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THE CAULDRON

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AT CSU

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Student Feminist Coalition speaks out

By Megan Sheldon

Among the hundreds of student-run organizations Cleveland State University has to offer, there sits a newly founded club — Student Feminist Coalition (SFC).

"This is a way to do community outreach and teach people what feminism is about."

Even though feminism has recently received a bad rap by some, SFC president Zoe Jones, a senior majoring in Nonprofit Administration at CSU, wants the group to change that.

"[Student Feminist Coalition] works to kind of erase stigma on campus about feminism," she said.

Jones wants to teach others that feminism is beneficial to everyone, not just women.

Bri Emerson, SFC member and junior Anthropology major at CSU, believes feminism is fighting for everyone even though there is continuous backlash and hesitation.

"This is a way to do community outreach and teach people what feminism is about," she said.

Student Feminist Coalition was founded just this past January from the remnants of an old Cleveland State club, Student Women's Organization, that had been disbanded.

Since the formation of SFC, Jones and the group have been actively working with other student-run groups to raise awareness and become active members of the equal rights movement.

This past week, Student Feminist Coalition organized a group panel of leaders from various organizations in and around Cleveland that also fight for feminist rights.

Annie Krol, a Natural Abortion Rights Action League field organizer, was part of the panel. Focusing mainly on Ohio

abortion rights and legislature, Krol sarcastically thanked Ohio's Governor, John Kasich, for the loss of over half of Ohio's clinics.

"Abortion rights in Ohio right now are dire," she said.

"Feminism is definitely a movement for women, but men have a responsibility to be a part of it."

Maria Miranda, an activist of New Voice Cleveland was also on the panel. She explained that today's activist needs to be trained and professional, but also able to organize a letter writing campaign or lobby to make an impact on legislators.

As a whole, SFC members agreed

their favorite event was on Equal Pay Day at Café Ah-Roma.

SFC partnered with the restaurant to offer women a 22 percent discount on their total bill to represent the current wage gap between men and women.

"We are doing a lot of stuff outside CSU's campus to build a larger coalition," Emerson said.

Jack Slater, a self-described male feminist, SFC member and senior Linguistics major believes there are negative stereotypes associated with feminism for all supporters — male and female.

"Feminism is definitely a movement for women, but men have a responsibility to be a part of it," he said. "Just like any other movement to fight oppression.

Student Feminist Coalition holds meetings twice a month. The meeting time and place are announced on their Twitter account, @CSUFeminism, and on their Facebook page at facebook.com/Student-Feminist-Coalition-of-Cleveland-State-University.

Finance workshop held for students

By Abby Burton

Dr. Sandra Chincholkar of the Cleveland State University Mathematics department presented a "Balancing Your Budget" event on Oct. 8 in Cleveland State University's Women's Center.

The event started with basics on budgets and why it is important to create one.

Chincholkar offered tips on controlling your budget like knowing your bank balance, knowing what you spend, not buying on impulse and staying as true to your budget as possible.

She also spoke about credit scores and why they matter to students. According to Chincholkar, credit scores affect your chances of getting a credit card, a car and even a house.

"[Finances] allow you to start creating the life that you want," she said. "Like saving for your children and giving them a heads-up for college, owning a house that you want and more."

Focusing on how college students can spend a lot of money without realizing is, Chincholkar gave a few examples of how something that seems like a little expense can actually be a big one.

One of the examples that she used was buying coffee every day. If a student buys a coffee for \$4.25 every day, it may not seem like much. But in one year, that student will have spent a total of \$1,551.25 on coffee alone.

After having students choose a small expense they have everyday, she explained the four-step plan to creating a budget.

According to Chincholkar, the first step in the creation of a budget is to list all monthly income.

The next step is to list all monthly expenses from things that take money monthly like insurance and groceries.

Then, find the net monthly cash flow by subtracting the total expenses from the total income.

Finally, make adjustments as needed so that the total expenses do not outweigh the total income.

Chincholkar also covered were things like calculating gross income before taxes, practicing prorating (or

"[Finances] allow you to start creating the life that you want."

taking a large expense and figuring out how much you could spend if you paid it every month), monthly cash flow and what income expenses you should consider as a college student.

These income expenses include housing, transportation, debt, food, child care, medical, education, incidentals and other things personal to you.

There will be another budgeting seminar in the CSU Women's Center Nov. 5 to which Chincholkar asks that each student brings all bills and information on their income so she can help everyone make a monthly budget.

"Step one is looking at what you are spending monthly, honestly," she said. "And then step two is deciding where and how you can cut corners with your budget."

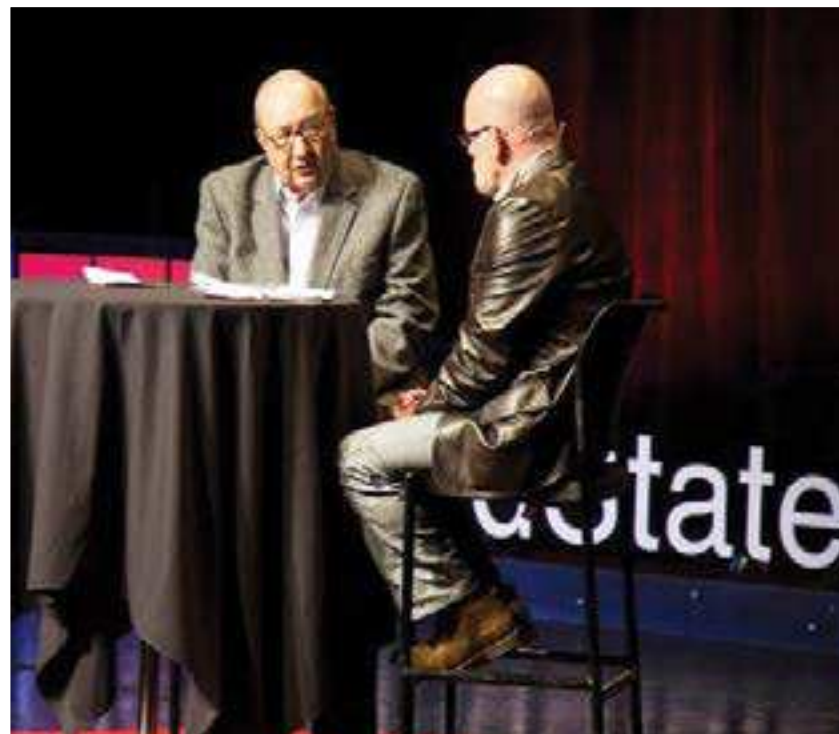
Captured on campus: TEDxClevelandStateUniversity

Photos by Evan Prunty



Top left: TEDxClevelandStateUniversity speakers gather on stage at the end of the event on Friday, Oct. 16. They received a standing ovation from the crowd.

Bottom left: Retired President of Cleveland State University, Michael Schwartz (left) and Urban Studies professor Bill Bowen sit on stage during their talk about ideas and business and what role they play in universities.



Top right: Rich Cochran speaks about the benefits of trees on a city's health and prosperity.

Bottom right: Timothy Tramble passionately speaks about Cleveland's quest to become a successful city while avoiding the pitfalls of gentrification.



TEDxClevelandStateUniversity draws crowd

Second annual event 'makes you look beyond perception'

By Abby Burton

The Monte Ahuja College of Business held its second annual TEDxClevelandStateUniversity event in the Waetjen Auditorium in the Music and Communications building Friday, Oct. 16.

Hosting 13 speakers and two pre-recorded video talks, the event lasted about five hours, including a one-hour intermission.

The Master of Ceremonies, Dr. Charleyse S. Pratt, assistant vice president for the Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement, explained the theme of the event, which was "Made You Look: Beyond Perception."

She said this theme was chosen so that each speaker could take

something that we see every day and make the audience take a second look.

The first speaker was Julie Wilkes, a survivor of a severe heart defect that started when she was born. She spoke about overcoming life's obstacles to find one's meaning in life.

The next speaker, Chris Webb left the audience speechless while he performed a poem he had wrote about the crime and injustices in Cleveland.

"But, folks. I'm tired," he said as he performed his poem. "Cause 16 days ago, bullets struck a five-month-old on my best friend's street so how could I stay inspired?"

Webb, from Cleveland's East Side, has travelled the world speaking

about poverty and violence. He now returns to Cleveland to teach the people here what this city has been through by "letting the walls talk."

Webb plans to shut down streets throughout Cleveland and project animated faces onto the structures to have them "tell" their stories. He hopes this will make people realize what a great place we live in.

The next two speakers gave their talk together. Professor of Urban Studies Bill Bowen and retired president of CSU Michael Schwartz spoke about the importance of ideas and the conflict of business in education from the standpoints of both a university leader and a professor.

Another CSU professor spoke next about robotic biomimicry. Professor Ton van den Bogert showed how scientists can learn how to make more efficient robots by looking at one of the world's oldest creatures — a horse.

The fifth speaker was the youngest speaker TEDxClevelandStateUniversity has ever had. Jacob Cramer, a 14-year-old, spoke about his love for the elderly.

Cramer founded an organization called Love for the Elderly in Dec. 2013 which collects and distributes letters of love to the elderly who reside in nursing homes across the country.

After intermission, the audience took their seats for the sixth speaker, Mary Verdi-Fletcher.

Verdi-Fletcher was born with a spinal disability, causing her to require braces on her legs to walk when she was young and eventually resulting in the need for a wheelchair.

These obstacles did not stop her, however, and her TED talk was about her love of dance and how she is seen for her talents in dance rather than her disability.

She founded the first integrated dance company, Dancing Wheels Company and School, that allows wheelchair-bound dancers and non-

wheelchair-bound dancers to perform together.

The seventh speaker, Timothy Tramble, the executive director of Burton, Bell, Carr Development Inc. presented his thoughts on how to make Cleveland one of the greatest cities while keeping current residents happy and avoiding gentrification.

Jason Perz followed Tramble with a talk on the thrill of failure. Having been adopted by a loving family and a mother whom he lost to muscular dystrophy, Perz had a lot of obstacles to overcome.

Struggling with depression, suicidal thoughts and even addiction, Perz spoke about how failure is actually a one-up one can have on others. He now operates ThrillerBMX, a program based on BMX biking which promotes a healthy, drug-free lifestyle to youth.

Professor Peter Dunham spoke on imagination and the importance of creativity. As an archaeologist, Dunham presented his thoughts on what makes humans successful.

All thriving cities have one thing in common, according to Rich Cochran. He explained that trees have more of an influence on our health and prosperity more than we can imagine, providing research and even maps to back up his talk.

Dr. Adrienne Boissy is the Cleveland Clinic's chief experience officer. She gave a talk in which she explained why therapeutic mislabeling of diagnoses is not the answer to helping patients.

Chris Ramsay, a dog trainer from the east side of Cleveland ended the event. With help from his K-9 companion, Snickers, Ramsay educated the audience on how to communicate with your pups effectively.

CSU President Ronald Berkman was thrilled with TEDxClevelandStateUniversity and stepped up to acknowledge the innovators who graced the stage.

"I think that Cleveland State has changed from a port to a destination [for innovation]," he said.

Browns Watch Party

CLEVELAND BROWNS VS PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Sunday, November 15th
12pm - 4:30pm
ABC Tavern
11434 Uptown Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106

Fundraiser for CSU American Planning Association
Come watch one of the best rivalries in the NFL, while supporting your CSU APA group

Tickets are \$25 for food, drink, and raffle prizes
Tickets are \$30 if purchased at the door

Email csu.apa@gmail.com for tickets and to RSVP

FACEBOOK: CSU APA WEB: WWW.CSUAPA.ORG TWITTER: @CSUAPA

CSU men's and women's basketball preview

Filled with new faces, both Viking teams prepare for new season



Photo courtesy csuathletics.edu

Left: CSU women's head coach Kate Peterson Abiad (left, kneeling) is prepared to combat injuries and the departures of her top three scorers with a full roster and a new plan. **Right:** CSU men's head coach Gary Waters lost two of his stars to other universities, but he is back with a rebuilt roster and ready to play everyone, including the freshmen if necessary.



Photo courtesy cleveland.com

By Gregory Kula

Cleveland State University basketball is back!

Women's team

In a press conference Tuesday, Oct 13, head coach Kate Peterson Abiad sat down to talk about the 2015-16 season.

Abiad first addressed the incredible amount of injuries the team had to work through last season.

"I'm worried about injuries," she said. "After last year, it's on my mind a lot."

She admitted the ever-changing rotation last season hindered a lot of the team's growth and the timing and number of injuries last season was incredibly unlucky.

She said one week she had to go to the Cleveland Clinic three different times for player injuries.

This season, Abiad and the Vikings have a much fuller roster of 15 players.

One key player, junior guard Alexis Eckles, is already out with an ACL injury. The team is hoping to have her back by the conference tournament.

Senior forward Allison Mitchell, sophomore forward Olivia Voskuhl, junior guard Adesuwa Aideyman, junior guard Brooke Smith, sophomore guard Kayla Livingston and freshman forward Ashanti Abshaw will make up the most of the rotation while Eckles recovers from her injury.

Abiad knows this is not going to be

enough to win the league. She said the freshmen will help fill this void.

"We need more than six," she said. "Of the freshmen, the kid who is the farthest ahead...is Nicolette Newman. She is very skilled [and] very disciplined."

Even with the entire roster healthy, the Vikings still have to deal with the loss of their top three scorers — forward Imani Gordon, guard Cori Coleman and guard Kiersten Green, who all graduated last season.

In addition to fighting injuries and player losses, the team knows they have to improve their road record to compete.

"On the road, we have a routine and I try to stick to that," she said. "[But] we need to be a better road team if we are going to win a championship."

This road schedule is much different with the addition of Northern Kentucky University to the Horizon League. Now the road games will be played two at a time. Abiad thinks this helps the league be fair.

"If you have to play two tough teams, everyone has to play two tough teams," she said.

Abiad is excited about the partnership with Quicken Loans Arena and thinks that it add a lot to CSU basketball to be able to play there.

"It's great for the program," she said. "It's great for recruiting."

This season can go many different

ways, but Abiad said there is one thing missing this season for the women's team.

"I have kids that can shoot the ball," she said. "What I'm looking for is a rebounder."

Men's team

Last year, the men's team lost guard Trey Lewis and forward Anton Grady. Head coach Gary Waters will tell you that he's heard that statement too many times.

At a press conference Tuesday, Oct. 13, Waters spoke about the new team that lost a few of its star players from previous seasons and must decide how it's going to play.

"[We] have to establish a whole new group of young men moving in a direction," he said.

He does not know what to expect this season but hopes the team will play better than critics predict.

"Will we be good coming out of the gate?" he said. "It's hard to tell because you're still trying to develop that."

Unlike last year, when the rotation was set and key players were just that — key — this season, Waters is going to use his entire roster, but the order is not yet set.

"We're going to play ten this year, or more," he said. "I can say this; we'll have a senior in there. We're going to have three juniors, and everybody else will be young. My three freshmen

will play."

Waters praised his team and knows they have what it takes to compete in such a tough conference.

"We have depth," he said. "We have size, [and] we're athletic."

Waters said he plans on using a full-court press more often because of this athletic team and working it into the half-court defense.

The offensive side of the team is still up for grabs without a proven point guard to replace Charlie Lee and Lewis who are no longer on the team.

Sophomore Kenny Carpenter and freshman Rob Edwards are expected to take the bulk of the work at that position.

Junior Myles Hamilton is coming off redshirting last season and Waters believes he can also fit nicely into the ballhandling position.

Along with the new team, the conference tournament will no longer be at the top team's court. Instead it will be hosted by Detroit on a Saturday through Tuesday at Joe Louis Arena.

Waters knows the Horizon League offers many challenges for the team, and he ranks Valparaiso University and Oakland University at top.

CBS sports also ranks Valpo at the top and has them ranked 41st in the country. Oakland is ranked 103rd. CSU is ranked 200th.

The Cubs, a goat and 'Back to the Future'

By Gregory Kula

The year is 2015, and the Chicago Cubs are in Major League Baseball's (MLB) National League Championship Series (NLCS).

The last time the Cubs were this close to the World Series was 2003. The last time they were actually in the World Series was 1945. The last time they won the World Series was 1908.

Although they won the World Series in 1907 and 1908, those are the only two wins the team has to their name.

As team after team was knocked out of the MLB playoffs, the Cubs cruised through the Wild Card game on the back of Cy Young Award front-runner Jake Arrieta.

They beat the St. Louis Cardinals in the National League Division Series (NLDS) to advance and keep a movie prophecy alive.

Ever the running joke, the Cubs winning the World Series has only happened once since 1945, and it was in the movie "Back to the Future Part II." The story of Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) traveling through time shows the Cubs winning the Series in the year 2015.

Just looking at the movie and

seeing the Cubs win this season would make any casual sports fan root for them, but other facts surrounding the century-old championship drought and the movie show that something strange is happening on the north side of Chicago.

Although the Cubs did not win a World Series from 1908 to 1945, the actual "curse" on the team occurred during the last Series they played in.

The story goes that William Sianis — owner of the Billy Goat Tavern in Chicago — attempted to bring a goat into Game Four of the '45 World Series when the ushers and the owner said no.

According to the official Billy Goat Tavern website, Sianis then said the infamous words that sealed the Cubs fate.

"The Cubs ain't gonna win no more," he said. "The Cubs will never win a World Series so long as the goat is not allowed in Wrigley Field."

After he spoke these words, the Cubs lost the Series and never made it back. They have since seen heart-breaking losses every few years including fan Steve Bartman getting in the way of a catch in 2003.



Photo courtesy cdn.rsvlts.com

In "Back to the Future Part II," Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) sees that the Cubs win the World Series in 2015, which still might happen with the actual Cubs in the NLCS.

The Billy Goat Tavern is famous for the Cubs, but it is also famous for Saturday Night Live.

One of the first sketches on the show featured John Belushi, along with other cast members, at the tavern. The ridiculous spoof grew to become one of the most well-known sketches the show has created.

Belushi died in 1982, but his brother and fellow comedian, Jim, was at the final game of this year's NLDS.

The Cubs may be hoping that Belushi's loose connection to the Billy Goat Tavern and the "Back to

the Future" prediction will collide to produce a win, but they still have a long way to go.

Stephen Colbert recently stated his support on "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert."

"The Chicago Cubs are clearly the Greatest Of All Time," he said. "G.O.A.T! G.O.A.T!"

Maybe they should sell out the NLCS by giving livestock tickets just to be safe.

At press time, the Cubs were down 0-1 in games in the seven-game NLCS.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month at CSU Rec Center

By Matthew Johns

The month of October is designated to raising breast cancer awareness and remembering those who have passed due to the horrible disease. and Cleveland State University's Recreation Center is doing their part to help the cause.

A number of events have been scheduled all over campus throughout October geared toward raising awareness — including a three-on-three basketball tournament and a Zumbathon.

The Rec Center's competitive sports and camps coordinator, Kelly Mozena, is excited to see what students engage in.

"We've had a lot of interest, but not many events yet," she said. "It will be

interesting to see how many people come out."

Holding these types of events in a college environment always poses challenges due to the students' busy schedules, but Mozena feels they are important for young adults to attend.

"We are hopeful we will have a lot of participation," Mozena said. "You never know. This is a difficult time of the year with things like midterms."

Making an impression on college students can last a lifetime and spark an interest in helping a great cause.

Aside from raising money for the cause, awareness is the Rec Center's main goal throughout this month.

"It's very important. This is the age that students discover who

they are and who they want to be," Mozena said. "Students are very impressionable. We want to make a positive impression."

Tables have been set up in the Rec Center lobby to provide students with information regarding the disease, along with pink ribbons available for purchase.

Students can fill out cards with their names or the names of their loved ones who have been affected by breast cancer. Donations are accepted but are not mandatory.

A "pink-out" volleyball game was held earlier in the month where fans were encouraged to dress in pink. Donations were accepted throughout the game, and students who donated

were given a chance to win gift cards and T-shirts.

Besides the pink ribbons and volleyball game, the Rec Center will also raise money through a three-on-three basketball tournament held Thursday, Oct. 15.

Party in Pink! Zumbathon will be held on Oct. 20 in the MAC Gymnasium in an effort to help raise breast cancer awareness with an evening of vibrant colors and dancing.

All proceeds from events benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

A full list of events can be found at www.csuohio.edu/services/recreationcenter.

Homeless at CSU

What it's like to earn a degree while living in poverty

By Giorgiana Lascu, assisted by Abe Kurp

It's a crisp, autumn night on the corner of Chester Avenue and East 22nd Street around 10:30 p.m. I'm heading to Norma Herr, the local women's shelter, located just a block away on Payne Avenue.

I am not homeless and I never have been. Waiting at that crosswalk, I didn't yet know how ignorant I am about homelessness. Staying at a shelter for a single night will barely scratch the surface, but for me it's the beginning of understanding.

When I heard Cleveland State University was launching Lift Up Vikes (LUV) — a program to provide basic needs like food and laundry facilities to homeless and housing-insecure students — I was shocked there was even a need for such a program.

It's easy to accept the concept of homeless people my age, but the idea that the kid sitting next to you in Econ is worrying about where he's going to sleep is hard to swallow.

I first met Jillian Keller, assistant director of the Resource Centers at the Department of Student Life and the head of the LUV program, the day I was initially going to sleep at Norma Herr. Keller was so adamant I not stay at Norma Herr that it scared me off for weeks.

"If you were my daughter, I would be jumping over my desk and shaking you," she said after she heard what I was planning.

But here I am, heading to Norma Herr instead of my nice, warm bed.

The light turns green. A group of students are walking arm in arm singing the "Game of Thrones"

theme song. Their voices fade away as I walk out of comfortable college-world into the eerie silence on Payne Avenue.

A group of about 40 women are outside the shelter. They're quiet for a group so large. Is there not enough room in the shelter?

As I approach, I realize the women are watching a lady in a purple turban who is speaking in tongues. One white-haired woman in the crowd is wearing slippers, an ankle-length flowered night-gown and a robe.

"This is not our end, but our beginning. In Jesus' name, amen," says the lady in the turban.

The women in the crowd bow their heads and repeat. Then a man steps out of the only car on the street with two giant, greasy McDonald's bags and, soon after, the crowd disperses, munching dollar burgers.

Once I get in the shelter, the details surprise me. No one is mumbling to themselves, there are no cockroaches — but there is no toilet paper either.

I spend most of the night fidgeting in my narrow top bunk, number 125, obsessing over every movement of my bunkmate, the snoring coming from somewhere in the darkness and the stifling heat from the sleeping bodies all around me. I survive the night.

Making sacrifices

The morning after my night at Norma Herr, I sat down with Quenice Sims — a 20-year-old, former CSU

student who has gone without secure housing for long stretches of her life — to trade stories.

Like me, Sims also spent some time at Norma Herr. Unlike me, she was only a girl, about 11 years old and had recently moved with her mother and three siblings to Cleveland from Detroit.

The family was supposed to stay with Sim's mother's best friend, but the best friend's boyfriend wasn't having it, so they wound up at Norma Herr. The family stayed there on and off for months at a time.

"My mom always felt bad about being mentally unstable and not being able to do what she needed to do. I know she tried. [She] would go without eating just to make sure that we ate."

"When we were [at Norma Herr], they had really bad bedbugs and roaches," she said.

"I didn't see any now! I've never seen a bedbug," I admitted, a little disappointed.

"Lucky you!" she chuckled.

About two years after moving to Cleveland, when Sims was in the seventh grade, her family got approved by the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) and moved into public housing.

"We were on the program at CMHA until I was, I think, 16 or 17," Sims said. "My mom had a job for a while. She had been taking her medicine, so she was cool, so then it helped us find a two-family house. We were out of the projects, in our two-family. Our landlord was really cool. And then [my mom] just dropped off the face of the Earth."

When I asked Sims if she was mad at her mom for disappearing, her answer broke my heart.

"My mom always felt bad about being mentally unstable and not being able to do what she needed to," she said. "I know she tried. [She] would go without eating just to make sure that we ate. My mom is the tiniest thing ever because she went so long without eating. She [only] eats twice a week [now] because that's what she's used to doing."

After Sims' mother's disappearance — a common occurrence throughout her life — their landlord was patient. But everyone has a limit.

"He let us stay there for two months without rent, and then he was like, 'I'm sorry. You have to go,'" Sims said.

So they were homeless again. Sims, like she always does, persisted. Through pure determination, she

stayed in school. She graduated from the Health Careers program at Martin Luther King Jr. High School (MLK). She got good grades and still volunteers there regularly as part of a mentoring program she helped create.

She received scholarships from CSU, moved into a dorm, had a meal plan and — most importantly — made friends, including her roommate from freshman year, Allee Coates.

"Shout out to CSU for bringing Allee to me!" Sims said. "She's always like, 'You need a hug?' And I do. I do need a hug. I'm like, 'Oh, thanks, Allee!'"

When I asked her what her favorite memory from CSU was, she answered quickly: A girl's night with her roommates, when they watched "American Horror Story," put on facemasks, vegged out on vegan desserts and took pictures on wind-up disposable cameras.

"The goal was to take all these fun pictures so years and years later, when we've probably forgotten about each other, we unpack all this stuff and go get the camera developed and go, 'Look! This was one of the greatest nights of our lives,'" she said.

Not so different after all

Many of the possibilities for Sims' life are embodied by Basheer Jones, a poet, activist and speaker who was homeless for long stretches as a child and spoke at the 2014 TEDxClevelandStateUniversity conference. I interviewed him over the phone prior to my talk with Sims.

I noticed remarkable parallels between Jones' story and Sims'.

No, he didn't mention any girls' nights or "American Horror Story" marathons.

But like Sims, as a child, Jones lived for a time with his mother and his three siblings in a Cleveland-area homeless shelter before being approved by CMHA. Like Sims, he graduated from MLK. And like Sims,

he's always had a strong inclination to give back.

According to Jones, it was the combination of his mother's strength and a mentoring program run by a Cleveland cop named Timothy Roberts that got him up and over homelessness.

Because of Roberts, Jones was exposed to people, places and things outside the narrow world of poverty he was born into, and he hopes to do much of the same for kids today.

"I actually created a program called the 4E Program based upon my talks," Jones said. "We have to expose, educate, remove young people from out of their environments and give them new experiences if we are to help change their mindsets about how they view themselves and view the world."

Sims' worldview is definitely not confined by poverty. She's hellbent on graduating and doesn't care how long it takes.

"I'm going to do my school work, but first I have to take care of where are my siblings going to live? How is my family going to eat?"

But, as she said throughout our interview, "Things happen."

The magic of her stay at CSU didn't last. In Sims' sophomore year, trouble at home yanked her attention away from school, and her grades suffered.

"I got all F's because I wasn't concerned about school," she said. "I don't know if that's for everybody [else], but for me when stuff started going bad, I completely forgot about

school. I was like, 'I'm going to do my school work, but first I have to take care of where are my siblings going to live? How is my family going to eat? I don't want to be living large on campus knowing that I have food to eat because I have a meal plan and I can go to the cafeteria, but my siblings and my mom are at home starving."

Out of desperation, Sims brought Tupperware containers into the CSU dining hall and loaded them with food for her family — taking only as much as she needed.

Inevitably, she flunked out of college. She appealed multiple times and got back in, but a stable situation for her family proved hard to come by, and her appeals wore thin.

"Every time I tried to go back to school, stuff kept happening," she said. "I felt bad about giving them the same speech, and after a while they were like, 'No, you can't come back. I'm sorry.'"

Hope on the horizon

At this point, Sims isn't sure if CSU will let her back in, but Keller is optimistic about Sims' chances.

"It is possible to come back," Keller said. "It's always possible to come back."

And when she does, she'll have the strong arms of the LUV program to support her. The idea for the LUV program was hatched about three years ago and will finally launch in the Spring 2016 semester.

When it's ready, the program will offer students a food pantry (already in operation), laundry facilities specifically for homeless or housing-insecure students, lockers for some of their belongings and a place to receive mail.

LUV will also offer financial planning classes taught by a CSU math professor and cooking classes taught by a prominent local chef.

For students whose needs are beyond the scope of the program, LUV will serve as an official Ohio Benefit Bank, so students can apply

for government assistance right at CSU.

"I think the big takeaways are that there is great hope," Keller said. "Lift Up Vikes is providing support to help encourage students. I don't look at this as a tragic place or a sad place. I think it's a place of great hope and great support and of encouraging already amazing people to keep going."

"Lift Up Vikes is providing support to help encourage students. I don't look at this as a sad or tragic place. I think it's a place of great hope."

For Sims, at least, it's still too early to say if or when she'll come back to CSU. Right now, she plans to move in with her sick stepfather to act as his caretaker.

But some day soon, she knows she will make it back to school.

"I don't really have a final goal," she said. "I just want to graduate. I don't care where I graduate from. I just want to prove to my friends, who I know had it worse than me, and my siblings and the kids I mentor — look, you don't have to be perfect. Life most of the time — I would say 80 percent of the times — sucks. But, look, with all the obstacles in life, you can still accomplish your goal. My goal is just to graduate college."

Anyone interested in donating time, money or goods to LUV can contact Jillian Keller at 216-687-4674 or at J.L.Keller@csuohio.edu. ■

Captured on campus: Latino Cultures Festival

Students learn about, experience a diverse ethnic community

Photos by Cameron Tolbert



Top Left: Senior Spanish major Judy Nogueras (left) presents samples of Puerto Rican cuisine during the Latino Cultures Festival held Thursday, Oct. 15 in the Student Center Ballroom from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event was presented by the Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement.

Top Right: Musicians performing during the Drumplay: Afro-Caribbean Bands portion of the event.

Bottom Left: Visitors were encouraged to learn about traditional and contemporary Latino cultures. Tables were set up with cultural fact cards with corresponding ethnic items, and informational, student-made posters were displayed throughout the area.

Bottom Right: Dr. Charleyse Pratt (left), assistant vice president for the Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement, presents handmade jewelry from Mexico.

Comedian Bill Burr to stop in Cleveland

By Roman Macharoni

With an upcoming animated sitcom and an eight-year-running podcast, Bill Burr is certainly a busy man. Also known for his role in the hit series "Breaking Bad" and his Comedy Central stand-up specials, Burr will be bringing his unapologetic comedy style to PlayhouseSquare's State Theatre (1519 Euclid Ave.) Friday, Oct. 23.

Politically incorrect Burr is known for making time to rant and feature comedy's brightest stars on his show while touring around the country. His signature brash comedy style has earned him a reputation among his fellow comics as a strong supporter of the craft, or a comedian's comedian.

In a phone interview, he remarked on how humbled he is to have such a title.

"My bucket list is empty," Burr said. "All I wanted to do was be a working comedian. Everything else has been gravy."

Burr has been busy for the past

year with fellow co-producers Vince Vaughn and Michael Price working on his latest project — the animated sitcom "F is for Family." Burr said he was spending late nights working in the studio to get the characters right and to make the show a reality.

"I've been in show business for 23 years," Burr said. "And this was the first time I've ever had an actual job. It doesn't feel like work."

"F is for Family" is set in 1973 and loosely based on Burr's childhood growing up. The show will premiere in December exclusively on Netflix. Voice talent for the show will include Burr, Justin Long and Laura Dern.

Burr also keeps himself busy with his "Monday Morning Podcast." As the show has grown, viewers have often sent him questions concerning sports and relationship advice.

"I can't say I enjoy doing this as much as stand-up," Burr said. "But I love hearing people's questions...it's very satisfying."



Photo courtesy bitsandsegways.com
Most known for his role in "Breaking Bad" and eight-year-running podcast, comedian Bill Burr will be performing at PlayhouseSquare Friday, Oct. 23.

Burr looks forward to coming back to Cleveland, saying that a lot of his closest friends come from Cleveland, including Nick Kostis, owner of the comedy club Hilarities.

Tickets for the show are \$47.50.

Burr's first show is already sold out, but at press time his 9:30 p.m. show still has seats available. Call 216-241-6000 or visit playhousesquare.org for tickets.

Students who rock: Maria DiDonato



Photo courtesy facebook.com/HiptoThat

Senior Music Education major Maria DiDonato has been the vocalist for Hip to That for a year since the members met in the Music department's Jazz Combo performance group.

By Morgan Elswick

From working a part-time job to running a student organization, there are several ways for a college student to gain experience in any given field. For Maria DiDonato, a senior Music

Education major with a minor in Theatre, being the vocalist of Hip to That is her way of learning the nuances of the music industry while finishing her degree.

Hip to That is made entirely of Cleveland State University students and was created a year ago after the group met in the Music department's Jazz Combo.

The group also performed in the Thursday Series — a weekly concert performance hosted by the Music department that is mandatory for all music majors to perform in at least once a semester.

"I got us together to do a Thursday Series in Drinko Hall, and we liked playing together so much that we started a band," DiDonato said.

Hip to That includes a bassist, keyboardist and drummer, along with vocalist DiDonato.

Hip to That is primarily a cover band, but they occasionally include their own work in performances. DiDonato has learned many new aspects of music from her experience in the band.

"I learned a lot about jazz music from my friends in the group — like

different progressions, scatting and a whole new way of singing," she said.

DiDonato has also become familiar with difficulties like networking and finding places to play.

"Booking gigs is a struggle because you have to do a lot of calling [and] emailing," she said. "Eventually places start calling you, which is nice, but I'm always calling to book us different places."

Even with the complications of booking, DiDonato still believes being in a band to be an invaluable experience.

"I love being a student in a band, because I feel like you always learn the most about performing by simply doing it," DiDonato said. "You learn from mistakes and you learn how to connect with one another by playing [it] out."

Hip to That will perform at The Stray Goose (37040 Detroit Rd.) in Avon on Halloween (Oct. 31) starting at 9:30 p.m.

'King Lear' astounds audience with cast

Direction, costumes show insightful, captivating take on tale



Photo courtesy greatlakestheatre.org

Aled Davies (center) is King Lear, a ruler who chooses to divide his kingdom into three parts for each of his daughters in "King Lear," running now through Nov. 1 at PlayhouseSquare.

By Cheyenne Bizon

William Shakespeare's "King Lear" boasts a long history of striking audiences with harrowing loss and tragic disturbance. It grips the audience with scenes of betrayal, whiffs of greed and disquieting themes of madness.

Under the direction of Joseph Hanreddy, "King Lear" is being performed at PlayhouseSquare's Hanna Theatre now through Nov. 1.

In this tale, King Lear (Aled Davies) chooses to divide his kingdom into three parts to bequeath to his three

daughters — the size of each division depending solely on the quality of each daughter's profession of love to their father. As his two eldest daughters plot to undermine their aging father's power in order to seize it entirely for themselves, Lear descends into madness.

The Hanna Theater's Classic Company flaunts seamless cast chemistry. They provide pristine performances that remain poignant and truthful while encompassing the modern mannerisms and integrity of this interpretation of "King Lear."

Of the array of enjoyable performances, Lear's daughters — Goneril (Laura Perrotta) and Regan (Robyn Cohen) — shine particularly bright as two very conniving people with cunning inflections, piercing presence and sly, scheming physicality.

The most captivating performance of the production, though, undoubtedly goes to Davies as the disturbing cyclone of madness that is King Lear. His honesty is prevalent in all aspects of Lear's journey through insanity, and his focus is never anything but precise and mesmerizing, making his performance fascinating.

The costumes (designed by Martha

Hally) are the most striking feature of modernism in a usually antiquated context. The royal daughters are adorned in structured pencil-dresses and chic bohemian-reminiscent ensembles. The king and other royals look dashing in suits and ties and up-to-date military attire.

The fashions are unique to each character and cleverly reflect different aspects of their backgrounds and personalities. The regal yet versatile scenic design allows for a wide array of backdrops and moods.

Overall, "King Lear" is an entertaining and intriguing production that will especially pique the interest of experienced theatre-goers who appreciate creative interpretations of classic works.

Student tickets are \$13 with an ID and are available online at www.playhousesquare.org or at the box office in PlayhouseSquare.



Photos by Roman Macharoni



Far left: Danny's BLT roll — made with smoked salmon and a lettuce roll, topped with tomato and loaded with bacon and spicy mayonnaise

Top center: California Shrimp and Crab box

Bottom center: Signature E.L.S. roll made with tempura shrimp, avocado and salmon

Sushi 86

By Roman Macharoni

There are a lot of sushi restaurants in Downtown Cleveland, but Sushi 86 is head and shoulders above the rest. Hidden at the rear entrance of the 5th Street Arcades (530 Euclid Ave.), Sushi 86 is a bona fide gem for sushi enthusiasts and foodies craving something different.

Sushi 86 has many interesting creations made by sushi chefs willing to experiment and combine flavors for a truly satisfying experience. One of these intriguing dishes is Danny's BLT roll (\$12.50). It's a smoked salmon and lettuce roll topped with a tomato slice and loaded with bacon and spicy mayonnaise.

It's definitely the most interesting experience I've ever had with sushi. The bacon pairs well with the roll, adding a hearty crispness. It makes me want to find Danny and buy him a drink.

Another signature roll from Sushi 86 is the E.L.S. Roll (\$12.50). With tempura shrimp, avocado and salmon, it tastes just as good as it looks.

There's also the suggestively named 3 Way Reverse Cowgirl (\$15.95). It's one of their more expensive rolls. Packed with crab salad, shrimp, avocado and drizzled with three different sauces, it's sweet, spicy and savory all in the same bite.

There's also lighter fare like the Sweet Potato roll (\$4), which is mashed and served warm with a sweet soy sauce. It's comfort food with a twist. The Lobster Salad roll (\$6.75) is also filled with flavor and very fresh. They're both great as a side to a larger roll or by themselves as a light snack.

Sushi 86 allows any menu item to be customized to your taste, and they have enough options to create some interesting combinations.

For sushi lovers looking for variety, the combos and boxes are a great way to start. The Spicy Maki box and the California, Shrimp and Crab salad box (both \$8) are both nine-piece variety entrees with tons of flavor.

The Inari Combo (\$5.95) pairs any vegetable roll with three slightly sweet and delicious inari rice treats. The red bell pepper and asparagus vegetable roll is one of my personal favorites.

As soon as you enter the restaurant, they wait on you hand and foot. The waitstaff offers suggestions based on your familiarity with sushi. Even if you are new to sushi, there are several dishes that appeal to everyone and cater to every dietary restriction.

Sushi 86 originally had two menus — a regular menu and one exclusively for vegan/vegetarian options. Now the menu has been streamlined,

Monday-Saturday: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sunday: 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

5th Street Arcades, 509 Prospect Ave. E,
Cleveland, OH 44114
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with labels for those with gluten free, vegan, vegetarian and shellfish-allergic diets.

The environment is very clean and smells fresh. Additionally, the back patio has a great view of Quicken Loans Arena. Sushi 86 even offers delivery for those who want to try their dishes at home — convenient for busy students.

Sushi 86 should be any sushi enthusiast's choice destination for fresh and vibrant rolls, nigiri and sashimi. With a bright, inviting environment, it's a great place to bring your friends and enjoy some great food.





Stop saying 'All Lives Matter' Movement is disrespectful to Black Lives Matter

By Lisa Hammond

The Black Lives Matter movement has been thriving for over a year. Created by sisters Alicia Garza, Opal Tometi and Patrisse Cullors, it was made in response to black lives being lost at the hands of policemen.

Black people have been dealing with police brutality for a very long time, with a notable case being the Rodney King beating.

In 1991, four Los Angeles policemen pulled King and his friend out of a car after a police chase.

Both men were asked to lie facedown on the ground but when King refused, he was viciously beaten. The entire incident was caught on video.

Once the video was released, the country was outraged at how King was treated.

The officers were put on trial, and two were acquitted while the other

two were found guilty.

After the two officers were acquitted, black South Central L.A. residents were outraged. They were so angry they began rioting, looting and burning buildings and cars.

That was one of the first public cases of police killings, but certainly not the last.

Sean Bell was killed the day before his wedding in 2006 by New York Police Department detectives.

After suspecting Bell and a friend of going to retrieve a gun following an argument, detectives fired 50 bullets into their car and killed Bell, who was unarmed. The detectives were found not guilty.

We have heard about the lost lives of Trayvon Martin, Freddie Gray and Mike Brown, and how those accused of killing them were found not guilty.

These men were killed unjustly,

and black people are fed up with the apparent carelessness concerning their lives.

The state of fear black people now live in when they are approached by police officers is unacceptable and should never happen in a country deemed the "land of the free."

The Black Lives Matter movement serves as a voice for the unheard, so why is it now being questioned?

Many people have chosen to change the Black Lives Matter movement into an All Lives Matter movement.

We know that all lives matter, but that isn't what society shows us.

If all lives truly mattered in America, there would be no need for an entire movement aimed to end the senseless killings of black people.

Saying that all lives matter and that there should not be a Black Lives Matter movement is disrespectful.

It is avoiding the fact that statistics show at least 313 black people were killed by the police in 2013.

It is avoiding the fact that 17-year-old Trayvon Martin lost his life.

It is avoiding the fact that white supremacy still reigns in the United States and that people do not want Black Lives Matter to succeed and create justice because of their white status.

The implication that all lives matter pushes black lives into the background once again.

This injustice reiterates that black lives in fact do matter, and that a movement is necessary to gain justice.

Lisa Hammond is a senior majoring in Journalism & Promotional Communication at CSU.



Employers who guilt trip working parents Family obligations come first, work second

By Jenna Salamon

My husband and I work full-time and are both in school. When one of our children is sick, we spend quite a bit of time debating who will be the lucky one to miss work.

What we usually do is take turns staying home unless the other one has something major going on at work.

The brunt of it used to fall on me because my husband was in a management role, often without coverage. I dreaded making that call to my boss's voicemail at 6 a.m.

I usually spent my day worrying about the work I left behind, how I would catch up and if my boss would be upset with me.

Our culture prides itself in being pro-children, yet we do not have the support from our employers.

Every employer I have worked for in the last ten years has wanted a

doctor's note as justification for my absence — which I understand to a degree — but not all illnesses lead to a doctor's trip.

They want you to have a suitable backup, but who is going to want to watch a sick child that is not theirs?

Most parents do not have a backup when their child gets sick. It's pretty sad that parents spend time worrying about what awaits them at their job the next day when they are with their sick children at home.

Some actually send their children to school doped up on all sorts of medicine, praying the school doesn't call them to come get picked up in the middle of the day.

I admit I did this one time with my daughter. I spent the rest of the day feeling guilty.

When I got home, she told me she

did feel a lot better once she got to school and played with her friends. That still didn't stop the guilt that one of us should have been home with her to let her rest.

Companies should offer more paid-time-off to working parents. If this is something a company cannot do, then they should give parents support if their child is sick and not make them feel bad about it.

When my son had a series of surgeries between the ages of 10 to 13 months, a previous employer got so upset with me that my job was on the line. I didn't understand why because I turned in all of my paperwork for Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

My boss would always remind me that any time off I was using to take care of my sick son was unpaid, and I had to keep track of it and turn it in.

I was dealing with a sick child. The last thing on my mind should have been making sure my FMLA hours were clocked.

She always made me feel guilty — it was awful. My stress levels were high, and that wasn't good for my son or my family as a whole.

Upon hiring, most employers say they are family-friendly, but that usually turns out to be lie. I have yet to find an employer who doesn't hold it over my head when I miss work due to a sick child. What a shame.

I'm a mother first and foremost and my children's health and well-being certainly come before punching a time clock.

Jenna Salamon is a junior majoring in Journalism & Promotional Communication at CSU.



Rice family deserves justice, closure Unfair to call 12-year-old Tamir Rice shooting "reasonable"

By Patrick Kaminowski

Two "experts" who recently prepared reports for the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor in the Tamir Rice case are calling the shooting "reasonable."

Timothy McGinty, the county prosecutor, says that a grand jury will decide whether Officer Timothy Loehmann and his partner, Frank Garmback, will face charges.

Loehmann was the officer who shot 12-year-old Tamir Rice in November 2014, after the boy was seen displaying a handgun at Cuddell Recreation Center — it was actually an airsoft pellet gun.

Attorney S. Lamar Sims believes Rice posed a serious threat to the officers and Loehmann's actions were objectively reasonable. There is a serious problem with these statements, and the Rice family is understandably upset.

When I hear these statements, it places an ugly feeling of distaste

in my gut. After seeing this country spiral deeper into more heated racial tension between police and minority communities, the line between law enforcement and police brutality continues to blur.

The Rice family is in urgent need of closure in this case. They have had to endure the tragedy of the loss of their son and the constant scrutiny of mass media.

The jury needs to bring Timothy Loehmann to justice. His impulsive, knee-jerk reaction cost a 12-year-old kid his entire life.

Loehmann also has a history of emotional instability during his previous employment at the Independence Police Department that caused him to be terminated.

It is frightening that the Cleveland Police Department overlooked his background. Given this information, there is no reason this incident could not have been handled in a more

efficient way.

A CNN article by Ralph Ellis and Melissa Gray published in June of this year said Officer Loehmann shouted verbal commands from inside the patrol car before shooting at Rice. However, witness interviews don't back up that statement.

Perhaps if the officers actually spoke with Rice and tried to de-escalate the situation, things could have played out differently.

Video footage appears to show Rice reaching for the gun in his waistband as the officers' car pulled up. But was that really his intent? There are simply too many uncertainties here — but one certainty is that this boy should still be alive today.

With the shooting of Tamir Rice, and similar cases like the Michael Brelo incident, Cleveland jumps into the spotlight of racial unrest between police and minorities.

Our city is right up there on display

with Ferguson and Baltimore who share stock in the conflict between police and civilians. It's not the type of exposure I prefer for my city.

I want Timothy Loehmann to face the consequences of his actions and for our community to move forward from this matter.

There needs to be some type of reform within the Cleveland Police Department to reduce excessive use of force in urban areas.

As for these "expert" opinions that describe Timothy Loehmann's shooting at Tamir Rice as "reasonable," I have to vehemently disagree.

These statements only allow the outrage and hurt to stay fresh in the hearts of the Rice family.

Patrick Kaminowski is senior majoring in Journalism & Promotional Communication at CSU.

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