Habitat for Humanity, Sankofa collaborate for Shack-a-thon

Tina Czapilinska
Staff Writer

“...No books because you’re too short or because your feet are too small,” said junior and Sankofa house Residence Life Manager Tierra Masupha as she started the first installation of Sankofa Open Session (SOS).

SOS began as an incentive to facilitate an open forum on campus. Sophomore Louis Weissert, creator of the project, was inspired by the way young people are able to share their ideas and hoped to create this type of space on campus.

“This summer, I saw how people our age were able to express themselves in an open and honest way. I really couldn’t think of a place here that allowed for an inclusive and less formal way of sharing,” said Weissert.

Through this, Weissert hopes to hold monthly or biweekly “open mics” in Sankofa house.

“The idea is to create a free space where, as long as you’re saying it respectfully and not in an offensive way, you can say whatever you want,” continued Weissert.

Weissert felt that oftentimes the “struggle at Lawrence is a lot of people with good ideas, but no one to help combine those ideas to work in a bigger way.” For this reason, Weissert stresses an eagerness for collaboration.

“We are more than happy to work with any and all organizations who want to work with us,” said Weissert.

Last Friday’s event was a combination of Habitat for Humanity’s Shack-a-thon and Open Mic with Slam Poetry Club (SPC).

“(The goal is) to give a platform to a lot of people who don’t have one,” continued Masupha.

“We hope to inspire, connect, and express.”

“...no one to help combine those ideas to work in a bigger way.”

Sophomore Harrison Barber participated in the event and admitted a visible difference from typical SPC readings.

“This audience was a lot bigger, so [performers] got to open up and learn how to perform in a different way.”

SOS welcomes any sort of expression, not just spoken word.

See page 2

SJP hosts panel, fundraiser for Syrian refugee crisis

Nicole Mitchell
Staff Writer

“In the U.S., academic freedom tends to be about what you can write and what you can’t write, but for many people in the world, academic freedom is just about access to education,” said senior Razan Anabtawi, who serves as co-president of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) at Lawrence.

She spoke at SJP’s first event of the year—a panel on the Syrian refugee crisis. It took place in the Warch Campus Center cinema at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 28. Anabtawi was joined on the panel by junior and SJP co-president Tamara Nassar and sophomore and SJP vice president Mahmoud Shaar.

Around 30 students attend ed the 90-minute session. The panelists explained the causes and effects of a civil war which, according to Shaar, has displaced 12.1 million Syrians since the conflict began in March of 2011.

In addition to such distressing statistics, the panelists shared poems written by refugees and engaged the audience in an interactive simulation of some of the incredibly difficult choices that Syrians seeking asylum must confront.

Anabtawi explained that SJP felt compelled to speak out on the Syrian crisis because of the shared history of displacement between Palestinians and Syrians. Shaar added that during “a humanitarian crisis of this size — being insensitive to the plight of [the refugees] is very dangerous, because the environment that they are in [...] is what makes extremists, if not handled well.”

The panelists positioned access to education as an important part of stopping the spread of extremism. Educated refugees have more options to support themselves in their countries of asylum and are less likely to join militias as a means of income.

The panelists then introduced a fundraiser for Jusoor, a Montreal-based organization that provides Syrian refugees with scholarships to continue their education abroad. Shaar has a personal connection to the organization, as Jusoor provided the scholarship that enables him to attend Lawrence. SJP tabled for the rest of the week to raise funds.

Reactions to the panel were positive. Sophomore Oswaldo Gomez said he “definitely” felt more informed after attending and as a result, plans to get more involved with SJP in the future. “The panel was great. I really enjoyed the discussions of the facts, but also [...] the poems and letters. It really touched a deeper meaning,” Gomez stated.

Senior Camille Dozier, who came to the panel because she believed she “should learn more” about the refugee crisis, appreciated “hearing people’s questions” and felt that “at this panel in particular, people had really good questions.”

See page 2
Visiting Professor William Childs speaks on the role of images in ancient Greek art

On Monday, Sept. 28, Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) Norton Lecturer William Childs gave a presentation, titled “The Meaning of Pictures in Early Greece,” on ancient Greek pottery. The lecture was given in the Wriston Art Center auditorium at 7:30 p.m., and it was open to all community members.

The lecture was sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America and coordinated through the AIA Society of Appleton. The society works to research and preserve the world’s archaeological heritage, as well as to educate the public.

Professor of Anthropology Peter Peregrine, who is a contact for the AIA Society of Appleton, spoke before the lecture about the AIA. He noted the AIA’s recent work to preserve heritage sites in the Middle East and its role in bringing speakers to campus.

The lecturer, William Childs, is professor emeritus with the department of art and archaeology at Princeton University. His speech focused on the portrayal of myths, nature and everyday life in ancient Greek pottery. He stressed how nature is associated with the divine in ancient Greek art. He spoke about how narration developed as artists skillfully used tools to represent images with subtlety and variety.

In addition to ornamental representations of nature, images of heroic myths and death were evident in ancient Greek pottery. Assistant Professor of Classics Adriana Brook remarked, “[…] the fact that so many of these vases are showing scenes of burials is really interesting.”

She continued, “In fact, just in mythology today, we were talking about the Underworld and myths that are used to sort of help deal with the fear of confronting the unknown when we die. It was interesting to see the actual historical cultural representation of how people dealt with that in the ancient world to go along with those myths that we talked about today.”

The lecture combined interests in art, history and classical studies. Brook commented, “There are so few events on campus, in a campus that is just rustling with events, that are geared specifically towards students who are taking myth […] I felt that this was a really unique opportunity for the students who are taking that class, who might otherwise feel that there’s not necessarily a lot going on that directly intersects with their studies, and yet, here is this lecture […] a perfect way to take little bits and pieces that we’ve heard in class and apply them in a new context.”

Sankofa continued from page 1
Organizers foresee the forum extending to different outlets. “We also want to create a political dialogue—using art and art installations to tie in some aspects of activism,” said Weissert. Students can look forward to more free space forums from SOS and can get more direct information on their Facebook page.

“We are not a recognized organization on campus,” concluded Weissert. “We are just a project that we, as Sankofa, put forth to make an open and inclusive community to all different types of people and arts.”

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As per usual, there were some editors drinking coffee in their bean-bag chairs and gossiping about things that George only cared to listen to as a means of procrastination.

"Chaser is usually so reliable," said the tall one to the short one.

"He's probably just under the weather from that food poisoning outbreak," said the short one to the tall one.

"I don't know. There was that time when he stapled his finger together and still managed to write an article for the paper using just one hand. But he's just been lazy. Besides, most people seem to have recovered.

"Laziness is just so unlike him. He's always so obviously committed to doing a good job."

"I know. I'm the one who has to edit his damn contributions to the current events section. They're always meticulously researched and written. It makes me feel obsolete."

"Didn't something like this happen before, when he exposed the owl scandal? He disappeared for a week, came back covered in bandages and the owl regulation laws were changed."

"The tall one's eyes rolled. "He said he was under cover."

"So dedicated. What was he working on this time?"

"I can't remember exactly. He sort of made his own assignments. I think he said something about water processing plant on the other end of the lake. Or maybe it was something about Good Eats? [Geogre] That sounds a bit domestic for him. He always seems to like to get off campus for his reporting."

"Yeah, I know. Good Eats is also pretty dull. Maybe he wants to start critiquing the soup in the cafeteria."

"Well, we are down a food critic after the food poisoning outbreak. Shelly is apparently refusing to eat in the cafeteria in protest of what she claims must be a dirty kitchen environment."

"The short one did not exactly seem sensitive to poor Shelly's plight. "Perish the thought of her perfect poached salmon expected to even be in the same room as imperfectly baked beans."

"She's not the only one though. I've heard from a lot of people that they don't want to chance the cafeteria after all that projectile vomiting."

"Yeah, I didn't like that part."

"I'm betting no one did."

George was now not even pretending to pay attention to his computer.

"Well then, what are all those people eating instead?"

"It's a soup good!" George realized that he was also supposed to make soup at Nuddy House, and that if he wanted to get a spot, he would have to grab his tomatoes, remove his clothes and fight through the line.

Fiona

Dear Fiona,

As usual, there were some editors drinking coffee in their bean-bag chairs and gossiping about things that George only cared to listen to as a means of procrastination. "Chaser is usually so reliable," said the tall one to the short one. "He's probably just under the weather from that food poisoning outbreak," said the short one to the tall one. "I don't know. There was that time when he stapled his finger together and still managed to write an article for the paper using just one hand. But he's just been lazy. Besides, most people seem to have recovered."

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It was all smiles on Boldt Way. Early on Saturday, Sept. 26, the inaugural Lawrence University Tri Boldt Triathlon, a friendly compe-
tition focused around Lawrence’s own Boldt Way began. Competing either as teams or by themselves, 26 students and staff members of all levels of fitness swam 300 yards, biked 4.5 miles, and ran 1.6 miles to complete the endurance race.

The first place winners in the team competition were Team Stout, with a time of 28 minutes and 35 seconds. The team consisted of Daniel Martin ’07, senior Tyler Herman and junior Dani Millin. Winning the individual race was freshman Janson Lau, who completed in 21 minutes and 35 seconds of the race in 36 minutes and 59 seconds.

The triathlon was created to give Lawrentians another chance to motivate themselves to stay healthy and active. “The idea was to create an opportunity for people to try a triathlon if they’ve never done it before, and if they have, to have a nice event on a beautiful fall morning,” Director of Wellness and Recreation Erin Buenzli said.

After having three competitions under their belt, the Lawrence University Golf team is almost finished with the fall portion of their season. They have seen many good rounds from a number of different golfers, and have welcomed some new faces to what will be a young team moving forward.

The college golf season is split up into separate fall and spring sections. With only four scheduled meets in the fall, it can cause some stress to golfers this early. Many of the golfers at this level are more lighthearted about it. “Division III golf is not as competitive. People are very nice to each other, we are just having fun on the golf course,” Junior Nigel Schuster said.

The team has a fast start to the season, with Schuster in particular having a fair amount of success. After finishing third in the Midwest Conference last year, he placed in a tie for tenth at the Wisconsin Lutheran College Invitational on Sept. 20-21. The team is hoping to have a strong showing at the Midwest Conference Tournament, which will be held at the Wisconsin Lutheran College golf course on Sept. 20-21.
Patsy Kealey - Women’s Soccer

Athlete of the Week

by Gabriel Armstead Chapman

This week, I sat down with senior goalkeeper Patsy Kealey of the women's soccer team. Kealey was recently named the Midwest Conference Defensive Player of the Week, posting 22 saves, 0.957 save percentage, and a shutout over a period of two games against UW-Stevens Point and Carroll University.

Gabe Chapman: First off, congratulations on the Midwest Conference Defensive Player of the Week award. Did it come as a surprise?

Patsy Kealey: Yes. I definitely was not expecting it.

GC: What has contributed to your success in goal over the past two games?

PK: The support from my teammates -- it’s not just me; it’s everyone on the team. The defense has really been stepping it up, and my coaches have faith in me and are helping me get back into it.

GC: You recently transitioned to goalie. Has it been a smooth transition?

PK: It was a little rough at first, but I’d say after a couple weeks it got better.

GC: Do you miss playing your old position as a defender?

PK: Yeah, I miss being able to run and have actual physical contact with other players, but I enjoy goalie. They both have pros and cons.

GC: Your win over Stevens Point was the first since 1989. How did it feel to break a streak like that?

PK: No one really knew (about the streak), we just knew that they [UW-Stevens Point] were a pretty good team so we were very happy to be able to win and come together. It was definitely one of the better games we’ve played so far this season.

GC: As a senior on the team what’s your leadership role like?

PK: Well I am one of three senior captains -- Lucy Brown and Genna Matt are the other two. I tore my ACL, so I was out my junior year of soccer, so I took on a different role like that of an athletic trainer for the team. Being able to see both sides has really helped me as a leader and to be able to see what the team needs to work on.

GC: Do you see yourself continuing to be involved with soccer after Lawrence?

PK: I’d say just playing. I enjoy goalie. They both have pros and cons.

GC: In your next game against Carroll, you played great, but the team ended up walking away with a tough loss. What did you guys take away from that game?

PK: That there are definitely things we need to work on still, it’s not going to be a walk in the park in our conference. But I think it gave us determination to keep doing well.

GC: Your teammate Casey Merkle was also recently awarded Midwest Conference Player of the Week honors, what’s motivating the team to play at such a high level?

PK: I’d say just playing for each other and the team. Everyone has a competitive drive to win and it’s very upsetting when we don’t win. You can tell on the bus afterward; it’s a different environment after a loss.

GC: As a player of the Week, posting 22 saves, 0.50 goals against average, a 0.957 save percentage, a shutout over a period of two games against UW-Stevens Point and Carroll University.

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GC: Do you see yourself continuing to be involved with or playing soccer after Lawrence?

PK: I would like to. I’m looking into getting into athletic administration after graduation, so really any division or any sport would be ideal.

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Beyond the Bubble: Pre-pre-pre-election and political theater

Regan Martin  Staff Writer

Even though the next presidential election is still over a year away, it is already dominating much of the American conversation. This election seems to be a particularly lively one. It is hard to witness the shenanigans of candidates from both parties without forming a rather bitter opinion of American politics. Lawrentians have certainly formed a very strong view of the current political climate.

The main emotion expressed by students was disappointment about the polarizing nature of our system. “It’s f---ed, because bipartisan politics polarize everybody,” said junior Gabe Peterson. “It doesn’t allow for specific voices that don’t necessarily fit within a political party to be heard … I think the fact that money has such a large role in the campaign system, and that so much money is being poured into the media … makes it impossible for anyone to say what they mean to say without connotations or the way that things are spun.”

Senior Heidi Thiel felt similarly frustrated over this divide, saying, “I think the biggest problem we have is that it’s just so divisive that there are only two parties and that they refuse to work together. It really just divides our country and everyday people.”

Sophomore Shelby Hader elaborated further on this point, saying, “I guess I’m upset as well, one on how we can never work together on either side … [but] also about how we don’t care about other people in this country. It’s just dog eat dog, and I wish that could change.”

It is not just the lack of cooperation between both sides that has students upset, but the legitimacy of the candidates in this particular election and how politics seem to have turned into entertainment. Peterson continued, “I think the worst part of this s---show is that certain people who I don’t feel are valid candidates -- certain extreme candidates -- are getting so much attention while the most logical candidates are put on the back-burner because what they’re doing isn’t outrageous or extravagant.”

Senior Shannon Grant also expressed a great deal of concern and anger over the fact that “we’re already planning [the current election] so far in advance and it’s already become part of our news cycle. It’s really upsetting, particularly how many Republican candidates we have, and it’s clearly something we use as entertainment now. While I think political satire is very important, the fact that politicians and people who are in positions of power have become the joke themselves is really scary.”

Sophomore Flo Van Lieshout felt like a lot of the important issues are being lost in this political theater. “I think that I’m disappointed that the lives and opinions of women are not being more clearly expressed, and I wish that there was more of an emphasis on that right now. I also think the general education level of people who are watching these debates and voting for Donald Trump really concerns me.”

Yet even some of the most vocal students asked still have faith. “I think I’m an optimist, so I have hope,” said Peterson. “I have hope for this election because I’ve worked on an election in the past and we won, so I’ve seen what can happen.”

In the midst of various sound bites, we seem to have lost sight of things like the many local elections coming up at the end of this year. These could end up making big differences through small change, and they warrant a measure of hope for the future in a very confusing time.

Regan Martin  Staff Writer

How does the café make you feel?
“I appreciate that it’s open until midnight and the workers are very kind. I really love the baked goods section.”

How much did that cookie cost?
“Two dollars, but after a certain time, they’re only one dollar if [the café is not] out of them.”

How do you feel at this moment?
“I feel like my mouth is watering in anticipation of biting into my cookie.”

Photo and interview by Rose Nelson
Focus on campus safety: keeping Lawrence safe

From driving night owls who study until 3 a.m. back to their dorm rooms to helping out with medical emergencies, there is virtually nothing Lawrence University Campus Safety would not do for the students. They are often the unsung heroes who help build a safe and supportive environment for Lawrentians.

The team currently employs six officers — three part-time and three full-time staff members. Campus safety works 24 hours a day throughout the year. With such a small staff, you will not often find an officer staying at one place more than five minutes.

According to Campus Safety Officer Caleb Zitek, who joined over the summer, it can get especially hectic during high-traffic times, such as Octoberfest and Welcome Week, when things get more exciting. Occurrences of routine tasks, such as rescuing locked-out students, patrolling or taking calls, also increase. During our conversation with Zitek and Campus Safety Officer Bart Boge ’95, we were often interrupted by the students’ calls to the campus safety line.

The hectic schedule and workload do not seem to faze the officers, as they talked to us about their jobs with lots of enthusiasm. It seems that both Zitek and Boge greatly enjoy the working environment here, as well as their interactions with Lawrence students.

To Zitek, the best part of the job is “getting to know people,” he said. “Although I am only here part of the week, a lot of people know my name.” As an alumnus, Boge greatly appreciates the opportunity to be back here working on campus. After two years back on campus, he loves the camaraderie within the team.

Sophomore and Ormsby Hall Residence Life Advisor (RLA) Maamie Appiah told us how much she was amazed by the campus safety team.

“I have been to other colleges and I have never heard of campus safety coming in to pick someone up or to drive them back to their residence halls,” said Appiah. “Also as an RLA, when anything happens, I can call them and they are always here,” she added.

Working so closely with the student body, the team also has their own take on the typical Lawrentian. More than anyone, as everyday first-hand witnesses, they understand the Lawrentian lifestyle from a unique perspective.

“They all seem stressed out,” said Zitek, with a chuckle. “When [we are] running around at 3 or 4 a.m., we are definitely not the only people still walking around. People are up all night. I see a lot of good work ethics around here, which is really nice.”

Being an alumnus, Boge seems to be the resident Lawrence expert on the team. As a night shift officer, he reported an equally fascinating observation about the Lawrence difference.

“[Wildlife] is different here,” said Boge. “The wild raccoons that we see every night, their main diet is Toppers pizza crust.”
Traus and faculty amaze with unique concert

Izzy Yellen
Staff Writer

It’s not often I go to a concert without preconceived notions or ideas of what will happen. In a way, this is nice. I can prepare myself for the concert yet still be surprised and amazed at how it unfolds. But it’s also refreshing not knowing all at what I will hear – possibly because I haven’t lis
tened to the program before. In the case of Summer Traus’s, of the Saxophone Department, recent faculty recital, it was both.

The recital, which took place in the Memorial Chapel on Saturday, Sept. 26, featured Traus playing a wide variety of contempor
ary instrumental music with several guests – a frequent collaborator and friend Drew Worden, senior students Joe Connor and Collin Parsons and other faculty, Steven Jordehelm, Matt Turner, Mark Urness and Dane Richeson. For each of the seven pieces, the instrumentation and overall sound changed drastically, keep
ning the audience on the edge of their seats.

The beginning of the concert was the most gripping opening of a live performance I have ever wit
nessed. As the audience sat astyli
cally on the stage facing the house, the lights faded to black although no performer was on the stage. After what felt like a couple min
utes, the sound of three soprano saxophones, Traus, Jordehelm and Connor, came from the balcony. The piece, “The Everything That Rises,” composed by David Clay Mettens, utilized intonation techniques that created incredible sonic illus
ions. The effects were indescrib
able – when the equation and unfamiliar tuning is used, the mind can play tricks, producing tones that aren’t there and textures never heard.

Similar to the ethereal sound of metten’s piece was the Karlheinz Stockhausen’s text
based improvisation. Traus was joined by cellist Matt Turner, bassist Mark Urness and percu
sionists Dane Richeson and Drew Worden. The piece was meditative and comprised of drones from dif
ferent instruments. By the end, I felt reassured and content, even tear
ing up, moved by the beauty of it.

This concert amazed me in many ways, but the most notable was Traus’s ability to play such a wide range of pieces in such a short time, and to play them well. Some pieces featured him
building his head and relishing in the sheer complexity of the time and rhythms while others allowed me to be completely at peace. It is
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Ramirez reveals changes in attitudes towards Latin American art

Henry Dykstal
Staff Writer

For the uninformed into Latin American art from this time peri
od, it’s close to being a revelation. While most Americans’ knowledge of Latin American art begins and ends with Kahlo and Riveria, Ramirez revealed in her lecture an entire cosmos of art, one made up of every nation and ethnicity south of the Rio Grande.

Ramirez’s taste is immu
nate: her choices of works ran the gamut from sculpture and mosaic to masks and photography. From the beginning she refutes the idea of “Latin Art,” calling the term too narrow for the limitless
definition of the art made over centuries and across generations and backgrounds. Her argument and evidence make it overwhel
mingly difficult, if not impossible, to disagree. When seeing this art there are concerns with the same ideas, but the approaches are infinite in their variations.

Acknowledgment of the inherent differences among these philosophies and cultures of the “United States’ treatment of its Latin American population and nations... 2015” is biased at best and overwhelm
ingly cruel at its lowest. It has been called to question in certain contexts as it ever been present. Ramirez chose to frame the art as an expression, rather than a response. Ramirez also acknowledges the complexity of the history of Latin American art’s place in the United States, with artists being supported by Nelson Rockefeller and purchased by places such as the Museum of Modern Art. But instead, Ramirez throws off plans. The Mexican muralists were poised to become the most important artists of the period. However, with World War II and the Cold War’s consequent arrival, their pieces were confined to the basement of museums and inside the homes of private collectors.

Recruitment was slow, Ramirez explained, over decades, follow
ing the shift of time and polit
ics. Ramirez herself was candi
d about her own efforts, giving us a fascinating tour of the “inverted Utopias” exhibit she helped curate, where the artists from the cutting edge of contemporary art of Brazil to Xul Solar’s collaborations with Jorge Luis Borges. These were not cho
sen merely for novelty or politi
cal reasons: Ramirez emphasized their formal brilliance and their moving side by side or ahead of their European counterparts.

Book Review
John Green’s “Paper Towns”

McKenzie Fetters
For the Lawrence

“Paper Towns” is a fic
ctional bildungsroman novel of the young adult genre. At first glance, it seems to follow
the typical formulaic plotting of many a teenage romance novel out there today – the synopsis on the back cover details the story of a boy named Quentin, who is in love with a girl named Margo, but too shy to make any
factions of his affections – a story we have all read time and time again, with little varia
tions here and there. However, the book proves to be so much more than the typical love story that appears on its surface.

John Green’s quirky prose and witty dialogue compose a story that begs to be read aloud – one that is genuinely funny, heartbreakingly sad and filled with precious nuggets of wis
dom and truth. It is a story that contains mystery, romance and much more.

Quentin, the protagonist, who narrates the entire novel in first person, provides a refresh
ing view on life as he knows it – reporting events as they hap
pen with utmost veracity, giving the text a verve that propels
the reader from one page to the next. His character is well
rounded, solid, achingly human and completely relatable. His love interest, Margo, is also ach
ingly human – enigmatic and unpredictable, high spirited and unique, perpetually lost and out of place.

After showing up unex
pected at Quentin’s window one night, the incredible and lovely Margo promptly takes
Quentin out of his comfort zone on a marvelous adventure filled with pranks, tussling and a good portion of fun. The fol
lowing day Margo goes miss
ing and Quentin takes it upon himself to read the signs that he left behind in order to find her again.

His journey, filled with a cast of characters who are each as eccentric and lovable as the last, chronicles his final weeks of high school, senior prom, and graduation, and delves into such topics as leaving, good
byes, friendship, the faults of human perception, the dangers of expectation and imagination, the discrepancy of appearances and reality, the futility of human existence and the maturation of one’s soul.

“Paper Towns” was a great transitional book for me as I finished high school and proceeded into the collegiate phase of my life, as I happened to be reading the parts of the book involving senior prom, graduation and saying good
bye to people for college as I was experiencing those things myself. Perhaps my perception of the book’s greatness is undu
ly heightened by that synchro
nization. Nevertheless, I would highly recommend “Paper Towns” to any teen looking for a good read and/or an excellent commentary upon some impor
tant life concepts. John Green will take you on a ride with some unexpected twists and turns, but with plenty of heart
warming companions at your side. Consistently humorous, intelligent and savory to very
delicately “Paper Towns,” despite being made out of paper, con
tains the depth and dimension of life itself.

Correction
In the Article “Deep listening experiment enlightens,” appear
ing in the Sept. 25 issue of The Lawrentian, Tony Capparelli ’14’s piece was incorrectly referred to as “Enea.”

Capparelli’s piece is called “Inna: Calm Down.”

Paper Towns

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In the text “Deep listening experiment enlightens,” appearing in the Sept. 25 issue of The Lawrentian, Tony Capparelli ’14’s piece was incorrectly referred to as “Enea.” Capparelli’s piece is called “Inna: Calm Down.”
Music is a comparatively underappreciated art form. “When you go to a museum, you look at a piece of visual art. People are pressured in situations like that to focus on something,” junior Sam Pratt said. “I don’t think a lot of people realize that music can be treated the same way; a lot of music is meant to be treated that way.”

Pratt is working towards receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in music, as well as a major in mathematics. He sees the areas as separate entities that occasionally interact.

“You can be creative in math,” Pratt said. “When I write musical compositions, the compositions are influenced by math, in terms of structure and harmony.”

However, Pratt’s understanding of music does not purely rely on the mathematical sense. Having been involved in music from a very young age, Pratt has had time to develop and hone a separate personal philosophy.

“I didn’t really get into music into listening to music and really playing music until high school,” he said. “I started looking more and more into the high school,” he said. “I started looking more and more into the philosophy with people who he knew anything about it. You may know anything about it. You may not have encountered people to listen to like that, stuff that’s not just you showing off. It’s more a concert just because you don’t know anything about it. You may not have encountered people to listen to like that, stuff that’s not just you showing off. It’s more

If you could provide music for people to listen to that stuff that’s thoughtful.”

It’s trying to create something with a group of people or by myself; it’s about creating a piece of art,” Pratt said. “That doesn’t really work if it’s just you showing off. It’s more about building something that is meaningful.”

The genre we like to describe it as is noise punk avant-garde jazz,” he said. “We feed off of each other’s improvisation.”

“Weird, we improvise on that while I improvise on saxophone,” Pratt commented. “That was the purpose of the most recent concert, to create something meaningful with friends. Stuff I Do with My Friends [besides eat pizza] was a personal expression of all the musical work Pratt does on campus.

“I have a lot of different things that I do,” he said. “I want to have a performance opportunity for all these things.”

The recital, which took place on Thursday, October 1, in Harper Hall, included a jazz quartet with junior Matt Blair on piano, junior Jakob Heinemann on bass and junior Jeremiah Lemike-Rochon on drums. Following was an improvisational dual between friends’ roommates, junior Gabe Peterson, who also plays saxophone. Hippie Bullshit and Sk8 City also made appearances. A more extensive review of the recital will be published in next week’s issue of The Lawrentian.

All in all, Pratt wanted to take this opportunity at Harper Hall to share his main musical philosophy with people who may have never encountered this before. “Focusing on listening is a very important thing,” he said.

Photo by Abedin Rafique

I can’t make it a conscious effort to do this, but it certainly hasn’t been what it used to be, nor has it intrigued or impressed me that much -- that’s not to say there aren’t current artists I like. These are all general observations though, as The Living Strange pulled me in with their single “Gillisblu” and even more so with their debut extended play (EP), “2 AM Freak Show,” released Friday, October 2.

With futuristic, trippy effects, catchy grooves and dense, poetic lyrics, this EP can be listened to over and over again, and there will still be new aspects to hear. It’s no doubt that The Living Strange put as much effort into sound design and production as they did to songwriting.

This attention to detail of sound is most prevalent on the title track. Interpersed throughout both the quiet and loud sections, you’ll hear sounds that will make you do a listening equivalent of a double take. They sound out of this world, but when accompanied with a simpler, more common rock sound, the two create a blend that sounds fresh and appealing, adding the perfect amount of pizzazz to set them apart from similar bands.

With this use of unique sounds, it is important for there to be a sense of control over the chaos and quick shifts in energy. The Living Strange does just that, with an obvious emphasis on being tight and well-rehearsed. With ease, they transverse different levels while maintaining a strong sense of intensity. Whether it’s just acoustic guitar and voice or busy drum fills, a screaming distorted guitar and meaty bassline, the band conveys emotion and vigor throughout.

This is partly due to their shared musical influences, which include St. Vincent and Arctic Monkeys, who also have a similar approach to their overall sound. But with the additions of their hectic personalities and non-musical influences such as Kurt Vonnegut and Andy Warhol, they solidify themselves as a unique band who is pushing the boundaries of rock.

The Living Strange are currently touring the East coast and plan to tour the West coast later this year. Despite only releasing four songs recently, they are sitting on a lot of material and will be releasing EPs and hopefully an album in the near future. You can find The Living Strange at <https://thelivingstrange.bandcamp.com>.

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one thing to play technically and impress the audience but another to express and evoke deep emotions. All who participated in this recital did both.

Truax was able to emphasize his technical side of playing when he performed Calvin Labadie’s “Strata 1,” a piece that requires the saxophonist to not only circulate breath for nearly ten minutes, but also to play a motor figure throughout. Similar to a didgeridoo performance, he played a basic pattern underneath while layering other figures on top. Technically, this was all extremely challenging for the average saxophonist, but Truax performed it effortlessly.

Do not be turned away from a concert just because you don’t know anything about it. You may discover new music that moves you or have one of the most blissful experiences of your life. And in some cases, even both.
Responding to the changes in Bon Appétit policies

Last week, several dozen students sat in on LUUC General Council, while four upperclassmen led discussion on the changes made to this year’s meal plan and Bon Appétit policies. In attempts to save Bon Appétit money, the addition of clamshells has been implemented to reduce the amount of broken and stolen dishware. While this could be an effective money-saving alteration, both the price of students’ meal plan and cost of food in Kaplan’s Cafe have increased. This includes items that now cost the same, despite being half their previous size.

So far, Bon Appétit has been responsive to some of student’s concerns. At the beginning of the year, a student leaving the commons could only take one single piece of hand fruit or dessert while leaving the commons. Now, students are able to leave the commons with a sandwich or bagel in addition to a hand fruit or dessert item.

Despite inching in the right direction, the limits to food taken from the commons are quite an adjustment for returning students who were able to leave Andrew Commons with an entire plate of food last year. This is mainly an issue for athletes, who often do require extra sustenance between meals.

There are still much bigger issues and questions yet to be answered by Bon Appétit and relevant campus staff. For the last several years, the administration has been selective in its accountability for student complaints. Smaller issues like menu items are dealt with speedily. However, larger issues such as pricing and adequate meal plans are entrapped in bureaucracy.

Before attending the meeting last week, it was not clear that Lawrence’s finance department determines the cost of the meal plan, not Bon Appétit. Furthermore, Lawrence staff asserted that about $500 of each student’s board cost could be classified as overhead. When asked to explicate, there was no clear information presented on exactly where these funds are directed or how these figures are determined.

Above all, we are concerned about the lack of nutrition we are receiving in a meal plan that -- mathematically speaking -- could never offer students three meals per day. When asked to explicate, there was no clear information presented on exactly where these funds are directed or how these figures are determined.

Nourishment sustenance is essential to students’ health and wellness. Students should not have to worry that they are unable to have three meals a day due to the limits of their meal plan or the way their schedule lines up with the hours that Andrew Commons is open.

Whether it is a Bon Appétit manager of a member of Lawrence’s finance department, students’ concerns need to be addressed. With so many different changes this year, Lawrence needs to be transparent about decision-making in regards to our food plan. In order for students and staff to work collectively to establish a happy medium that everyone is comfortable with, students need to know where these decisions are made.

Going beyond the issue of same-sex marriage

Bridget Keenan
For The Lawrentian

It was quite an eventful summer in the realm of social justice. One of the news stories hardest to ignore was the judgement regarding same-sex marriage by the Supreme Court of the United States Supreme Court. As I am heavily involved in queer politics, many people were surprised how little general discontentment there was at this decision.

What concerned me was not so much the decision’s impact on the definition of marriage or its impact on queer politics as a whole, but that many of the people who supported the Supreme Court’s decision supported it for entirely the wrong reasons. To me, same-sex marriage served to confirm many queers’ worst fears and nightmares about the fate of our community.

Before we start talking about the ethics of making same-sex marriage legal, it is vitally important that we address whom this bill will actually be benefitting. Liberal activists have a tendency to think that allowing same-sex marriage is the cure-all-end-all to queers’ problems. The myth that legalizing same-sex marriage directly benefits same-gender-attracting people as a whole is little more than propaganda. While inarguably fair, this sentiment towards marriage equality only overwhelmingly more pressing issues affecting the same people. Queer-phobic bullying and assault are still major issues, and it is irresponsible to sidestep individual safety over something as frivolous as marriage.

Furthermore, marriage rights are a privilege rather than a matter of safety or respect. We marry to socially and legally validate our existing relationships. It has nothing to do with how safe you feel in that relationship in the first place. Supporting a wedding doesn’t exactly constitute supporting someone’s identity. It simply means you think marriage is appropriate for them. The marginalized orientations, gender alignments and intersex (MOGAI) movement is focused on the latter two. Claiming marriage to be a cornerstone of the queer rights movement grossly misunderstands queer culture as a whole. Calling an act that does so little to affect the well-being of the community, “a major victory” is misguided at best.

Centering such a diverse and individual social movement on domestic marriage derails MOGAI groups from their original function. The original Stonewall gay rights movement was founded on the principle that everyone should be able to freely express their gender and sexual identity independently of the heterosexual culture. Much of the movement was based on gay people identifying separately from the mainstream culture, since main-stream acceptance was so far out of the question to the point of being unnecessary. It was only when gay people -- regular, cisgender, bourgeois homosexual -- became more accepted that issues such as marriage and public displays of affection were at all addressed by this group.

The movement shifted from questioning social norms to proving that gay people were “normal” enough to merit a place in heteronormative culture. Homonormativity is the systematic exclusion and invalidation of queer and trans identities based on their conformity to the domesticity-biased, amatonormative model of queerness. Most arguments for same-sex marriage revolve around homonormativity as a goal.

Worst of all is the fact that so many people who adamantly support same-sex marriage are wholeheartedly against other MOGAI groups. Many straight, allo and cis people have been led to the belief that it is worth looking to the 1,000-plus legal benefits legally married couples get over any other type of relationship. Not to mention the social recognition and benefits reserved exclusively for people who choose to marry.

It is hypocritical to claim to support marriage equality when the definition of marriage is by nature unequal. All in all, the Supreme Court’s decision only really affects homosexual and bisexual cisgender people in gay-friendly and less hostile areas; which in all reality is only a tiny privileged fraction of the people affected by the judicial decision.
Frates under fire: looking past Greek life's travestries

Theodore Kortenhof
Staff Writer

Greek life is a hot-button topic today, both on college campuses and in the media. At Lawrence, this is no exception. While Lawrence does not claim the same number of Greek organizations as other larger schools, the presence of Greek life at Lawrence is noticed by all. As a member of Lawrence’s Greek system, I acknowledge that Greek life has its problems. However, I believe that Greek life is a fundamentally good institution.

Greek life as a whole is a controversial topic. Of late, mainstream media has not been kind to the presence of Greek life at Lawrence University Volunteer Service, one of the top academic benefits as well. Volunteerism, Greek life often accomplishes. These portrayals do not accurately represent the entirety of Greek life at Lawrence. My fraternity, I consider a brother, miles away from home, it is a big responsibility. Greek organizations come together to form a network of alumnae and alumni, a thousand hours of volunteer service is my support net. They are normal people. This feels like an exceptionally exciting and culturally important topic today, both on college campuses and in the media. At Lawrence, this is no exception.

While I am at times ashamed of the actions of some people involved in Greek life, I feel that I have been profoundly affected by Greek life at Lawrence. My fraternity is my support net. They are my friends when I am lonely, my cheerleaders when I need a boost and my guardians when I need help. As someone living 2,000 miles away from home, it is a big comfort to have someone close at hand who I consider a brother, and count on like I count on my family.

Greek life is one of the staples of my education. It provides me with a home away from home. I understand that Greek life is not for everyone. Not everyone is interested in, or has time for a Greek organization. However, to those with an open mind, Greek life can have major benefits. If you are anything like myself, you might not even realize that Greek life may be right for you. So don’t be shy, give it a shot. What is there to lose?
Editors Policy:
Editorial policy is determined by the editors. Any opinions which 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 and to edit each submission for clarity, decency and grammar.

PHOTO POLL

What do you think of Bon Appétit’s policies?

“You shouldn’t have to pay for a clamshell since you are already paying for an expensive meal plan.”
— Nina Wilson

“I’m personally satisfied with the current policies, but would love to see a new plan that works better be put in place.”
— John Newhall

“As a senior who has seen offerings decrease over time, the increase in price and decrease in food is an unwelcome change.”
— Cindy Guan

“I heard from people who went to the LUCC meeting that Bon Appétit is only changing what they receive from LU, and I feel we’re giving them a hard time.”
— Emily Davis

“The idea of the clamshell is great as it is saving the university a lot of money. However, they didn’t seem to pass these savings on to the students.”
— Emily Stanislawski

“It’s unfair for people who eat later, or want to eat and study at the same time. I also don’t like that they raised the prices but lowered the overall quality.”
— Julia Jaglowski

ADVERTISE EXPOSURE

The Lawrentian prints 24 issues per year, with color on the front and back. We accept business card, 1/8 page, 1/4 page and 1/2 page advertisements.

To advertise in The Lawrentian, contact lawrentian@lawrence.edu, or reach out directly to Managing Editor Katie Crawford at katherine.a.crawford@lawrence.edu.

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