

# THE Saber



VOLUME 62 / ISSUE NO. 6 / MARCH 14, 2018



Scottie DeClue, Editor-in-chief  
Toni Stauffer, Managing Editor  
Joe Miller, Faculty Adviser

Ashton Johnson, Sen. Media Editor  
Raylyn Ray, Media Editor  
Lily Thompson, Dist. Manager  
Gabby Wilson, Layout Designer

## COPY EDITORS

Maddie Fuerte  
Ivey Milam  
Vivian Duncan

## REPORTERS

Javere Johnson  
Mariah Jackson  
Maria Lauriault  
Hayley Maine

## MEDIA

Brittney Green  
Madi Steele  
Bo Lewis  
Kiley Anderson  
Eddie Sampson  
Ambria Morris  
Terrance Harris  
Ashley Peterson

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Tristan Cox  
Julia Box  
Cole Trahan

## DISCLAIMER

Opinions expressed in The Saber are those of the editor or writer of the article and do not necessarily reflect the views of Columbus State University or its affiliates.

## CONTACT

For comments or inquiries,  
CSUSaber@gmail.com  
For advertising information,  
CSUSaberAds@gmail.com

4225 UNIVERSITY AVE.  
COLUMBUS, GA 31907-5645  
CSUSABER@GMAIL.COM

 @TheCSUSaber

 The Columbus State  
University Saber

## EDITOR'S LETTER

**Pictured** Soldiers line up for BBQ at the Fort Benning Appreciation Day. Photo credit: CSU

**NOTE:** Thanks to Cora King for supplying last issue's cover photo.

**Greetings, reader.** This is your second issue of the spring semester, and it is rich with excellent content! The staff worked hard to make this issue all about you, the students, so we filled it with your voices. Did you know that you pay for The Saber to stay open each year with your student fees? That's right. Every spring, a committee comprised of faculty, staff, and students votes to approve our budget, which comes directly out of your pockets. Therefore, this is your newspaper, and part of the public service it provides is capturing your voices. This year, you spent \$40,000 to keep us open, and we certainly appreciate it. So, as you would take advantage of the gym, or athletic events, or meal plans, or anything else that comes out of student fees, take advantage of The Saber. Write to us, email us, or stop by to chat sometime. You can even send us anonymous messages if you have a good scoop. We love a good scoop.

I would like, also, to congratulate The Saber staff on their excellent work over the past several years, and that recognition includes those who have moved on. This publication won eight awards at the Georgia College Press Association's Best Newspaper competition this year, and those awards are the culmination of a push toward excellence that began with editor-in-chief Catherine Saavedra, moved forward with her protegee Scott Berson, and continues to be paramount to me. Job well-done, everyone.

# CONTENTS

MARCH 14, 2018 • VOL. 62 • ISSUE 6 • AWARD-WINNING  
COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT NEWS

**4 / SUMMARIES & UPCOMING** Things that have happened, things to come.

## THE FEATURES

### 6 / CLEARVIEW UPDATE

See how things are going in Clearview Hall this semester.

*By Sydnee Williams*

### 8 / PRESIDENTIAL ENVOYS

Meet some of Columbus State's Presidential Envoys.

*By Toni Stauffer*

### 10 / VERBATIM: VACCINES

See how some students feel about the controversial use of vaccines.

*By Bo Lewis*

### 12 / STUDENT VOICE P.S.A.

A published list of suggestions from 171 students about the needs of CSU.

*By Scottie DeClue*

### 14 / MYSTICAL ARTS OF TIBET

Find out why the monks of Drepung Loseling Monastery are so special.

*By Vivian Duncan*

### 18 / ART AWARD

Christofer Gass talks about his Georgia Association of Galleries Art Award.

*By Ivey Milam*

### 20 / CAMPUS POLICE

CSU is growing. Are there enough campus police to keep up with the growth?

*By Vivian Duncan*

### 22 / SCWHOB RECITAL

Schwob students perform a vocal recital, instructor sheds insight on teaching.

*By Briana Williams*

### 24 / STEP AFRIKA!

A unique group of performers takes the stage at CSU.

*By Mariah Jackson*

### 28 / ASTRONOMY

CSU graduate and doctoral candidate talks about his research and plans.

*By Cole Trahan*

**On The Cover** A rare appearance of Cody the Cougar dressed in BDUs. Photo credit: CSU

**These stories** and several others found within these 32 pages of content.

**Special thanks to** Tom Ingram and The Local for help with events.



# SUMMARIES

## LIBRARY ROOF RENOVATION COMPLETION

According to Kelly Wilson, director of maintenance and construction at CSU, the renovations to the Schwob Memorial Library roof, which began in August 2017, were completed on Feb. 28. Construction workers began removing the remaining materials at the beginning of March. "We are waiting for the manufacturer and then architect to arrive on campus (any day now) to complete final inspections," Wilson said. The original budget for the project was \$355,910, but the completed cost was priced at \$408,438 – a 14.8 percent increase since the original bid. Leaks in the roof caused damage to the archives on the third floor during storm surges last semester.



## CONSTRUCTION OF LENOIR HALL CONTINUES

According to President Markwood, the renovations to LeNoir Hall, which will include the construction of science lab on the north wing, are "progressing nicely." The project, which has been in planning since before 2017, will result in more academic space for students. The University determined the need for more space in a study conducted by CSU and the University System of Georgia. Renovations to the first floor classrooms and office buildings were completed, and renovations to the second and third floors will continue throughout the semester. Third floor renovations are scheduled to continue throughout the summer. The facility should be in full use by spring 2019.



## CSU HOSTS FORT BENNING APPRECIATION DAY

Columbus State University hosted more than 1,700 Fort Benning soldiers at basketball, baseball, and softball games this February to recognize the relationship between Fort Benning and the University. Currently, about 10 percent of CSU's enrollment have ties to Fort Benning. Those numbers include active duty, spouses, and retirees.



## CSU TO UNDERGO COMPREHENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Columbus State is in the midst of a major effort to utilize University System resources more effectively, and has begun a new phase in the initiative that will include planning forums and assessments. "This effort seeks to improve administration by creating efficiencies, streamlining processes, and finding ways to be more effective with USG resources," Markwood said. "I have assembled an implementation team to assist in our participation, and we will be planning several open forums and information sessions." The CSU community may receive email notification to participate in this process, and are required to do so if contacted.

## CSU PARTNERS WITH GEORGIA POWER TO SAVE

Georgia Power, according to their Twitter account, has partnered with CSU on 60 energy-saving projects since 2011, saving a total of almost 3 million kilowatts, giving CSU a rebate of \$116,972 from the Georgia Power company. "This has been a deliberate effort that we can now see really adds up," said Tom Helton, vice president for business and finance. "Our partnership with Georgia Power has provided the needed funding to make these projects possible." Mike Medlock, assistant vice president for facilities, said the University's energy-efficiency efforts were boosted in 2009 when CSU received \$1.7 million from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act.

"These funds were used in three buildings we consider energy hogs," Medlock said. "We were required to show an energy savings over five years from any funds spent from AARA. When we were able to do that, Georgia Power saw our success and included us in their Commercial Energy Efficiency Program."



## CSU TO IMPLEMENT GRAPHIC DESIGN PROGRAM

For the first time, CSU is offering students a bachelor's of fine arts with a focus in graphic design. Nicholas McMillan, a professor of art who specializes in graphic design was hired by CSU to help launch the program in the fall 2017. "My goal is for my students to walk off the stage, get a job, and keep them in Columbus," McMillan said. "There's so much wealth of opportunity in this community. That's what excites me ... the more artists and designers we have stay, the more it will improve the city." This fall, CSU will offer courses in graphic design 1, 2, and 3.



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS PUSHED BACK, STILL SEEKING CANDIDATES

Elections for new Student Government Association officers are fast approaching for this spring. The SGA is a student-run organization that leads students in academic and civic engagement, and is an organized voice of the students who focus on protecting students' rights as well as solving problems on campus. Unfortunately, not many students have placed applications to run for office. Applications are being pushed back to March 23, and campaigning will now occur March 27 through April 11. Debates and voting will be held at later dates as well.



### SUMMARIES CONTINUED

*Please send press releases to csusaber@gmail.com. Slots are limited and should be submitted by the 15th of each month for publishing opportunity. Not all submissions will be published, and copy is subject to change for layout purposes. Please limit releases to no more than 110 characters.*

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Five students received awards from the English Department this semester for outstanding work in the areas of literature, creative writing, professional writing, secondary education, and general excellence. Here are the winners:

- Literature - **Arianna Marealle**
- Creative Writing - **Justin Briley**
- Professional Writing - **Kaleigh Blessard**
- Secondary Education - **Erin Jane**
- Student of Excellence - **Lauren Miley**



## AWARD-WINNING ARTISTS TO SPEAK AT 2018 DIVERSITY FORUM

The 2018 Columbus State University Forum and Legacy Celebration will occur on March 15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Cunningham Center. The Legacy Celebration will be held at 6 p.m. in the Lumpkin Center. This year's keynote speakers are Grammy Award-winning singer Chrissette Michelle and award-winning poet, speaker, actor, and author, Carlos Gomez. More information can be found at [diversity.columbusstate.edu](http://diversity.columbusstate.edu).



## STUDENT RECEIVES RARE SCHOLARSHIP TO NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

De'Marcus Monroe, a senior and theatre major at CSU, earned an all-expenses paid scholarship to attend the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society Directing Initiative – a prestigious performance fellowship in D.C. Monroe competed against thousands of students for the opportunity, which was awarded after he impressed several judges at the Region IV American Theatre College Festival in Americas. Monroe will attend the fellowship this July. He graduates from CSU this May with bachelor's of fine arts in theatre performance.



## CSU HOSTS 2018 POLITICAL DEBATE SERIES AND FORUM

CSU is partnering with local media outlets WRBL-TV and PMB Broadcasting to host, televise, and simulcast a series of political debates and forums in 2018. Six events are being scheduled to host candidates seeking the Governor's office, as well as those participating in the mayoral election. Sponsoring the events are AFLAC and TSYS. CSU professors, as well as WRBL reporters, will serve on panels questioning the participants. The first event was held on March 6, and the next event – a mayoral debate – will occur in University Hall on main campus at 7:00 p.m.



# UPCOMING



## NO SHAME THEATRE

**SPRINGER OPERA HOUSE / 10:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY**

Every Friday evening, the Springer puts on No Shame Theatre – an uncensored evening of original performance that allows anyone to participate. Sign-up begins at 10:00 p.m., and 15 5-minute performance slots are available each week. Admission costs \$5, and adult beverages are available.

## MOTOWN THE MUSICAL

**RIVERCENTER / MARCH 20,21, 7:30 P.M. - 10 P.M.**

True American dream story of Motown founder Berry Gordy's journey from featherweight boxer to the heavyweight mogul who launched the careers of Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Smokey Robinson and many more. The event is at RiverCenter on 900 Broadway.

## ST. PADDY'S 5K

**1200 BROADWAY / MARCH 17, 5 P.M.**

5k and 10k runs, prizes, variety of age groups. Runners meet up at Big Dog Running on Broadway.

## SPRING NATURE WALK

**F.D.R. STATE PARK, 2970 GA HWY 190 / MARCH 24. 3:30 P.M.**

Meet your guide next to the trading post for a one-mile guided adventure. Learn about local plants and animals. Adults and families welcome. The event is free to all. Located in Pine Mountain, GA.

## MUSIC UNDER THE DOME

**COCA-COLA SPACE SCIENCE CENTER / MARCH 27. 5 P.M.**

The Schwob School of Music continues with its Music Under the Dome series with a concert on Tuesday March 27 starting at 5:00 p.m. with wine and cheese. The concert will begin at 5:30 p.m.

## COMMUNITY MEET AND GREET

**COL. PUBLIC LIBRARY, 3000 MACON RD. / MARCH 24, 4 P.M.**

Join 9to5 Ga and community leaders as we prepare for chapter priorities and discuss how we can build a better Columbus. Kid friendly event. For information, please email [marilyn@9to5.org](mailto:marilyn@9to5.org).

## COSPLAY 101

**COL. PUBLIC LIBRARY, 3000 MACON RD. / MARCH 29, 5 P.M.**

This workshop will give participants an opportunity to socialize with other cosplayers and learn tips and tricks for creating cosplay accessories ahead of upcoming conventions. Some materials will be provided, and we encourage you to bring ongoing projects.

## UPTOWN'S SPRING FOOD AND TRUCK FESTIVAL

**WOODRUFF PARK (DOWNTOWN) / MARCH 24, 11 A.M.**

Uptown Columbus hosts the fourth annual Food Truck Festival. Woodruff Park and Dillingham Bridge transform into a food-truck mecca. 20 plus gourmet food trucks will set up with DJ Dave Arwood playing jams all afternoon. Also enjoy libations in the craft beer garden.

# CLEARVIEW HALL ALL CLEAR?

*Students discuss the ups and downs of living in Clearview Hall*

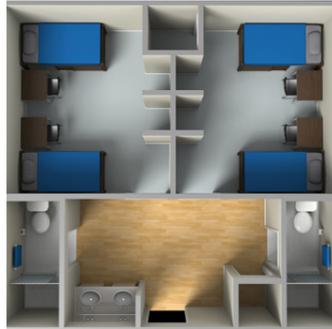
STORY BY SYDNEE WILLIAMS  
ILLUSTRATION BY BRITNEY GREEN

The Clearview Hall facility overlooking main campus opened in the fall of 2016 with the hopes of fostering community and promoting healthy social interactions for first-year students, and for many it has, but various students who live in the 130-bedroom residence have made claims that living in Clearview has been both enjoyable, as well as problematic for many reasons.

A verbal poll of students living in Clearview revealed information about how students feel living in the four-story building. Many students said they felt welcome due to their participation in activities and workshops hosted by Residence Life, which were designed to assist with adjusting to college life as well as on-campus living.

Some students said that the dormitory allows them to progress further in their studies. "I can go to the study rooms," said Lynnette Grullon, another freshman staying at Clearview. "I can find quiet places inside Clearview. Sometimes I feel like the library can be too crowded, and I feel like you get sick there easily."

Although many students have enjoyed their time at Clearview, others have made different claims citing drug and alcohol abuse, as well as verbal altercations.



INTERIOR OF COMMON SUITE

130

NUMBER OF SUITE-STYLE DORMS IN CLEARVIEW

16

SINGLE-OCCUPANCY ROOMS FOR RA'S

540

TOTAL NUMBER OF BEDS IN CLEARVIEW

25M

APPROXIMATE COST OF CLEARVIEW



According to the CSU campus police website, there have been arrests at Clearview for possession of both alcohol and marijuana on more than one occasion since 2016. Since January of 2018, six incidents involving campus police have been reported.

Savanna Doster, a freshman and nursing major, commented on some of the behavior. "There was only like one fight, but that whole night was crazy," Doster said. "People were just being rude in general and just kept

telling me to 'Go back to your room, white girl.' It was crazy." Doster also talked about the difficulties of living with friends. "You get to see the best and the worst in people," she added.

One could assume that before coming to college, most students are used to living in their own rooms and having more space. When asked about their opinion of suite-style living arrangements, Clearview residents had varying answers. "The only problem with dorm life is having to live

with random people. You're not really connected with those people," Kolawole Olorunfemi said. "At home, I used to room with my brother, but it was different because we had all those years together." Football player Tieric Reese said that residents should be able to live separately. "I would change the rooms basically," Reese said, "Everybody would get their own rooms." Another resident, Jamar Petigiy-Francois, commented on the size of the building. "Clearview is just

too small, but if it ain't broke, don't fix it." Additionally, some residents have complained about drug use in the building. Last semester, there was a mandatory meeting to discuss residency rules. Not everyone understood having to attend when they were not a part of the problem. "I know it sounds cheesy, but it's like one big family," freshman Chase Brandenburg said. "I only knew one person coming in here, and now I can't walk down the hall without saying hey to somebody."

"It's easy to make and keep friends because you see them everyday," said resident Kayla Foster. Overall, there have mostly been positive comments about the dorm in general. Student athletes were happy about proximity between the dorms and the fields. Many other students were relieved about the availability of resources within the dorms as well. Clearview Hall may have its problems, but a large and diverse living situation is never problem-free.

# A LOOK AT CSU'S PRESIDENTIAL ENVOYS



PRESIDENTIAL ENVOYS (15), PHOTO CREDIT: CSU

## STORY BY TONI STAUFFER

*In August of 2017*, Columbus State University named the first Presidential Envoys, a group of students with different majors and backgrounds who excel in academics and leadership skills. The team of 15 envoys represent the University at important events, assist the Office of the President, the Office of Alumni Engagement and Special Events, and University Advancement. They also represent the student body by meeting with trustees, alumni, and community leaders to give a student's viewpoint. The program helps the envoys to

develop professionally, learn organizational leadership skills, and they may one day be alumni leaders. "It is important that we remember and demonstrate that students are the focus of everything we do," President Chris Markwood said in a press release. "Our friends and donors love meeting our students, and these Presidential Envoys are among the best that Columbus State University has to offer." For more information on the Presidential Envoy program, you can go to Richards Hall 136, email [alumni@columbusstate.edu](mailto:alumni@columbusstate.edu), or call 706-507-8946. **CONTINUED ON THE RIGHT** ▶



LYNDSAY RICHARDSON

**"MUSIC CAN CHANGE THE WORLD, BECAUSE IT CAN CHANGE PEOPLE." -BONO**

Lyndsay Richardson is from Warner Robins, Georgia, and represented her hometown last year as Miss Warner Robins. This year, she is our reigning Miss Columbus 2018. A senior in music education with a concentration in voice, Richardson will be graduating in May. She is also the only music major who is a Presidential Envoy.

"Representing the Schwob School of Music has been a great responsibility and one that I've enjoyed," said Richardson. Her favorite envoy moment was working at the Tower Society Gala and getting to converse about her love of the school and music.

"The Presidential Envoy program is an amazing opportunity to meet some of the extremely successful movers and shakers involved in supporting Columbus State University as well as an opportunity to get to know CSU graduates through the Alumni Association," Richardson said. "Getting to make small talk with the people you meet through this program is one of the most valuable experiences I've come across in all of my work at CSU."

Richardson wants to become a middle school chorus teacher in the Columbus area. "When I was in middle school, being involved in chorus class was what helped me cope with my older brother's passing," Richardson said. "Since that time, my motivation has always been to give back to my future students in the same way I was helped." She added "Middle school is always going to be tough, but with the help of music, it can be a more positive time in a child's life."

She is also editor for the Lambda Sigma chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, and vice president of the collegiate NAFME chapter. "I am proof that you can do it all AND be a Presidential Envoy to represent CSU," said Richardson.



BAILEY WOODARD

**"BE WHO YOU SAY YOU ARE AND SAY WHAT YOU FEEL, BECAUSE THOSE THAT MIND DON'T MATTER AND THOSE THAT MATTER DON'T MIND." -DR. SEUSS**

Bailey Woodard is from Warner Robins, Georgia and is an Exercise Science major. She graduates in May, but is looking into Nutrition Programs for her master's. A member of Delta Zeta, she joined the Presidential Envoy program on the advice from her sorority's collegiate chapter director, who is a member of the Alumni Association.

"Probably my favorite memory so far was one of the reception dinners I worked at Dr. Markwood's house," Woodard said. "It was so nice to be able to meet new people but also have a good conversation with past professors and Dr. Markwood." She added, "This program is such a rewarding experience. Not only do you get to meet awesome people, but you get to showcase to others how great Columbus state is."



JOSHUA RICHMOND

**"EVERY ARTIST WAS ONCE AN AMATEUR." -RALPH WALDO EMERSON**

Joshua Richard comes from a small town called Cordele located in south Georgia. He is an art major and expects to graduate in spring 2020. After going through the application process, he was

chosen by faculty recommendation for his academic achievements.

"It is a great program that provides lots of connections and helps you to see the inner workings of CSU," said Richmond.

His favorite memory of being an envoy so far happened this past December. "We had a Christmas party to help with at the Markwoods' home and we wore Santa hats the whole time," Richmond said, "and since all the guests brought coats, we had a huge pile of coats in a back room that we had to sort through later to get everyone's coat back. It was a little chaotic, but that was part of the fun."

He plans to get a master's in fine arts after graduation, then hopefully build up his work and get into galleries around the world someday.

## 2017-2018 ENVOYS

**JERRY COWELL**  
(PRESIDENT): SENIOR, MARKETING MAJOR AND COMMUNICATION MINOR, REX, GEORGIA;

**HANNAH KICK**  
(VP OF COMMUNICATION & MEMBERSHIP): SOPHOMORE, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MAJOR, HAMILTON, GEORGIA;

**LEAH SEIFU**  
(VP OF LEADERSHIP): JUNIOR, BIOLOGY MAJOR, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA;

**HANNAH EUBANKS**  
SOPHOMORE, ACCOUNTING MAJOR, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA;

**STEPHANIE KOLWICZ**  
SENIOR, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAJOR, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA;

**WHITNEY HENDERSON**  
SENIOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MAJOR, LANDOVER HILLS, MARYLAND;

**ABBY GRACE MOORE**  
SOPHOMORE, BIOLOGY MAJOR, THOMASTON, GEORGIA;

**CASSANDRA PAUL**  
SENIOR, MARKETING MAJOR, HIRAM, GEORGIA;

**RUBEN RAMIREZ**  
JUNIOR, HEALTH SCIENCE MAJOR, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA;

**LYNDSAY RICHARDSON**  
SENIOR, MUSIC EDUCATION MAJOR, BONAIRE, GEORGIA;

**JOSHUA RICHMOND**  
SOPHOMORE, ART MAJOR, CORDELE, GEORGIA;

**ANJU SHAJAN**  
SOPHOMORE, ACCOUNTING MAJOR, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA;

**MASON THIELE**  
SENIOR, MANAGEMENT MAJOR, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA;

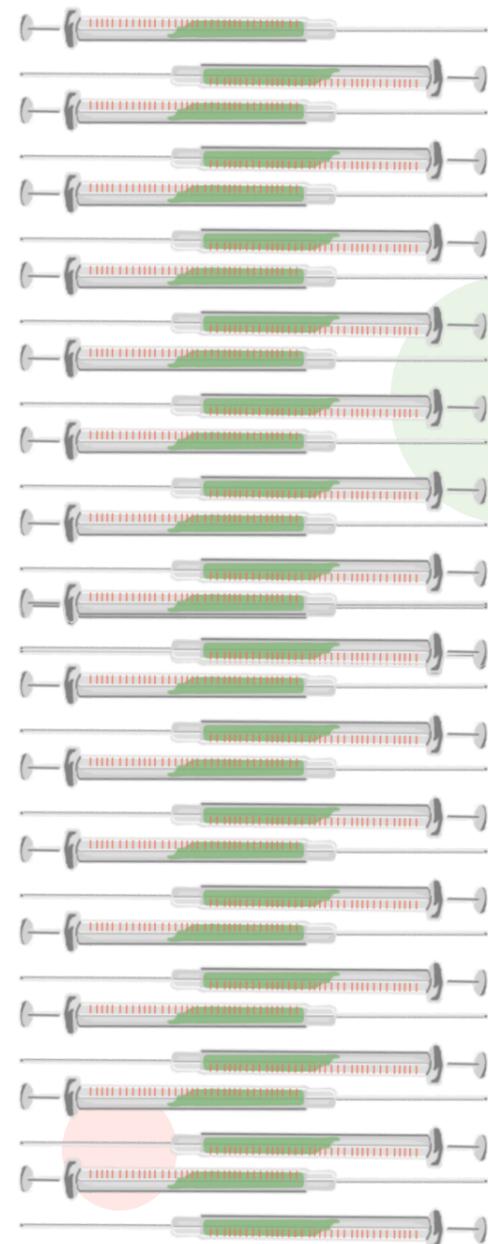
**BAILEY WOODARD**  
SENIOR, EXERCISE SCIENCE MAJOR, WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA.

# CAMPUS OPINION: VACCINES

*In recent years, the issue of vaccination, either voluntary or mandated, has become quite the controversial subject with firm stances held on both sides of the debate. Here's what some CSU students had to say when asked for their opinions on the matter.*

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BO LEWIS

## JAMES KIMBRO



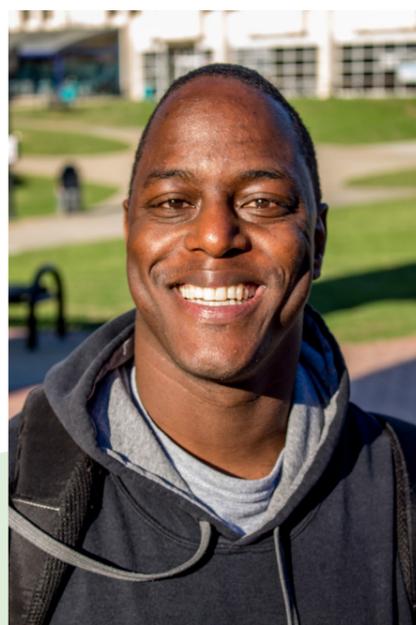
I've avoided some vaccines and I've suffered the consequences for it. I get sick quite often (on people who don't vaccinate themselves or their children) It's irresponsible. People do get sick and get other people sick.



JAMES KIMBRO

## KHUMBO BANDA

For me, I think that vaccinations as preventative measures are good. I wouldn't enforce it but I would say that it's good. It's something that should be highly encouraged because disease can be easily spread, you know, at schools and things like that. (People who are against vaccines) are entitled to their opinion. If they're against it, they're against it. That's fine. I can be for it. They can be against it. That's okay.



KHUMBO BANDA

## KACEY WINSTON

I think they're very vital to everyone's health, basically. I think that if you want polio, you can get polio if you would like. This year, I caught strain A flu and I was out of school for the first three weeks. There's a reason why these doctors make these vaccines. If you have the opportunity to get it, just get it. If I have children and I'm sitting next to this lady in the park and she's all like, "Yeah, I didn't vaccinate my kids." I'm packing up my stuff. Me and little Timmy and Jimmy and whatever his name is gonna be, we're leaving. Get the shot. You're gonna have herpes. Look at Usher. You could have prevented that! Honestly, if I find a bitch who's like "I'm not vaccinating my baby," Imma slap that bitch. Imma call CPS. Imma get her name, number, everything, and Imma post that shit outside. This bitch don't vaccinate her kids. She nasty. Don't bring your kids near her. It's cool if you don't want to get vaccinated. That's your own choice, but don't force your children to go through pain and suffering because you're a dumbass and you're uninformed.



KACEY WINSTON

## JAMES WIGGINS

Vaccinations are good. Please get them. Your children will die if you don't.



JAMES WIGGINS

## TAYLOR CLARK

My mom, she had a bad experience when she gave it to my sisters. And so, because of that, I wasn't allowed to get vaccinations.

## DEVON BROWN

My stance on vaccines is that it depends on the status of what they're getting. If it's like a rapid case of H1N1, I think that's when people should get vaccinated. But if it's not that bad then I feel like you might be okay. You can get over it. I don't think [childhood vaccinations] should be enforced if it's not a big thing. I think that parents do want to take more caution. (On parents not vaccinating their kids) I think they're not taking caution.

## DANTE CHRISTIAN CARTER

I say yes to vaccines, and I say people don't like it because of most of the fear tactics around vaccines. Like, some people say it causes autism – not true. Not getting vaccines because of lack of information, so to speak, is just plain stupid, pretty much. Be more informed. You're holding someone else's life in your hand when you're choosing not to vaccinate.

## TATIANA

Well, me personally, I don't think that there's nothing wrong with vaccinations. I don't think they're bad. It protects the children. It isn't harming the children. And a lot of people think that vaccines give children autism, and it's proven to not even be true. I think they should go to jail. That's what I think they should do because you're putting other people at harm or at risk to get something just because you don't believe in vaccines.

STUDENT VOICES

# WE ARE SPEAKING, DO YOU HEAR US?

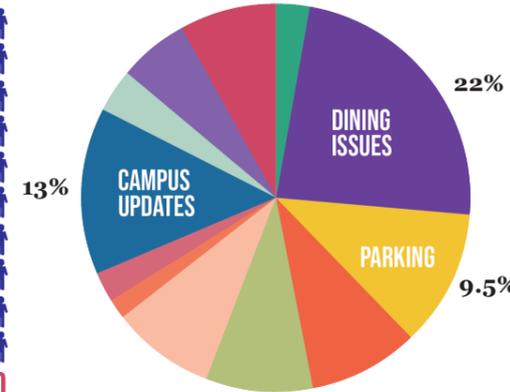
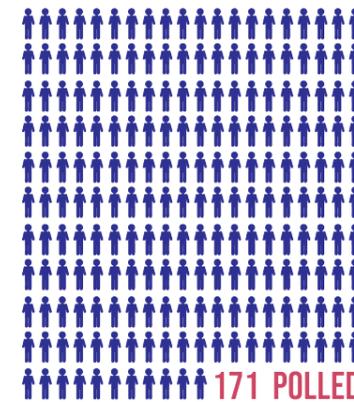
THE COLUMBUS STATE SGA RECENTLY STARTED A CAMPAIGN TO GET FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS ABOUT WHAT KINDS OF PROBLEMS ARE OCCURRING ON CAMPUS AND WHAT CHANGES THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE SGA OR THE UNIVERSITY IMPLEMENT. STUDENTS RESPONDED, MORE OR LESS, TO THE CATEGORIES OF TRANSPORTATION, DINING SERVICES, PARKING, ACADEMICS, ADMINISTRATION, CAMPUS SECURITY, DIVERSITY, STUDENT INVOLVEMENT, CAMPUS UPDATES AND INITIATIVES, EXPENSES, AND SOME OTHER ITEMS. HERE ARE THOSE RESPONSES VERBATIM AS OF MARCH 5:

BY SCOTTIE DECLUE

- ▶ “Trolleys” around campus to take students from parking space to campus.
- ▶ Lack of prof (political science and psychology).
- ▶ More class options and more class times, like more classes in the summer and for maymester.
- ▶ There is no “Law Field” classes or legal writing/ pre-law classes.
- ▶ Letters and sciences need new updates, FOB, only political science department.
- ▶ Different class location for psychology students.
- ▶ Can another department move downtown for more space on main campus?
- ▶ Degree works needs to be updated.
- ▶ We should have more diverse teachers.
- ▶ Half Ass professors - sometimes attendance isn't necessary and those classes should be tailored for online.
- ▶ Teachers are not really teaching.
- ▶ Lenoir needs updated technology because the computers are outdated and break.
- ▶ We need a computer lab that can hold a classroom in either Lenoir or Jordan, because the main one is under construction.
- ▶ We need up-to-date pest control campus-wide.
- ▶ Elevator check-ups should be more frequent.
- ▶ The trash bins need to be cleaned more frequently and parking garage stairs are dirty also.
- ▶ The lights in the parking garage stairwells need to be cleaned.
- ▶ Students shouldn't be allowed in buildings “under construction” because of the fumes.
- ▶ We should make sure that all the lights on campus and in the parking garages work.
- ▶ Can we have a 24-hour library?
- ▶ There is frequently only one (or two at most) sections offered of 1100-level classes that a lot of majors need, and it makes scheduling really hard. It is one thing if there's only one section of 5200 Underwater Basket Weaving, but there was only one section of PHYSICS 1111 offered this semester.
- ▶ Stop taking away meal plan options with fewer meals! I never get through more than 60 meals, let alone 100!
- ▶ Why do students have to have a meal plan when they are an upperclassmen and live on campus? Our housing options have either kitchens or kitchenettes. I think that a meal plan should be optional after your first year.
- ▶ All fees should be better explained and let us know exactly what we are paying for each semester.
- ▶ How often are couches sanitized in buildings (especially in Davidson)?
- ▶ Can someone please put veggie choices in the cafe?
- ▶ Please bring back tofu products.
- ▶ Greek Life equality.
- ▶ Later hours for the Subway, cafe, etc. for people with late classes.
- ▶ Not enough student involvement with athletic classes, SGA forums, Greek events, etc.
- ▶ Not all bathroom stalls have working locks or hooks to hang bags on.
- ▶ Not enough study rooms or enforcement of silence where those rooms are.
- ▶ CSU Involve needs to be updated.
- ▶ Shuttles to and from downtown keep coming early or late, or they don't stop at certain stops. It is one thing for me to be a minute late catching the bus, but it makes NO sense for me to miss the bus because it came either 10 minutes early or not at all. I don't have a car. We need reliable
- ▶ consistent transportation. I am tired of calling Mr. Alexander about his drivers when he accuses us of lying and then claims there is no problem.
- ▶ About the bus: please let the bus drivers know that just because you see your friend outside does not mean you get to talk to them for ten minutes because some of us have places to go!
- ▶ Warn students when necessary or required courses are not offered in a specific semester or either offer them year-round. Kaleb is my problem.
- ▶ More student involvement.
- ▶ Can we have a 24-hour gym?
- ▶ Can we have a 24-hour library?
- ▶ We need more diversity within SGA.
- ▶ The lights on Lenoir bridge are still out.
- ▶ More PEDS and PHEDS classes! They fill so fast to be something mandatory.
- ▶ We need homecoming diversity!
- ▶ Walking for Fitness
- ▶ Jogging for Fitness
- ▶ I think that the computers count two sided printing as two pages instead of one page and I feel like you're stealing my prints each semester.
- ▶ We need higher pay for student assistants and campus employment, AMEN!
- ▶ Better English classes.
- ▶ Ditto.
- ▶ 24 hour library???
- ▶ More student involvement.
- ▶ Please!
- ▶ 24 hour library babysitting.
- ▶ Please offer ASL classes.
- ▶ Censorship of CSU performers as if we are in middle school has to stop COMPLETELY!!! We pay activity fees for full shows.
- ▶ More parking!
- ▶ More options in the pod!
- ▶ Cafe books.

44.5%

OF STUDENTS WHO GAVE RESPONSES WANTED TO SEE A CHANGE WITH DINING SERVICES, PARKING, OR WANTED TO SEE CAMPUS-WIDE UPDATES.



\*INFORMATION GATHERED FROM SGA "PROBLEMS" POSTERS

- ▶ Cafe needs more cooked foods.
- ▶ Breakfast at Chick-fil-A!
- ▶ We want chicken biscuits at Chick-fil-A
- ▶ Refunds are not being administered fast enough!
- ▶ Cookouts and BBQs!
- ▶ Attendance is too low.
- ▶ More food selections!
- ▶ Free Books.
- ▶ Better parking!
- ▶ OMG parking!!!!
- ▶ More Cougar Cash!
- ▶ Chicken biscuits at chick-fil-a
- ▶ More restaurants!
- ▶ Cookouts.
- ▶ More food pods in more halls :)
- ▶ Soda Machine in the Cafeteria sucks!
- ▶ The food selection is terrible.
- ▶ Parking???????
- ▶ More Parking spaces!
- ▶ More public restrooms.
- ▶ Better Student activities!
- ▶ The Clearview RAs and SAs are never where they are supposed to be...
- ▶ Better food in the caf.
- ▶ Greek plots.
- ▶ More social events!
- ▶ Parking!
- ▶ Waffle house?
- ▶ Parking.
- ▶ Parking.
- ▶ Cuter boys.
- ▶ Better subway workers.
- ▶ Parking!
- ▶ Yes!
- ▶ More school sponsored trips.
- ▶ Financial Aid is problematic.
- ▶ Free food??
- ▶ Better security for downtown residents.
- ▶ Free books!
- ▶ FREE THE BOOKS!
- ▶ Air Conditioning???
- ▶ More food options.
- ▶ Waffle house.
- ▶ Tobacco free campus including vapes.
- ▶ Reach out to the community more.
- ▶ We need a football team.
- ▶ Discounts at local restaurants!
- ▶ Better food.
- ▶ More activities.
- ▶ More food places.
- ▶ Parking.
- ▶ More food places to choose from.
- ▶ Parking.
- ▶ Free Tuition.
- ▶ Downtown parking should be better.
- ▶ Cookies n' cream ice cream at the Caf.
- ▶ Ko The Great.
- ▶ Bowling.
- ▶ Parking!
- ▶ More social events.
- ▶ Better variety of books.
- ▶ 24 hour library.
- ▶ More food in the PODS!!!
- ▶ Small pharmacy.
- ▶ Downtown doesn't have enough mailboxes for students.
- ▶ Shuttles should go to greenhill, lowell, and UC!!!
- ▶ Make-up days for finals.
- ▶ Food in the Caf needs help ASAP!
- ▶ Food in the Caf is horrible.
- ▶ More staff for Financial Aid.
- ▶ Knowledge about requesting funds.
- ▶ There should be more activities for the amount of money we spend.
- ▶ Get another break in FEB.
- ▶ Agree that shuttles should stop at more locations.
- ▶ Affordable commuter meal plans.
- ▶ The cafe should be open longer, yes, yes, yes, please.
- ▶ Open the Cafe later.
- ▶ Black\_blonshell - instagram
- ▶ Financial Aid isn't doing their part!
- ▶ A lot of events on main campus leave out
- ▶ students downtown ex. Free shirts, free food, etc.
- ▶ Ig: @\_loveajh
- ▶ 24/7 library hours.
- ▶ 24/7 meal or dining services on main campus.
- ▶ Why do we pay for books out of pocket when we already pay for college
- ▶ Better Cafe food for sure.
- ▶ Please lower tuition.
- ▶ Hell Yea!
- ▶ More activities!
- ▶ Better Cafe food.
- ▶ Financial aid is messed up and the staff is rude.
- ▶ The hot water only stays on for five minutes.
- ▶ The food in the cafe is terrible.
- ▶ We need better food options.
- ▶ Columbus state police need help.
- ▶ Tickets are ridiculous.
- ▶ People need better personalities.
- ▶ Too many parking fees and a total lack of parking.
- ▶ Bring starbucks on campus!
- ▶ Athletic weight room is too small.
- ▶ More food in the express food area.
- ▶ More games in the lounges.
- ▶ Longer hours for food at night.
- ▶ More food options.
- ▶ Parking permits.
- ▶ Financial aid needs help.
- ▶ Chick-fil-A open on Saturdays.
- ▶ We need better food.
- ▶ Our dorms are trash.
- ▶ Better employees at Chick-fil-A and subway.
- ▶ I shouldn't HAVE to be in class if I am paying to be here. Attendance shouldn't be mandatory.
- ▶ Parking is serious problem.
- ▶ The WIFI on the shuttles blows.



The Sacred Sand Mandala made by Tibetan monks. The piece was destroyed after it was completed.

# MONKS, MANDALAS, AND MYSTICAL ARTS OF TIBET

STORY BY VIVIAN DUNCAN

The monks of the Drepung Loseling Monastery in south India are on tour around the world and made a stop in Columbus with the purpose of promoting world peace and healing through Tibet's various sacred performances and arts. Over the course of four days, Feb. 13-17, the monks performed The Mystical Arts of Tibet and worked to create an intricate and impressive mandala of colored sand in the RiverCenter Lobby. The performance culminated in a mandala

ceremony, which took place on Feb. 17 after market day. The Mystical Arts of Tibet has received national acclaim and sold out shows all over the country. It features a unique vocal technique called multiphonic singing; traditional instruments, including ten foot long dung-chen horns; and vibrant costumes. The performance includes traditional, exotic dances, such as the Dance of the Sacred Snow Lion. The Mystical Arts of Tibet tour brought the artistry and

ancient sounds of chanting and sacred music to the heart of Columbus. The sand mandala was created as a gift to the community with the creation process being free for the public to view, and those who attended the dismantling of the mandala were given small vials of the sand to promote wellbeing in their lives. After the completion of the mandala and ceremony, those in attendance followed the monks to the steps of the Chattahoochee River to watch them disburse the

sand into the water. This part of the event was to symbolize the impermanence of life. Traditionally, Tibetan monks create sand mandalas in order to symbolize the presence of enlightened beings to help people imagine the extensive and ethereal enlightened state. The mandalas are also used as a means of meditation during the process of being built. The particular mandala featured in the Columbus presentation was the mandala of the Akshobhya Buddha.

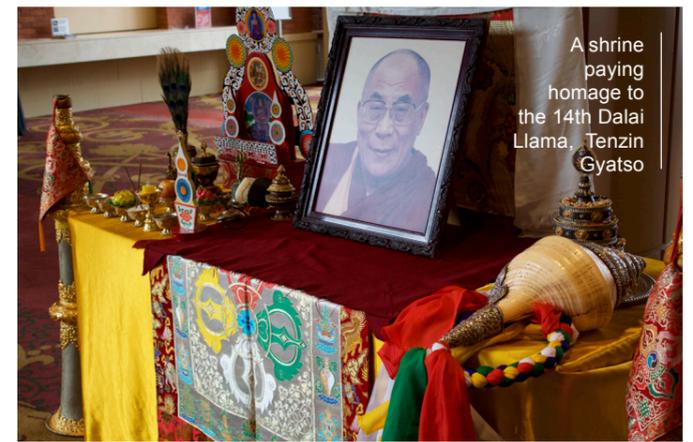
IMAGES BY VIVIAN DUNCAN AND RAYLYN RAY



An image of the completed mandala before the monks carried it to the river.



The completed mandala is returned to nature.



A shrine paying homage to the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso

SHANNA HARBUCK

“I had forgotten the tour was in town this past week. I happened to be leaving a day of meetings at the Trade Center Tuesday and was shocked to see the monks crossing the street in front of me. I never thought I’d see that here in Columbus!

I made a point to stop and photograph the progress of the mandala every day after. Beautiful!

Watching the monks construct the mandala was amazing! Having the opportunity to photograph the mandala creation, the performance and the closing ceremony was (probably) a once in a lifetime chance here in Columbus.

The costumes, especially the snow lion, were amazing! Combined with the chants and music, the performance was like nothing I’ve ever seen before. I am truly glad I decided to attend the event. Hearing about all of the hardships the monks face was also a wake-up-call; seeing these monks so upbeat and friendly, you forget the climate they’ve come from. I was grateful to be able to attend their tour, and to contribute to helping the refugee monks. Beautiful, and lovingly presented!”

TYLER HIROMS

“I was really excited about this event because of the cultural diversity. The opportunity to be in the presence of the monks and learn a bit about their traditions was an honor. The part that stood out to me the most was their focus while creating the sand mandala. Their focused, yet calm, energy seemed to evoke a sense of peace in the room. “

DYLAN NABORS

“Columbus seems to be continuously on the verge of breaking new ground as far as preserving history and uniting others from around the world. With its numerous museums, Trade and Convention Center, Civic Center, CSU and the Schwob School of Music, the Springer Theater, and the River Center, there is always something to do. I attended the ceremony because I was in town for the weekend and it was important to my friend, so we went together. I would have to say that my favorite part was the chanting. The sound that those men produced with their voices was so guttural, and that resonated within me.”

VERBATIM

ALIA TORRES

*Why did you attend the event? How did it compare to what you thought it was going to be like?*

“I attended the event after a friend told me the monks would be coming to Columbus. Honestly, I had no expectations for the blessing ceremony. That why it was so important to be there that day for me. As for the performance, I did expect to see a lot of uniformed dancing and chanting. I did not imagine there would be much music. I did not catch the performance. I hope to catch it in Savannah, GA.”

*What was the part that stood out most to you and why?*

“I wish I knew if there was a name for the point during or after chanting when the monks would play their instruments.

There were two horns that cleared way of about a note or two. Like seas being parted by will alone! Hand cymbals played to the tempo of a bouncing ball, a large drum that sounded to rain down the thunders from above or below, and a conch shell. I’ll leave that to imagination. Altogether, it sounded to me exactly like a description of life. All of the sounds jumbled powerfully together. With its rhythm, yet random-startling and still joyous. It could have been a funeral march, the celebration of birth, or a war call. If you had never heard it, I imagine the sound would have resonated to an individual based on where they were in life. The ceremony the monks performed somehow also was exhibited in this unanimous sound.”

*What knowledge, experience, or feeling did you leave the event with?*

“The art of surrendering. Sinking into your surroundings. Slowing what is to.

Everything about it. It has been my theme this year, and it’s a practice. I’m going to see the Monks again in Savannah in hopes to learn more along these lines. It was the best experience this year.”

*What are your general thoughts/feelings about the event?*

“ It’s difficult to put into words the display of patience, the radiance of color, and the reactions of the audience around us. To say that something is difficult to share or explain is exhausting. The experience overall shows that nothing is permanent--we must do what we can, and in everything that is beautiful and vibrant. We, like pebbles of sand in a river, once painted as one beautiful image--just as water is our universal life force. As random and rhythmic the vibrations of sound emitted from the entire experience could have been, the ceremony itself is the perfect display of life.”



A monk meticulously adds colors to the piece using the chak-pur.

# ART STUDENT WINS GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES AWARD

*Christofer Gass went above and beyond with his work on the "Common Grounds" exhibition*

BY IVEY MILAM

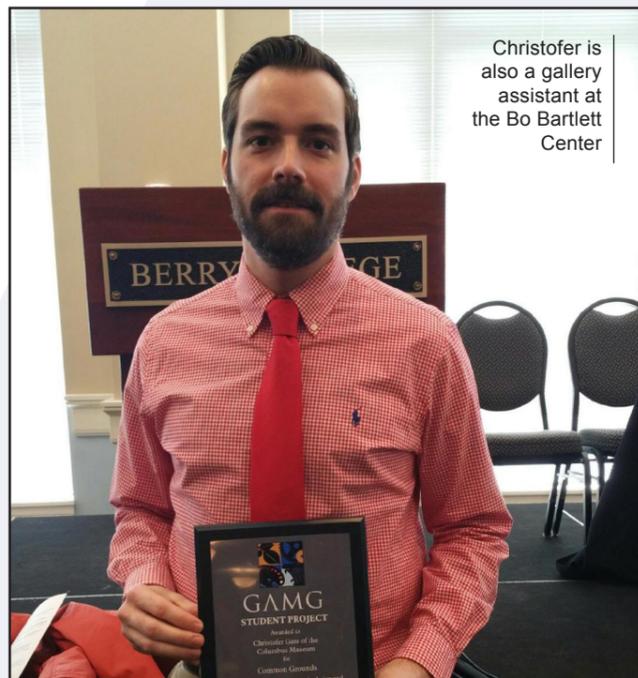
Christofer Gass, a senior majoring in art history and minoring in geography, received the Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Award on Jan. 19, 2018 for his work on the Columbus Museum's "Common Grounds" exhibition.

"Common Grounds," which was in the Yarbrough Gallery from July 1 to Nov. 5 of 2017, was an exhibit aimed toward "telling visitors about Columbus's commons areas, specifically the South Commons," Gass said. A common is a piece of land that is shared by all members of a community. "It was for the common good of the community," Gass said before he pointed out that the only commons left in Columbus are the South Commons.

When Golden Park in the South Commons went up for sale, an entrepreneur planned to purchase it in the hopes of building a casino. In response, Friends of South Commons, wrote an editorial in order to sway the people's opinion in favor of keeping the area free of such construction. Friends of South Commons is a group that, according to Gass, "formed to change the property of the South Commons to keep with the changing times, but to continue its rich history of offering relaxation and green space that it has been offering since Columbus' founding." Rebecca Bush, exhibitions manager and curator for history at the Columbus Museum, acted to further the influence of the Friends of South Commons by designing the "Common Grounds" project. This presented a spread of information and artifacts relating to the South Commons in addition to two surveys that gauged what the public thought and what they wanted to do with the space.

Gass served as lead curator for the exhibition. "Everyone has different interests, so everyone has a different dialogue on the walls, and I wanted to be a part of that conversation," said Gass. His tasks included conducting thorough research on Columbus, particularly its commons, by reading newspapers and examining artifacts such as historical maps and photographs. "I did a lot of research...I was also digging around in archives a lot," Gass said. "I went through a hundred years of newspapers, up to the 1900s."

Through his research, Gass discovered that the South Commons had once had a "pest house," the first hospital built in the commons, and that the North Commons frequently held baseball games and military marches. "I was trying to create a picture because there's not really any books in the library that focus on the commons



Christofer is also a gallery assistant at the Bo Bartlett Center

during that time period," Gass said. "I wanted to create a kind of snapshot of the past with this exhibition." As for the artifacts, Gass chose historical photographs and maps as well as an old traffic light and a conductor's suit.

Along with his efforts with the exhibition (and with composing the exhibition guide), Gass carried out a data analysis for two surveys that were available to visitors. The surveys were made to determine what aspects of the South Commons people desired to see. "We had architectural renderings of prospective infrastructure," Gass said. Six different renditions were shown with a satellite image of the South Commons. The entire creation process for the exhibit lasted from early January until July of 2017.

"Common Grounds" was not Gass's first exhibition. In fact, his very first exhibition, "A River Runs Through It: Preserving Progress Along the Chattahoochee," was what garnered attention from Rebecca Bush and earned him an internship position at the Columbus Museum. "A River Runs Through It," which was set up in the Gallery of the Schwob Memorial Library during fall of 2016, featured the four downtown Columbus State University buildings. Not only does Gass assemble exhibits, but he also photographs shotgun homes in the south, which he started doing in winter of 2017. "We don't have shotgun homes up there [in New York]. I was curious, amazed. I thought they were neat," Gass said. Additionally, he photographs people and monuments and has begun documenting memorial highways.

When asked what sparked his interest in art history and geography, Gass explained that he had traveled Europe during his time in the U.S. Navy. "I would get lost in [Europe's] architecture, their monuments...the museums," he said. "I really love traveling and just how a few hundred miles or a couple miles or countries away that there would be differences in the culture, the landscape—it just fascinated me." Gass then continued by describing his experience of interning at the museum as "exceptionally moving." "It gave me a great taste of what I would definitely want to experience as a career," said Gass, whose intended career goal is to be a museum curator in a major city like New York City.

For now, Gass is eager to start more exhibitions and to improve his old ones. "I feel like there's always more that could be done," he said.

## CSU TO HOST TOWER DAY APRIL 12

BY BRIANA WILLIAMS

Every year Columbus State University hosts Tower Day, which celebrates undergraduate research and creative scholarship in mid-April. Undergraduates are invited to showcase their scholarships, which are judged by students and faculty to be selected for scholarship awards. This year, Tower Day is on April 12 at Davidson Student Center.

Tower Day begins with a series of events, including Quality Enhancement Plan workshops, presentations, art exhibitions, Spring Annual Gaming Expo, and performances. CSU students help organize Tower Day, review submissions, volunteer and judge the project presentations.

"Tower Day prepares students to pursue research professionally, teaches invaluable skills like critical thinking, persistence, creative problem-solving and inspires interdisciplinary projects," said art professor Hannah Israel, a director of Tower Day. Israel recommends that students take advantage of other opportunities presented.



There are numerous benefits for undergraduate students who get involved in research, performance, and creative endeavors. The Tower Day experience helps undergraduates learn to balance collaborative and individual work, determine an area of interest, and jump-start their career paths.

"We want Tower Day to empower students to make an impact beyond the classroom," said Israel. "Exposure to undergraduate research and creative endeavors help students discover their passion for research and continue on to graduate studies and other career paths." Andrea Dorbu, the student director of Tower Day who presented in last spring's event, expressed gratitude for the opportunity. "It was exciting to share my research with people and also witness my hard work come full circle," she said.

In addition to presenting, students can participate as a volunteer and help put the event together. Any student looking to gain a valuable experience and gain volunteer

hours can contact Dorbu via email at dorbu\_andrea@columbusstate.edu.

"Whether participation comes from being a presenter, volunteer, or simply stopping by the event to engage with students about their research, all participation in the event is welcome," Dorbu said.

One student who is looking forward to supporting CSU's Tower Day is sophomore communications major Miranda Floyd. Floyd heard about the event from her fellow classmates who are interested in the event as a whole. "This will be my first time going," Floyd said. "I've heard a lot of good things from my friends." Floyd added that she will consider participating and expressed that Tower Day is a good way to be academically involved on campus.

For students looking to present at this year's Tower Day, please contact Israel or simply head to CSU's website to get information, guidelines, and the forms you need in order to participate in this special event.

## FROM HONDURAS TO AMERICA

*Student perspective: what's it like studying abroad at Columbus State University?*

STORY AND PHOTO  
BY HAYLEY MAINE

130

NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES ENROLLED IN FALL SEMESTER 2017



Columbus State University is home to numerous international students from a wide variety of backgrounds. The Saber asked three Honduran International Students, Flavio Rápalo, Aldo Castro, and Harold Villa, about their experience as an international student at Columbus State University.

When asked where they were from and what their majors are, all three had the same answer: "Honduras, and Music." When asked why they chose Columbus State University, Harold and Flavio had similar answers. "The good faculty at

Schwob, and the good community here is what made me come here. Along with the location and infrastructure."

Aldo added that all three were given full tuition scholarships for their Music degrees at Columbus State University. The three are Music majors, specifying in Trumpet, Bassoon, and Percussion.

Flavio, Aldo, and Harold also told The Saber that there was little opportunity for music careers in Honduras, but at Columbus State University there was a huge focus they could explore.

"Honduras has one national university,

and it doesn't have music," said Castro. There is one national University in Honduras, and it doesn't have Music as a degree path. The classrooms here are also in better condition than those in Honduras.

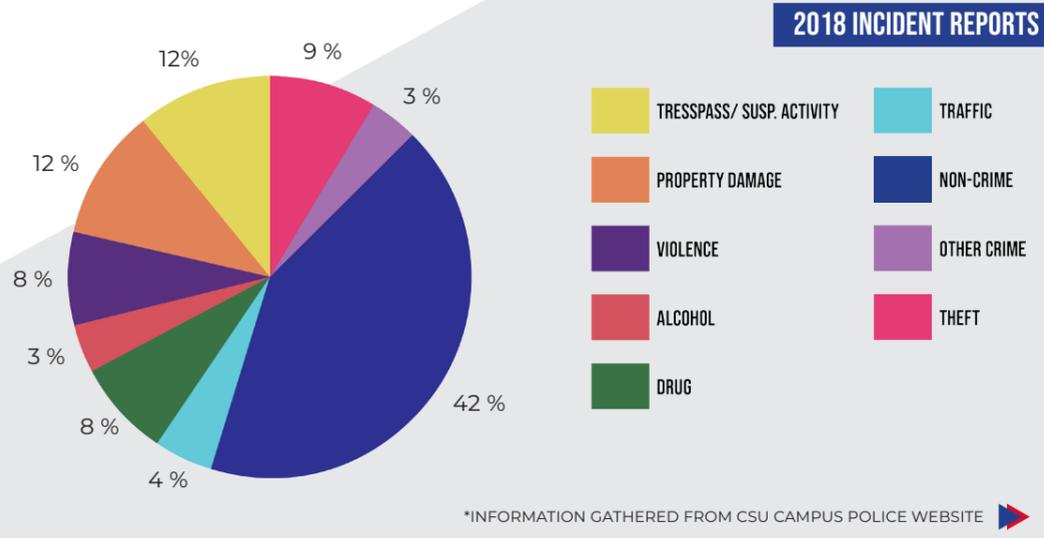
When asked what they enjoyed most about Columbus, they all agreed downtown was their favorite. Aldo added, "It's peaceful. It's a peaceful community and not noisy." Harold agreed, "I enjoy the kind people." Flavio, Aldo, and Harold are all first time study abroad students. "Honduras has one national university, and it doesn't have music," said Castro.

# IS THE CSU POLICE FORCE STRETCHED THIN?

CSU Police address students' concerns about RiverPark safety

104

AS OF JAN. 1, THERE HAVE BEEN 104 INCIDENT REPORTS RECORDED ON THE CAMPUS POLICE ACTIVITY LOG.



STORY BY VIVIAN DUNCAN

Columbus State University police have two locations: one on main campus next to the Elizabeth Bradley Turner Center, and the other on the downtown RiverPark campus next to Samurai Japanese restaurant. Being located in such a public area rather than on a closed campus has brought about public concern that the CSU police downtown must divide their time and attention between school matters and city issues.

Although there are two major locations across the city, the CSU Police Department is one entity. The department is currently composed of 27 sworn law enforcement officers, as well as support staff and non-sworn campus safety officers. Depending on what events are happening that day and what resources need to be allocated, the workforce is divided based on need. According to the department, they may have more officers on duty at main campus due to an event, or other need, but they remain flexible and can send more officers to RiverPark if needed.

Additionally, officers typically rotate campuses every other day. The patrol staff work twelve-hour shifts from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and there are officers on duty 24/7 on both campuses. Lieutenant Jeremy Stanelle is the police department's primary criminal investigator.

**WHEN IT COMES TO URGENT MATTERS, SEVERAL STUDENTS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN AS TO HOW QUICKLY THE POLICE ARRIVE**

"Even when the institution is closed, we are still here. Our main campus office is always open, and the downtown office is more during business hours. Ideally, the office is going to be open during the week for business hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.," Stanelle said. "It being a secondary location, the door may not be open 24/7,

and there may not be someone staffing the office, but there are still police officers, and if a student calls, someone will answer that phone at any time of the day."

During a verbal poll taken from downtown campus, there were several reports of a job-well-done when students were locked out of their car or stranded with a dead battery. "[The police] are amazing! One time I was locked out of my car, and a policeman came and helped me get back in, and we had the most enjoyable conversation," freshman Jaime Hall said. "He was so calm, and kind, and comforting, talking about how it happens to everyone." Student Macy Frazier also had a good experience when locked out of her car. "[The police officer] talked about how they don't teach you how to break into cars at the police academy, but that was a large part of his job here," said Frazier. "Love our policemen!"

But when it comes to urgent matters, several students have expressed some concern as to how quickly the police



will arrive. "The RiverPark police seem to be good with car troubles, but I don't ever see them. If you hit the emergency button in the parking garage for an actual emergency, you are going to die," one student said from experience with one of the blue call boxes. "They take forever just to get there."

In another case, a student had to wait for a police assistance because the officer had to go handle a fight that occurred in the public parking deck. "I waited out behind Rankin for close to two hours and had to call again to get someone out. But other than that, they've always been really helpful," said senior Isaac Morales. He went on to explain how his positive experience with the CSUPD far outweighs that singular negative experience. "One officer jumped my car twice when it broke down back in September," Morales said. "He followed me all the way back to courtyard to make sure I could make it all the way there. It's a good thing too, because it broke down again."

Lieutenant Stanelle, who has been a police officer with CSU for 12 years, addressed the concern by explaining just how adept the police force is on campus and how they operate. He explained how

there are about 54 blue-light police call boxes between the two campuses. When they were initially set up, they were put in areas that were a little less traveled to provide easy, two-way communication with police forces if an individual did not have mobile communications in an emergency. "Ideally, those are for emergency situations, but we do have folks calling in for other assistance because they are a readily-identifiable beacon and way to get help, whether or not it's an emergency," said Stanelle.

When it comes to emergencies that occur away from one of the call boxes, Stanelle advised, "CSU Police is heavily involved in social media, but we always encourage students that those accounts are not necessarily monitored 24/7; so, in an emergency situation, please don't send me a tweet because we may not get it at that moment. If people are in need of emergency assistance, we definitely recommend picking up the phone and calling in order to allow for that feedback loop for us. We can ask additional questions and make sure that we are allocating the appropriate resources."

As for balancing between local and campus matters downtown, Stanelle

explained how campus police officers in the state of Georgia have to go through the same police academy that all other municipal or county police officers go through, meaning that all campus police are certified state officers.

Currently, Georgia law provides a statutory jurisdiction of 500 yards from any property owned by the University or the University System of Georgia. "So, do we wind up involving ourselves in other local matters? We can," Stanelle said. "Obviously with that jurisdiction and authority, if something happens where we are, we don't want to overlook any incidents. Being law enforcement, our officers will address any type of issues that are observed."

"I don't believe this takes away from our students because, in general, Columbus is CSU and CSU is Columbus, especially with the RiverPark campus," Stanelle said in response to the students' concerns. "If we have ample resources to go ahead and work an incident, it is at discretion of the supervisors as to whether or not we are involved in that. It's not in any form or fashion going to take away from our ability to respond to campus related matters."

# AN AFTERNOON OF SPIRITUALS

*A Schwob Performance by Earl Coleman and Vocal Studio*



PHOTO: SCHOWB SCHOOL OF MUSIC

BY BRIANA WILLIAMS

Family members, students, and supporting patrons of the Schwob School of the Arts gathered in the RiverCenter to enjoy a performance from professor Earl Coleman and his vocal studio. The theme of the recital, selected by Coleman, was spirituals. The recital was split into three sections, each beginning with Coleman introducing the history of spirituals and how they brought hope to individuals in times of desperation.

Before the performance, Coleman and four of his students sat down to discuss the recital and what it is like to be a student in such an advanced music prep school. Coleman holds his students to high standards, regardless of age or year. When picking a piece for a student, he wants to challenge them to reach their full potential. He takes pride in his students, stating, “You see the growth each year from the beginning to the end.”

After singing the final note in “O, What a Beautiful City,” Olivia McWaters bowed to a room filled with applause. As she turned to go back to her seat, she was stopped as Coleman tells his “first victim” to come back to the spotlight. This was the first of a

few mid-recital critiques that Coleman will do for the benefit of his students. Coleman has years of experience performing, teaching, and putting on excellent recitals. Unlike other performances from Schwob, Coleman not only uses the recitals to give his students performance experience, but he selects students to help on stage after their pieces. Coleman helps his students by listing what about the performance could be corrected. From how to work on volume to how to move to your music, Coleman explains it all to the audience and his student.

McWaters, a junior music education major, was not phased by the onstage critique. She finds the impromptu critique session helpful. McWaters states, “It’s nerve wracking, but it blurs the line between the audience and the performer ... There is a deeper connection.” Senior Nicklaus White agreed “Being vulnerable is a very hard thing in front of strangers,” White said. “It’s one thing that I’ve learned to accept. You have to be vulnerable and put your feelings on stage so that it does blur the line even more.”

McWaters and White’s words were true, as the singers did not skip a beat after Coleman helped a few selected students. The audience listened closely as Coleman helped his students sing comfortably and move to the rhythm of their piece.

The professional performers sang riveting spirituals, one after the other. All students performed with the charisma of a seasoned Broadway actor, moving to the rhythm of the spiritual and further captivating the audience. Senior Erica Humbert admitted to being nervous before the recital but revealed that once she got on stage “All of [the nerves] just go away.”

The Schwob School of Music is a conservatory bursting at the seams with talent and creativity. All of the students at Schwob are preparing to take spots in the musical performance industry. However, the students do not think of each other as enemies, but as a family.

The recital ended with the studio as a whole performing “Peace Like A River, Kum Ba Ya” directed by Coleman. The presentation was nothing short of stellar. Coleman and his studio’s hard work and effort did not go unnoticed.

# BLACK PANTHER: THE HERO BLACK AMERICA NEEDED

SPOILERS!!

“THE BLACK HERO WOULD NO LONGER BE TAKING A BACK SEAT”

STORY BY  
JAVERE JOHNSON  
ILLUSTRATION BY  
DARRELL HARRIS

Representation is important. Thirty years ago G.I. Joe action figures were predominantly white, and if someone says “Barbie,” the first image that probably comes to mind is that of a white, blonde-haired, skinny doll. When it comes to superheroes, white boys have had everyone from Batman to Wolverine to admire. White girls have even had Wonder Woman. Sure there have been plenty of black heroes, but more emphasis has always been placed on white heroes. Never has a hero of color been given the main stage until Black Panther.

“Black Panther” is another amazing film out of Marvel Studios. The company that had hit the box office last year with “Thor: Ragnarok,” “Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 2,” and “Spider-Man: Homecoming” started off strong this year with “Black Panther.” Breaking records before the movie even hit theaters, this was more than just another highly anticipated production from Marvel. This movie has to do with culture.

Ignoring the historical context behind the name Black Panther, it is clear the movie is racially charged. The predominantly black cast, which features only two white characters, suggests that



African culture and tradition are at the forefront of this movie, and that there had been little room from the outside influence of European culture. As mentioned before, the black hero would no longer be taking a backseat. Also important to note is the development and origin of these characters.

Every hero movie has a relatable factor. Peter Parker was just a nerd from New York before he became Spider-Man. Before the Captain got his shield, he was Steve Rogers, a kid too skinny to even join the army. Killmonger was a poor, black kid from Oakland. Even if he was a villain, this kind of representation not only shows black kids that they too can have the power to fight the Black Panther, but that what they can do with that power is up to them. This movie is instrumental in deconstructing the stereotypes about black culture. “Black Panther” tells the black community that they can be themselves and still achieve

greatness. They do not have to conform to be what society wants. They do not need to have straight hair, or talk a certain way to be accepted. Wakanda is a place free from the colonizers’ influence. Wakanda and its people are great without the help of the “white man” and that is one of the underlying messages of this film. The black community is capable of achieving greatness with their own resources and ideas.

“Black Panther” really takes a look at what it means to be black and free. An African nation, real or fictional, has never been portrayed as independent or stable—that is why this movie is so important. For too long the narrative has been that white people are needed to help people of color achieve their full potential; that white colonizers provided opportunities to minorities and they should be grateful. This film, however, explores the concept of what happens when they are left alone.

# STEP **AFRIKA!**

*World-reknown dance troupe  
shows CSU how to step*



A dancer performs "Stepping" accompanied by two drummers



IMAGES BY AMBRIA MORRIS

BY MARIAH JACKSON

**O**n Monday, February 26, the Student Activities Council invited “Step Afrika!” to host a step-show in the University Hall auditorium. The show started at 7:30 p.m. Before the first show, the performers hosted a step workshop where students learned step moves and received a workout.

“The workout was very fun, very interactive, and very energetic. They were very helpful with being patient with us...” said Brianna Manuel from Alpha Kappa Alpha.

At the beginning of the show, the dancers defined “stepping” for their audience. Their website describes stepping as, “... a rising art form and an important part of America’s artistic and cultural language.” It also explains, “the body is used as an instrument to create intricate rhythms and sounds through a combination of footsteps, claps and spoken word.”

The step show not only defined stepping, but taught the history behind it. Additionally, this company travels the world. Emanuel Chacon said that the company was founded in 1994 and became, as he words it, “the first professional dance teams dedicated to stepping.” Before the show on Monday, the team had been to the Middle East, and in May, they will go to Guyana.

“Step Afrika!” is an organization filled with members of the black and latino Greek sororities and fraternities. This team of steppers travel the world entertaining and teaching people about

stepping: what it is and from where it comes. The dancers invited a couple of our students on stage and taught them a sequence of step dances. “March,” “Around the World Clap,” and “Blades” were the techniques. Marching is done by stomping your feet like a soldier and bending over. With this movement, they rolled their fist one after the other. The “Around the World Clap” is done by reaching your hands above your head and spreading them out around for your hands to meet behind your back. Lastly, the “Blades” are done by holding your arms straight across your chest with your hands open making blades, then you switch from side to side.

They also taught some commands, which are “Attention” and “Brothers and Sisters.” Among the students on stage, there were Yania Myers, a modern and classical languages major; Derrick Reed, a brother from the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, and Jerry Cowell, a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

During the show, the dancers taught the audience about past working conditions in Africa. The working conditions for miners were dangerous; oftentimes, they would travel a long way from home, so they wouldn’t speak the same language. They would use their boots to communicate. This became known as the “Gumboot Dance.” After they taught the audience the history, they performed the dance with a skit. They used



boots to tell each other when the supervisor, portrayed by Evans, was coming, and the guys performed a manly gumboot dance to impress a lady--all while maintaining a deep South African accent.

The dancers that appeared on stage were Emanuel “Manny” Chacon of the Lambda Sigma Upsilon Latino Fraternity, Matthew Evans of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Kiera Harley of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Jabari Jones of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Olabode “Buddie” Oladeinde of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity,



and Anesia Sandifer of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. “It is the first professional dance company dedicated to the art of stepping,” Chacon said. “It is also rated the top 10 African-American known dance companies in the U.S.”

“I had a great time, the energy was high, the step wasn’t too hard. I definitely enjoyed myself!” said Myers after the show. “It was exciting for me as a black man to learn more about my roots,” Cowell said. “Being up on stage was very fun,” added Reed. “I would love to see a show like this again.”



Students participated in a STEP workshop to learn some of the moves

# CSU GRADUATE REACHES FOR THE STARS AND ANTARCTICA

CSU graduate John Hood set to leave for giant ice desert



The South Pole Observatory located at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station, Antarctica.

PHOTO CREDIT: DANIEL LUONG-VAN, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

BY COLE TRAHAN

On March 8, Vanderbilt University doctoral candidate John Hood delivered a presentation on his astronomy research in Jordan Hall. The free event was hosted by the Earth and Space Science department. His presentation was on research he did for his master's thesis in order to find "variabilities in brightness of Fermi-bright blazars."

Hood has a strong passion for both astronomy and engineering. "I was always interested in space and what was out there since I was a kid, but it wasn't until I was in the sixth grade and went on a class field trip the Coca Cola Space Science Center where I would say the fire was finally lit to go from an interest to a passion," Hood said. "I can still remember manning the science station in the Challenger Learning Center and how much fun it was going from the "space station" to "mission control" after taking the blame for guiding the station into a meteor shower."

Hood graduated from CSU in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree in astrophysics and planetary geology and with minors in physics and geology. He spent four years as a student observer and

one year as an observatory technician at the CCSSC observatory before entering grad school. "I would just really like to thank the faculty of the CCSSC for helping me to get to where I am today," Hood said. "They have been like family to me, pushing me to new heights since I started working with them."

Hood will be working with the transition-edge sensor bolometer technologies used in the South Pole Telescope, located there to take advantage of the dry atmosphere. "The South Pole Telescope or SPT is a radio telescope that was designed to observe the cosmic microwave background or CMB, dark energy, and galaxy clusters," Hood said. "As for why I chose a project that would send me to there, it's due to the incredible opportunities that the SPT group has to offer as far as work experiences and postdoctoral opportunities." Hood added, "I am extremely excited about being able to conduct research in Antarctica. It's one of those places that I believe everyone wants to go to at least once, and I'll get to spend at least two months there doing research. Hopefully, I will get to hang out with some penguins while I'm there, too!"

## TEN TIPS FOR THE BREAK

Helpful safety tips for Spring Break 2018



ILLUSTRATION BY ASHLEY PETERSON

BY HAYLEY MAINE

### NEVER LEAVE YOUR DRINK UNATTENDED

Never leave your drink unattended, or be sure to make your own. If you're out at a bar, have it poured in front of you.

### WEAR SUNSCREEN

Wear sunscreen. Your skin will thank you.

### HYDRATE

Hydrate. Water is a necessity in any situation, but especially when exposed to the sun for hours at a time.

### EMERGENCY FIRST-AID PACK

Fill it with things like band aids, aspirin, condoms, hair-ties, Chapstick, miniature sunscreen bottles, and alcohol pads.

### USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM

Use the buddy system. Not only will you have make memories with your friends, but you'll all be safer in a group.

### KEEP IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

This can include friends' numbers, taxi companies in the area, and your hotel address.

### DRINK SAFELY

Drink safely. If you're in a group, take turns on who will be sober that night to look out for everyone.

### CARRY A SMALL PROTECTION DEVICE

Carry a small protection device like pepper spray or a personal alarm.

### STAY ALERT

If you use Uber or Lyft, double check that the license plate on the car and the photo matches the ones provided by your driver's profile.

### HAVE FUN!

Have fun, make memories, and stay safe.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS?

## WHY DOESN'T MY SCHOOL OFFER THAT?

Maybe we do... Segment One in a (hopeful) series

BY MARS LAURIAULT

You've probably read, shared, or at least scrolled past the headline of an article featuring some radically awesome and interesting class, and you probably wondered, "Why doesn't MY school have anything like this?" The truth is, Columbus State University does offer modern, hands-on, intriguing, and downright cool classes; you might just be looking in the wrong places.

"Interactive Media Production" --what does that even mean, and to what major at CSU could that possibly apply? Interactive Media Production is a general requirement for all communications majors. As described on the CSU website, this class is designed to "introduce students to digital media production and communication in the context of comprehensive communication campaigns, focusing on the use of design, production, and delivery of multimedia communication in publishing, broadcasting, public relations and advertising."

This is totally fine and dandy, but what's so great about it, and what does it mean? In this course, you create a YouTube channel, design segments or episodes for your channel, produce and record said episodes, and are finally graded on your views, likes, comments, and followers. Students across the nation use YouTube as a social media platform, making channels and videos for literally anything and everything; not only does this class sound fun and relevant, but it can help you understand how to use social media to market or gather user information to better a product or service.

I talked to Ashanti Jeff-Mapp --a junior and communications major-- about her experience taking this course. When I asked her how she enjoyed this class and what she took out of it, she said, "I loved being able to film creatively as I pleased. My video editing skills are also a lot better." She added, "I never used a camera in that class. I filmed most videos on my phone, and the professors teach you that- that it's not the camera that determines how good your video is going to be. It depends on you and how you film."

Filming equipment is also provided for students. At the Nonprofit and Civic Engagement Center, located in the Carpenters Hall of the RiverPark campus, you can rent 4k cameras, tripods, microphone equipment and the like. Several editing programs are available on the Macs provided in Dillingham Place, also located on the RiverPark campus. This course does come with a prerequisite requirement though, so make sure you complete an Area F communications course before trying to get in on this one!

Are you taking or have you taken a dope class at CSU? Email me at [lauriault\\_maria@columbusstate.edu](mailto:lauriault_maria@columbusstate.edu) and tell me more!



Columbus State University

# TOWER DAY April 12

Celebrate Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors at CSU Colloquium/

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Aisha Adams  
Kim Crowell, Alumna '12

Scholarship Presentations

Poster Sessions

Art Exhibition

Concurrent Research Presentations

QEP Real-World Problem-Solving Presentations  
SAGE/ Spring Annual and Game Expo

Professional Practice Workshop

Sponsored by the TSYS School of Computer Science

Performances and Awards Presentations



## *Kites in a Hurricane*

CSU Department of Art Faculty Exhibition

Curated by Tad Mike and Jonathan Walz

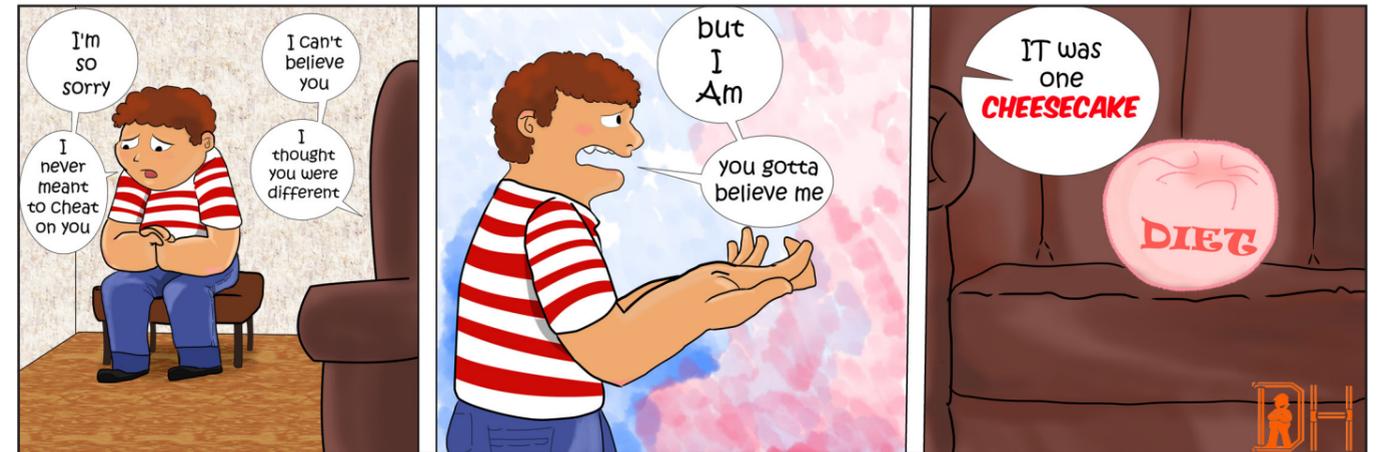
Illges Gallery  
Corn Center for the Visual Arts  
921 Front Avenue

Join us for the exhibition reception  
Tuesday, March 13 at 5:30 pm

Exhibition is on view till April 14



Orion Wertz  
Elizabeth McFalls  
Michael McFalls  
Hannah Israel  
Nicholas McMillan  
Yuichiro Komatsu  
Joe Sanders  
Rylan Steele




Use this voucher for  
**25% OFF**  
your entire order at menu price!  
\*OFFER EXPIRES APRIL 20, 2018

Exclusively for students, faculty and friends of our CSU Family.  
**We Deliver!!!**  
Order Online at [Marcos.com](http://Marcos.com)

# COUGAR *Copy* CENTER

DAVIDSON STUDENT CENTER, 1ST FLOOR  
COUGARCOPYCENTER@COLUMBUSSTATE.EDU  
P: 706.507.8630 | F: 706.507.8262

*We are a full-service student copy center dedicated to meeting the printing needs of students and student organizations at affordable prices. Our staff is committed to providing excellent customer service and are ready to assist you. Whether big or small, come see us for your next project!*



COLUMBUS STATE  
UNIVERSITY

BLACK & COLOR COPIES • FAXES • LAMINATION  
SCANNING • BUSINESS CARDS • POSTERS  
BANNERS • RESUMES • BROCHURES • INVITES  
ANNOUNCEMENTS • THESIS PRINTING  
FLYERS • HANDOUTS • TICKETS  
ADDRESSING • PROGRAMS • AND MORE!

[WWW.COLUMBUSSTATE.EDU/PRINTSHOP](http://WWW.COLUMBUSSTATE.EDU/PRINTSHOP)

*Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!*