

# THE *Saher*

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# THE **Saber**

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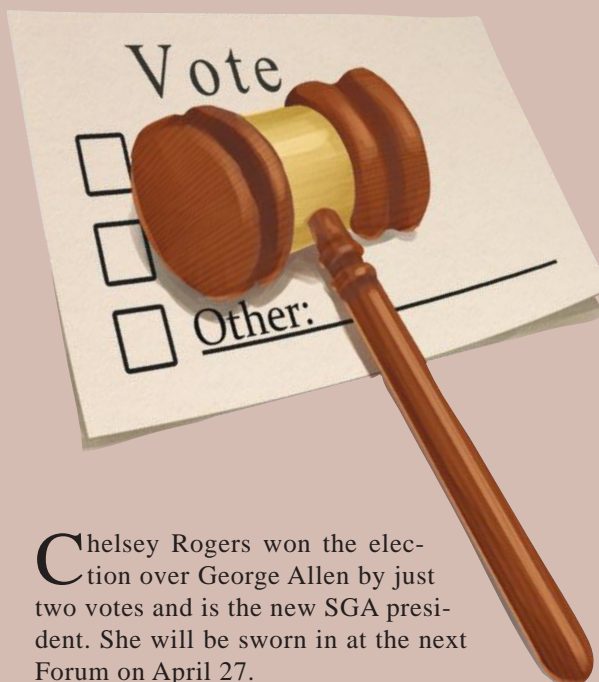
## EDITOR'S LETTER

Summer is just within reach, but for many of us that's only a small consolation while we drown in research papers and final exams. These last few weeks have been busy for all of us, and we've seen a lot of new developments on campus as we round out the year. 88.5 WCUG had its grand opening, kickstarting a new era in student media production in Columbus. Our writer Toni Stauffer interviewed members of student government about the contested results of the presidential election, and Cassidy Richards spent hours interviewing students about what culture means to them, and what it means to them when someone tries to imitate it. It's been a busy year for us here at The Saber as well; we've undergone a dramatic change in design and image, covered cases of sexual assault and cafeteria health concerns, and are hoping to dramatically increase our presence on social media very soon (so keep an eye out). Yes, it's been busy, but we're all going to make it to the end just fine. Thanks for reading, and have a great summer—you've earned it.

**- Scott Berson**  
*Editor-in-Chief*



## CHELSEY ROGERS WINS SGA PRESIDENTIAL DISPUTE OCCURS OVER BOLAN'S DISQUALIFICATION



Chelsey Rogers won the election over George Allen by just two votes and is the new SGA president. She will be sworn in at the next Forum on April 27.

Dominique Bolan was removed from the Student Government Association ballot because his application was not received before the deadline of March 7, nor was it signed by an election committee member, as required.

Bolan's disqualification has been an issue of contention. The SGA election packets were due on March 7 before 5 p.m. The Election Com-

mittee received packets from George Allen and Chelsey Rogers before the deadline; Bolan's application wasn't received until March 10.

Bolan reportedly went to the office at 3 p.m. on March 7, but found the office closed and returned three separate times with witness Brian "BB" Holloman in an attempt to turn in his application, unsuccessfully. He opted to put his application in the suggestion box.

Bolan said he called someone to let them know but could not remember the name, and they told him to wait a week before sending a notification. He didn't send an e-mail to SGA president Tyler Davidson until March 15. "All the candidates met with me through text or e-mail prior to the deadline, except for Dominique Bolan," Davidson said.

The Election Committee, advised by Aaron J. Reese, Dean of Students, initially decided to allow Bolan's name to be added to the ballot. The election ran as normal with Bolan on the ballot, and he won.

Rogers had signed a "disclosure agreement" to be notified of the results since she was working in Atlanta in the capacity of intern for Governor Deal and would need time to drive back. The other candidates were not notified of the results even though they had also signed disclosure agreements.



*Sophomore communication major Oso Holley queuing music*

## L ELECTION

**Toni Stauffer**  
Staff Writer

*Illustration: James Morgan*

Upon learning of her loss, Rogers filed an appeal. Bolan said he did not learn that he had won until after learning of his disqualification. Reese said he advised Davidson that calling Rogers with the results was “a bad idea” because it might give the appearance of favoritism, though the notification was allowed.

Rogers said that she filed the appeal because the late filing broke the by-laws that state candidates must submit their application before the deadline in order to be permitted to run. Rogers, who was Chief Justice at the time, had recused herself from the decision. “I expressed concern about it from day one, since the application was discovered,” Rogers said.

Bolan said the appeal by Rogers surprised him as he thought of her as a friend. He also expressed concern that his involvement with the fraternity Kappa Alpha Psi had a role in his loss, citing racial comments on the popular anonymous college app YikYak that appeared after a KAP event.

Because of Bolan’s disqualification, the election was reset with the remaining qualified candidates, after much careful deliberation by the three Justices, Kivanna Kudratt, Aissa Hollingsworth, and Chelsey Reid.

The SGA had to re-open the presidential election for the entire student body. Davidson stated that Bolan wasn’t allowed to run in the new election because of his initial disqualification.

## STUDENT RADIO STATION OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES

*88.5 WCUG holds ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9th Street Studio*

**Scott Berson**  
Editor-in-Chief

*Photos: Cassidy Richards, Scott Berson*

The Department of Communication held a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for CSU’s student-run radio station on Thursday, April 21 at their downtown studio. Although the station had been broadcasting since July 1, 2015, this grand opening ceremony served as the official start to a new era in student media production.

“We were formed to give students in the communication department another tool to work on our skills and to give us hands on experience with industry standard equipment, as well as to provide the Columbus area with a unique radio station,” said Tip Lynch, senior communication major and operations manager at WCUG. “Our motto is ‘For the students, by the students.’ Students and faculty are able to host their own shows.

It is free and all we need is for the prospective students/faculty to pitch their idea to us, provide an example script and have it approved to be on the station once we are certain that we can rely on the program to remain on air permanently week to week.”

The station was made possible through a generous gift from a community partner at PMB Broadcasting in Midtown. PMB is the parent broadcaster of eight local radio stations, including 103.7 Lite FM, HipHop 105.5 and Kissin’ 99.3. 88.5 WCUG was the original home of “The Truth,” a contemporary Christian station which was moved to 107.7.

The station currently has over a dozen programming blocks, with many more in development. As Dr. Tom Hackett, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs put it at the ceremony, “If you don’t like what’s playing at this moment, don’t worry, because it will change.” Apart from blocks of EDM, hip-hop, country and classic rock, some students have already created original weekly talk shows like “The Tip and Thrift Sports Show” and “The Graveyard Shift.”

The 22,000 watt station can be heard 24 hours a day throughout the Columbus area or online on TuneIn.com. Although WCUG has really only just shaken off its baby shoes, marketing director and senior communication major Jody Summerville says that “[its] goals are constantly changing to meet the needs of students and the community.”



*Junior communication majors Betty Windsor and Amy Woyke host “The Graveyard Shift” Fridays at 11 p.m.*



# SNAPSHOT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL

A QUICK LOOK AT THE CANDIDATES RACING FOR THE PRESIDENCY



**Ted Cruz (R)**

*“We will win by following Reagan’s admonition to paint in bold colors, not pale pastels.”*

**T**ed Cruz is currently second place to Trump. The Texan state senator is largely considered to be the last chance in stopping Trump from getting the nomination, but losing the New York primary will be difficult to recover from. Cruz is now likely banking on a contested convention, which may bode ill for the Republican Party’s future. His campaign platform rests on securing the border, fighting against radical Islamic terrorism, and implementing a flat tax of ten percent for all Americans. Early on in the race, Cruz refrained from attacking Trump, sparking rumors that he would be Trump’s vice president. However, ever since Trump challenged Cruz’s eligibility and insulted his wife, the Texan hasn’t been shy of criticizing the New Yorker. Some have considered this switch too little too late to have any effect on the frontrunner’s polling numbers.



**John Kasich (R)**

*“The conservative movement is all about opportunity. It’s about sending power, money and influence back to where we live so we can run America from the bottom up.”*

**T**he governor of Ohio is still in the race for the Republican nomination and shows no sign of quitting. Kasich is often considered the most moderate of the Republicans still in the race for the presidency, holding a much softer stance on climate change, healthcare reform, and immigration. Kasich has repeatedly lamented the poor sportsmanship of the 2016 election, and has refrained from insulting his opponents. Both Trump and Cruz have called for Kasich to drop out of the race because of his low delegate count, but the Ohio governor refuses to leave despite only having won his home state in the primaries. A spokesperson from Kasich’s campaign has argued that the reason why Cruz and Trump are so adamant about pushing Kasich out is because they know he will win an open convention.



**Hillary Clinton (D)**

*“I think the president’s job is to do everything possible, everything that she can do to lift up the people of this country.”*

**C**urrent frontrunner for the Democratic Party Hillary Clinton has a strong lead in delegates, and is predicted to win more in the upcoming state caucuses. While she enjoyed a strong lead early on in the race, Bernie Sanders has begun to close the gap, taking seven states in a row. If the Clinton camp is worried about Sanders’ recent wins or the FBI investigation regarding her use of a private email server to handle secure documents, they aren’t showing it. Clinton’s campaign relies heavily on her past experiences in Washington D.C. as a state senator from New York and the 67th United States Secretary of State. Clinton has promised to defend the Affordable Care Act, raise the minimum wage and enact comprehensive gun control laws. Some critics have accused the Democratic National Convention of showing favoritism towards Clinton and limiting televised debates in order to protect her image. Despite these criticisms, Clinton has a long list of endorsements ranging from politicians like Cory Booker and Dianne Feinstein to celebrities like Lena Dunham and George Clooney.

**Lindsay Marchello**

*Copy Editor*

*Illustrations: Ashton Johnson*



# CANDIDATES



**Donald Trump (R)**

*"Our country needs a truly great leader, and we need a truly great leader now."*



**Bernie Sanders (D)**

*"People should not underestimate me."*

Donald Trump, frontrunner in the race for the Republican nomination, wants to "Make America Great Again." Trump has been described by supporters as a no-nonsense kind of guy, while critics say that he is crass and divisive. Like Sanders, Trump brands himself as a political outsider who does not rely on super PACs to fund his campaign, instead using small donations and personal funding. Trump had a much larger lead early on in the race, but since the Republican field has thinned his momentum looks to be losing some steam. Despite this, Trump is still the frontrunner, with the issues of immigration, trade with China, and defeating ISIS being central to his campaign. Trump's run hasn't been without controversy. Many have accused the celebrity businessman of being racist, sexist, and encouraging violence at his rallies.

Self-described Democratic Socialist Bernie Sanders has been riding a wave of millennial support with a social media campaign under the hashtag #FeelTheBern. While Clinton dominated the southern states, Sanders has regained some ground by taking Idaho, Utah, Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming in a row. Sanders' campaign has pushed his position as a political outsider who relies on many small, individual campaign donations rather than super PACs. Sanders has been highly critical of Wall Street and those in the top income bracket, arguing that the wealthy should pay more in taxes. Much of Sanders' millennial support comes from his promise to make tuition free at public universities, lower student loan interest rates, and make pre-K universal and affordable. Sanders has also promised universal health care, arguing that access to health care is a right.

## 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TIMELINE

*What comes next, from now to November*



The world of politics can be confusing to a newcomer. To help, here is an explanation of what the presidential race will include from now until the next President of the United States is elected.

On April 26, eight more state primaries were held. The final open primary will be held on June 14 in Washington D.C. The primaries are a process of selecting delegates, or representatives, of each party from each state to send to their party's national nominating convention. Based on voters' choices, delegates become "bound" to support a specific candidate. Typically, the candidate who has the most votes in the primaries receives the party nomination, but this is not always the case.

Following the primaries, the National Nominating Convention occurs in the summer. Each party has their own convention. At the convention, delegates cast their vote for a particular candidate based on the preferences of the voters in the state they represent.

This year, the Republican National Convention will be held July 18-21 in Cleveland, Ohio. The Democratic National Convention will be held the following week of July 25-28 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The result of these conventions will determine who the final nominees for each party will be. For the Republican Party, it could be either Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, or John Kasich. For the Democratic Party, it could be either Hillary Clinton or Bernie Sanders.

It seems that the presidential race may result in a contested convention for the Republican Party, which occurs when the primary process does not yield a specific candidate. A total of 2,470 delegates are up for grabs in the primary process. In order to get the nomination, a candidate must win a majority, or about 1,236, of the delegates. As of now, Trump still needs to win about 60% of the delegates, and Cruz needs about 90%. At the contested convention, delegates become unbound and can vote for whomever they choose. Rounds of secret ballot voting will take place until a candidate wins a majority.

Following the national conventions there will be another round of debates in the fall, but these debates will only be between the two presidential nominees. The first debate will be held on September 26 in Dayton, Ohio. Following the presidential debates, there will be a debate between the Vice Presidential nominees on October 4 in Farmville, Virginia. The final two presidential debates will occur on October 9 and 19 in St. Louis and Las Vegas respectively.

The presidential race will come to an end on Election Day, November 8, with the new president taking office in January 2017.

**Kayla Jarrett**  
*Staff Writer*



# CULTURE SHOCK

## GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

Cultural appropriation.

Those two words are enough to send the masses into furious debate. But what is cultural appropriation, and how is it really affecting us?

The Oxford Dictionary defines cultural appropriation as “the taking over of creative or artistic forms, themes, or practices by one cultural group from another.” To understand this, we have to understand the difference between heritage and culture. Culture is “the beliefs, customs, or arts of a particular society, group, place, or time” while heritage is “something transmitted by or acquired from a predecessor” or “the traditions, achievements or beliefs that are part of the history of a group or nation.”

John Bodly, in “Cultural Anthropology: Tribes, States, and the Global System,” explains that “Culture is learned, not biologically inherited, and involves arbitrarily assigned, symbolic meanings.” This means that while culture can be influenced by heritage, your culture fluctuates in ways that your heritage cannot.

Darius Sudayi, junior sociology and business major, was born and raised in Tanzania, where he was a minister, and has been in America for three years. He agrees that culture is always changing. “Heritage is what you inherit from your grandfather and your father. Culture changes. Heritage doesn’t,” he said.

Lee, a senior accounting major, explains that as a first generation Cambodian-American, his culture fluctuates daily. “At home we hardly speak English and we eat mostly Asian food. Outside of my house I speak mostly English and eat American food.”

Shawn Padonu, a communications senior, believes that “religious or sacred practices” are things that shouldn’t be appropriated, while “everything else is up for grabs.” Lyric Mitchell, junior English major, believes “traditional dress” can be appropriated. Victoria Mulneix believes that “food from different cultures” can be appropriated too.

It’s easiest to understand appropriation by listening to people from those different cultures. Leah Vahjen, a senior English major who defines herself as white in heritage but Irish Catholic in culture, calls out the American tradition of St. Patrick’s Day as a massive appropriation of her culture. Vahjen explains that “St. Patrick’s Day is a religious holiday for Irish people. We go to Mass and worship on this day and, even though we do drink on this day, it’s like Lent for us. People don’t care to learn about it. They don’t rec-

ognize the sanctity of the holiday or its origins. When you don’t want to be educated about what you’re celebrating and do it just to do it, then that is appropriation.”

Dr. Neal McCrillis, the director of the Center for International Education, explains that there’s a difference between cultural exchange and cultural appropriation. He believes “It is inevitable that cultural exchange will happen. When you engage with a culture that is not your own you will always take on some elements of that culture.”

Sudayi, however, is offended when people adopt things from his Tanzanian culture without understanding them. “They assume a lot of

things that are not true about my culture and then call me sexist because I believe women should do things that Americans do not agree with. But they don’t want to listen to the customs or rituals behind it, so what can I do?”

Mitchell and Sudayi believe that you can learn about cultures in your heritage but you cannot claim them as your own. Sudayi said “Culture is the way of life for people. You cannot claim it if you are not from it. The way you live defines your culture. My culture in Tanzania is different than my culture here in America.”

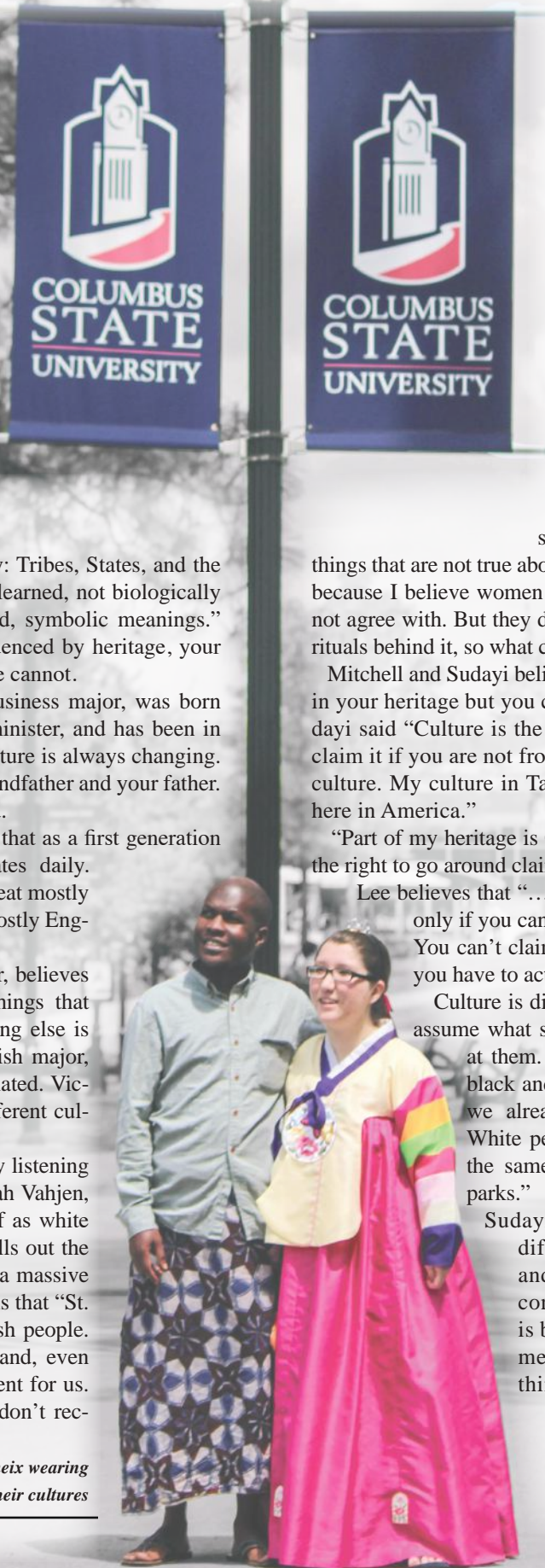
“Part of my heritage is Creole, but that doesn’t mean I have the right to go around claiming it is my culture,” said Mitchell.

Lee believes that “...You can lay claim to the culture but only if you can genuinely establish your credibility. You can’t claim it just because you think it’s cool, you have to actually learn about it.”

Culture is different for everyone and you cannot assume what someone’s culture is just by looking at them. Mitchell explained “If we are both black and you are Muslim and I am not then we already don’t share the same culture. White people in the Hamptons do not share the same culture as white people in trailer parks.”

Sudayi agrees. “We can learn a lot from different cultures if we understand it and don’t just take it. Understanding context helps. Not all appropriation is bad. Mavi ya kale hayanuki, which means “not all poop stinks”, not all things are just as bad as each other.”

*Darius Sudayi and Victoria Mulneix wearing traditional clothing from their cultures*



**Story and photo by Cassidy Richards**





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# CAN'T BELIEVE YOU MISS SCHOOL?

## BEATING THE SUMMER BOREDOM BLUES

Elaine Hoffmeister  
Managing Editor  
Illustration: Ashton Johnson

If you're anything like me, you'll discover about a week into your summer vacation that you are an incredibly boring person who doesn't remember what you like to do for fun. Usually, you're so consumed with your hectic life of studying, working, and dealing with whatever life throws at you that you never get a chance to let loose, and, when you do have free time, you don't know what to do with yourself.

Call it summer boredom. Call it summer ennui if you want to get fancy. You never believed free time could be tedious, but now you aren't sure how to face your structure-less existence. How do you pass time not spent in summer classes or slogging away at your job?

You may have thought boredom a myth, but if you do happen to run across it this summer, here are some ideas for how to reintroduce yourself to a life of leisure.

### "I've put this off forever"

Sometimes you check Wikipedia and 3 hours later find yourself reading about Hitler's dog (a German Shepherd named Blondi in case you were wondering) and that's when you realize you're wasting your life away. Luckily, there's probably a backlog of things you could better occupy your time with.

Have a million things you've wanted to do over the semester or year but haven't because there just wasn't an opportunity? If you're bored, consider that it could be the right

time to watch movies you've been meaning to, like the "Hobbit" and "Lord of the Rings" movies (only 20 uninterrupted hours, don't be weak), or you could marathon TV shows or anime or even cartoons (Hey, I never said this was the category for people with lots of energy, that's further down). Missed episodes of "Game of Thrones?" Marathon it. Want to watch 27 seasons of the "Simpsons?" Marathon it without fear of school butting in. You might even have time to re-watch "Breaking Bad." Think of the possibilities. This also applies to books. Who has been able to read something besides textbooks since starting college? Now you can!

satisfying for you, simply because you can.

A popular opportunity in this category (because I said so), is tackling those extensive, overly-involved MMORPGS and games that previously you could only play at 4:00 a.m. because sometimes real life takes precedence. I hear Minecraft is a popular choice, along with Fallout, Skyrim, and No Man's Sky when it drops in June. Or you could go back and play old Pokémon games or other favorites. Who's going to stop you? Wait for the Steam Summer Sale, buy everything, and then play none of it. Total freedom.

At long last, after recovering from the semester and paying attention to things you've neglected over the school year (I'm looking at you laundry pile), you can pursue the creative route. Do summer clichés for fun, like having yourself a mint julep, ice cream, and watermelon-what-ever. Start a journal or decorate something. Do random things because you want to, or just be lazy and relax. Don't let society tell you it's not ok—college is stressful.

## No-Bake Energy Bites

For the on-the-go student, this snack provides a quick and tasty pick me up for long days at the office, or if you are lucky, long days at the beach. They hold well, and are ultimately a healthier option than say, a cherry pie from any of the local fast food places around town. This recipe is super quick since it is made however you would like, feel free to use more peanut butter than chocolate chips, or more coconut flakes than flaxseed meal etc. Give them a try, and let us know how they turned out for you.

### Ingredients:

- Creamy peanut butter (can substitute almond butter or sunflower seed butter)
- Toasted coconut flakes
- Ground flaxseed meal
- Mini chocolate chips
- Honey

### Directions:

Mix ingredients together and store in refrigerator until set, then shape into 1-inch balls. Can also be shaped into squares or bars.

### "Carpe Diem!"

Life is short, and you may have forgotten that sometimes it's ok to do things just for the hell of it. If this sounds like you, then this is the summer where you can do those things which have little benefit to anyone, but are still oh so







## Tequila Sunrise

Juice lovers unite! Here is a summery drink to enjoy with almost any meal! If you are searching for a citrusy summery drink, look no further! This drink recipe is great since it is just three ingredients – great for combating the hot days during the summer. It is also versatile; you could make it at any time, even make the cocktail for a brunch party.

### Ingredients:

- Orange juice
- Grenadine
- Tequila

### Directions:

Exercise discretion, and don't drink and drive. Sweet summer drink to enjoy with almost any meal. Put as little or as much as desired.

## Might be Mai Tai

For a sweet summery drink to enjoy with almost every meal and a great way to cool off after a long day, make a Might be Mai Tai! Mai Tai's are typically made with two types of rum, however if a spiced rum isn't your thing, don't give up. Adding a dash of cinnamon makes up for a second spiced rum with just as much fun flavor! This is my take on the Mai Tai.

### Ingredients:

- 3 oz pineapple juice
- 1 tsp grenadine
- 1 oz rum of choice
- 1 oz dash of cinnamon

### Directions:

Mix ingredients together in no specific order, and use as much or as little as you like and enjoy.

Enjoy the summer, it always goes by so fast. As always, exercise discretion and drink responsibly – don't drink and drive.

**Anita Graham**

*Staff Writer*

*Photos: Lobna Yunis*



## "Improve yourself, we admire your life choices"

So you want to be productive, you tell yourself as you realize you've scrolled through two years' worth of posts on Twitter. You want to use your precious free time to grow as a person and develop lifelong skills (plus you secretly want the congratulatory comments you get after you make posts about your good life choices).

For the motivated out there, here are the staples of beating summer blues in the productive way: take up exercise or sports, donate your hours to volunteering, take a vacation, travel, attend local events, and just generally get out of the house. Go swimming, go to the beach, go to Disneyland—it's summer after all. Hiking, camping, and all that nature-related jazz might be right up your sweet pine-scented alley.

One of the best things you can do with your summer downtime is to straight up take your education into your own hands. This is the best time to pick up those annoying apps that tell you exactly how inadequate you really are.

Want to learn a new language? Try and get past the first couple of levels on Duolingo. Want to see how illiterate you are? Goodreads will tell you that, and then make you feel guilty as it recommends you dozens of books you could be reading.

Try Lumosity to train your brain or Fitbit to train your body. Maybe you could learn to cook. Self-study is surprisingly fun when you aren't pressured to do exams and papers or group work.

Focus on that special hobby you want to cultivate. Learn an instrument, write a book, or whatever it is you want to discover. Of course, this tip ventures into the "sounds like work" territory, so anyone who tries this had better not be overambitious; mid-summer lethargy is the number one killer of the dreams you whipped up during finals week.

You could also take the time to socialize and reinvent yourself. Meet up with friends you've ignored, start a blog, make vines, or even join a website like Reddit or Tumblr if you haven't already (but accept the long-term consequences going into it). Maybe try reorganizing your life, cleaning up, and throwing things away. It can feel good to do something productive once in a while.

If you're reading this during the summer because you were bored, case in point. Now go do something about it.

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# WHAT IS YOUR DEGREE WORTH?

## THE TRUTH BEHIND SMALL COLLEGE DEGREES

When I graduated from high school, I applied to the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) in the hopes of obtaining a prestigious degree and, by the grace of God, was admitted.

SCAD is a private school and at the time I was paying \$15,000 per quarter in tuition alone. Because of this, I was forced to leave SCAD and choose a cheaper school. Private schools can have crazy high tuitions but they operate on the idea that you will get what you pay for, such as networking, job placement opportunities, preferential treatment and bragging rights.

But what about research schools such as the University

Cassidy Richards  
Staff Writer  
Illustration: James Morgan

of Georgia and Georgia State University and other public universities such as Columbus State University?

What we would consider “flagship” public Georgia schools like Georgia State, UGA, and Georgia Tech are almost as pricey as private schools. For education, room and board and additional fees, a full year

at Georgia State is around \$23,000, Tech is around \$27,500, and UGA is around \$25,000. These schools are the ones that employers look for. Schools like CSU or the University of West Georgia, which both cost about \$16,000 a year, are largely marginalized by employers.

To emphasize this, let’s look at placement numbers: according to graduation surveys, 64 percent of UGA undergraduates go on to obtain full time employment whereas only 34 percent of CSU undergraduates do. These numbers matter because the more “elite” the school, which often is synonymous with expensive, the better your chances are at getting a job.

The Atlantic did a study on the worth of degrees from different schools and found that “The rankings...matter a great deal. The more elite a school, the better its alumni’s paychecks. The effect also increased over time.” In other words, in 1970, alumni from Ivy League schools made 9 percent more than individuals with non-Ivy League alma maters. In 1980 they made



CSU  
\$16,000/year

VS



UGA  
\$25,000/year

20 percent more. In 2016, this news is nightmarish for many students, especially for those who do what The Washington Post calls “undermatching,” or “when smart students, usually low-income, could succeed at an elite college but never apply to one or go to one.”

Fortunately, there seems to be a silver lining. According to College Choice, your GPA and interning experience can overcome what companies might consider crappy college credentials. “In many cases, having a degree from a less expensive or less well-known school can be mitigated by a high grade point average and interning at the right places,” they said. They do admit that the more competitive the market the more likely it is your degree will come into play.

The bottom line is: where you go to school does matter, but every student has the ability to make themselves a major player regardless of the school they attend.

## THE LIBERTARIAN ALTERNATIVE NOW MAY BE THE TIME FOR A BIG WIN

Lindsay Marchello  
Copy Editor  
Media: YA Liberty



## YOUNG AMERICANS for LIBERTY

Dissatisfaction with the two major political parties is at an all-time high. According to a Gallup poll, as of 2015 only twenty-six percent of Americans identify with the Republican Party and twenty-nine percent identify with the Democratic Party. An impressive forty-two percent of Americans label themselves as Independents. “The rise in political independence is likely related to Americans’ frustration with party gridlock in the federal government,” writes Jeffrey M. Jones for Gallup. “In the past several years, dissatisfaction with the government has ranked among the leading issues.”

Since more people consider themselves neither Republican nor Democrat, this is arguably the best time for the Libertarian party to sweep in and take the 2016 presidential election. Both parties have managed to alienate voters, with Trump driving conservatives out of the Republican Party and the DNC’s blatant support of Hillary Clinton pushing out many progressive liberals. Many feel that this upcoming election will force them to choose between the lesser of two evils, but the Libertarian Party offers an alternative to that decision.

College campuses across the United States have seen an increase of support for libertarianism, even at Columbus State University. A chapter of the Young Americans for Liberty, a libertarian youth organization, has come to CSU, with senior computer science major Joshua Staples acting as chapter president. “My goal for our local CSU chapter is to educate the students of Columbus State University to not just look at the issues facing our country in terms of Conservative vs. Liberal or Republican vs. Democrat but in terms of right vs. wrong and liberty vs. tyranny,” explained Staples.

The YAL at CSU hopes to hold events on campus to inform students about political issues, including about freedom of speech. “In the very near future we will hold a special exclusive screening of the upcoming documentary ‘Can We Take a Joke?’ which is aimed at starting a discussion on whether college campuses have become a hostile territory for free speech.”

Being a libertarian is not a requirement for joining the CSU chapter of the Young Americans for Liberty. All that is necessary is having an interest and an open mind about politics in general.

# SENSES OVERLOAD

VIRTUAL REALITY: GATEWAY TO AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE



Summer is only a few weeks away, and whether that means spending time on the beach, going to one of the many summer music festivals, or just going back home to spend time with family, there is something to look forward to during the break. But the summer routine can soon become boring. With nothing else to do, many students begin itching to get back to school.

But what if there was a machine that could cure any case of boredom? What if you could step inside your favorite video games? What if there was a machine that could put

you behind the Niagara Falls or on top of the Eiffel Tower? What if you could sit at the 50-yard line of any football game? Many of these things can be done now and the rest in the not-too-distant future. Welcome to the brave new world of virtual reality.

The Oculus Rift, along with a series of other virtual reality headsets, went on pre-sale early this year and began shipping in March. Most headsets require a prerequisite to operate, such as a Samsung phone, PlayStation 4, Xbox One, or just a really powerful computer.

According to the Oculus website, the Rift allows you to “Immerse yourself in games or go inside your favorite movies.” There are countless possibilities for what can be discovered inside a headset. Virtual reality could radically change the world—but for better or worse?

Virtual reality has the potential to do a lot of good, not just in entertainment but for education as well. It could bring textbooks to life. History students could travel through ancient Greece or take part in the Renaissance. Virtual reality could allow medical students to practice surgery without touching a live human patient.

But for the masses, technology has already made personal encounters difficult. Many people already always have their phone in hand, ready to Snapchat or Instagram rather than live in the moment. Abuse of this new technology could have serious repercussions on how personal day-to-day interaction occurs. Since the Oculus Rift allows users to meet up with friends in virtual reality, will real life interactions become increasingly rare? What might happen to children who spend more time in the virtual playground than the real one? These are questions that we’ll all have to start asking ourselves very soon.







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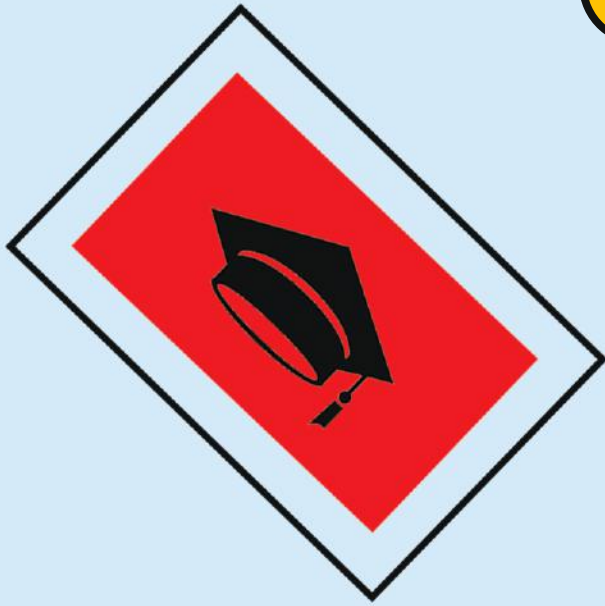
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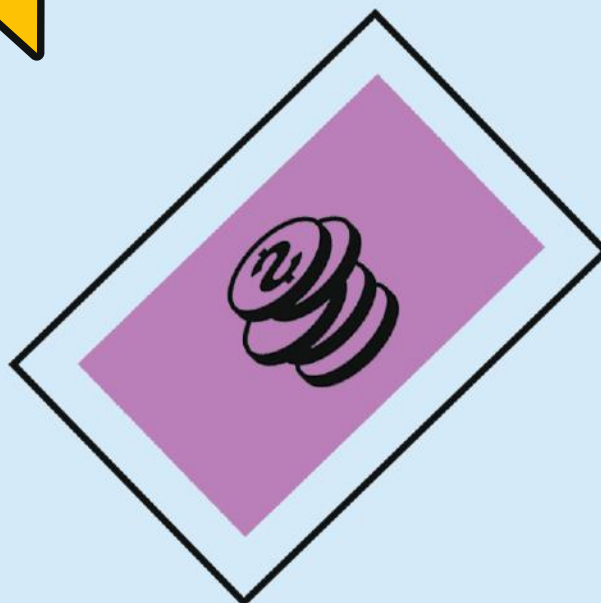


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