Community comes together for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Allegre Taylor
News Editor

Last Monday, Lawrence partnered with the nonprofit Celebrate Diversity Fox Cities to hold a service in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The two-hour long celebration, titled “Refusing to be a Bystander to Racism and Injustice,” featured several speakers from Lawrence and the Appleton community. The keynote address was given by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Leonard Pitts.

Many local leaders attended the event, including Mayor Tim Hanna, Representative Amanda Plummer of the 54th Assembly District, Mayor Tim Hanna, and Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson.

After a few brief words from President Mark Burstein, Diverse & Resilient Statewide LGBTQ+ Anti-Violence Program Coordinator Kathy Flores took the podium to acknowledge the nominees for the 2017 Martin Luther King Jr. Educator Awards. Among the nominees for the award was Lawrence’s own: Jill Stuck and Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson.

Ongiri shared a few words on the recent presidential election and the future of the country. “In an era where our incoming president is intent on building walls to separate us it is worth repeating that this country was built by the children of those immigrants and slaves,” she said.

Next on the program was the presentation of the 2017 Jane LaChapelle McCarty MLK Award. It was awarded to Sarah Lang-Radloff. As a board member of Loaves and Fishes, the Salvation Army and Rawhide, Long-Radloff is an active member of the Fox Cities community and has been for the past 40 years.

In her speech, she spoke about the importance of active involvement in the fight for equality. “You don’t have to search for an opportunity; opportunities abound,” she said. “By refusing to be a bystander to racism and injustice, you can make a difference in the world.”

To introduce the winners of the 2017 MLK Essay Contest, St. Norbert Associate Professor of Education and Director of Student Teaching Alfrida Abreu and Phil Delano-Iori, Ph.D., was welcomed to the stage. The essay contest winners, four elementary and high school students from local schools, read their essays on the topics of racism and injustice.

A fire had started deep down in my core that I was not about to put out. The only way to stop racism along with ignorance is to educate people,” Appleton North High School freshman Kala Lones spoke. “Unfortunately, most people seem to be deaf when it comes to the voices of the oppressed.” At the end of the last essay, the students were rewarded with an enthusiastic standing ovation.

The keynote speaker, Leonard Pitts, was introduced by Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion Kimberly Barrett, Ph.D. “Good evening, Appleton. I’d like to thank you all for sliding by tonight,” Pitts began with a quip about the icy weather. He quickly turned to the serious matter of how to combat racism and injustice. In a fitting tribute for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Pitts’ address was punctuated with King’s own words. Pitts emphasized the fact that King’s dream from his most famous speech was not something that would come about by itself in the far future, but relied on real change made by real people.

“We have been while I have had a dream-ing, the American justice system has created a new Jim Crow,” Pitts said. “If you want to make the dream for Martin Luther King smile, you realize that ‘I have a dream’ is not about what might happen in the sweet by-and-by but about what we have to make happen here and now.”

Pitts also spoke of the dangers of historical erasure, calling communities to action in the Memorial Chapel.

LUCC Executive Elections: Debate and Results

Mina Seo
For the Lawrentian

At 3 p.m. on Jan. 14 in the Mead Witter room, the 2017 LUCC Executive Election Debate provided candidates an outlet for discussion. Junior Lewis Berger and Dan Thomas-Commins ran for the presidency, and junior Naomi Oster was the only candidate for Vice President.

Berger is a co-chair of the LUCC Athletics Conservatory Engagement Committee, is the Fair Housing Program Coordinator at the Volunteer and Community Service Center, is the student representative for the Class of 2018 as well as on the development committee both for the LUAA Board of Directors, is a MARS member and has helped be a CODA facilitator. In pursuing to fulfill the position of LUCC President, he hopes to channel his experience in both organizing and directing on-campus programs into improving the campus.

“I will use the position as president to push for effective change in the issues I am most passionate about: social justice, community engagement and inclusion,” Berger emphasized. He also reminded the Lawrentian readers to “discuss the election, discuss the candidates and discuss the ideas with fellow Lawrentians before voting.”

Thomas-Commins highlighted his passion for this election. He is the Vice President of GLOW, is Chair of the Residence Life Committee, and is involved in the Student Welfare Committee, CODA, MARS and SAASHA. He is engaged in diverse activities closely related to achieving social justice on campus.

While he acknowledged that “every candidate believes in the values of social justice and inclusion,” Thomas-Commins emphasized his specific want to “bring the fight to the obstacles in our way of achieving our vision.” He also expressed his trust in his friends and colleagues for “take[ing] this fight with [him] to the presidency.”

Junior Naomi Oster similarly remained enthusiastic about the opportunities and challenges associated with the vice presidency. She is the vice-chair of SAASHA, is a student representative on SHARE, is a MARS member and participates in CODA meetings. She equally believes in the values of social justice and inclusion of every student on campus and presented her specific goals to maintain those core values.

Harrison Barber and Bernard Lilly, moderators and juniors, introduced several questions regarding transparency, community engagement, Lawrence culture and student involvement. During the debate, the candidates stressed the values of social justice and inclusion. Berger and Thomas-Commins revealed their hopeful ambitions of making everyone’s voice be heard. Oster also spoke of the dangers of historical erasure, calling communities to action in the Memorial Chapel.

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Germany
Bjoern Hoecke, a prominent member of the nationalist Alternative for Germany right-wing political party, wants to put an end to the country’s tradition of acknowledging its Nazi past. Hoecke claims that the memorial in Berlin in remembrance of the millions of Jews killed in the Holocaust is a “monument to shame,” calling on Germany to adopt a more positive attitude toward its past.

Nigeria
A Nigerian Air Force fighter jet mistakenly bombed a refugee camp on Tuesday. The pilot had been on a mission against Boko Haram extremists. Major General Lucky Irabor confirmed the accidental attack, saying that “some” civilians were killed. There were over 100 refugee and aid worker fatalities, and over 200 people were wounded.

China
The partial collapse of a Beijing coal mine left nine people dead on Tuesday morning. They were doing maintenance work at the time. The cause of the accident is still under investigation. In 2014, 931 accidental coal mine deaths were reported in China. The country may rely heavily on its coal production, but its mining industry has long been one of the deadliest in the world.

Saudi Arabia
The highest-ranking cleric in Saudi Arabia, Grand Mutawir died. Al-Sheikh, has called for a ban on movies and music. He claims that cinemas and concerts encourage a “mixing of the sexes” and that films and music contain atheist and immoral values that pose a threat to the country’s culture. Saudi Arabia also does not allow alcohol, women to drive without a permit from their male guardian or the mixing of different sexes in public.

Standing Rock Student Activism On Campus

Tina Czaplinek
Staff Writer

Since April and through the beginning of December 2016, thousands of indigenous people protested in North Dakota against the access pipeline that was going to cross sacred burial grounds and the main water source for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

The pipeline is meant to increase domestic crude oil production in the United States, while protecting landowners, interests and local environment, according to dakotapipelinefacts.com.

Members of Lawrence community wanted to show their outrage for the pipeline by organizing an on-campus protest during Senator Tim Kaine’s visit. This involved chanting the school song with the phrase “Hillary Clinton doesn’t give a f*** about native people.”

“I unfortunately was in class during the on-campus demonstration,” said junior and vice president of Lawrence University Native American Organization (LJNA) Lauren McElvaster-Davis. “I always want to participate in peaceful displays of my beliefs, and I wish I could have been there to support fellow Lawrentians and stand with Standing Rock. I personally feel that how the Dakota Access Pipeline has been planned and how it is going to affect native populations is unjust and environmentally, emotionally and culturally damaging.”

[The issues] really intersect with general, global climate change and protecting the water source of North America [as well as] indigenous rights and indigenous sovereignty because it is happening on a reservation and it is targeted toward the reservation, said senior Gillian Ellerhorst.

“It was nice to see a lot of the community recognizing these issues,” began junior and co-president of LJNA Sam Bader. “Now that this awareness is out, it would be great to see people advocating for indigenous issues.”

As of Dec. 4, 2016 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) announced that it will not be drilling on the Standing Rock reservation.

Federal recognition that the pipeline will not go through the original route offers a sense of relief, but a sense of uncertainty still looms.

“This [federal recognition] does not mean that [the pipeline] is not going to happen. There is a possibility that it will go somewhere else through Missouri, which is still an environmental concern and is still indigenous land. All of the land in America is indigenous land,” said Bader.

LJNA encourages all types of student involvement.

Upcoming Events
Friday, Jan. 20
-Comedian Chloé Hilliard, 9 p.m., Mead Witter Room, WCC

Saturday, Jan. 21
-Comedian Chloé Hilliard, 9 p.m., Mead Witter Room, WCC
-World Music Michigan State University, 6:30 p.m., Cloak Theater

Tuesday, Jan. 24
-MARS Discussion: Masculinity and Mental Health, 5 p.m., Diversity Center

Wednesday, Jan. 25
-Rhythmplex with Jon Mueller and Dawson Spring, 8 p.m., Exch Hurvis Studio, WCC

Thursday, Jan. 26
-At Art Noon, Wriston Art Galleries
-2020 Midwest Trivia Contest III, 2020 Midwest Trivia Contest III, 10:00-10:37 p.m.

MLK, Jr. Day
continued from page 1
America.” He criticized the recent instances of states watering down history books to paint America in a more positive light. “African American history is a story of kidnap, chains, rape, and the selling of human beings. We teach this history because this is what made us who we are. Without understanding what happened back then you cannot understand what’s happening right now.”

Pitts brought the speech to a close with a direct call to action. “Advocate, educate, participate,” he said. He pointed out that activists today have much better tools for communication than they did back in King’s day. “Offer your time, talent or treasure to those organizations fighting for what you believe. We’ve called upon to go work.”

In an interview before the service, Pitts offered advice to young people looking for action to take. “There are so many pieces to it. So figure out what’s the piece that’s closest to you. Not just closest to you in terms of concern, but closest to you in terms of what you can reach and have an impact on.”

Pitts also commented on what he believes to be the most significant thing people can learn from King’s legacy, being “the fact that he can protest.” He continued by stating, “I think that one of the things that’s happened with the millennial generation is that they have been made to feel powerless. I think people need to understand that change is possible and revolution is possible. There needs to be a mass movement of people who are sick and tired of the blatant and brazen disregard for the human rights of some of us in this country.”

Compiled by Eleanor Jerold

Adverstise to

Make your message stand out and be heard.
SCENE, Cafe. All of the tables are empty but one, its occupants are a man and a woman. They are sitting across from each other. “River” by Bishop Briggs is playing softly in the background.

KEN: I’m only dating you ironically.

SARAH: That’s fine. (She sips her cappuccino) I’m dating you for a social experiment.

KEN: (He nods) Fair enough. I think we should break up, though.

SARAH: But we work so well.

KEN looks conflicted. A waitress enters and walks to their table, her nametag reads LORRINE.

LORRINE: (Annoyed) Do you need anything else?

SARAH: You want us to leave, don’t you?

LORRINE: Well, we did close over an hour ago.

KEN looks conflicted. A waitress enters and walks to their table, her nametag reads LORRINE.

LORRINE: (Annoyed) Do you need anything else?

SARAH: You want us to leave, don’t you?

LORRINE: We still don’t.

KEN: Why is there a waitress in a coffee shop, anyway?

LORRINE: What do you mean?

SARAH: Huh, now that you mention it, it is a little odd.

KEN goes to grab the receipt. LORRINE tries to stop him.

KEN: (Accusingly) This is from Best Buy!

SARAH: You don’t even work here, do you?

LORRINE: Dang, with you two, I would have made an even $100 tonight. Oh, well. (She shakes her head, walking toward the door) Oh, yeah, you should probably leave soon. The rats like to come out after 10. See ya! (She shoots finger guns at them.)

Window Scene

Excerpts from an overactive imagination.

“Cafe”

Leigh Kronsnoble

When it is not five degrees outside with blustering wind so cold you question your need to trek to the dining hall for dinner, it is above freezing with cascading rain from above and melted slush at your feet, no winter coat quite prepared to protect you from the elements. That is the projection for this week, anyway. Winter cannot make up its mind.

It irritates me because I am a winter traditionalist of a sort. I have a narrow definition of what I think winter means as a Wisconsin native. Winter is neither too cold to be outside nor so warm that it rains. Most of all, winter is not without snow. Over the past few years however, the weather seems keen on challenging my definition of winter, with low temperatures and high temperatures seemingly falling all across the board except within the nice, comfortable range just below freezing.

This weather—which is nothing if not all over the place—reminds me a lot of how I’m feeling relative to this big, bad world: a whole lot of “all over the place.” It’s approaching midway through the academic year, my last one here at Lawrence. Come June, I have to have a plan/some semblance of a plan/a vague idea of where I will sleep at night/etc.

Seniority Report

Leigh Kronsnoble

Seniority Report

Winter Rain and Spring Thaw

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Men's and Women's Basketball play Illinois and Cornell

Last Home Swim Meet
Molly Dorenska
Staff Writer

In the thick of their competition season, Lawrence University’s men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams faced off with Illinois Institute of Technology (Illinois Tech) in a dual meet at the Boldo Natatorium on Saturday January 14. The meet was the last home competition for the teams, and was the Vikings’ last chance to keep pace with Cornell during this season, so they took some time to honor their seniors during a break in the action.

Illinois Tech won both the men’s and women’s competitions, 159-48 on the men’s side and 129-76 on the women’s side; however, the final team scores hardly tell the whole story. Both Illinois Tech’s men’s and women’s sides feature divers while neither Lawrence team has a diver, thus the Vikings essentially started out behind as they give up all dive points to their opponent. In addition, there were some strong performances and fast times for the Vikings, so things are looking up as the team heads into the final stretch of their season. “The meet went pretty well. We had a hard week of practice, so people were definitely tired, but I think that despite that there were a lot of really good swims which is exciting, and good vibes on the pool deck” reflected junior Anna Vogel. Lawrence went off to a strong start as they took home the victory in the first event—the one yard medley relay with a time of 4:13.40. The winning team featured seniors Dani Milina and Paige Witter, junior Eryan Blagg and sophomore Emmi Zheng. The women also picked up four individual victory events. Freshman Elsie Rogge won the longest event, the 1650-yard freestyle, with a time of 11:29.60. Witter won the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:03.04. Milina added another individual victory for Lawrence, winning the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:07.02 and Indian River College. Michelle Stahl took first and second in the second half of the first quarter. With the help of a jumper from Scott, and the Vikings were able to cut the lead to 29-21 due to junior Olivia Hoesley opening the second quarter with a 3-pointer. Sophomore Lash Rieves, was able to cut the lead again to 31-25 with 31-25 with 6:41 left in the second quarter. Illinois led 47-30 going into the second half. As the game progressed, Illinois’ lead steadily grew to 83-44 to close out the game. Revese paced the Vikings with 12 points and seven rebounds. Hoesley added 11 points while Scott had eight rebounds, a game high for her.

On Saturday, the men’s team had a close game against Cornell, 5-7 overall and 3-4 in the MWC. Cornell led for the first half of the period and rallied with the Vikings for the remainder of the first half scoring 28 points. At the half, the Vikings were trailing with 33-28. They were able to pick it back up in the second half. The Vikings went on a 21-6 run over Illinois in the first five minutes of the second, making the game 41-36. With 11:26 left, Illinois tied the game up, 43-43. As Illinois started to miss more opportunities and commit turnovers, the Vikings pulled away and finished the game 63-54. Stephani led the team with 23 points and six rebounds and Winslow added 17 points which helped the Vikings win. The Vikings went 16-22 from the line which helped immensely in the final minute of the game.

With the season ending in less than a month, both the men’s and women’s teams are looking to continue improving and finish the season strong. Both teams will play against Beloit College on January 21 and will return home on the 25th to play against St. Norbert College.

Sports Shorts

Tina Schrage
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Lawrence’s Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams faced off against games against Cornell College and Illinois College. The Lady Vikings lost 2-11 and 9-8 overall in the Midwest Conference (MWC), while the men’s team won 6-6 over 6-2 in the MWC. They scored the first eight points of the game, while fast swimming, which is exciting, and good vibes on the pool deck.

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Track season begins; three Vikes nationally ranked

Michele Haeberlin
Staff Writer

Lawrence’s Indoor Track team competed in a dual meet at UW-Oshkosh to open their indoor season. While there were many standout performances by Lawrence athletes, it was a tough meet to start the season.

The women had some good runs. Sophomore Molly Doruska placed second in the 60 meter hurdles, with a time of 11.39. Overall, the Oshkosh women’s team won 105-28, but Lawrence still has the entire season to become better and make a comeback! Despite the outcome, Freshman pole vaulter Jojo Maier offered a positive outlook, saying that “we are all excited for our season.”

The men also had a strong showing. The team put up wins: sophomore Josh Janusiak in the 3,000 meter, and freshman Noah Sheah in the triple jump. Janusiak won the 3,000 in 8:51.59, barely edging out teammate Joe Kurtenhof, who placed second with a time of 8:51.63. Sheah won the triple jump with a leap of 43 feet and 10 inches, besting second by more than 2 feet. Freshman Gabe Baker placed second in the shot put, and senior Jackson Straubhorn took third in both the shot put and the weight throw. The Lawrence men’s team did well, and though the Oshkosh team came in on top with a score of 117-42, they still had two wins and a lot of strong team players.

Of the meet, Maier said that “For our first meet it was very laid back as it was only us versus the team from Oshkosh. One of our main highlights of the meet was that three of our team members are now ranked in the top 25 in the nation for their events!” At the time of the meet, Janusiak was ranked 17th in the nation in the 3,000 meter. Kurtenhof was ranked 18th in the same event. Sheah was ranked 25th nationally in the triple jump. As of January 18, Janusiak and Kurtenhof have fallen to 28th and 29th respectively. Sheah has fallen to 36th.

Make sure to check out the team at their next meet (and after a little more practice) on January 25 at the UW-Platteville invite!

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Brook's interest in classical studies began when she was in high school, where she took her first class on ancient history. She began taking classics courses as soon as she was in college, and has been fully involved in the study ever since. Since coming to Lawrence last year, she has focused primarily on the Greek side of the major, teaching classes in Greek tragedy, poetry, ritual, literature and culture of fifth-century Athens. “It’s really great stuff,” Brook said. “From the epics of Homer, the poems of Sappho or the great speeches of Thucydides. There’s just a lot there to look at and a lot of antecedents of our modern society, like Latin legal terms in the justice system, symbols taken from the Roman republic and the iconography on American coins, so you really get a sense of a history with a line that goes all the way back to these civilizations.”

Junior Anna Vogel also found her interest in classics from an early age. Vogel said, “My mom is a Latin teacher so I have been exposed to Latin for as long as I can remember. I started studying it my freshman year of high school and have just taken off since then.” Vogel spent her fall term this year in Rome, where she further expanded her classical studies. “It would say definitely give classics a try,” Vogel advised. “It’s hard to get through the initial introductory level classes, but once you really power through these two terms of either Greek or Latin, the classics that are open to you are very engaging. I’ve learned so much through them. It’s really rewarding.”

Randall McNeill, an Associate Professor of Classics since 1999, gives this interesting perspective on classical studies. “In general, classics is an opportunity to step into another world. It’s like a combination of time and space travel, because we’re taken this journey to this pair of ancient civilizations that are very alien from a modern day perspective. Yet, the more you get into it, the more familiar certain aspects of it seem. It’s a chance to step out of the contemporary world and move into this other one that then gives us a vantage point to look at circumstances that we’re in today.”

McNeill found his interest in classics at a young age, when he was an exhibit celebrating the 1900th Anniversary of Pompeii. “They brought over this section of wall from the city that was covered in graffiti with a translation of what was written on it,” he said. “I hate my neighbor. I wish I could move; or ‘I’m in love with a girl and...’ or ‘Don’t eat here. I ate here and I got sick.’ Even at age eight or nine, I was really struck by the fact that these were just regular people writing things on walls, and that was really amazing. It was what really brought the Romans alive to me.”

When it comes to these three classics, the draw of the major is often a shared perspective. They all point out that classics is a field of study for people who are interested in many different things. “If we look at what our graduates from Lawrence have gone on to work on,” said McNeill, “it’s really rewarding. They’re sharing on MLK Day.”

The classics department may be small, but it is full of people who are extremely passionate about what they study, and view their major as something that is possible for students looking for something that encomp- ses aspects of many different parts of the liberal arts education.

Music for One, Music for All

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2017, Riverview Gardens hosted the annual Music for All concert. The concert featured inter- active chamber performances by Lawrence students and faculty members including the RCP of piano trio, Mason String Quartet and Brass Quintet along with the New York- based chamber ensemble, Decoda. The concert is free and open to all.
Dogs of Lawrence Profile: Willow

Kate Morton
For The Lawrentian

As most students who don’t live under a rock have noticed, there’s a new dog around campus this term. Willow, a ten-month-old golden retriever, was born in March of last year and began training with a month-old golden retriever, was born in March of last year and began training with a facilitator: Held in the Esch-Hurvis room in March, the discussion gave opportunity to talk about the book and expand to personal experiences with social injustices.

The read and reflect event is a really valuable event on the Lawrence campus,” said Associate Professor of English and Diversity Enhancement Faculty Director Karen Hoffman. “Having student facilitators makes it so students, faculty and staff can have a shared conversation in a space outside of the classroom.” Counselors were also provided for anyone at the discussion who needed to talk outside of their group.

The event aimed for participants to form a clearer understanding of the existing social injustices in the U.S. and also to appreciate different perspectives and personal experiences, so that they could develop safe spaces within their community. The presence of participants from many different backgrounds within the group helped facilitate an inclusive conversation with multiple perspectives.

The discussion emphasized the reality of these tragic events and the importance of working as a community rather than promoting bystander culture. Junior Malik Graham, a facilitator at the discussion, responded positively to the book saying, “It made me appreciate how far we’ve come and to see how there’s progress within the Civil Rights Movement.”

The book “Nobody” is about what it means to be a non-presence in America. Overall, “to be Nobody is to be vulnerable, be subject to State violence, confront systemic forms of State violence, be abandoned by the State, and considered disposable,” according to Marc Lamont Hill. Hill further underlines the definition of being a Nobody by analyzing both current affairs and historical events such as the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, the recent deaths of Michael Brown and Sandra Bland, as well as the failed Pruitt-Igoe developments in St. Louis in the 1950s, Jim Crow laws and the Attica Prison riot in 1971. By doing this, he relates recent events to larger historical and systemic problems.

To wrap up the discussion, senior Kevin Buchhaltal spoke about our individual duties to make the community a better and safer place.

“There is no reason that people should feel like ‘Nobody,’” said Buchhaltal. “It’s our duty to take care of ourselves and to also take care of each other. There needs to be a commitment to making no one feel like a Nobody. We need to do better and we have the power to.”

“What Lawrence is working hard at right now is to have engaging conversations, but now there’s diversity,” concluded Julie Esch-Hurvis of the Office of Spiritual and Religious Life Linda Morgan-Clement. “Be respectful of others opinions and backgrounds, because there’s not always one answer!”

Willow’s training could last from a year and a half to two years. She will be at Lawrence “as long as there is a need,” said Murray.

Although she may not be as available for cuddling or petting like other dogs, having Willow on campus certainly makes the gloomy winter feel a little brighter.

Willow lies next to her trainer, junior Madison Murray as Murray does her work.

Photo by Larissa Davis

Sarah Wells
For The Lawrentian

“The ultimate measure of a man is not what he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy,” Martin Luther King Jr. said.

One of the various activities to do on Martin Luther King Jr. Day was the opportunity to participate in the discussion of the book “Nobody” by Marc Lamont Hill. Lawrentians, faculty and staff members signed up and formed 26 small discussion groups, each with a facilitator. Held in the Esch-Hurvis room in March, the discussion gave opportunity to talk about the book and expand to personal experiences with social injustices.

“Doing the read and reflect event is a really valuable event on the Lawrence campus,” said Associate Professor of English and Diversity Enhancement Faculty Director Karen Hoffman. “Having student facilitators makes it so students, faculty and staff can have a shared conversation in a space outside of the classroom.” Counselors were also provided for anyone at the discussion who needed to talk outside of their group.

The event aimed for participants to form a clearer understanding of the existing social injustices in the U.S. and also to appreciate different perspectives and personal experiences, so that they could develop safe spaces within their community. The presence of participants from many different backgrounds within the group helped facilitate an inclusive conversation with multiple perspectives.

The discussion emphasized the reality of these tragic events and the importance of working as a community rather than promoting bystander culture. Junior Malik Graham, a facilitator at the discussion, responded positively to the book saying, “It made me appreciate how far we’ve come and to see how there’s progress within the Civil Rights Movement.”

The book “Nobody” is about what it means to be a non-presence in America. Overall, “to be Nobody is to be vulnerable, be subject to State violence, confront systemic forms of State violence, be abandoned by the State, and considered disposable,” according to Marc Lamont Hill. Hill further underlines the definition of being a Nobody by analyzing both current affairs and historical events such as the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, the recent deaths of Michael Brown and Sandra Bland, as well as the failed Pruitt-Igoe developments in St. Louis in the 1950s, Jim Crow laws and the Attica Prison riot in 1971. By doing this, he relates recent events to larger historical and systemic problems.

To wrap up the discussion, senior Kevin Buchhaltal spoke about our individual duties to make the community a better and safer place.

“There is no reason that people should feel like ‘Nobody’ said Buchhaltal. “It’s our duty to take care of ourselves and to also take care of each other. There needs to be a commitment to making no one feel like a Nobody. We need to do better and we have the power to.”

“What Lawrence is working hard at right now is to have engaging conversations, but now there’s diversity,” concluded Julie Esch-Hurvis of the Office of Spiritual and Religious Life Linda Morgan-Clement. “Be respectful of others opinions and backgrounds, because there’s not always one answer!”

Willow’s training could last from a year and a half to two years. She will be at Lawrence “as long as there is a need,” said Murray.

Although she may not be as available for cuddling or petting like other dogs, having Willow on campus certainly makes the gloomy winter feel a little brighter.

Willow lies next to her trainer, junior Madison Murray as Murray does her work.

Photo by Larissa Davis
Alumna cellist performs with period instrument

Wendell Leafstedt

On Wednesday Jan. 11, alumna Lindsey Crabb gave an eye-opening presentation and performance of J.S. Bach's Suite No. 6 in D major for solo cello. She focused on the difference between how it was usually played on modern cellos and how it was originally meant to be played on a five-string cello. Crabb graduated from Lawrence in 2009 with a Bachelor of Music degree in Cello Performance. She is a member of the Madison Symphony Orchestra and the Willy Street Chamber Players. She is very devoted to music education and helps with several Madison-area youth music programs in addition to running her own studio. 

Crabb used both types of cello in her presentation. Her own five-string cello is a 1979 model created using patterns from 1684 and has a tan-colored fingerboard and purfling. She notes that most of her audience were cellists and other string players, she was able to use terms and give advice that only other performers would understand.

Crabb acknowledges that most people do not own a five-string cello, so she focused on how modern cellists could try to apply its strengths to their own performance. Since five-string players
Vocalist and pianist alumni perform moving concert

Bridget Bartal
Jeff Whalen

On Friday, Jan. 13, Lawrence alumni Lacey Jo Benter ’09 and Brent Funderburk ’09 returned to the Lawrence Memorial Chapel to perform a guest recital. Benter, a soprano opera singer, was accompanied by Funderburk on piano. Since graduating from Lawrence, both musicians have made their mark on the music world in a big way, and this fact was well displayed throughout the recital.

Before the performance commenced, Benter informed the audience that the chosen pieces were very close to her heart. This fondness was evident through the emotion and passion that filled the Chapel as she sang. The first piece, “Wieendsodn Lied: WWV 91” by Richard Wagner, contained five different songs and was performed entirely in German. Before each song started, she read an English translation aloud to provide context and meaning.

Benter was entirely engaged in every word that she sang. Her dramatic body movements and intense facial expressions connected with the audience on a personal level. The accompaniment on piano was generally somewhat simple, yet was played with a gentle reservation that was moving. It allowed Benter to show off her impressive vocal range and stunning vibrato. She sang German with exquisite pronunciation; each line was delivered impeccably.

After a brief intermission, Benter and Funderburk continued with five short songs by Jennifer Higdon. These pieces were “Morning Open,” “Falling Deeper,” “breaking,” “To Our Quiet” and “To Home.” The piano accompaniment here was much more contemporary and complex, and Benter showed off her resonant and alluring voice yet again.

Right before the last piece, Benter realized that she did not have the sheet music for the song on her stage. She ended up using Funderburk’s music and stood behind him for this song. This physical closeness brought the two musicians closer together in a beautiful way, and this last piece, “In Our Quiet,” was my favorite song of the night. The crowd clapped their approval as the recital came to an end, and Lacey Jo Benter left the stage with an agreeable wink to the audience.

Sofar Sounds to begin in Appleton

Izzy Yellen
Columnist

Sofar has recently been added to the 380-plus cities that host Sofar Sounds and is set to have its first concert later this month. The unique concert series is built around encompassing many types of performance—musical and not—and emphasizes the importance of live shows. Junior Arielle Kaye, an integral part in organizing Appleton’s Sofar, started the close connection she now has with Sofar Sounds by attending many concerts in Chicago. “I love how it really encourages people to go outside of what they are typically listening to. Someone who goes to a Sofar is usually someone who wants to engage with their local arts, someone who wants to meet new people.”

So how does Sofar grab all sorts of people like this? Each concert is completely secret—when you buy your ticket, you have not only no idea where it will be, but no idea who will be playing as well. Each show features short, stripped down sets from a few different artists. They are the most local musicians, but touring artists also participate, spreading the talents of all sorts of creative individuals.

“I just really, really love the community. It is really supportive, and it really gives you a chance to showcase your talents in front of 60 random people every time you perform.” Junior Bernard Lilly shared. The singer-songwriter performed at his first Sofar in Chicago this past break. “I think that is the coolest thing—just seeing how your music and how your style influences people who probably never would have an opportunity to see you play. The audiences are very diverse and it is just a really good time.”

If you go to Sofars in Appleton, it is entirely possible you will hear sets from fellow students, but the true wonder comes from experiencing talent unknown to you and meeting audience members you most likely would not interact with in any other context. The importance of a Sofar community blossoming in Appleton stretches everywhere. It can give aspiring student musicians places other than campus to perform, but it will also continue to bridge the gap between Lawrence and the rest of Appleton.

“There is a connection to the music. It is really silent—you are not on your phone, you are listening to the music. It is that very electric shared experience with the audience and with the artists themselves, and I feel like that is just such a unique experience,” frequent Sofar attendee and freshman Emily Richter said. She has been to Sofar as far as Amsterdam, London and Tokyo, as well as some in the Midwest. “To really hear the music is a whole different experience, and I just feel like I have not felt that replicable anywhere else.”

Alumni Funderburk and Benter perform in the Lawrence Memorial Chapel

Photo by Taylor Blackson

Awards and entertainments

Cellist

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have more options for chord fingerings, they can usually achieve a more resonant, ringing sound by using more open strings. She recommended trying to find resonant fingerings where possible and using chord progressions and voice leading to figure out which notes to emphasize.

As she made her points, she used both instruments extensively to make side-by-side comparisons of different passages. She showed how the ease of performance on the five-string cello affected the final sound quality. By the time the demonstration ended and she was prepared to give a full performance of the suite, the audience was accustomed to her sound and energy.

Of course, Crabb chose the five-string for the full performance. During the first move, the Prelude, Crabb had the chance to show off her flexible bow arm as she tackled tricky barcarolle triplets. She had been an impressive speaker, but she was an even more impressive performer. She seemed deeply involved in characterizing and coloring each movement, moving between the Sarabande, Gavottes and Gigue seamlessly. She brought out the dance motions everywhere she went.

Questioning the way things are done is core to the art of performance, as Crabb demonstrated. Her rendition of Suite No. 6 would likely surprise many contemporary cellists who have not gone to the same lengths to remain faithful to the original score and performance practices.

Guest trombonist gives recital

Trombonist Marshall Gilkes performed in Harper Hall on Thursday, Jan. 12. Photo by Kiran Muffy

Alumni Funderburk and Benter perform in the Lawrence Memorial Chapel
The opinions expressed in The Lawrentian are those of the students, faculty and community members who wrote them. All facts are as provided by the authors. The Lawrentian does not endorse any opinions piece except for the staff editorial, which represents a majority of the editorial board.
Social media is full of unrealistic expectations. People have no platform more exemplifies this than Instagram. If I had a day off, I would stay in all day and use Instagram to escape reality. Instagram scrolling was interrupted by a sponsored picture of some fitness model. When I scroll, I can easily pay off all four years of my Lawrence tuition. From fashion to fitness, it seems that everyone is finding ways to profit from our follower count. The Instagram is a stress-free response to this increasingly difficult-to-navigate world of social media. If I was walking down College Ave. and some sports-bra-clad woman was yelling at me to buy her detox tea, I would probably call the police. On Instagram, however, this is totally normal behavior. The line between advertising and social media is becoming increasingly blurred. The more appealing your posts are, the more followers you gain; the more followers you have, the more companies will pay you to strategically place their products in your photos. Or, more explosively, the advertising industry, there’s no regulation on advertisements. Instagram is aids obligation to tell us when they’re selling a product. “Love my new leggings!-signs” like these are everywhere, but the advertiser behind it has spent countless hours planning the hashtags, lighting and angle, not to mention the time spent adding edits and filters to the picture. As Instagram stars compete for followers and sponsorships, the photo is the true hero. Much like Kylie Jenner’s transformation, the thigh gaps are growing wider, the lips are getting plumper and the silicone-enhanced breasts are getting bigger.

Indeed, this is all in an effort to profit off product placement, the result is that millions and millions of dollars are being bombarded with impossible body images and lifestyle expectations that they choose to share on their phones. The trillion-dollar fashion and billion-dollar beauty industry has this system figured out. In order to sell a product, you need to convince the public why you need their product. Nobody needs to have a larger butt or more defined abs, so advertisers need to sell the standard. When the standard of “perfection” is sold, it becomes a dangerous place where millions of people feel bad about who they are.

Today, it is the leading platform for the creation of unachievable expectation. Everyone is trying to appear flawless. It is the difficulty we are trying to profit off your Instagram, the pressure President. To meet these expectations on your own Instagram account. This is where the “Insta gram” comes in.

“A instagran,” or “finsta” for short, is a combination of the words “fake” and “Instagram.” A “finsta” is a secondary Instagram account, usually kept on private and only available to your close friends. It is a place to post anything you want, unfiltered selfies, memes and pictures of you, entertaining photos of your friends. Whereas the social rules for what to post on your real Instagram can be pretty strict — for example, you won’t post anything that is unflattering or makes you look like a loser on Instagram. As you can imagine, this means you can be more yourself on a “finsta.”

You might be wondering, if Instagram can be just a bunch of flashing lights that don’t just delete your account. It might seem silly, but I like having an Instagram and a “finsta.” All of us have several sides of us that we show to different people. Perhaps Instagram feels like a highlight reel—cool trips I have taken, rock climbing shots, pictures of my dance team performances. I love all of these things, but that does not mean that you can be yourself.

I can document how I spent an entire pizza, post too many pictures of all the dogs and take a million selfies without worrying how people will view me. I know you know me as a multi-faceted human being. You know I am cool and weird as a multi-faceted human being. My friends already know me as the one who posts about her daily runs and who has a “finsta.”

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Editorial policy is determined by the editors. Any opinions that appear unsigned are those of the majority of The Lawrentian’s Editorial Board.

Letters to the editor are encouraged. The editors reserve the right to edit for style and space. Letters must be emailed to lawrentian@lawrence.edu. Submissions by email should be text attachments.

—All submissions to editorial pages must be turned in to The Lawrentian no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication.

—All submissions to the editorial pages must be accompanied by a phone number at which the author can be contacted. Articles submitted without a contact number will not be published.

—The Lawrentian reserves the right to print any submissions received after the above deadline.

—Letters to the editor will be edited for clarity, decency and grammar.

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