1-24-2019

TO FREEZE OR NOT TO FREEZE CHILLY CLIMATE CANCELS CLASSES

Andrews University

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TO FREEZE OR NOT TO FREEZE
CHILLY CLIMATE CANCELS CLASSES

PHOTO BY XOCHITL GRAHAM

NEWS
FIRST SNOW DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

“Personally I haven’t fallen, but my brother slipped in the snow and got a pretty nasty scrape on his hand. Actually he fell twice.”

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IDEAS
LIBERAL ARTS OR STEM?

“In agreement, I believe that liberal arts are partly essential to the college experience. That is to say if colleges can afford them, then they should keep the programs.”

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HUMANS
A TIME ABROAD

“The classes were chill, the people were extremely friendly and the sun was always shining—so basically the opposite of Andrews.”

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A&E
SHAKESPEARE BRINGS LAUGHTER TO THE STAGE

“One such moment was during the ending play-within-a-play, wherein the actor Bottom (T.R. Knight) decided to reenact every famous Shakespearean death instead of just doing one.”

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HOME REMEDIES

“Even though you are no longer at home with your mother’s secret family cure on hand, you can still brave any cold with these DIY remedies.”

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THE LAST WORD
BOYS WILL BE BOYS

“In presenting a world wherein men are only allowed to be men if they are hard, uncaring, unemotional, aggressive and violent, toxic masculinity hurts men, too.”

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Diversity Author Q&A

Kara Herrera | This past Tuesday, Nu Sigma, the English Honors Society in conjunction with the Languages Honors Society and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, hosted a diversity program, where novelist and Notre Dame professor Azareen Van Der Vliet Oloomi came to speak and share about her work and her experience as an author. For the opening of her presentation, Oloomi read from her recent book Call Me Zebra. After reading from various passages from her book, she then answered questions from professors Vanessa Corredora and Sonia Badenas. Dr. Corredora and Dr. Badenas asked her about her experience as an author, as someone who had lived in multiple places and someone who was a part of multiple cultural circles. In addition, they asked questions about how being an author influenced her perspective on identity and feeling at home.

After answering the questions from Andrews University’s resident professors, Oloomi proceeded to answer questions from the audience. Students, faculty and members of the community were welcome to attend the Q&A and as a result, many different students of AU got to experience the event.

Masters student Kayla Gonzalez (English) said, “As she spoke, it became clear that Oloomi’s selected excerpts from Call Me Zebra reflect her own experiences with being multicultural and multilingual.” Gonzalez, also a member of the English Honor Society Nu Sigma spoke further about the aspects of Oloomi’s writing, saying that Oloomi’s excerpts add “a richness to the text—almost a sense of intimacy and vulnerability. She spoke of baring herself for her work, and that was evident.”

In addition to Gonzalez, other students also spoke of Oloomi’s noticeable theme of multicultural identity. Moriah McDonald (freshman, English) adds “this experience was really enlightening in regards to racial identity. I came to have a greater appreciation for my own mixed background, even though at times it has led to a lack of identity and not knowing where I belong. Oloomi’s excerpts from the novel enforced the idea that while having a multi-cultural background can be confusing, sometimes there’s no way to resolve the issue, and you only feel at home with yourself, but that’s okay.”

In addition to the students, other resident professors attended the Q & A, including English professor Scott Moncrieff. Dr. Moncrieff commented, “I was truly impressed with the thoughtful quality of Oloomi’s responses to many different questions, while at the same time being relatively concise. For instance,” he continues, “when she was asked about how she adjusted her identity to cultural differences between different languages and people groups, she talked about how she was recently in a situation where she was regularly switching from Farsi to Spanish to Italian to English, and the psychological stress that caused her. I could have listened to her for another hour, no problem. It was so cool that Dr. Badenas and others brought her on campus.” Attendees, both students and faculty alike enjoyed Oloomi’s Q & A. As Gonzalez concisely puts, “it was enriching to hear her speak.”

I could have listened to her for another hour, no problem.
Snow Day

Kara Herrera
On Tuesday, Jan. 22, Andrews University had its first snow day of the school year. While Andrews has always been well-known for its heavy snowfall and the necessity of a good winter coat, snow days in the past have been notoriously difficult to issue out. Despite this, the past four school years have seen about two snow days each. On Tuesday, as many students came to realize, the sidewalks became dangerous territory as student after student fell or nearly fell due to the invisible ice on the sidewalks. Walking back to and from buildings became perilous and unsafe as students literally skated on the sidewalks in order to not fall. In contrast, some students and faculty just gave up completely and walked onto the snow, avoiding the ice. Whether skating or trail-blazing, students and faculty had to brave the journey, looking like baby penguins rather than human adults.

Joelle Kim (junior, English education), was walking to Nethery Hall when, as she recounts, “I nearly slipped down the front stairs and quite literally skated down the sidewalks, sliding precariously on one foot. It was quite the journey and took me twice as long to reach my destination.” While Kim’s account was harrowing, other students saw loved ones become victims to the ice.

Ruth Burn (sophomore, English, religion) says, “personally I haven’t fallen, but my brother slipped in the snow and got a pretty nasty scrape on his hand. Actually, he fell twice.”

With these accounts of students encountering these would-be injuries, it was no surprise that the school cancelled afternoon classes after 3:30 p.m. For the safety of the students, hopefully a good stock of ramen was in their room so going outside could be kept to a minimum.

“Whether skating or trail-blazing, students and faculty had to brave the journey, looking like baby penguins rather than human adults.”

Upcoming events

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<td>JAN.25</td>
<td>Honduras Mission Team Report 5:00-6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>AU Cardinals v. Indiana U Northwest 7:30-8:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Young Artists Competition Howard Performing Arts Center 8:00-10:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>JAN.26</td>
<td>SEM Mental Health Colloquium Seminary Chapel 1:00-6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>JAN.27</td>
<td>HPAC Series Presents...Jasmine Murray 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>JAN.28</td>
<td>Seminary Worship: Jeff Harper 11:20 a.m.-12:20 p.m.</td>
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<td>AU Cardinals vs. Grace Christian University (Away) 5:00-6:30 p.m. &amp; 7:00-8:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>JAN.29</td>
<td>Spring Week of Prayer Starts 11:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m.</td>
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<td>SEM: Finances Colloquium 1:00-6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Spring WOP Evening Time 7:30-8:20 p.m.</td>
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<td>JAN.30</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class with 40% refund</td>
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<td>AU Cardinals v. Great Lakes Christian College 5:30-6:45 p.m. &amp; 7:30-8:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>JAN.31</td>
<td>Tea Time James White Library 2:00-4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>MLS Clinical Year Applications due 8:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.</td>
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How Much Does AU Know?

Kelli Miller

We asked ten of your fellow AU students a list of 17 questions concerning current social, political and environmental issues. Although it is probably not a very accurate reflection of the entire campus due to the small sample size, hopefully it will be an interesting way to catch up on some recent events.

**Topic: Pop culture**

Our group of students did not score very high on the pop culture section—either we didn’t ask the right questions or AU students are very studious. I am guessing the former.

**Question 1:** Did you know that YouTube has banned the Birdbox challenge videos?

Students who knew: 1/10

**Question 2:** Do you know who Katelyn Ohashi is?

Answer: A UCLA gymnast whose recent performance at a meet has gone viral.

Students who knew: 1/10

**Question 3:** Have you heard the latest news concerning El Chapo?

Answer: He has reported to have bribed former President Enrique Peña Nieto $100 million to end his own manhunt.

Students who knew: 2/10

Sources:
dCoverage&pgtype=Article&region=Footer

**Topic: Government Shutdown**

The current government shutdown is the longest so far in American history. If you didn’t know, file that factoid away for later.

**Question 1:** How many effects of the current government shutdown can you name?

Answer: - The TSA does not get paid
- Many national parks are closed
- SNAP (food stamps) are not fully funded and reserves may run out in February
- The FDA is not screening seafood, fruits, and vegetables
- The FBI, the DEA, the Coast Guard and the Secret Service all working without pay
- 88% of employees at the IRS were furloughed

Students who knew some effects: 8/10

**Question 2:** Do you know how long the government shutdown has gone on?

Answer: As of 1/17/19, 27 days.

Students who said roughly a month: 6/10

**Question 3:** Do you know when the longest government shutdown occurred?

Answer: This one.

Students who knew: 3/10

**Question 4:** Do you know the reasons given for the shutdown?

Answer: - Republicans say it is because the Democrats do not want to fund security along the US-Mexican border, namely the wall
- Democrats say President Trump is holding government workers hostage in order to force the approval of his wall in the House

Students who were aware of the reasons: 6/10

**Topic: Environment, Global Warming**

The ocean absorbs the majority of the heat caused by global warming, so many innocent sea creatures are receiving the first consequences of our careless actions.

**Question 1:** A recent study showed that the oceans are heating up faster than we previously thought. Out of these options what do you think/know that percentage to be?

Options Given:
- 10% faster
- 25% faster
- 40% faster
- 50% faster

Answer: 40%

Students who chose 40%: 7/10

**Question 2:** Do you know what the consequences are of rising ocean temperatures?

Answer: - Killing off ocean ecosystems (such as bleaching of coral reefs)
-Rising sea levels
-More destructive natural disasters (such as hurricanes)

Students that knew several effects: 9/10

**Question 3:** What function does the ocean play in global warming?

Answer: It absorbs about 93% of the heat caused by global warming

Knew specifically: 4/10

Answered it has a large role: 3/10

Didn’t Know: 3/10

**Topic: College Football Playoffs Champions White House Dinner**

It seems our particular sample group was not too sports savvy. However you’ll be amused to know if you did not, that the White House has been most recently serving luxurious fast food dinners.

**Question 1:** Who won the College Football Playoffs this year?

Answer: The Clemson Tigers beat the Alabama Crimson Tide 44-16.

Students who knew: 0/10

**Question 2:** A popular tradition is for championship teams from the NCAA, the MLB, NBA, NFL and NHL, to visit the White House. Under President Trump, that tradition has been broken by several teams. Can you name one?

Potential answers: The 2017 Golden State Warriors or the 2018 Philadelphia Eagles

Students who knew: 2/10

**Question 3:** The Clemson Tigers visited the White House this week. Do you know what was on the menu?

Answer: Fast food

Students who knew: 4/10

**Topic: Brexit**

People in our sample group did not seem to know too much about Brexit, the United Kingdom’s impending plan to leave the European Union.

**Question 1:** Do you know who Theresa May is?

Answer: Prime Minister of Great Britain

Students who knew: 3/10

**Question 2:** What is the last news you’ve heard about Brexit?

Students who had recently heard news: 5/10

**Question 3:** Do you know what happened this past Tuesday, January 15?

Answer: Theresa May’s proposed plan to leave the European Union was roundly defeated by a 432-202 vote. Last Wednesday, January 16th, she barely weathered a vote to remove her from office.

Students who knew: 1/10

**Question 4:** Do you know when the deadline is for Brexit?

Answer: March 29 of this year.

Students who knew: 1/10

The ocean absorbs the majority of the heat caused by global warming, so many innocent sea creatures are receiving the first consequences of our careless actions."
The Longest Shutdown

Caitlin Jankiewicz | BREAKING: At the time this article was finalized, both Democrats and Republicans in the Senate have offered their own bills to end the shutdown. This will end weeks of little action from both sides in the Senate. The bills will be voted today, Thursday, January 24, 2019. See the New York Times for more details. https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/22/us/politics/government-shutdown-senate.html

As of the morning of January 21, 2019, the United States government has been partially shut down for 30 days, 8 hours, 57 minutes and 9 seconds, and there is still no sign of progress. Back in December, President Donald Trump bragged that he would be “proud” to shut down the government if he did not get what he wanted—that is, $5.7 billion for his border wall project. For the past two years, Trump has had a fairly easy time of getting what he wanted since Republicans controlled both the House and the Senate. Now, after the midterm elections, the tides have turned, and Trump has found himself with a fight on his hands as the Democratic Party has taken control of the House of Representatives.

Not wanting their first interaction with him to be a defeat, the Democrats, led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, are showing no signs of backing down from Trump’s demands. However, this is likely the last opportunity Trump will have to follow through on his campaign promise of a border wall. Forlorned to the Democrats would cause him to lose a substantial number of voters, something he is unwilling to do as in the last two years he has done nothing to expand his base. And so, the standoff continues on while 800,000 federal workers continue to work unpaid.

As someone who leans more left on issues of politics, I think it ludicrous to put $5.7 billion of taxpayers’ dollars towards what is being called a political “pet project,” especially since Trump promised Mexico would pay for it. I agree that the Democratic Party should not give in to Trump, but as the consequences of standing up to Trump’s demands are intensifying, I’m beginning to wonder, is it worth it? The government shutdown continues the longer families go without pay, unable to make mortgage, rent, insurance or school payments. So how do we justify it? If the Democrats feel that the mor- al high road, fighting for the purpose of protecting the people that would be hurt by the wall, how do we justify the hurt that the continued shutdown is causing? This quandary raises a larger ethical question: should you do evil for the sake of a greater good?

In the 18th century, the philosopher Immanuel Kant expressed his thoughts on this issue in his work on the idea of the “Categorical Imperative.” According to Kant, the categorical imperative states that something is right if it can and should be applied beyond the individual to the whole world. For example, it is okay to kill if and only if it is okay for everyone in the world to kill all the time. Since it is obvious that it is not okay for the entire world to kill all the time, it is wrong for an individual to kill. This moral absolutism does not, however, allow for the subtle shades between black and white dichoto- mic of right and wrong. In the issue of the shutdown, I believe Kant would think the Democrats are in the wrong, but that hurts people along the way. In contrast, the idea of “Situational Ethics,” advocated by philosophers such as Karl Barth, Peter Tillich and Joseph Fletcher, as- serts that the morality of an action depends entirely on the situation. Thus, these philosophers might agree that, by taking the wall prevents a greater evil, it is worth the harm caused along the way.

However, this raises another question: if the government continues long enough, will it cause more harm than it is trying to prevent? In this case, would doing “the right thing” be caving to Trump’s demands in the first place? This is something that only time can show. Personally, I believe that there will come a point when not giving Trump the mon- ey he wants will be more harmful to the American people than giving in. At that point, the Democrats, if they truly want what is best for America and not what is best for their political opinions, should step down. In this Washington deadlock, there is no easy answer, and as individu- als we have little to no power over the outcome. However, these questions are worth considering, as the ethics by which we live as individuals can ultimately be reflected in the ethics by which the government is run.

Liberal Arts in Colleges

Alec Bofetiado | To the concern of many rural colleges, student enrollment has declined (NYTimes). Fewer stu- dents means less money, a fact exacerbated by re- duced state funding. Uni- versities away from urban centers are hit harder than others. From there, univer- sities must make deci- sions in order to prevent going bankrupt. One po- tential solution, currently underway at the Univer- sity of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, is to remove liberal arts programs. That type of action would cut many programs and de- grees such as history and geography, many of which are important to universi- ties. With that, programs that lead to certain career paths or are pre-profes- sional, such as nursing. Some have, controversially, begun to question the importance of liberal arts to degrees. To many, liberal arts are seen as an essential part of the college experi- ence. Kim Mueller, a col- lege senior who aspires to become a teacher one day, asks, “What is a uni- versity without a history major?” (NYTimes). In- deed, liberal arts programs be- seen this way because of their long-standing pres- ence in the typical college. The absence of liberal arts may even seem un- usual because students are so used to them being an opportunity to receive a degree. In agreement, I believe that liberal arts are part of the core of the college experience. That is to say if colleges can afford them, then they should keep the programs. How- ever, if a college is hav- ing trouble with funding, then it would be appropri- ate to remove liberal arts in order to sustain the college.

The job opportunities for people with a liberal arts degree are vast. One could become a curator, journalist and the list goes on. For many hiring entities, whether we like it or not, a degree is a sign of competence. Many hiring entities will not hire a person without a degree and thus the need for colleges to supply liberal arts degrees is important for the general population. Fur- thermore, jobs that are as- sociated with liberal arts are essential to society. What would we do with- out teachers for children, historians to highlight the past and journalists to talk about the events of the world? They have a place goodness and are aided to be put into those jobs with the degree they have.

However, even with the importance of liberal arts in colleges, there is a relative degree of risk for students after gradua- tion who possess these de- grees. Students are less likely to find a distinct career path because of the risks associated with it in terms of getting a stable job and income, which is the appeal of the usual career path. According to the College Board, the av- erage yearly cost of tuition for a private four-year university was $34,720 in 2017-2018. For a public four-year university, the average yearly tuition was $9,970 (College Board). Furthermore, according to Sarah Gold-Hohting at Student Debt Relief, the average debt for each graduate in the Class of 2016 was $37,172. With these figures, finding a job after college is imperative in order to pay off student debt, and a career- focused degree will tend to have higher chances of that happening.

Though the actions of the University of Wiscon- sin-Stevens Point is contro- versial, their decision to cut liberal arts degrees is appropriate in order to preserve the college. For people who wish to pur- sue a liberal arts degree despite their college re- fusion to offer them, a good solution is to pursue a degree through an acc- credited online university. This is not to undermine the importance of liberal arts degrees in all universities or in general. These degrees may not have a distinct career path, but they round out our society and hold a valuable role therein.


2. www.washingtonpost.com/lookout/2019/01/18/dangerous-myth-proping-up-trumps-wall/utm_term=.763fc38f4859


New Year’s Resolution and Your Mental Health

Counseling and Testing Center

New Year’s Resolutions are those things we tell ourselves that we will start doing, start over or begin again. Tanap and Allen (2018) indicated that this kind of thought process can be harmful to our mental health. Instead of attempting to make drastic changes as determined by the start of a new calendar year, people can engage a more realistic approach to start from where you already are and commit to doing a little better one day at a time.

If you live with a mental illness such as depression, it helps to make small realistic changes each day of your life instead of waiting for the start of a new year to set grand and sometimes unrealistic goals. Gently push yourself each day with as many of the following strategies that can help improve your emotional health:

1. Set aside time each day to unplug. Intentionally check out of technology and social media for a few minutes each day. Use that time to journal, reflect on your positive attributes or have meaningful conversations.
2. Be nicer to yourself and others. When you are depressed it is easy to become isolated. While spending time alone can be helpful at times, remember to push yourself to do something nice for someone else.
3. Learn how to communicate your needs more openly. Identify people in your life who can be a source of support. Write down the things that are helpful for you if you are feeling depressed and communicate those to your support group.
4. Be realistic with your expectations. Know that just because you set some great new year’s resolutions, doesn’t mean that you will begin to feel better immediately. Dealing with mental illness doesn’t just go away when we make a commitment to new beginnings.
5. Take more walks. Yes, we know; exercise is hard for some people. So rather than trying to hit the gym hard again this year decide to just walk more. Take the stairs, choose the long route, walk while you have those long telephone conversations or schedule walks with friends.

The staff at the Counseling and Testing Center is here to support you as you work toward becoming the best version of you. Come talk with one of our counselors. It’s free and confidential. You can find us in Bell Hall suite 123. Here’s wishing for you a healthy, successful and productive semester.


Workout at Fort Lamson

Raina Price

It’s the beginning of a new year which means it’s the beginning of a new us. A lot of us may have put going to the gym at the top of our resolution lists. If you need a great and convenient place to start working out, the Lamson Health Club is for you! LHC is free to join for Lamson Hall residents. Open throughout the week and on Sundays, LHC offers its services to both Lamson Hall residents and those within the community. Machines such as treadmills and ellipticals are available, as well as weights and other exercise equipment. Spinning and aerobics classes are also offered to members at no additional charge. Some classes are offered through the University for credit, and others, such as Change Your Body, are personal classes offered for a small fee. If you ever need to relax after an intense workout, the club’s jacuzzi and sauna are great places to wind down. The Lamson Health Club also offers massage services, available for both members and nonmembers (women only!). These massages can serve as a great way to relax both your body and mind. If all of these aspects aren’t enough, the LHC also is a great place to make new friends and chill. Find a workout buddy or a companion to keep you accountable. Bring a book with you or watch some Netflix while running on the treadmill. Blast your favorite playlist while lifting weights. This gym is a great environment where you can feel comfortable working out in your own skin.

When the semester gets rough, the LHC can serve as a safe haven to relieving stress and stay healthy. Join the Lamson Health Club this semester to help achieve your health and fitness goals, marking that resolution off your list.
Are You Safe?

Jared Marsh | Nearly everyone on the Andrews University campus is familiar with the work of Campus Safety. You may have seen their cars about the campus, stopped in at their headquarters on the corner of East Campus Circle Drive and International Court to pick up a parking sticker or regretfully been on the receiving end of a parking ticket. However, the role of Campus Safety on the Andrews University campus may have more substance than you had initially thought.

Campus Safety offers a wide variety of services that many Andrews students may not be aware of. If you’re caught in a vehicular predicament, either being locked out or in need of a jump start, Campus Safety will assist you in both of these situations upon request, if your car is on campus. Additionally, if you ever feel unsafe in transit on the Andrews campus, Campus Safety offers safety escorts either in the form of an officer walking with you or driving you to your destination. “We’d like to note that this can be an important service to our campus”, says Campus Safety Director Ben Panigot, “we want to make sure that this service is ready and available for those who feel unsafe.”

But the scope of Campus Safety’s work is far wider than just car troubles and safe travel. “Campus Safety is here to help our campus be safe, but it takes a group effort to really accomplish that,” Panigot continues. “All of us need to keep safety on our minds and when we see something unsafe, let someone know. It could be a trip hazard on the sidewalk, an icy patch in the parking lot, a fire hazard, or even someone’s interaction with another person. If you have a concern let Campus Safety know and we will review it to see how we can help, either by our response or by notifying another office on campus.”

Panigot would like to remind everyone who has not yet signed up for AU alert to do so by visiting https://www.andrews.edu/services/safety/au-alert/index.html.

Cristen Williams | We are halfway through flu season and many of us have the same cold from last year. The new year has brought us prosperity and paper tissues holding our “blessings”. If you still have a slight case of the sniffles, not all hope is lost. Even though you are no longer at home with your mother’s secret family cure on hand, you can still brave any cold with these DIY remedies.

I combat a stuffy nose with a hot shower. I believe it has something to do with the moisture in the air that helps to loosen congestion and make you feel refreshed. According to the Mayo Clinic, moist environments and warm liquids increase mucus flow and might even be soothing. “A saltwater gargle...can temporarily relieve a sore or scratchy throat,” states the Mayo Clinic. They also recommend warm apple juice, soup and tea.

Some people bring the remedies passed down by their families to college. They are willing to share their generational panacea to all. Tonicia Young (freshman, biology) says “I use Vic’s to clear up the phlegm, and honey to soothe a sore throat. My grandfather makes this mixture called ‘nature’s penicillin’. It is a mix of orange skin, lemon, peppermint oil, cayenne pepper, garlic, grapefruit and onion.”

“A remedy my mom taught me is to take boiling water and cut sour oranges or lemons and let them boil in the water. Add ginger, honey and lemongrass. And drink a cup of that every morning and night,” explains Wesley Marcellus (freshman, computer science).

As you can see there are some common products in these recipes. They are natural ingredients such as fruits, spices and oils. Citrus and ginger are affordable and very easy to find, even around a college campus. With the help of these DIY remedies, you can chase away any runny nose.

“….My grandfather makes this mixture called ‘nature’s penicillin’. It is a mix of orange skin, lemon, peppermint oil, cayenne pepper, garlic, grapefruit and onion.”
A Semester in Bermuda

Marlon Perkins Jr.
On August 29, 2018 class was in session and I was 10,000 ft above the Atlantic. For the last four months of the year I would be an intern for BCM McAlpine: Construction Managers and Engineers on the island of Bermuda. Growing up, I’d spent most summers on the island with my grandparents. My grandfather was one of the company’s managers, so I’d been around the company a few times. This past summer I had the opportunity of meeting the company president and, after a short conversation, I was offered an internship position.

My time abroad was extremely educational as well as beneficial to my development as an architecture student. I was able to assist in the production of fenestration for buildings, as well as take part in their installation. For a few weeks, I worked with the company’s solar department installing solar panels and doing electrical work. Towards the end of my time with the company I was assigned to several job sites where I performed tasks such as demolition, sprinkler checks, electrical outlet checks, drywall installation and several others. The work given to me by the company wasn’t easy, but it was needed and I’m grateful for the opportunities I was given to learn more about construction practices.

A Semester in Argentina

TJ Hunter
Since I am majoring in computer science and have two minors in business administration and graphic design, I was always destined to spend 4.5 years in college. But who would want to spend a half year in college? For that reason I decided to study abroad in Argentina for a semester, which ended up pushing my stay to 5 years. Procrastination for the win.

My time in Argentina was worth every second, and if I had the chance, I would go back in a second and do it again. I knew going in that not all the classes I took there would transfer, since I had already completed most of my general education courses. But I decided that I would still study abroad the beginning of my junior year, and then return to Andrews to study in the spring.

Since the classes wouldn’t transfer, I made my main focus to learn as much Spanish as I could in the few months that I was there, and it definitely paid off. As of right now, I’m almost completely fluent and can have normal conversations in Spanish. Not only was learning a whole different language a huge benefit of the program, but I also met many amazing people—both Argentinians and fellow ACA students that I traveled with. Although I tried to limit my interactions with the other ACA students in order to learn as much Spanish as I could, I couldn’t help but make a few very close friends.

When I first got to Argentina, I immediately liked the vibe. Summer was just beginning so everything was very laid back. The classes were chill, the people were extremely friendly and the sun was always shining—so basically the opposite of Andrews. One of the best memories I made there was jumping out of a classroom window to play basketball in the middle of the day; that basically summarizes my whole time there. We also went on trips to different areas in South America.

During the short few months that I was there, I made friends for life with some of the Argentinian students, many of whom I still talk to. I am so glad that I chose to study abroad because I created some of my best memories that will stay with me for the rest of my life.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY STUDENT
Club Spotlight: BSCF

Lisa Hayden, President BSCF
Senior
Interviewed by Darius Bridges

What is Black Student Christian Forum to you? This club serves as a platform for students of color on campus to express their ideas through a variety of mediums; discussion, testimony, performance, song, words and stories. This club, since my freshman year, is a safe, accessible space for black students to be their unabashed, unfiltered self; be it in speech, action or expression.

What does BSCF do on campus? We serve as a liaison to several service organizations in the surrounding area, including the Boys’ and Girls’ club, HELP, and Harbor of Hope to make service opportunities more accessible to students. Along with this our two main accomplishments are providing support and advocating for all Andrews University students of African descent regardless of their nationalities. Lastly, we showcase the beauty and richness of black culture to the Andrews community at large, and educate people of other cultures of the issues that concern the black community through our programming.

What are some of the things that BSCF knows that maybe a lot of people don’t realize? I can’t speak on what our members and non-members know or don’t know. But I will say that one thing we strive to inform students on this campus (members and non-members) of is the broad spectrum of variety and depth of black culture and perspectives.

Have you been involved in BSCF before this year? Thanks to previous presidents—Jannel Monroe, Esther Battle and most recently Nia Darville, who organized intellectually stimulating events—I’ve attended BSCF programming since my freshman year. President Battle asked me to join the team as treasurer my junior year and I was able to get involved with the club and give input on decisions.

You’re currently BSCF President. What drew you to that position? I was president of the NAACP youth chapter at my high school, and it was through that opportunity I began to understand the importance of getting involved with your community. My freshman year at AU I tried to start an NAACP chapter on campus but I kept hitting roadblocks. As treasurer last year, I grew a fondness for the club and realized the goals I wanted to accomplish in starting an NAACP chapter on campus could be accomplished through BSCF along with many other goals.

What is the main goal that you want to achieve as president? Besides continuing the legacy of an open platform put into place by those before me, it’s providing accessible service opportunities for students on campus.

How do you think BSCF with you as President has or can make a difference to the culture of the campus? I hope the culture on campus continues to increase its capacity for diversity. This cannot be accomplished with BSCF alone, but BSCF has been able to aid in this goal significantly by adding more perspectives of how we view the world we live in.

Last year we had Nia Darville (BSCF President 2017-2018) who implemented the Kente Cloth into our graduation ceremony and the bylaws of BSCF. Do you have anything you would like to implement for years to come? This year I added a brand new position to the team: our first ever community engagement director. The position provides accessible service opportunities for students. This new position will guarantee that service is always a topic of conversation in BSCF meetings and events for years to come.

“Life is lived in common, not community.” It’s really easy to be in the same walk of life as those around you and to be completely separate from them.

Black History Month, which is known to be BSCF’s biggest time in the school year, is coming up soon! What are your plans for that? We’re very excited to start the month off with our weekly Impact Vespers on the 1st of February followed by The Dating Game on February 2. Following, that Sunday on February 3 we will have our first meeting of the BSCF Book Club which will continue for the next three months. The first book we will read is Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson. Sign up early to get a free copy. We will also have a Spirit Week on the week of February 4-8. A calendar of events will be posted with more events, so be on the lookout!

If you could say one thing to students about your experience as President what would you sum it up to? “Life is lived in common, not community.” It’s really easy to be in the same walk of life as those around you and to be completely separate from them. More than anything, my experience so far with BSCF reveals how difficult it is to build community. But when its achieved, even in a small space like the Soul Lounge, it is invaluable.

What advice would you give for any person who wants to be president of BSCF in the future? To piggyback off of my previous response, if an event accomplishes none of the goals intended, at least strive create a community out of those in attendance. And most importantly, respond promptly in the group chat!

Please feel free to send questions about any of the information to: bscf.au1@gmail.com
2019 Oscar Nominations

Adriana Santana & Frentzen Pakpahan

Welcome, to the 2019 Oscar nominations! There’s a lot of controversy surrounding the Awards, but then again, what’s new? For one, this will be the first time the Academy Awards will be without a host in, well, a long time. After homophobic comments resurfaced from Kevin Hart’s Twitter the Academy asked the comedian to apologize, but Hart surprised everyone by simply stepping down.

Taking a quick look at the list of nominees for Best Picture, there is a wide variety of films. I am honestly surprised to see “Black Panther” here. While I (Frentzen), thoroughly enjoyed the movie and definitely believe it deserves praise, I can’t help but wonder whether the Academy included it on the sole basis of popularity. The Marvel blockbuster is the first superhero movie to be nominated for the biggest award. “Roma” is also part of the group. Visually breathtaking, this Netflix movie was released to wide critical acclaim and would be the first black-and-white movie to win Best Picture since 2012’s “The Artist”. The movie is also up for Best Foreign Language Film. A musical also gets a nod in the form of “A Star is Born”, starring Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper. There are also two biographical movies—“Vice”, which documents Dick Cheney’s time as vice president under President George W. Bush (I swear you can make a movie about anyone nowadays) and “Bohemian Rhapsody”, which depicts the journey of the British band Queen.

As amazing it is that films like “Black Panther” and “BlacKkKlansman” are receiving recognition in the Best Picture category, I couldn’t help but see the lack of recognition of people of color in other categories. Best lead and supporting actors and actresses are filled with a lot of talent, but not much diversity. After the backlash of #oscarsowhite, I figured the industry would start to take the necessary measures to ensure actors of color would get the praise they deserve, but reading the nominations gave me the same feeling it did in 2016. Which is that the Academy is mainly white, mainly male, and not really progressive in acknowledging different talent. Some might argue that “Black Panther” is that progressive step but I believe there is so much more that can be done. As a new year of movies and actors are being acknowledged and praised, a year that has given diverse audiences movies like “Black Panther,” “Roma,” and “Crazy Rich Asians,” it can be easy to forget that these important steps are not the end of the conversation about diversity. Progress has been made, but it’ll be a while before we see that translated to our most prestigious awards. In the meantime, I’ll be rewatching Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse. Miles Morales is the hero we deserve.
A Midwinter’s Laughter

Ingrid Radulescu

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream is the original romantic comedy where everybody falls in love with the wrong person. The play oscillates between a few story lines that are all strangely intertwined and is one of Shakespeare’s most performed—probably because of its accessible humor and fanciful setting. Each semester Dr. Pittman, Honors Director and English professor, teaches a Shakespeare play in the Honors course Literature and the Arts, and traditionally takes her class and other Honors students to see the performance live. Last Wednesday evening the Honors Program took about 50 students to the Chicago Shakespeare Theater to see ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream.’

This particular production, directed by Joe Dowling, had the audience in tears from laughter. The performance featured dance numbers and electrifying blends of music that kept the audience mesmerized. David Forner (senior, political science, pre-law, English, pre-law) comments, ‘I personally prefer a good Shakespearean tragedy over a comedy, but I really liked this production of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream.’ Even though the musical numbers were a bit much, it was nice to see Shakespeare—someone who it seems most modern audiences usually take quite seriously—interpreted in such a relaxed and ridiculous way.’ One such moment was during the ending play-within-a-play, wherein the actor Bottom (T.R. Knight) decided to reenact every famous Shakespearean death instead of just dying one. As the deaths gradually grew more ridiculous (beginning with a stabbing, ending with personal dismemberment), the audience howled with laughter, excited to see which play (King Lear, Macbeth, Hamlet) would get reenacted next.

After the show, a few of the accomplished actors and actresses came out for photos, including Grey’s Anatomy’s T.R. Knight who played Bottom in the play. In fact, one of the main actresses and English professor, teaches a Shakespeare play in the Honors course Literature and the Arts, and traditionally takes her class and other Honors students to see the performance live. Last Wednesday evening the Honors Program took about 50 students to the Chicago Shakespeare Theater to see ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream.’

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License Plates on Display

Margaux Tan

“Artist Licenses” by Greg Constantine created from 2009-2018, is a compilation of art pieces made up of different vanity license plates to form full statements. These pieces, colorful and uniquely rusted, really grab your eye walking past the Harrigan Hall gallery. Once you’re brought inside the gallery, the visual interest continues and you’ll find there’s depth to the visual curiosity that brought you inside in the first place. The pieces are divided by themes such as quotes from movies and travel. There’s no question as to why parts of the exhibit have already been exhibited all over the world; from New York to Paris during 1981-89, people all over the world have been awed by this eccentric use of vanity plates from everywhere in the world.

The license plates are so diverse; it’s truly mesmerizing. Because the licenses are literally from all over the world, it makes it seem as though this art exhibit really fits quite at home here on the Andrews University campus. The use of different license plates that form these quotes makes you wonder how intertwined this whole world is. I’m sure the people that chose these vanity plates had no idea that one day the plate will be part of something so much bigger that would spark something in someone else.

I highly recommend for anyone to check out this unique exhibit before it’s too late. Maybe your favorite quote from a movie or favorite quote about travelling made it in. If not, I’m sure you can find a license plate from wherever you call home. Whatever your reason for stopping into the gallery, I’m sure you won’t be disappointed.

Watch of the Week:

Fyre Fraud

You probably remember the disaster that was Fyre Festival trend on social media back in the spring of 2017. The viral photos of “deluxe tents” of air mattresses in hurricane relief tent and “gourmet” sandwiches of sliced cheese on ordinary bread were awful to the point of hilarity, and Fyre Fraud gives you an inside look on how this festival went up in flames (pun intended). There are two documentaries—one on Hulu and one on Netflix. I’ve recommended the Hulu doc here because it gives a more in-depth look on the man behind the monster, but if you want to know more about every little detail on the festival itself, check out the Netflix one. Either way, you’re in for a ride that’ll have you constantly thinking, “How did anyone let this happen?”
The Masculinity Detox

Alexi Decker
October 2018, 8:00 p.m. A friend and I decide that we are craving fruit snacks, so we drive to the nearest Wal-Mart, pick up our junk food and prepare to get back in the car. Now, this is a nice Wal-Mart in a southern suburbia— the parking lot is well-kept, there are other cars around and the Subway inside is still open. Honestly, it’s probably the least sketchy Wal-Mart that I’ve ever been in.

As we exit the store, we walk by a group of teenagers guys. Clean cut, relatively well-dressed, decent haircuts. Even so, in my memory they are divided individuals; they are A Group. I catch their gazes almost in slow motion, lingering on the cut of my jeans, making it clear that they’d like to do more than just look. They turn to watch as we walk out, and I hear the comments. They’re not subtle, and they’re not compliments. They’re a show of power—a way to make my friends and myself feel vulnerable. I want to disappear, melt into the linoleum, do anything to get their eyes off of me. Instead, I thread my car keys between my fingers and squeeze my hand into a fist, knuckles white, keys imprinting on my palms. My face remains expressionless. I cannot say anything, cannot give any sign that I have noticed their looks and their words. I can only endure it. When we reach the car, my friend turns to me. “Did you notice the—” “Yes,” I say, locking the door as soon as I sit down. “I noticed.” ***

Look, I get that toxic masculinity is a trigger term to many, and I get that my personal experience of toxic masculinity is the realm of social sciences, it is a set of exaggerated ideals that cause the implication is that if a boy does cry, or shows any emotion, then he is not “man”. Instead, he is something else: effeminate, gay, a girl. That’s the entire reason that G.I. Joe’s are called “action figures” instead of dolls—because dolls are a “girl thing” and if men associate with “girl things” then they are inherently less “manly.” These stereotypes are incredibly damaging to women and the LGBTQ community, and they are, tragically, everywhere. In movies (Batman, Indiana Jones and James Bond are unemotional, hyper violent and often hypersexual), TV shows (Mad Men’s Don Draper or Game of Thrones’ Khal Drogo), among many, many others, toys (My Little Pony; Friendship is Magic) and the following is consistently disparaged and made fun of, and music (Robin Thicke’s “Blurred Lines” is gross and terrifying). Toxic masculinity is the dominant vision of masculinity presented by our society, one that heightens perceived gender differences and preys on both femininity and nontraditional forms of masculinity. It’s about power and about fear.

The fact that those high school boys knew they could call me without suffering any repercussions serves as a perfect example. They could be verbally sexually aggressive because they knew that society had their back, that this was within the realm of socially acceptable behavior. They are precious. But they are not the men that society tells us to emulate.

One final image. I am sixteen, and I want to paint my toenails so that they will look pretty with my new white sandals for my high school graduation this afternoon. But I look at my already manicured fingers and know that if I repaint my toenails they will be to get messed up too—chipped, flecked with polish. I limit myself to get the foresight, knowing that there are no good solutions out of this. It’s a tiny thing, but it’s my high school graduation, and my sixteen-year-old heart cares so much.

And then my father kneels at my feet, and for what is certainly the first time in his life, he unscrews the top of a baby blue nail polish container. It looks small in his hands. Carefully—painstaking—by—le he spreads the first coat evenly, waits for it to dry, and asks me to wait to paint a flower in the corner of my big toe. In this moment, he is concerned only about caring for me, and although I know nothing about social science or gender theory, I notice.

Men deserve better than that. Men deserve to be loved, gentle, kind. Men should be allowed to be open with the people they love, to be vulnerable without fear of being labelled a “sissy”. Our society’s dominant visions of masculinity really work, yes, but they don’t have to be. Just because this kind of toxicity is the cultural ideal doesn’t mean that there are not kind, patient, gentle, emotional, open men out there. They exist. They are precious. But they are not the men that society tells us to emulate. ***