



THE CONCORDIA
• COURIER •
INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

Volume 10, Issue 8 Concordia University Irvine Friday, January 22, 2016

Homecoming weekend set to celebrate
Concordia arts, athletics and academics



This year's Family Concert is "How To Train Your Tubasauros" and promises to delight audiences of all ages. Basketball games will be a highlight Saturday night.

CAROLINE WONG
FACULTY ADVISOR

Concordia's Homecoming & Family Weekend 2016 is slated for Fri., Jan. 29 through Sun., Jan. 31. Anchored by an alumni golf outing to Strawberry Farms on Friday morning and a Sunday matinee performance of "Pride and Prejudice," the three-day celebration is a vibrant mix of events, with many activities open to the whole family.

When it comes to organizing this cross-campus celebration, all hands are on deck. University Advancement and the Office of Alumni & Family Relations organize the alumni and parent-oriented events, while the Center for Student Leadership and Development coordinates student activities. Residential Education and Services plans the free Family Carnival set for Saturday on the Commons Lawn. "It truly takes an entire univer-

sity to coordinate the weekend," said Michael Bergler, Executive Director of Campaign Operations and Constituent Relations.

Bergler has worked in University Advancement for twelve years and finds homecoming events particularly heartwarming, "Homecoming and alumni activities where old friends reconnect are the most rewarding for me. I have hosted reunions and watched as friends who had not seen each other for 50-plus years reconnect."

In addition, this year homecoming attendees will enjoy fellowship with a special chapel service on Sat., Jan. 30 at 3 p.m. in Good Shepherd Chapel. "It has been a long time since we have had a special Homecoming & Family Weekend chapel service," Bergler said. "It will feature alumni so we are glad to include it. We hope it is the anchor between the morning activities and the evening activities."

The morning activities on Saturday include a free Family Pops Concert, set for 11 a.m. in CU Center. The concert is organized by Dr. Jeff Held, the Music Director of the Concordia Wind Orchestra.

Approximately forty students from the Concordia Wind Orchestra as well as students from the Theatre Department will participate in the concert, featuring music from blockbuster movies "King Kong," "Back to the Future" and "Jurassic Park."

Held applies a light touch and humor to keep the performance entertaining and kid-friendly for families to enjoy. "(Our theme is) Jurassic Band: How to Train Your Tubasauros," Held said. "The skits will include musical instrument-playing dinosaurs, the result of a disruption of the time-space continuum that only Doc Brown and Marty McFly could fix." With a wink, Held added, "The Flintstones might have something to

do with all of this."

Professional voice-over artist and Concordia alumnus Brock Powell will lend his vocal skills for the concert. The performance is familiar territory for Powell (Class of 2011) who developed his craft on campus when he participated in pops concerts as a student.

A highly anticipated part of homecoming weekend, the Family Pops Concert is a chance to hear well-known orchestral music from popular movies while watching skits that youngsters and adults will find entertaining. "My favorite part is seeing all the families that come out for this and watching the kids really get into the concert," said Held. "I hope it leaves an indelible impression on kids, making them want to learn an instrument someday."

Athletics also figure prominently into the weekend activities, with opportunities for student-athlete alum-

ni to return to the playing field, and for fans to cheer on current Men's Volleyball, Women's Basketball and Men's Basketball teams in action.

Men's Volleyball face off against Princeton on Fri., Jan 29 at 7:00pm. Concordia's basketball teams play host to California Baptist University in a double-header starting at 5:30p.m. on Sat., Jan 30. All games are in the CU Arena.

For current students, "A Night of Elegance," the Hoomecoming Dance on Friday night is a celebration of this year's Homecoming Court.

A schedule of events is available at cui.edu/homecoming or contact the Office of Alumni & Family Relations at alumni@cui.edu or call 949-214-3187. Join faculty, staff, students, families and fellow Eagle alumni and celebrate Concordia's 40th academic year!

ASCUI Corner: campus projects



ARIANA SADEGHIPOUR
ASCUI SECRETARY

ASCUI Senate is thrilled to announce the installation and continuation of ongoing projects. This past semester, ASCUI Senators were split into committees and focused on select campus projects including: housing, cafeteria, University Services and Campus Safety. ASCUI Senators spent the course of the fall semester researching campus projects that were suggested by students. Once research was completed ASCUI Senate presented their research to

administration for review. In December, the installation and ordering of campus amenities took place.

“Together with University Services the campus projects process has begun.”

Together with University Services the campus projects process has begun. Hydration stations around campus have been requested by students for several years mainly to help reduce the amount of water bottles used on campus and increase students’ use of reusable water bottles. In December, two hydration stations were installed on campus. The hydration stations are both located on the first and second levels of Founders Hall. More hydration stations are being planned for this coming year. Additional project installations include concrete ping-pong tables

in Rho and Sigma, near the programming centers, which have been popular hangout areas since their installation last semester. This coming semester, students should expect installation of outdoor tables with umbrellas, concrete beanbag games, recycling bins and new barbeques in the Residence Halls. These units have been ordered by University Services and have a projected arrival and installation date of this semester. The hope of these projects in the Residence Halls is to help build community on campus and create more areas for students to come together

and grow with one another. Have any suggestions for ASCUI Senate or want your opinion heard? Visit www.cui.edu/studentlife/student-leadership/ascui-senate to send comments, concerns or suggestions or drop it in the box located outside of the Center for Student Leadership and Development. If you are interested in becoming a part of the ASCUI team applications are available in the Center for Student Leadership and Development and are due by the end of the month.

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New bleachers to be installed this summer

CELINA STRATTON
SPORTS EDITOR

Last November, the bleachers on the west side of the CU Arena were damaged during cleanup after a Men's Basketball game. The incident occurred after sports equipment blocked the way of the bleachers as they were being pulled back. Since then, the bleachers have remained extended in a stationary position, unable to be mechanically or manually pushed back in.

This incident caused severe damage to the wood flooring and left the engine responsible for their power non-functional. Although it was preventable a problem arising seemed inevitable because of the aging bleachers.

The bleachers are roughly 30 years old, only a decade younger than the university itself. Compounding the challenge, the school cannot simply order and install new parts to repair the bleachers because mechanics no longer make those parts. University administration had to make a decision quickly because it does more than inconvenience

the school's athletic program. Mo Roberson, Interim Athletic Director, mentioned how the

"It is not only an inconvenience for the school's athletic program, but for various other campus activities that use the gym"

situation is "affecting multiple entities" who utilize the gym for practices, games, and classes.

One of the affected individuals is Badminton instructor, Allan "Hodge" Hodgert. The bleachers cover two of the four courts he uses for his Wednesday badminton classes. As an interim solution, he has purchased supplies to make two unofficial

courts made up of blue tape, weights, clips, and rope. "I try to get here around 7:45 a.m. to set up before my 8:30 a.m. class," Hodge said. Though his artificial courts are a temporary fix, many others are working hard to solve this current problem.

Tim Odle, Executive Director of University Services, has been one of the leading administrators working behind-the-scenes to find a permanent solution to this issue. Aside from purchasing new bleachers, Odle said other alternatives were considered. "We had three options: 1) Push them in, 2) Leave them out, or 3) fix them," Odle said.

However, fixing the bleachers has been difficult. "The fastest way to fix them is to fabricate the parts," Odle said. Fabricating, or simply, re-creating the parts in a newer material, would take up to 8 weeks. On the other hand, replacing the bleachers completely would take up to 18 weeks. Because of the tight timeframe, Concordia will be waiting until the end of the semester to fix the bleachers.

The broken bleachers have affected many groups including

both volleyball and basketball teams, Intramural sports, and P.E. classes. However, multiple facets of the tight-knit Concordia community have come together to make things work. "Everyone is inconvenienced,

"Everybody is sacrificing to make it work.

It's what I love about Concordia"

but everybody is sacrificing to make it work. It's what I love about Concordia," Odle said. University Services and the Athletic Department have cooperated greatly to make sure the situation is still manageable for all those affected, like Hodge and his students.

"We want to do our part to serve and [make sure everyone] has a good experience with athletics," Roberson said. Hodge

added, "I don't have any complaints. I'm here because I love to [teach badminton]."

Reassuringly, Roberson added that "it is not a safety issue to sit on them" and spectators can continue to watch athletic events without concern. The next priority is to replace the bleachers completely after the semester is over and most gym-related activities are suspended for the summer. The new bleachers will be plastic (opposed to the current wood ones) with customizable features such as school colors and the official logo. Come next fall, certain aspects of the CU Arena, including the bleachers, will be renovated to meet NCAA standards.

Athletics honors late basketball greats



Insert Keith Lawrence and Monica Quan: Large photo: Coach Ken Ammann (Photo credit: Alisha Alexander)

CELINA STRATTON
SPORTS EDITOR

On Sat. Jan. 16, the Athletic Department held a jersey retirement ceremony for former student-athletes, Keith Lawrence and Monica Quan. Both Lawrence and Quan were members of the Men's and Women's Basketball teams respectively.

Three years ago, the engaged couple

were victims of a killing spree led by a frustrated former Los Angeles police officer. Since then, Concordia has found a way to honor these individuals for their greatness on and off the court.

The emotional ceremony preceded the Men's Basketball game. Ken Ammann, the Men's Head Basketball Coach, shared heartfelt and humorous stories about the couple.

Ammann shared that he often thinks of "how poised Keith was when he competed" and how Lawrence's calm composure inspires him to be the same when he feels nervous before games.

Nearly one-third of the spectators present were friends and family of Lawrence and Quan who watched as the school officially retired their basketball numbers. Quan's #23 and

Lawrence's #20, are the first and only jersey numbers to ever be retired in any athletic program in Concordia school history. Their home jerseys were framed together with "Eagles Forever" engraved at the bottom.

In addition to retiring their numbers, Concordia introduced "The Keith Lawrence and Monica Quan Memorial Scholarship" to honor the individuals. It rewards one female

and one male member of the basketball team scholarship money for their tuition. The recipients of the scholarship are chosen as individuals who embody Lawrence and Quan's selfless and honorable character. In its inaugural year, the two recipients for this school year are sophomore Elizabeth Rudd and freshman Mike Mellinger.

The Concordia Courier seeks to empower student voices through its bi-monthly issues. It is not the only way students speak though - from social media to class speeches, wise, honorable and cultivated students from Concordia are sharing their voices each day. On this page, we have focused on students who have turned to the medium of blogging to connect with others so that you can find out what a wide array of students are saying across Concordia’s campus and in places abroad.

My Life Travels Here

Those interested in studying abroad or simply those who want to know what life is like across the pond can follow one of several students who are currently a university student far from Concordia’s green lawns. This blog is run by former Diversity Awareness Coordinator sophomore Elise Logan and is keeping all of us updated on her life in Cambridge.

<http://mylifetravelshere.blogspot.com/>

The Wandering Empanada

Not much of a reader? Then enjoy the visual and audio fun of junior Joanna Urueta’s journey through Scotland on her vlog. Full of enthusiasm and laughter, Urueta’s current video on the Youtube Channel “A Wandering Empanada” features footage of Arthur’s Seat and Urueta describing what this semester will entail.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/catdog5962>

Welcome to the Den

Junior and Volleyball Captain Taylor Dennison started her blog with the motto “Keepin’ it Simple” as she recorded whatever she was thinking about in a pleasant stream-of-consciousness format. This month her blog celebrated its one-year anniversary of continually sharing the experience and advice Dennison has to offer. For a low-key, personal read, head to her blog.

<https://tdensblog.wordpress.com/>

Trilove

Senior Nate Miles, although his posts come erratically, has put together an excellent blog centered around stories of God’s work in his life and advice to live in a Christian manner. His voice is eloquent and caring and could provide many with a different perspective of who God is.

<http://www.trilove.org/>

Student Bloggers

Did you know that Concordia has student bloggers on cui.edu? Check out these the amazing blogs by junior Abigail Lozano and our very own Editor-in-Chief, junior Kendra Sitton as well as the archives of senior Shea Frates’ blog. Each blog features well-written stories regarding campus life and various student interests. Between these three blogs, there is sure to be something that everyone will enjoy!

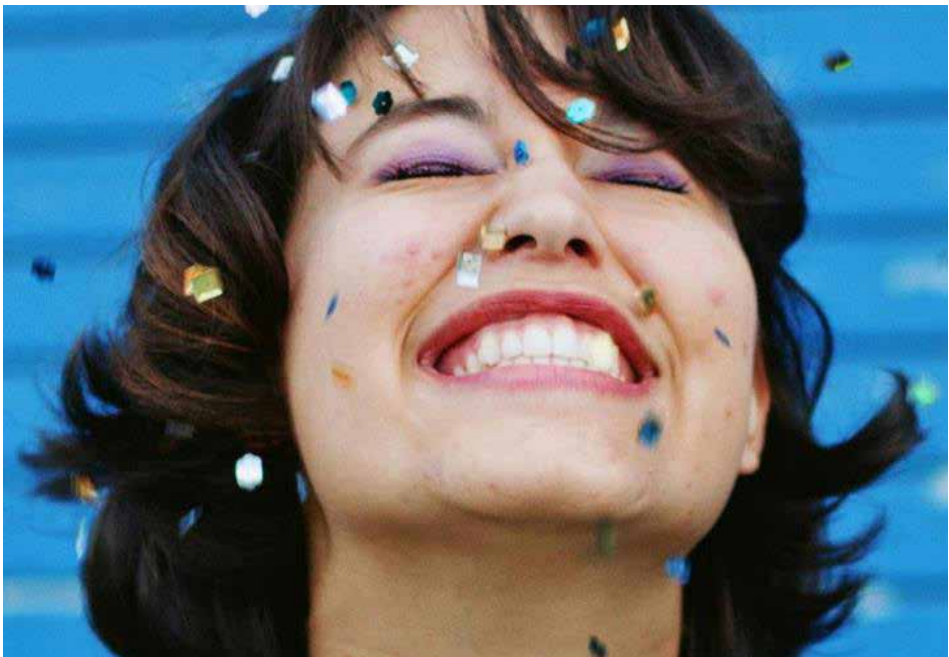
<http://www.cui.edu/Admissions/Undergraduate/Community/Student-Blogs>

Permanently In Transition

Learning to take advice

Published with permission from junior Will Bakker’s blog <https://thisisthecaptainslog.wordpress.com/>

Published with permission from junior Abigail Lozano’s blog <http://abigail.blogs.cui.edu/>



As people go along in life they learn the entire time (ideally). You don’t reach a point after some big life lesson learned and think, ‘Well that’s it. I’ve become the perfect version of myself.’ At least, I hope not. I believe that we can never achieve perfection on our own, but we can constantly be striving to be better. I am a vastly different person than I was a year ago. I’m unrecognizable from the the guy who left to work at summer camp at the end of last May. Change happens over long periods of time of course, but it can also happen in rapid bursts. This past summer I believe that I grew more in those few months than I have ever in any period in my life. Camp grew and developed who I was becoming in such a radical way.

If we are seeking to grow every day, then we change on a daily basis. Now there may be nay-sayers and the holders of the mantra that you should “never change who you are,” but frankly I think that’s terrible advice. Can you imagine never changing from who you are now? We all have dreams of where we want to go, who we want to be and what we want to do someday. At least, I hope. Since change is constant, when I make a mistake or slip off the course from who I want to be, I don’t get discouraged. Well, sometimes I get discouraged. I’m human, sue me. But I don’t let it stop me. A year ago, I never wanted change so badly in my life. God called my bluff, as He often does when I say things like this, because when it comes to change, you have to accept the good and the bad.

The amazing season of growth that I experienced while working at a Christian summer camp was followed by a difficult transition into post-camp life and readjusting to college and “real life.” Your highs and joys in life are made more sweet because

you’ve experienced low points and difficulties. There may be a tad bit of flawed logic in there somewhere, but it makes sense to me for the most part.

Being permanently in transition comes with its difficulties. Know that if you’re seeking to grow day by day, discipline will be necessary. Don’t let that stop you. Have others come along side you and encourage you in what you are trying to accomplish. Know that you won’t be able to take on the entire world by yourself and that asking for help is not weakness.

Also know, however, that sometimes you’ll ask people to come along side you who may let you down. They will sometimes be caught up in things all their own, and that’s no fault of theirs. Just know, that to be truly disciplined, you will have to be motivated and dedicated enough to keep doing things on your own, even when no one is beside you. Keep pushing on past what you think is possible. It’s an exciting adventure that I am on and I invite you to join me.

Some may think that being permanently in transition means you never know who you are because you’re constantly changing. I think that isn’t true at all. Your identity should be firmly planted. I know where my identity is rooted, and the good thing is that because my identity is Christ, I never have to worry about not knowing who I am. I just know I’m not done yet. Christ is not done with me yet. I’m constantly striving to learn from the mistakes I’ve made and improve myself to become more of who God has intended me to be. It’s going to be a long and difficult journey, but one I know will be worth it.

I am seeking to be permanently in transition.

While this next blog might be ironic, a self-aware advice-driven series on learning to take advice, I hope that you as the audience will find a far more humble spirit it weaved throughout than any of my previous, far more “preachy” posts. I hope to present a few examples of the more challenging and less glamorous parts of growing up towards adulthood from an authentic voice of a young woman who many times still feels like a little girl.

“Learning to take advice means understanding that giving is often far easier than receiving.”

Have you ever heard that silly little piece of advice old people give you when you tell them you are moving away or going to college? You know, the tired cliches like, “remember who you are,” or “grow where you are planted”? Sometimes I think people are sweet to say those things, but sometimes I can hardly make the connection between myself and a plant.

I think I know what they will say already, but I am too polite to end the sentence for them. Though, if I am truly honest, when I do finish the sentence in my mind it’s always like “finishing each other’s sandwiches,” which fits in a silly kind of way, but ultimately takes away from the true wisdom being passed on. Instead of focusing on sentences, for example, I am consumed (pun intended) by the thought of food, mostly artisan sandwiches.

Mostly I think I am clever and just forget the whole exchange, but later find myself seeking to remember what it is that I was advised. This, I have found is not an efficient method of taking advice. To receive good counsel, we must be willing to sit quietly, to listen, to ponder deeply, to understand, and make a decision on how to practically apply it our lives. This last method takes a long time and a lot of effort. I often don’t use it because I am so busy, and I just want bite-sized snacks of help, not a full meal.

If life is like the holiday season, then good advice is like that one simple item you keep re-gifting at the white elephant gift exchange. It seems everyone is always ready to give plenty of advice, but when the time comes to use it, we leave it half-wrapped in crinkled tissue paper in search of something better.

Being someone who talks a great lot, I often find myself telling people great pieces of advice. Do this, don’t do that, try something new, avoid getting in a rut, etc. etc. etc. And being someone who has a wide circle of acquaintances, I have often found myself hurt when I see that people don’t take my advice. Ironically, I am often that person who chooses to “forge the path ahead” in total disregard of the wise counsel I have received.

Learning to take advice means understanding that giving is often far easier than receiving.

Conquering Core in Cambridge

This semester, four Concordia students are studying abroad at Westfield House in Cambridge as part of Concordia's Core Cambridge program. Under the instruction of CUI professors Dr. James and Dr. Susan Bachman, these students study Core English and History as well as other courses offered by Westfield House of Theological Studies. This week, the students and professors share some of their favorite memories and observations about life in England.



Jami Derby eating black pudding (photo credits: Suzy Reyes).



Students discover Superfood in Cambridge: Black Pudding

SUSAN BACHMAN
CONTRIBUTOR

U.S. chain motels, like Holiday Inn or Motel 6, offer free continental breakfasts with powdered-sugar donuts and dispenser bins of Frosted Flakes. You might get lucky with a hot breakfast of rubbery eggs, a somewhat dry biscuit with a triangle of plasticized cheese, hash browns and frozen or canned fruit.

By contrast, “full cooked English breakfasts” are spectacular, and breakfast is a major selling point. Up-scale establishments tout a traditional and nutritional “superfood” side for breakfast too: Black Pudding. Most Americans have never heard of it.

Let’s get vocabulary words straight: Black + Pudding. Most of us first envision something sweet and decadent, like “Death by Chocolate,”

a creamy desserty-thing. This is not that. Wonderful, to some, but not sweet.

Pudding in Britain can be savory, as in the Hasty Pudding Americans recognize vaguely from “Yankee Doodle.” It’s made from grains cooked in water or milk. Yorkshire Pudding, which is a baked pastry, is served with beef roasts. Vegetable puddings show up too, as in Pease (peas) Pudding or Pease Porridge.

In Black Pudding, the dark color comes from one high iron and high zinc ingredient - a gross-out factor - pigs’ blood. Let’s call it like it is. Black Pudding is Blood Sausage. Every native Brit knows of Black Pudding. Some like it and others don’t. We have a split vote among Westfield students.

The Luther Hall R. A., Annie Shelton, from Brazil loves it. She enjoys it fried with a poached egg on top

and a salad on the side. Our students took the “I’ll give you 10 pounds to buy and try it” challenge. They found packaged Black Pudding in a local grocery and finagled Shelton to fix it. Suzy Reyes gave mostly positive feedback. “It wasn’t bad,” said Reyes. “I ate about half of my slice.”

Jami Derby felt apprehension but triumphed. “I got one bite swallowed,” said Derby. Elise Logan had similar sentiments. “It is hard to get past the texture. [It’s] smooth like bread soaked in soup,” said Logan, “Then you think about the blood.” Marissa Bearss responded with faint praise. “Black Pudding in texture feels like the Little Debbie brownies with little bits of pecan,” said Bearss. “They look alike. But they don’t taste alike.”

Dr. Lumley, who teaches the Westfield course in British Life and Culture, googled Black Pudding and

showed the class a do-it-yourself video. No one could forget those images.

I tried Black Pudding in August at The Grapes Pub while four workmen, over an early ale, smirked at me, hoping the American wouldn’t cope. I smirked back. Black Pudding gets my three and a half stars. If you close your eyes, you could be eating onion quiche.

Matt, a local plumber from Hellesdon village in Norfolk, said, “In my parents’ day, everyone slaughtered animals, and made and ate Black Pudding to use that fresh blood.” Hellesdon village—for Core students reading Henry IV—boasts a manor house from the 16th century owned by Sir John Fastolf, the inspiration for Shakespeare’s character, Falstaff. When asked if he still eats it, Matt said, “Naw, we have sweeter choices these days.”

Most Black Pudding ingredients are unobjectionable: sautéed onions, spices, oatmeal, other grains, a little lard, a soupcon of salt—but then there’s pig’s blood. Some YouTube videos on how to make Black Pudding recommend, not fresh, but dried blood flakes. Jamie Oliver, British chef, might say, “Easy peasy for a great lunch.”

Forget Denny’s Slams, the Brits’ breakfasts are not to miss. Bacon, fried or poached eggs with tropical-sunset yolks, grilled tomatoes, baked beans with toast, and asparagus or peas for color. If you are lucky, it’ll come with some delicious Black Pudding. CUI’s Core Cambridge students are not yet buying the delicious part. Overseas study has a steep learning curve. I’m not giving up on these students yet.

Culture shock? Here’s how you can beat it.

KARINA DIEZ
LOCAL/GLOBAL EDITOR

For many students, the idea of studying abroad is both enticing and daunting. Sure, eating foreign delicacies and visiting historical monuments sounds like an absolute dream. However, what about the fact that you’re completely immersing yourself in a culture where you may not speak the language? Or understand their cultural cues? What if you miss your parents? These are all completely valid concerns so take comfort in knowing that you’re certainly not the first to have them.

First, before hopping on that plane, get to know as much about your destination as possible. “Learn about the country and talk to people who have been there,”

said Faith McKinney, Director of Global Programs. “Do your homework and learn the basic differences.”

Second, culture shock is something that cannot be avoided when it comes to adapting to the lifestyle of the country that you’re visiting. “Be aware that being in love with [a] new country, being happy there, being homesick, being happy again - these different moods and experiences can be part of the normal culture shock experience,” said Dr. Jennifer Cosgrove, Division of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Chair. “Pray and ask God how He can use you where you are.”

“Chatting with my British professors over tea and biscuits was one of the best and most gentle ways to begin to adjust,” said

“Be aware that being in love with [a] new country, being happy there, being homesick, being happy again - these different moods and experiences can be part of the normal culture shock experience”

sophomore Emily Crosby. “By simply observing their habits and tendencies, I was able to imitate them when possible, helping me

to ‘blend in’ with a society very different from my own,” said Crosby who took part in the Core Cambridge program last fall. “I also took time away from my fellow students and simply explored my surroundings, forming my own opinions about the city and its people before others could influence me.”

The entire purpose of studying abroad is to expose yourself to another culture, so do it! “Keep an open mind,” Cosgrove said. “Some things (traditions, foods, etc.) may not ‘make sense’ or are ‘weird’ to you - just remind yourself that you are the newbie and the guest in this country - different doesn’t necessarily mean it’s wrong.”

Last, keeping in touch with your family is easy when we live

in a world where your mom’s face can pop up on your phone at the touch of a button. “I talked to my parents as often as I could, via Skype and text, but it also really helped to talk with my fellow study abroad students about home,” Crosby said. “Many of them were either from California or had spent considerable time there, so we had a lot of fun reminiscing about weather differences, West Coast norms, and of course, CUI.”

To find more information about studying abroad, make an appointment with Faith McKinney online at <https://faithmckinney.youcanbook.me> or visit the Office of Global Programs in Administration 120.

Pride and Prejudice opens tonight

ALEXANDER CARR
REVIEWS EDITOR

Tonight at 7:30 p.m., Concordia's Theatre Department unveils the first performance of the year, *"Pride and Prejudice."* The classic show promises to offer an enjoyable experience for all audiences. "I like this show because it's so textual," said Adam Ramirez, junior, *Pride and Prejudice* Stage Manager. "It relies on how the audience listens and on how well the actors understand what they're saying. It's a good show and an easy show to dig deep in, and I believe each audience member will walk away with something different."

Pride and Prejudice, set in early 18th century England, explores the conflict between the stubborn characters Miss Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy. Despite their initially poor impressions of one another, as they continuously cross paths their relationship develops amidst the issues of family, marriage and class that characterized the 1900's.

"It's basically a romcom," said Ramirez. But with a cast of twenty-two characters, the romance isn't the only appeal. "There's just a lot of relatable characters," said Ramirez. "I can see certain people liking the bad girl, and certain people liking the crazy mom, and certain people liking the stubborn dad. This story is driven by every single character."

While the characters must capture the attention of the audience, first they must capture the director and so they did. "The roles range from very heroic and romantic to comic, there's a little bit of everything in there," said Professor Tony Vezner, director of the production. "So there's a lot for even the smaller roles to chew on. That makes it a good exercise for our students."

While entertainment is important, challenging students can be equally as significant when choosing what to perform. "We are blessed in this department with a lot of good females, and *Pride and Prejudice* has some great roles for women," said Vezner.

One such woman, sophomore Theatre Major Emily Porr, is excited to have one of the many rich roles for women. "*Pride and Prejudice* is one of my favorite books, so to get to be a part of making it come to life is just awesome," said Porr. Her character is Mary Bennet, the third sister of Elizabeth. Mary demonstrates how even smaller roles require deep understanding of character

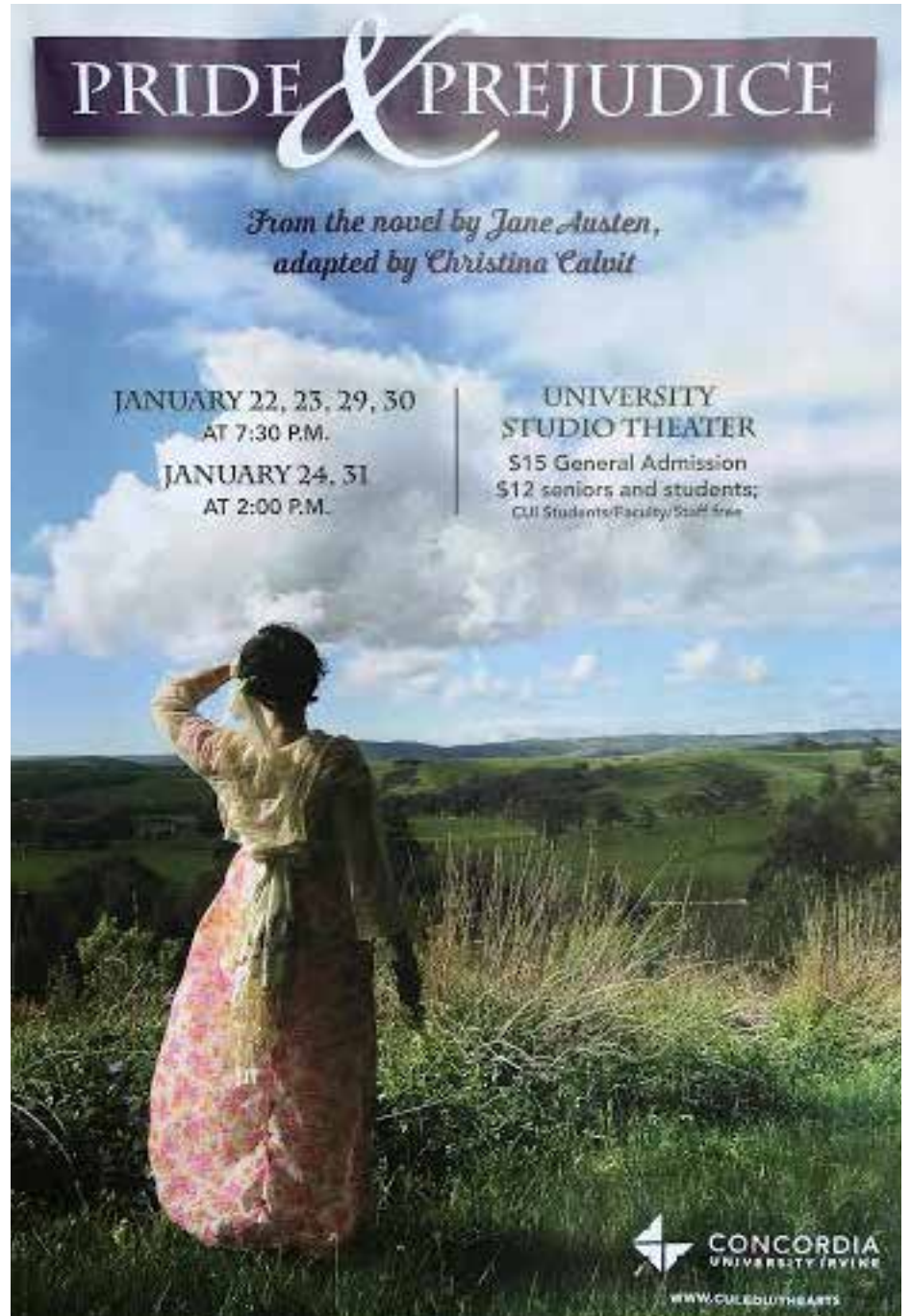
motivation. "What's really interesting is taking these characters with one or two main traits and making them dynamic," said Porr. The main motivation I've come up with is she wants to be admired by her parents the way her parents admire her sisters."

"It relies on how the audience listens and on how well the actors understand what they're saying. It's a good show and an easy show to dig deep in, and I believe each audience member will walk away with something different."

In a unique move, students won't be the only ones on stage. Theatre professors will be working alongside their students throughout the performance. "Sometimes we'll ask our younger students to play older characters," said Vezner. "But I thought it was good idea to have our students be able to look over and see their teachers working on their acting craft and performing alongside them, working hard just like they do."

"It's weird at first, but it's fun because we love them. It's really cool to get to act with them," said Porr.

Work began the week after Thanksgiving Break and continued until finals week. The cast returned to campus early on Jan. 3 to continue rehearsals and to work on the performance over break. "There's no homework there's no distractions, all we



do is rehearse and build scenery and eat donuts. It's a good time because we have nothing else on our plates and we just get to be together," said Vezner.

It may be a period piece, but for Vezner, some things never get old. "For me it was a great chance to work with the students on material that's very challenging. I love my job because every time I do a show it's a whole new challenge," Vezner said.

When the audience walks in, their work will finally be on display. "It's a great show because it's well known," said Ramirez "It's one of those shows you need to see in your

life line and it's a good date night, really."

Join the cast in the theater tonight at 7:30 p.m. Bring a friend or listen to Ramirez and bring a date. Students get in for free with ID and tickets can be purchased online or in the box office for 10 dollars each.

And if you can't make it tonight the show is performed Jan. 23, 29 and 30, each show beginning at 7:30 p.m. Matinees will also be available starting at 2 p.m. on Jan. 24 and 31.

President's Academic Showcase

Content Provided by Dr. Melinda Schulteis,
coordinator of the Academic Showcase.

Overview

As a part of Concordia University's commitment to academic excellence, Concordia holds an annual President's Academic Showcase of Undergraduate Research. The competition is a chance for top students to work one-on-one with a faculty mentor on an undergraduate research project. The competition incorporates projects from all disciplines, drawing entries from biology, English, theology, behavioral sciences, music, theater, education, business, communications, psychology, art, chemistry, history, anthropology, linguistics and mathematics. A panel of faculty, selected from across the disciplines, serves as judges for the showcase.

There are two levels of com-

petition: Tier One for upperclassman and Tier Two for freshmen and sophomores. The three components to the competition are a research paper, an academic poster and an oral presentation. Exemplary entries from both tiers will earn President's Academic Showcase awards, and some will be invited to represent Concordia by presenting their research at an inter-collegiate undergraduate research conference the following fall.

Timetable for 2016 President's Academic Showcase

Oct. 7 - Jan. 23 - Sign-up window; Faculty mentors submit names of student participants

Tues. March 15 - Students submit papers

Thurs. March 31 - Poster Session, 11:00am - 1:00pm in front of the CU

Center

Wed. April 6 - Finalists' Presentations, 10:00am-12:00pm, DeNault Auditorium

Fri. April 8 - Winners announced following chapel, CU Center

President's Academic Showcase Awards

TIER ONE TIER TWO

1st Place: \$1,500

2nd Place: \$1,000

3rd Place: \$700

TIER 2

1st Place: \$400

2nd Place: \$300

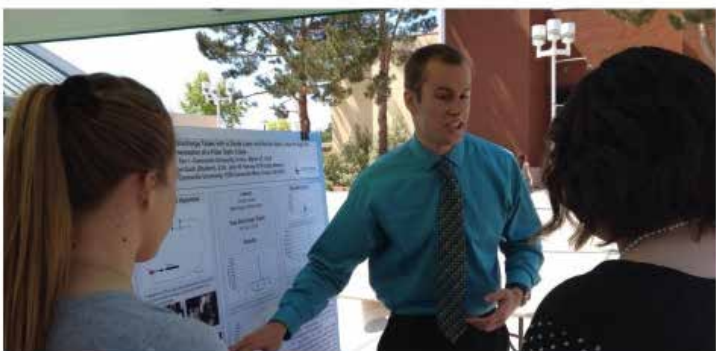
3rd Place: \$200

Honorable Mentions: \$400

Best Poster among both tiers:

\$200

If you are interested in participating, or if you have any questions, please contact Dr. Melinda Schulteis at melinda.schulteis@cui.edu



What's new on Netflix?

A column that details the highs and lows of Netflix to assist Concordians in the ongoing struggle of picking something to watch.

New Year. New Netflix: 2016 Line-Up Announced

COURTNEY HENTZ
LAYOUT EDITOR

With the start of the new year, Netflix has announced the newest releases for 2016. Instead of our usual review, this week the Courier has dedicated this column to detailing the highs and lows of our next year with Netflix.

Unfortunately as new content arrives, old favorites are removed. Some titles were already dropped in December, including all seven seasons of the “The West Wing.” Fortunately we will still be able to watch the adorable Dulé Hill on “Psych” throughout 2016.

Titles that left in January include,

but are definitely not limited to: “A Clockwork Orange,” “Almost Famous,” “Jerry Maguire,” “Mission Impossible 1 and 2,” “Rocky 1-5,” “The Bourne Identity,” “The Bourne Supremacy,” and “Zoolander.” January also saw the loss of the ever popular collections of “Dance Moms,” “Duck Dynasty,” and “Storage Wars.” February’s list of losses is much smaller, but includes all of the “Doctor Who” series. If you ever wanted to see that iconic science fiction phenomenon, you better get binge watching Concordia.

Luckily all of these losses means a whole new set of shows and movies that will be available for our viewing pleasure. In December many new favorites were added including the

extremely popular film, “The Da Vinci Code” which I had the pleasure of viewing for the first time just last week—it is definitely a must see. January brings the latest seasons of great television comedies such as “Parks and Recreation” and “New Girl.” Some of the new movies released in January include: “2 Fast 2 Furious,” “Ice Age The Meltdown,” “Meet the Fockers,” and my personal favorite, the musical “The Last Five Years” featuring the very talented Anna Kendrick.

Let’s not forget about the many original series returning to Netflix in 2016. If you haven’t watched any of these, there’s still time catch up before they continue. March 4th will bring

season four of “House of Cards,” “Daredevil” season two airs on March 18th. “Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt” arrives on the 15 of April with a second season. The 6 of May promises another season of “Grace and Frankie.” Finally, “Orange is the New Black” will be back for season four on June 17.

The first-ever line of Netflix original movies are also set to premier in 2016. With star studded casts, these movies are sure to be hits. Some of these include: “War Machine” with Brad Pitt, “Mercy” with “Mad Men’s” James Wolk, and “XOXO” with “Modern Family’s” Sarah Hyland.

The most exciting 2016 release, I saved for last. Netflix has picked up

the cast of the 90’s show “Full House” to film a spinoff of the original show called “Fuller House.” “Fuller House” is planned to premier this year on the 28 of February. I don’t know about you, but I am extremely thrilled for this series release. I might be even more excited about this release than I was for the latest Star Wars film.

Despite the numerous films and shows lost in 2015, I am beyond thrilled to see all the greats that were added for 2016. Check back in the next issues of *The Courier* for reviews of these new releases. For more information on what shows have been added and taken away check out www.whats-on-netflix.com.



Concordia hosts Keyboard Day Chelsi Lynn Beauty

KENDRA SITTON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This past Saturday on Jan. 16, Concordia Keyboard Day was held. Musicians ages 12 to 18 came to Concordia to learn from faculty, see others perform and perform themselves for Concordia scholarships and cash prizes. “The original purpose of the event was to reach out to the community and let them know Concordia is here and we have a wonderful music program; and also to encourage and empower young musicians to continue with their talents,” said Dr. Carol McDaniel, who led the morning devotional.

Before the students demonstrated their talents, Concordia faculty and current students wowed the audience. Dr. Tom Mueller arranged a ballet by 20th century Francis Poulenc (who pulled upon renaissance period French folk music) and performed it as an opening organ piece. Junior Anna Reilly demonstrated the skills of Concordia’s music students to the visiting adolescents at the event. Later, the audience was enraptured by Dr. Hyunjoo Choi’s performance of Chopin’s Ballade no. 1 in G minor, op. 2. Chopin was a popular choice among the pianists throughout the day as 7 of the 15 piano scholarship competitors used different Chopin

pieces during their judged performances. In a similar trend, many of the organ competitors performed pieces from Johann Bach.

After this opening, the students attended several workshops. Steve Young taught pianists how to improve their improvisation skills while organists learned from Mueller. Later, a “petting zoo” of sorts was held, and the students could try out the harpsichord, the CU Center Casavant Organ, the piano and the synthesizer. This allowed students who had spent several years studying one instrument to try a new one. “The event is encouraging and aesthetically stimulating for young musicians because they get to be around other great players and are invited to try out any of the keyboard instruments we have, be it piano, organ or harpsichord,” said senior Natalie Bartels, a music major.

The day culminated in the competition and awards ceremony. The judges, made of Concordia music faculty, emphasized how impressed they were with the children who performed. This is the second year of Concordia Keyboard Day and it has grown significantly, now boasting students from new studies as well as those who traveled from Northern California and San Diego to attend. Bartels said, “As an observer, the best part of the day was watching the

awards ceremony. I loved seeing the looks of the winners of the competition as they were awarded recognition for their hard work. In the ones who placed well, but were not first, you could see a kindling determination to practice even better in the future.”

In the upper division for piano, Timothy Zhuang earned the top spot, garnering him a \$1000 Concordia scholarship and \$350 cash prize. The judges also awarded the young Dana Moon in the lower division as well as giving 2nd and 3rd prize. All of the organists won a prize, but some rose to distinction including Annie Kelly who got 1st place in the lower division and Samuel Nguyen in the upper division. Vincent Pham, another talented musician, was the only student to compete and place on both instruments.

Faculty members sought to inspire these students to continue practicing and honing their craft. “Music competitions are wonderful events because they give musicians a chance to observe other exemplary players and sharpen their skills,” said Bartels.

For the students who learned new skills Concordia’s 2nd Annual Keyboard Day was a pounding success. “I enjoyed the enthusiasm of the children and the parents here. I enjoy seeing God continuing to work his gifts of music in children,” said McDaniel.

COURTNEY HENTZ
LAYOUT EDITOR

Concordia’s very own Chelsi Haulk has recently started her own beauty blog to share the tips and tricks she’s learned using makeup over the years. Chelsi’s blog, chelsilynnbeauty.com, hit the internet early this year. With only a few posts currently available, it is exciting to see where this new blog is headed.

In her first article, “Start of Something New,” Chelsi details her decision to start blogging. The article’s tone is comfortable and conversational. With humor and honesty, she describes the inspiration behind her decision—her time abroad in Italy.

While this experience was incredible, Chelsi describes the loneliness she felt after traveling so far from home. Naturally, she looked for some comfort while adjusting to her new lifestyle. “I watched countless Youtube videos, and started reading blogs... I spent hours watching beauty videos, makeup tutorials, vloggers, etc,” Chelsi said. “These people taught me a lot about the world

I live in, and they helped me figure out the person that I wanted to be.” It was through this “obsession” that Chelsi realized she had something of her own to say.

Chelsi’s beauty blog is unique. She focuses not just on beauty tips but also travel and music. By showcasing her talents and experiences, she hopes others can learn from her stories. In the future, Chelsi plans to “develop [the] website to include videos, because ultimately that’s what started it all.”

If you’ve been thinking about starting your own blog, Chelsi recommends you first purchase the rights to your website. “Avoid utilizing a simple WordPress, make your website your own and find your style!” Chelsi certainly did that with her own website. Aside from her interesting articles, her website features a very visually pleasing, clean style with fun photos to accompany her stories. Head on over to chelsilynnbeauty.com, it may just help you “seek beauty within, explore, and dream.”

Dear Millennials,

KARINA DIEZ
LOCAL/GLOBAL EDITOR

Millennials, across the United States, have proven to be very expressive in their viewpoints regarding politics but have also demonstrated their lack of motivation to actually show up on Election Day. According to USA Today's Survey of Millennials, or Rock the Vote, 1,141 U.S. adults between the ages of 18-35 communicated their support for clean energy efforts, humane foreign policy, police oversight, stronger gun control and greater health care spending. The puzzler here are the statistics regarding voter turnout. Very low percentages of young adults said they were

likely to vote in the primaries and a mere 60% articulated they would vote in November.

Due to millennials being digital natives, it is simple for them to become informed and discuss their views with others from all over the country. However, with social media's ability to distribute distorted video clips and misquoted statements, it can also be disastrous. Sophomore Manoh Martin said, "This turns voters off to candidates with whom they might otherwise align, and ironically makes elections less representative."

"Social media also allows the spread of misinformation and rumor in a unique and harmful way, that can often influence, particularly millen-

nial voters, to make decisions founded upon falsehood," said Martin.

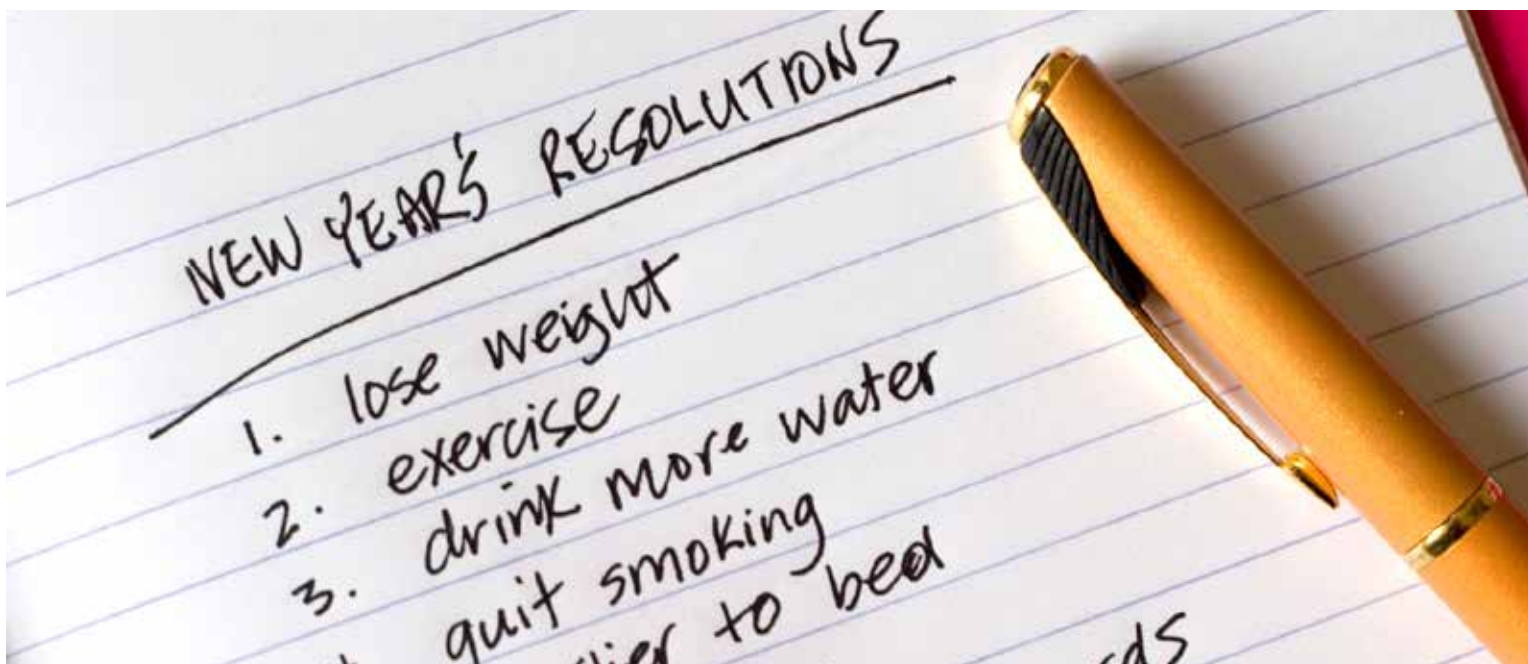
On the other hand, many presidential candidates have also embraced social media themselves in order to directly interact with their voters and give them statements straight from the source. Bernie Sanders, Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump and Ben Carson are just a few among others who have used Twitter to reach the millennial audience. "Twitter not only allows candidates to address their possible voters, but also allows for the sharing and resharing of their statements, giving them more publicity and hopefully more supporters," said Will DeMuri, senior.

More often than not, voters are

discouraged when it comes to placing a vote due to the idea that their one particular vote will not make a difference in the outcome of the election. "[Many] millennials are critics of the electoral college, and those in traditionally 'blue' or 'red' states feel as if their vote doesn't matter if it contradicts the state's political leaning," said Martin.

Young adults contemplating whether or not to show up and place their vote in that ballot box on Nov. 8 should consider this: one seemingly small action is a puzzle piece in a much bigger picture.

Resolutions should transcend gym memberships



TIFFANY THOMPSON
CAMPUS EDITOR

At this point in January, many New Year's resolutions are ebbing away. They are easily made but evaporate into February, long forgotten. Their purpose is noble but rarely fulfilled. According to students, the key to a joyful new year does not lie in a new gym membership, being more organized or getting out of debt. It lies in understanding what brings each person joy and fulfillment and expanding on those moments throughout the year to create better versions of ourselves. The average resolution is an attempt at improving ourselves, but often misses the underlying goal of joy when stressing over diets and check lists.

Some people obtain happiness from little things. Freshman Paris Lee said, "What makes me happy is being

able to accomplish something on my own and rewarding myself by buying more shoes."

For Lee and others, it is in daily events that culminate in happiness rather than a distant goal of a perfect body, perfect job, and perfect relationships. Junior Teresa Rhynard said, "I get the most happiness from getting hugs, but lots of things make me happy such as my dad's homemade ice cream, dancing to good music or just hanging out with friends."

What makes freshman Sarah Herron happy is, "Hanging out with friends and catching up on T.V." In the stressful lives of college students, these can be easy ways to escape.

But there is an apparent difference between happiness and joy. Happiness is something that can occur temporarily but joy is long lasting, it fulfills. Junior Kaitlyn Miller said, "What makes me happy is teaching

kids. I love spending time with them and love to be a role model for them," said Miller. "Kids love unconditionally, which is a quality that is rare. But my joy comes from getting to make an impact on their lives. It fulfills my life and my goals."

Events and circumstances that deal with other human beings and with things bigger than the self bring people joy. Junior Jacqueline Samples said, "My family being healthy and happy brings me joy," said Samples. "It fulfills me knowing that they feel loved."

"Joy is found when I experience God's love more directly, either in helping other people and seeing them smile or even when I take time to really watch a sunrise and recognize everything amazing God has done. As for being fulfilled, Only God can do that. I'm fulfilled when I'm taking time to really be with God," said Rhynard.

Joy from God was expressed by other students as well.

"What brings me joy is being able to put a smile on someone else's face even if that means doing something little or silly. Jesus can really fulfill my heart, without him I feel half full," said Lee.

Junior Tyra Kaufmann summed up the things which bring her joy simply as "Family, love, that kind of thing," said Kaufmann.

Instead of breaking another new year's resolution, attempt to find true joy this year. Volunteer, do for others, put the phone down and have a conversation with a stranger, spend time with God, change someone else's life and your own one-day at a time. Maybe then in 2017 we will all look back on this year and not have a resolution but want to redo exactly what we did.

Resources for success this spring semester

TIFFANY THOMPSON
CAMPUS EDITOR

Tutoring

Are you struggling with a subject or just want a little bit of clarification in your classes each week? Go to tutoring. Most teachers post the names and hours of the tutors for your course on the syllabus. If your schedule does not work with any of them there is a form you can fill out to request off-schedule tutoring. It is not guaranteed that they can accommodate you but they will try. Take advantage of this opportunity to solidify knowledge and get questions answered by visiting www.cui.edu/studentlife/tutoring to see if your class offers a tutor and to view the hours available.

Writing Center

This center is available for anyone who needs assistance with brainstorming ideas, revising and formatting papers. The main goal is to train students in how to do it for themselves. They will not proofread your paper for you, they will help you identify, for yourself, the strengths and weakness of it and how to identify your own grammatical mistakes and errors. Becoming a good writer is essential to success in college and in life. This is a skill that many of us will require for a few more years. It is recommended to make an appointment but feel free to drop by. Another option is to access the online writing lab. There you can submit your paper and in a few days it will be sent back to you with evaluative comments. Email chatting is also an option. For more information visit www.cui.edu/studentlife/Writing-Center.

Grammarly

It is an automated grammar tutor that helps to prevent plagiarism and find grammatical mistakes in papers. It catches more errors than Microsoft Word. It is free to CUI students and a lifesaver. Visit www.grammarly.com/edu and sign up with your CUI email.

Khan Academy

This free online resource allows you to further your knowledge or solidify it. Click on any subject that you are struggling with and walk through the modules to increase knowledge. For more information visit www.khanacademy.org.

Library

The library is an amazing resource but many don't utilize it for its full capacity. If you have any comments or questions you can click on the "chat with a librarian" bar on the bottom right of the library website for almost instant responses. There are various workshops available throughout the semester both online and in person to help you become better researchers. Visit www.cui.edu/library for more information. The next workshop will be held on Jan. 27 at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The topic is finding e-books.

FWL LIVING by Kara Der

