI*, which she released on Bandcamp.

Bandcamp is an online music store that functions as a platform for many independent artists, and now, after Bandcamp, FKA twigs comes forth with her powerful debut album *LPI*.

Alternative R&B *LPI* offers up driving and arrhythmic trip-hop beats paired with synths reminiscent of dream pop and twigs's soaring vocals that breathe out her cryptic lyrics that leave the listener a bit confused, but also largely enchanted.

This haunting, futuristic take on R&B made a splash in

the middle of August and even though the month has past, continues to make ripples within the genre.

In an unexpected move early on in the month, much like Beyoncé circa December 2013, actor Michael Cera quietly and spontaneously released his album *true that* on his personal Bandcamp account.

When he is not busy filming movies like *Juno*, *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World*, or the television show "Arrested Development," Cera apparently works on lo-fi folk, as *true that* displays.

Mellow and occasionally charmingly off key, *true that* includes piano and guitar instrumentals mixed in with lightly-voiced acoustic songs that exemplify bedroom hobby music.

Departing from familiar acoustic sounds, August also offers more adventurous tunes, which can be seen in

Norwegian crooners Jenny Hval & Susanna's avant-garde *Meshes of Voice*.

Singers Jenny Hval and Susanna Wallumrød combined their voices to release their gritty yet beautiful album on August 15, and the outcome was a haunting collection of ballads, glimpses of art-rock, and harsh-noise.

Meshes of Voice navigates through a twisted dream world as it moves between feedback drone, creeping chimes, spoken word, and soaring vocals that power through the curtains of sound that are drawn so mysteriously across this album.

Although not conforming to conventional musical structure, *Meshes of Voice* offers up a journey of ups and downs communicated hauntingly through this off-kilter collaboration.

Also dropped in mid-August, on the nineteenth,

Literature released *Chorus*--an indie pop force practically made to close out the summer.

The album offers a nostalgic playlist that manages not to come across as dusty, as lead singer Nathan Cardaci's voice could nearly be mistaken for something authentically 80's Brit pop. This feeling is so great, in fact, that it may be hard to believe the band actually hails from modern day Philadelphia.

Something like Morrissey minus the tears, Literature's jangly collection of guitar-driven songs creates an album of end-of-summer anthems with songs like "The English Softhearts" that swim and shimmer like the last dip in the pool.

As summer finally comes to a close and school begins, those new kicks will be tapping down the halls into September along to the array of new tunes that August presented.