

Homecoming Highlights

By: Oriana Arnold

Fun, friends, and food are all the ingredients for a good party, and the 2023 Orange High School Homecoming Dance definitely had no shortage. Both flashy and elegant, this year's masquerade ball was complete with multiplayer video games and a dress-up photo booth. Popular among OHS students, the masquerade theme won over both Barbie and Hollywood in a grade-wide poll. The Student Council, tasked with bringing this motif to life, worked to give the sports lobby and MUF a perfectly refined atmosphere, offering everyone a night they will never forget.

Historically, masquerades were a type of medieval party meant to celebrate marriage, coronation, and other special events. The masks aimed to unite people of all classes through anonymity, destroying social barriers and connecting individuals of different backgrounds. This year's homecoming dance is a reminder of that tradition, representing our diverse and unified communities here at Orange.

As for the outfits, this year's looks ranged from classic to wild, every student showcasing a unique style. Dresses came in a wide variety of fashions, some opting for ball gown-esque, elegant designs while others chose fun and sparkly party attire. Some completely flipped the script, creating custom masquerade masks or incorporating unconventional material into their outfits. Tuxedos and suits featured patterned ties, beautiful boutonnieres, and colorful designs.

Ruched-style dresses, gold and silver jewelry, high-heels, suit jackets, and elaborate makeup were trending this year, creating an intricate mashup of several distinctive fashions. Many people hosted pre-dance parties at their houses, putting on makeup, having dinner, and taking group photos for social media.

The Homecoming playlist featured a collection of diverse genres, styles, and artists, thanks to an online system where students could submit song suggestions. Artists such as Doja Cat, Nicki Minaj, Cardi B, Taylor Swift, Kendrick Lamar, Miley Cyrus and more were featured, encouraging people to get out of their seats and onto the dance floor. This playlist was curated by the Student Council members, their song choices making the ambiance of the dance even more lively and exciting.

Between all the dancing, gaming, and posing for the cameras, most students were ready for a snack. Thankfully, faculty members were prepared by the entrance with a delicious spread of food. The selections included cookies, croissants, sandwiches, chips, and soda. Mrs. Coreno, Ms. Mack, Mrs. Cirino, and Mrs. McDonald offered their help in providing some of the party food and managing the tables.

Whether students danced, mingled with their friends, played Mario Kart, or stood outside for some fresh air, everyone can agree that the 2023 Homecoming dance was a night to remember, and we are all thankful for the students and faculty members who helped organize it.