



## Vibrant water colors initiate new library show: Art Underground

By Alyssa Guarino

Luminous works of art by Hyo-Chong Yoo, associate professor on the Fine Art and Design program at Centenary, decorate the library walls, thanks to library director, Timothy Domick's concept of Art Underground.

Domick said recently that because members of the art program, who shared the same passion he has, about students being surrounded by, and sharing the art they have created, "we have dubbed the space between the library and the print shop on the lower level; ART Underground." Prof. Hyo-Chong Yoo volunteered to exhibit her paintings for the first show.

Domick said, "In painting this series, not only did Professor Yoo develop a new technique for painting watercolors, she also came to discover the healing component of art as therapy.

This series of paintings came about after the death of Yoo's mother. Yoo was struggling

with the loss and fell into a deep depression. She found that nothing could help overcome the struggle but paint. During this period, she realized that she was painting in a different style from before. Previously, Yoo had used more water and the brush strokes were wilder. During this period, Yoo was using the paint to build-up colors layer by layer, resulting in a more solid, yet soft and calm atmosphere."

After Yoo finished the paintings she said, "Finally, I could return to myself as an active teacher and artist again. Now, I can confidently declare that art can heal disturbed human minds and souls!" Prof. Yoo will be creating more shows, mostly done by students. The paintings are in the library for anyone to stop by and visit, as well as reflect and share in the power of art and all that it can do.



Watercolors by Prof. Hyo-Chong Yoo, in the Art Underground display in the library's lower level. Photos: Alyssa Guarino

## Plan ahead: December to bring *A Christmas Carol* to campus.

See other December programs, p. 8



*A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. L to R: Osbourne Focht as Ebenezer Scrooge and Dave Scheffler as Marley's Ghost. Photo: Bob Eberle

## You stagnatin'?

By Dan Casserly

Sure, it seems that the people on Capitol Hill and the decisions they make are pretty low impact in our lives right now. Just add government to the list of things that our generation is quickly losing faith in; also on the list are religion, education, and television, but that's a different story.

Where has our sense of patriotism gone? Where has our sense of urgency gone?

Yes, it is easier to skip class for the day, have a rotation of DVD's to play, and "chill" while looking at a smartphone; do we not know it is a beautiful day outside?

Still, we live in a pret-

ty interesting time and place, with more freedoms than a lot of crazy places in this world. America is still crazy, don't get me wrong. But, this is one fear I have been feeling of late. Where are our storytellers? The ancient art of storytelling is soon going to meet its demise by our and the younger generation's dwindling attention span.

Here's my challenge to you and your circle of friends: when you're all sitting down in the cafeteria together, battle each other by coming up with some improvised, spontaneous stories that get the spine tingling.

Does anybody know any good jokes anymore?

"What's orange and sounds like a parrot? A carrot."

If we lazily sit by and let the same breed of people run the cinema, the literature, and the entertainment world, we will still be subjected to year after year of the same futuristic zombie/vampire apocalyptic plot sequences, and I just cannot have that.

The time is now, friends. Draw, write, photograph, read, listen to something new, and go on a hike, a bike ride, a walk with a friend. Change it up and stimulate your mind. As I have learned from a sagacious, Jamaican man years ago, "No stagnatin'."



## What every upperclassman should know about graduation

By Kevin Ujvary

How many students read the my.Centenary homepage on a daily or even weekly basis? If you are an upperclassman planning on graduation in the near future, it is something you need to start doing.

There is a graduation application form that must be filled out towards the start of your last semester at the college. The form requires information and also needs your advisor's signature to ensure that you are actually eligible for graduation. This information is posted on the homepage for seniors to see, but no email is sent out to perspective seniors about the graduation education. Why? I asked Kathleen Fruncillo, and she explained that the college did not approve sending mass emails because it is considered spamming. This was partially confusing to me because an email was sent out about the applications one week before they were due, which for people like me who did not even know about the application, made me rush to get everything together.

After I filled out the application, I found out that there is an application fee of \$180 that must be paid when handing in the application. Again, for someone in my situation who did not even know about the application fee, I was a little frustrated to find out that I had just one week to come up with the money. I assumed that the fee was for caps, gowns, and the cer-

emony. I visited the finance office and spoke to Patricia Riley, who was able to give me some good answers to my questions.

Q: What does the graduation fee entail exactly?

A: The graduation fee applies to the cap, gown, and the ceremony for graduation.

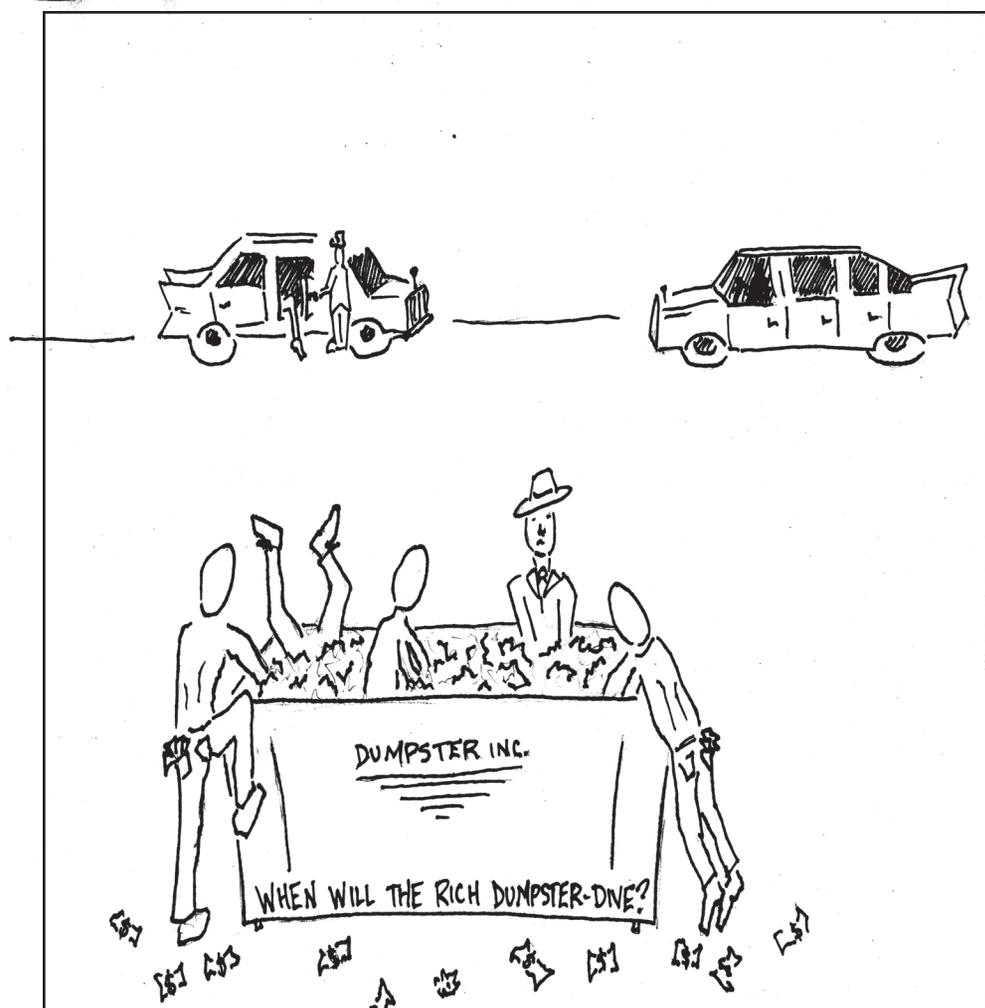
Q: Is everyone required to pay the fee?

A: All students are required to pay the fee whether they wish to attend the ceremony or not. The idea is that the college is putting together a great celebration of a student's accomplishments, and they should attend and enjoy what they have accomplished.

Q: Why would the fee not just be included in the tuition fee?

A: Not all students graduate from here; it would be difficult to have all students pay the fee, especially if they are not going to graduate from the school.

The only issue I have with the situation is the lack of early communication about the graduation application. While I understand the idea of posting on the homepage would draw student's attention, email is also a very good way to help students find out about it. The only reason I suggest early email is because of the \$180 fee; while the fee is justified, it is also hard for any student to come up with that many in a short amount of time.



# Op-ed Page

## Editorial

The Quill is the student newspaper of Centenary College, Hackettstown, NJ 07840.

The Quill will publish letters to the editor; however, such letters must not be libelous and must be signed and in good taste. We will refrain from printing your name if you so request. Address your letters to The Editor, The Quill, Box 1066 or you may email to [levd@centenarycollege.edu](mailto:levd@centenarycollege.edu) with your full name at the bottom of the email

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(The Quill also welcomes freelancers among the student body who may contact Prof. Debbie Lev through campus email.)

### What Actually Makes an American?

In September, a panel of judges crowned the 2014 Miss America in the annual pageant in Atlantic City...an event that most people disregarded. After all, not all televised events can receive the same worldwide recognition as, say, certain celebrities dancing provocatively at the music video awards.

Most people probably could not name the recipient of the pageant crown if they tried, myself included. But it was not the ceremony itself that garnered media attention; it was the social media backlash that occurred immediately after Nina Davuluri, the first Indian-American winner, had the crown placed on her head. Between the stereotyped, poor taste comments, and remarks that “This is Miss America, not Miss India,” that swarmed Twitter, I got to wondering what actually constitutes an “American.”

As I read the ridiculous accusations about Davuluri’s religion and absurd allegations about her involvement with terrorism, I wondered when our country had fallen backward. With all the pushes for equality for everyone, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, and religion, why does racism still remain? Furthermore, what makes these American social media users the dictators of what characteristics and interest create an American citizen?

One of the most overused metaphors in society today is that America is a melting pot. Different types of people emigrate here from all over the world. In fact, if a person were to look at all the different nationalities they encompass, they would likely find that their ancestors trace back to other areas of the globe, like Asia, Africa, or Europe. Essentially, the United States was built on immigration. When people travelled to America, they brought their ideas and cultures with them. Freedom of religion was evident, and people were able to practice their own beliefs. Walking down the street, a person could note all the varieties of nationalities of people all living in one area. Their family all came here at some point, a fact overlooked by the criticizers of the 2014 Miss America.

Only 1 percent of the population in the United States can trace their family tree and discover that their ancestors originally resided in America. So that means the other 99 percent living in this country are immigrants in some way, whether their great-great grandparents took a boat over from Italy or their parents came from South America. Basically, we are all immigrants. This idea is something that should be embraced. We all have different backgrounds and ideas and create an interesting, diverse country.

It is sad to see skin color making such waves in a competition. As a country, we like to believe that racist notions have been outgrown, but September’s posts about Al-Qaeda and terrorism prove that these ideas have only been suppressed. Even in daily life, it is clear that stereotypes and assumptions about different ethnicities still remain. Twitter users were quick to post about a contestant, Theresa Vail, being “robbed” of the Miss America title, citing that she had a more American look than Davuluri, with Vail’s blonde hair, blue eyes, and pale skin.

Since the United States is such a diverse country, is it really true that one look summarizes the entire American look? With all of the different ethnicities, it is impossible to pinpoint one hair color or one skin color that matches the majority of the population. In fact, 50 percent of all Americans are not “white,” so Vail’s pale skin does not relate to half of the people living in this country.

In addition, critics said that Vail enjoys hunting and has tattoos: two things that they believe encapsulate the American experience. With only 40 percent of people having inked skin and 12.5 million hunters in a country of 300 million, it is ridiculous to believe that these characteristics are American. If a person does not have tattoos, does that make them un-American? If a person chooses not to have a gun, does that make them un-American? It all goes back to the idea of diversity. This country makes a lot of popular fashion statements, activities, and hobbies, but not one classifies the ideals of this land more than another. That is part of what is so great about the United States. With the different nationalities, there are so many pastimes to become involved in, and we have the freedom to choose whatever interests us the most.

The social media critics involved in the backlash of the 2014 Miss America need to take a look at what our country stands for before making accusations and throwing around false ideas about Americanism. America was founded on the concept of equality. Diversity is promoted, whether it is in religion, food, or fashion. I refuse to lump America into a box. There is not one look, one activity, or one race that summarizes our country. There are countless ethnicities and cultures that encompass our country and there is not one that should be considered more “American” than the others.

Kathryn Nieves, editor

# One Fish, Two Fish: Centenary's new pre- school hour

By Kathryn Nieves

Every Friday, the Taylor Memorial Library helps books come alive.

From 9-10 a.m., in a newly-renovated upstairs room, the library is host to a new preschool hour, which is open to children in the community. "We were talking about community outreach," said Timothy Domick, library director. After discussing ideas with Dr. Simon Saba, assistant professor of Education, the plan was created to take a room in the upstairs portion of the library and transform it into a story time area. With the Hackettstown Library story time being oversubscribed, there was a need for a new location to accommodate the growing number of interested children and families.

Frances Congdon, assistant professor of Education, was also a key player in the creation of Centenary's story time. Saba and Domick approached her about the program. "They started the ball rolling," she said.

Saba and Congdon decided to incorporate the students in two of their classes into the program. Saba's Academic Foundations at Centenary (AFC) class, Those Who Can, Teach and Congdon's Foundations of Literacy in Elementary Education class both allow students the opportunity to take turns each week reading to the children of the community.

"Students need to be in front of kids from the beginning to make sure this is what they want to do," said Saba. Since his course consists of freshmen, it allows

the students to start working with children right from the beginning of their first semester.

Congdon's course focuses on "presenting books to students and learning how to develop activities with the books." Since each week, the students are not only responsible for choosing their own books to read but also for creating a corresponding activity, her class was a good fit for the program. "It's a good exposure to working with young people," Congdon said, "It is also good practice because students are responsible for choosing stories and planning activities that are developmentally appropriate."

In order to re-decorate the room, Domick bought a table, chairs, and a carpet for the children to sit on during the hour. However, the plain walls did not suit the interactive and fun tone of the program.

Education student Justin Jacobson and a friend, Tiffany Seeger, from Bloomingtondale, took on the task of painting the walls with an "under the sea" mural,

complete with alphabet and number bubbles, various sea creatures, and even a mermaid. "We tried to choose things the kids would recognize," he said. "I knew she [Seeger] would make the room into something wonderful."

Besides the colorful fish and other sea animals dancing across the brightly splashed walls, Jacobson also developed a way for students to leave their own mark on the room. When the children enter story hour, they have their name written on a fish name tag. After the hour is over, their fish is taped to the wall. At first, the name tags were used to help identify each child, but it transformed into a nice addition to the room.

"I wanted to display all of the kids' names who came to participate, so they would feel special," Jacobson said. Whenever a child comes back to story hour, they can look up and see their name swimming across the wall with the other children that have been there.

After hearing about the program through campus

posters, press releases, and a radio interview, parents began bringing their children to story time. Besides the student-driven reading and activities, the hour offers other opportunities. One week, Congdon's friend Kathy Baker brought her therapy dog, Mo, so the children could have a chance to read with the dog.

In addition, every week, history professor Noah Haiduc-Dale plays his banjo for the children. Haiduc-Dale's musical past makes him an expert in story time performances. When he lived in Michigan, he played in many story time sessions and in early childhood centers. He also hosted a music time for children in a park by his house. "By the time I left Michigan, I had a bunch of parents involved with the music and playing instruments," he said. When he heard about Centenary's new program through the public library, he volunteered his time every week.

"I try to find three or four songs to go with the theme," he said. The first week, the theme was books

about bears, so he sang songs about animals for the children. "I watch how the students are acting to determine what types of songs to pick," he added. If the students are primarily seated, he finds songs that allow them to remain on the carpet. If the students are more mobile, he knows songs to get them up and moving.

Parents and children seem to be responding well to the program. The number of children appears to be increasing as the weeks go by. "Any story time or community act is beneficial," Haiduc-Dale said, "It gets the students involved. The program is neat, and I hope it expands."

Domick is also pleased with the positive reception of the story time hour. "The little ones love it," he said.

After reading his book and completing his activity, Jacobson also felt great about his experience. "It is a great way to enhance learning before entering a school setting," he said. "It is very rewarding to see the children learn and have fun!"

# Campus



Education students Nicole Crowley and Justin Jacobson reading to young students of the Hackettstown community. Photo: Dr. Simon Saba

# Campus

## I Am group marks Centenary's first national Coming Out Day



At Family Fest Day, people continued to sign posters marking Coming Out Day on campus Photo: Anthony Biango

By Jonathan Steinberg

National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11 marked the first time that Centenary participated in this commemoration.

The newly-run student organization, I Am, placed decorated posters in the Taylor Memorial Library for people to sign and show support for students on campus who have concerns about acceptance in college with regard to their sexuality.

In addition to the posters, the group advertised a fruit drink called Over The Rainbow at Green's Beans Café in the library, created by cafe manager, Kelsey Walter.

One student signed one of the brightly colored posters: "Only you can be you; why not be fabulous?" while another wrote, "Come out! You have a friend in me; you are loved no matter what. I support you 100%."

In addition to stu-

dents on campus, professors showed their support by writing heartfelt messages as well as expressing their support.

"I stand by anybody for whoever they are and what ever they are; I support all," said payroll manager Susan Nesmith.

One of the group's advisors, Dr. Michele Polak wrote, "I'm here, I'm out. I support you." She included her room number for students to feel welcome to visit and talk about their questioning sexuality.

The I Am group has plans for the upcoming semester such as Allie Week and other fun events and is planning an election of officers. Those running include Juan Arias, Kyle Kahlau, Maddie Lopez, Victoria Puldo, Claudia Macchiarelli, Jonathan Steinberg and Andrew Rodriguez

## Gender group, I Am, organizes on campus

By Guy Wolkwitz

Have you ever found yourself in the classroom having a discussion or debate involving issues such as abortion, sexuality, or gender? Did you find these discussions stimulating? Did you want to learn more? The opportunity to have these discussions is now open to all students with the introduction of Centenary's new student-run identity group, I Am.

The group's primary purpose is to get students together to talk about issues involving identity that are not academic. With these discussions already happening inside the classroom, I Am gives students a safe

place to continue discussions and expand on the topics surrounding identity.

The group will be advised by faculty members Dr. Michele Polak and Dr. Kitsy Dixon. Both professors have specialized in gender and identity studies before and hope to see more students involved as the group continues to grow.

Both advisors stress that this group is for everybody and that nothing will be off limits. "Let's bring a safe sex advocate to campus, let's talk about pro-life and pro-choice, what does it mean to identify as a feminist in 2013, what is Prop 8?"

said Dr. Polak about some of the topics the group hopes to cover.

The student group is headed by president Juan Arias, who said he is very excited about the students' eagerness to become involved so far. "The turnout has been great. A lot of students are becoming involved. Last week we appointed administrative positions for the members involved so far, and we hope more students will want to become a part of our administrative team," said Arias.

## New internship focus, director

By Jahson Myers-Inman

Centenary College has a new internship development director, Ginna Oksienik. Oksienik is based in the Career Development Office next to the Student Activities space in the Seay Building. New partnerships have been formed with companies, expanding the list of internship options, including partnerships with The Pocono Dome, 1111 Delivery, and School Lunch Form. Oksienik said her central focus is to "spread interest to all students to obtain an internship." The internship process now encourages current student interns on campus to be interviewed and featured in a video highlighting their experiences as interns. The video will be looped onto the Career Services page on the school's website as well here on campus. Students are urged to go to the school website where they can find updates on on-campus and off-campus job opportunities as well as internships. "The doors of the Career Services Center are always open and we're available," said Oksienik.

Coming soon.....



# Campus

## Disdain, promises, put-downs, and bragging, color opener of model NATO course

By Kevin Ujvary

Did you know that members of NATO are meeting on campus this semester?!

If you have heard anything about Dr. Shane Fitzpatrick's model classes in the past, you can imagine how different it will be to have a model class in which participants are supposed to be working together.

Unlike other model classes such as Middle East Peace Conference and Model

UN, the idea here is that in a model NATO, all representatives must work with one another to accomplish any goals.

However, this does not mean that there is more trust in the room; in fact, the opening speeches were full of disdain, promises, put-downs, and even some bragging.

While not every country has given an opening speech, many of the major players made remarks.

Checking the main points from representatives from each country, it is clear that each has their own goals with very few being in common with one another. In fact, there was a lot of disdain towards other countries.

First, The Netherlands called out European countries for lack of cooperation within the continent. Following this, France criticized the United States for not bringing the fight to terrorism into Africa

and looking at Asian countries. Following France, the United States responded by claiming it can focus on multiple parts of the world, using the expression "We can chew gum and walk at the same time," while also pushing European countries to put more money into defense budgets.

The representatives in NATO are going to have to start working together to accomplish some goals, but after just the first day of

speeches, the question arises whether or not these representatives can actually work together.

It is hard to tell with more than a dozen countries left to give their opening speeches whether or not more views will fall in line with one another but it is clear, that the Model NATO class will be full of excitement.

Here are the highlights from each speaker.

Secretary General

- Focus on Terrorism and Cyber Terrorism
- Develop a plan to ensure Afghanistan will be stable when NATO leaves
- Develop a contingency plan for Syria and Iran pertaining to chemical and nuclear weapons
- Seek more partnerships to help improve missile defense.

Canada

- Gain more funding for Afghan troop training
- Develop a plan for leaving Afghanistan
- Promote regional diplomacy

Greece

- Greece needs to reduce army because of lack of GDP and requires monetary support.
- Greece participates in all major NATO operations
- Greece has the 2nd largest defense budget of all NATO countries

The Netherlands

- Committed to the protection of ally Turkey
- Europe must begin taking responsibility for its own protection
- Cooperation among European countries needs expansion

Czech Republic

- Stabilize public finances to ensure defense structure can sustain itself
- If finances stabilize, more participation in NATO operations will follow

Denmark

- Focus needs to be on Syria
- Spread democracy to other countries
- Bring Human Rights issues to forefront

France

- NATO needs to become more flexible to take action
- Main focus should be on combating terrorism with counterterrorism
- Calls out United States for not bringing focus of terrorism to Africa

United States

- Focus on issues concerning NATO itself
- European countries are not providing enough budget to defense
- European countries are not spending enough for NATO
- U.S. believes Europe should not be concerned with U.S. relations in Asia, claiming that they can work with both European and Asian countries without losing focus on one or the other.
- Focus should be on human rights and spread of democracy

# Campus

## A Mac attack

By Joe Bartolini

A change: Centenary College now offers Macbook Pros as an IT upgrade to its first-time students. The pilot program offers incoming freshman and transfers the option to upgrade from their normal laptop to the Macbook Pro for an extra \$150.

When an influx of requests for Macbooks as an option came in, the college delivered. The program was

funded by the college IT department and was very successful; 100 Macbooks were ordered with 95 being taken by incoming students, and the others left in the IT department for its use.

Justin Webber, the lead Help Desk technician, said due to the program's great success they are planning to place another order for the spring semester.

## New space for Tutoring Center dedicated

By Alyssa Guarino

The dedication ceremony for the Tutoring Center was recently in the lower level of the Edward W. Seay Administration Building.

"The mission of the Academic Success and Advising Center is to provide resources for the students to become successful, independent learners," said senior director Suzanne McCarthy.

The ceremony was covered by the radio station WRNJ and the cable company from Newton. McCarthy said the center is here to encourage mentored study groups and provide a distraction free zone for students since they have state-of-the-art space in their new location. The ribbon cutting was done by Centenary College, Dr. Barbara-Jayne Lewthwaite; provost, Dr. James Patterson; associate

professor of mathematics and natural science department, Dr. Lauren Bergey; head tutor, Abigail Davis; and student Kiara Johnson.

Sara Weertz, executive director of College Reading & Learning Association (CRLA) greeted the audience via Skype.

McCarthy and academic support specialist Danielle Boeninghaus, presented certificates to tutors in recognition of completion of CRLA levels. Tutor Eunice Boyd completed level 3 certification, Stephanie Ciampoli, level 2 certification; Kathleen Counterman, level 3 certification; Kathleen Gandy, level one certification; Catherine Keenan, level 3 certification; Joan McCaffrey, level 3 certification, and Maurice Savard, level 3 certification.

## Campus NAACP chapter discusses goals

By Jahson Myers-Inman

The NAACP Chapter held its first meeting of the semester, recently, in the David and Carol Lackland Center and was headed by a group of student leaders appointed by advisors Dr. Richard Severe and Dr. Kitsy Dixon.

Current chapter members and prospective members attended the meeting. Students introduced themselves and engaged in a round table discussion of their concerns and expectations for the future of the NAACP chapter.

They focused on the mission statement and vision of the organization. The mis-

sion states that as an organization "We are here to inform and empower all students. We aim to address issues within the college and community but most importantly to support our student body."

Also in attendance was Warren-Sussex chapter president David Body, who charged the students, asking, "Why are you here? What motivated you to come?"

Former chapter secretary Jayanna Brown answered, saying, "I'm here to see what new ideas and approaches are being brought to the organization."

"What can be done to make a larger impact on

campus?" asked one of the chapter advisors who was answered by chapter member Joseph Littlejohn who said, "We need to increase our presence on campus."

Other members agreed that more needs to be done to make a name and stronger presence for the NAACP at Centenary.

Dr. Severe made clear his major focus for the NAACP chapter, saying, "My main concern isn't visibility, its sustainability." He added, "We have to formulate a sustainable structure that is meaningful."



College and Tutoring Center administrators enjoy, with staff and students, the dedication ceremony of the Tutoring Center in Seay Building.

Photo: Jon Steinberg

# The Arts

## Something for everyone on Centenary stages in December

This December, Centenary Stage Company will fill the stage with family favorite musicals and special guests performing the ever-popular Nutcracker ballet.

From the reinvented holiday classic, *A Christmas Carol*, to a variety of shows presented by the dedicated Young Performers Workshop, CSC has holiday fun for everyone to enjoy.

The usical, running through December 15 in the Sitnik Theatre in the David and Carol Lackland Center, Charles Dickens' classic gets the full Broadway treatment by the Broadway team of Alan Menken (*Beauty and the Beast*, *Little Mermaid*), Lynn Ahrens (*Ragtime*, *Seussical*) and Mike Ockrent (*Crazy For You*, *Me and My Girl*).

*A Christmas Carol* retains its emotional power and pure joy, thanks to the marvelously-told story filled with beautiful melodies and emotional lyrics that ran for 10 years in Madison Square Garden. *The Star Ledger* says, "Centenary Stage Company grandly picks up where Madison Square Garden left off."

Wrapping up 2013, Centenary Stage Company's Young Performer's Workshop presents the Winter Festival of Shows Dec. 15-22 in the Little Theater on the Campus of Centenary College. This season's musical theatre extravaganza will feature *Grease*, *The Wiz*, and *Christmas is Comin' Uptown*. YPW has been called "The most professional kids troupe around!" by the *Star Ledger*. The workshop has been led by Broadway, film and television veteran, Michael Blevins, for 20 years. The Young Performers Workshop is dedicated to the enrichment of young lives through experience in the theatre arts, and serves as a venue for cultivating young performers

between the ages of 8 and 18. The program is one of only a handful in the nation that offers both formal training and production experience for young people.

The NJ Civic Youth Ballet returns to present its seasonal classic, *The Nutcracker*, Dec. 20-22 at the Sitnik Theater. The NJ Civic Youth Ballet has delighted audiences for over 10 years, and features a cast of 60 talented dancers from Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties. The NJCYB's Nutcracker is unique thanks to the narration by Janine Byrnes who tells the story from the perspective of young Clara Stahlbaum.

Tickets for *A Christmas Carol* are \$27.50 for adults on Matinees and Fridays and \$29.50 on Saturdays with discounts for seniors, students and children under 12.

Thursday evening tickets are \$27.50 with a two-for-one Family Night discount when purchased at the door.

Tickets for the Young Performers Workshop Winter Festival of Shows are \$12.50 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. Performance times vary from Dec. 13-22 at The Little Theater on the campus of Centenary College. For a detailed schedule of times and shows visit [centenarystageco.org](http://centenarystageco.org).

Tickets for The Nutcracker are \$25.00 for Orchestra seating, \$22.50 in the Balcony and \$15 for children under 10 seated anywhere in the theatre. Performance times are Friday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 22 at 3 pm. in the Sitnik Theater.

Tickets may be purchased online at [www.centenarystageco.org](http://www.centenarystageco.org), at the CSC Box Office in The Lackland Center at 715 Grand Ave in Hackettstown, or by calling 908-979-0900. The Box Of-

fice is open Monday through Friday 1-5 p.m., and 2 hours prior to performance times.

CSC also operates a second Box Office during the season at 217 Main Street in Hackettstown open Monday through Friday 3-6 p.m.

December events are sponsored in part by Heath Village, Hackettstown Regional Medical Center, and

Andrea's Dining Room in Long Valley.

The 2013-14 season of performing arts events at the Centenary Stage Company is made possible through the generous support of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the NJ State Council on the Arts, and CSC sponsors, including Premier Sponsor

Heath Village Retirement Community, Silver Sponsors Hackettstown Regional Medical Center, The Holiday Inn in Budd Lake, and Fulton Bank, Bronze Sponsors The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation and Wells Fargo Bank, and Centenary Stage Company members and supporters.



YPW's 2009 Production of *Grease*. Photo: Pat Lanciano



*The Nutcracker* with Elisabeth Holowchuk. Photo: Dorothy Wasserman

# The Arts

## *Polaroid Stories*: A metamorphosis of damaged youth

By: Sarah DeGeorge

Do you ever wonder what it would be like living on the streets? While many are reading this article in a nice cozy environment, there are individuals in the world living in less than desirable situations, and surrounded by substance abuse, and left to fend for themselves.

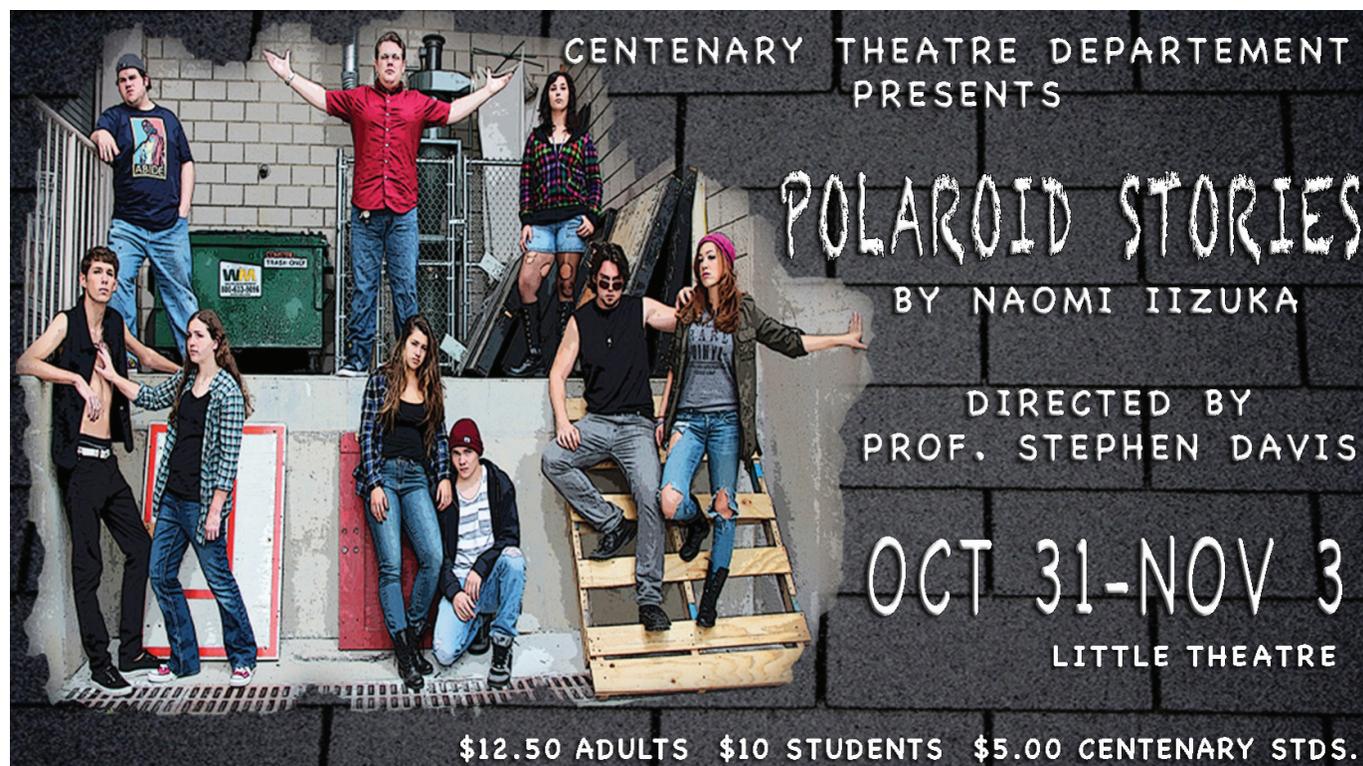
What happens when still-impressionable young adults find themselves in this predicament? Would they be able to rise above their situation, or would they be damaged?

Centenary College student performers are presenting *Polaroid Stories*, a play by Naomi Iizuka, which involves a theatrical twist on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.

*Polaroid Stories* deals with the hardships of homelessness, substance abuse, and the struggles of living on the streets while closely relating the story to Greek mythology. The play revolves around the idea of the metamorphosis that comes with the growth of the characters through story-telling during the hardships with which they are faced.

The story is about 12 young adults living on the streets and dealing with drugs, abuse, and in harm's way. *Polaroid Stories* gives it another layer by adding Greek mythology to the growth of these young adults on their journeys or "transformations."

The idea is that through pain and suffering, the characters must learn to grow and either rise above



these situations by finding their "inner light," or succumb to them. The use of gods, goddesses, and human interaction in the form of mythology tells a deeper tale of the rise and fall of humans in the harshest situations.

The pain and emotions involved in this performance could not be created only by studying a character at a basic level. The performers of this play spent countless hours studying the script, characters, and even mythology to truly grasp the correlation between living on the streets with all the emotional pain included, and then growing with the character to produce a well-rounded, emotional, and, most important, believable performance.

Brittany Weinstein, a performer who plays Echo, said, "During pre-production we went through a lot of character analysis and realizing our connection to the show and character. We reached a lot of emotional levels that sometimes were uncomfortable to express,

but make the show that much richer and real."

The students performing are not the only ones excited about bringing this play to the Centenary community, but the director and dramaturge of *Polaroid Stories* are equally excited giving this play life and allowing the students to become their roles and entertain the Centenary community.

Prof. Stephen Davis, the director, stressed how deeply the student actors have been studying and researching their roles to perfect how they are supposed to portray the character. He added that the performance will be a great addition to the fall lineup at Centenary by adding an educational and theatrical look at this very touchy situation.

Davis said, "Taking Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and filtering it through the screen of a modern youthful setting where individuals are sucked into the dangerous, debilitating, and destructive world of living on the street, provides

a wonderful educational opportunity for our students."

Briana Klingaman, dramaturge or theatrical advisor for the production of *Polaroid Stories*, also added that as the dramaturge, her job was to collect and gather information about the playwright, history, time period, and anything else that is deemed important to the production team and actors. This process allowed for a well-educated group of individuals who are able to get into character, and perform a realistic portrayal of life on the streets.

In having worked closely with the actors, she was able to give some detail on what to expect from the actors themselves. Klingaman said, "Through research, collaboration, and discovery, the actors have the opportunity to take risks, make choices, and ultimately create the world

their characters are a part of and the audience sees."

Klingaman and the others involved in the production, hope the audience will be able to connect to the characters, and their struggles. Klingaman added, "My hope for the audience is to see that through Greek myth and *Metamorphoses*, Naomi Iizuka took real people, real situations, and real atmospheres to create a play that leaves the audience questioning the world that surrounds them and that through darkness, a person can find an inner light when they are ready to or when they discover it."

*Polaroid Stories* was scheduled to run from Oct. 31 to Nov. 3 in The Little Theater in the Seay Building on campus:

Thurs. 7:30 p.m., Friday and Sat., 8 p.m., Sunday, 7 p.m.

Check out student discounts for theatrical productions on campus. Expand your exposure to theatre.

# The Arts

## Comic Con:

### Meeting Marvel Comics' Stan Lee!

By CJ Carter

In October, I got to go to the New York Comic Con at the Javits Center in Manhattan, for all four days of the event, a pop culture extravaganza, featuring comic books, video games, literature and film; all being tied together by incorporating theatrical elements.

A total of three floors housed famous people and a huge crowd of fans of the "Con."

Although there was an enormous number of activities, I can only detail a few.

I went with my uncle and cousin; each day we took the train into the city at 7:30 a.m. to ensure that we'd be waiting at the gate before the convention center opened, when thousands of pop culture fans flooded into the Javits center at a steady pace. As we ascended the moving stairs, we entered a wonderland of pop culture allure!

My cousin told us that he was going to wait in line at the Marvel booth in order to get the exclusive collectibles that were being released. He would wait there for the next four hours, while my uncle and I found our way to the exhibit booths.

The first items that were purchased, which would set the pace of our entire stay, were tickets for Stan Lee's autograph. (For readers who are unaware, Stan Lee is the creator of Marvel Comics.)

The booths were spaced so everyone could move around the floor and see everything that there was to see. Giant marquees hung from the ceiling (down each aisle) showing in bold print which aisle you were walking in. We had a goal—to purchase a Tales of Suspense

#57 (which is the first appearance of the Marvel Comics superhero Hawkeye).

We finally found a copy in very fine condition and purchased it for a very good price, which we would later have signed by Stan Lee.

We met many, many "fanboys" (i.e., people like me, who have a love of and dedication to their favorite type of pop culture), along with "Cosplayers," fans that go all out in creating exact replica costumes of their favorite character from film, cartoons, comic books, and pretty much anything you can think of. These Cosplayers' costumes were exceptionally beautiful, incorporating the same fabrics that would be used in the time period of the characters, down to how many lace holes that they had on their boots. These lavish costumes only enriched the experience for people like me, who have a passionate love for pop culture and comic books in general.

On display, I saw and felt objects which I never thought I would be able to hold in my hands. As a huge comic book fan, you could ask me a first appearance of any character and I would most likely be able to tell you what their first appearance was and the year that it came out. So the first appearances of these characters mean a lot to me, and I never would have thought that I would be able to see or hold an Amazing Fantasy #15 (the first appearance of Spider-Man, which has sold for over \$1 million in mint condition). Although an uninterested reader may find this corny, as I held this book in my hand I felt a sense of accomplishment: holding one of the most important pieces

of literature in my hand that would help shape the future of comic books, literature, television and film; not to mention a countless number of merchandise articles.

But for me, the most important and memorable event of this convention— that made the entire convention worth doing— was being able to meet Stan Lee!

Even though his line involved an hour and a half wait, it was worth it, to meet him and get my first appearance of Hawkeye signed, along with my Incredible Hulk #181 (the first appearance of Wolverine) signed by the man that made all of these

characters possible.

This man redefined what comic literature was and is, and since his bold actions in the field occurred, comic literature is now considered an important means of storytelling.

For me, this was the highlight of the entire event. But each person can walk away with a different experience each time. For some, meeting Sylvester Stallone or getting their photo taken with the Batmobile may be the most important part of the event. For others, wearing a costume or just being able to go to the convention and experience the awe of

the event would do. And because there is something for everybody at this event, it is worth going, and I cannot wait until next year's convention.

For those of you interested in attending a convention such as this, but are not sure you will like it or not, you can search for other conventions that may be closer to your area. And for those true "believers out" there, I hope that next year you will be waiting eagerly at your computer in order to purchase your four day passes. I will.

## Revisiting *Hannah and Her Sisters*, a great Thanksgiving film

Directed by Woody Allen  
Run time: 1 hour 43 minutes

By Chris Bello

The opening to *Hannah and Her Sisters* does exactly what more films should do, start with: conflict. Immediately, we learn that Elliot (Michael Cane, better known these days as Alfred from *The Dark Knight* trilogy), the husband of Hannah (Mia Farrow, *Rosemary's Baby*), is in love with her sister Lee (Barbara Hershey, the crazy mom from *Black Swan*). What is so wonderful is that there is no beating around the bush in terms of story; it immediately puts you in the story and does not let go until the end. Thankfully this movie so funny and absorbing that one would not want it any other way.

These conflicts, admit-

tedly, are ones that we have seen before. A husband is in love with his wife's sister, the sister that was once on drugs tries to turn her life around, and the mom tries to feel young again—all told between two Thanksgivings. (Or is it three?)

The conflicts are also resolved in a familiar way. But it is director Woody Allen who makes it feel brand new and gives it an unparalleled amount of heart. Allen has always understood how people talk and that people have complex feelings and interests, and that is seen full frontal here in both drama and comedy.

A prime example is in the beginning of the film

when Hannah tells her family about the play *A Doll's House*, which she is soon to star in, and the life she describes that she had before, is very similar to the life of the protagonist in the famous play.

The film is also funny with an example being a Tolstoy quote, then in a flash, going straight to *The Thinker* with Woody Allen saying that all these philosophers, in the end, did not know more than we do.

In the end, *Hannah and Her Sisters* is a film that gets the concept of a family right. It is funny, heartfelt, and a great Thanksgiving film

# Campus

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# Campus

## Creative pizzas a dining hall hit

By Guy Wolkwitz

Over the past few years, with the introduction of the David and Carol Lackland Center, the cafeteria has been transformed into a haven for hungry students, faculty, and staff.

One of the major additions to the dining hall was the pizza bar, headed by chef Jamie Hadgkiss. Hadgkiss owned his own pizzeria, Poor Boys Pizza in Mansfield for 18 years before joining the cafeteria staff at Centenary College.

After the Lackland Center was built, director of Dining Services, Linda Gonias, decided it was time to upgrade the pizza program. Gonias thought Hadgkiss would be the perfect fit for the position, but was nervous

about asking him, at first. "I thought it might insult him. I didn't know how he'd feel about taking up pizza instead of cooking, but he was thrilled. He's happy, I'm happy, and the students are happy," said Gonias.

This past summer, the cafeteria changed a lot of its menus and recipes. While looking for new things to add to the cafeteria, Hadgkiss made suggestions for new pizzas, and sometimes makes ones that he thinks up on the fly. "I love making new pizzas every day. You get inspired by different things. I really like making the Mexican pizza; it gives the cafeteria a little flair."

Gonias credits Hadgkiss' passion for pizza

as one of the major improvements to the cafeteria. "He makes all the dough, changes the crusts. It all has to do with how much he stretches the dough, how much yeast he adds. It's really an art. He looks at things like the weather to know if he should increase or decrease the yeast. He does everything he can to make our pizzas the best."

In addition to Hadgkiss' pizza, the cafeteria has also introduced a Chartwell's company, Penne Pizza for the month of October. Every Monday will feature a new pasta pizza. If they do well they will most likely be rotated in and out during future months, Gonias said.

## SGA senate formed

By Juan Arias

The Student Government Association has been in need of a senate for some time now, and this fall semester, it has worked things out. "We knew we needed something more than what we've had in the past," said vice-president Quinn Khouri. At the first general meeting of the semester Khouri referred to this senate project as his "baby," and was very excited to make it happen.

What students can expect from this project is that students would have much better communication all across campus. The senatorial representatives will work efficiently to relay the message from the decision

makers on campus directly to students.

The response so far has been excellent. Students have shown great interest, attending meetings and already taking leadership roles. This position creates new windows for peers to reach out to the student representatives with issues or concerns.

Micheal Clinton, a freshman, said "I'm very excited to work with SGA; I want to have a connection with my peers and relay any issue or concern to higher-ups in administrative positions."

Regarding faculty and staff, Khouri said that they have been nothing but

supportive.

Establishing a senate is not a task that happens overnight. This project was Khouri's, but he isn't alone. Samantha Davis, president of SGA and secretary Amanda Coons have been helpful in assisting in every way, according to Khouri. "They help to keep me on track and make sure everything gets done; without them, this project would still be a dream," said Khouri. The SGA team has shown a lot of teamwork since the start.

"I am here to give advice, support, and help Quinn out in any way needed," said Davis when asked about her role in this project. Having more voices in decisions and future events will only help the SGA team reach different areas of the student body. "I think the whole concept of a senate is very efficient, and will help

## Our library doesn't have it? All is not lost: Interlibrary Loan to the rescue

By Anthony Biango

The Taylor Memorial Library has myriad reading and research materials to choose from and what it doesn't have, it can readily make available to any student who takes advantage of an interlibrary loan.

The Interlibrary Loan Program allows students to request material from other libraries which can be shipped to theirs and checked out for any standard loan period. Interlibrary loans are actually quite simple to set up.

The library's website has a link to a database of

Centenary's partner libraries; it includes a fully-functional search bar that makes broad or specific searches easy. Once a book and its location are found, as long as the books is available, an online request form will pop up that the student can complete and make the order final. After that is done, only a few days of shipping and a walk to the library will be all that separates the student from the resource. If you have any questions regarding the interlibrary loan service, contact Taylor Memorial Library at (908) 852-1400 x2345.

relieve pressure placed on us three individuals," said Coons.

Plans call for the student senate to create a presence on campus and get involved in the campus community. "I want the campus community to know their senators so that they can consult them with any concern or need," said Khouri. The next step is to include the senators in different com-

mittees such as food, safety, and campus programs. The Student Senate includes Jesse Goleman, Jessie Sharr, Keith Salkind, Michael Clinton, Dustin Pierce, Victoria Pulido, Jannee Davis, Katherine Tolla, Naimah Spells, Evan Bray, Jeong GiPpeum, Marquay Mayo, Matt Coons, Kevin Moncada, Julian Munoz, Amanda Deppa, Dakyeong Kim, and JiYean Lee



An energetic team of senators for SGA

Photo: Juan Arias

# Campus

## Commuter Council organizes

By Sarah DeGeorge

**Com•mut•er**  
(kəmju tər) n. 1. a person who travels regularly from one place to another. .

This is the familiar term by which many Centenary students (half the students on campus) describe themselves during the course of their studies at Centenary College. From the beginning paperwork, to the sticker on the side of our cars, it is very obvious who they are. They go to their classes, grab a bite to eat, and then travel back home either to relax or work.

Being a commuter does have its financial perks (sans the cost of gasoline) of not having to pay for housing (if you live with mom and dad), no substantial cost for meal plans, and not having to deal with roommate horror stories, but it also has a stigma attached to it as well.

As commuters, there is a detachment from the school in not always being involved in what is going on. Commuters tend to feel that making friends is more difficult, and also know less of what is going on, on campus, than residents. Some may not feel this a problem because of other obligations, but others who wish to be more involved can become discouraged by hearing about their resident peers getting involved and meeting people.

While many other colleges might not address this issue, Centenary College gives commuters a place to meet people, and a club to call their own: the Commuter Council.

Commuters make up a large portion of the student body at Centenary, and could benefit from involvement and a place to voice commuter-specific issues.

Alyson Chudley, president of the Commuter Council said, "Many events on campus are held late at

night, and this can discourage commuters from attending them. In the past, we have requested that events be held at earlier times to make them more convenient for commuter students." This has been an on-going issue.

The hope for the Commuter Council is that the 2013-2014 school year will bring growth and expansion to the club. Getting the word out, and getting commuters involved is a crucial part in the success of this organization. Chudley hopes that the large number of commuters will be sufficient and make Commuter Council a success this upcoming year.

Commuter Council has plans for a Halloween Bash, and is talking about a Hometown Holiday, and there has been some brainstorming on other commuter events.

Chudley said, "The key to making positive changes

for commuters is to have the numbers we need to do so."

Stephanie Thompson, a commuter, said "I am looking forward to seeing the commuters rise up and make themselves known. The Commuters Council is a great way for this to happen."

"I got the presidency by taking over the Council when the student who founded it decided to leave it. To me, it seemed important to have a commuter group on campus, so I decided to step up and keep the Commuter Council alive!" said Chudley

Those interested in becoming a part of the Commuter Council should email Alyson Chudley at chudleya@centenarycollege.edu, and also be on the lookout for meetings which run one Tuesday a month at 4:00 p.m. in the Student Activity Center.

## WNTI fund drive successful

By Nick Machuga

The campus radio station, 91.9 FM, WNTI, holds a fund drive twice a year, in October and in May.

WNTI is a public radio station, meaning it does not have endorsements from advertisers, but does have what is called underwriting, which carries certain limitations.

The station also has a partial involvement with NPR (national public radio) and has a reach in three states.

WNTI motivates listeners to pledge by giving donors membership and rewards, depending on the

donation.

A \$250 pledge can win the listener a two-hour on-air slot as a guest DJ with the radio personality of their choice! Premium donations of \$250 also can win a T-shirt, or WNTI jacket.

The most recent fund drive raised \$74,100! The radio station is also hosting a Saturday night Blues Concert, with a performance by the Todd Wolfe Band at the Blairstown Historic Theatre. The blues night concert is also a benefit show for the station. Be sure to come out and show your support!

## A campus moment



Junior Ronald Reid Jr. shows Centenarians some footage for a class film, "What students do on campus." Photo: Dan Casserly

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# Campus

## Hunger games event: Will you get enough to eat?

By Juan Arias

Your seat. Your meal. It's all determined by the hand you are dealt.

Student Activities is holding a two day "Hunger Games" competitive event on Nov. 12 and 13. The event is based on hunger banquets, intended to bring hunger-awareness and demonstrate that some individuals have enough and others don't.

Inspired by the movie *The Hunger Games*, the banquet has already created attention and many are looking forward to the event.

"We wanted to replace the Empty Bowl dinner with something students would enjoy and truly learn from," said Emily Walker director of Programming and Service. The Empty Bowl dinner was a project to fight hunger, which invited a guest to choose a hand-painted bowl and a choice of soup provided by a local business. All guests were given the option to donate \$5 or a non-perishable item, and all proceeds were given to Trinity Church. However, the number participants had lessened, fueling this new idea.

Although the event and the film have similar concepts, the slight difference is that there is no fight to the

death, obviously, as in the film.

Cent Cinema will be featuring *The Hunger Games* film the night before the banquet. This will prepare the students for banquet activities the following day. Walker said that when going back to the drawing board, they considered what would affect students the most.

When 50 student leaders involved in various clubs and activities on campus were asked if they had ever attended the previous program – none of them had.

The Hunger Games banquet program is described being a lot like life. Some will be triumphant, while others will struggle. Depending on the draw, you can either end up at a table with little to nothing or, if you're lucky, at a table with an abundance of goods.

Students can expect a fun night that will be beneficial and educational. "If one student walks away from it and says, 'There are children going to bed hungry in Warren County, one of the wealthiest states, I need to do something,' then we have accomplished our goal," said Emily Walker.

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## S.O.S. for EMS

By Nick Machuga

The First aid squad on campus could use your help! At the moment, only one student, and one administrator make up the team.

When there is a call on campus, the team usually goes first to evaluate, in addition to calling an ambulance.

Pre certification is required. If you or someone you know has the credentials and/or is interested, get in touch with EMS on campus by contacting Melanie Thiel, at [thielm@centenarycollege.edu](mailto:thielm@centenarycollege.edu)

# Sports

## Time for an expanded weight/workout room?

By Joe Bartolini

The wrestling team had another standout season, placing third in the country at the annual NWCA National Duals; the men's lacrosse team had a record-breaking season, taking second in the conference with a 11-1 home record, and the men's and women's soccer teams are having great success this year.

The women were, at press time, 5-2-1 in conference, and the men, 4-1 in their conference; both are in the hunt for a conference title this 2013-2014 season.

These are just a few examples of athletic excellence at the college.

Is it time for a more expanded weight/exercise room? The current one, some students think, is a bit small and lacks some essential equipment, although a new treadmill and elliptical machine have been added,

with another treadmill on the way, according to Centenary College's director of athletics Billy Jo Blackwell.

Some students (and athletes) have taken gym memberships off-campus in order to get a better workout, because of what they see as a lack of space and equipment.

A better facility could even raise the level of our athletics and could be used as a great recruiting tool. A room specifically for athletes would benefit students who do not participate in athletics, as well. Giving athletes their own place to lift would free up space for all students to get a better overall workout. Such an improvement could encourage people who don't currently work out to start a lifting or cardio program.

You can't buy your health, but you can take certain steps to stay healthy.



*Happy Thanksgiving!*

## Athletic roundup

By Dan Casserly

Priscilla Ortiz was recently named Division III South Region Runner of the Week by the Eastern College Athletic Conference and Colonial States Athletic Conference Runner of the Week for the second this fall.

At the Jack St. Clair Memorial meet, she ran the second-fastest 6K time in school history. There, she ran a time of 25:57.98, placing nine out of 95, and having the fastest time of all D-III runners. She has posted four top-15 finishes this fall, including the Cyclone's last three meets.

The girl's soccer team's league record has improved to 5-3-1 in league play and is coming off some

big wins against Cedar Crest College (9-1), Notre Dame of Maryland University (7-0), and Cairn University (4-1). Junior Samantha Sysak earned a spot on the CSAC Women's College Soccer Honor Roll with her all-around good play.

Sysak, juniors Cara Holmes and Laura Potter, and sophomore Lorraine Dedrick were key players in the win over Cairn University. Holmes scored off of a penalty kick. Junior Becky Camp had three goals and impressive seven total points in the win against Notre Dame of Maryland University.

Also scoring, were Dedrick, Sysak, sophomore Becky D'Angelo, and Potter.

Junior goalkeeper, Megan Williams, had her third shut-out of the season. The girls came up with a loss against Cabrini College.

The Cyclone Volleyball team is still looking for its first win. Graduating five seniors from last year, the team is in a rebuilding stage. Senior Chelsea Hoffmann, juniors Myriah Jade, Doin Kang, Miso Kang, Manami Jindo, and Christy Dias, with the help of sophomore Vanessa McKellar, and freshman Jamie Bierbaum, Na'imah Spells, Necolean Morrero, Laura Alvarado, and Jessika Beahm are making big plays for the team.

## Family Fest fun



Activities at Family Fest, Alumni Weekend. Photo courtesy campus PR office