

11-16-2015

## Columbia Chronicle (11/16/2015)

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Biographical film  
'Trumbo' recalls  
shameful Blacklist era

PAGE 13

College's diversity  
initiatives off to  
slow start



PAGE 20

NOV.  
**16**  
2015

» LOU FOGLIA/CHRONICLE

## STUDENTS: 'Perseverance, unity—we are all one community'

Columbia students join national  
conversation about race in higher education

» ARABELLA BRECK  
CAMPUS REPORTER

**STUDENTS GATHERED IN** front of the 624 S. Michigan Ave. Building with Senior Vice President and Provost Stan Wearden and Vice President of Student Success Mark Kelly on Nov. 13, sharing stories of racial inequalities they have experienced.

At the Stand in Solidarity event, a freshman journalism major who is black shared the hurt she felt when her

roommate voiced concerns that the new roommate they will soon be assigned will be "ghetto"—what she took as a thinly-veiled racist remark.

"I do not pay tuition to be judged; I do not pay tuition to come to school and be segregated," the student said. "Just because the KKK is not on campus yelling at you does not mean [racism] is not here."

Columbia's Student Government Association and Black Student Union

organized the gathering, named "Stand in Solidarity," in light of University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe's Nov. 9 resignation following accusations of mishandling racial tensions at the university. The demonstration's purpose was to express solidarity with Mizzou students protesting their president's remarks and to bring the national discussion of racial issues in higher education to Columbia's campus.

SEE SOLIDARITY, PAGE 10



# Columbia should continue to show solidarity, support diversity

» **KYRA SENESE**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As colleges across the nation are struggling to adequately support diverse student bodies, it has become increasingly apparent that Columbia's more liberal, urban campus environment is more amenable to change than campuses such as Yale University and the University of Missouri.

The Nov. 9 resignation of the University of Missouri System's President Tim Wolfe occurred because the racial inequality and related harassment students had long been fighting against continued to exist at the college. Student-led protests gained national attention, and the viral video of Mizzou faculty shooing away the media from covering the public campus goings-on has sparked debate in classrooms and nationwide.

Some may have thought Wolfe's resignation and the announcement of Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin's looming resignation would defuse racial tensions at Mizzou, but students say that has not been the case. One student, Aja Guyton-White, who was an elementary school classmate of mine, took to Facebook Nov. 10 to share her personal experience at Mizzou in response to the controversy. Guyton-White detailed sitting in her college library, afraid to leave the building alone to get in her car and go home for the day. As a senior at Mizzou, she said last week was the first time she felt unsafe at the university, but the intensity of the week's events made her feel "about ready to transfer."

Taylor Reid, also a senior at Mizzou and a former high school classmate of mine, published an open letter to the university campus on her blog Nov. 13 in light of the week's tensions. She noted that holding Wolfe responsible for all racial issues at the college was unrealistic on the part of some students.

"It's irrational to think one man could be responsible for such a widespread problem America has always faced," Reid wrote, but clarified that the administration did let students down. "So many steps were taken before this point, so many letters, so many calls for action, rallies and pleas—all unanswered and leading to no reform."



On Nov. 13, Columbia students showed their support for fellow students at Mizzou. As reported in the Front Page story, the college's Student Government Association, Black Student Union, Senior Vice President and Provost Stan Wearden and Vice President of Student Success Mark Kelly all gathered in a Stand of Solidarity in front of the 624 S. Michigan Ave. Building to share supportive words for those experiencing hateful acts at Mizzou and discuss personal experiences with racism.

Hearing these stories of hostile experiences is discouraging, as the majority of millennials like to believe we are more progressive than previous generations. However, these recent events highlight how environmental factors and leaving long-standing problems unaddressed contribute immensely to the social structure of a campus.

I am proud of Columbia's students for showing solidarity with those at Mizzou, and while attending a more urban college may come with the built-in privilege of experiencing a liberal atmosphere, I am hopeful that Columbia continues to improve its own efforts to support a diverse learning environment and encourage safe spaces for all its students, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, orientation, religious affiliation or any other facets of one's identity. Columbia's efforts to support a diverse campus are still just beginning, but we should celebrate our diversity and not take it for-granted, as we continue to see that some college students are still fighting to be treated with basic respect at their own schools.

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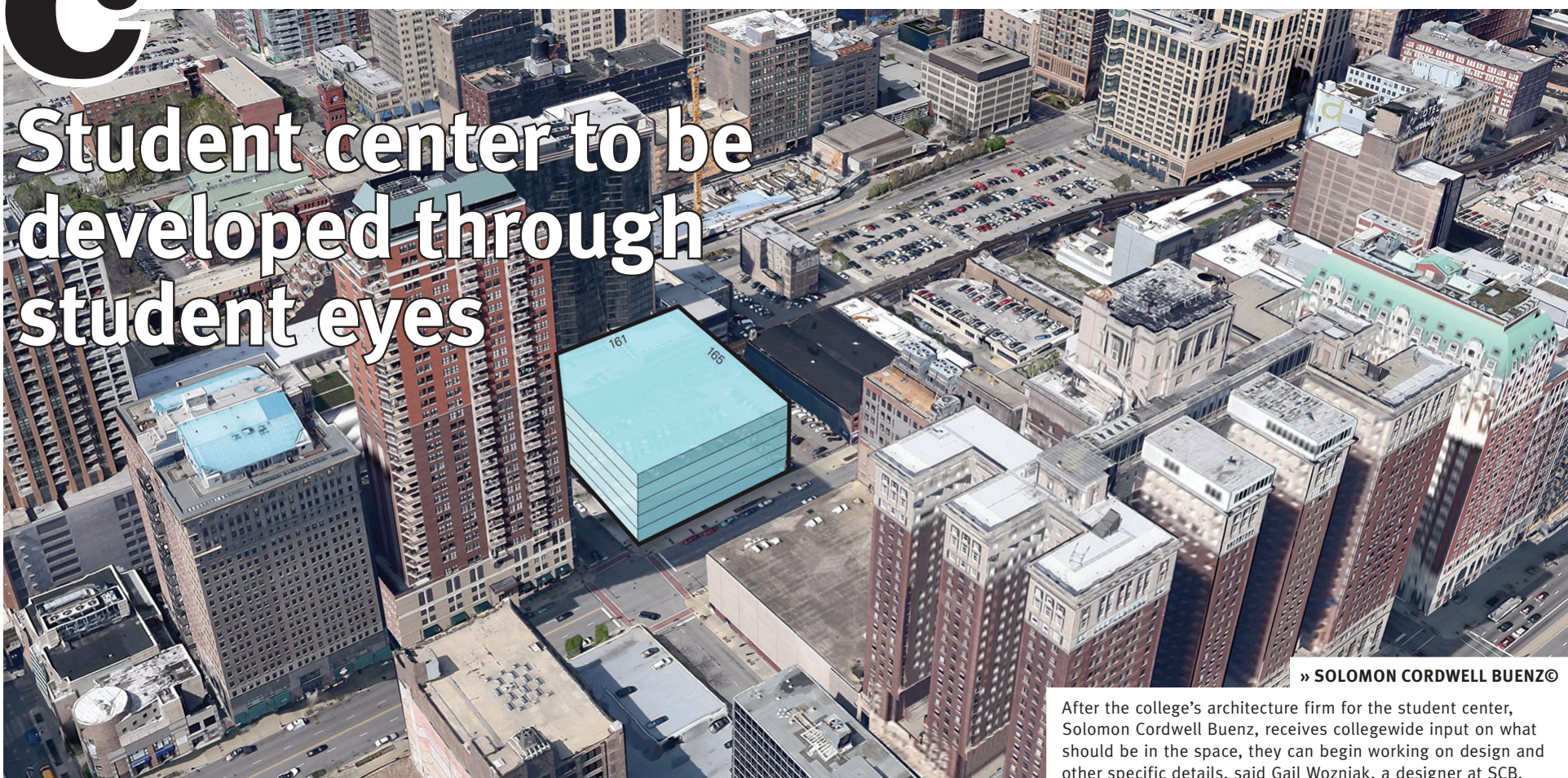
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# Student center to be developed through student eyes



» SOLOMON CORDWELL BUENZ©

After the college's architecture firm for the student center, Solomon Cordwell Buenz, receives collegewide input on what should be in the space, they can begin working on design and other specific details, said Gail Wozniak, a designer at SCB.

» MEGAN BENNETT  
CAMPUS EDITOR

**STUDENT VOICES WILL** be an important force in planning Columbia's recently announced Student Center, according to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Success.

The center, which is slated to be complete by the Fall 2018 Semester, was approved for development Oct. 28 by the board of trustees, as reported Nov. 9 by *The Chronicle*. The location, which contains 26,565 square feet of space, will occupy what is currently the Papermaker's Garden at 8th Street and Wabash Avenue and the parking lot behind it, which the college also owns, Kelly said.

During the next nine weeks, the college will consult with Chicago-based architecture firm Solomon Cordwell Buenz, which also designed the sleek Crate and Barrel store at 646 N. Michigan Ave., to create a document listing ideas for the new space. To do this, SCB will conduct a listening tour seeking college-wide opinions, according to Gail Wozniak, a designer at SCB.

"When we are working with higher education spaces, we try to make sure we're listening to a variety of groups and representatives from campus," Wozniak said. "Not only will we be speaking to faculty, but we're really interested in what students think and what they feel is a need on campus."

After the original programming phase, the firm, which will meet with several

student groups the week of Nov. 16, will share ideas to ensure the college's requests have been noted accurately, Wozniak said. She said the actual designing and schematic makeup of the building can begin after that.

"It keeps getting more refined as we continue to go through each iteration of the program until the very end—you get a document that lists everything that will be in the building along with all the details of the spaces," said Vickie Apostolopoulos, an associate at SCB, who added that details regarding what the building will look like and how many floors it will be will not be determined until those later processes are complete.

The budget for the building will be determined during the schematic process and is normally done in tandem between the firm and the college, Wozniak said. President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim said the center will be bankrolled by a fundraising campaign, but it also will help that the college already owns the land.

Kelly, who led the creation of Columbia's first student space, the Hokin Lecture Hall at the 623 S. Wabash Ave. Building in 1987, has continued to advocate for the creation of a student center. He added that the largest place where students can currently congregate is the Conaway Center at the 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Building, which holds approximately 350 people.

Kelly said he is thrilled to finally work with a president and board of trustees who support the development.

"To have a strong commitment to this, I pinch myself," Kelly said.

Kelly said previous campaigns for a student center were not prioritized like the current one is. He added that a 2002 initiative garnered support from the former president but never came to fruition because it was seen as "extra."

"It was a different era," Kelly said. The college did not believe this was a priority."

Kim said it became evident to him that a student center was needed when he spoke with SGA President Jerel Ballard during Ballard's freshman year.

Ballard, a junior journalism major who was then commuting from Milwaukee, said it was during that time when he noticed there was no centralized place for students to work, relax or eat on campus.

"That was when the topic really started beginning within student government," Ballard said. "I got to present to a few of the board members about that idea, and it had a light bulb go off in their head of 'why don't we have this?'"

Ballard said SGA will host a forum Nov. 17 called "Build Your Student Center," inviting students to share their opinions with Kim about what the building should include.

Kelly said he hopes students take advantage of their opportunity to be involved in the center's development.

"Their voice and ideas will be part of informing the architects and creating what

I hope is going to be some very innovative, brilliant space that speaks to our community," he said. "I would assume this would be unlike any student center we know because we're different."

Before the center was officially approved, the board met with a student-led discussion panel in October that allowed trustees to ask questions and students to share their personal experiences about why having a student center on campus is necessary, said Ashley Modrow, a senior television major who participated in the panel.

Modrow, who is also a fall orientation leader and a resident assistant in the Dwight Lofts, said she discussed how she could have benefited from such a center as a transfer student, adding it was difficult for her to find a place on campus before finding a major and other student organizations that foster community.

"If [students can go to a student center], that's opening up collaboration automatically—transfer students [will be able] to find that immediately instead of waiting the six months I waited to find a good group of friends," she said.

Kelly said the center will benefit not only prospective students, but all students, whether they live on or off campus, in terms of opening them up to collaboration and giving them the student community they have long been asking for.

SEE CENTER, PAGE 11



# SGA President steps down

» CAROLYN BRADLEY  
CAMPUS REPORTER

**TEARS WERE SHED** by the Student Government Association's executive board during its Nov. 10 meeting at The Loft, 916 S. Wabash Ave., after SGA President Jerel Ballard announced he would resign from his role at the end of the Fall 2015 Semester.

Ballard, a junior journalism major, said he plans to leave his SGA post for an internship opportunity with The Fund for American Studies program which, according to its website, focuses on "the values of freedom and free-market economies," in Washington during the Spring 2016 Semester.

Ballard said the exact details of the internship on Capitol Hill will be determined in January. He added that he will attend George Mason University on a scholarship during the Spring 2016 Semester and study in

partnership with both George Mason and Columbia. He said any credits from George Mason, which received \$13.3 million from the Koch Family Foundation in 2013, according to an Oct. 30, 2015, story in Atlantic magazine, will transfer back to Columbia.

Ballard added that the special election to replace him is scheduled for Dec. 8. He said only Senate members can vote, but the election is open to the public to attend.

Amanda Hamrick, SGA's executive vice president and a junior interactive arts & media major, said she plans to run for SGA president. She said the qualifications to run for SGA president include having a 2.5 grade point average and the delivery of an election speech.

"This [semester] is the most I have seen the senators involved," Hamrick said. "I think SGA is going to be [making] more, bigger changes to the campus."

Hamrick said Luther Hughes, SGA vice president of Finance and a senior creative writing major, is also considering running for SGA president.

Ballard said this has been the most successful year SGA has seen in terms of money given back to departments for student initiatives, departmental forums and record-breaking attendance at Pizza with the President forums.

"Looking back, it has been a pleasure serving in this position,"

Ballard said. "I loved everything from being an at-large senator to being the president and everything in between."

Ballard said he discovered the internship opportunity during the summer, later deciding to pursue it.

Ballard said he is a journalism major, but many of his experiences in college have involved politics. He said he interned for Mayor Rahm Emanuel's press office from June through

September 2015, and he currently interns for Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL).

"Having an internship in Washington, D.C. on Capitol Hill, whether it's in a congressman's office or another senator's office, will fully advance me toward my end goal, which is either [to be] a political reporter, a broadcast journalist or maybe even a politician," Ballard said.

Arissa Scott, student representative to the board of trustees and a senior fashion studies major, said this past year has been transitional for SGA with changes to membership, constitutional amendments and overall goals for the organization.

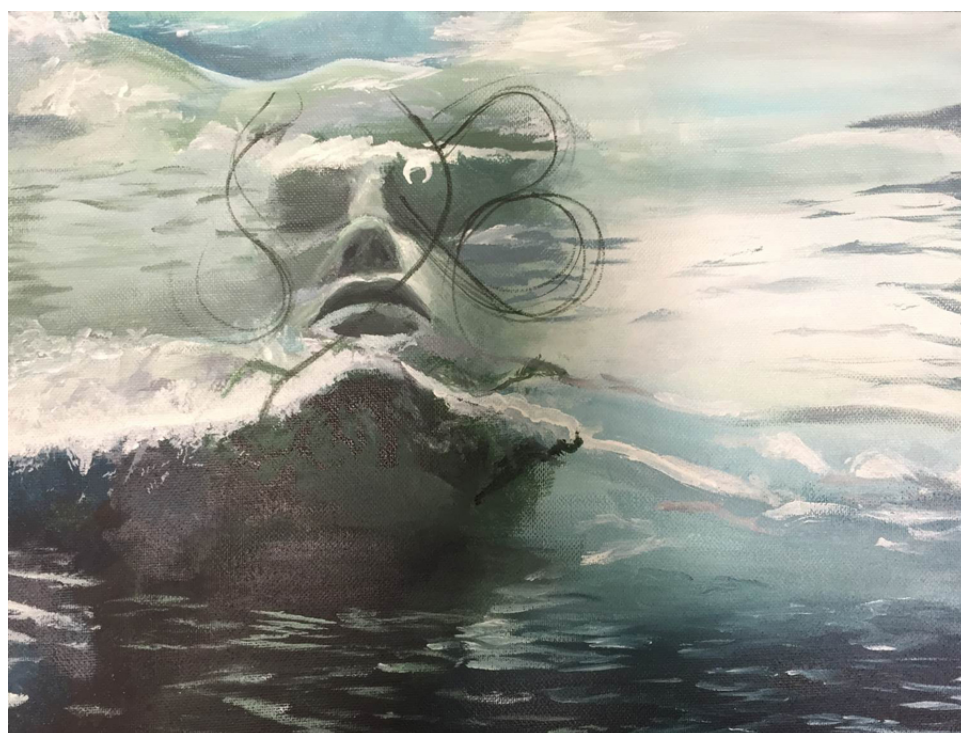
"I think [the executive board] was emotional in the sense that we feel like this is the first senate we have all experienced that has felt like a community and a family," Scott said. "As great an opportunity as it is, to have someone leave that family is still sad."



Jerel Ballard, Student Government Association president and junior journalism major, said while it is sad to leave SGA, he is excited to pursue his end goals.

» G-JUN YAM/CHRONICLE

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Artwork by Caitlyn McMahon (BA '17)

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# College to offer scholarships to unpaid interns

» CAROLYN BRADLEY  
CAMPUS REPORTER

COLUMBIA IS ENCOURAGING its students to pursue internship opportunities with the launch of its “Columbia Internships Challenge,” which will award a \$2,500 scholarship to 140 students with unpaid internships.

Christie Andersen Asif, executive director of career initiatives at the Portfolio Center, said the awards are set to be disbursed before the start of the Spring 2016 Semester along with the rest of student financial aid. Asif said she was told the funds, \$175,000 in total, came from the college’s scholarship budget.

No students attended the program’s informational meeting held Nov. 11 at the Portfolio Center, 623 S. Wabash Ave., which Asif said happened

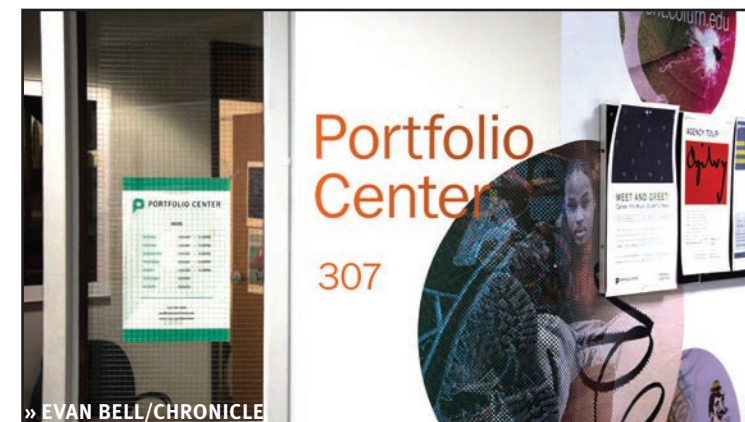
because the program is new, and earlier information sessions are attended less frequently.

She said an internship task force, which included Vice President of Student Success Mark Kelly and Senior Vice President and Provost Stan Wearden, met at the beginning of the summer. It recognized that financial considerations could be a huge barrier for students in completing internships.

“There are a lot of unpaid internships in the creative industry,” Asif said. “Students [with unpaid internships] start working 10–20 hours a week; then they have to give up a part-time job or cut back on hours.”

Asif said she hopes the opportunity will incentivize students to complete internships and reduce the financial burden on interns.

Asif said some students will only consider paid internships,



Christie Andersen Asif, executive director of Career Initiatives at the Portfolio Center, said approximately 50 percent of interns nationwide are hired by the company they interned for.

but some industries offer few, if any, paid opportunities.

“Students end up ruling out potentially good internship opportunities because the need to be paid is really high,” Asif said.

Miriam Smith, executive director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, said the department is spreading word about the internship challenge to alumni in hopes former students will donate to the challenge.

“At one point, all alums were students here at Columbia,” Smith said. “It’s really important for our

alums to know the challenge exists. We would love for them to pay it forward and to help out our current students with internships.”

Smith said a fall appeal was mailed to alumni on Nov. 10 announcing the challenge.

Julie Harris, internship coordinator for the Communication and Media Innovation Department, said she took part in the discussion promoting experiential learning opportunities for students.

Harris said she thinks internships, paid or unpaid, hold valuable opportunities for all students.

“The value [of internships] is in the professional experience outside the classroom,” Harris said. “Internships are central to a student’s career preparation.”

The scholarship application will be live from Nov. 16–Dec. 4. To qualify, students must submit documentation to the college to verify they received the internship. Students can contact the Portfolio Center for more information about the scholarship.

“We would love if everybody paid his or her intern, but until that happens, there are still a lot of good unpaid opportunities,” Asif said. “If it means students are able to expand what they are looking for, or even consider internships period, I think this award can help make that possible for students.”

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# Previous dispute resurfaces after professor's class cut

» LAUREN KOSTIUK  
CAMPUS REPORTER

A SECTION OF adjunct professor Iymen Chehade's "The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict" course was cut for the Spring 2016 Semester as of the beginning of registration. When the same course was cut in November 2013, an Illinois committee of the American Association of University Professors found Columbia guilty of an academic freedom violation, which the college denied, as reported April 7, 2014, by The Chronicle.

Chehade, who teaches in the History, Humanities & Social Sciences Department and the only professor who teaches the course, said this situation is different from the previous instance because the course was simply not offered for the Spring 2016 Semester.

He said he does worry the college is violating his academic freedom again but is trying to give them "the benefit of the doubt."

The college decides how many courses and sections of courses will be offered based on the semester's total projected enrollment, curriculum rotation and the availability of full-time faculty, said Cara Birch, spokeswoman for the college. She added that there is a usual projected decrease in enrollment between the Fall and Spring semesters.

After full-time faculty receive their assignments, adjunct faculty members are assigned to open courses under the Part-Time Faculty Union's collective bargaining agreement. Birch added that adjunct faculty members have the opportunity to apply to teach more than one course that they are qualified for.

"When it comes to his particular course, or anybody's, it always has to go by that process," Birch said. "The idea that anybody is being targeted for any reason would be absolutely false and [the college] will challenge that completely."

Chehade said he previously had difficulty communicating with Steven Corey, the former chair of the HHSS Department and current Interim Dean of the School of Liberal Arts & Sciences but has had open dialogue with Erin McCarthy, the new acting chair of the department, who was not involved in the previous controversy. McCarthy was not made available for comment, as of press time.

"She has been around for a while [and] is a very well-respected professor in the department," Chehade said. "Hopefully there can be some dialogue to resolve this situation."

A similar dispute involving Chehade's course arose when one of his two assigned sections was



» FILE PHOTO

One section of Adjunct Professor Iymen Chehade's "The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict" was not offered for the Spring 2016 Semester. During March 2014, he spoke at a forum about academic freedom.

removed from online registration on Oasis in November 2013.

The situation later developed into a struggle that gained national attention, leading to a Change.org petition and a March 20, 2014, forum on academic freedom.

The college denied Chehade's claim that the class's cancellation was linked to a student's complaint about a class viewing of "5 Broken Cameras," an award-winning documentary that follows a Palestinian filmmaker as he deals with Israel's settlement policies in the West Bank, as reported March

31, 2014, by The Chronicle.

The section of his class was later reinstated for the Fall 2014 Semester, as reported April 7, 2014 by The Chronicle.

P-Fac filed a federal lawsuit Oct. 9 against the college alleging Columbia breached its contractual duty by refusing to arbitrate grievances brought on behalf of adjunct professors, including Chehade, regarding the loss of his class and a breach of academic freedom, as reported Oct. 26 by The Chronicle.

SEE CLASS, PAGE 11



  
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# Faculty Senate addresses 'out of date' technology

» **LAUREN KOSTIUK**  
CAMPUS REPORTER

**BYRON NASH, CHIEF** information officer and associate vice president of Technology Services who has been with the college for five months, discussed with the Faculty Senate Nov. 13 his plan to modernize and efficiently bring the college's information technology systems into the 21st century, adding that the school is 7-15 years behind, mostly because the network is outdated.

"IT should not be something separate from the campus and the college," Nash said. "It should be a key part of the college's strategic plan."

Nash added that the college lacks standards, policies and procedures in the IT department, saying he is concerned about the college's aging infrastructure, especially with its

lack of a coordinating security program, an identity management system and the use of servers that are more than five years old.

Nash said he also worries how dependent the college is on its years-old wired network when anyone could go to Starbucks and use the wireless, adding the college's wireless is about two generations behind.

"I think it is critical for [the college] to understand why things take a long time here—we have limited staff," Nash said. "That is probably the condition for everybody [at the college]."

A new network will be installed after the college recently completed negotiations for a new fiber ring that will double network capacity from 10 GB to 20 GB.

The new network will run from Congress Parkway down to Roosevelt Road around Wabash

Avenue and up Michigan Avenue with a new connection to the Internet at 35 W. Cermak Rd., allowing bi-directional traffic to different servers, Nash said.

The college recently replaced its firewalls to present a more logical view of the two networks and analyze the traffic coming in and out of the college's network. He said the department can now track the most frequently used applications on campus with Facebook being No. 1 followed by Pandora Internet Radio. He added the IT department may need to realign the use of those applications more with what students are studying.

Curtis Lawrence, an associate professor in the Journalism Department, reminded Nash to consult with departments before tampering with the stream of social media applications because the Journalism program teaches social media classes and encourages the use of it while on campus.

K-J Mathieson, an associate professor in the Cinema Art +

» **G-JUN YAM/CHRONICLE**



Byron Nash, chief information officer and associate vice president of Technology Services, visited the Faculty Senate on Nov. 13 to discuss the college's technology systems.

Science Department who teaches computer animation, advised Nash to make sure IT workers who run those specific labs communicate with the IT leadership team so things can run more smoothly.

Nash said instead of creating a formal group, he is trying to establish a monthly meeting with certain IT workers to coordinate everything efficiently around campus.

"I am incredibly proud of all the accomplishments of Faculty Senate lately," said Greg Foster-Rice, associate professor in the Photography Department and president of the Faculty Senate. "Everyone is really throwing themselves into a positive change for the college."

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# New program combines music, science



» LOU FOGLIA/CHRONICLE

Christopher Chraca, a senior in the Music Technology Program, showed prospective students what people in the program have been creating in their classes during an open house event on Nov. 9 in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building.

Fall 2014 Semester. It is designed to teach music composition in the context of computer science and audio-related technologies.

Sandroff said members of the departments had been working on the program for several years before its approval by the Provost's office.

Because the program is interdisciplinary, most of its required courses were already offered at the college, Sandroff said during the open house presentation.

Students in the Music, Audio Arts & Acoustics or Interactive Arts & Media departments must apply to be admitted and have completed 45 credit hours, said Ben Sutherland, an associate professor in the Audio Arts & Acoustics Department who teaches in the program.

The program hosted an open house Nov. 9 in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building for prospective students, which featured faculty and current students who explained the program and shared student work from its courses.

Interim Director Howard Sandroff, along with faculty from the Audio Arts & Acoustics, Interactive Arts & Media and Music departments, officially proposed the Music Technology Program during the

Prospective students spend their first two years at the college enrolled in a program in one of those three departments and work on the advanced degree requirements for the Music Technology Program after they are accepted.

"This program is designed with a high level of academic rigor," Sutherland said. "It is admittedly not for everyone. [It is for] students who are interested in creating and influencing music technology."

Senior Christopher Chraca will graduate from the Music Technology Program this spring. He said he had a class with Sutherland his freshman year that piqued his interest in the program.

"[The program has] all this high-level math and science and then art on top of it," Chraca said. "[The program] blurs the lines between departments. It lets people explore things they probably would have never thought of."

Each student is required to take four semesters of a program-specific course called the "Sonic Experience." Each semester

students will take three modules, each lasting five weeks, on different subjects taught by various faculty members in the program, Sutherland said.

There are currently four degree-seeking students in the program and they are hoping to add 16 to 18 students each year, Sandroff said.

Sebastian Huydts, an associate professor in the Music Department who has taught two of the modules on theoretical models and structure in electronic music and electro-acoustic orchestration, said the Music Technology Program is a great offering to students.

"Most music technology programs have either the technical aspect or the artistic part, and we aim to be a mix of both," Huydts said. "Looking at the Strategic Plan for Columbia and the idea of making collaborative and interactive programming between departments [combining disciplines] seems like the right thing to do."

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» ARABELLA BRECK  
CAMPUS REPORTER

THE COLLEGE'S GRADUATION ceremony in May 2016 will include Columbia's first student to graduate with a bachelor of science degree in music technology. The degree is granted through the recently established Music Technology Program, which the college approved during the Spring 2015 Semester.



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SOLIDARITY, FROM FRONT

Students arrived carrying signs that read “#prayformizzou” and “#cccsupportsmizzou” before Victoria Street, a junior journalism major and vice president of Communications for the BSU, initiated the event by leading attendees in chanting, “Perseverance, unity—we are all one community.”

In response to the events at Mizzou, two college students from Missouri were arrested for posting threatening messages considered to be terrorist threats on the social networking app “Yik Yak.” The sign at the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center at Mizzou was vandalized in another reaction to recent events.

Noel Price, a Columbia freshman music major, said the incidents at Mizzou highlight that more education is needed on what is happening in their community and that people need to stand together to make their power known.

“You see all these people standing in this circle? There is power in numbers,” Price said. “You need to be

aware of the things going on around you to stay informed. Continue to spread the word, let people know there is power in your skin. Do not let anybody take that from you.”

Jasmine Brown, a senior radio major, grew up in St. Louis, where her sister attended the University of Missouri. Brown said her sister experienced racism at the institution when students placed cotton balls in front of the African-American Student Center, referencing that many African-American slaves were forced to pick cotton.

“I want to thank everyone for coming out,” Brown said. “All of my friends back in Missouri are so thankful to the people at Loyola [University Chicago], DePaul [University], [University of Illinois at Chicago] and Columbia.”

Casey Walker, a senior creative writing major, suggested in a Facebook post that Columbia host an event to support the protesters at Mizzou and was then contacted by members of SGA and BSU because the two student groups wanted to co-sponsor the gathering, said Jerel Ballard, a junior journalism major

who is the president of SGA and a community chair representative for BSU.

“I have a lot of friends and friends of color at Mizzou,” Walker said. “I wanted to show that students across the country are standing up to systematic racism in higher education.”

Luther Hughes, a senior creative writing major and SGA’s vice president of Finance, said it is important to show solidarity with Mizzou students because the issues they face are not exclusive to that institution.

“We are standing against discrimination throughout the whole nation,” Hughes said. “We are standing with all schools going through this.”

Hughes, who told a story about how he was called a racial slur while working at the clothing store H&M, said he tries not to let such hateful words affect him.

“I am more than these words,” Hughes said. “I am more than what they tell me I am.”

Ballard said the Stand in Solidarity was also an opportunity to address these issues at Columbia.

“[SGA and BSU] thought this would be a great opportunity to



» LOU FOGLIA/CHRONICLE

Chris Flowers, a sophomore business & entrepreneurship major, voiced support for Mizzou students at a Nov. 13 event at 624 S. Michigan Ave.

show support, not only for the students of Mizzou, but also show support for the people of color at our school and people of color at any other higher education [institution],” Ballard said.

Ballard said President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim was out of the country on business at the time of the event and could not attend, but he expressed support for Stand in Solidarity. Also showing support from the college administration were Kelly and Wearden.

“With such an incredible number of students of color, it is absolutely necessary that we support our students,” Kelly said. “We value who they are and support the students

in Missouri.”

Ballard said the Chicago Police Department, who had officers present, supported the event as well.

Chris Flowers, a sophomore business & entrepreneurship major who transferred from the University of Alabama, said it was empowering to see students of various races and backgrounds unite to support Mizzou’s students.

“I appreciate coming to Columbia because [the students] are so united,” Flowers said. “Different races, different cultures, different ethnicities—everybody is here supporting this movement.”

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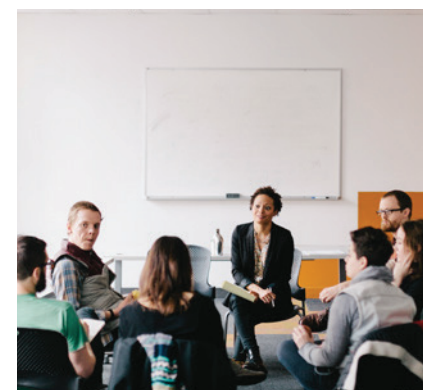
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- Story in Graphic Forms
- Readings in Nonfiction: Transgender Writing, Transgender Self





**CENTER, FROM PAGE 3** ⬇

“We do not build a student center to attract students, but it will attract students,” Kelly said. “When students come to Columbia, they are intrigued, but I think one of their questions is ‘Will this be a comfortable home for me?’ That answer will be yes as this [development] begins to emerge. For students here, it’s going to make it so much harder to leave because it is now their community.”

[mbennett@chroniclemail.com](mailto:mbennett@chroniclemail.com)

**CLASS, FROM PAGE 7** ⬇

According to P-Fac’s current and previous agreements with the college, contract disputes can be resolved through arbitration as the final step of the grievance process after other attempts at resolution have been made.

“I am really trying to discuss this internally,” Chehade said. “It didn’t work out. They are still refusing to arbitrate [about the situation].”

Chehade said if the college is concerned about its enrollment figures, more classes that attract

students should be offered.

“We want to do the best we can and offer classes that interest the students,” Chehade said. “I don’t know what the rationale is.... They haven’t been rational throughout this whole process.”

John Draughon, a junior cinema art + science major, said Chehade’s class was the first time he learned about the conflict where both sides of the argument were presented in an equal manner. He added it is apparent that Chehade has pro-Palestine views but said it

allows students, like himself who have only experienced the Israeli and Jewish side of the conflict, a different perspective.

“This class makes it more available for people to become aware [of the conflict], especially students,” Draughon said. “I think cutting it is just wrong.”

Chehade said the content of the course and his years of teaching experience have created a positive change for the college.

“I am here to try to do my job as best as possible, and that is not enough unfortunately,” Chehade

said. “It wasn’t enough last year as the controversy resulted, and I don’t know where the college has its priorities, but from my experience the last couple of years, it doesn’t seem to be with the students.”

Chehade said he thinks it is unlikely the college will add a second section.

As of press time, Chehade’s class was closed after 25 students registered and no new section has been added.

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## Jay Roach's biopic 'Trumbo' highlights political edge

» ARIEL PARRELLA-AURELI  
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

**FILM DIRECTOR JAY** Roach visited Chicago Nov. 11 for an advance screening and audience discussion of his new independent film "Trumbo," which had a limited release Nov. 6.

Roach, known for directing 1999's "Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me," discussed the political significance of the film and the importance of comic relief in a political biopic.

Written by John McNamara and based on "Dalton Trumbo," a biography by Bruce Cook, the film details Hollywood screenwriter Trumbo's career after he and other Hollywood figures were blacklisted for their communist affiliations and their subsequent struggle to break out of the blacklist. The film stars Bryan Cranston as Trumbo and features Helen Mirren, Michael Stuhlbarg and Diane Lane.

"Comedy requires chaos," Roach said. "It's a serious story, but I had to be open to comedy since that was authentic to who these people were."

He said the comedy in the film came from the Trumbo family's response to being ridiculed for their father's treatment and imprisonment for being a communist. Roach said the Trumbo children helped him understand what it was like.

"They developed a great deal of humor as a coping [method], and as Trumbo did," Roach said.

Evan Gulock, a freshman cinema art + science major who attended the advance screening, said he heard about the Hollywood blacklist and was interested in seeing how the director would portray the complex issue.

"It was a nice balance between the witicism and the humor of the characters because they had so much contempt for authority," Gulock said.

Roach said the film is a biography but not a documentary, and a lot of the characters and circumstances became composites for the bigger picture. Gulock said this helped tell the story and connect to it, whereas learning through textbooks does not give accurate depictions of history, he said.

"You are getting the family life, and I love seeing that," Gulock said. "It makes [the film] more compelling."

Josh Jones, a freshman cinema art + science major who attended the screening, had not heard of Trumbo prior to viewing the film but said the film was brilliant.

"Trumbo's dedication to the filmmaking process was astonishing—I kind of envy him," Jones said. "It's an admirable quality to be that passionate about something."

He also said hearing Roach speak on the film during the Q&A was a highlight for him because he is familiar with Roach's work and has never seen a director in person speak about their film.

"I was sitting here smiling the whole time, like, 'Oh my gosh, it's Jay Roach!,'" he said. "I loved the chance to hear him talk."

Peter Kuttner, a motion picture camera technician who lives in Chicago, said younger generations are not as aware of the Hollywood blacklist. Kuttner, born in 1944, is a member of the Local 600 union, which is part of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. Kuttner saw "Trumbo" and is glad someone is talking about the historical blacklist.

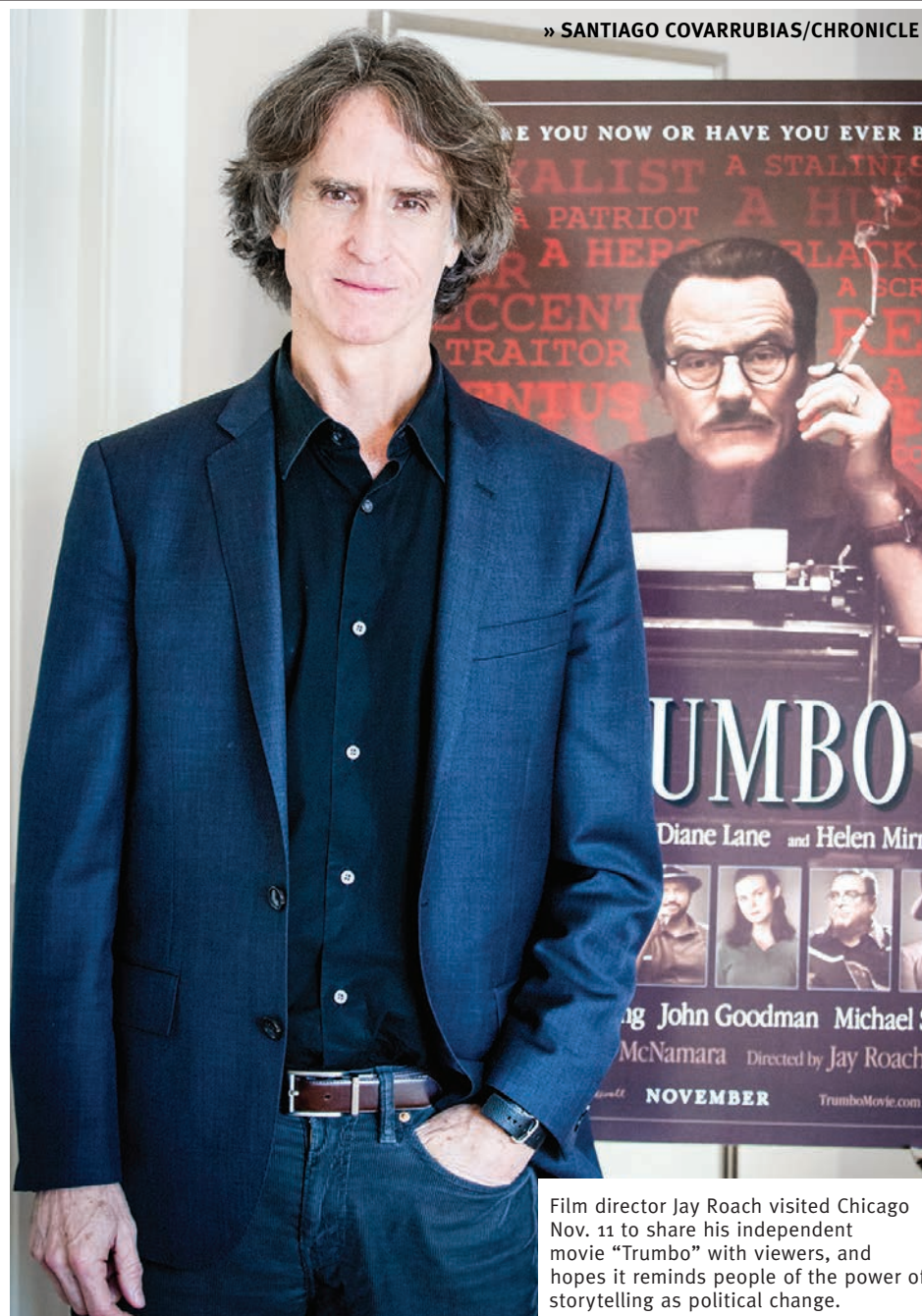
"It will be in the national conversation for a while," Kuttner said, adding he thinks the film could win Academy Awards.

However, Kuttner pointed out the film only highlighted one struggle among the many union film workers who were affected by the blacklist. He said many camera technicians, set builders, directors and producers got blacklisted who were not part of the "Hollywood Ten" celebrity figures seen in the film. He said they had many struggles that were not seen on screen.

"They were working-class people and did not have the resources that the middle-class or rich-class like Trumbo had," Kuttner said. "Many of them lost their houses and [died of] suicide."

Kuttner came of age years after the blacklist but experienced its aftereffects in 1975 when he learned he would not be admitted to the IATSE union unless he signed a statement confirming he was not a communist—a decision he said was hard to make.

"High-principle people are confronted with decisions that affect not only them, but their families," he said. "I was not a member of the Communist Party but was very active in the 1960s civil rights protests and anti-war movements, and had a large FBI file."



» SANTIAGO COVARRUBIAS/CHRONICLE

Film director Jay Roach visited Chicago Nov. 11 to share his independent movie "Trumbo" with viewers, and hopes it reminds people of the power of storytelling as political change.

Kuttner, a longtime member of Kartemquin Films, a documentary group, said he would not have signed something like that on principle, but he needed work. "I crossed my fingers on one hand and signed the papers with the other, hoping I would not go to hell for it," he said.

Kuttner said the IATSE apologized in 2002 for its actions, but the blacklist rid the industry of the perceived danger of creative individuals putting controversial ideas into people's heads. He said it also gave the unions a way to leverage out their more progressive members—the ones challenging the more undemocratic and unpopular ways that the unions worked, Kuttner said.

Roach said this was a persistent theme in the movie, and actor Bryan Cranston emulates Trumbo's beliefs and characteristics. They are both passionate storytellers and workaholics who are not scared to question political authority and speak about things that may not be "cool" anymore but are ways to create structural change, he said.

"He is a passionate man, and he is not afraid to wear his passions outside," Roach said about Cranston.

Roach said there is an attempt through representative government to protect civil rights and freedom of speech, and he said he loves what Trumbo said about that in the film.

"[Trumbo] said the First Amendment was designed to protect unpopular speech," he said. "We all agree about popular speech, but unpopular speech is what you want to protect."

Roach said the story of "Trumbo" holds a mirror to modern terrorism, and Cranston's character epitomizes the drive to oppose political corruption and create fairness among people. This aspect of the character appealed to Cranston, and Roach called him "very Trumbo-esque."

"Bryan is committed to big ideas and he is not afraid to talk about them," Roach said.

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# behind the beat

» JACOB WITTICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

## Halsey's mainstream media rejection hypocritical

Indie-pop musician Halsey has established herself as one of the most exciting artists in the music industry and been heralded as one of the "It Girls" of 2015.

A definitive product of the Tumblr generation, Halsey has amassed a massive online following that has translated into critical acclaim and respectable sales—her first album *BADLANDS* debuted at No. 2 on the Billboard 200 following its Aug. 28 release.

The star's transition into mainstream media has been rapid since the release of her debut EP *Room 93* in 2014, but none of that matters to the star, according to a Nov. 5 Q&A with the artist by PopJustice.

"I honestly couldn't give a s--t," Halsey said to the interviewer Peter Robinson, who asked if mainstream media was irrelevant to her.

"Why are you doing interviews then?" Robinson inquired. Halsey tried to backpedal, claiming the interviews helped open her awareness. "But if the media are irrelevant..." Robinson interjected.

"It's still an entry point," Halsey responded. "I think the media's opinion is irrelevant, but I think my presence in it is important."

Halsey's response is unclear and fails to completely clarify why she still goes through the motions of a mainstream pop star if mainstream media is "irrelevant" to her.

From publicity stunts like breaking the rules and crowd surfing during Lollapalooza on Aug. 2 to collaborating with pop superstar Justin Bieber on his new album, it is clear that Halsey is appreciating the attention mainstream media give her. Pretending not to care about it for the sake of maintaining her indie image is silly and damages her credibility as an artist—is she in this business to share her music or just to be cool?

It is OK to be deemed a mainstream artist, and Halsey's rejection of that label



seems foolish when examining her rise to stardom. Halsey first started gaining attention in 2012 when she posted a parody video of Taylor Swift's "I Knew You Were Trouble" on her Tumblr account, which served as a fan blog for her favorite band at the time, One Direction.

Looking at Halsey's roots shows that she has long been influenced by mainstream media, so calling it "irrelevant" is a slap in the face of her own artistry.

Signed with Capitol Records, Halsey has landed major promotional slots since her album's release, making appearances on shows like "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" and "Last Call with Carson Daly." She has also opened for major mainstream acts like Imagine Dragons and The Weeknd and accepted nominations for awards from MTV and People's Choice.

Halsey is by no means the independent artist she pretends to be, and her actions show intentions of maintaining a largely mainstream career, but that's OK.

Her music is great. She offers a creative, edgy sound incomparable to most of her peers and has been recognized as one of the more talented acts to surface in recent years. The effort Halsey gives to defend her independent image should be redirected toward producing more high-quality music. Halsey should allow her music to do the talking and let that defend her artistry.

jwittich@chroniclemail.com



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Tuesday, Nov. 17

### FIELD REPORT

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Friday, Nov. 20

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Wednesday, Nov. 18

### GREAT LAKE SWIMMERS

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Saturday, Nov. 21

### BEACH SLANG

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\$12, 17+

Thursday, Nov. 19

### THE DANDY WARHOLS

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\$25 advance, \$27 door

Saturday, Nov. 21

### GLEN HANSARD

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175 N. North St.  
8 p.m.  
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## FEATURED PHOTO

Mac DeMarco performs at the penultimate show of his U.S. tour at The Metro on Nov. 7.



» SANTIAGO COVARRUBIAS/CHRONICLE





» Courtesy JAMES DILLARD

## Bookstore brings cultural heritage to Hyde Park

» ZOË EITEL  
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

HYDE PARK, LONG noted for its bookstores, is now host to a new one—BING Books, 307 E. Garfield Blvd.—devoted to bringing to the neighborhood art books that are of unusual quality and inventory, according to the store’s website.

Since its Oct. 22 grand opening, BING has hosted events like film

screenings put on by Black Cinema House and provided a comfortable setting for locals to browse and inspect the glossy pages of a wide array of books that can be read in the store or purchased.

According to the store’s website, the collection of books at the store is a rotating one that is “fueled by book acquisition opportunities.”

“It’s a vision of a reading room/bookstore,” said Chris Salmon,

Chris Salmon, general manager of BING Art Books, said the store has not had many patrons yet, other than Nov. 7 when books went on sale, and it will take them some time to build up traffic.

general manager of BING Art Books. “We want people to come in, spend some time here, be exposed to things they aren’t usually exposed to in this area and, if they want to bring [books] home with them, they can.”

Salmon said the store will host events such as musical performances, film screenings, lectures and public conversations and will feature a wine bar that will likely open in a few months.

The bookstore is the brainchild of Theaster Gates, a professor in the Department of Visual Art and director of the Arts + Public Life initiative at the University of Chicago, and Hamza Walker, who curated most of the books in the store’s collection, Salmon said.

“They were looking at [Walker’s] personal library, and [Gates] asked, ‘How do I get these books? How are they accessible?’ [Walker’s] response was a lot of them aren’t

accessible,” Salmon said. “That’s when the wheels started turning in both of their minds about creating this space where things that are expensive, or just unattainable due to scarcity, [are available for] people to come [read] even if they can’t afford to buy them.”

BING sits on a block of buildings owned and rented out by the U of C, said Isis Ferguson, program manager of the Arts + Public Life Place Lab team. Ferguson added

that Gates rents the spaces for the Currency Exchange Cafe, 305 E. Garfield Blvd., as well as BING Art Books, from the university.

Naomi Miller, operations and administrative manager of the Arts + Public Life Place Lab team, explained that Arts + Public Life is part of the U of C’s UChicago Arts Department that is headed by Gates. She added the program’s purpose is to give arts and culture a



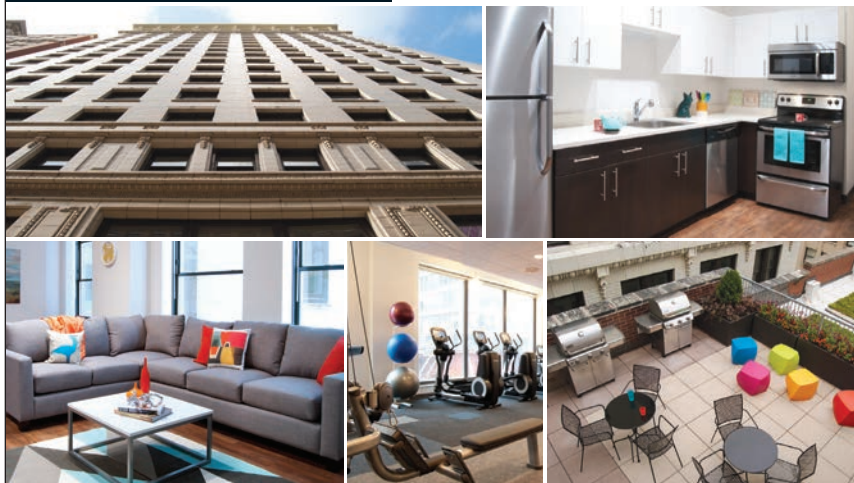
» Courtesy JAMES DILLARD

Isis Ferguson, program manager of the Arts + Public Life Place Lab team, said people in the neighborhood discover BING Art Books by coming to visit other places on the block where the store is located.

SEE BING, PAGE 27

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audiofile

» ZÖE EITEL  
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

Electronic duo ODESZA has made waves since forming in 2012 while its members, Harrison Mills and Clayton Knight, also known as Catacomb-Kid and BeachesBeaches, were attending Western Washington University in Seattle.

In the time span between its debut album *Summer's Gone* and its most recent *In Return*, ODESZA's fanbase has grown to include much of the world. The band has sold out North American and Australian tours and remixed songs for artists such as Sia, Charli XCX and RAC.

ODESZA is set to perform twice Nov. 21 at 5:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. at the Aragon Ballroom, 1106 W. Lawrence Ave.

The Chronicle spoke with Knight about ODESZA's origins, his favorite performance and the band's upcoming Chicago stop.

**THE CHRONICLE: What are the origins of ODESZA?**

**CLAYTON KNIGHT:** We met our senior year in college through a mutual friend. There weren't really a lot of people making electronic music up there; it was very folk-and-indie-oriented. We bonded over that right away, tried to make a few songs and ended up making quite a few of them. Then we released an album, and it took off from there.

# ODESZA talks electronic takeover



» Courtesy TONJE THILESEN

From left, Harrison Mills and Clayton Knight met at Western Washington University and formed ODESZA to stand out from the indie music they were used to hearing.

**Where did the band's name come from?**

There's a Caribou song we really liked that embodied the sound we were going for named "Odessa." After doing some research, we found there's a UK band, "Odessa," as well as some other bands that actually had some pretty good followings, so we were like, "Scratch that, we can't do that." So, we threw a "Z" in it.

**Did you expect ODESZA would become this popular?**

No. When [Mills] and I started, it was like a little, fun side-project we would do after class. We thought maybe we'd get a good tour in or something like that before we had to go back and [work] day jobs.

**What has been your favorite venue or festival to play?**

Red Rocks in Morrison, Colorado, we did not too long ago with Chromeo, and that was definitely one of my favorites. I love going home, [so] playing Seattle is a blast. We went to Sasquatch not too long ago, which was really fun. Those are the big ones.

**What else do you do while touring?**

It's usually rehearsal dates or tweaking the set in some way, writing new music [and] doing interviews, so there is rarely any downtime. Any downtime is usually spent sleeping or trying to watch TV and decompress.

**Do you have plans for future remixes?**

We've done quite a few. I think we're going to take a little break on remixes for right now and try to focus on writing our own material. Once this tour is over, we can hopefully get back in the studio for a bit.

**What are your plans for after the tour?**

We'll have a couple more shows, and then we're going to take a good amount of time off. We've basically been on the road for the past two and a half years off and on. It'll be nice to take a break for a minute and then go back in the studio [to] start writing stuff for another album.

**If you could tell your fans anything, what would it be?**

I'd say a lot, but mainly, we are completely humbled by the love and support everyone has shown us and just happy to be able to do what we do. [I would] thank the fanbase for allowing us to do that, and hopefully we can supply more good music in the future and better shows.

**What are you planning for Chicago?**

We have two shows in Chicago. The first one sold out so fast, so we gave [Chicago] another one. I love the city. I haven't been to the venue yet, so I'm excited to check that out and eat some good food as well. Chicago has some of the best restaurants in the world.

zeitel@chroniclemail.com



# Tasty cooking songs

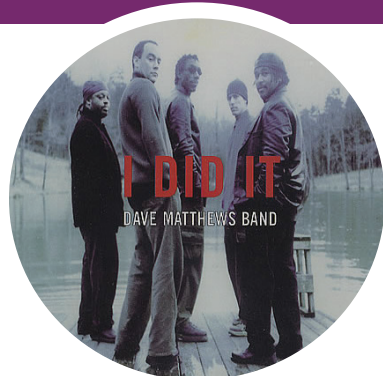
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# Bronzeville's Sir The Baptist tackles religion and violence in new single

» DANA MACK  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WILLIAM JAMES STOKES, a Bronzeville native better known for his fusion of gospel and hip-hop music under the moniker Sir the Baptist, released his new single "Wake Up" through streaming service TIDAL on Nov. 5.

"It's great that Jay Z and his team at TIDAL would take in a little guy like me from Bronzeville," Stokes said. "I'm a preacher's kid, so it's kind of shocking that out of all the acid rapping, trapping and the drill movement, they would choose me to push Chicago."

"Wake Up" is a call for Chicagoans to promote a message of anti-violence in the city's numerous fractured communities.

"Everybody is going to try to take advantage of Chicago and gang violence so they can create art, but

in this case, [TIDAL] wanted to empower something that was positive and had a more lighthearted approach to it," Stokes said.

Stokes was born and raised in Bronzeville, and he pulls much of his inspiration from the community's culture and history.

"Bronzeville is where Nat King Cole, Louis Armstrong, Muddy Waters and Ella Fitzgerald migrated to during The Great Migration. My dad was born in 1924 and migrated to Bronzeville during The Great Depression; he was a pastor and lived in a parish in Bronzeville," Stokes said.

"I was brought up a little bit religious and a little bit street, but the balance of the two brought me to this sort of ghetto gospel, where it's a mixture between rap and gospel."

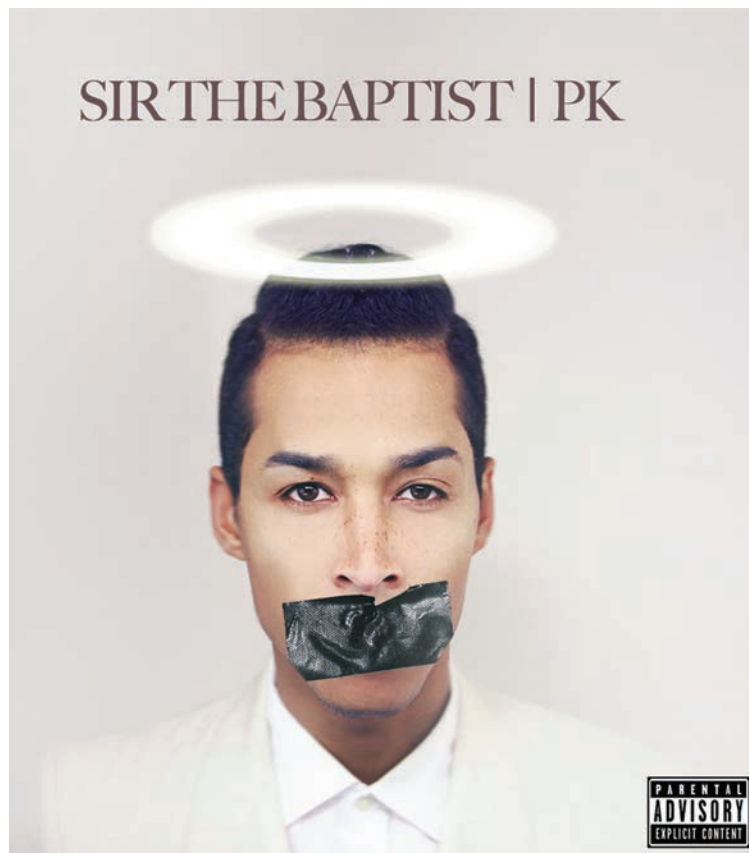
Stokes said he has made music since his childhood, when he sang

in his church choir and played the drums. If someone did not show up to play music, he said his father would have him take his or her place. He said his first major performance was at Millennium Park for thousands of listeners at a gospel festival. Stokes said he then took a trip to Los Angeles, where he said he got into the business of music and started meeting people.

The transition from William James Stokes to Sir the Baptist has been a fairly recent one, he said.

"It wasn't until one year ago that I accepted the fact that I'm a preacher's kid, and I have a calling that is haunting me to be greater and better," Stokes said. "That's when I became Sir the Baptist."

If he were not making music, Stokes said he knows exactly what he would be doing. Pulling out his phone, he proudly displayed a photo of his Certificate



» Courtesy JEREMY COHEN

William James Stokes has been pursuing activist efforts since his father got him involved as a child, he said.

SEE SIR, PAGE 27



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# Latinicity spices up Chicago culinary scene

» **ARIEL PARRELLA-AURELI**  
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

**THE MANY VARIETIES** of Latin American cuisine have found a brand new home in Chicago—all under one roof.

Latinicity, a Latin American restaurant, food court, market and bar in the city's Block 37 mall, 108 N. State St., opened Nov. 5 to customer acclaim, according to Executive Chef Mark Chmielewski, who has worked with top chef

Richard Sandoval—the owner and creator of Latinicity—for more than a year.

Latinicity features 12 culturally diverse kitchens, a coffee cafe, a full bar, a market and a lounge area. The restaurant features Latin American street food, as well as Spanish and Portuguese cuisine.

Chmielewski said his “partner in crime,” Chef Daniel Merono, originally from Spain, created all the recipes and has been working on them for a long time.

Merono spent the last 10 years as a chef in Bogotá, Colombia, where he met Sandoval, who had already been considering creating Latinicity and invited him to be a part of it, Chmielewski said.

“A lot of the recipes are [Merono’s] and [Sandoval’s]. It’s [Merono’s] forte,” Chmielewski said.

As executive chef, Chmielewski oversees all restaurant operations while Merono takes care of the culinary side.

“I am stunned at how many people are coming through the door,” he said. “It’s absolutely what we hoped, but I didn’t think it was going to happen this fast.”

He said as of now, lunch is busiest, but he hopes to capture some of the nearby theater crowd for dinner, adding an AMC Theatre will open above Latinicity’s location.

“We are almost treating each station as its own individual restaurant,” he said. “The last couple of days we have started to see some rhythm of how we are doing.”

Ikram Hassan, a Latinicity customer, said the new restaurant is

conveniently located in the Loop. “There are only high-end restaurants or fast foods [on State Street],” Hassan said. “[Latinicity] is something that was missing.”

She said she also enjoys the variety of the restaurant and was pleased to find burgers, fries and sushi options available in addition to the Latin American cuisine.

“I can grab food that is affordable,” she said. “[There is] no pressure to sit down like a nice restaurant where you have to order food and worry about the time frame.”

Maria Zabala, a customer from Argentina, complimented the restaurant’s atmosphere upon her first visit.

“I was expecting it to be packed full of people, but it looks pretty nice,” Zabala said.

Zabala said she was looking for something from her home country in the market section.

“I saw chocolates that are pretty authentic,” she said, adding it was a good start.

Local restaurateurs have noted Latinicity’s promising beginning.

Jason Goldsmith, the general manager of Eataly, an Italian culinary attraction in a similar vein at 43 E. Ohio St., said he is thrilled and supportive of Latinicity.

“Anybody that is bringing more high quality food to the city is great,” Goldsmith said.

Goldsmith said Sandoval was thoughtful in bringing Latinicity to Chicago and that Sandoval wanted to mirror the accomplishments Eataly has made.

“We have a very supportive food community,” Goldsmith said.

Goldsmith added Chicago chefs and restaurants love to collaborate, and he sees Latinicity as good competition.

“[We all have] the important goal of eating good quality, honest food in our city,” Goldsmith said.

Chmielewski said Latinicity is a lot of work but also a lot of fun.

“It’s like a blank canvas we are working with,” he said. “None of us have done anything like this on this scale.”



Customers enjoy Latinicity’s cafeteria-style dining lounge area.

» SANTIAGO COVARRUBIAS/CHRONICLE

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# Diversity at Columbia

## Part I: Many initiatives but stalled progress

Story by Megan Bennett

Design by Zoë Haworth

Lance Cox, a senior cultural studies major, said he can usually determine a professor's cultural awareness based on their course syllabus. He said when students do not see things relatable to their life experiences, it can cause deeper issues, citing his "Introduction to Women and Gender Studies" course, in which the professor was knowledgeable on readings including white, cisgendered women, but the only mention of the transgender experience in the original required readings was through the history of gender-affirming surgeries.

"I'm [thinking] 'cool, if I tell her I'm trans, the only thing I think she knows about are the surgeries available to me and the history behind them,' which makes my experience reductive," Cox said. "My experience living in the world as a trans person becomes surgery. My perception of her is that she doesn't know anything else, so why would I even bring it up?"

There are dangers to limiting curricula to only reflect a majority experience, and teachers need to show they care about students' overall life and cultural experience, Cox said.

"If I can tell faculty anything, it's that I am a person before I am your student," he said.

Cox is one of many students who have felt underrepresented in the classroom at Columbia. Students, faculty and staff have expressed the feeling that diversity should not only be shown in student, faculty and staff demographics but also understood in classrooms and mirrored in curricula. This conversation has recently found a national stage with other institutions, including Yale University and the University of Missouri.

At Columbia, curricular concerns have been addressed primarily by departments and individual faculty rather than as a collegewide effort.

So it was for Jasmine Delgado, a senior theatre major, who did not receive instruction from an acting professor who was not white until her sophomore year.

Delgado, president of Columbia's Latino Alliance, said the professor, Celeste Williams, was not of Hispanic descent, but she allowed Delgado to incorporate aspects of her culture into her assignments through the prominent Latino theater figures she was assigned to research. The assignment opened her eyes to a side of theater that related to her own life, she said.

Williams, an adjunct professor in the Theatre Department, said she tries to "open the door" for students to learn about various cultures so they can connect with their own cultures or learn valuable things about others.

"Everything about the arts has to find its way into a multicultural aspect or it just becomes sort of boring," Williams said. "It also serves the student population. As our school has become more diverse, you've got to offer things to everybody, but in the long run, even those people who are not considered part of a diverse population benefit from learning about everything."

The college's Strategic Plan, now in its first year after being approved by the board of trustees in May, embraces diversity as one of its six main goals and lays out a series of steps to realize it. The first step, according to President and CEO Kwang-Wu

Kim, is forming a search committee to help appoint a vice president of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion as well as create a campus diversity mission statement. The goal of assembling the committee, which is the basis for several other first-year goals, has yet to happen. Cara Birch, spokeswoman for the college, said the committee will be formed "soon."

Senior Vice President and Provost Stan Wearden said he asked the current Strategic Plan implementation committees to think about the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion section of the plan when doing their work.

"We all need to have our consciousness raised on this," Wearden said. "We all need to understand the nuances of diversity, equity and inclusion. We all need to understand what it feels like to be from an excluded or historically oppressed group and how that factors into how people see or interact with the world."

The importance of diversity in higher education has been known for many years. In a 2015 study published in *The Journal of Higher Education*, researchers examined cross-racial interactions to determine the benefits of diversity on college campuses.

The research, which compiled data from surveys that sampled more than 14,000 college students from freshman to senior year, suggested that while it was commonly known that diversity in the classroom experience has educational effects, positive student interactions and a "perceived acceptance" of diversity on the college campus increased those interactions' ability to positively affect student academics.

Lack of diversity can affect students on a psychological level. Feeling culturally underrepresented can have "adverse" effects on an individual or group's mental health or psychological well-being, said Julie Chen, a visiting assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago who specializes in cross-cultural psychology.

Sheila Baldwin, an associate professor in the English Department who teaches Columbia's "African-American Humor" and "Black Women Writers" literature courses, said

inclusion in terms of demographics and curricular representation should not be limited to diverse faculty.

"It's important for teachers of all backgrounds to teach about things like race, racism and injustices," Baldwin said. "I cannot limit it to faculty of color."

According to Fall 2014 data from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, 76 percent of full-time faculty and 86 percent of part-time faculty identify as white, non-Hispanic. 72 percent of full-time staff and 60 percent of part-time staff identified in the same category.

In terms of gender, full-time faculty are approximately 53 percent male with 47 percent female, part-time faculty is nearly 54 percent male and 46 percent female, 48 percent of full-time staff are male and 52 percent female and part-time staff is 43 percent male and 57 percent female.

Some 58 percent of undergraduate students in the Fall 2014 Semester identified as white non-Hispanic. Forty-four percent of undergraduates were male and 56 percent were female. It is not clear if other gender identity alternatives are given to faculty, staff or students.

Full statistics for 2015 were not compiled, as of press time, and Birch declined *The Chronicle's* requests for the college's raw data for student, faculty and staff ethnicity and gender.

While demographic diversity is also important for students to have representation and something to strive for, the likelihood of faculty, staff and student populations always mirroring one another is low because student populations change yearly and faculty and staff stay for longer periods of time, according to Lott Hill, executive director of the Center for Innovation in Teaching Excellence. This makes practicing diversity incredibly important, he said.

The Center for Innovation in Teaching Excellence and the Office of Asian American Cultural Affairs, have been running the college's Practicing Diversity series, a nonacademic space for students, faculty and staff to discuss diversity-related issues, for the last three years.

According to Hill, the center also teaches workshops "Teaching to Transgress" and "Instructional DevelopmentFest," which include discussions about diversity in the classroom,

» ILLUSTRATION ALEXANDER AGHAYERE/CHRONICLE





throughout the academic year and previously taught a version of “Culture, Race and Media” for faculty in conjunction with members of the Television Department.

Hill said the goal of Practicing Diversity is to make everyone involved in the classroom experience aware and understanding of various cultural backgrounds.

“We often have questions about people or about populations of people that are different than we are,” Hill said. “We seldom get to ask those questions and explore those answers together.”

Cox, a student facilitator for the series, said discussions involving topics of race, gender, sexual orientation, ability, mental health and age are all aspects of diversity the college should address. He added that prioritizing the teaching of practicing diversity could attract faculty who want to engage in those issues.

Birch said there are no mandatory diversity initiatives for faculty and staff from the administration, but such initiatives can be launched on a department-by-department basis.

Onye Ozuzu, interim dean of the School of Fine & Performing Arts, said she arranged for mandatory diversity training while serving as chair of the Dance Department in August 2013 and again in August 2014, including training from the People’s Institute, a national collective that provides training in racial and multicultural competence.

Ozuzu said department-wide conversations about revisiting the curriculum to make it more inclusive of all backgrounds inspired the training, which “electrified” the department’s faculty, students and staff in the way they thought about and discussed race.

“Curriculum is an example of a system where values get decided and expressed through what’s included in the curriculum and what is not included,” Ozuzu said.

Wearden said the college welcomes all independent department initiatives and added that the training the plan calls for is necessary and is being considered.

Susan Imus, chair of the Creative Arts Therapies Department, said in addition to having previously created a cultural diversity task force, several graduate students and professors collaborated in February 2015 to create a workshop called “Deepening our Understanding of Diversity: I Am Not Your Normal” in which faculty and students discussed new classroom

objectives for diversifying curricula, bringing up elements like race, gender, ability and sexual orientation.

“All our courses had to examine how they were addressing [cultural diversity],” Imus said. “Each of my faculty then updated their personal syllabus to assure these cultural questions were addressed in the classroom and competencies around that could be the focus of classroom assignments.”

While diversity discussions typically focus on race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation, many feel religious and age diversity need to be addressed as well.

Onur Öztürk, a lecturer in the Art & Art History Department who created the “Art of Islam” course, said religious diversity is also important to college campuses as it helps people understand different world views and conflicts.

“People love to stereotype about religion, so if you don’t understand the complexity of religion, it may be very challenging,” Öztürk said. “It’s a world that requires that intellectual sensibility to these topics.”

Öztürk, originally from Turkey, said having grown up in a predominantly Muslim environment allows him to represent the subject matter in a more personal way for students by telling them stories from his childhood about the culture.

“It is more satisfying to make those kinds of connections, and students feel them instantaneously and connect with it,” he said.

Lex Lawson, coordinator of LGBTQ Culture & Community, said the office provides collegewide programming and initiatives to promote inclusion for students of all gender and sexual identities.

While representation is important for these students, he said everyone—regardless of background—can be supportive.

“We live in the world—in particular the U.S. culture—where there are privileged identities and experiences and there are underrepresented, marginalized experiences that face discrimination either interpersonally or systemically,” Lawson said. “At Columbia, we’re not immune to that. Just because we don’t want to reinforce that, [it] doesn’t mean we snap our fingers and

**“If I can tell faculty anything, it’s that I am a person before I am your student.”**

—Lance Cox

with or what we were taught,” Hill said. “Students can also experience the generation gap of having their own sense of identity or experience and feeling like the teachers are not understanding where they’re coming from.”

When diversity issues are not discussed, Hill said a phenomenon called “stereotype threat” can occur, in which students in fear of experiencing prejudice because of their differences are in jeopardy of underperforming academically.

While CITE offers the Practicing Diversity series and incorporates diversity in other programming, Ramona Gupta, coordinator of Asian American Cultural Affairs, said there are no other places for faculty and staff on a collegewide level to commune to discuss these issues that are not student-centered.

Gupta said the lack of collegewide diversity training is frustrating for students of diverse populations.

“I know a lot of people know a lot of stuff about other people, but I also know there’s a lot of people who don’t,” she said. “It worries me when there is no institutional commitment to getting those people to learn about diversity and inclusion.”

Raina McKinley, a junior photography major and student facilitator of the Practicing Diversity series, said asking for diversity in curricula typically falls on the students.

“If you were to go up to your teacher and say, ‘I’m not represented in the syllabus,’ they can say ‘what would you like me to put in?’ and you [think], ‘I don’t know, teach me something’ but they don’t know [how to teach it].” McKinley said. “It goes back to teaching them before they teach here.”

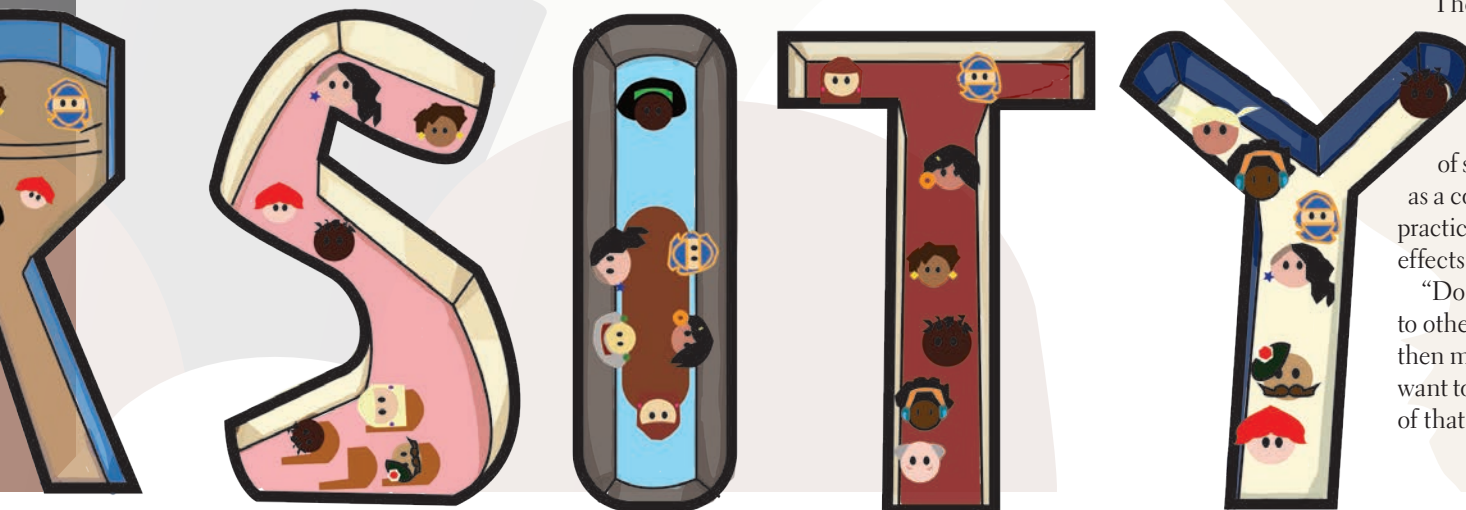
Cox said having this responsibility fall on the students is not the worst situation for right now.

“The truth of the matter is, we haven’t already figured it out, so students are going to have to do the work,” he said. “If [people] say students are not supposed to do the work, then the work doesn’t get done.”

While the college promotes an institutional mission of students “authoring the culture of their times,” as well as a commitment to diversity, Cox said if the diversity is not practiced effectively in the classroom setting, it will have dire effects on students’ creative work.

“Do we want to produce students that do not have access to other cultures and have those students produce work that then marginalizes other people?” Cox said. “I think we don’t want to do that and we, as an institution, would be ashamed of that happening.”

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## Artists gather for annual Makeup Show



» G-JUN YAM/CHRONICLE

Fifty-four brands and schools were featured Nov. 7–8 at The Makeup Show Chicago, selling discounted makeup and showcasing artists' work.

» SELENA COTTE  
COPY EDITOR

**THE 10TH ANNUAL** Makeup Show, held Nov. 7–8 at the Bridgeport Art Center, 1200 W. 35th St., featured renowned makeup artist James Vincent, who has worked with Lady Gaga, Joan Jett, Reese Witherspoon and many others, as a host and keynote speaker as well as presentations from makeup artists, both local and from across the world.

The Makeup Show offers professional makeup artists an opportunity to network and learn about technique, business promotion and what is new from a wide range of different makeup lines. This is the show's fifth year in Chicago,

and it also hosts annual events in Orlando, Los Angeles, New York City and Dallas.

"[The Makeup Show] is really catered to makeup artists from beginners to established," said Shelly Taggar, owner and co-founder of The Makeup Show. "On the floor, you can see people who just started cosmetology school, and at the same time, you can see very high-end, established artists from TV, film and the beauty industry.... That working environment is something you can't really find anywhere else."

The Makeup Show's main goal is to bring together a variety of people who share a love of makeup, in both beauty and special effects industries. The show

is an inclusive and all-welcoming environment, according to Taggar.

"Makeup artists are very creative, and it's a big community. It doesn't matter if they know each other or not, [artists] are extremely supportive of one another and want to share their knowledge and inspire other people," Taggar said.

The brands that participate in the event also want to promote a more inclusive world, like The Lip Bar, a first-time participant of The Makeup Show and reject of the ABC show "Shark Tank." The Lip Bar specializes in deeply pigmented lipsticks of unorthodox colors—like gray and blue—that work with global skin colors.

"We didn't get a deal [with 'Shark Tank'], but it ended up being the best thing [for The Lip Bar] because we got all this exposure and this community of people rallying around us because they were complete jerks to us on the show," said Melissa Butler, founder and CEO of The Lip Bar. "We exist to empower women and make them believe they don't have to be this cookie-cutter image the world tells us we have to be.... We exist to provide nontraditional imagery [and] nontraditional products."

Butler said The Makeup Show also lends itself to artists learning about new brands they may not have heard of or have never had the chance to test in person.

"With our products being

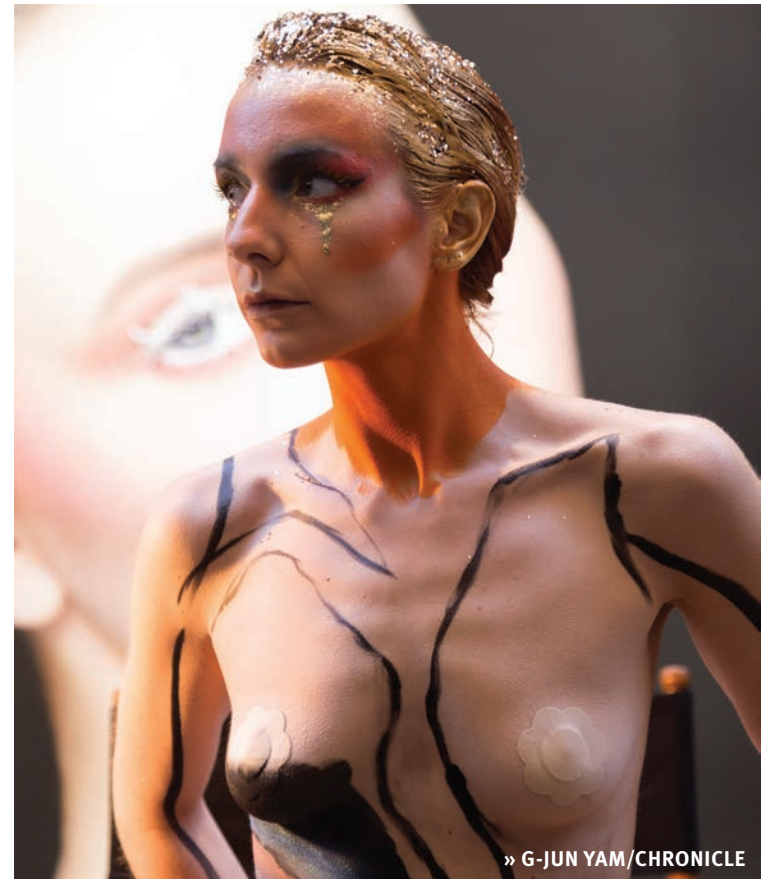
primarily sold online, lipstick is something people want to try on—they want to see how it looks before buying—so we asked what's the best way to increase our distribution [and the answer] is to allow people to touch the product," Butler said.

Michelle Fugate, a model for Make Up First School, 100 N.

LaSalle St., and a licensed makeup artist, said there is no event like The Makeup Show.

"You can't come to a place where you have the best products, the best artists, most knowledge and experience all in one [besides The Makeup Show]," Fugate said.

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» G-JUN YAM/CHRONICLE

A model was used as a canvas at The Makeup Show for a school in New York City that offers intensive classes for makeup artists.

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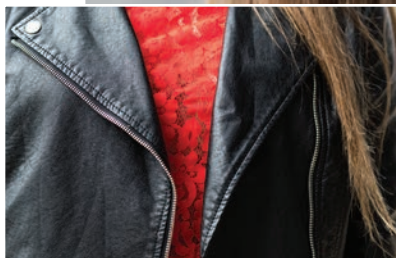
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» LOU FOGLIA/CHRONICLE



**Lorrie Graham**  
freshman television major

*"I used to wear 'Happy Bunny' T-shirts. They had sarcastic jokes on them, which aren't even that funny, but I used to wear them all the time."*



**Mike Sprenger**  
junior theatre major



*"I had a really bad skater-emo phase, so it was one of the many Tilly's shirts I owned with pink shorts. They are cool now apparently, but they did not look good back then."*



**Maddie Stoiber**  
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*"I was definitely in the Ugg trend, and I had purple Uggs all through high school."*



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# New pop-up library 'rewrites' Wicker Park

» FRANK ENYART  
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

**IN COLLABORATION WITH** Activate! Chicago, a City of Chicago initiative, and Latent Design, an urbanism firm, Read/Write Library is staging "Rewritable Wicker Park," a pop-up library located at 1260 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The purpose of Read/Write, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2016, has been to collect amateur and professional media chronicling the evolution of Chicago without making judgments about content or timeliness, according to Read/Write Library founder and executive director Nell Taylor.

"There's incredible stuff out there that is essential to a community's history and people's lives that is amazing on its own terms," Taylor said. "The goal is to help people understand the stories of

This Boombox, a repurposed shipping container, is just one example of how Latent Design hopes to utilize and revitalize public spaces.

their neighbors better, through having access to and preserving these publications."

Taylor added that most of what Read/Write houses at its main location, 914 N. California Ave., has been collected through grassroots efforts to curate and document Chicago's history, with minimal searching being done by Read/Write's volunteers.

The pop-up began Nov. 7 and is scheduled to run through Nov. 29. The library houses media including collections from nearby 826CHI, a nonprofit writing tutoring program, and handwritten poems from Oba Maja, a prominent Wicker Park figure who sold his poems for \$1 in Wicker Park until his death on Oct. 16.

Read/Write pairs with art organizations to ensure that what they present in their programs reflects the true identity of the areas because the diversity of Chicago is so rich, Taylor added.

"Doing these pop-ups in different communities [allows for flexibility]," she said. "Whether we are

doing it in Wicker Park or other neighborhoods, each is different."

The library is housed in a small kiosk called the Boombox, a repurposed shipping container designed by Latent Design, as part of the Activate! Chicago initiative, which is centered on using public space as a "catalyst for community connectivity, local entrepreneurship and civic innovation," according to Activate! Chicago's website.

Katherine Darnstadt, principal architect and founder of Latent Design, said the idea for the Boombox came from observing how other cities used pop-up retail to help small businesses change the retail world.

"There is a huge gap within how small businesses have access to capital.... It's showcasing the diversity of businesses that could use [spaces like this]," Darnstadt said, adding that Latent Design hopes the Boombox will house museums as well.

She added that she hopes to create a larger conversation about how underutilized



» EVAN BELL/CHRONICLE

SEE POP UP, PAGE 27

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» **ABBY SEITZ**  
OPINIONS EDITOR

In recent months, my Facebook feed has been taken over by BuzzFeed videos demonstrating the preparation of unique snacks and meals. As a vegetarian, I have difficulty finding recipes, as most of the popular ones involve wrapping some sort of meat in bacon. While some of the videos I come across aren't appetizing, BuzzFeed's website Tasty is a dependable resource for new and fun creations.

I finally attempted a recipe posted Nov. 3 for cheesy garlic knot pizza dip, combining all of the essentials for any great snack—a delicious combination of carbs, cheese and a unique take on Americanized Italian dishes.

There are several steps, so the knots and dip take about an hour to prepare and cook. However, it is totally worth the wait.

aseitz@chroniclemail.com



**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 refrigerated pizza crust
- 1/2 cup melted butter

- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan

- 1/2 cup ricotta
- 1/4 cup basil, chopped
- 2 tablespoons garlic

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Form pizza dough into 15 long strips. Tie each strip of dough into a knot.
2. Place each knot in a circular formation around an oven-safe nonstick skillet and cover.
3. Meanwhile, create the dip by mixing all cheeses, basil and two tablespoons of minced garlic.
4. Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.
5. Remove cover from the dough knots and put dip in the center of the skillet. Coat the knots with melted butter. Shredded cheese can be sprinkled on top.
6. Cook for 20 minutes.
7. Remove skillet from oven and brush knots with melted butter.

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BROADWAY PLAYHOUSE AT WATER TOWER PLACE



SIR, FROM PAGE 18

of Ministry, which he received the same day.

“Now, I’ll be able to marry a same-sex [couple], interracial, [anyone],” Stokes said. “I’m going to do so much more now that I can show people how understanding God has nothing to do with religion. Understanding religion puts something on us that’s tough and makes it uncomfortable to be humans. I want [people] to know God is going to love us despite anything.”

Adam Layne Fisher, a contemporary Christian musician from South Carolina, feels that bringing cultural relevance to Christian music is tremendously important. “If there is a market for it and if it reaches our culture, I think that is something that is desperately needed today, especially with anything related to Christian music,” Fisher said.

“Wake Up” is available now on TIDAL, and can also be heard on Stokes’ website, SirTheBaptist.com.

chronicle@colum.edu

POP UP, FROM PAGE 25

public spaces are compared to park spaces through developing built environments such as the one currently housing the library, as well as the Boombox structure itself.

“We have to bring awareness,” Darnstadt said. “We had to revamp and write new ordinances for something to exist like this, [something] that changes the built environment and makes it accessible for people.”

The Boombox structure is available to rent for the next three years, and is flexible for student use, including galleries or showcasing student work in other capacities, Darnstadt said.

The pop up has special programming on weekends including workshops dealing with curating family and community history.

More information can be found at: [ReadWriteLibrary.org/Rewritable-Wicker-Park-Pop-Up-November-2015](http://ReadWriteLibrary.org/Rewritable-Wicker-Park-Pop-Up-November-2015), and [www.Activate-Chi.org/](http://www.Activate-Chi.org/).

fenyart@chroniclemail.com

BING, FROM PAGE 15

presence and make it available in the neighborhood.

“The programming is an access point,” Miller said. “Maybe you do not think of yourself as someone who would go into a bookstore, but you really want to hear this musician. That program will bring you into the space, and maybe you end up discovering something you never expected.”

Ferguson said the store hopes to have more than “accidental visitors” in the near future and have people coming from both near and far to attend their programming events and to read.

“These [programs and books] used to be a larger part of the cultural heritage, and things have moved in more of a direction of day-to-day survival,” Salmon said.

“We’re learning about how the neighborhood interacts with the space,” said Naomi Miller, operations and administrative manager of the Arts + Public Life Place Lab Team. “That’s not just with how [residents] interact with the books but also with the programming that we have here.”

“The thinking is that this sort of place fits in extremely well in a lot of areas in the city, and this is asking the question: ‘Why doesn’t it fit here?’”

Ferguson said the store asks larger questions about what residents want to see in their neighborhood, and what amenities they want to have there.

“It speaks to this historic district that’s had a lot of black cultural

life all throughout the 1930s, ‘40s and ‘50s, so I think it speaks to the heritage, but we’re also talking about where we can look to move forward,” Ferguson said.

BING Art Books is open Tuesday–Saturday from 12–7 p.m. More information is available at [BINGArtBooks.com](http://BINGArtBooks.com) and [Arts.UChicago.edu/ArtsAndPublicLife](http://Arts.UChicago.edu/ArtsAndPublicLife).

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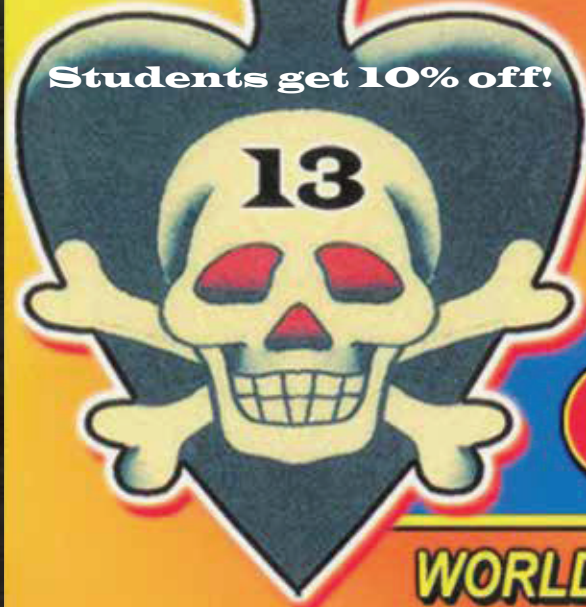
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## top

our staff's  
top 5 picks:



### MODERN POEMS FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T LIKE POETRY

» **SELENA COTTE**  
COPY EDITOR

#### “Hulk Smash” by Greg Santos:

This poem, written from the point of view of Marvel’s the Hulk, is funny and deep, chronicling how difficult life is for him when he just wants to be normal and work at 7-Eleven and thinks the Slurpee machine dispenses too much ice and not enough syrup.

#### “Universalism” by Leigh Stein:

Stein has been referred to as the Sylvia Plath of the MTV generation, which makes me all sorts of warm and fuzzy inside. This poem explores what it means to be a good girlfriend and a good person, and Stein does a great job of making the language modern and still poetic.

#### “Someday I’m Going to Marry Katy Perry” by Calvero:

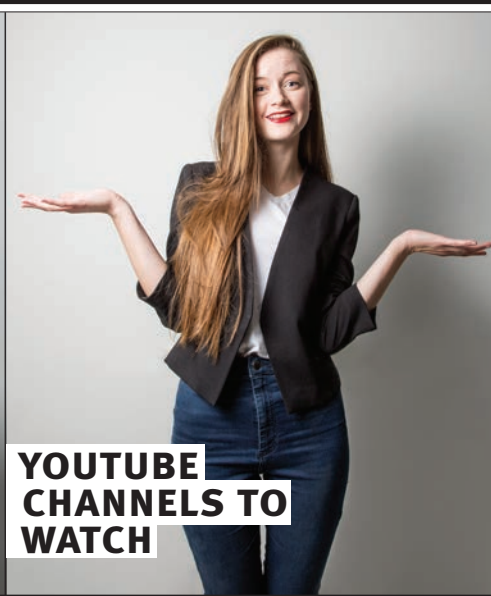
This poem, which is the same title as the collection it is published in, is a hopeful ode to Katy Perry, written when she was married to Russell Brand—or “Randall,” as Calvero calls him—and details specifically how their courtship will evolve into a happily-ever-after.

#### “Emily Dickinson” by Peter Davis:

Davis’ book “Tina” is the only place you can read this poem now, but there is an official spoken word version of it on YouTube, so listen and learn about the 19th century poet. Trust me on this.

#### “The Rape Joke” by Patricia Lockwood:

This poem circulated social media for a while and with good reason. It uses repetition and detail to paint a vivid relationship between a woman and her rapist while remaining accessible.



### YOUTUBE CHANNELS TO WATCH

» **KATLYN TOLLY**  
COPY EDITOR

#### Philip DeFranco:

DeFranco hosts a web show Monday through Thursday called “The Phillip DeFranco Show,” which is an opinionated “news” show with a dash of comedy.

#### PrankvsPrank:

Jesse Wellens and Jeana Smith have been dating for nine years and are in the midst of an epic prank battle. They partake in pranks with each other and the public—all of which are documented and uploaded to YouTube. Pranks range from cupcakes topped with shaving cream to live bugs hidden in unexpected places.

#### Fine Brothers Entertainment:

Benny and Rafi Fine are—as you likely guessed—brothers. They are known for their popular YouTube series called “Kids React,” in which they film children’s reactions to pop culture and viral videos. The series became so popular, they’ve made several spin-offs.

#### AsapSCIENCE:

Call me nerdy, but I enjoy Mitchell Moffit’s and Gregory Brown’s AsapSCIENCE videos. The guys use science to explore life’s questions like “Why Do We Cry?” and “Can Money Buy Happiness?”

#### sWooZie:

Adande Thorne, also known as sWooZie, is a gamer, animator and storyteller. He shares his most hilarious and relatable life stories using his animation skills to narrate his videos. Some of his most popular uploads include “Confessions of a Disney Employee” and “Cheating in Middle School.”



### REASONS MY HOMEWORK STILL ISN'T FINISHED

» **CLAYTON HADDOCK**  
WEBMASTER

#### Netflix:

Netflix is both a gift and a curse. I could find something that would fit any mood that I’m in. Homework is important or whatever, but have you seen this documentary about orphaned kangaroo babies? Apparently they’re called “joey’s.”

#### Workload:

I can’t explain my logic when I’m faced with a mountain of homework. There’s something about staring down Moodle that makes me think there’s just so much work that I shouldn’t even start it. It’ll never get done anyway, so why start now?

#### Exercise:

After sitting at my computer for a few hours, I start to feel lazy. I’ve heard sitting takes days off your life, so this becomes a matter of life and death. I’m not avoiding homework; I’m surviving.

#### The Chicago Transit Authority:

The CTA is better than a lot of public transportation. But, that doesn’t speak to the CTA’s quality so much as it does this poor state of most public trans. It’s hard to write code with crying children and loud phone chats. Great, now we’re stuck underground...in the dark.

#### “Fallout 4”:

This beautiful masterpiece of a video game has kept me from focusing on homework since it was released Nov. 10. How can I resist the temptation of wandering around post-apocalyptic Boston? Maybe graduation can wait another semester.

## VIDEO & BLOG REVIEWS



### Video: “10 Banned Kid Show Episodes You Won’t Believe”

This video by Screen Rant informs viewers of 10 lesser-known episodes of popular children’s shows that either were banned from certain countries or taken off the air after one airing because of negative parent reactions. Watch out for the episode of Pokémon that sent Japanese kids to the hospital—the flashing lights are played with minimal warning and can cause seizures.



### Blog: “More Love Letters”

Receiving a note of encouragement or a written compliment will always be a mood lifter—but from a stranger? That’s unheard of. The blog “More Love Letters” encourages readers to write love letters to strangers and share their stories with the world via social media. The blog’s mission is to “make love famous.”



# reviews

scale 😞 😐 😊 😄 😁



GAME



SCREEN



MUSIC

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
RANDOM		8	9	10	11	12

## “FALLOUT 4”



» COLIN KING  
SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER

“Fallout 4” was an incredibly anticipated game that released Nov. 10. I purchased it for the PC and have enjoyed its immersive, single-player game play and expansive, ultra-textured virtual landscape. It’s refreshing to have a well-made and executed game to add to my library after spending so much time on all of the beta and alpha developments in the industry.

## “SPOTLIGHT”



» SAIYNA BASHIR  
MULTIMEDIA REPORTER

“Spotlight,” a newsroom drama directed by Thomas McCarthy, gives a detailed account on The Boston Globe’s Pulitzer Prize-winning investigation of the widespread sex-abuse scandal within the Catholic church. The film not only highlights the way journalists uncovered the scandal but also the way it was covered-up by higher levels in the church.

## MADE IN THE A.M. BY ONE DIRECTION



» BEGINA ARMSTRONG  
AD & BUSINESS MANAGER

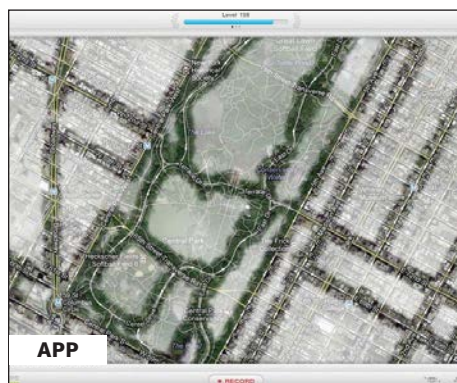
While the British boy band lost a member earlier this year, they are compensating by releasing their new album *Made in the A.M.* this week. You’ve probably seen the videos for their hit singles “Drag Me Down” and “Perfect” off the album, but now you can finally binge listen to the songs as you secretly hope for NSYNC or the Backstreet Boys to come back.

## FRIDAY THE 13TH



» G-JUN YAM  
PHOTO EDITOR

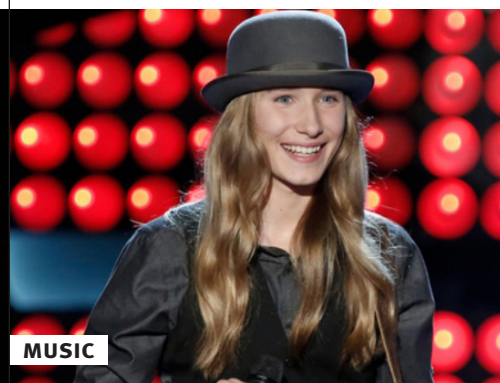
I woke up early and my phone worked. My favorite song, “Slow Dancing In A Burning Room” by John Mayer was playing. The morning started out slow, and it was perfect. Took a shower, suited up, got to work and found out I got a free chocolate donut. Nothing seems to be going wrong. It seems Friday 13th is just a superstition that doesn’t hold water.



APP



SCREEN



MUSIC



RANDOM

## “FOG OF WORLD”



» ETHAN STOCKING-ANDERSON  
OFFICE ASSISTANT

As a commuter, I find it way too easy to get into the habit of taking the same route every morning, every night, day in and day out. “Fog of World” incentivizes travel by recording your progress as you go off the beaten path, effectively making a map of everywhere you go. I’m proud to say that I’ve explored about 0.00001% of the world since I downloaded the app a year ago. Believe me, that’s much better than it sounds.

## “SCANDAL” S.5 EP. 8



» CHRIS SHUTTLESWORTH  
MULTIMEDIA REPORTER

“Scandal” continues to be a show that keeps homes quiet for an hour as Olivia Pope struggles to tell the one she loves, President Fitz, how she helped her dad escape from prison. Fitz finds out and instead of sending Olivia to prison, he moves her into the White House. I wonder if Fitz has a breaking point, or is Olivia that powerful? Until then I’ll anticipate why Huck was standing in front of Papa Pope at the end of the show.

## “THE VOICE” CHAMPIONS



» ANNIE JOHNSON  
MARKETING CONSULTANT

Former “Voice” stars are back! Season 8 finale winner Sawyer Fredericks made an appearance Wednesday night performing his new single “Take It All” during the live standing results of the NBC singing competition. Fredericks was the top champion of “The Voice” in 2014 and is now back to premiere his new single. Fredericks will be releasing a four-track EP including “Take It All,” available now on iTunes.

## “EL CLASICO”



» SANTIAGO COVARRUBIAS  
PHOTO EDITOR

One of the most anticipated games for soccer fans will take place this Saturday, Nov. 21. Although I can’t wait to watch it, there are some factors that threaten to take away the appeal of this game. On one side, Barça star Lionel Messi may not play because he is still not fully recovered from a knee injury. On the other side, Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema is facing a lawsuit for blackmail.





# Student feedback crucial for new center

After years of hope and speculation by students, the college's board of trustees recently approved plans to build a student center, as reported Nov. 9 by *The Chronicle*. Slated to open in the Fall 2018 Semester, the student center will be located at 8th Street and Wabash Avenue, the current site of the Papermaker's Garden.

A nine-week planning phase will begin Nov. 17 to determine what the campus community would like the space to incorporate to "create a state-of-the-art student center that will best facilitate student collaboration, interaction and learning," according to a Nov. 10 announcement emailed to students. The college's willingness to gather student opinions and ideas

is a positive first step toward building a well-designed student center that will serve the campus community for decades to come. Student involvement should occur at every stage from planning to designing.

Creating the opportunity for students to collaborate with peers from all majors is an excellent way to foster community. If a student commutes or is not taking general education courses, it is challenging to meet others from outside their major. Columbia's lack of NCAA-sanctioned sports teams and Greek life has contributed to a widespread lack of community among students, particularly for those who are commuters. Increasing collaborative spaces on campus can contribute greatly to fostering community, college pride and unity.

Columbia's dormitories boast collaborative facilities that add to the character of the college, like music practice rooms, colorful lounges and The Dwight's graffiti room. Including spaces like these in the student center would ensure they are accessible to all students, rather than a luxury exclusive to dorm residents.

The student center should strike a balance between embodying Columbia and providing services and amenities found at other colleges. Many other local colleges and universities, such as DePaul University, Loyola University Chicago and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, have multilevel student centers that include food vendors, conference rooms, lounges and cafes that provide study and hangout spaces. Attracting popular food vendors to the student center could create more on-campus jobs for students and make for a more lively campus environment at all hours of the day. The student center should also incorporate modern elements, such as charging stations and plenty of outlets in lounges and study rooms.

The student center is a facility Columbia has long needed. The college should consider ways to incorporate other facilities the college does not currently have, like a

large-scale auditorium. It should also use the formation of the student center as an opportunity to cater to currently underserved populations such as commuters and athletes. In addition to more lounges and study rooms, providing a space for lockers to keep textbooks or materials on campus would benefit both on-campus and commuter students. Student groups frequently struggle because there is no designated space for them to convene. If Columbia had these facilities, the college would surely attract prospective students who may be concerned Columbia does not accommodate their interests.

The college's mission of encouraging collaboration and interaction among the campus community through the student center is exactly what students need. While the student center is expected to reflect Columbia's unique student body, the college should not shy away from looking at other Chicago colleges and universities to see what aspects of a student center the college should incorporate. By announcing a nine-week feedback period, the college has demonstrated its interest in hearing from the student body. However, the college must follow through and truly utilize student feedback in the student center's design and construction phases.

# Banning 'Yik Yak' does not address systemic issues

In response to recent protests against racial injustice at the University of Missouri, two college students from other schools in Missouri posted threatening messages on "Yik Yak." The students were each arrested for making terrorist threats.

The app, aimed at college students, allows users to post short, anonymous messages that can be viewed by others nearby. Some "Yik Yak" users have abused the app by using it to cyberbully and threaten others.

A coalition of 72 women's and civil rights groups claims colleges are failing to protect students from instances of harassment facilitated by the app.

On Oct. 20, the coalition sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Education calling for the government to impose federal guidelines to ban "Yik Yak" from college campuses. However, the coalition's objective to ban the app does not remedy the larger issues at hand.

Internet users, and young people in particular, have used the cloak of virtual anonymity to threaten and intimidate long before "Yik Yak." The same instances of cyberbullying and harassment have occurred through Tumblr's anonymous ask feature and online forums like 4chan and reddit. "Yik Yak" was not the first app to provide a virtual and anonymous bulletin board for students—the website

FormSpring functions similarly to "Yik Yak." Facebook pages for Columbia students accept anonymous submissions of crushes and secrets and have also resulted in malicious posts. Just as "Yik Yak" was not the first, it will not be the last, so shutting it down will only lead to new and similar media abuses.

The issue is not the anonymity granted by "Yik Yak"—it is the misogyny, racism, homophobia and hatred some users post. Banning "Yik Yak" would not change the mentalities of ignorant young adults or suddenly make them more open-minded and accepting.

While many parents and educators criticize the app for encouraging cyberbullying, they do not acknowledge the sense of community it creates when used correctly. Most users take to the app to vent about problems commonly experienced by students, such as grievances about certain elevators on campus or unreasonable prices at local restaurants.

The community aspect can also naturally protect users from instances of harassment and cyberbullying at times—users can flag offensive posts as inappropriate. The app has a built-in filter to ensure users cannot publish slurs or derogatory speech.

To further combat cyberbullying and harassment, the app should enforce a more expedited moderating process for posts to prevent personal attacks. By banning the app at middle and high schools, its creators have proven they are interested in fostering a safe environment for users.

Racism, sexism and hate speech will persist whether the app is banned or not, and in the event a ban does ensue, hateful users will simply take their habits to the next trending anonymous app. Rather than urging the federal government to ban the app, the coalition and its members should work with colleges and universities to encourage students to promote safe and inclusive environments.

## Editorial Board Members

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Did you catch a mistake, think we could have covered a story better or have strong beliefs about an issue that faces all of us here at Columbia?

Why not write a letter to the editor? At the bottom of Page 2, you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you. —**The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board**





COMMENTARY

## Document-based history education necessary

» **ABBY SEITZ**  
OPINIONS EDITOR

This academic year, millions of elementary, middle and high school students are enrolled in American history classes. Depending on the politics of their state department of education or local school board, they may learn about how Christopher Columbus discovered America and how a bit over a century later, a friendship between Native Americans and English settlers resulted in the first Thanksgiving dinner.

Attempts at making history conform to the facts rather than patriotic mythology are being met with strong resistance.

A textbook published by McGraw-Hill Education drew criticism in early October after a social media post quoting how the textbook referred to Africans who came to America as workers rather than slaves went viral. In Oklahoma, Rep. Dan Fisher (R-OK) attempted to defund the Advanced Placement U.S. History program, claiming in a Feb. 17 legislative committee meeting that the new curriculum that characterized “America as a nation of oppressors and exploiters.”

Fisher’s bill embodies a common misconception that history must be taught as a single narrative that favors American exceptionalism over factuality and the incorporation of multiple viewpoints. When one considers slavery, the extreme suppression of Native Americans and the very recent legalization of same-sex marriage, it is difficult to argue that America’s past does not include instances of oppression and exploitation.

Instead of relying on textbooks, evaluating primary sources from the time period is an excellent strategy to provide multiple perspectives, like those of a slave or an adviser to Abraham Lincoln. Historians use the study of writings from a specific time period, known as historiography, to learn about the past. While some educators use this teaching style, an implementation of document-based learning by states and school districts would ensure that all students have access to an array of viewpoints. Boiling the perspectives and causes of historical wars down to a few sentences in a textbook deprives

students of the opportunity to understand the complexities involved with conflict. Many college classes use historiography by incorporating various perspectives and media. If younger students learned about major historical events through multiple accounts, they would develop analytical and critical thinking skills that could benefit them throughout the rest of their educational career. Document-based learning is also an excellent way for students to learn to identify biases and develop news literacy skills.

Students are frequently taught that America is unlike other countries because it is a melting pot of cultures, backgrounds, religions and political affiliations. However, by presenting history as a single narrative, schools are doing a disservice to students. Creating opportunities for students to draw their own conclusions about historical events through discussion and document-based education can ensure America truly lives up to its diverse values.

aseitz@chroniclemail.com

STUDENT POLL

*What do you want the future student center to include?*

*Tables to do homework [at] and a fun environment to be in.*



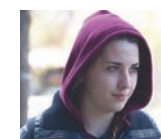
**MONICA NIETO**  
freshman creative writing major



**KAI MOVAGH**  
senior cinema art + science major

*The library. There can also be some more quiet spaces so students can find a place to study.*

*It’s really comfy in [lounges], but the ground is itchy. A nice comfy carpet so people can lie down.*



**CASSANDRA DOOLEY**  
freshman advertising major



COMMENTARY

## Psychiatry’s drug habit fails patients

» **JAKE MILLER**  
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

Psychiatry—now a booming industry as well as a trusted, supposedly empirical science—first developed as a medical specialty in the early 1800s. Its purpose was the treatment of those severely disoriented individuals who were confined to sanitariums and mental asylums. We would now recognize that these patients suffered from conditions that are largely medical, such as dementia, brain tumors or seizures.

It wasn’t until the turn of the 20th century when Sigmund Freud pioneered his theory of the unconscious that psychiatry began to examine the less severe afflictions that plagued modern men and women’s minds; He deemed these “psycho-neuroses.”

What ensued was a new science that mythologized itself as holding objective power over human phenomena that, in reality, often defy categorization. In its efforts, psychiatry has been plagued by the same flaw of so many other failed modernist ideologies—it attempts to reduce humanity to the sum of its parts and therefore breeds dehumanization and isolation.

A psychiatrist diagnoses a patient via a verbal consultation, which often takes less than an hour. After having done this, it is not unusual for medication to be prescribed immediately. Psychiatrists plead for mental illness to be treated similarly to physical disease, yet the symptoms of these supposed diseases are both reported and recorded in entirely subjective terms undoubtedly colored by cultural expectation and personal bias. I would never claim the suffering of psychiatric patients should not be taken seriously, but we must continue to ask whether it is a patient’s abnormal psychological traits that create turmoil or merely the way they are taught to feel.

The fields of psychology and psychiatry must continue to evolve, as they have in the past. Until 1973, homosexuality was classified as a mental disorder. Lobotomy and severe electroconvulsive therapy were once deemed suitable methods of treatment. We cannot be certain our current surge in new pharmaceutical products will not be looked at with the same skeptical eye in decades to come.

Overmedication frequently occurs as a result of its profitability and ease of use. Congress passed the 2003 Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act, which prevents the government from directly intervening in the pricing of drugs covered by Medicare. Subsequently, the prices of many psychiatric drugs have skyrocketed, a trend pharmaceutical companies justify as necessary to fund the kind of research that allows for groundbreaking drugs to be developed. However, many new drugs reaching the market are merely rebrandings of previous pills and half-billion-dollar marketing campaigns for new medications have become commonplace.

Troubling statistics coincide with these recent industry trends. From 2001–2010, the number of girls younger than 19 taking medication for ADHD increased by 39 percent, and the number of boys younger than 19 taking medication for ADHD increased by 11 percent, according to a 2011 study by Medco Health Solutions,

SEE PSYCH, PAGE 32



PSYCH, FROM PAGE 31

Inc. Additionally, children 5 years old and younger are currently the fastest-growing segment of the non-adult population being prescribed anti-depressant drugs. From 1995–1999, anti-depressant use increased 580 percent in the 5 and under age group, and 151 percent in the 7–12 age group, according to the study.

I have continually questioned whether the prevalence of mental illness has increased or whether it is only the prevalence of diagnosis and drug-oriented treatment that has increased. We should exhaust every possible option in examining a child's environment and the underlying conditions that lead them to act out or perform poorly in school before attempting a chemical solution. Suffering is very real, and in an age of fragmentation, materialism and cultural confusion, it is at an all-time high. However, to chemically alter a child who has not yet had the opportunity to overcome

their dysfunction, and to tell that child there is something wrong with them is atrocious.

Rather than attempting to forcibly remove suffering, we should teach those who seek psychiatric assistance—young and old—to place their pain into a broader, more meaningful context. More serious consideration should be given to the validity of alternative forms of treatment, such as arts therapy, depth psychology and even holistic methods like meditation and yoga. Additionally, the underlying cultural conditions that allow for mental illness to proliferate in the first place require reform. Psychiatric medication should be a last resort, not a quick fix.

Many of us acknowledge that depression and anxiety are created by labeling, shame, cultural stigma and isolation, yet our society's so-called rational minds continually treat the issue by further labeling and quantifying our ailments. Isn't that a little ... Well, crazy?

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## Protesters confront Uptown alderman about homelessness

» JORDAN WATKINS  
METRO REPORTER

**ANGRY PROTESTERS ADVOCATING** for better treatment toward homeless people marched through Chicago's Uptown neighborhood Nov. 9 before ending the rally at the office of Alderman James Cappleman (46th ward), who represents the neighborhood.

Protesters claim Cappleman is responsible for a spike in the neighborhood's homeless population and that he instructed police to ticket homeless individuals for pitching tents near Wilson Avenue and North Lake Shore Drive, as reported Sept. 28 by The Chronicle.

The rally started south of West Wilson Avenue between North Marine Drive and North Clarendon Avenue in the park that some people call home. About 50 participants took to the streets chanting "Hands off the homeless" and "Hey, hey, ho, ho, this dirty alderman's got to go."

"Using our police to shoo people off the

streets is the wrong approach," said Anne Sullivan, a former secretary and North Side resident. "Fix what put the people on the streets."

Sullivan said Uptown has lost more than 1,000 low-income housing units since Cappleman took office in 2011.

"Homeless people have been living under the bridges here for years, but there [are] a lot more here now," Sullivan said.

Alan Mills, executive director of the Uptown People's Law Center, said the city lacks a reasonable plan to deal with homelessness.

"I am appalled that the City of Chicago has decided [the way] it will solve its homelessness problem is not by providing homes but by sending out the police," Mills said.

He added charging homeless people with crimes exacerbates the problem because those affected end up with criminal records.

"We are short on housing everywhere except Cook County Jail," he said.

The protesters first marched to Cappleman's home, where they continued chanting for about 10 minutes before rallying at his Uptown office, just a few blocks away on North Broadway.

Upon entering Cappleman's office, protesters were met by Cappleman and his chief of staff, Tressa Feher, who welcomed them but attempted to keep them quiet. Tensions between the protesters and Cappleman's office escalated when he attempted to respond to their demand that he give half his salary to homeless people.

Andy Thayer, co-founder of the Gay Liberation Network and an organizer of the rally, said before entering the office that the protesters did not plan to listen to any response from Cappleman. "He's just going to lie," Thayer said.

Cappleman said he gives "a substantial amount of [his] salary to a number of charities," which was met by shouts that he should donate more. The protesters also demanded he reprimand police officers who they say violated homeless individuals' rights.

"Will you pledge before these cameras that you will call for the discipline of every police officer who is abusing the law?" Thayer asked. "That's a yes or no question."

Cappleman responded by urging the protesters to file complaints with the Chicago Police Department.

In an interview after the protesters left the office, Cappleman said he understands their anger, but he does not think it should be directed at him.

"I hear the anger—I'm angry too," he said. "I had been begging the Department of Family Support Services to come up with a plan to deal with chronic homelessness."

Cappleman, a former social worker, said he founded a homeless shelter in the '80s for people with HIV and said homeless people suffer from a "grossly failed system" that is not doing enough to help them get off the streets.

According to Cappleman, the city is not taking action on its plan to end homelessness, titled "Plan 2.0."

"It's not being implemented, and that is a disservice to those people living on the streets," Cappleman said.

He also said claims that he directed police officers to ticket the neighborhood's homeless people and clear them from parks were false.

"Aldermen do not direct police," he said. "It's not true; it's never happened."

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3



4

1. Protesters took over the streets of the Uptown neighborhood Nov. 9 to demand affordable housing for the homeless.
2. Protest organizer Andy Thayer accused Alderman James Cappleman of helping the city to ticket and remove homeless people from the Uptown area.
3. Protesters marched to Cappleman's home to show their anger over the city's policies against the homeless.
4. Many protesters said police have been shooing homeless people out of the Uptown neighborhood on a regular basis since August.



» DOMINIQUE JACKSON  
METRO REPORTER

**L**asana Kazembe, who describes himself as a poet, professor and proud papa, teaches education at DePaul University and English composition and African-American studies at Kennedy-King College, part of the City Colleges of Chicago.

His career as a spoken-word poet dates back to 1988, when he first performed as an undergraduate at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and his appreciation and talent for language flourished. In 2013, he received his doctorate in Education from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Kazembe recently performed a blues poetry opera titled “The Voodoo of Hell’s Half-Acre” at Transition East Studios, 2548 E. 83rd St.

The performance follows the story of Richard Wright, the noted playwright, poet and author of “Native Son,” through his migration from Mississippi to Chicago and details his life from 1927–1937.

Kazembe’s next performance is Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. at Transition East Studios, 2548 E. 83rd St.

Kazembe founded Bridge Educational Services, an organization that provides youth with programs on literacy, character development, writing and male leadership empowerment. The Chronicle sat down with Kazembe to discuss his success, passions and poetry.

#### THE CHRONICLE: How did you get into poetry?

**LASANA KAZEMBE:** I’ve been writing poetry almost since I could speak. The earliest I remember is around 10 years old. I got into writing in a more consistent way in school, where I had great encouragement from English teachers over the years. In college, I got into the formal study of poetry, and from there it sort of bloomed.

#### What are your passions?

My No.1 passion is being a dad. I’m a father to a 10-year-old black girl—that opens a whole new realm



## Lasana Kazembe

**OCCUPATION:** Poet and Professor

**NEIGHBORHOOD:** Jeffery Manor

» Courtesy LASANA KAZEMBE

of opportunity and exploration. I thought as a father I would be imparting a lot of information, but I’m learning a lot more than I thought I would. That’s my No.1 occupation, [and] after that comes teaching. Teaching is something I do with a great regularity. It’s a calling for me. It’s the ability to meet people where they are and make connections to improve how they read the world, themselves and putting themselves in the world to affect positive change.

#### What are your greatest joys of being a father?

The conversations and the sharing. The ability to see this person that did not exist before—who is one in

5 billion—develop their personality over the time. You have known them since they were dribbling and drooling. My greatest joy is seeing the positive evolution of [my daughter] into a professional human being, which I’m trying to cultivate her into because there are too many amateurs out here.

#### What advice would you give to other fathers?

Step back and consider what that child’s life would be like if you were not in it. Have real conversations—you don’t have to be nuanced in theory or ideology—and do simple things like go for walks. You don’t need a lot of money. It’s not the presents you give but your presence that

makes all the difference.

#### What do you hope your legacy will be?

I would like my legacy to be: “He tried, he reached people, he was a good brother and did good in the world.” There are two things I tell my daughter: If it doesn’t make sense, it’s not true, and be good and do good. The last one is what I want my legacy to be.

#### What makes poetry a powerful art form?

I look at poet as an acronym. The acronym P.O.E.T. stands for prevail of expression and truth. It has the ability to move people and to inspire people in a way that few

things can. People are much more informed and mobilized through the spoken word than they are the written word. Poetry has been used as a tool for art and a tool of transcendence, and that’s where you find its power.

#### What do you hope the outcome of your performance will be?

I hope people walk away with a deeper appreciation for black folk history. For the literary genius of Richard Wright, which I am a beneficiary of. I hope people walk away with a deeper vision and wider gaze on the value and beauty of black art and black folk culture.

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 The image shows a promotional graphic for the Chicago Book Expo 2015. On the left, the words 'CHICAGO BOOK EXPO 2015' are written vertically in white letters on blue rectangular blocks. A red star is positioned above the letter 'K' in 'BOOKS'. To the right, the website 'chicagobookexpo.org' is displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the website, a white box contains the event details: '11am-5pm', 'Saturday, Nov. 21', and '1104 S. Wabash'. The background features a colorful, abstract pattern of red, pink, and blue floral and leaf motifs.
 

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 Hear about the Chicago History Museum's "Chicago Authored" and the American Writers Museum

**Jerry Coyne, Faith Vs. Fact: Why Science and Religion Are Incompatible** (835)

**The Little Magazine In America** (808)

**1-1:50pm**

**Ina Pinkney and Douglas Sohn** (Film Row)  
 The authors of *Hot Doug's: The Book* and *Ina's Kitchen*

**Poetic Memoir** (835)  
 Ben Clark, Emily Rose Kahn-Sheahan, and Re'Lynn Hansen read their work

**Literature That Empowers: Centering Youth Work in Identity** (837)

**"The Tool Box": The Tool Kit for New Poets** (808)

**2-2:50pm**

**Music & Fiction** (Film Row)  
 Joe Meno, Rebecca Makkai, and Brian Costello

**Love and Hate: A Conversation about Identity** (837)  
 Jarrett Neal and Christian Picciolini

**Women of Wind: A Reading by Chicago Poets** (835)  
 Angela Jackson, Rachel Jamison Webster, and Parneshia Jones

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**3-3:50pm**

**Richard Nickel: Dangerous Years** (Film Row) A look at preservationist Richard Nickel

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 Great Chicago writers celebrate Chicago's literary past by reading passages from the most prized books created by Chicago Literary Hall of Fame authors over the past 100 years



# Out In The Open draws attention to homeless youth

» DOMINIQUE JACKSON  
METRO REPORTER

NEARLY 20 ORGANIZATIONS are coming together in the fight against youth homelessness. The city of Chicago has more than 20,000 homeless young people, according to the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless.

To raise awareness of this population, Pride Action Tank, the Windy City Times, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and other sponsors are collaborating to host the Out in the Open Sleep-Out event from 6 p.m. Nov. 20 to 8 a.m. the next morning at Cricket Hill on Montrose Avenue, east of Lake Shore Drive.

"It's really about people building [a] community throughout the night," Kim L. Hunt, executive director of Pride Action Tank said.

This is the first year of the event,

and visitors can expect live entertainment, speakers and speeches from homeless youth, Hunt said.

"We are concerned about all youth but want to especially highlight the youth who identify as LGBTQ who are an estimated 40 percent of the homeless youth nationwide," Hunt said.

Participants are encouraged to bring heavy jackets, sleeping bags and tents to the event, which was organized by 19 nonprofits, including the Center on Halsted, Chicago Youth Storage Initiative and Teen Living Programs. The funds raised will go toward each organization's efforts to provide resources for homeless youth.

"It will be a great advocacy event—there are a lot of community partners engaged from nonprofits to media outlets," said Peter Johnson, director of public relations at the Center on Halsted.



"This is really an issue people want to rally behind and want to know how they can support."

The city addressed youth homelessness in 2010 by creating a Homeless Youth Task Force that deals with the issue of shelter and educational needs, said Anne Bowhay, director of Foundation Relations & Media for the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless.

"More than 90 percent of the coalition's 350 yearly clients are homeless students or youth with

civil legal needs," Bowhay said in a Nov. 10 emailed statement.

Frank Chestnut has worked in the nonprofit sector for three years and will participate in the event, which requires a \$75 advance registration or \$85 at the door.

"[I want to] put my money where my mouth is, to help the social service agencies who are participating to expand their services to help youth who are experiencing homelessness," Chestnut said.

Hunt said park district rules

state that lights have to be out by 11 p.m. and food will be provided by Fight2Feed, a local nonprofit organization attempting to end hunger. As of Nov. 9, 102 people were registered for the event, according to Hunt.

"We want to put ourselves out of [business] when it comes to the sleep-out. We want to come to the point where we never have to do this again," Hunt said.

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# DePaul students raise awareness of student debt through super-PAC

» OLIVIA POLONY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**WHEN TELEVISION HOST** Stephen Colbert established a satirical super-PAC in 2011, he succeeded in raising public awareness of this more muscular version of the traditional political-action committee. Super-PACs can raise and spend unlimited sums of money in support of candidates and campaigns and do not have to disclose the identity of their donors.

The concept, legalized by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2010, has been criticized for allowing big money interests, such as corporations and labor unions, to exert disproportionate influence over the outcome of elections and the passage of legislation in Congress and statehouses.

Now, a group of students from DePaul University have joined forces with students from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, to take

advantage of the controversial tactic to promote something of benefit to a growing population of have-nots—the easing of college loan debt.

Their creation, the Student Debt Reform Super-PAC, known as “SDR PAC,” is dedicated to electing public officials who support legislation to create a more affordable pathway to higher education.

The group is still in its early developmental stage, but its members are working to educate the public and raise awareness of its cause.

“This is basically trying to be bipartisan and protect one area we feel is important and vulnerable,” said Colin Mackintosh, a sophomore international studies major at DePaul. Mackintosh founded the organization during his freshman year after watching a video clip of Colbert’s “Americans For A Better Tomorrow, Tomorrow”

Super-PAC in the “American National Government” class he took.

Since the bottom fell out of the economy seven years ago, leaving businesses and customers barely afloat, student debt has climbed to a crippling \$1.2 trillion, according to a 2014 study by the credit data firm Experian. That represents an 84 percent increase since 2008.

DePaul political science instructor Catherine May, who taught the class that featured the Colbert video clip, serves as the SDR PAC’s “political advisor.”

“Colin was very taken by this and immediately after the class and the clip, he was concerned, but was like, ‘Hey, I’d like to start a super-PAC for fun,’” May said. “I gave him some leads to check into, and he came back to me about two weeks later and I could tell he was really motivated.”

During Mackintosh’s first year, the other founders researched

A group DePaul University students are working to inform the public through a super-PAC.

super-PACs and are now registered with the IRS and the Federal Election Commission as a tax-exempt 527 political advocacy group.

May introduced Mackintosh to Bobby Robaina, a senior political science major at DePaul who is SDR PAC’s political consultant, and Zoe Krey, a junior political science and public relations double major who is responsible for the group’s PR management. Together, they developed a platform for the organization that largely focuses on getting the federal government to allow current

and former students to refinance their loans at the new interest rate of 3.8 percent, down from the previous rate of 6.8 percent.

“It doesn’t matter if you are a Democrat, Republican, liberal, conservative, libertarian, or anything—if you’re a college student in this day and age, you are probably going to be graduating with a lot of student debt,” Robaina said. “Through our awareness, we want to cater [to] students.”

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MORE ARTISTS TBA



# Film brings attention to life of veterans

» JORDAN WATKINS  
METRO REPORTER

A FATHER-SON DUO celebrated Veteran's Day this year by previewing a feature-length film they produced about the issues American soldiers face when they return.

Professional photographers Kurt Gerber and his son, Nick Gerber, showed their nearly-complete film "Operation Route 66" on Nov. 11 at Ovation Chicago, 2324 W. Fulton Ave.

The two said they began working on the project in 2011 and followed the legendary cross-country highway in 2012, meeting veterans and recording their stories along the way.

"We decided to do a story about America," Kurt Gerber said. "The original story was going to be just about a father and son traveling on Route 66."

He said after seeing numerous headlines about veterans dying of suicide, they decided to focus their travels on meeting veterans.

"Our original thought was [to] create a photo book with some text of their stories," Kurt Gerber said. "But it became apparent it would be more of a movie project."

The opening scene of the film shows the pair traveling on motorcycles up a long stretch of two-lane highway, surrounded by nothing but open land. The film uses animated maps and iconic visuals of Route 66 to introduce segments in different cities, each featuring a different veteran's story.

The first veteran featured in the film, Blake Leitch, served seven years in the army. He recalls joining the military in 1999, when a recruitment officer told his mother he would be playing laser tag with his friends because there was



Blake Leitch (center) served seven years in the army and was one of the veterans featured in the film.

"Operation Route 66" focuses not only on how soldiers struggle after returning home but also how they cope and heal.

In the film, Amber Stone, who spent six years as an army medic, said, "You have to be proactive in your healing process. You have to be open to exploring different avenues of healing." For Stone, that means writing. Today, she is a member of Warrior Writers, a group that helps veterans heal through artistic expression.

While the Gerbers said the film is not yet finished, Nick Gerber said it is nearing completion.

He said he hopes the film will bring awareness to the issues facing America's veterans. His father echoed that sentiment.

"What a beautiful place America is," Kurt Gerber said. "It's a beautiful place because these people safeguard it for us."

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"nothing going on" that would require deployment of troops.

That plan changed on 9/11.

"I thought I was ready for anything that hit me—until it hit the fan," Leitch said in the film.

Leitch was deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He describes in the film losing 15 members of his unit in the war.

"You don't have time to feel things," he said. "You just have to do your job."

In an interview at the screening, Leitch said he still struggles with survivor's guilt and suffers

from nightmares, headaches and back pain nearly 10 years after discharge.

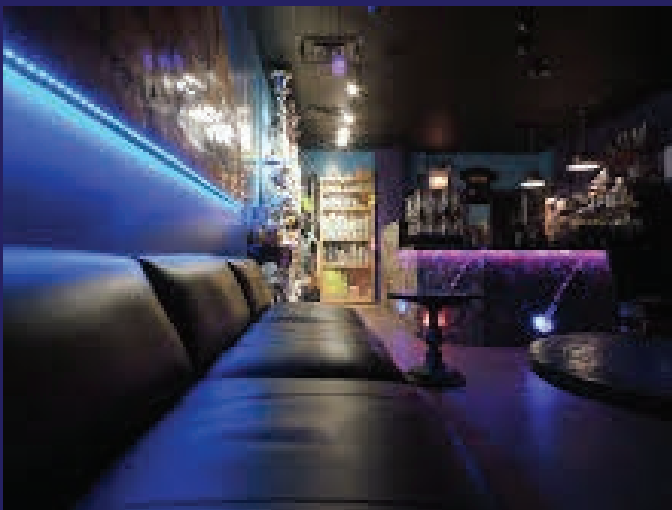
"I've come back to society and had to become a citizen, which is impossible," Leitch said. "Thanksgiving is a day that I dread every year because I lost my medic on that day."

The struggles Leitch faces are similar to those described by other veterans in the film. Many speak of suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and an underperforming Veterans Affairs system.

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## Sale of dogs from Puppy mills banned in Chicago

» MCKAYLA BRAID  
METRO REPORTER

**RETAILERS IN CHICAGO** are banned from selling dogs from large-scale breeding operations, also known as puppy mills, as of Nov. 5.

A lawsuit filed February 2015 by a Missouri dog breeder that supplies dogs to two pet stores in Chicago, attempted to block legislation that would end the sale of dogs from puppy mills. It was dismissed Nov. 5 in federal court.

Jim Sparks Jr., co-owner of the Park Pet Shop, 10429 S. Kedzie Ave., is working to appeal the ruling because the ordinance is hurting his business, he said. He added that it is slanderous to say all pet stores get their dogs from puppy mills. Sparks said all of the dogs at his shop are vaccinated, licensed and inspected with veterinary oversight.

"It's not because we're for puppy mills," Sparks said. "In fact just the

opposite—we are actually against puppy mills."

A Nov. 5 press release said the law banning dog sales from mills went into effect immediately, but the city has not yet determined when enforcement will begin.

Cari Meyers, founder and president of The Puppy Mill Project who worked on the ordinance with City Clerk Susana Mendoza, said she wanted to put an end to puppy mill operations after investigating their conditions and seeing what dogs experience living in them.

"As a consumer, [mill owners] are trying to get you to visualize a bunch of puppies in a basket in front of a fireplace, being cozy and taken care of, and it couldn't be further from the truth," Meyers said.

Robyn Barbiers, a veterinary physician and president of the Chicago branch of The Anti-Cruelty Society, stated in a Nov. 11 email that the negative impacts of mills include

"the medical, behavioral and psychological damage to the animals that live in puppy mills."

Barbiers said puppy mills provide "substandard" and "often deplorable" living conditions.

"Animals are kept in cages, have little—if any—proper socialization or environmental enrichment, have poor muscle tone due to lack of exercise, and many do not receive adequate medical care," Barbiers said.

Meyers said because mills produce more than 2 million dogs a year, the puppies not sold are usually put down.

"People think [puppy mills] just kill the adult dogs, [but] they're killing puppies too," Meyers said.

Sparks said the idea of sourcing dogs from shelters or humane societies sounds fantastic on the surface, but most of those dogs have come from puppy mills.

"Some of the best dogs on the planet might come from a shelter, but a shelter dog is not for everyone," Sparks said.

Because dogs from mills are frequently inbred, Meyers said this leads to many of them ending up in

» TNS PHOTO



As of Nov. 5 retailers in Chicago are not allowed to sell dogs from large-scale breeding operations.

shelters when owners are unable or unwilling to pay the medical bills.

"[Our] ultimate goal is to close down the mills," Meyers said. "It's large-scale animal cruelty, and it's got to stop."

Sparks said he is against puppy mills but argues shutting puppy mills will not come from shutting down pet stores. He said there has to be a middle ground where he can operate his business, and puppy mills can still be closed down.

Barbiers said she recommends that people interested in purchasing a dog look for one that will fit their lifestyle and be cautious when buying from breeders.

"If the breeder has been inspected by the Department of Agriculture, ask for a copy of the inspection report, visit the breeder and look at the conditions the dam (mother) and sire (father) are kept in," Barbiers stated in the email. "If the breeder discourages you from visiting, that is a definite red flag. Be extremely careful about Internet sales—no reputable breeder will sell over the Internet without references."

Barbiers also warned that "free puppies" can become very expensive if they have not been vaccinated or examined by a licensed veterinarian.

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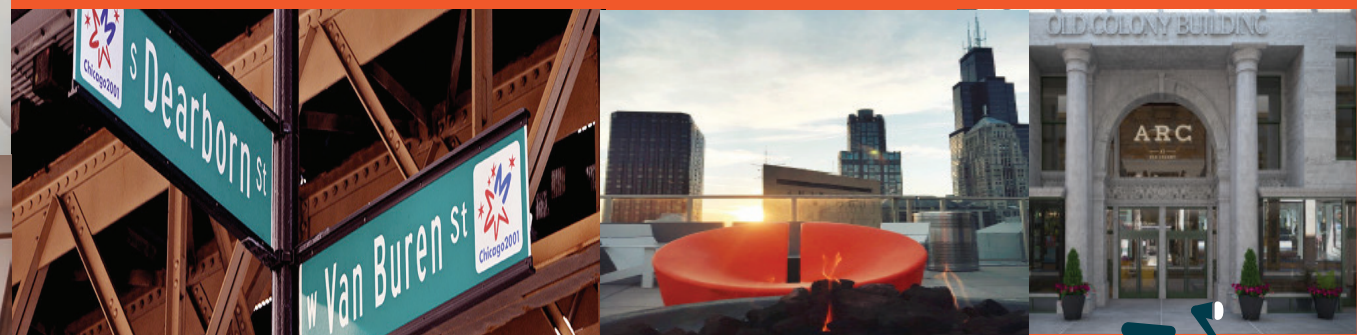


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