

2012

Columbia Chronicle (08/2012 - Supplement)

Columbia College Chicago

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THE COLUMBIA
CHRONICLE

PRESENTS



create...
change

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

EDITOR'S NOTE



by Heather Schröering
Editor-in-Chief

During the last few weeks of high school, I had more “How-to-survive-college” pamphlets, handouts, books and spoken advice coming at me from all angles than I could swallow. Three years later, the only thing I can remember was a story my English teacher recounted of her college experience at the laundromat involving stolen dryers and sweaty armpits. The moral of the situation was, “Don’t leave your laundry unattended at the laundromat.”

While I know I got plenty more great advice from my gracious friends and family, what they didn’t tell me was how to survive at Columbia. The lively urban campus atmosphere is vastly different from the average college town, where every license plate and front door is festooned with that university’s mascot and school colors. You’re in the big city now, and the rules are a little different here.

The first thing you need to make sure you do is take full

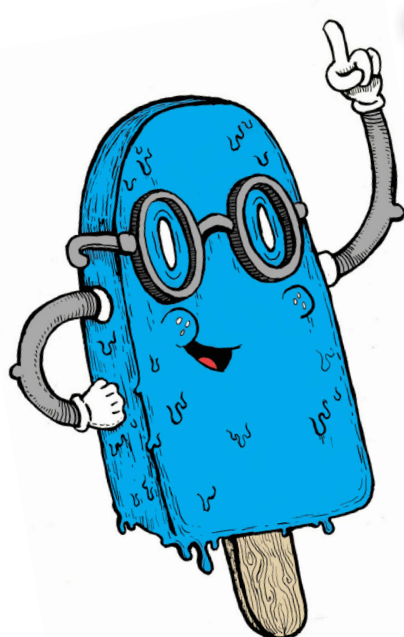
advantage of Weeks of Welcome. It’s a great excuse to hang out with your new roommates, meet people and explore the city. I’m still friends with most, if not all, of the people I met during this extra week—which I so did not want to have anything to do with at first—and I can truly say that these friends are the ones who will figuratively be aunts and uncles to my future children.

The most important advice I can give to you is start your career now. The difference between Columbia and most colleges is the access to so many incredible opportunities. The average college is designed to take four years preparing you for what you will do later in life. Here, we have this concept called “Body of Work,” which means that, by the time you leave this college, you should have enough creative material to choose from and construct a well-rounded portfolio to impress your future employers.

Your focus every semester should be on growing and perfecting that body of work. Don’t treat your time here like an extra four years to play around before real life starts. You begin your professional career now. Wholly invest yourself in your classes. When professors say “assignments,” they aren’t talking about the busywork exercises you’re used to from high school. Create work you’re proud of so when it’s time to start putting together your portfolio, you won’t find yourself stuck with projects you half-assed your way through.

This is your time to network, so don’t be shy about it. You will have more opportunities to meet working professionals here than anywhere else. Start with your professors. Seriously, google them. And don’t be surprised when you discover that they are seven-time Emmy award winners, recipients of Pulitzer Prizes and world-renowned artists who have designed the cover of the “New Yorker” countless times.

Lastly, remember that you are an artist, and artists take risks. Never be afraid to create. That’s what we’re all about here.



Welcome to Columbia College Chicago! This is The Columbia Chronicle’s Orientation Guide, meant to provide helpful information during your transition to our campus and introduce you to your awesome, informative and visually appealing student newspaper.

Inside you will find articles aimed at new and transfer students, information for starting college life at Columbia and some regular features that can be found in The Chronicle every week during the semester.

The Columbia Chronicle is an award-winning weekly student newspaper that has strived to provide students and the South Loop community with news and commentary relating to the campus and metro area, arts and culture, and health and fitness since 1965. It

also serves as a watchdog for the college and the community.

At The Chronicle, students within various majors from journalism to graphic design spend each week generating story ideas, gathering photos, creating graphics, writing, reporting, selling advertisements and laying out the paper. It can be found on newsstands around campus and the South Loop each Monday during the semester. You can also check us out on the web at ColumbiaChronicle.com for weekly updates including articles, photos and multimedia. To keep up with the Chronicle every day, “Like” us on Facebook at The Columbia Chronicle or follow us on Twitter @CCChronicle. We’ll be posting all summer long, as well as during the school year. We hope you find this guide helpful and look forward to keeping you covered all semester long.

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

ORIENTATION ISSUE 2012
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CONVOCATION



Columbia students gathered at Grant Park for New Student Convocation Sep. 2, 2010.

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

by Heather Schröering
Editor-in-Chief

IMAGINE A HUGE CROWD of people gathered in a park, nibbling on barbecue and cotton candy, playing games and listening to live bands. While this sounds like a typical rock festival, it's actually a very brief description of what one may see at Columbia's New Student Convocation.

The event, which will be held in Grant Park on Aug. 31, is Columbia's way of showing first-year and transfer students what Columbia is all about through performances by Columbia talent, activities sponsored by college-based organizations and motivational speeches by some of Columbia's key leaders.

"[Convocation] is our liturgical moment," said Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, which hosts the event. "It's become one of the iconic events of Columbia...Every pathway for students to become engaged on campus [is] going to be there, and we wrap it all in the Columbia style and buzz."

According to Kelly, Columbia's Convocation is rather different from those at other colleges, where the gathering is a much more traditional event with faculty and staff members, often adorned in robes, giving formal speeches to welcome students. While Columbia follows that same ritual, minus the robes, the atmosphere is more "fun," Kelly said.

Each year the provost, student body president and other leaders speak to the crowd. Kelly's speech, the "Hell Yeah Liturgy," is the final one, in which he outlines specific guidelines students need for success at Columbia.

Ultimately, the liturgy asks students to commit to making the most of the Columbia experience, he said.

"You are to take on big ideas," Kelly said. "You are to embrace the liberal arts and sciences as substantive and part of your core."

He described the liturgy as the centerpiece of the Convocation not only because it's fun, but because it is a moment to make students

think about what they're responsible for and what's possible at Columbia.

Convocation also serves as an opportunity to explore student organizations on campus, as most of them will be present at the event, according to Emily Easton, director of New Student Programs and Orientation.

Students will have the chance to meet and greet organization leaders, who will have mailing lists to sign and free "swag," such as buttons, Frisbees, water bottles, stickers and other items that represent the organization, Easton said.

"We very rarely bring [student organizations] together all at once, so you can really get a sense of just how much diversity there is amongst your fellow students," Easton said. "[Joining student organizations is] a new possibility for you to learn or make new friends over a new interest or an interest you've always had."

Activities at past events have included henna and airbrush tattoos, psychic readings

and a gaming area, said Jocelyn Delk, festival and events producer in Student Affairs. She added that it's also a great way for students to meet others.

"[Convocation] is about having fun and making friends," Delk said. "We try to have as many fun activities, games [and] performances as possible so you can network and just enjoy yourself. [That's] really the point of it."

Though the event is mandatory for all new students, Easton believes Convocation is an excellent opportunity for students to get to know the college and for the college to come together.

"We're all a busy group of working professionals, and we connect in all sorts of ways," Easton said. "You rarely find them in one huge space together. It's really important for students to know what a huge, amazing community they are a part of, and this is the easiest way for students to get to see the whole thing."

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Students cover
NATO summit
Photos by Sara Mays & Ting Shen



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

When world leaders met in Columbia College's backyard, Chicago dispatched police in riot gear to monitor the South Loop as protesters descended on the city. The historic event didn't escape the lenses of the Chronicle photographers, who caught many moments of action. (Above) Police stand ready for Anti-NATO protesters May 20 on Michigan Avenue.



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Anti-NATO protesters marched from the Boeing Headquarters, 100 N. Riverside Plaza, to Obama's campaign headquarters at the Prudential Plaza, 130 E. Randolph St.



Ting Shen THE CHRONICLE

Waving a donut, a protester mocks cops during the Anti-NATO march May 20. The group marched from Union Park at Ashland Avenue and Lake Street to Boeing Headquarters.



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Before marching to the Prudential Plaza, protesters shouted opposition to America's use of drones and the killing of innocent civilians while showering the street with silly string at Boeing Headquarters.

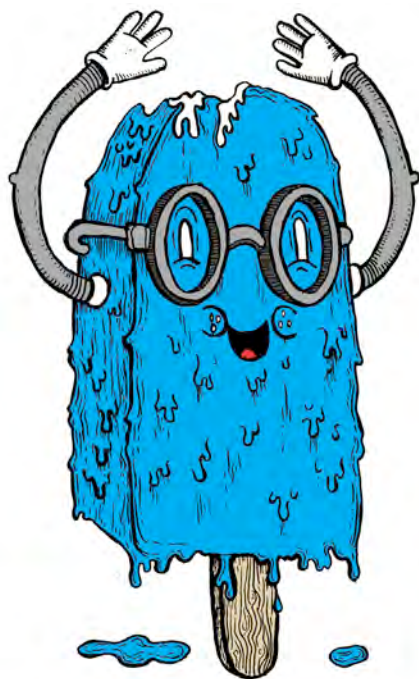


Ting Shen THE CHRONICLE

Protesters clashed with police May 20 at East Cermak Road and South Michigan Avenue during the CANG8 marches.

ORGANIZATIONS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES

by Tim Shaunnessey
Contributing Writer



COLUMBIA COLLEGE is home to a number of student organizations offering opportunities to get involved on campus. The groups run the gamut from sports teams, sponsored by the Renegades, to cultural groups like the Latino Alliance. At the end of last academic year, the college was host to 89 student organizations, according to Aldo Guzman, director of the Office of Student Engagement.

Some groups are tied to a specific academic department, Guzman said, while others are local chapters of larger national associations. Still others are recreational, and more than a few are based on promoting diversity. Whatever the organization a new student selects, the benefits of joining are impressive in Guzman's view.

"Being in a student organization provides so many opportunities to truly 'live' your Columbia experience and live what you love on a daily basis," Guzman said. "For new students coming in, you can dive into the Columbia community and find other individuals who have the same passions and goals. You surround yourself with

that creative community, and it helps you grow as an individual."

Common Ground

Cameron Spiegel, president of the group Common Ground, said joining clubs and organizations on campus is a great way to immerse oneself in Columbia's community. Additionally, networking at school will likely help students out after graduation, he said.

"Joining a student organization is a really great way to enter into college," Spiegel said. "[It helps] to make friends and network."

Common Ground is a political and social organization that focuses on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer events and issues, according to Spiegel. The group hosts different events on and off campus, all centered around LGBTQ themes and being of service to those communities. Some of the events include dances, discussion panels and fundraising efforts. Their work hasn't gone unnoticed, as Columbia College was ranked as the 19th most gay-friendly school in the nation by the Daily Beast, as reported by the Chronicle in September 2011.

For new students, Common Ground might be the opportunity to join a community in which

individuals can be fully accepted and freely express personal ideas or views. Spiegel said this can be particularly important if the student's home environment wasn't accepting of his or her orientation.

Muggles Association

Another campus organization is based on a popular series of books and subsequent movie adaptations. The Muggles Association was originally founded with the intent of celebrating the magic and wizardry of J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" books, but it has evolved into a group that uses the fiction as a vehicle for discussion and a catalyst for doing good in the community, according to club president Jesus Torres.

"[The Muggles Association] was basically supposed to serve as a fan club," Torres said. "Even though the series and movies are over, [they're] not really over for true fans, [and] it's a place to talk about it. We [later] branched out [into literary] discussion about Harry Potter."

Torres said the group also holds fundraising events for charitable causes. This included putting together a showing of "A Very Potter Musical," which raised funds that were donated

see STUDENT ORGS, pg. 34

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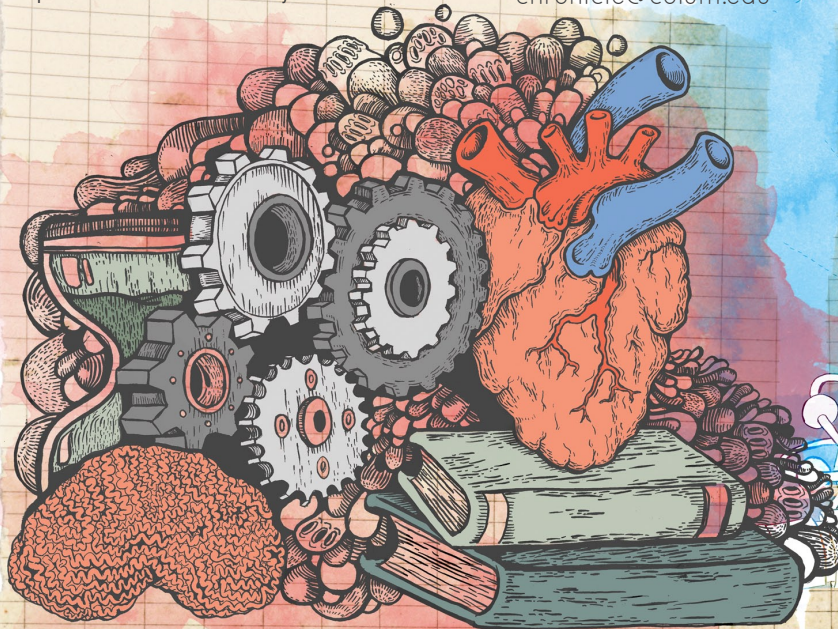


Filling general education requirements in math, history, science and literature may seem like a drag when attending an art school. Regardless, it has to be done for a well-rounded education. Luckily, Columbia offers a plethora of one-of-a-kind courses in rarely taught subjects, like “Zombies in Popular Media” or “History of the Future,” which meet requirements needed to graduate.

No longer must you dread going to math class. Think instead about discovering the equations of the world around you in “Math

in Art and Nature,” or learning the science behind crime scene investigation in “Crime Lab Chemistry: Solving Crime Through Analytical Chemistry.” Sitting through lectures on algebra or gag-worthy biology labs is not something you’ll experience here. The Chronicle searched for a number of unique courses offered at Columbia and talked with the professors to see what the classes entail and why they are worthwhile.

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Philosophy of Love

Humanities, Writing Intensive

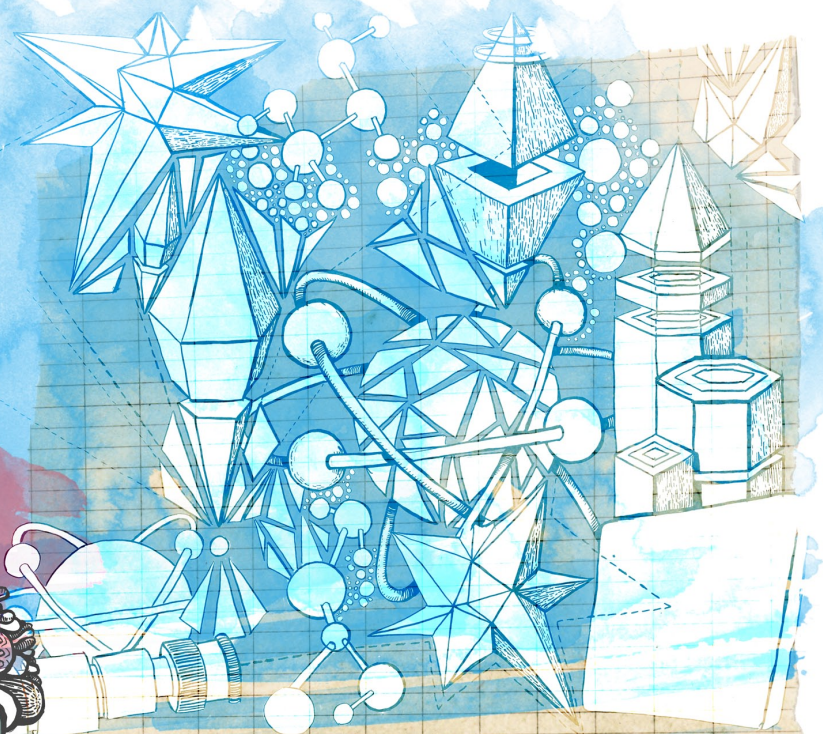
Love is an emotion that vexes everyone, but why is that? “Philosophy of Love” tries to answer the question by examining the parameters of self-worth and the way it projects onto others. Professor Bill Hayashi said, “Learning to be fully

present in the moment through mindfulness and learning to offer oneself unconditional positive regard are important parts of this process.” The answer may be as simple as learning how to love oneself, according to this course.

COULD OFFER

Written by Brandon Smith
Contributing Writer

Design by Heidi Unkefer
Illustrator



History of the Future

History

Wondering what the future has to teach us? There’s a class for that. The “History of the Future,” according to Professor Nicholas McCormick, “offers a chance for students to explore the ways in which people have thought about the future.” The class reading list includes George Orwell’s “1984” and Aldous Huxley’s “Brave New World,” which McCormick said offers no shortage of fear

of a dystopian future. However, visions of bleak prospects for society can have many positive effects, he said. “This course will enable students to understand how to think about the direction of society and culture, which is essential for students in the arts and media,” McCormick said. “Because to break boundaries and innovate, one must have a grasp of what came before and a sense of where society is headed.”



Zombies in Popular Media

Humanities Literature

If it's a J-session class you're in need of, look no further than the apocalyptic "Zombies in Popular Media." This reading and work-intensive class, according to Professor Brendan Riley, will figuratively take students through abandoned shopping malls and corpse-laden suburban streets. Riley said that "Zombies can teach everyone valuable lessons of life, how we interact with each other and death." The class fulfills a literature credit and focuses on readings, as well as a few horror films. Riley said the popular zombie genre may one day be viewed as a cultural tool for learning how to live together in a chaotic world.

Exploring the Goddess

Humanities

Throughout history, the deity has gone by many names. The class "Exploring the Goddess" is an extremely engaging experience, according to Professor Elizabeth-Anne Stewart. The class explores images of female divinity within multiple cultures from around the world. Students will build their own self-reflective test to discover their ruling god and goddess, which may reveal a thing or

two about not only themselves, but the relationships shared with each other, Stewart said. A final presentation that utilizes information learned in class about the state of the Earth is required, she said. She added that a particular favorite of students is the Festival of the Harvest, in which a large feast is prepared and shared in class.

POSTERS REFLECT CITY'S MULTIPLE IDENTITIES

by Sophia Coleman
Managing Editor

SOMETIMES IT can be hard to fathom how vast and diverse Chicago is, but a Columbia alumnus who majored in graphic design has the perfect solution.

Chris Gorz, who graduated in 1991, started his Chicago poster series almost one year ago with the mission to create iconic and vintage-inspired prints that help locals connect with their communities. So far, he has designed nine posters for Andersonville, Edgewater, Lakeview, Lincoln Square, Ravenswood, Rogers Park, Uptown, Lincoln Park and Bucktown.

"At Columbia, I really learned about the foundational aspects of graphic design," Gorz said. "I was taught how to combine shapes, color, typography and images all together to make people react or feel something."

Gorz said he has a passion for three things: art, architecture and Chicago. During walks around the city's many neighborhoods, he noticed each had its own iconic landmark that captured the history of the area.

He said his interest in Chicago's history was

sparked at Columbia, in particular by one of his Humanities, History and Social Sciences professors, Dominic Pacyga, a faculty member who teaches the course "History of Chicago."

"[Gorz's] art shows the everyday feel of the neighborhood," Pacyga said. "For an artist to go and find an icon that can symbolize each community is really interesting."

Gorz first created the Uptown poster using an image of the local post office at 4850 N. Broadway St., iconic for its 1930s art-deco

architecture and two massive eagle sculptures.

"The government just doesn't build buildings like that anymore," he said. "So I decided to use that as the icon, and I did it in a vintage style that's similar to [vintage] travel posters."

Gorz said his most challenging poster has been of Bucktown, which features a goat.

"Bucktown was the first neighborhood I did that I didn't have an iconic image for," Gorz said. "I've used buildings or sculptures [to represent] most of the communities, but with



Bucktown, I looked to its history."

He said the people of Bucktown could identify with the goat because settlers in the 1800s raised goats on the grassland of that area. Eventually, the neighborhood was named Bucktown after the male goat, called a buck.

Gorz's work is sold in a number of boutiques across Chicago, including ShopColumbia in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. His pieces can also be found at Sacred Art, 4619 N. Lincoln Ave., a mix between a gallery and boutique that sells the work of local artists.

Lisa Muscato, a buyer and curator for Sacred Art, said she first decided to sell Gorz's posters approximately a year ago when he began the series.

"I immediately knew that his iconic imagery and bold use of color would grab the attention of both locals and tourists," Muscato said.

Gorz said he would like to do a South Loop poster by the end of the year in homage to his time spent at Columbia.

"My goal would be to do as many neighborhoods as I can," Gorz said. "I want to create posters of these images to connect everyone more deeply with their community."

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CHANGE IS GOING TO COME



by Lindsey Woods
Managing Editor

AS I WAS DECIDING what kind of clever advice I wanted to dole out to you new guys, something seemingly inconsequential happened: My boss asked me to move my stuff to a new desk. My immediate reaction was to complain about how change is awful, and I should be allowed to stay at my old desk because all my stuff is already there, but then I started thinking about the irony of hating change while simultaneously paying lots of money to go to a school that encourages me to create it.

I'm sure you've begun to figure out that change is fickle. When you start college, everything about your life will all of a sudden be new, exciting and a little scary. For me, moving to Chicago and enrolling in Columbia was the biggest change I had ever gone through. I changed my address, my friends, my daily routine, my financial status, my hair color and my personality, among other things.

At first it was awkward. I didn't know anybody, and I had forgotten how to make friends because I had the same friends throughout high school. But I took solace in the fact that everyone else probably felt the same way—scared and a little lonely.

The growing pains of change are often

uncomfortable. A lot of people can't deal with them, as evidenced by about half of my high school class transferring back to colleges in my hometown so they wouldn't have to make new friends in new places. Even though I sometimes felt defeated my freshman year, I am 100 percent happy that I pushed through the initial shock of change and stayed at Columbia. It takes some work on your part, but if you're willing to be a little uncomfortable and put yourself out there, I guarantee you will meet some amazing people and grow to love this wonderful city.

So, as I finish writing this column at my brand new desk, I realize that change is good. Sure, it may have been a pain to move all of my stuff, and I don't quite know where everything is yet, but my new desk is in a better location and will ultimately serve me well. I am sitting next to smart, funny and talented people, and I will be lucky if any of their greatness rubs off on me.

I am excited about starting a new chapter of my career at The Chronicle, and you should be excited about starting a new chapter of your life at Columbia.

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AUDIO FILE



SPIDER TO THE FLY

by Sophia Coleman
Managing Editor

DEEP VIBRATIONS of bass, the rhythmic riffs of M.I.A and all things vulgar brought Chicago-based band Spider to the Fly together. Two Columbia students—Jack Collier, junior interdisciplinary major with a focus on music and fashion, and Sid Blastfemmy, music business major, magnetically connected in the summer of 2011 to spread messages of rebellion and awaken primal instincts in their fans.

Over the past year, the eclectic duo has collaborated with local artists like RomΔnce and Impolite Society, performed at venues and house parties and are now in the midst of producing music videos for two of their most popular tracks: “Boys Cry” and “Spit.”

The Chronicle caught up with Collier and Blastfemmy to see where they draw inspiration from, what they love about fashion and what advice they have for newcomers to Columbia.

The Chronicle: What's with the name?

Jack Collier: It's from a Victorian poem called “Spider and the Fly” by Mary J. Howitt. It's about seduction and flattery and about a spider luring a fly into its web by telling her how beautiful she is. We want to seduce and activate people's sex drives but also make commentary on how people can be gullible and [the] consequences [to] believing certain things.

The Chronicle: What do you each bring to the band?

Sid Blastfemmy: I am this little girl from Baltimore. I am so cheesy and tacky but also very urban. Even when it comes to music, I love that cheesy, tacky stuff. I love House music—not to say it's tacky—but I love that scene.

JC: I think that I am the counterpart to what Sid is. I pull a lot from history, from what I've read and learned. She pulls very strongly from the street look, while I pull from an aesthetic origin.

The Chronicle: Tell us how fashion plays into your creative process, what your style is and why it is so important.

JC: My whole thing about fashion is that it's totally relative to time and place, and if your look has an uncomfortable relationship with those elements, it causes an interesting phenomenon.

The Chronicle: What about Columbia inspires your work?



Jack Collier (left) and Sid Blastfemmy (right) of Spider to the Fly met at Columbia in 2011 and have since created a number of heavy electronic beats.

SB: I think Columbia has opened our eyes up. The classes that we take don't necessarily give us specific ideas, but they do give us the inclination to explore. The school gives us that extra push that you need. They show you the tools that you need to seek inspiration.

JC: Sid and I are very instinctual people, and where we're coming from could happen without Columbia, but the school does give you so many tools and networking opportunities. I am a huge advocate of education. Any education, especially how Columbia gives it so liberally, is important. They allowed me to self-design my own degree, and I don't think any other school could give me that.

The Chronicle: What advice would you give to newcomers of Columbia?

JC: Never stop learning. Be inspired by everything around you. Don't let anyone tell you what you cannot do. Those are all clichés, but that's what I've found to work.

SB: It was predetermined before we came to Columbia that we would be in a band. So go with your instincts. If you're gravitating to a certain group of people or aesthetic, go with it. Follow your dream, but be smart about it. Write down your goals and be proactive. Sitting on a couch watching TV won't get you anywhere. Get your ideas out there.

For more information check out Spider to the Fly's tracks on SoundCloud.com/SpidertotheFly

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Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

IF YOU CAN PLAY...

by Lindsey Woods
Managing Editor

LOCKER ROOMS are known for two things: sweatiness and shenanigans. But for gay athletes, they can be a place of shame and exclusion.

Eric Berndt, Chicago Dragons rugby player and openly gay athlete, said he experienced "casual homophobia" in the locker rooms during his time competing at both the University of Chicago and in high school.

"In both situations, casual remarks about who's an 'F-word' and 'this is so gay' were really common," Berndt said. "Even though I think there were a couple people who were mean-spirited and homophobic on both of my teams,

just like anywhere else in life, most of those guys certainly didn't know that there was a gay person in their midst and wouldn't have wanted to do those things had they known."

The You Can Play Project, an initiative started to support gay athletes, aims to eliminate this kind of casual homophobia in locker rooms and make gay athletes feel more accepted by their teammates.

"We're hoping to eliminate homophobic slurs and 'casual homophobia,' as we call it, in the locker room and among fans and all areas of sports," said Teale Stone, director of College Programs for the project.

The You Can Play campaign kicked off in early March by airing a series of public service announcements during professional hockey

games. The PSAs featured current National Hockey League players, including Duncan Keith, Rick Nash, Henrik Lundqvist and Claude Giroux, delivering one simple message: If you can play, you can play.

Brady Hudson, captain of the Columbia Renegades volleyball team, said the PSAs' message on equality in athletics is inspiring.

"The PSA says a lot about humans in general, accepting people and tolerating them for their differences," Hudson said. "It's amazing."

The campaign partnered with the NHL because of the ties its founders have to hockey, Stone said. Toronto Maple Leafs General Manager Brian Burke and his son Patrick Burke, a scout for the Philadelphia Flyers, started the project to honor the memory of Brendan Burke,

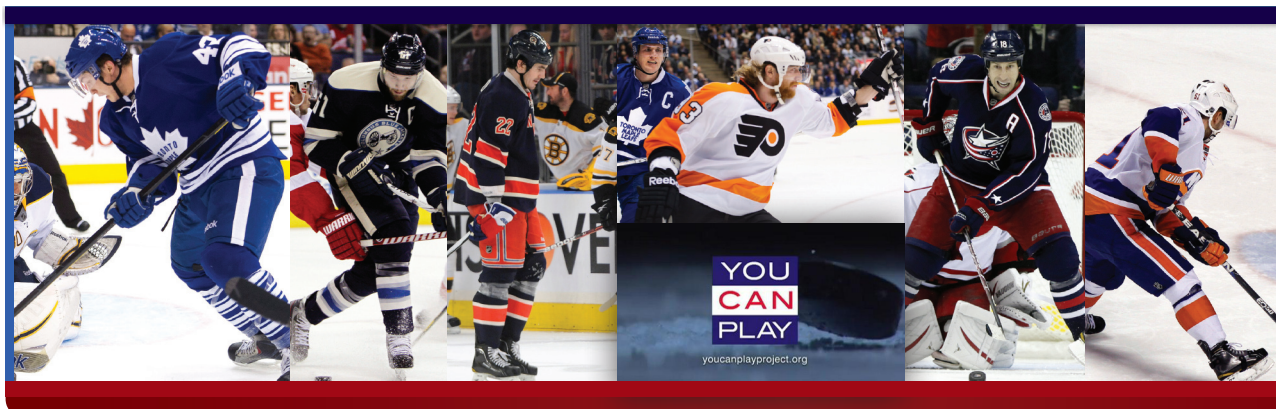
Patrick's brother and Brian's son, who died in a car accident in 2010. The accident came three years after Brendan, who was the manager of the Miami, Ohio, hockey team, came out to his family. After Brendan announced he was gay, the Burkes became ardent supporters of the LGBT community.

In addition to making PSAs, the organization hopes to branch out into other sports to continue honoring their motto: "Gay athletes. Straight allies. Teaming up for respect."

While the organization has garnered support from straight allies on the professional level, it will be difficult to recruit gay, professional athletes to team up with, considering there are currently no openly gay athletes playing in the NHL or any other professional league. There are some athletes like basketball player John Amaechi who came out as gay after their professional careers were over, but Berndt attributes the lack of actively gay athletes to the stereotype that the You Can Play Project is trying to eradicate.

"I think it is a fear," Berndt said. "I think it would be very difficult still for someone to be openly gay in a sport like pro football or pro hockey or even baseball, just because it is still very common to assume that one is weaker because one is gay."

Stone stressed that getting closeted athletes to come out is not one of the goals of the You Can Play Project, but he added that a professional role model for gay athletes would benefit the organization's cause.



Associated Press lwoods@chroniclemail.com



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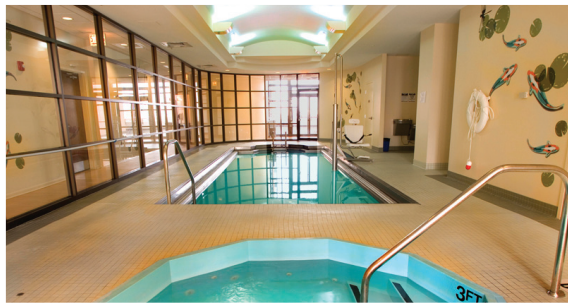
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NEUROSCIENCE OF CREATIVITY

by Emily Fasold
Contributing Writer

PAINTERS, DESIGNERS, ARCHITECTS and other creative individuals are typically thought of as “right-brained,” but a new study from the University of Southern California suggests that creativity may require more logical “left brain” thinking than previously thought.

The study, published online in the *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience* journal, showed that while the right brain does the bulk of heavy lifting in creative thinking, the left side of the brain also plays a critical role.

“In the popular media, people usually associate the right brain with creativity,” said lead researcher Lisa Aziz-Zadeh, an assistant professor of neuroscience. “But it’s definitely more complicated than that.”

Aziz-Zadeh and fellow researchers used functional magnetic resonance imaging to scan the brains of architecture students, who tend to be visually imaginative, while they performed creative tasks.

As they were scanned, participants were asked to visualize images that could be created by rearranging the No. 8, a circle and the letter C. They also mentally pieced

together shapes to create rectangles, a task that requires spatial processing but not necessarily creativity.

The results showed that the logical, mathematical left side of the students’ brains lit up just as much as the creative right side while performing the artistic task.

“I think that the two hemispheres do complementary processing,” Aziz-Zadeh said. “The right hemisphere of the brain provides the ‘big picture,’ and the left controls sequential processing. Both of those are important for creativity.”

The research also showed that the students’ medial frontal cortexes, the areas of the brain that control planning and problem solving, were highly active while performing tasks. According to Aziz-Zadeh,

this suggests that both hemispheres of the brain have equally important influence on the creative process.

“I think what was most surprising is how simple the results were,” she said. “Usually, studies produce results that you don’t know what to make of, but our results were very clear.”

The study’s findings make sense to Jeffrey Davis, a creativity consultant and author of “The Journey to the Center of the Page: Yoga Philosophies and Practices as Muse for Authentic Writing.”

“Creativity is a more whole-brained activity than we’d like to imagine,” Davis said.

For example, he said playing musical instruments requires the left-brained skills of repetitive drills and memorization along with

improvisation and emotional connection to the music, which are right-brained functions.

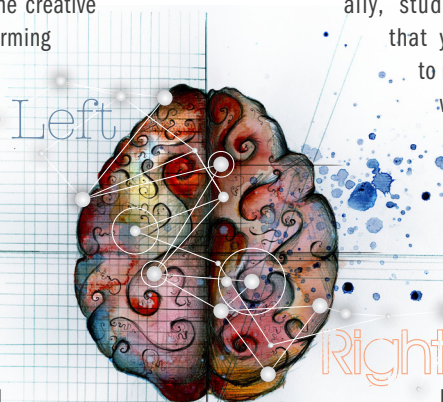
“Reason relies on emotion,” Davis said. “Logical decisions such as buying a car are actually influenced by highly emotional impulses [from the right brain] that we then rationalize.”

Francesco Dandekar, USC undergraduate and co-author of the study, said the research, which was conducted over three years, is the first to specifically examine the left brain’s role in creative, visuospatial tasks.

“It’s really exciting to be at the forefront of an aspect of neuroscience,” Dandekar said. “We didn’t have any previous studies to model ours after, and hopefully, our investigations will pave the way for further research in creativity.”

Both researchers would like to perform similar studies on musicians, writers and other creative individuals, although nothing is currently planned.

“Creativity is fascinating because it is one of the few human resources that really separates us from the rest of the animal kingdom,” Aziz-Zadeh said. “Trying to understand what causes that is a fascinating topic we would like to explore further.”



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THE BIG FAT GREEK VOID



by Heather Schröering
Editor-in-Chief

PHI DELTA THETA, Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Chi Omega may look like a foreign language to the average Columbia student, but thousands of college students across the nation speak Greek and sport it any way they can.

Columbia won't be seeing any fraternities or sororities on campus any time soon. According to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, Columbia has a "no Greek letter community" policy. Having these types of organizations on campus doesn't fit the college's value and belief system, he said.

"Fraternities and sororities are very common in traditional colleges and universities," Kelly said. "What they rub up against is our value of diversity at Columbia."

Kelly argues that the average fraternity attracts like-minded students with similar backgrounds. Students become too comfortable and less likely to branch out and get to know other students.

Though he finds student organizations to be a positive and enriching outlet to build one's social life, Kelly said the college wants to push students to go outside of their comfort zones.

"We talk about the concept of the 'creative posse,'" Kelly said. "We want students to mix it up. We encourage the discomfort to get to know students from many different backgrounds and experiences. What we have not encouraged is for students to create that club atmosphere reaffirming their comfort level."

However, students' comfort levels haven't been forgotten. Kelly said the college has worked hard at transforming the urban high-rise campus setting in order to provide a sense of community.

The college has created outlets for students to get involved with events, such as New Student Convocation, Mary Blood Ball and Manifest, Kelly said. The campus also offers many spaces—Stage Two, 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building; C33, 33 E. Congress Parkway Building; and the Loft, 916 S. Wabash Ave. Building—for students to show their work or simply hang out.

"The list just goes on and on," Kelly said. "I think we've made the right decision for our institution. I'm not saying sororities and fraternities are a bad thing. They're just not for us."

Melissa Johnson, freshman interactive arts and media major, agrees with Kelly. She said as a commuter she takes advantage of spaces like the Loft because she can't go home between classes.

She also believes fraternities and sororities have the potential to become "giant cliques."

"I think it takes away a lot of the professional development [on a campus]," Johnson said. "For the most part, people who go to college are 18 and older. They're not in high school anymore. It's sort of childish to have these big cliques owning the school."

When recruiting, the college makes sure potential students know the campus does not

have Greek letter organizations or intercollegiate sports so they aren't disappointed when they arrive. According to Kelly, some students find the lack of Greek life on Columbia's campus to be very appealing.

Chian Fitzpatrick, sophomore theatre major who transferred from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn. liked the change.

"Coming from a state school, that's all the campus was about was joining Greek life, and everyone was in a sorority," she said. "I find it so unique that that's not the center of attention. I personally like it that way."

Fitzpatrick and Jessica DeLong, sophomore theatre major—who are both members of the Muggles Association of Columbia, a club dedicated to Harry Potter—believe that student organizations are a good way for students to feel connected to a community.

DeLong said she doesn't think Greek communities would go over well at Columbia because of its geographic location.

"I don't see it working as well in an urban setting," she said. "We're in the middle of the city and everything's built up around us."

However, DePaul University's Greek system, also on an urban campus, seems to be functioning just fine, according to Ali Reimel, senior at DePaul and former president of the Delta Gamma sorority.

"A Greek letter community really is a great sense of community at bigger schools that have

a large student population," Reimel said. "Or when you are in a big city, it's a good way to find that sense of smaller community within such a big setting."

According to her, most fraternities and sororities are connected with a charity that they work with and fundraise for. DePaul is already centered on service-based learning, so its Greek system takes both service and academics quite seriously, she added.

The Delta Gamma national organization works with Service for Sight, a charity that aids the visually impaired and blind, as well as the Golden Anchor Program, a service for the elderly.

While a small fraction of DePaul's student body is part of a Greek community, sororities and fraternities on campus are well-received, Reimel said. All Greek-hosted events are open to the entire campus, and many students who aren't in a fraternity or sorority often participate.

Reimel added that only half of the teams who participated in the Delta Gamma three-on-three basketball tournament were Greek-affiliated. Not only are they inclusive, Reimel believes her sorority is very diverse, despite popular beliefs of fraternities and sororities being segregated.

"Not only Delta Gamma, but our entire Pan-Hellenic community is very inclusive of every type of religion, ethnicity [and] sexual orienta-



tion that you could imagine,” Reimel said. “It’s an unfortunate stereotype, but if your Greek system is built around the right values, you can have a healthy Greek system in that it is diverse and it does hold education [on] a very high pedestal.”

At Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia, students founded a sorority in 2009 that is based solely on diversity, sisterhood and kindness, according to Joshua Heinsz, 2011 SCAD alumnus and one of the founders of the group.

Heinsz, former president of SCAD’s Zeta Kappa Delta chapter, said like Columbia, the art college has a “no Greek letter community” policy. Though SCAD recognizes the organization as a student organization rather than a sorority, the sisterhood functions as a sorority.

“[Zeta Kappa Delta caters] so much to the type of people who wouldn’t want to be in a sorority,” Heinsz said. “Some girls don’t get along as well with other girls. It became a way to draw them out of their shell, give more networking opportunities and a way to really create strong bonds of friendship.”

Heinsz, who thus far has been the only male member of the organization, added that the group strives to bring positive light to Greek life through philanthropic work and aims to fight the negative connotations that often surround fraternities and sororities, such as drinking.

Though that stereotype is associated with Greek communities, Reimel said binge drinking is not a major problem within DePaul’s Greek system.

David Western, senior at Hanover College in Indiana, does not believe Greek communities are the main cause of binge drinking on campuses at all.

“I wouldn’t say that being in a fraternity heightens that chance of binge drinking, but they get more notice because they’re one unit who can get blamed for something,” Western said. “The fraternity and sorority system gets a bad rep because the whole chapter could be great, [but] one person decides to do a stupid move.”

Hazing, rituals that one must perform to be initiated into a group, is also a recurring issue that comes up in fraternity and sorority life. While both DePaul and Hanover have strict “no hazing” policies, according to Reimel and Western, a student at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire recently accused a fraternity of abusive hazing.

Andrew Lohse claimed in an opinion piece published in The Dartmouth daily newspaper Jan. 25 that in order to be initiated, the fraternity forced him to “swim in a kiddie pool full of vomit, urine, fecal matter, semen and rotten food products; eat omelets made of vomit; chug cups of vinegar, which in one case

caused a pledge to vomit blood; drink beers poured down fellow pledges’ a-- cracks; and vomit on other pledges, among other abuses.”

According to an article, Lohse made a statement to the Dartmouth administration, but no response was given because the student could not provide evidence of the hazing.

Alan Reifman, social psychologist and professor of human development and family studies at Texas Tech University, said hazing might be connected to the theory of cognitive dissonance, an anxiety caused by having a conflicting belief, such as liking someone but disagreeing with his or her habits.

“If one suffers terribly to obtain admission to a group but joins anyway, doubts may crop up about whether it was worth it,” Reifman said. “To alleviate the dissonance, members will ultimately convince themselves that the group is very attractive and well worth the suffering.”

However, this was not the case for Stewart Moore, senior at Sewanee University in Tennessee. Moore said he chose his fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, because it didn’t haze its pledges.

According to Moore, the fraternity has a strict “no hazing” policy in its constitution, and he was not forced to do anything to join.

“Why would you want to do bad things to [pledges] and do things that are kind of

degrading to themselves?” Moore asked. “What some fraternities who do haze say is that it brings that class together because they have to suffer together, but for me and for most Lambda Chis here, I think it brings the fraternity closer as a whole if we don’t do that.”

Moore said typical fraternity life on his campus includes heavy drinking and sometimes disrespecting women. While his fraternity does partake in drinking, the frat will reject men who pledge based on observations of how the pledge treats women.

“The appearance of fraternities is definitely drinking, partying and women, and I don’t like that,” Moore said. “I know it happens, and it’s kind of weird to be associated with that, but I don’t really feel like I’m associated with it as much.”

While students across the nation have found comfort in Greek letter communities, Fitzpatrick said she feels like she fits in at Columbia.

“The old school I went to is not the kind of place where you can just hang out with people,” Fitzpatrick said. “You can be in people’s faces at that college. They’re very cliquey, and everyone has cliques, but here, I feel like it’s easier to insert yourself in places. It’s just so easy to make friends here. I love it.”

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DORM LIFE IS SUITE

by Sophia Coleman
Managing Editor



The University Center



The Dwight



2 East 8th



Photos courtesy RESIDENCE LIFE

731 S. Plymouth Court

The UC is one of Columbia's largest housing options, with more than 1,700 residents from Columbia and Roosevelt, DePaul and Robert Morris universities. Some of the floors are mixed in terms of students from different colleges, but residents will be paired with roommates from their college.

A game room, gym and cafeteria, all located on the second floor, are a huge draw to this housing option, according to Collins. And because the UC was specifically built from the ground up to house students, all of the amenities and floor plans are up-to-date.

In addition to newly acquired flat-screen TVs, the wireless Internet has been updated for the coming year, according to Collins. The Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 room rates start at \$9,870 for a two-bedroom, four-person apartment and end at \$15,666 for a private room suite.

Many students who have previously lived at the UC find themselves networking and making friends with people they never thought they would talk to in their lifetime, said Collins.

"To this day, everybody [who] I hang out with—my boyfriend, my best friend—I met at the UC," said Sara Hardy, a former UC resident who is now a senior fashion business major. "Weeks of Welcome in particular helped me meet a lot of my current friends. Living in a dorm was a nice jumpstart to college."

The Dwight lofts are one of the most recent facilities that Columbia has acquired, according to Collins. Before it was converted to dorms, the building, built in 1911, was home to the headquarters of the Dwight Brothers Paper Company.

Now, the building has been fully renovated with floor-to-ceiling windows, loft-style bedrooms and a graffiti room. Though spray-paint cans are no longer allowed because of city code, students are allowed to bring paints and markers to make their mark.

Overall, the lofts have a sleek and modern feeling. The Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 room rates start at \$8,708 for a small double-occupancy bedroom and end at \$12,614 for a single occupancy bedroom premium.

"There were modern interior architecture, cool furniture and exposed brick walls," said Dylan Larson, a junior studying fashion design who previously lived at the Dwight. Though the building is modern, Larson said he was somewhat annoyed because his apartment was not equipped with a dishwasher. He also had words of advice that apply to anyone looking to live on campus.

"People should really consider if they want their own room or to share a room," Larson said. "It's a huge commitment to living with someone you're unfamiliar with for a year."

WHEN ONE THINKS of dorm life, the images of cramped shoebox-like rooms, creaky bunk beds and community showers come to mind. Those images are typical of state colleges, but dorm life is a bit classier at Columbia, with million-dollar views of Chicago's skyline and rooms equipped with full bathrooms and flat-screen TVs.

The four college-sponsored housing options this year are: Plymouth Court, 731

S. Plymouth Court; the University Center, 525 S. State St.; Dwight Lofts, 642 S. Clark St.; and the dorms at 2 East 8th Street. Each has unique qualities, and all are near campus, public transportation and city landmarks.

The Chronicle talked with Kelli Collins, associate director of Residence Life, and students who previously lived on campus to catch up on what's new with housing options and what students have to look forward to.

Two East 8th is back to being one of Columbia's housing options for five more years, after being under a different that started in 2009. The building will replace The Buckingham, 59 E. Van Buren St., because the lease has expired.

And now that the dorm has been fully renovated, Collins promises the 14 floors of the facility under the college's contract will give students a much more comfortable living experience.

"Two East 8th has a strong sense of community, and it is more like the Dwight in regards to building structure," Collins said. "But it still has a homey feeling. The once-convertible rooms, a studio that two students would share, have been transformed into single rooms."

In addition to plenty of single-room options, 2 East 8th has a pool that is open to all residents of the building. Over the past year, it has been updated and repainted. The Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 room rates start at \$7,490 for a small double occupancy in shared apartment and ends at \$13,500 for a single studio.

"You can do a lot more at [2 East 8th] while still maintaining the college community feel," said Lauren Widor, a resident of 2 East in 2010 who is majoring in marketing communication. "If I were going to recommend a dorm to someone moving to Chicago, 2 East 8th would be the one."

Set in a historic building on Printer's Row, Columbia's first residence hall, Plymouth Court, which was established 20 years ago, offers students a comfy place to live and socialize.

"Students stay here because of the nostalgia and historical perspective of the building," Collins said. "Plymouth has a feeling that other dorm buildings don't. Some people like new and shiny, but others like historic, and that's definitely what Plymouth brings to the table."

Last summer all the apartments got flat-screen TVs. Some rooms had carpeting replaced, and some were given brand-new kitchens and bathrooms, according to Collins. Plymouth has a retro feel: high ceilings, lofted walls and large living rooms. Some of the appliances are dated and not as efficient as the ones in the other housing options. The Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 flat rate for a two-bedroom, four-person apartment, which is the only room option, is \$9,744.

Plymouth's lobby is also often used for Columbia events, and the building has a fitness center that is the largest on campus.

"Even though Plymouth isn't as new as the UC or Dwight, I loved the coziness of the building and the community it housed," said Lynette Velázquez, a former resident and senior majoring in graphic design. "I love the lobby area and the security guards are super nice."

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THE LOST GENERATION

STUDENT DEBT AT ALL-TIME HIGH

by Darryl Holliday
Contributing Writer

JOURDAN ROBLES has done everything right.

Having graduated from Columbia in December 2010 with a degree in theatre, the 23-year-old newlywed is keeping up with her student loan payments.

But she's still approximately \$35,000 in debt.

When you take into account the student loan debt of her husband, also a Columbia alumnus, whose concentration was music business, their joint debt is nearly \$60,000.

"I think I went about [my loans] as well as any 19-year-old could have," she said.

Even though they chose to pursue degrees in the notoriously unremunerative arts, the couple still finds the pressures of owing so much money stressful. Like many college graduates from Columbia as well as nationwide, they are increasingly feeling the heavy weight of debt, which has led many to default in staggering numbers and become saddled with higher interest rates as punishment.

The Chronicle's review of Illinois school default rates, provided by the U.S. Department of Education, shows that Columbia, a private not-for-profit college, has the highest rate of students defaulting on their loans of any major private, not-for-profit, four-year college in the city of Chicago. (Schools that don't offer master's degree programs were excluded from this list.)

A student loan is considered in default when non-payment of a monthly installment has persisted for 270 days. So, put another way, Columbia students are more likely to fall out of compliance with student loans than students from the largest private, not-for-profit city schools, according to federal data. Likewise, Columbia, with a 7.4 percent default rate, is in excess of the average national default rate for private schools, which stands at 4.6 percent for 2009—the latest figures available.

By contrast, in 2009 the University of Chicago and Northwestern University had relatively low default rates of 1.1 and 1.2 percent, respectively, Robert Morris University and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago were above the national average at 5.8 and 6.9 percent, while Loyola University and DePaul university had rates of 3.5 and 2.4 percent.



Numerous attempts to contact Columbia's administration for comment were unsuccessful.

The high default rate may reflect Columbia's nontraditional student body, which studies suggest is at greater risk of default, given the intense competition for creative jobs and the reality that many jobs in the arts do not pay well. Columbia's default rate, like the national average, has risen steadily in recent years.

Now approaching an all-time high of more than \$1 trillion, overall student debt is due to surpass overall consumer credit card debt for the first time ever.

According to an October report from the independent group The Education Sector titled, "Affordable at Last: A New Student Loan System," the amount that students borrow to finance postsecondary education has grown "by every available measure" during the last 15 years. For example, between 1993 and 2008, the percentage of bachelor's degree recipients who borrowed for their education grew from 49 percent to 66 percent, with average total debt at graduation increasing more than 50 percent.

The underlying policies that make up the system are overly complicated and little understood by the average undergraduate. Young adults who anticipated a brighter future are now clamoring for relief.

According to many experts, the crisis resembles the recent collapse in home mortgages.

"With the investment in housing, as the prices were going up they did not see the downside—they didn't see the risk," said Deborah Kelly, adjunct assistant professor of economics at the University of San Diego. "Housing prices could not continue to rise. I think there's a similarity with student debt."

Along with a mostly consistent rise in tuition nationally in recent years—an increase of 150 percent since 1996 in Columbia's case—it's no wonder so many, including Kelly, see student loans as the next bubble.

One increasingly popular long-term solution that could also aid graduates in the short-term is an income-contingent loan system. The proposal runs counter to the current standard repayment system, in which all students repay loans in fixed amounts.

A modified form of this already exists. The Income Based Repayment program, which took effect in 2009 after being enacted by Congress in 2007, is designed to lighten the debt load for some students. The program includes a cap on monthly repayments to less than 15 percent of disposable income. Furthermore, if a student makes these payments for 25 years, the remaining balance is forgiven.

By executive order, President Obama is taking the IBR program one step further. On Oct. 26, he announced that, as of 2012, the effective cap would be reduced to 10 percent and that forgiveness would kick in after 20 years, rather than 25.

But, according to Andrew Gillen, research director at the Center for College Affordability and Productivity, the forgiveness aspect of the program simply treats the symptoms rather than the disease.

"There's no way that students are going to be able to pay back that money, but at the same time, we don't want to do a loan forgiveness thing," Gillen said. "As for taxpayers, this is basically a ticking time bomb. The taxpayers are going to eat a lot of the cost."

According to Gillen, a re-examination of the loan program is needed in the interest of creating a program geared to how much students can repay—otherwise known as income-contingent repayments.

"The most promising [solution] is reconsidering the way we think about loans when we talk about investments in education," Gillen said. "We aren't really asking those types of questions."

An income-based system could replace multiple financing means with one loan, one interest rate and one payment program based on income level and/or chosen major. The system would aim to significantly reduce default by allowing borrowers to pay a percentage of what they make.

But the debate surrounding the education system and rising debt, which could eventually fall onto taxpayers, hints at a deeper issue.

"We basically don't know what we want college to be," Gillen said. "There's a big issue in determining what the outcomes are."

While the idea of across-the-board forgiveness, as advocated by some in the Occupy Wall Street movement, is incendiary and unprecedented, the idea of using targeted loan forgiveness to encourage graduates to take particular career paths is already in practice.

The federal Stafford Loan Program was designed to incentivize people to enter public service in return for forgiving students loans after 120 payments have been made. It is available to those entering a wide range of fields including social work, library science, education, law enforcement, public safety, childcare and elder care.

see STUDENT LOANS, pg. 34

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HOW TO

Apply for Scholarships

by: Kaitlyn Mattson
Contributing Writer

EVERYONE COULD use a little help paying for college. Education doesn't come cheap, and with tuition costs increasing, it isn't getting any less expensive. The best way to curb the cost without robbing a bank is by receiving a scholarship.

However, the process of actually applying for a scholarship can be frustrating. Maureen Herlehy, director of Enrollment Management Services, provided a few helpful tips pertaining to applying for Columbia scholarships.

All the information regarding the 64 different scholarships available exclusively to Columbia students can be found at Colum.edu/Scholarships.

"This [website] is where everyone should start," Herlehy said.

Scholarship applications are available as early as September and the deadline

to apply is usually in February, according to Herlehy. The available scholarship categories and requirements vary, so the best thing to do is use the scholarship finder in order to narrow your search. This is the easiest way to navigate the website, Herlehy said.

If you would like more help choosing which scholarships are best for you, talk to an adviser. You can make an appointment with one on Oasis by going to the "Make Appointments" tab and clicking on "Columbia Advising Center Appointments."

The following tips from Herlehy will further help you figure out what you need in order to apply for the scholarships and what you should be doing each month to prepare your application.

chronicle@colum.edu



Heidi Unkefer THE CHRONICLE

Use the finder

1

Fill out the scholarship finder on Colum.edu/Scholarships. The only information you needed is your student status and major. The best time to do this is early October because all the scholarships for the year will be posted to the website. Using the finder allows you to narrow your search and have a better idea of which scholarships are right for you. By doing so, you save time because you don't have to read through so many forms.

Narrow it down

2

By December, you should commit to the scholarships that best fit you, Herlehy said. The only way to pick your scholarships is by reading each of the forms that were narrowed down for you by the scholarship finder. Each form explains the scholarship, how to apply and what the requirements are. All forms have contact information as well, in case you have more questions about the scholarship.

Recommendations and essays

3

In December and early January, you should begin to ask for letters of recommendation, Herlehy said.

"You should give [the faculty members you choose] at least two to three weeks to write [a recommendation letter]," Herlehy said.

Along with getting recommendations, this is also the time to start writing your scholarship essay. It needs to be strongly written and should be proofread and edited by someone else. Scholarship committees will know right away whether you took time on your essay or wrote it quickly, Herlehy said. The recommendations and essay are a big part of the decision-making process of who receives the scholarship.

Apply

4

In February, submit your scholarship application with the required components. Most of the applications are submitted through Oasis by clicking on the scholarships tab at the top of the page. Each scholarship form should explain where to submit your application in the 'How To Apply' tab of the scholarship form.

After your application is submitted, "sit back and take a breath while the committee reviews [all the applicants]," Herlehy said.

Scholarship recipients are usually made aware if they won in March, Herlehy said.



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

by Lindsey Woods
Managing Editor

SUMMER STRAWBERRY PIE

WHEN SUMMER rolls around, it's a tradition for my family to make strawberry pie. It is a simple and refreshing summer staple that always disappears from the refrigerator as soon as it's ready to serve (I'm looking at you, Dad).

I prefer to make my own crust using my grandmother's recipe, but a store-bought one is an easy and cheap alternative. No matter what kind of crust you use, it needs to be baked before you begin. Simply follow the instructions on the package and allow it to fully cool. When the crust is cool, spread room-temperature cream

cheese over the bottom of the shell. Next, wash and slice the strawberries into quarters or eighths. When you're finished, measure out 2 1/4 cups of sliced berries, put them in the pie shell and set aside.

Mash up the remaining berries with your hands until they become liquid and pour them into a medium-sized saucepan. Add the sugar and cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, until the mixture starts to boil. As soon as it is boiling, slowly add the cornstarch, stirring constantly. When the mixture starts to thicken, re-

duce the heat and simmer. Don't stop stirring for approximately 10 minutes. When the berry mixture is simmered and thickened, pour the filling over the fresh strawberries in the pie shell.

Refrigeration will help further thicken the filling, so place the pie in the fridge overnight, or for 12 hours. The filling should be jelly-like after it's been refrigerated, allowing you to cover it with whipped cream. Serve the pie cold at your next summer barbeque or for a sweet treat.

lwoods@chroniclemail.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 9-inch pie shell, baked
- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese
- 2 1/2 pounds fresh strawberries
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 12-ounce tub whipped cream

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Wash and slice strawberries into quarters or eighths.
- 2 Cover bottom of baked and cooled pie shell with cream cheese.
- 3 Fill pie shell with 2 1/4 cups strawberries, set aside.
- 4 Mash remaining berries and mix with sugar in saucepan. Boil over medium heat.
- 5 Add cornstarch when mixture starts to boil. Stir constantly until mixture starts to thicken.
- 6 Simmer, stirring, for approximately 10 minutes and pour into pie shell.
- 7 Refrigerate pie for 12 hours or overnight.
- 8 Cover with whipped cream and garnish with fresh strawberry slices.

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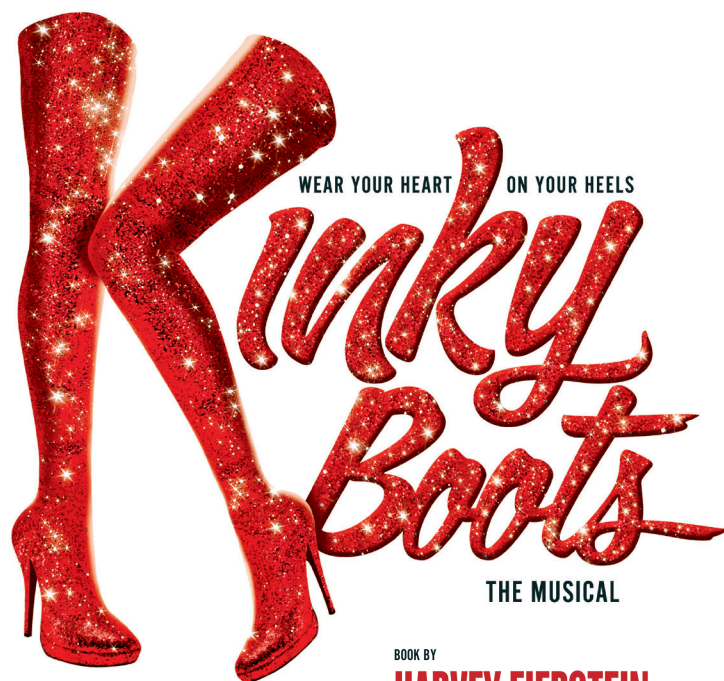
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editorial

LIVE WHAT YOU LOVE

by Gabrielle Rosas
Contributing Writer

NOBODY SAID being a successful artist would be easy. A study released on Jan. 4 shows that recent graduates with degrees in the arts, humanities and architecture suffer the highest unemployment rates in the nation.

Undergraduates with degrees in architecture faced an unemployment rate of 13.9 percent, the arts 11.1 percent and humanities 9.4 percent. Data from the 2009 and 2010 American Community Survey was used to make the analysis. Students who majored in technical fields fared much better. In fact, workers who majored in engineering, computer science or business have gained 50 percent more earnings in their lifetime than those who majored in the arts, according to the study.

This is not the best news for students at Columbia, but they are not alone. The “real world” isn’t easy. It’s constantly made harder by a volatile economy, so the results of the study shouldn’t be a deal-breaker for arts majors, nor should it be a surprise. In a world saturated with culture and art, making a decent living as an artist is difficult to say the least. Many students are just beginning to realize that \$50,000 of debt is a lot of money to repay when job prospects are limited and competition is fierce. People graduate without a job, sometimes not even an internship.

But any degree, whether it be in biology or graphic arts, is better than no degree at all. Unemployment rates were 22.9 percent for recent high school graduates and 31.5 percent for high school dropouts. Some majors that were closely related had vastly different unemployment rates. Information systems, for example, had an unemployment rate of 11.7 percent while computer science was 7.8 percent. Not to mention that “the arts” is an ambiguous, sometimes inappropriate term to categorize every single major at every single college.

Ultimately, it is up to the individual student to determine whether a certain major is right or not. Some students value monetary comfort above all else, and there is nothing wrong with that. Others would rather do what they love, whether it is painting or singing, for the rest of their lives and live modestly. But students need to be a bit more honest with themselves and to realize that a degree isn’t a free pass.

The workforce is
tough on artists, but
don’t be afraid to get
your hands dirty.

The economy is not going to change drastically for the better in one day. Therefore, high school graduates must adjust and think through what major will truly make them happy. Showing high school seniors unemployment rates instead of simply telling them “the world is your oyster” might seem cold, but in the end, it will help them make an important decision.

For current college students and recent graduates, life is just going to be difficult until the economy recovers. There are options, though many of them aren’t glamorous. When job offers are scarce after college, pursuing a graduate degree isn’t such a bad option as it will make students more valuable to prospective employers. Recent graduates must also be willing to swallow their pride and dig in the dirt for a while, whether it be fetching coffee for the boss or performing menial tasks. Everyone has to start somewhere.

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The popular color burgundy was seen in the Gucci Fall 2012 collection.



Photos COURTESY Jena Gambaccini

Gambaccini (above) showcases the trend of black and layered clothing.



Pops of bold color were seen in the Carlos Campos Fall 2012 collection.



White coats were seen in the Proenza Schouler Fall 2012 collection.

by Sophia Coleman
Managing Editor

GONE ARE THE DAYS of forced back-to-school-shopping, where mothers are required to buy their kids awful khakis, pleated skirts and polos. For Columbia students, the city is a platform to explore and experiment with fashion in every possible way. From world-class shopping on Michigan Avenue to the eclectic boutiques in Wicker Park, the options are endless. When school starts, fall fashion trends will be in full bloom and making a stylish impression is nearly as important as buying your books.

The Chronicle enlisted a bit of help to predict what will be in style by the time fall comes around and classes begin. One local fashion blogger and two Chicago stylists dug through their notes to help students transition from summertime styles to autumn trends.

"This is one of the most awkward, diametric transitions between two seasons that we've had in along time," said Eric Himel, a Chicago fashion stylist. "Spring and summer were all about femininity and being ladylike. There were lots of florals, flowing fabric and white colors. But now it's all about the color black."

Himel, who admitted he was never very fond of black, said that it will be the dominant color and will be seen in various layers and textures. Other popular colors will be burgundy, forest green and gold. He said the HBO show "Game of Thrones" should be an inspiration to those looking to be on-trend.

"The rich velvet, textural fabrics and a real dirtiness to fashion will be popular," Himel said. "Silhouettes are going to be a lot more structured."

Jena Gambaccini, a popular Chicago fashion blogger, agrees that luxe fabrics and rich colors will be fall staples. But while most of the color trends are very dark, which is typical for fall, she said "winter white" was a huge eye-catcher on the Fall '12 runways.

"I'm excited for winter white," Gambaccini said. "A lot of designers, including my favorite, Proenza Schouler, did amazing white coats that I can't wait to see in stores. I'm interested to see how the color will translate in Chicago."

Gambaccini said cutouts in dresses will be another fashion statement for fall that is also being seen in summer. She said to make sure the cutouts aren't overtly sexy; rather, they should be located along the ribcage and

tastefully cut.

She said if dresses aren't the most comfortable option, invest in a nice pair of black skinny jeans and a few jewel-toned blouses to make a simple but dramatic addition to any woman's wardrobe. For men, she said to also follow the rich color trend, and elevate outerwear options by choosing a wool coat with leather sleeves.

Jennifer Burton, a local style consultant and owner of JB Styles, said high-contrast textures, like leather, lace and fur, are on-trend along with layering outfits.

"It allows you to add a lot of depth to the outfit, which used to be considered undone, but now it's totally on-trend," she said.

Also popular is the militaristic look, Burton said, because designers are always influenced in this manner during times of war.

After attending New York Fashion Week in February, she said she saw a lot of the "waxy" look on the runway, which meant shiny leathers and other lustrous fabrics. She also said playing with proportions is in—such as oversized coats—but petite people should be careful with this trend, as it can be overwhelming.

All three fashion experts brainstormed ideas

of what women should have in their wardrobe, and they said big pendant jewelry, a luxe military jacket and black pumps are items that can be worn over and over again.

For men, they agreed having a great pair of slim-cut jeans, a tailored leather jacket and a quality pair of rugged boots is the way to stay trendy.

As for what not to wear, Burton said barely-there cut-off shorts are out, even when paired with tights, as they look unkempt and trashy. Himel said men should veer away from ultra tight skinny jeans, as they were never particularly in style and are not flattering on most men.

Himel said that above all, people shouldn't copy what they see in magazines or on the runways for the sake of being on trend. From the aforementioned trends, people should select styles that fit their personality.

"You want to be remembered for you, but you want to stand out in a good way," Himel said. "Fashion is an extension of who you are on the inside, so it's up to you to tell people who you are."

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SWEATPANTS ARE THE DEVIL

by Sophia Coleman
Managing Editor

YOU'VE FINALLY MADE IT to Columbia, a college that embraces weirdness, attitude and style. The fashion gods have blessed this school in a very unique way for two reasons, the obvious one being that we are an art school in the heart of a major city. The second is that most of us here couldn't care less if you come to class in the latest Brian Lichtenberg creation or if you show off your latest finds from the Salvation Army. Just make sure it looks good, that it represents you and, most importantly, that it's not sweatpants.

I'm not claiming to be a fashion expert, but I have been through enough trial and error to be able to give decent advice.

I'm assuming that by enrolling at Columbia, you have somewhat of an idea of what you're getting yourself into. Now that you're in the city, you have to be conscious of your fashion choices. No more rolling out of bed minutes before class—even though it's tempting. If you take time to get ready, you will produce better work because you'll feel more confident.

When I was a freshman at Columbia, I wasn't aware of all the fashion possibilities out there. I was stuck in the dismal scene of my hometown in Indiana, where light-wash, hole-peppered jeans and Abercrombie t-shirts were all the rage. I'll even admit that I wore sweatpants a few times. To be honest, I didn't feel too good about myself, and I could normally be found in the confines of my dorm room. I was stuck in this delirium until my first spring semester, when students stepped out of their bitter winter attire of fluffy coats and waterproof boots into boldly printed mini skirts, neon platform shoes and sheer t-shirts. My eyes were opened, and from that point on I knew I had to get my fashion A-game on.

There are so many people here with a flair for fashion that it's sickening. Often times you may feel intimidated by the guy or girl who rocks the



latest trends while strutting down Michigan Avenue. But you don't have to be like them. That's what's beautiful about Columbia. You don't have to be trendy or spend hundreds of dollars to fit in here because there's something for everyone. Sure, there are plenty of well-to-do students around who are loyal to brands and designers, but there are also many creative-types who love the hunt of bargain shopping. Often I'll venture into amazing thrift stores and boutiques off of the Belmont Red Line stop or in Wicker Park to find one-of-a-kind pieces or vintage treasures that only cost a few dollars.

Since then, I have built up a wardrobe of my favorite things: mostly black or red dresses, skirts, shirts and plenty of platforms. You'll see me prancing around in my favorite spiked Jeffrey Campbells at least once a week. None of this would be possible if I chose to go to a state school, where the campus is traditional and cotton t-shirts bearing the school's insignia run rampant. Here, our uniform is all about uniqueness and spontaneity. So embrace it. Dress edgy or extreme. Break fashion's boundaries in the best ways.

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COLUMBIA HAS SPORTS?



COURTESY The Renegades

by Lindsey Woods
Managing Editor

DURING FALL SEMESTER at a typical university, students paint their faces, wear foam fingers and dress in their school colors in order to obnoxiously cheer on their college's football team. Cheerleaders rev up the students while the band plays the old fight song.

Columbia isn't the average college. It doesn't have colors but rather a school color

palette. There is no mascot jumping around or students cooking brats in parking lots. But, we do have cheerleaders.

Our cheer team is part of the Renegades, Columbia's athletics organization. The cheerleading team is one of several sports teams sponsored by the Renegades. But like the college, the Renegades organization is atypical. They are not NCAA-sanctioned, nor do they draw large droves of students to football games. Heck, they don't even have a football team. But

sports on campus exist, and the four members of the Renegades executive board work hard to open up the world of athletics to students who study at Columbia.

This year, club president Abby Cress, vice president Forrest Frazier, Secretary Ben Manns and Treasurer Marcus Marquez—the Renegades executive board—are uniting to get Columbia students more involved in athletics.

lwoods@chroniclemail.com



Photos Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Abby Cress – President

Year: Junior

Major: Fashion design with a minor in marketing

Semesters on Renegades board: Two

What she hopes to accomplish: “We are going to move our focus more to events like dodgeball and volleyball tournaments. Our teams are still important to us, but we’re going to focus more on getting the whole student body involved.”

Sports team she wants to see at Columbia this year: Soccer

Event she’s looking forward to: Weeks of Welcome [Aug. 24–Sep. 5]

Sports played in high school: Volleyball, basketball

Favorite Sports Movie: “Remember the Titans”

Advice for incoming freshman: “Get involved. Go to as many events and activities as you can, because that’s really how you’re going to make Columbia feel like home.”



Forrest Frazier – Vice President

Year: Senior

Major: Film and video

Semesters on Renegades board: Two

What he hopes to accomplish: “I want to get these tournaments started. I want to get at least 100 people out for every single tournament. Especially the dodgeball tournaments.”

Sports team he wants to see at Columbia this year: Flag football

Events he’s looking forward to: Dodgeball tournaments [No dates set yet]

Sports played in high school: Football, Track and Field

Favorite sports movie: “Cool Runnings”

Advice for incoming freshman: “Don’t party too much. Freshman year will set the tone, GPA-wise, for the rest of your college career.”



Ben Manns – Treasurer

Year: Senior

Major: Film and video

Semesters on Renegades board: One

What he hopes to accomplish: “We’re working on hosting more events this year. So we’re taking the popular events that we had this past semester and doing more of those.”

Sports team he wants to see at Columbia this year: Tennis

Events he’s looking forward to: Rockin’ with the Renegades [In the fall]

Sports played in high school: Football

Favorite sports movie: “The Longest Yard”

Advice for incoming freshman: “Get involved with as many things as possible. That will make Columbia much more enjoyable. Use all the avenues that we have here at Columbia.”



Marcus Marquez – Secretary

Year: Junior

Major: Arts, entertainment and media management

Semesters on Renegades board: None

What he hopes to accomplish: “I just want to spread the word about fitness. I think every student should be fit and healthy.”

Sports team he wants to see at Columbia this year: Dodgeball

Events he’s looking forward to: Dodgeball tournaments

Sports played in high school: Basketball

Favorite sports movie: “Dodgeball”

Advice for incoming freshman: “Study. Columbia is harder than you think it is. It’s not a game. If you do [well] your freshman year and start off right with a high GPA, you’ll be good.”

For more information on the Renegades, “like” their Facebook page, Columbia Renegades, or email them at Athletics@Colum.edu.

WELCOME

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8th Floor,	1st Floor
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SFS
STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

>>STUDENT ORG

continued from pg. 5

to Children's Memorial Hospital, he said.

Words 'N Stuff

For those interested in publishing their creative work, Words 'N Stuff is an organization dedicated to the creation of 'zines.' Rian Lussier, vice president of Words 'N Stuff, explained that a zine is a mini magazine, typically home-made and distributed independently.

Lussier said the students involved in Words 'N Stuff are a diverse group with a wide range of passions. Additionally, zines are great vehicles for students to start publishing work, she said.

"Words 'N Stuff is a community that is made up of such a variety of different majors and interests," Lussier said. "The purpose of Words 'N Stuff is to provide students with an opportunity to express their opinions with the goal of communicating them to an audience."

In previous years, the group published several small zines throughout the school year, but the plan for this coming year is to produce a single, larger publication. Lussier said Words 'N Stuff will be looking for students to contribute illustration and graphic design work, along with poetry and short stories, to the future publication.

F-Word

Students interested in feminism and related activism can check out F-Word. Hayden Yaussy, vice president of the organization, said the group focuses mostly on raising awareness of feminist issues and improving the experience of being a female student on Columbia's campus. He said the group has also organized fundraising efforts supporting different women's shelters in Chicago.

"A lot of high schools don't talk about feminist issues, at least not in depth," Yaussy said. "There's a whole lot more to it than the suffragettes. I think it's a good opportunity for students to come in and be active in their community. It's important for people to know feminism isn't an issue that has been laid to rest, necessarily. It's still an incredibly important thing to be discussed."

The group is open to anyone interested in feminism, whether they consider themselves full-fledged feminists or have no knowledge of the topic, Yaussy said. He added that the group doesn't identify with any particular wave of feminism and instead strives to be all-inclusive.

A complete list of all student organizations and contact information is available online at the colum.edu/engagement. Students interested in learning more and joining organizations are also encouraged to visit the Office of Student Engagement, 916 S. Wabash Ave, 4th floor.

chronicle@colum.edu

>>STUDENT LOANS

continued from pg. 24

The nonprofit Young Entrepreneur Council is extending this principle to new grads who hope to launch startups.

Its \$10 million Gen Y Fund, announced in October, would provide grads with seed money and pay for up to three years of student loan payments.

For many of Columbia's graduates, who work day jobs to subsidize their art, a detour into public service with the added benefit of loan forgiveness might have saved them thousands of dollars. But few enter the arts with such a practical frame of mind.

Robles said she barely had a job when she graduated from Columbia. The theatre alumna has been babysitting since she moved to Chicago and now works as a nanny in addition to working on her art.

While she said she loves her job as a nanny, her desire to continue in the arts has manifested itself in a recent position as an art coordinator intern at her church. Her husband, a caterer, is also following through on his music degree with an audio tech internship at the same church while he works on an album.

"What we both see in our jobs is that it affords us the freedom to do what we want," Robles said.

However, the couple's budget is still tight. Nearly all of Robles' income from nannying—approximately \$1,200 per month—goes toward both her and her husband's loans while his income covers their living expenses.

"If we run out of funds by the end of the month, we have to get creative with groceries," Robles said. "I'm not a budget person at all—it's just not how my brain works—but my husband is, so I've just gotten on board."

As with her student loans during college, responsible spending, research and planning has helped Robles manage her finances as it relates to her job post graduation.

As for other recent grads, employment will be key to individuals staying above water and avoiding default when it comes to their repayments. But larger policy shifts can help make the loan system more equitable for everyone involved.

Despite the issues surrounding college, education experts across the board maintain that students aspiring to attend a higher education institute should do so.

"As a student, all you really need to know is if you're capable of graduating college, and if the answer is yes, then you should go," Gillen said. "Go to a college you can afford [and] don't borrow excessively."

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Illustration: Erik Lundquist, BFA Illustration '12

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SOPHIA COLEMAN, MANAGING EDITOR

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WE ARE YOUNG // Fun.
SUMMERTIME SADNESS // Lana Del Ray



LINDSEY WOODS, MANAGING EDITOR

FOXY LADY // Jimi Hendrix
20 DOLLAR // M.I.A.
DATE WITH THE NIGHT // Yeah Yeah Yeahs
ANTHEM PART TWO // Blink-182



ZACH STEMERICK, ART DIRECTOR

MIAMI // Will Smith
STEAL MY SUNSHINE // Len
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Columbia misconceptions

Heidi Unkefer / Graphic Designer

Your major has to define what classes you take

There's a reason you can study dance, film, painting and take a class based on the Harry Potter novels all in one semester at Columbia. Feel free to step outside of your comfort zone. If you've ever questioned it, try it now while you have the opportunity.

LAS courses don't matter

Professors outside your major find ways to cater to your overflow of creativity. Use final projects to your advantage and treat them as any other project you get within your major. They could be what sets your portfolio apart from others. They're also a great GPA booster.

You can only find work after you get your degree

You may not be able to get your dream job while taking your first or second year of courses. But Columbia has such a wide variety of majors and disciplines, you'd be crazy not to constantly be on the lookout for ways to put your name out there and work with others. Freelance. Take internships. Collaborate. It's what people mean when they say, "Live what you love."

It only gets harder

It is true that as you make your way through whatever curriculum Columbia has laid out for you, there will be more projects to take seriously and more stress. But as long as you love what you're doing and you can see yourself doing it for years to come, then it's a good kind of stress.

You won't get the "college experience" at Columbia

Sure, you won't get the typical college experience because there won't be any frat parties to stumble into. However, you will meet new people, learn an immense amount about your major and gain experience. You're getting something even better at Columbia.



Stereotypical professors

Sylvia Leak / Ad & Business Manager

Inbox-flooder

While the Columbia faculty is composed of amazing people who create impressive work, every college has those stereotypical teachers who annoy you. The Inbox-flooder is one of them. These are teachers without any priorities in their lives besides class. They are usually older and have only recently discovered what an email is. They flood your inbox with irrelevant things they previously said in class. Emails are basically these teachers' substitutes for text messages.

Free Spirit

These professors are really laid-back. They are low energy and don't take life very seriously. They hardly teach the subject and repeat information that you knew before class, often encouraging students to be themselves and do what they want to do.

Egotistical

These people don't care about any other student obligations because they only think about themselves and their class. The fact that students have other classes never crosses their minds when giving homework. Their perception is that an "overload of homework" is what will give students a great job.

Ongoing Talker

Never look at the time during this teacher's class. Their words drag on for the full 2 hours and 50 minutes, and often will flow in through one ear and out the other. All of your classmates will be logged onto a social network. Make plans to come late and leave early.

Mellow

These teachers make you want to come to class. Their classes have the highest attendance rate. They are up-to-date on the latest trends and topics. You'll always find a way to engage in the conversation. These are the most exciting classes you can have.



Things to do freshman year

Zach Stemerick / Art Director

Adventure to Cheesie's at 2 a.m.

You have all weekend to sleep. Relish the late nights you'll have this upcoming year. They won't last forever. There's a grilled cheese restaurant off the Belmont Redline stop called Cheesie's, 958 W. Belmont Ave. Take your new friends there. There's no better way to bond than over melted cheese.

Watch the top 100 films of all time

As the Chicago winter rolls in, you'll find yourself becoming a dorm or apartment homebody. Make it a challenge to see all of the films in the American Film Institute's "100 Years, 100 Movies" list. It will be relaxing, and at the same time make you a well-rounded, knowledgeable artist. You'll be surprised how many pop-culture references you didn't get before seeing them all.

Make questionable style decisions

This may be the last time you're considered a child. Have fun dying your hair stupid colors and getting rebellious piercings. You can always get rid of them by the time you start looking for employment. That is unless you get a tattoo—in which case you'll have to hide it. I suggest avoiding face tattoos.

Have theme parties

The excess time you have now, combined with your artistic curiosity, is a perfect recipe for throwing hilarious costume parties. Columbia students need more than just Halloween. The most memorable moments of my first year at Columbia were spent in facepaint.

Have moments

Watch the sun rise on the lake with someone you just met. Cry at the Buckingham Fountain to sad music because you're growing up. Trek through Grant Park on the night of your first Chicago snowstorm. Fall in love with your career and art in all forms. Have a thousand cheesy and emotional revelations. Each will help you find who you are as a student, artist and adult.

REVIEWS



No—just no.



Tolerable.



Nicccceee.



GOLD.

SCREEN



"The Avengers"



Some may frown upon me, as a woman, stating that I enjoy a good superhero battle as much as the next person. That being said, it should be no surprise that I loved this flick, and I think you will too, even if you don't know who Pepper Potts is. —**M. Cummings**



"Smash" season finale



I've been watching Smash all season because there's nothing else worth watching on mid-week Hulu. But hey, aside from the terrible acting, the finale wasn't too bad. Who knew one could ever take Katherine McPhee seriously? Not I. —**Z. Stemerick**



"Snow White and the Huntsman"



Snow White and the Huntsman is a unique retelling of the original tale. Kristen Stewart's Snow White is not the pie-baking, Suzie Homemaker type, and the film's darkness is highlighted by a ferocious Charlize Theron as The Evil Queen. —**T. Ballanger**

PRINT



"Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk"
by: Ben Fountain



This story about returning war heroes being honored at a Dallas Cowboys game is equal parts pretentious and insightful. When Fountain isn't trying too hard to be Joseph Heller, he provides candid commentary on modern America in wartime. —**L. Woods**



Computer Arts Magazine



Every month, like a delightful gift from "across the pond," Computer Arts delivers the latest in graphic design, illustration and website design news. It leaves readers motivated, inspired and jealous in the best way possible. —**H. Unkefer**



"Paris, I Love You, But You're Bringing Me Down"
by: Rosecrans Baldwin



New York native Rosecrans Baldwin takes a job in Paris at an advertising firm. Work culture is a jolt for Baldwin: the language, whom to kiss, and why Parisians love McDonald's. When I live in Paris (which I will), this will be my survival guide. —**N. Lobberecht**

MUSIC



Regina Spektor, "What We Saw from the Cheap Seats"



My favorite quirky pop goddess once again delivers flawless vocals and inspired lyrics in her new album that debuted May 29. Perfect for a summer drive, it will leave you satisfied, without the Top-20 pop hangover. —**L. Woods**



Alanis Morissette, "Guardian"



Upon hearing Alanis' new single, "Guardian," I couldn't help but feel suckerpunched by its lack of urgency. She's no longer the angry mess we loved in the 90's, but is now comfortable being married with a child and paying tribute to her new life. —**T. Ballanger**



Lollapalooza Lineup



Few things define a Chicago summer more than Lollapalooza. This year's lineup is heavy on the rock 'n' roll, which contrasts with last year's more diverse Muse, Eminem and Coldplay. This year, there's something for a rock fan of any era. —**H. Unkefer**

RANDOM



Best Coast's UO line



I've been an Urban Outfitters shopper since my early teens. But in the last five years, not much has changed. I probably own about four variations of the same dress. Surf pop artist Best Coast's Urban line isn't much different. Don't get me wrong; I like the cutesy crop tops and letterman-meets-bomber jacket. But while Best Coast says her line is 90's "valley girl" and Fleetwood Mac singer Stevie Nicks, I say "Same stuff, different day." —**H. Schröering**



Cafecito



You know you can't go wrong at Cafecito, maker of the No. 1 Cuban sandwich in Chicago. The menu has many fresh, flavorful and exotic options to choose from. Lunchtime lines are usually long, but each bite of that delicious sandwich is worth it. —**S. Coleman**



Weeks of Welcome Events



If you're willing to get past annoying ice breaker games and psycho-babble about making a creative posse, they're great. It has been three years since I went to my Weeks of Welcome events, and my riding partner at Six Flags is still my best friend. —**Z. Stemerick**



We hope this Orientation Guide has saved you from a meltdown. Chill out, take a deep breath and explore the wonderful things Columbia College has to offer.

Sincerely,

The Chronicle Staff

