

THE CONCORDIA COURIER

INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

Volume 20, Issue 2

Concordia University Irvine

Friday, October 3, 2025

CU Serves day: Concordia students give back and grow together

KAYLA CIMARUSTI
STAFF WRITER

On Tues. Sept. 23, over 900 students, faculty and staff participated with 28 different organizations for CONCORDIA serves (CU serves) throughout Orange County.

Riley Finch, a Psychology major and women's lacrosse player, volunteered at Second Harvest Food Bank. Finch said, "It showed me how involved Orange County is with one another and having each other's back through all seasons."

Finch described the experience as "a blessing to serve, doing God's work," and shared a lesson she hopes others take away, "Do it because you want to, not because you need to."

Finch also reflected on how CU Serves builds community. It "shows that no matter what background you come from, we are all

human and all the same. Growing together when things are tough creates community," she said.

Hunter Philbeck, a Sports Business major and men's lacrosse player, worked on a nearby farm for Second Harvest Food Bank. Philbeck and his team "picked weeds, zucchini and eggplants for about two acres of the farmland."

Philbeck said, "This experience has changed how I see the community because it showed me how much work goes into providing food for people in need," and added, "Even small efforts, like pulling weeds or harvesting vegetables, can make a big difference in someone's life."

Philbeck explained how CU Serves connects the university and local community, "CU Serves helps build a sense of community by connecting students with local organizations, which strengthens the bond

between the university and the people living nearby."

Cole Wachter, a Kinesiology major and men's volleyball player, helped pack at the OC Food Bank. Wachter said, "This experience put into perspective how involved this system is. It takes a lot to package each individual box that will help just one person, so the fact that they are able to help so many people speaks to how hard they work."

Wachter said, "I felt a sense of pride knowing that what I was doing was helping someone out, and the fact that I got to share this experience with my teammates made it special for me." He described how CU Serves builds community within the university: "We served with beach volleyball, and it was cool to share the experience of giving back with them. It also helps bring the local community together by providing a good example of what giving back and serving means and how it can positively impact others."

All three students agreed that volunteering with CU Serves has influenced their future goals. Finch said, "Definitely to volunteer more." Philbeck shared, "Volunteering has influenced my goals by reminding me that I want to have a career where I can still make time to serve my community." Wachter added, "Volunteering is something that I think I will do more often, even if it's as simple as helping coach volleyball at my high school every once in a while."

All three responded passionately when asked if they recommended CU Serves to others. Finch said, "1000% would recommend! Because of the boost of sense of purpose I feel, to know I'm making an impact from my efforts makes me want to try harder and do more."

Philbeck said, "I would recommend volunteering here to others because it's a hands-on way to make an impact, and it's also a rewarding experience that builds connections and perspective."

Wachter added, "I think that CU serves has a good variety of different ways people can serve and impact the community that all provide good opportunities for lessons learned and a chance to give back."

CU Serves Day is more than volunteering; it's about building community relationships, personal growth and making a difference.



PICTURED ABOVE: Men's lacrosse served at Second Harvest Food Bank, picking weeds and crops from farmland.

Photo courtesy of: Men's Lacrosse



PICTURED ABOVE: Woman's Lacrosse served the Orange County community for a day of giving back.

Photo courtesy of: Woman's Lacrosse



The Creative Collective welcomes writers

BROOKLYN PIETSCH
STAFF WRITER

Writing thrives on campus with the Creative Collective, a group that offers an encouraging space to students at any stage in their writing process. The Collective meets every Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in The Writing Studio, which is located on the top floor of the Schroeder Library. It is led by writing consultant Julianne “Jules” Carew.

Open to writers of all skill levels, the group encourages exploration and collaboration. “Writing clubs have been a source of friendship and fun in my life since I was in elementary school,” said Jillian Endicott, senior and student coordinator for the group. She added, “At the Creative Collective, we believe that writing does not have to be a solitary experience.” Carew said the group provides “a creative space where people can come and just check in. Also, to keep themselves accountable.” She added, “Even if you only come for one time a week, you’re still creating an hour out of your week for writing.”

Writers are free to discuss their work as much as they like at the Creative Collective. “I try and do prompts that will serve lots of different people based on where they’re at,” Carew said. “There’s no pressure,” she added, “You can come once, never come again. You never have to read your work aloud. You can sit in the back and not talk.” Carew mentioned that she has gleaned helpful insights from simply sitting in and listening to others

talk about writing.

Of course, writers are welcome to participate in the discussion. “We want to encourage and inspire each other in our writing journeys,” Endicott said. Carew said she wants to create a welcoming place for writers. “And I also just really like to make myself available to the people who come.”

Creative Collective meetings usually have a unique activity or material as inspiration. These include prompts, character sketching outlines, postcards, books, photos, stickers, art supplies and songs. “Some of my favorite creative pieces that I have written have come from a prompt or activity that I participated in at a creative writing club,” Endicott said. Past sessions have used retro photographs, collages and blackout poetry as creative fuel.

Carew started the group in 2020. “At the time,” she said, “my son was really little and I just kind of needed a reason to get out of the house. So I just tried to create the space that I wish I had had when I was in college because I always wanted a creative place to go.” She added, “If I had met me when I was your guys’ age, I would have wanted me to be generous with what I know. So I’m just kind of passing the torch.”

For those interested in the Creative Collective, email Endicott at jillian.endicott@eagles.cui.edu to receive emails about the group’s meetings. Carew encourages writers to join even if they’re unsure. She said, “I feel like a lot of students come in and they’re like, ‘I don’t have anything to write about.’ And I’m like, ‘You’re alive.’ Just by being here, you have something to write about.”



PICTURED ABOVE: Carew and Endicott together after a Creative Collective meeting.
Photo courtesy of: Brooklyn Pietsch



PICTURED ABOVE: Creative Collective poster.
Photo courtesy of: Brooklyn Pietsch

What are Eagles Watching: Fall Edition

REBEKAH MICHEL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As the temperature drops, pumpkin spice lattes return and Halloween is around the corner, many Golden Eagles are choosing to watch movies and television shows that reflect the new season. With answers ranging from nostalgic sit-coms to Halloween classics, students are letting the cooler temperatures and cloudy weather affect what they decide to watch.

For sophomore Pressly Freeman, fall movies mean revisiting spooky classics. “During Halloween, I watch ‘Coraline’ and ‘Nine.’ I want to watch something scary.” “Coraline” (2009) is a horror movie that still leaves the feeling of watching something family-friendly, making it a popular choice among people of all ages. It is available to stream on Amazon Prime and Apple TV. Whereas “Nine” (2009) is a post-apocalyptic film that takes place in a world where humans no longer exist and are replaced by rag dolls. “Nine” is also available to

stream on Amazon Prime.

“‘Corpse Bride’ and ‘Paranormal’ are also great fall movies,” said Freeman. Tim Burton’s “Corpse Bride” (2005) features Burton’s gothic design that has become synonymous with Halloween and is available for streaming on Amazon Prime, Apple TV and HBO Max. The family-friendly nature and animation are lost when watching “Paranormal Activity” (2007), a film that focuses on the supernatural and what it means for a house to be haunted. “Paranormal Activity” can be streamed on Hulu and Paramount+.

For senior Amy Held, fall is perfectly captured in an early 2000s sitcom. “My favorite fall show is ‘Gilmore Girls.’ I like it because it is placed in a fictional town named Stars Hollow. The setting looks like such a nice place to look around, and the scenery is beautiful. It reminds me of fall because there is a lot of coffee in the show.” Held added, “Something else is that the characters talk really fast, but the dialogue is really well written.” “Gilmore Girls” (2000) spans across seven seasons and focuses on mother-daughter relationships

throughout life’s most significant moments. Since its release on Netflix, it has established a huge fan base that stretches across generations.

When asked what her favorite fall movie was, freshman Anna Schatte answered eagerly with a rom-com classic, “When Harry Met Sally.” “It is the perfect illustration of relationships and how people can go from friends to dating one another,” said Schatte. “I feel Harry and Sally’s relationship in my soul. Additionally, the fall vibes of New York City are immaculate,” added Schatte. “When Harry Met Sally” (1989) focuses on two young adults who navigate the question, “Can men and women ever just be friends?” Full of laughter, charm, and romance, “When Harry Met Sally” remains a beloved romantic comedy and is available for streaming on Amazon Prime.

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The connected constellation of art at Concordia

CHLOE ROBINSON AND COLIN WHEELER
STAFF WRITERS

Come and visit the newest student art show. “Constellation: Working in a Series” explores the work of student artists as they create a series around a common theme. Each artwork shines on its own, but as a series, they form a constellation that tells a story beyond one image.

Sara Fletcher, Associate Professor of Art, said, “We warmly welcome visitors from any disciplines, on or off campus, to experience the Constellations show.” The variety of artwork waiting to be seen stretches down the hallway, filling the room with color and creativity. The art invites visitors to ponder how each piece relates to the rest in its series and see the similarities and differences in each artwork.

An art reception was held on Sept. 10 with many of the artists and fellow students sharing thoughts, opinions and their creative process in greeting their art.

One student artist is Abriana Prado, a junior Graphic Design major. Prado was assigned a pattern project in one of their classes, which is a collection of different symbols and colors all put together. Padro said, “I took details from a show that I liked at a time and turned little symbols in that show into a pattern.” Padro was excited to be able to show their art again in an event like this.

Artwork from several classes is

displayed, including graphic design, drawing and painting. Fletcher said, “The works include traditional and digital media, with themes including music posters, typographic alphabets, different views on a landscape, figure and ground ink studies from nature, and book illustrations.”

The music concert posters represent a variety of popular music artists through the medium of digital art. Viewers can find references to their favorite songs in several pieces throughout the gallery. Each artist incorporates the feeling of the music into their work, letting their distinct style represent their favorite artist.

Oil paintings are also displayed and created by the painting class. These paintings are based on famous landscape paintings from art history. The students approached the reference in two ways: one with a brush and the other with a palette knife. The paintings invite the viewer to look closely at each piece and analyze the differences and similarities in each approach.

Artwork from Drawing One is also represented. The students painted a still life only using flat washes of black ink to show the objects before them. Each student's piece relates to the larger collection of paintings from the class, depicting the same still life from various angles.

Some students have been working on these projects for an entire semester. The show displays several groups of “weekly creative projects.”

This project is a graphic design assignment in which a new piece is created almost weekly. By the end of the semester, students have a whole series of artworks that are now hung for viewers to see. The weekly creative projects on view include postage stamp designs, children's book illustrations, greeting card designs and digital food art.

Prado also commented on how art shows help students. “The art galleries here at CUI have people outside the major, like Math majors, who are taking painting classes. Even if they are just doing it for requirements, everyone is collaborative, and everyone wants to learn from one another.”

Rachel Soo, Visual Arts Department Chair, said, “I'm always impressed by the creativity, dedication and curiosity our students bring to their projects.” Students in Concordia's visual arts classes created all the artworks, including studio arts and graphic design. A wide range of grades is represented, from freshmen to senior artists.

Many students at the art reception enjoyed the variety. Peter Rivette, a senior Music major, said, “There is a section dedicated to unique type fonts. That is what caught my eye. I really like the different ways that they portrayed the alphabet. One in particular was almost 3-D visually with bright colors.”

The next art event, The Aerie, is coming up soon, and many students are excited from all different majors as they are able to submit a variety of poetry and art to the event to be seen and presented in front of professors and fellow students. Martin Herr, a junior Graphic Design major whose work was in the Constellation Art Show said, “I haven't submitted in years previous, but I might this year. I have to think about making some new art to submit.” The deadline for art submissions is the first week of December. You can visit the cui.edu website, and under the Art and Visuals Department, you will find the page for the Aerie 2025. Submit your application for your art and be a part of the constellation of artists at Concordia.

Constellations is on view on the second floor of Grimm Hall South until Oct. 24. The show is the perfect place to stop and take a moment to look at beautiful art.



PICTURED ABOVE: Main poster at an angle.
Photo courtesy of: Colin Wheeler



PICTURED ABOVE: Concert poster at an angle.
Photo courtesy of: Colin Wheeler

Concordia Dance Company welcomes all

LAURYN SCOON
STAFF WRITER

After a productive introductory year, the Concordia Dance Company, a student-led organization, has returned for the 2025-2026 school year. This group has become a force on campus, seeking to embrace everyone, regardless of skill level and past experience, to come and join.

Co-founded by seniors Britton Cheney, Laura Gibson and Giselle Parra, this organization began in the fall of 2024 following the discontinuation of the Concordia Spirit Team.

Gibson, who is majoring in Theological Studies, shared her and her fellow leaders' inspiration to establish the Concordia Dance Company. She said, "It came after we learned the dance team [Spirit Team] would be cut. We met as returners and discussed what our next steps would look like. We realized sidelines and game day is not really what we wanted to be doing anymore — rather, we wanted to be going back to our roots and doing more performative dance."

Gibson expressed that meeting with Autumn Mortenson, the dance professor at Concordia, allowed the organization to exist because she was able to "use her connections with the Theatre Department to allow us to exist under them rather than being a club," she said.

Cheney, who is majoring in

Kinesiology, echoed her fellow founder and said, "When the funding was cut for the Spirit Team, we knew we still wanted dance to be a part of Concordia's campus. So we got together and made it happen."

Both founders added that this being a student-run organization allows them the freedom to create the culture of the group. Gibson said, "We wanted this group to be welcoming to all because we have heard and experienced the tensions many dancers faced growing up. We wanted to provide a place where all could come to dance without fear of judgment or discrimination, a place of community, and move our bodies through the art of dance."

Agreeing, Cheney emphasized how they are able to ensure this welcoming environment by "encouraging everyone to try new movements and skills, even if they are unfamiliar. We do this by trying to lead by example by doing lots of different styles, even styles that we might be uncomfortable with," she said.

Sophomore Emily De Jesus, majoring in Business, expressed how this welcoming environment impacted her dance experience. She said, "I feel like I have improved a lot. They really break down the steps and then help you. It has also helped me in my own dance skills. I am actually able to be more flexible and do my right splits now."

De Jesus also conveyed how the inclusive and supportive culture has helped her grow in her own college experience. "I would say it has made me more talkative. If I didn't join the dance team, I'd be quieter and more introverted," she said.

Gibson communicated that this atmosphere of inclusivity and growth is the main vocation of the group, which is to "make the Dance Company a place that is welcoming and founded in a Christ-like community," she said.

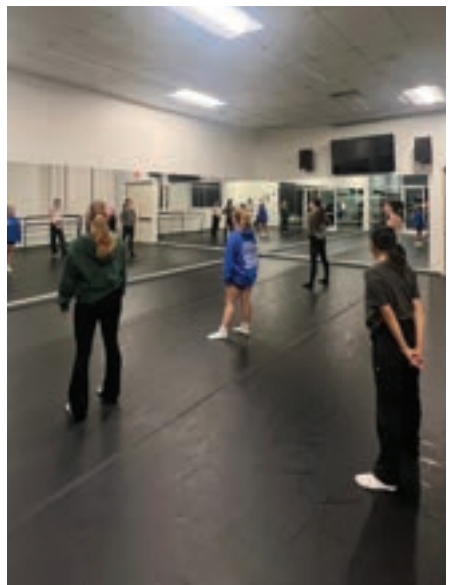
Gibson added that even though this is the organization's second year of operation, they still have many goals. "First, we would like to increase recruitment and get our name more present within the Concordia community. Secondly, we would like to partner with more groups on campus. Finally, we would like to be more present within the community beyond Concordia," she said.

With these aspirations, Cheney said, "Our biggest goal is to have a spring showcase to show what we've been working on, and also to create a space for people to come, exercise, move and learn something new."

If you would like to join the Concordia Dance Company, you can email britton.cheney@eagles.cui.edu or laura.gibson@eagles.cui.edu, or you can drop in on a class any Tuesday or Thursday from 7 p.m. 8:30 p.m. in the Student Union room 203.



PICTURED ABOVE: Concordia Dance Company Performing A New Routine In Groups
Photo courtesy of: Lauryn Scoon



PICTURED ABOVE: Concordia Dance Company Ready To Warm-up
Photo courtesy of: Lauryn Scoon

Women's soccer heads into PacWest play

SYDNEY WEAVER
STAFF WRITER

Women's soccer has had a strong start to this season. PacWest began on Oct. 2, and they are entering conference with a record of five wins, one loss and one tie.

Senior Madison Hall gave a heartfelt look into the start of the season and her hopes for the rest of PacWest play. She said the games thus far have "taught me and made me realize how important it is for the whole team to come together and be on the same page." Hall, the center back, added, "These games have given us time to grow and truly find what works for us and is going to make us successful going forward."

The team's overall outlook for the rest of the season is to work as a team and use effective communication to come out on top. Hall explained that coming together starts off the field. She said, "One of the most important things to work on off the field is always trying to build and strengthen relationships with teammates. The closer we are, the more it helps build trust."

This has been reflected in their winning record, setting a precedent for the PacWest games.

The team feels strong going into the rest of the season, and the seniors are looking forward to every game they have left with their teammates. Hall said, "We have an amazing group of girls that I can call family." Hall's personal communication goals are a big part of her leadership role on the team. She said, "My communication is vital as a center back." Hall added, "Each game I am always trying to work on my leadership and organization throughout the game." She stated that this helps not only her feel more confident, but it also instills confidence in her teammates.

Success in all aspects of team play is a big goal for the women. Hall said, "As a team, success is when we win and have a shutout, showing that the team as a whole, front to back, worked well together by scoring and not conceding."

They are working hard both individually and as a whole, and it is showing on the field. With PacWest play starting, the

team wants to stay as healthy as possible. Hall said, "Recovery is vital." The girls are all working hard and trying to recover as quickly as possible in the training room, with their fuel and rest.

Hall said, "As a team, if we stick to who we are and our principles, it does not matter who the opponent is. I look forward to going all the way and putting our best foot forward every game." To see the women's soccer team put their best foot forward, head to the Golden Eagles Field on Sat., Oct. 4, at noon, where they match up against Dominican.



PICTURED ABOVE: Senior Madison Hall playing at Cal State Monterey Bay, where they took home their fourth shutout victory.
Photo courtesy of: CUI Athletics



PICTURED ABOVE: The team after their third consecutive shutout in just one week.
Photo courtesy of: CUI Athletics

Women’s volleyball senior Nevada Knowles hits 2,000 career assists

JORDAN VANDER VEEN
STAFF WRITER

Women’s volleyball returned home victorious from the Hampton Inn Nighthawk Classic tournament in Nampa, Idaho. The team finished 3-1, but that was not the only success they brought home. On Sept. 13, Nevada Knowles reached 2,000 career assists after the team’s win against Seattle Pacific.

Knowles was surprised and overwhelmed with emotion when she hit 2,000 assists after their game. She had no idea that she was close to hitting that high of a number in assists. “I asked the coaches to let me know when I was close to 1,000, so I was clearly not expecting that,” she said.

After a summer battling with grief upon the passing of her father, Knowles felt like this was an extra special accomplishment, not just for herself. She finished the Seattle Pacific game with 2,001 assists.

Knowles explained, “I got one over which was really cool to hear because my dad passed in June of this year, so I would like to think that extra one was for him.”

Knowles has been a key player in the team’s success this season. Senior captain Caitlin Jarrell said, “She’s very aggressive and assertive as a setter and is like a quarterback of the team. She has been a big asset of this team.”

Jarrell recalled a play that

stuck out to her from their opening game. When Knowles went up to hit the ball, they tricked their opponents by setting the slide, leaving the net wide open for a kill. “I think that just like automatically defined her. She is not going to be scared to do something that is creative,” said Jarrell.

New to the team as of spring 2025, Knowles feels beyond grateful to feel so loved and celebrated. “This is the closest and most loved and most supported I have ever felt on a team.”

At the end of the match, Knowles was immediately cheered upon and embraced by her teammates. “I was overwhelmed and just so grateful that after the summer that I had, going into the season still struggling with some grief, being surrounded by a team that is so wonderful, it was incredible, and I felt very loved,” she said.

The team can use Knowles’ accomplishment to fuel them as they start conference play. Entering the conference with one of the league’s top setters motivates the team to maximize her talent and leave their own legacy. Jarrell said, “It motivates me to create that same presence and impact.”

“There’s been a warmth and an acceptance from the start, and I think that’s really thanks to the coaches for fostering that kind of love and support within the program,” said

Knowles.

She said she feels she can flourish not only within the volleyball team’s culture, but in Concordia’s culture. “This being my third school, this is the warmest campus that I’ve ever been on.”

Unfortunately, this is Knowles’s last season with the Golden Eagles, but she is confident the team will continue to thrive. “Which is really cool to know that you are helping foster this team, but at the same time, you are just lucky to be a part of it,” said Knowles.

To find out more information on the Women’s Volleyball team, visit <https://cuigoldeneagles.com/sports/womens-volleyball>.



PICTURED ABOVE: Senior setter Nevada Knowles is setting her offense. Photo courtesy of: CUI Athletics



PICTURED ABOVE: Nevada Knowles is cheering after scoring a point. Photo courtesy of: CUI Athletics

Men's water polo team on a good start, beating tough opponents

CHAD HAYES
STAFF WRITER

The men’s water polo team has a start of [TBD 8-9] with their recent [win/loss] against Mount Saint Mary’s on Thurs., Oct. 2. Freshman Canyon Johnson, who plays utility and is an Engineering major, and freshman Derek Maddox, who plays goalkeeper and is a Business administration major with emphasis on finance, are members of the Concordia men’s water polo team. Both Johnson and Maddox reflected on their start of the season and their experience being on the team.

Johnson has loved his time on the team so far, and for this season, his preparation was “making sure to get to know everyone on the team.”

Maddox’s main preparation for this season was getting good sleep, going to the trainers, and eating good food.

Johnson said he would not change anything in his routine for the upcoming games. The team is on a good track so far, so putting more and more effort into becoming a big family is important to him. For any changes in his routine, Maddox said, “Always being more hydrated, there have been a few games where I wasn’t fully hydrated.”

Johnson is very proud of the team’s results so far, having played well against ranked opponents. “My favorite moment on the team so far was beating Air Force by one point,” said Johnson. The team played against the D I Air Force Academy on Sept. 13, winning 15-14. This was Concordia’s first win

against the Air Force since 2019. Johnson loved this moment, and it helped improve the team’s results. Maddox’s favorite moment on the team, just like Johnson’s, was when they beat the Air Force by one point. This game was followed by another exciting win on the same day against Chapman (13-7).

Johnson has been playing water polo since his freshman year of high school and has made great efforts to improve at the sport and make it to college. Johnson chose Concordia after emailing various coaches at different schools. Ultimately, he felt a connection with Coach Johnson at Concordia, which is why he ended up joining the Green & Gold. Johnson said that once his water polo career ends, he would be interested in coaching water polo. He loves helping people learn the sport.

Maddox has been playing water polo since seventh grade, and he has loved the sport ever since he started. Maddox chose Concordia because he wanted to play water polo, as well as its close proximity to his home, allowing him to still see a lot of his family during games.

The men’s water polo team enters the Gary Troyer Tournament today, Fri. Oct. 3, with their first game at 12:15 p.m. against Redlands. At 5:15 p.m., they will play their second game of the day against Wagner. For those free on Sat., cheer on the water polo team as they play another match against Mount Saint Mary’s at 9 a.m. and against Ottawa at 2 p.m. For more details and information about upcoming games, check out their schedule at <https://cuigoldeneagles.com/sports/mens-water-polo/schedule>

Concordia students embark on study abroad program in Cambridge

KAYLA REED
STAFF WRITER

On Wed., Sept. 16, eight Concordia students arrived in Cambridge, England, ready to begin their study abroad program at Westfield House. Lasting until December 20, the three-month program gives students the opportunity to continue their university studies on the other side of the globe, experiencing history firsthand amongst the changing leaves and cool temperatures of a British autumn.

The students are studying abroad through the Concordia Cambridge program, which is through an established partnership with Westfield House, a small Lutheran college associated with Cambridge University's theological federation. At Westfield, the students, alongside students from Concordia Wisconsin, Concordia Nebraska and Valparaiso University, are taking classes in various subjects from Shakespeare to Astronomy to the New Testament.

The students started orientation week by sitting in sessions on British culture and what to experience during their time abroad before taking a tour of their host city. The city of Cambridge, which is an hour northeast of London, is one of the most historic cities in the country and is home to one of the most famous universities in the world, Cambridge University.

In Cambridge, the students visited King's College Chapel, the second largest chapel in the world, as well as one of the most beautiful. Other historic

sites included the outside of the science laboratory where the electron was discovered and a British Air Force pub with messages handwritten on the walls from soldiers fighting in World War II. Beyond the historic sites, the city is full of natural beauty, from the river Cam that runs quietly through it to the leafy trees as they begin to shed their leaves.

Audrey Kaufman, a sophomore Marketing major, said, "I'm looking forward to experiencing the seasons again. Coming from South Dakota, I realize that I've really missed the change of seasons!"

The next day, the group toured London. Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London were all stops on this trip and gave students the opportunity to be tourists and explore some of the most famous sites in their host country.

After two more days of orientation, classes started at Westfield. The British education system is different from the American one, allowing students to experience their studies in a new light. Heavily focused on reading and note-taking, the classes are designed to prepare students for intensive final exams at the end of the term. Though challenging, this method of studying is yet another way for students to integrate into their host culture and further understand British culture.

Studying abroad is an amazing opportunity because it allows students to experience much of what they are learning firsthand. Students taking the

Shakespeare class will be able to go to see Stratford-Upon-Avon, Shakespeare's birthplace, as well as the reconstruction of the Globe Theater, which is where Shakespeare's plays were intended to be performed. Similarly, students taking Christianity and the Arts have the opportunity to visit the various cathedrals and museums nearby, witnessing historical artifacts and architecture for themselves. They also have the opportunity to travel to places of interest during weekends and see even more of Europe.

Sophomore Patrick Mercier noted that he was excited for the opportunities presented by studying abroad in Cambridge, saying, "I hope to get out of my comfort zone and experience my Christian faith in other countries...By flying to several different countries, I cannot wait to experience how the family of believers lives and worships in a different culture than mine."

Studying abroad is a time of challenge and growth, excitement and change. Kaufman said, "I hope to get out of this experience some life experience and understanding of how other people live, seeing the similarities and differences and noticing the things I want to incorporate into my own life, but also recognize places of improvement."

To follow the students' journeys abroad as they begin their semester, follow @cui_programsabroad on Instagram. To learn more about Concordia's opportunities to study abroad, visit <https://www.cui.edu/admissions/undergraduate/academics/programs-abroad>.



PICTURED ABOVE: Punting trip down the Cam River
Photo courtesy of: Kayla Reed



PICTURED ABOVE: The Beauty of King's College Chapel
Photo courtesy of: Kayla Reed



PICTURED ABOVE: Window inside King's College Chapel
Photo courtesy of: Kayla Reed



PICTURED ABOVE: Buckingham Palace
Photo courtesy of: Kayla Reed