Annual Cabaret event celebrates diversity

On Saturday, April 8 and Sunday, April 9, 2017, Lawrence International (LI) held its annual Cabaret event in Stansbury Theatre. Tickets were $10 for adults and free for students. The Saturday performance began at 6:30 p.m. and the Sunday performance began at 3 p.m. with a reception following the Sunday performance. The event was also livestreamed. The theme of this year’s Cabaret was “The Garden of Humanity” to emphasize beauty in a diverse human heritage. LI is a group that supports international students in adjusting to life in college and in American society. Both domestic and international students are active within the group. LI organizes formal dinners, expositions and meetings in addition to the annual Cabaret event. The group has over 350 members and has been established on campus for 41 years. Proceeds from Cabaret ticket sales go towards supporting LI-organized events and activities. All student donations go towards the LI grant, which supports student internships and research projects.

Preparations for Cabaret involved LI board members, group leaders, performers, emcees, a technical support team and other volunteers. Planning for the event began in Fall Term and the LI board worked with International Student Services, Communications and the Theatre Department. Junior Tamanna Akram, the President of LI, said, “[We] create a plan, then hire directors and videographers to discuss what our vision is for the year.” Auditions began Winter Term and the LI board worked on logistical operations throughout the term. Directors for performances also worked on their piece throughout the year. Junior Jamil Fuller has performed in multiple Cabaret events and organized the gospel choir in this year’s Cabaret. He said, “Just the idea of putting a large group together to create some kind of performance for Cabaret was a really cool experience for me.” He recalled admiring the coordination that went into big group performances in past Cabaret events. Group leaders are also responsible for submitting rehearsal schedules, meeting with other directors, running group rehearsals and meeting with individual group members. They collaborate with the technical team and begin thinking about elements such as sound, lighting, costumes and stage cues. Fuller also commented on the support in preparing the Joyful Choir piece saying, “People have been really helpful in assisting me, being like, ‘oh yeah I’d love to run a sectional for the altos’ and things like that.” Performers also dedicate themselves to preparing for the event. While it was a challenging schedule at times, freshman Yidi Zhang, who performed with the K pop group, commented, “It’s fun to hang out with friends while preparing for this event and I enjoyed all the teamwork we did during the preparation.” A group of volunteers also assisted in preparations in the days leading up to the event.

Akram commented that the best part of planning for Cabaret was “seeing the amount of dedication everyone puts in to this event. The performers, volunteers, emcees and the board members do not get paid to do this. We put in a lot of time [and] sacrifice other commitments to ensure Cabaret runs smoothly.” The amount of commitment is incredible.”

This year’s Cabaret started with a drumming performance by Sambistas led by Professor of Music Danielle Richeson. Performers lined up in the main aisles and filled the room with rhythmic beats. Next, the masters of ceremonies, seniors Jacob Daltu, and Kyle Labak introduced the event after a short montage of traditional songs. The first performance was “Ode of Beauty,” a classical Chinese-style dance, followed by the duet performance of “Mexican Ballads.” Act One also included a Nepali dance, a German duo, “Dahle” (a traditional dance in seven Arab countries), a Japanese dance, a performance of “A Little Happiness” (a theme song to the popular film “Our Times”), a performance of the Chinese R&B-rock fusion song “Tu Hua Tai” and the first part of a fashion show. The fashion show featured apparel and flags from numerous countries around the world. Following a brief introduction, Act Two included Joyful Choir, the “Vietnamese Tetom Birds Dance,” a performance of the contemporary Indian song “Tya Lage Na,” the Thai dance “Tancare,” a performance of “Te Quiero Tanto, Tanto,” a performance of a Nepali song, K pop dance and the second part of the fashion show. Many of the performances such as the Jordanian dance and Joyful Choir also included musicians on the drums, piano and other instruments.

Audience members at Cabaret included students, faculty and Appleton community members. Freshman Christina Sedall who attended the event, said “There were so many people who I know through classes or just in general and [...] I didn’t know they had those talents.” She went on to say, “[Cabaret] spoke to the way that Lawrence students can collaborate with each other. It was beautiful.”

Cabaret emphasizes a diversity in cultural backgrounds that students bring to Lawrence. Freshman Anthony Dare, a performer in this year’s Cabaret, said, “The biggest thing that I learned from this event [was] how diverse Lawrence is, how many different groups are here and how many people want to learn about different cultures.” He went on to say, “I think it’s really amazing especially since Lawrence is all about inclusivity and diversity.”

Junior Malik Graham, a volunteer for Cabaret, said, “I’m hoping that students at Lawrence become more involved with the international students and also maybe [attendees] related to something that they saw on stage and [thought], ‘I would love to get involved with K pop next year’ or ‘I’d like to listen to that kind of music that I heard.’ Hopefully there is more integration between non-international and international students, that they come together and be more cohesive.”

The theme for Cabaret this year also stimulated new perspectives on diversity. Zhang commented, “The Garden of Humanity means all kinds of diversity including the U.S. For U.S. citizens, we foreign students are part of the diversity, but for us foreign students, the U.S. is part of the diversity.” She went on to say, “We all learn to accept and appreciate the beauty of diversity.”

Cabaret offers me a new perspective toward myself and everyone else in the U.S. Cabaret also allows me to know more about my friends, everyone around me and Lawrence itself better. I respect this community more and enjoy it more as I love it more!”

Akram said, “Cabaret provides a platform for students to share their cultures and there is a lot of work and effort that goes into it. I hope the Lawrence community and beyond understand the impact it has on everyone in the show and continue working on making this a success.”
Ben Holstein
For The Lawrentian

On Wednesday, April 4, Kevin Aslett ‘13 gave a lecture titled “Breaking Up is Hard to Do: Why the Eurozone will Survive.” Aslett was visiting from the University of Washington, where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in political science.

The colloquium took place on the first floor of the Thomas A. Stetzel Hall of Science. In his lecture, Aslett summarized his paper by the title of his lecture, which he published in the journal Economics last year. In his paper he compares the Eurozone to a relationship, which gets harder and harder to end as time passes.

The Eurozone is the set of European Union countries that use the euro as their national currency. Aslett’s argument was that, although there are certainly economic drawbacks for many countries to be part of the Eurozone, they will not leave. He grouped the economic issues into four main points: differences in the economic structures of member countries, weak labor mobility, a weak fiscal center and a lack of a last-resort lender.

Aslett explained that there are two general types of economic structures: those with export-led growth and huge foreign market power and those with demand-led growth and less foreign market power. The export-led economy, which typifies Northern European countries, shrunk demand-led economies out of international trade and so ended up with more money.

Normally, countries in the position of these demand-led economies would depreciate their currency to be able to compete with other countries. But because they all share the same currency, depreciation isn’t an option. So, demand-led economies either by having to use the euro, giving them a reason to want to leave the European Union.

“Because labor mobility between countries in the Eurozone is so limited,” explained Aslett, “in the US, if one state suffers an economic shock, workers move to another state and spread the weight of unemployment across the country. In Europe, workers cannot migrate easily. This causes the shocks that occur to stay in their country, and not even out,” Aslett explained. “So there is a much more rigid shock between Spain and Germany.”

The U.S. has the executive branch in the center. The Eurozone does not have as strong a fiscal center as U.S. does, but on the European Union (EU) to collect and distribute monetary assistance when needed.

According to Aslett, in London and New York, there is an image of Southern European countries’ number. “And these countries need our credit,” said Aslett. Leaving the Eurozone also means losing the shared infrastructure and networks of lawyers, bankers and accountants that all member countries share because of their common currency. Considering all these results, leaving is a very harmful course of action.

The countries use the euro, they do not have their own last-resort lending banks, and have to rely on European Central Bank, which is wary about lending to countries that seem unable to repay the debt. However, Aslett explained that these economic hardships do not stop the demand of leaving that the Eurozone would inflict. Leaving would mean creating a new currency and renegotiating all existing economic deals in this new currency, while also continuing the vast number of daily transactions during transition.

“Countries would also lose their credit standing if they were to leave the Eurozone,” Aslett said. Using a common currency gives some measure of reliability, and this is something that the countries switched to their own currency. “And these countries need our credit,” said Aslett. Leaving the Eurozone also means losing the shared infrastructure and networks of lawyers, bankers and accountants that all member countries share because of their common currency. Considering all these results, leaving is a very harmful course of action.

The Eurozone is a work in progress, reforms are continually being made. According to Aslett, the member countries “are in a privileged position to influence reforms as times go on.” If they “left, they would lose this ability to provide essential help and influence reforms.”

Aslett ended by reaffirming his belief that the Eurozone functioned as a relationship and member countries were already working to find it worth leaving.
April 14, 2017

THE LAWRENTIAN

The Hat Trick

a serial story written by the Creative Writing Club.

“Blasphemy”

Where am I? How did I get here? Who am I?

"Who am I? How did I place my hat?" Blemmy thought to himself as he walked down the dark hall. He felt something under his feet. He looked down to find a mechanism’s hat with gogglets. “Thank you, God! This is exactly what I needed,” exclaimed Blemmy; placing the hat on top of his head. “This must be my lucky day” he thought to himself, beamung.

His real name was Illasphemy, but everyone called him Blemmy for short. It was the name his mother gave him because she had cursed God the day he was born. Blemmy was an ordinary guy with an ordinary job as one of the ship’s mechanics. He wasn’t the brightest bulb on the chandelier, but he was a kind man. Blemmy did not have much, but as long as he was still breathing, he was happy.

Blemmy sauntered down the starboard of the ship, smiling and waving to all his crewmates. He had a few minutes to spare before work, so he decided to visit his friend Doc, the doctor. Doc was a very smart man.

The sudden feeling of possessiveness washed over Blemy. For reasons unknown to him, he snatched the hat from Doc. Doc’s eyes widened as he gazed at his head and asked, “Where did I place my hat?”

"I’m just going to try it on," said Doc. "I wasn’t going to steal it.

"Right, I’m sorry," apologized Blemmy. "I don’t know what came over me." Still, I must confess, I borrowed your Swiss army knife the other day without asking you. I had a last—minute emergency operation where I needed it, and I figured you would be okay with it being gone for a couple of minutes. But alas, I must apologize. I lost it.

"You lost it?" growled Blemmy angrily. He had never owned anything of value, except for a child, so when he became an adult he decided to buy something for himself with the money he made. The Swiss army knife was Blemmy’s most prized possession.

"Easy now, Blemmy. I didn’t mean to lose it.

"You don’t understand," Blemmy huffed. “I’m not upset that you borrowed the knife, but you did it without asking me! You know how much that knife meant to me.

"I know, but I can buy you a better one brand new.

"I don’t want a new knife!" belted Blemmy, clenching his fists.

"Calm down, Blemmy. There’s no need to get angry. How can I make it up to you?

Blemmy wanted to forgive Doc, but he heard a little voice in his head reminding him that Doc lost his most valuable possession, and must pay.

Blemmy clenched his fists, drew his arm back, and punched Doc in the face. Doc fell onto the floor and held his bleeding nose.

"Blemmy, I’m sorry! What’s come over you?

"That’s it! Give the man what he deserves! Blemmy heard the voice cleave through his thick skull. With that, Blemmy grabbed Doc by the collar. His hand reached for the wrench on his tool belt. Acting only on instincts, Blemmy drew the wrench, and struck Doc in the head. Tears began to form in Blemmy’s eyes as Doc took his final gasp of air. Then, he was out cold. Blemmy’s eyes widened as he gazed at the limp body in his hands. But the voice hissed, “Finish him off!” Possessed by an unexplainable rage, Blemmy hit Doc repeatedly until finally he was through.

When he came to his senses, Blemmy soared in horror from the bloody wrench to his hands dripping with crimson liquid. He killed the doctor! Now there was no one to save the sick people on board. Even worse, he killed his best friend! How could he ever forgive himself?

No, it was the voice’s fault! If he had not listened to it, Doc would still be alive. Overwhelmed with confusion and sadness, Blemmy wept bitterly.

“I can’t believe I killed an innocent man, and on top of that, a friend! His, it wasn’t my fault. I didn’t feel the anger that drove this kind, innocent man to kill. All I want is to find my daughter and have her avenge my death! I will need to find a new host. Where shall I go now?"
**March brings the madness**

Theodore Kortenhof  
Staff Writer

With April showers arriving, spring has sprung. With this change of season comes the end of the 2016-2017 NCAA basketball season. While many went over the season’s men’s division one tournament results, not all were as impressive as our local team had hoped. The Lawrence University men’s tennis team looked to bounce back from several losses this winter, but the team knows there is much work to be done.

The team’s season started on April 22. Following the inter-conference rival Ripon College qualifying for the national tournament, results from all three divisions are worthy of note.

In the men’s division II tournament, the Northwest Missouri State University men’s tennis team earned a first round bye and proved to be an exciting start to the tournament. While Lawrence did not qualify for the tournament, men’s or women’s, the performances of conference rivals St. Norbert and Ripon demonstrates the supreme, edging out Augustana, and the St. Norbert team, falling 70-37.

The Vikings picked up two victories in the round of 32, defeating Thomas 98-56 in the round of 32, and winning the No. 5 slot 6-1, 6-1. But the team knows there is much work to be done.

In the women’s division II tournament, the University of Mary Washington, a game that Lawrence won without a large team, only about 30-35 people – a number which was cold and wet. We had to practice two nights a week, but the team knows that the weather is warmer and the outdoor track is bigger so we can run faster in the outdoor track. On the women’s side, junior Hannah Kinzer came out of nowhere and took third in the women 5000m. They also saw the end of the University of Florida in the third. Finally, in the women’s division III tournament, the Badgers made an impressive run, defeating Virginia Tech in the first round, Bellarmine in the second round, and Virginia Commonwealth in the third round.

In the women’s division III tournament, the Northwest Missouri State University women’s tennis team also earned a first round bye and proved to be an exciting start to the tournament. While Lawrence did not qualify for the tournament, men’s or women’s, the performances of conference rivals St. Norbert and Ripon demonstrates the supreme, edging out Augustana, and the St. Norbert team, falling 70-37.

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With their three wins this weekend, the Vikings improved their record to 9-8 and 3-2 in the Midwest Conference. They are currently sitting third at the conference. The team’s goal is to once again qualify for the conference tournament, which takes the top four teams. They are on the right track, but the team knows that they must continue to work hard and win matches to achieve their goal. For the Vikings, it is a visit to their St. Norbert College on Wednesday, April 12.

**Tennis clams to third in conference**

Molly Doruska  
Staff Writer

After a rough weekend of conference play, in which the Vikings lost to both Grinnell College and Cornell University, the Lawrence University women’s tennis team looked to bounce back in their next three matches this past weekend. They played host to Knox College on Saturday, April 8 and Monmouth College and Illinois College on Sunday, April 9. The Vikings dominated the match up against Knox (1-0, 1-1, 1-1), Lawrence started strong in the double round winning all three matches and only dropping two doubles matches, and the way to those three victories. The team’s senior David James and junior Bill Schum-Kline won the No. 1 doubles match 8-1 and freshman David Brooker won the No. 2 doubles match 8-1 as well. In the No. 3 doubles, junior David Brooker and senior Matt Schuman-Kline won the No. 2 doubles match 8-5. In the singles round, Lawrence picked up three additional victories to win the match 5-4. James won the No. 1 singles match 6-3, 6-3, Francour won at the No. 5 slot 6-4, 6-1, and Booker won at the No. 6 slot 6-1, 6-0.

Later on in the day, the Vikings also played host to Illinois College (1-0, 1-1, 2-0). Lawrence got off to a strong start as they won all three doubles matches and only dropped one game along the way. James and Schum-Kline at No. 1 doubles and Delgado and Booker at No. 2 doubles each won their matches 6-0, 6-0. Overall, the Vikings scored 3 wins and only dropped 11 games total.

Lawrence then had a busy day on action on Sunday, April 9 starting with their match against Monmouth (5-9, 2-1 MWC). In the doubles, the Vikings picked up two victories as James and Schum-Kline won the No. 1 doubles match 8-1 and Delgado and Francis won the No. 3 doubles match 8-5. In the singles, the Vikings picked up a 6-0, 7-5 win at No. 2 singles and James added a hard fought 2-6, 6-4, 6-0 (4) victory at No. 1. At No. 1, they completed the clean sweep.

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**High weather means hot starts for the track and field team**

Victor Nguyen  
Staff Writer

Spring has sprung and so has the track and field team. The team was mad over the men’s division one track and field season. While many went out on the spring. With the tournament coming closer, results from all three divisions are worthy of note.

In the division three women’s tennis tournament as well, which was really fun to see. Teddy Kortenhof: The team was really fun to see. Teddy Kortenhof: The team was really fun to see. Teddy Kortenhof: The team was really fun to see. Teddy Kortenhof: The team was really fun to see. Teddy Kortenhof: The team was really fun to see. Teddy Kortenhof: The team was really fun to see. Teddy Kortenhof: The team was really fun to see.
**Captain's Corner**

Marisa Thackston and Sam Belletini

**Softball by Arianna Cohen**

Seniors Sam Belletini and Marisa Thackston are roommates and they consider themselves to be similar to “an old married couple.” They share the captain duties for the Women’s Softball team this season. After a successful career, Sam and Marisa look forward to the culmination of their lives as softball players, while, at the same time, looking back fondly on their time as part of the team.

Arianna Cohen: With only three graduating seniors and one senior, you guys have a very young team. What do you do as captains to pick up your younger teammates and prepare them for the upcoming seasons without the seniors?

Marisa Thackston: We try to reiterate that everything we do isn’t about the right now, it’s about the upcoming seasons and life after Lawrence.

AC: How was the transition from player to captain?

Sam Belletini: It wasn’t really an option for me. My position requires me to be a leader. You can’t be a catcher and have no voice.

MT: Player to captain was difficult in the sense that I didn’t want to overstep my boundaries, but being a part of the program for four years, I was confident that I had the right tools to lead them.

AC: What are your team goals for the end of the season?

SB: We want to take each game one pitch at a time, to play at our level and to not be content.

MT: Ultimately our goal is to make it to the conference tournament at the end of the season, but in order to make it there, we need to take it one game, one inning, one out and one pitch at a time.

AC: With senior night quickly approaching this weekend, how are you feeling about the end of your softball career?

SB: I still have a year of eligibility left, but I’m already looking forward to fall leagues. (Sam requested a winky face be inserted here).

MT: It’s bittersweet. This is my last time competing competitively, so it’s hard to say goodbye but this is more of a “see you later” (here).

MT: You are almost halfway through your season. How has the team played so far?

SB: The team has played really well. With the exception of a couple of games, the team has been very competitive in every game and against some very talented teams.

SF: As a senior, what’s on your mind knowing this is your last season with the team?

BK: I’m honestly just trying to have as much fun as possible. I really couldn’t ask for a better group of guys to play my last season of baseball with, and that has definitely made it easy for me to enjoy every minute of it.

SP: What are your personal goals and team’s goals this season?

BK: As a team, our goal is to make and win the conference tournament. We have a young group but it is definitely something we can achieve. As far as personal goals are concerned, I am going to do everything I can to help ensure the team can accomplish our goals together.

SF: Why should people come out to support you guys?

BK: Lawrenceians should come support us for a variety of reasons. Obviously to support classmates and friends, but also because the team should be a fun group of guys to watch. Whether you enjoy watching some great baseball or listening to some funny guys crack jokes each inning, the team is definitely worth a view on the weekends.

Brandon Klar

**Baseball by Shane Farrell**

This week I was able to talk with senior baseball player Brandon Klar. Klar is coming off of an impressive spring break performance where he batted .625 over seven games. He was 15-for-24 with a .754 slugging percentage and 3-for-3 on stolen bases which led him to win the Midwest Conference Athlete of the Week. Currently the baseball team is 4-15 and 1-6 against conference.

Shane Farrell: How do you feel about being awarded Midwest Conference Athlete of the Week during your Florida trip?

Brandon Klar: It was definitely a nice honor to receive, but not one I am trying to put too much stock in. I think I speak for the entire baseball team when I say that we have our sights set on the conference tournament and in order to get there we need to keep our foot on the gas through all of conference.

SF: Statistically you have a phenomenal time. How do you feel you played?

BK: I was seeing the ball really well in Florida so that contributed to some of the statistics. I feel as though, as a team, we played phenomenal baseball down in Florida and it is important for us to continue to do as such.

SF: Are you are almost halfway through your season. How has the team played so far?

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SLUG gears up for Spring

Grace Reif
Staff Writer

The Sustainable Lawrence University Gardens (SLUG) has been a critical part of the campus community since its conception twelve years ago. Members of SLUG leave one big, green thumbprint on the everyday workings of the campus, from providing produce for Andrew Commons, the occasional honey sales and other popular house events such as Bread and Buttons. SLUG is a lot more to SLUG than what meets the eye, especially as the temperature rises. SLUG was started 12 years ago as a product of Professor Jeff Clark’s Urban Agriculture class and has bloomed ever since. Since SLUG’s conception, this term marks the first time that the class has been offered again and much of the class has been focused on revamping SLUG and making it more efficient.

The garden uses a half of their quarter-acre plot due to hills, but they maximize the most of their space. A house for warm-weather crops like peppers occupies the side of the garden closest to the river. Peach and apple trees, blackberry bushes and raspberries, blackberries and cherries are some of the plants occupying the garden. SLUG even has an area of “idoled” beds, called “the oaks.” Hanrahan explains, “During the winter we plan different community events. We bring in speakers and spend a lot of time learning different parts of the garden. Our SLUG Bjorklunden trip in the winter is when we take inventory of all our seeds and actually set out a plan of what we will grow the next year, so that’s always really relaxing.”

Hanrahan argues that the garden plan is not solely based on what will make money or what will be easy to grow. “It’s like our playground,” she said. “With the exception of tomatoes, which are sort of a cash crop, it’s what we want to grow. Some of it’s based on curiosity, and some of it is people really liking a specific vegetable, so it’s very much driven by the students.”

When asked what Lawrence students can look forward to from SLUG this spring, Hanrahan exclaimed, “It’s been so much! We’re building a shed for the bees and I have a passion project to maximize seating ability in the garden. We’ve been trying to grow a lot of things we’ve never grown before."

To ready the garden for spring crops, SLUG members have spent time this week “double digging,” or a process of cultivating the soil in the beds for better aeration and drainage.

“One of the greatest things about coming out of winter is seeing life happening,” Hanrahan said. “My favorite thing is the network and community that exists that’s so tied together by our love for the garden.”

Any students interested in joining the thriving SLUG community, check out the garden hours posted around campus. There are also weekly meetings, which are held in the Gruen Center (Younghouse 218) every Tuesday at 8 p.m.
Sell Us Your Major: Museum Studies

Assistant Beth A. Zinsli defined Museum Studies as, "The study of the museum and its collections and exhibitions as an object of critical inquiry. You might study a text in English class, or a painting in Art History, in Museum Studies you’re looking at the entire collection and institution that’s the object of study." Museum Studies works well into the idea of a liberal arts education. It covers a large amount of information and tries to fit all that information together. As Zinsli stated, "Some very small percentage of any given museum's collection are on display at any given time, so you have to wonder how they decide what gets shown." Since a museum is home to many different objects and paintings, studying the museums requires students to see how those objects connect in order to envision cohesive curations.

In order to fulfill a Museum Studies Interdisciplinary Area Major, students must take courses on Historic Preservation and Intro to Art Museums. From there, the area becomes widely flexible. Students can fulfill independent studies working in the Wriston Art Gallery or the University Galleries. Students also have the opportunity to intern at museums or historic sites around the state.

What I enjoy most is the museum as a place where you don't really realize how you're being lead through or given particular knowledge about works of art, historical objects or natural history," Zinsli stated. "The museum seems to be a really neutral space and, in fact, it's quite subjective. Museum Studies upholds a wide number of means to get students engaged in their area of study. One of the facets of the Museum Studies program is its growing Anthropology collections. Whether you’re a student interested in the preservation of art, specimens, textiles or pieces of history from the surrounding Wisconsin area, the Museum Studies houses these and more materials in the Wriston Art Center for students to examine.

Students need to be able to understand a broad amount of information in preserving these objects. In this understanding, they can best be prepared for going out to find jobs in museums that curate a broad amount of stories and ideas. Museums are vast labyrinths of a culture and students need to be aware of this vastness in order to do justice in their own work environments.

As Zinsli stated, "You need to be able to take very big pictures about the social implications of this exhibition and assess how it changes the way we think about the subject of the exhibition. I always think about the Primitivism in the 20th century exhibition in the Museum of Modern Art and what a huge controversy it was to have the curators draw certain conclusions between Modern Art and African Art. It sort of changed how we understand both.

Zinsli’s wish for her students is that they are more compelled to go to museums and that they understand what’s going on behind the scenes. I hope they can understand the interpretations of the objects on display no matter what they are and I hope they get a better understanding of museums as an integral institution to our society.

The interdisciplinary area of Museum Studies offers a special chance for students to learn more about how museums affect the way we interpret an object or artwork. Moreover, it gives students the chance to wonder why it was set up to be interpreted that way. The department is full of faculty who are skilled at asking big questions and compiling their expertise to best help students prepare for the tasks that go into curating a museum. Walking down the hall of any museum, the spotlight is not just the object on display but on how that object was chosen, why it was chosen and what that choice communicates.

Hidden Figures of Lawrence: Mason Baez

You may simply know him as the “Bagel Guy,” but Mason Baez’s position making bagels and hot pressed food in the cafe is only one side to a man with many interests and talents. Baez has been working for Bon Appetit since April of 2016. Before making his way to the cafe, he was a cook in the pizza kitchen and back kitchen as well as a dishwasher with Bon Appetit. Baez is quite experienced in the restaurant business, having also worked as a host at Glass Nickel Pizza Co. and a dishwasher at Galvan’s Restaurant before coming to Lawrence.

Regarding his current position at the bagel station in the cafe, Baez said, "I’m usually more than willing to lend a hand to co-workers in need." Baez’s favorite part about working at Lawrence is interaction he has with the staff and students, which make the day fly by. When he is not behind the cafe counter, Baez has many interests that keep him busy outside of the workplace.

"My free time is spent taking what the day throws at me," Baez said. He likes to spend his free time doing many different things. Among the grocery shopping and taking road trips to ‘aimless destinations,’ Baez said he also enjoys spending time with his girlfriend and furthering his love of music.

"Ever since I was a young child, I’ve had a love for music," Baez said. That musical passion never faded away, and now Baez has a large inventory of instruments, including an electric guitar, electric bass guitar, acoustic guitar, a didgeridoo, bongos and a mini keyboard. Baez has also built his own vocal booth from scrap wood and is working on music production, something he has recently started to prioritize in his daily life.

As Lawrence students will understand, it is not uncommon to be multi-interest and multi-talented. Mason Baez loves art, particularly drawing and painting. He also loves to learn about vintage vehicles and motorcycles. Baez recalled, "It started when my grandfather let me drive his riding lawn mower at the age of five. As soon as he wasn’t looking, I caught the need for speed." He began building pre-’70s GM motors with his father shortly after, they worked to fully restore a 1967 GTX Hardtop as well as a 1965 and a 1966 Ford Thunderbird.

Lastly, Baez says he has a love of nature. Whether it is going for walks or bike rides, Baez takes "Being outside in general is beneficial for my own sanity." In his adventures in the outdoors, he has gone to see the largest waterfall in Wisconsin and has climbed the rocky bluffs of Devil’s Lake State Park. Unfortunately, after a recent broken ankle, severe injury can now be after him, he has struggled with regaining his full mobility. Baez has stayed positive, however, and assured "Over time, I have progressed, as time heals all things.

As Zinsli stated, "You need to be able to take very big pictures about the social implications of this exhibition and assess how it changes the way we think about the subject of the exhibition. I always think about the Primitivism in the 20th century exhibition in the Museum of Modern Art and what a huge controversy it was to have the curators draw certain conclusions between Modern Art and African Art. It sort of changed how we understand both.

Zinsli’s wish for her students is that they are more compelled to go to museums and that they understand what’s going on behind the scenes. I hope they can understand the interpretations of the objects on display no matter what they are and I hope they get a better understanding of museums as an integral institution to our society.

The interdisciplinary area of Museum Studies offers a special chance for students to learn more about how museums affect the way we interpret an object or artwork. Moreover, it gives students the chance to wonder why it was set up to be interpreted that way. The department is full of faculty who are skilled at asking big questions and compiling their expertise to best help students prepare for the tasks that go into curating a museum. Walking down the hall of any museum, the spotlight is not just the object on display but on how that object was chosen, why it was chosen and what that choice communicates.

On Saturday, April 8, Lawrentians tested their baking skills against British homemakers during The Great British Bake-off Viewing Party, hosted at International House. Students made Bakewell Tarts with raspberry jam. While the tarts were in the oven, the bakers enjoyed watching the contestants in "Season Five, Episode 1" of The Great British Bake-off present their own swiss rolls and sponge cakes for judging.

Photos by Larissa Davis.
Occasionally, I will see a con- cert I am to cover and leave ample time to appreciate it, but other than that, my job lends itself to be due to a plethora of reasons, some known immediately, some not so at all. In the case of Roomful of Teeth’s concert on April 7, it was a dense mix of emotions. I had to more selfishly form as I work out how this concert affected me—or did it affect me at all from it despite this.

The first half of the perfor- mance followed the Shos’ “Partita for 8 Voices,” the group’s most famous piece. Highlighting the overall talent of what the eight vocalists are capable of, the piece was more intriguing than what it was resonating for me. The sounds each of them made were incredible, in unison at times, but throughout its 25 minutes, the performance lacked the electric- ity and passion that the composition deserved. After discussing these sentiments with other attendees, two sources of these problems arose—one being the sound/bal- ance and the other being that half the voices were made up of substit- ute vocalists.

Nearly every Conservatory student knows the effect the Chapel can have, and it is well known that it can even ruin con- certs. The Chapel is a place where only the true music fans can really understand the reverberant acoustic space are usually the ones wield- ing its power, but due to hav- ing their own soundboard opera- tors they performed sans Larry Darling, Director of Recording at the Conservatory. This resulted in prominent lows and a generally muddied sound, a disappointment compared to the clarity and walls that make up the record- ed version of “Partita.”

The other factor was that the first alto, tenor, baritone and bass- baritone were all substitutes. It was clear they were not incapable of parts, but from beginning to end, their sound and energy felt off, even slightly unfocused sometimes. It was not until a few days after the concert—right as I began writing this—that I learned about the substitutes, but I am glad it came to my attention as it answered my questions about blend and mindset.

The source of most of my confusion and discontent was the expectations I had for this performance. Even before this most recent one was announced, I had heard many instances of high praise for their 2014 con- cert. Many friends claimed it was one of their favorite concerts at Lawrence, and this—in conjunc- tion with hearing a few professors talk about the 2014 show and the group in general—understand- ably caused a great deal of excite- ment in me. It is strange what expectations can do. As the perfor- mance began, my thoughts on the ensemble were already formed and became—for the most part—neg- ative. These conflicting emotions were difficult to feel; I wanted to enjoy it, but I felt I could not.

Before knowing about the substitutes and discussing the sound with others—before having time to think much about it—I sat in the Chapel not sure what to feel. I cannot recall any other concerts like this ones—I wanted to reso- nate with, but was unable to due to reasons I could not quite put my finger on. While my thoughts were swirling during the performance, nothing was that concrete, merely leaving various details open to set off my negative reactions. A large part of my negative response had to do with the two newest pieces, Ted Reinarz’s “You Are Not Alone” and Wells’ “Kelfie Browder.” It is also worth noting that these pieces were the only two an original release in the program from their last visit, a small detail, but the more I think of it, the more I wish they had varied their program, even though I was not at the 2014 perfor- mance. Friends that attended both concerts, neither, or like me, one, agreed that a fresher reper- toire would have been ideal.

Again, I learned about the program similarities after the fact; I remember coming in the pieces’ subject matter and how they were performed. Both dealt with race, but because it seemed to be forced, and lack- ing substance. Although I appreci- ate that privileged composers are sharing awareness about racism through their music, the fact that so many different compositions by white compos- ers about a black victim or black experience left a weird taste in my mouth. On the other hand, I was excited about the new chamber piece through art, but on the other hand, I felt they did little beyond sharing the facts that happen.

Because of prior knowl- edge and the program notes, I was expecting more sensitivity, but it was not delivered. It is not easy for me to write a negative review, but even from this concert positive things can be gleaned. I am grateful that my experience with Roomful of Teeth forced me to continually confront my conflicting feelings throughout and afterwards.

Wendell Leahafd
Staff Writer

“Echolocations: Canyon,” released in 2015, is the first in a planned series of site-specific albums recorded in different nat- ural locations. Bird traveled to the ravines of Coyote Gulch in Utah and created an improvisa- tional soundscape spanning seven tracks, 51 minutes, using only his voice and electronic instruments.

The music explores the differ- ent sonic qualities of the reverber- ation canyon, including many dif- ferent violin techniques and song structures. Some are rhythmic, created with looping and effect pedals, and some are unstruc- tured improvisations.

The first track, “Sweep the Field,” is a long monophonic call into the space above. It incorpo- rates two of Bird’s favorite tech- niques, whistling and pizzicato, in unison. You can hear the sounds bouncing off of the massive rock walls surrounding Bird. It leads smoothly into “Groping the Dark,” the longest piece on the album, which moves through a looping sound that is obviously influenced by minimalism.

Another standout track is “The Return of Yawny,” dedicated to- day to his 2009 song “Yawny at the Apocalypse.” While this two- chord song is possibly the most famous piece, Bird’s quirky and varied style, featuring different tech- nique (striking the strings with the back of the bow). By listing, you can get a sense of Bird’s comfort and strength on his instrument. Many pop string players are neither experienced nor comfortable on their instruments, often draw- ing criticism from classically- trained musicians. Bird began to learn violin at age four and later studied violin performance at Northwestern University. He grew up surrounded by classical music and cites famous composers like Ravel and Bartók as his influences.

Bird’s thoughtful ear is as important as his musical tech- nique. He has a strong ability to hear the ways in which sound interacts with space. In his words, “Ever since I was a child, I would test different spaces with my voice or whistle or violin. Whatever sound you make, it’s like a giant finger that can reach beyond your fingers.”

At times, it is hard to tell which sound from “Echolocations: Canyon” were created onsite and which were created in studio pro- duction. While the violin domi- nates the musical texture of each song, there are often low drone pitches which seem to take away from the natural quality of the album, though this isn’t a neg- ative; they work well for their respective songs.

If you want to learn more about this compelling album, search for the 8-minute accompa- niment on YouTube. It shows Bird improvising while standing in a shallow creek facing the tall canyon walls. While the album’s other releases are very different from “Echolocations: Canyon,” I also recommend his 2009 album, “Noble Beast,” to anybody interested in further listening.

Andrew Bird’s
“Echolocations: Canyon”
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
JACOB DALTON

Students perform in spite of Denmark Vessey’s absence

Although Denmark Vessey was unable to show up last Saturday night, April 8, due to an overbooked flight, the show went on as various musically talented Lawrence students performed in spite of the esteemed rap artist’s absence. The students were all part of Students of Lawrence (SOL) Studios: Sterling Boyd, Jacques Fehr and Daniel Green. All three showed off their rapping skills on the Esch Hurvis Studio stage for a rather large audience. The event was sponsored by the WLFM radio station.

LUSO prepares split program

This Spring Term, the Lawrence University Symphony Orchestra (LUSO) will deviate from its usual concert cycle. Instead of performing a few symphonic works all together in one concert, the ensemble has temporarily divided into two groups that will present two unique programs for the first half of their concert cycle this term.

The first concert will feature one chamber orchestra performing George Frideric Handel’s "The Messiah" with the Lawrence University Choirs and selected soloists on Friday, April 21 at 8 p.m. in the Lawrence Memorial Chapel. This piece, which was first premiered 275 years ago, chronicles the life and death of the Christian Jesus as well as the Biblical prophecy regarding these happenings and the world’s reaction to his coming. This piece hails from the Baroque period of music, so in addition to incorporating harpsichord, several string players will be using Baroque bows for this performance in order to perform the piece in its original style with utmost integrity. Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Studies Mark Dupere will conduct the ensemble for this three-part masterwork. The second concert will feature the rest of the orchestra in a performance of Sergei Prokofiev’s “Peter and the Wolf” and the world premiere of recent graduate (16) Stephanie Sundberg’s “Curiously Deliberate.” This performance will be the same weekend as “The Messiah” on Sunday, April 23 at 3 p.m. in the Lawrence Memorial Chapel, “Peter and the Wolf” centers on the adventures of a young boy named Peter and his interactions with his grandfather and various animals in his backyard. Both speakers in the orchestra and the music itself weave together to tell this tale by clearly representing different characters in the story. This performance will be geared toward community outreach and include an “instrument petting zoo” after the performance, allowing audience members to learn more about and even try out various instruments with the assistance of students in the orchestra. Lawrence’s women’s music fraternity Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI) will be facilitating outreach with nearby schools in the weeks leading up to the performance to encourage attendance from students in the Appleton community. For this concert, Assistant Professor of Music Matthew Arau will conduct both “Peter and the Wolf” and Stephanie Sundberg’s

See page 10

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE LAWRENTIAN

overbooked flight, the show went Saturday night, April 8, due to an was unable to show up last was a kid and that, after com- he has been writing stories since creative writing minor, Jacob says with an acting focus. As for his en- cence for his theatre arts major will serve as his senior experi- ment’s rendition of “Gint” by starred in a total of 13 plays at with a theatre arts major and a writing. Although Denmark Vessey's absence. The students were Students of Lawrence (SOL) Studios: Sterling Boyd, Jacques Fehr and Daniel Green. All three showed off their rapping skills on the Esch Hurvis Studio stage for a rather large audience. The event was sponsored by the WLFM radio station. LUSO prepares split program

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The U.S. Does Not Care About The Syrian People

Rita Usmani Staff Writer

On April 6, 2017, Donald Trump ordered 59 cruise missiles on Syria's Shayrat Air Force Base to address the public, Trump used language that rationalized the air strikes based on the false narrative. In regard to the chemical weapons attack, President Trump ordered 59 cruise missiles. These missiles were launched from ships in the Mediterranean Sea.

An education at Lawrence is not about the price or the number of credits needed for a degree. It's not about discussing Plato with friends or sleeping in hammocks in the spring. It's about finding yourself and loving yourself in the process. We at Lawrence have been given a mere 47 words to answer one massive question: Why Lawrence?

With so much to say about the value of education in 2017, it can be difficult to summarize its worth into just 47 words. We at The Lawrentian, however, love a challenge, and have formulated our response to that age-old question, "Why Lawrence?" in just 47 words:

"At Lawrence, we believe that education is about more than just passing exams. It's about personal growth and development. It's about pursuing your passions and interests. It's about making connections and building relationships. It's about finding your place in the world. Ultimately, it's about becoming the best version of yourself. And that's why Lawrence is for everyone."

The opinions expressed in The Lawrentian are those of the students, faculty and community members who wrote them. The Lawrentian does not endorse any opinion piece except for the staff editorial, which represents a majority of the editorial board. The Lawrentian welcomes everyone to submit their own opinion pieces by using the parameters outlined in the masthead.

LUSO prepares split program continued from page 9

"Carousing Deliberately," which was selected for "The 16," was awarded a performance grant from the Arts Council of Greater Springfield and is one of the only musical numbers that has been featured in the show. The cast of "Carousing Deliberately" will perform on Thursday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Smollett Theatre.

The Alt-Right is Lying

Henry Dyrkal Staff Writer

I really wish I did not have to type this piece. I really wish that "alt-right" was a concept inherently does not exist. "White nationalism" is a much better descriptor. "Bogots" is a good descriptor. "Horrific," "insupercilious" is the best one. But this is the one that is worth 300 words more. If we suddenly seem to be doing things that are worse right now in the tone. Advocating for single-payer universal healthcare? Claiming that the Iraq war was a mistake? Condemning the Syria air strikes? These sound like things a Democrat would say.

These are lies. The alt-right is lying to you. Again. In a way, Trump's rhetoric is the alt-right's true voice. They think democracy is a joke and consider Putin the leader of the Free White Christian world (which isn't particularly white or Christian but is pretty free, although they want to take that away) since they lie at roughly equal rates. So here is what I am going to explain: for the most part, the alt-right loves the same thing regular conservatives love—they just love them in different ways.

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With that said, let's start with Syria. Now, the alt-right believe some- thing very different: they have no prob- lem with the U.S. and its allies. They see him as a secular force against the prosecution of the dictator, the Russian- and Iranian- backed Syrian government. They believe that the Assad regime in Syria, claims to pro- tect the moderate rebels and the dictators in power. The alt-right want to see a solution that works for the entire region and that would take the EU money and put it in the NHS, which was a major priority for the U.K. He enjoys a 66 percent approval rat- ing, and that includes Democrats and Republicans. He is a pre- fectly normal human being. He is not opposed to intervention. He really do believe in taking "caring for our people." But think about it: what do they say—"who are their people?" People of color do not get to be defined. They do not get to have a say in their own lives. They do not get to choose who they want to vote for, or what they want to do. They do sometimes say "whites only." The GOP would use this as an argument to get people to vote for them. They would say "who get to do things they like, but this is classic anti-Semitism. Nobody would take Bill Kristol's advice on anything, and these people are too dumb to realize that.

As for the social safety net, this is classic tactic of right-wing movements: plant your feet in the enemy's territory and claim that the Europeans were unemployed; more than 52% of the graduates were working in entry-level positions that did not require a degree. Instead of receiving support for pursuing a higher education, students, especially those who are first-generation or non-traditional, are often left out. Students are forced to make difficult decisions about college, and those decisions can have a lasting impact on their lives.

Letters to the Editor can be sent in to Opinions & Editorials Editor, Cassie Gitkin at gitkinc@lawrence.edu.
The Process of Cosplay

Several hours of Google searching and at least a small bucket of tears later, all I have is a list of clothing and shoes that I could consider to be cosplay. If there is an algorithm for determining which items are acceptable for cosplay, I certainly don’t know it.

Changes as simple as adding a thigh-high pair of boots or a skirt or changing the color of an item can jack up the price as much as 150%! Sometimes, there is not a single article of clothing that I did not end up purchasing twice. I need the product not matching the description or my own inaccuracy in interpreting what material would need.

Artists were hired to do some work constructing my own clothing. I did not have any reason to think I would need to make any complicated modifications or jump through too many hoops. It is not that difficult the process of finding clothes must be for people who do not have access to sewing materials. And this is considered an “easy” costume.

I will have spent a significant chunk of my pay for this term and a month on online sales and physical labor on a costume I will wear for two days and likely never even look at again. This is not a costume. And I can’t even guarantee it will be on the stage. Not to mention cosplay is expensive and expensive, and the reputation that cosplayers have for being something that is neither easy nor definitely earned. I am only about halfway done creating my costume and so far the amount of stress that this project has created for me has definitely outweighed the benefits.

That being said, I am fairly certain I will be performing again. I guess some people never just learn.

Sexual Misconduct Policy: A Year in Review

Naomi Oster
For The Lawrentian

As the anniversary of a specific raping of my campus comes upon us, I think it is time for us as Lawrentians, and me, to look back on how this campus has treated sexual assault. Please note that in the past year, we have heard much about the Title IX Coordinator. This position, after he is removed, is going to be filled with a new person who has a history with sexual assault. We may wonder what to expect from his new administration. Whatever happens, we have to make sure this person’s record is investigated and any mistakes he may have made are brought to light. We should have no confidence in any new position that is filled.

We need to continue being too afraid to work on these problems. This is a problem that can never be solved by a reality that is often referred to as a “system.” We can never change something that is so systemic and that has been deeply ingrained in our society. We need to start fixing it from the ground up. The only way to do this is to start having conversations about sex and consent. We need to talk about the importance of safe sex and consent. We need to talk about how to ensure that our campus is a safe place for everyone. We need to start having conversations about what it means to be a sexual assault survivor and how we can support them. We need to start having conversations about how we can prevent sexual assault from happening in the first place.

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EDITORIAL POLICY:
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.
—Letters to the editor should not be more than 350 words.

Members of the Associated Collegiate Press

PHOTO POLL

Victor Nguyen
Staff Photographer

What are you looking forward to at Cabaret?

“I am really excited to see the Cabaret’s fashion show! It’s beautiful with variety in costume’s color and pattern from many different cultures always amazed me!” —Abdusattor Abbosov

“I am looking forward to the dancing performance, especially Vietnamese Totem Bird Dance and K-pop dance.” —Kin Le

“I will come to watch and support my international Lawrence friends! They all participated in the show!” —Liam Wood

“I am really excited to see the Cabaret’s fashion show! It’s beautiful with variety in costume’s color and pattern from many different cultures always amazed me!” —Abdusattor Abbosov

“This is my second Cabaret at Lawrence. For this Cabaret I just want everybody to have fun and enjoy the show!” —Daniel Vaca

“This is my second Cabaret at Lawrence. For this Cabaret I just want everybody to have fun and enjoy the show!” —Daniel Vaca

2017-2018 Housing Selection Information

In order to select housing:
Step 1: Make certain your nonrefundable housing deposit is paid by April 1st. The deposit must be paid to Financial Services.
Step 2: Advance register online in Voyager for your 2017-2018 classes.
Step 3: Be certain your student account is current and paid up-to-date.
Step 4: Pick up and sign your Housing Contract after you complete Advance Registration. Contracts are available at the Campus Life Office (4th floor Warch Campus Center) until May 12th.
Step 5: Bring your signed Housing Contract with you on the specific date of Housing Selection. Please note: If you are selecting a room for you and your roommate(s), please be sure to bring their signed Housing Contract(s).

For detailed information, see our website at http://www.lawrence.edu/students/student_life/housing

Selection Timeline

Week 5
April 23rd - May 2nd
Advance Registration for 2017-2018 Classes
You must advance register for next year’s classes in order to select housing.

April 24th - May 12th
Pick up your Housing Contract
From 8am-noon or 1-5pm Monday-Friday from the Campus Life Office. You cannot choose housing without your contract.

Week 7
Friday, May 12th
Squatting (online)
Select your current single or double with your current roommate online on the housing website. Please note: If you complete the form online, your signed housing contract(s) must be turned into the Campus Life Office by 5pm on May 15th.

Monday, May 15th
Suite/Quad, Triple Selection & Squatting
We will begin averaging lottery numbers for Suite/Quad and Triple Selection at 7:20pm. In person Squatting will begin at 5pm, only one student needs to bring both signed contracts.

Tuesday, May 16th
Singles Selection
Students will pick in order based on lottery number.

Thursday, May 18th
Find Your Future Roommate
Meet other students searching for a roommate.

Week 9
Tuesday, May 23rd
Doubles Selection
Students will pick in order based on lottery number.