



THE CONCORDIA COURIER

INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

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Concordia University Irvine

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Free Food, NCAA Kickoff Celebration



ANDERSON CLARKE
STAFF WRITER

Courtesy of cuieagles.com

After two years of patiently awaiting the completion of the transition from NAIA to NCAA, Concordia is now ready to compete as full members of the NCAA Division II, PacWest Conference. This means it is now an exciting time to go and support the great range of teams on campus looking for postseason success. To celebrate Concordia's full NCAA membership, the school will be hosting the "NCAA Kick Off Celebration" on Sat., Sept. 16, 2017.

The celebration begins at 3 p.m. on the Grimm Student Union Patio & Commons Lawn. The celebration will feature live music, food and fun for all ages! Enjoy FREE food samples from a variety of local restaurants like Chick-Fil-A, University Town Center, Asian Box and Gina's Pizza. Special "Concordia Cookout"

meals will be available for purchase. Enjoy live music from a variety of student led bands, all while celebrating our official NCAA membership.

The NCAA Kick Off Celebration will then roll over to the CU Arena where the Women's Volleyball Team will take on old GSAC rival, Biola, in the team's first conference game of the year. The game that begins at 5 p.m. is free for all Concordia students, and will feature free giveaways.

The women's team is coming off a hugely successful 2016 campaign in which the team finished 26-3. This year's team was again selected to repeat as PacWest conference champions after claiming 189 votes in the PacWest Preseason Poll, narrowly edging out conference rival Cal Baptist who polled 179 votes.

The 2017 team enters

the season with a number of key returners from last year's winners. The returners are led by PacWest All-Preseason selection Rachel Flynn. The senior outside hitter tallied 438 kills and a .272 hitting percentage during her junior campaign with 4.02 kills per set. Other key returners include sophomore opposite/middle blocker, Cindy Tran who is coming off a fantastic freshman season where she registered 215 kills and had a hitting percentage of .226.

Tran said, "Our team is very close like one big family and we are all very excited to compete in the postseason this year." Another key returner is junior setter Erica Anthony. Anthony moves into a larger role this year and has begun the season in the team's starting lineup. When asked what the students would enjoy most about watching her team's

games, Anthony said that the students would enjoy the fast-paced offense and positive team energy.

The team is excited to build off of last year's success, capture another conference championship and move deep into postseason play. There is no better way to kick off PacWest conference play than to celebrate Concordia's full NCAA eligibility whilst enjoying live music, free food, merchandise giveaways and coming out to support the women's team as they strive for their first PacWest conference win of the year.

Mo Roberson, Director of Athletics, said, "We want everyone to be a part of the NCAA Division II celebration this Sat., Sept. 16. This event is for the entire institution as we celebrate Concordia University Irvine being an official member of the NCAA. We hope you can join us!"

GO EAGLES!

President Krueger Announces Retirement

STAFF REPORT

Concordia President Kurt Krueger announced Wednesday his intent to retire on June 30, 2018, the end of the 2017-2018 academic year. Krueger's career in higher education as a scholar and administrator spans more than 46 years, 27 of which have been at Concordia.

Krueger, the university's fourth president, took office as president July 1, 2010. Prior to his appointment, he served as executive director of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod's (LCMS) Board for University Education and president of the Concordia University System since 2005. Before joining the university system, he was a professor of English and later served as provost and chief academic officer at Concordia. The university's Board of Regents will lead the search for a new president.

During his eight-year tenure as President, Krueger led an administration that implemented new academic programs, built up the university's endowment, paid down the school's debt—goals that Krueger set from the beginning of his appointment—and set the record for the largest student enrollment in the school's 40-year history. In addition, he led the university to new milestones: transitioning into a NCAA DII school, entering the next phase of the Master Plan with the construction of the new Music, Worship & Theology

ASCUI Corner: The Results are In!

MADDY HAASE
ASCUI SECRETARY

Elections on campus are always a great start to the year. Students are able to see new faces and ones that they haven't seen since May. It creates a community here on campus and allows people to see who will represent their voices.

Senate elections took place during lunch on Sept., 7th and 8th outside in front of the Student Union. Students took to the booth to vote for their student representatives. After voting, students were given Otter Pops to cool down in the hot September days. A week has passed, and the election results are in!

Over 375 students came to the Senate Election booth to cast their votes.

What is Senate and how does it work? Senate is dedicated to allowing students voices to be heard. These ideas and suggestions are brought to Senate, then from there the ASCUI Vice President, Claire Brainard, brings these concerns and ideas to the faculty and staff of Concordia. Anthony Draper, senior and newly elected Senator said, "I'm excited to be a part of a team that will make a difference on campus for the benefit of the students!" Senate is about bridging the gap between the students and upper administration.

During this fall election, 34 new senators were voted into Senate. This number added to the 6 already elected returning Senators from last year creating



Courtesy of ASCUI

a total of 40 Senators. Claire Brainard, said "This is the largest Senate group that we have had at CUI. It is exciting to see that students are interested in big issue topics and the interest of their fellow students."

Senate Open Forums begin next week. These forums are held on Wednesdays at 10:30 in Sigma Squared. They are open to any student that would like to

come and give ideas, questions or concerns. The ASCUI Executive Team is excited to see the impact that this year's ASCUI Senators are going to make on campus and help to create a voice for students.

If anyone has any questions about Senate or would like to voice an idea or concern, the ASCUI office door is always open in the CSLD, or send an email to ascui.vicepres@cui.edu. We

cannot wait to see what this year has in store!

Please welcome the 2017-2018 Senators: Returning: Cathy Pimentel, Evette Jahnagiri, Forrest McFarland, Katie Depol, Nathan Smith, Nick Vreeland, Newly Elected: Agnes Nikuze, Alec Baranski, Allison Schult, Anthony Draper, Ava Schweninger, Brianna Rhodes, Carmel McGee, Chase Kraklio, Christina Boyle,

David Miller, Dion Chung, Emily Kivisto, Ghada Alajeely, Jamine Tabb, Kaitlyn Gleeson, Leah Muller, Lucas Senkbeil, Lydia Woods, Maile Lane, Mckinley Becraft, Megan Chelling, Melissa Evans, Melody Vallejos, Oriana Macias, Rachel Holten, Ryan Corso-Gonzales, Ryan White, San Schuster, Samuel Fluegge, Shiloh Ennis, Timothy Meylor, Tyler Haase, Vinh Vu & Yiquan Wang.

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Concordia President Announces Retirement

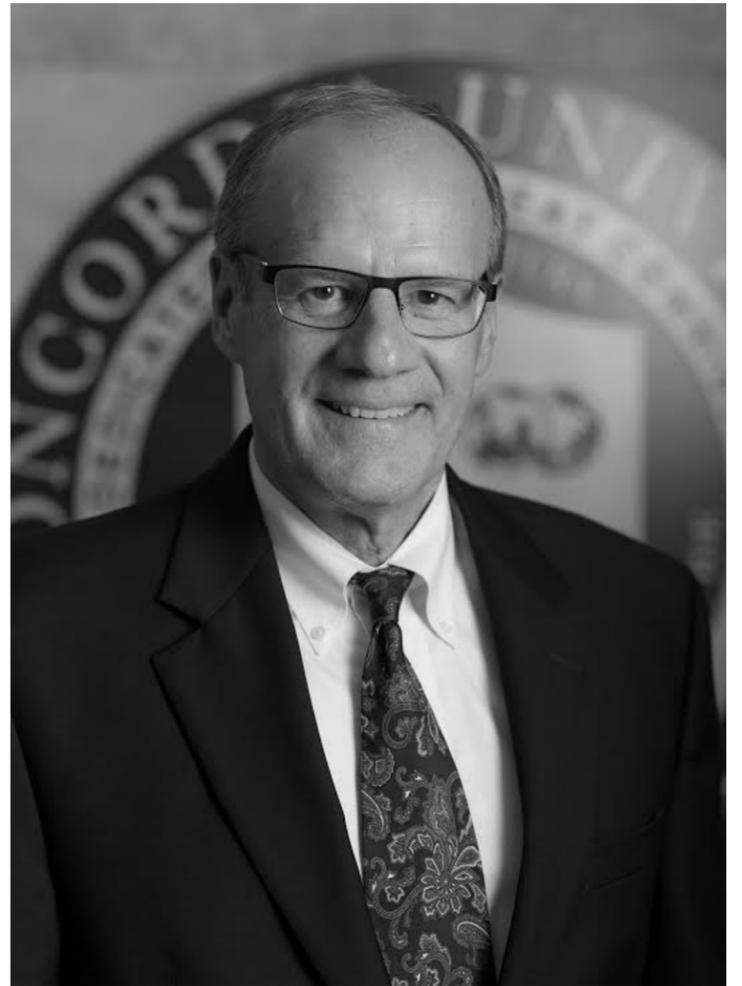
building, leading the campus in its goal of becoming designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution (with more than 25 percent of its students being Hispanic) making the school eligible for federal funding, and being named as one of the fastest growing private nonprofit master's universities in the country by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

"I always look forward to coming to "work" each and every day," said President Krueger. "CUI is a special place that has been abundantly blessed.

President Krueger holds a Ph.D. in English from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master's in English from Marquette University, as well as a bachelor's in English from Valparaiso University. He serves as a board member at Crean Lutheran High School and the Center for U.S. Missions.

*"CUI is
a special place
that has been
abundantly blessed."*

- President Kurt Krueger



Courtesy of CUI PR

J.J. Watt Rallies Houston Sports Community for Hurricane Harvey Efforts

SAM SCHUSTER
STAFF WRITER

Houston Texans football star, J.J. Watt, has helped raise over \$32 million to aid Hurricane Harvey relief. Watt started a fund on a crowdfunding website called "YouCaring" on August 27, after he felt helpless watching the destruction of his city per the massive Hurricane Harvey. He decided to create the YouCaring page and quickly surpassed his initial goal of \$200,000. "There's over 160,000 people that have donated," said Watt in a "Sports Illustrated" article. "There [are donations] as big as \$5 million and as small as \$5. It's people giving whatever they can."

Dr. Tim Preuss, a former Houston high school football coach and current Concordia Exercise Sports Science professor, chimed in on how the Houston sports community is unlike any other. "[In Houston], you form lifelong relationships with the people that you coach, that you play for and that you play with," Preuss said. "It is very encouraging to see professional athletes like J.J. Watt use their public platform and influence to help so many. Not only are they themselves helping, but they are inspiring many others to help as well."



J.J. Watt was drafted by the Houston Texans in the first round in 2011. PC: Google.com

Watt is not the only figure in sports to step up to make a change. Texans owner Bob McNair donated \$1 million, a donation that the NFL quickly matched to show their support. The Houston Astros have

pledged \$4 million and owner Jim Crane is encouraging others to "help out in any way that they can." The Houston Cougars basketball and baseball coaches have gotten creative with their efforts, and have begun collect-

ing t-shirts and sneakers from basketball and baseball coaches around the country.

With donations still pouring in weeks later, the YouCaring page ends with an inspirational statement: "We will come out of

this stronger than ever. We are Texans."

To help in Houston recovery efforts and donate to Watt's fundraiser, visit: <https://www.youcaring.com/victimsofhurricaneharvey-915053>

Fall Time Fun: An Overview of Local Autumn Events

NANCY PALMER
STAFF WRITER

The fall season brings with it special events only available during this time of year. Kick off your fall season with activities happening near you.

Keep it classic at The Old Fashion Pumpkin Patch in Irvine, California. The patch will be open Sept. 16 through Oct. 31, operating daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At the patch, there are hay rides, a giant hay maze, train rides, a haunted house, face painting, cookie decorating, carnival games and picture stands (do it for the In-

stagram!). A highlight at the patch is "The Largest Pumpkin Growing Contest" in which families bring their own home-grown giant pumpkins.

Admission to the patch is free and parking is \$3 per vehicle. So load up a car full of your friends and head on over to The Old Fashion Pumpkin Patch at 1 Irvine Park Rd, Orange, CA 92869 or visit www.irvineparkrailroad.com/events/pumpkin-patch/ for more information.

If pumpkins aren't your thing, perhaps Disney is! Disneyland will be Halloween

themed from Sept. 20 until Oct. 31, featuring the "Frightfully Fun Parade," a special Halloween firework show, Trick or Treat stations and more.

Some of the public's favorite rides get spooky during this frightful season. The haunted mansion gets a "Nightmare before Christmas" makeover that lasts until the New Year, and over at Space Mountain, a scary apparition haunts passengers through deep space.

Tania Moran, a Disney cast member, said Halloween at the park is her favorite time of the year. "The way that they trans-

form the park is magical. The work and detail that goes into creating that special Disney magic is something that everyone enjoys, including the cast members," Moran said.

Come check out your favorite Disney characters, with a spooky twist! For more information on ticket pricing, please visit <https://disneyland.disney.go.com/>.

If pumpkins and Disney don't sound frightfully fun enough to you, Knott's Scary Farm is sure to provide you with a real scare. From Sept. 21 through Oct. 31, there will be

mazes, scare zones, shows and thrill rides.

For the scare zones, you can chose from a variety of creepy themes. One of the scare zones is called Ghost Town Streets. In this zone beware of the half-human, half-animal monsters that can come out and reach you in the fog-filled area.

The Hollow is another zone where the legendary Headless Horseman and his army of the undead terrorize trespassers brave enough to tread their land for one frightful night.

Samuel Enomoto has worked at Knott's for the past two years and his favorite moments were during Knott's Scary Farm. "Watching everyone get scared is always enjoyable when you are the one that is not being scared," Enomoto said. "Being behind the scenes and seeing everything come together is one of the greatest things to witness." He goes on to say that he now has a greater appreciation for everyone who puts in all the hours to scare everyone.

Tickets start at \$40. For more information, visit <https://www.knotts.com/tickets-passes/scary-farm>.

There are many fun and exciting events that are happening this fall season, so just remember to have fun and be safe. Oh, and "Don't let the clowns get you," said Enomoto.



PC: Google.com

Master Planning: Concordia Students Share Their Tips For Staying Organized

TAYLOR STICKLE
STAFF WRITER

The beginning of the school year can be a very intense time for any student. From starting new classes to trying to find an extracurricular to join, it is very easy to feel stressed out and completely scattered. Luckily, there are ways to alleviate that stress and chaos.

Junior Evette Jahangiri, History and Political Thought major who hopes to attend Yale Law School after graduation, stays busy during the school year. She works with the PAL program, is the Coordinator of Community Outreach, a member of Senate, the Secretary of the Speech team and has a 3.8 GPA. Her advice

to new Concordia students is to get organized sooner rather than later; the quicker you get organized, the higher chance you have of not falling behind early in the semester.

There are several different ways to get organized for the semester, and as the world becomes increasingly dependent upon technology, many choose to use their smartphones or tablets to log all the scheduling information they will need for the

entirety of the semester.

This method is highly effective, as you can set your calendar on one device and sync it with whatever other devices you may have. You can even set recurring alarms so that your device will remind you when you need to make that BlackBoard discussion post.

Senior Acacia Ingram, President of the Forensics Team, stand-in President of the BSU and an RA here on campus, uses

a more traditional method involving a hard copy planner and a lot of colors. "I am a detailed type of person," Ingram said. "I like to have my stuff listed in order of performance. I prioritize homework and then [extracurriculars]." Conveniently, the Target Express, located only 5 minutes away in the University Town Center, sells planners ranging from \$8-\$15.

Ingram mentioned that at the beginning of every semester,

professors issue out their syllabus and while it may take some time to input all of the due dates and exams, once you complete your planner you will have an easier time with the semester.

Jahangiri points out that the main downfall that a busy student may have is when they try to take on too much at once. "If you have to give up or stop an activity, don't feel guilty," Jahangiri said. "You have to take care of yourself, your health and your grades, first and foremost."

Although starting a new semester is never easy, the tried method of having a well-organized planner is one very simple way to get yourself off to a great start.

"You have to take care of yourself, your health and your grades, first and foremost."

Flooding on a Global Scale: Asia Floods Take Lives

ASHLEY SANDS
STAFF WRITER

Hurricane Harvey isn't the only natural disaster happening globally. Outside of our borders, several homes, buildings and resources experienced severe flooding in Asian countries. Thousands have died, villages have been submerged and millions are left homeless.

Dr. Cheryl Williams, Professor of Communication, understands the devastation that has resulted from the flooding in Asian countries including India, Nepal and Bangladesh. "It's a toll on human life...any natural disaster is, especially in developing nations where it's magnified," said Williams.

According to Williams,

"As a family and community, everyone needs to look out for each other. There is no space for selfishness."

these countries are going to experience a resource drain along with ruined infrastruc-

ture that took years to build. "There is going to be disease [and] things that were beginning to advance are going to get set back. Schools that took years to build are going to have to start all over," Williams said.

International Studies Professor, Ona La Motte, lived in Nepal for four years. She describes the current state of Nepal as having "a shortage of [the] clean, portable water necessary for cooking and cleaning. There is a scarcity of firewood and gas for cooking. Many villages lack the plumbing needed for proper sanitation."

La Motte experienced the 2015 earthquake and its aftermath. "Since Nepal is a country that relies heavily on

other countries for supplies, lack of proper infrastructure cuts off needed supplies,



Flooding in Mumbai, India PC: CBS News

medicines and many other essentials necessary for survival," La Motte said. "The floods have compounded this lack of resources and have devastated many people who rely on support outside of their villages."

The United States has experienced recent natural disasters but we have more funding to combat the effects. "It's more of a devastating toll on India because they lack the resources and money," Williams said. "For the people there, navigating the streets is difficult. It has impacted their quality of life and made it really, really hard."

The floods in Nepal ruined areas needed for transportation. "Many roads are

unpaved. It's already difficult for trucks to bring in food and supplies," La Motte said. "The floods make it nearly impossible to move goods around the mountainous country. People can't get out of their villages for basic healthcare [and] students can't walk to school."

La Motte explained that the water-covered roads make it difficult for others to bring aid. "Everything essential needs to be walked in and out of the affected areas," La Motte said. "Nepal is situated in the Himalayan mountains so walking supplies into an area from the capital can take days, if not weeks."

Despite the impact of these Asian floods, United States media has given minimal

light to this issue. "Right now, the U.S. has their hands full," Williams said. "The disasters in our own country are overwhelming which makes the media more U.S. based."

The U.S. seems to shorten global issues in the media. "Partly, our world is so big that we can't keep track of everything happening," La Motte said. "World news is so much more concerning to us when it's about the countries sharing our borders."

Williams describes the importance of uniting instead of dividing over world issues such as this. "Every person needs to reach into their faith, whatever keeps them grounded, whatever keeps them going," Williams said. "As a family and community, everyone needs to look out for each other. There is no space for selfishness."

Even though college students may lack the funds to help financially, there are other ways to contribute to the cause. "Every person can help in some way even if money isn't involved," Williams said. "As a school, we can pray for those affected."

Hurricane Harvey Devastates Many, Including Concordia Students

SARAH KRETSCHMAR
STAFF WRITER

Hurricane Harvey has torn through Houston and caused major devastation to the people of Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and parts of Kentucky. The hurricane struck August 25 and continued through August 29. This disastrous hurricane hit over the Texas gulf coast. Mandatory evacuations were in place for many cities located in Texas. Although hurricanes can vary in destructiveness, Hurricane Harvey became much more threatening because of the warm water located in the Gulf of Mexico. This caused much heavier rainfall than a classic hurricane. Also, there were no wind currents in the upper atmosphere that could have steered the hurricane away from Texas.

Harvey has caused nearly 75,000 people to lose power. Due to the damage caused by winds that reached up to 130 mph, many water plants were knocked out of operation leaving nearly 135,000 people without running water. Near-

ly 7,000 homes were levelled and around 30,000 were heavily damaged due to flooding from rainfall, reaching almost 20 inches in some areas. Being the second most costly hurricane, only behind Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Harvey has caused \$180 billion in damage. The economy of Houston is also damaged heavily. Many families and workers have no means of getting to work or their place of employment has been damaged so many families cannot bring in money in these desperate times.

In a time of traumatic destruction in Texas, it is important to remember that the destruction in Texas has affected the students here at Concordia as well. Becca Borstmayer, sophomore, is from Woodlands, Texas which is located about 45 minutes from Houston. Borstmayer said that some of her close family-friends have lost their home and cars to the hurricane. When asked how it felt to be away from home during a time of such hardship Borstmayer said, "I feel bad that I can't help my family or everyone else that needs help

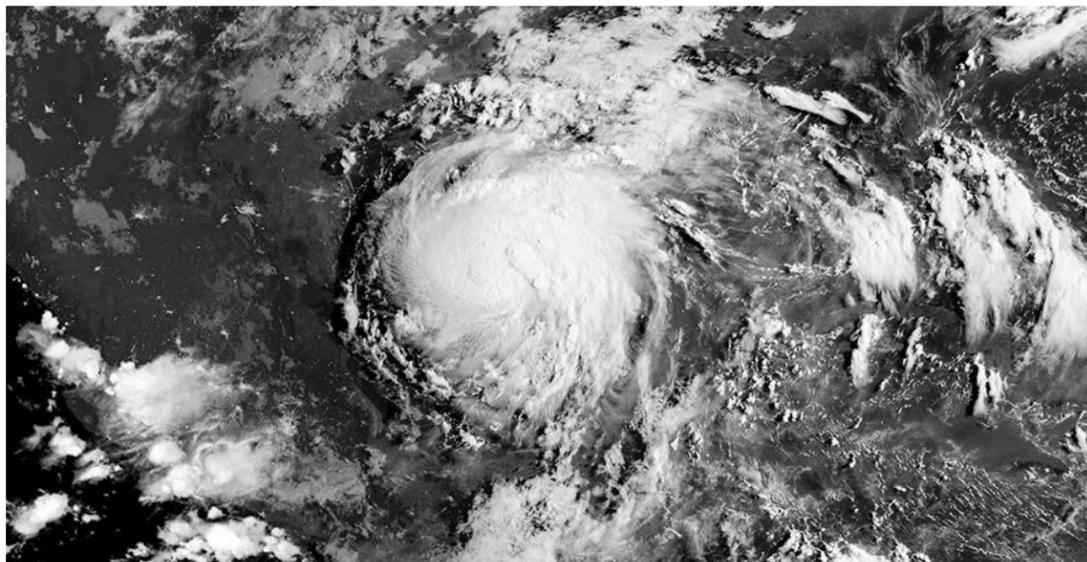
that I know."

Although it may feel that the destruction in Texas cannot be helped, there are a lot of ways that the students of Concordia and the community can contribute to the relief effort in Houston. Concordia has offered a clothing drive requested by the University of Houston athletics to provide clothes to athletes who have lost their homes to the Hurricane. Although the clothing drive has ended, the Red Cross is still accepting clothing donations, as well as money donations

through their website www.redcross.org. Marcella Olave, Assistant Professor of Biology, reminds us that we all can contribute in different ways. Olave said our contributions can be "monetary, through prayer, or by simply conversing with others on ways to help." The power of prayer should never be forgotten.

Hurricane Harvey has set many records and is the most devastating hurricane to ever hit Texas. The efforts in neighboring states will continue to relieve the people affected by

this disaster. It is important to remember that the devastation in Texas spreads throughout the United States and affects even the students at Concordia. With the major blows from Hurricane Harvey now passed, many should also focus their relief efforts on the devastation in Florida from yet another disastrous hurricane, Hurricane Irma. As member of this community, it is vital that the people of Concordia and the people of Irvine contribute to the relief efforts in any way that they can.



Satellite view of Hurricane Harvey PC: NOAA/NANA GOES Project

"It" is Killing the Clowns

TAYLOR STICKLE
STAFF WRITER

Halloween might not be for another month, but thrill-seekers across the country are flocking to a nearby theater to get the "it" scared out of them by Stephen King's iconic horror movie, "It." Once again, people are being exposed to Pennywise's homicidal antics on the silver screen. Simultaneously, more and more people are opting out of having clowns at their birthday parties, schools, and social events.

King's famous thriller first took the screen in 1990, when Tim Curry terrified audiences as Pennywise, the killer clown who preys on neighborhood children. After the film's original release, there was an influx of coulrophobia, or the fear of clowns, as people were exposed to the fantastical dark side of the masked entertainers.

Now, with the release of the reboot of this iconic film, Bill Skarsgard's portrayal of the killer clown is creeping its way into our nightmares, and in turn, is damaging the clowning industry.

In an interview with Lucy O'Brien for "Imagine Games Network," Pam Moody, the president of the World Clown Association, argues that coulro-

phobia only came into existence after the release of the original "It" film. "It all started with the original 'It.' That introduced the concept of this character," said Moody. "It's a science-fiction character. It's not a clown and has nothing to do with pro clowning."

Moody laments that there are professional clowns who are losing jobs across the United States now that Pennywise is back to terrorize us just in time for Halloween.

Clowns have not always been the creatures of our darkest dreams. They have existed for thousands of years, with the earliest clowns being recorded in the history books as early as 2500 B.C. as court jesters for Pharaoh Dadkeri-Assi. These jesters could speak more freely than other subjects. They often used humor to criticize those in power, affecting policy and royal decrees in the process.

"Clowns have a long history of being jesters, confidants, and cartwheeling comics," said junior Eva Reyes, a professional clown. "Most of us are simply looking for the joy in others so that we may spark some wonder in ourselves."

So then, why has coulrophobia become a thing? Multiple psychologists believe that a lot of

the fear stems from the fact that clowns cover their entire face with makeup. This is enough to strike fear into the hearts of children everywhere. "I do not wear the full white face clown makeup," said Reyes. "It's scary for a child not to see a recognizable or even a human face."

Reyes said she tries to let parents know that if their child is under 5 years old it is best if she just dresses festively rather than adorn the whole clown suit. It gives children and adults a chance to see that clowns are people too.

In her performance as a clown, Reyes prioritizes excitement and lovingness. "Working with balloons we can expect for them to pop," Reyes said. "A child however, can become startled by the loud pop. So I try and make it a game and normalize balloons for them too." And with the movie industry "horrifying" previously innocuous and harmless characters, it's easy to understand why a child might see a clown as something evil trying to hunt them in the streets at night.

These beliefs that clowns are out to get us made national headlines everywhere last year when several clowns were spotted near wooded areas wielding weapons such as chain-



Professional Clown and student Eva Reyes in her festive attire PC: Eva Reyes

saws, hammers, and firearms, just waiting to scare the living daylight out of lone travelers, chasing them down the road or into the woods late at night.

Luckily, the sightings stopped just a few months after they started, resolving in no deaths, but with an increased

fear of clowns amongst society. And now with this release of "It," it feels as though we are experiencing this outbreak once more. People are tucking in and preparing for what is shaping up to be the horror film of the year. So the real question is, are you ready for "it?"

Art Professor Opens Up About Creating Good Habits

HAILEY O'NEIL
STAFF WRITER

As a little girl, Professor Dawn Nicole Hamby, Adjunct Professor of Art, dreamed of being an artist. Today she celebrates 15 years of practice and 13 years teaching. At Orange Lutheran High School, she has been the chair of the school's Visual and Media Arts Department for seven years.

"I was a little kid who loved any kind of art. Finger painting [or] playing with playdough," said Hamby.

Hamby is a firm believer that good habits set the tone and provide a healthy work

environment for art students. "As a teacher, you create good habits by implementing good structure and procedure from the very first day of class," said Hamby.

According to Hamby, the simplest tasks can be important habits. Walking into class and setting up a workspace is one example. Having her students follow a certain procedure not only helps her keep her classroom organized, but more importantly, helps them develop productive patterns over time. Hamby also added, "As a teacher, implementing your own habits [keeps] you

sane."

Jessica Brooks, sophomore Art major, thinks it is extremely important for teachers and professors to model their own good habits in the classroom for their students to see. "I grew up in art classes, and I still think back to my art teachers," said Brooks.

Brooks is one of the many art students set on pursuing a future in the arts. Brooks said, "I realized art has always been a passion of mine. I just decided to put two and two together."

Hamby stated that some of the most valuable habits for an art student to have are making

time for your work and "making something every day and respecting your materials." She believes that these are all fundamental in developing good work skills and keeping the creative process alive.

Staying focused is important, but Brooks offered additional advice. "Have fun! Be open to different perspectives and new ideas," she said.

Hamby is very passionate about younger artists pursuing art as a career. "It's possible to make a living doing art. It's not an obvious path, but there are a lot of different ways to use creativity in whatever career

you pursue," said Hamby.

Hamby studied art in college. Her original plan was to either create and sell her own art, or work at a museum. However, many of her first jobs involved working around children. "I thought it would be fun to get kids to do art. I really found it rewarding to be able to do what I love and share it with other people," said Hamby.

Hamby wants artists everywhere to understand that their talent can be used in so many ways on so many platforms. As long as one keeps looking and keeps digging, they will find what makes them the happiest.

"Have a consistent time to make your work, have a place and a space to make work... make something every day."

Concordia Students Set to Host Vacation Bible School During New Mexico Mission Trip

KAILEY VIGIL
STAFF WRITER

This fall, Concordia students will be departing Irvine and making a trip to New Mexico in an attempt to learn more about Navajo culture, host Vacation Bible School for local children and build relationships with those in the community.

Reverend Jonathan Ruehs will be leading the upcoming Navajo mission trip over mid-semester break. "What I'm looking forward to most is spending time with students where we get to engage and understand the Navajo culture better," Ruehs said.

Concordia students will be working with a mission church that is already established in the region to serve and teach the people living there. "I'm excited to see how it will impact students and stir up their hearts," Ruehs said.

This is Concordia's first

year going to New Mexico for a mission trip, but Ruehs hopes it is not the last. "Our hope is that it goes really well and that we make it a yearly thing," Ruehs said. "You can go to Mexico and

answer and range anywhere from asking about name and class standing to cross cultural background and previous experience. The application asks about history and interests in order

new cultures while becoming more servant-hearted on these trips.

Megan Carbiener, senior, went on a mission trip through Concordia to Hungary in 2016. "My favorite

various activities such as music, drama and crafts.

Carbiener encouraged all Concordia students who are thinking about mission trips to apply for future trips. "There are so many wonderful places to go and I think it's impossible to not grow and learn on a mission trip," Carbiener said. "The trip truly changed me and I hope to go back. God can do such amazing things through these trips and I hope lots of people will choose to get involved and see Him at work."

Students have the option to apply for mission trips across the globe, including Mexico, Japan and Guatemala.

The fall mission trip will take place Oct. 11-15, 2017. For more information on future mission trips, contact Rev. Jonathan Ruehs at jonathan.ruehs@cui.edu or visit www.cui.edu/en-us/studentlife/campus-ministry/missions.

"There are so many wonderful places to go and I think it's impossible to not grow and learn on a mission trip,"

have a great cross cultural experience, but I think you can have just as impactful of an experience going to a domestic location that doesn't require a passport," he said.

In order to apply for future mission trips, students must apply online and fill out a short questionnaire. Ruehs explained that the questions are simple to an-

to place students in the best position for them. For example, if a student is bilingual, they could act as a potential translator on the trip.

"Concordia is the institution of the Great Commission and we take that very seriously," said Ruehs, who hopes more students will get involved and think about experiencing

part was forming relationships with wonderful students in Hungary, but because the trip was through CUI, I was able to form close relationships with [Concordia students] too," she said. Carbiener explained that the main focus of this mission trip was to teach English to the Hungarian children and teach them the gospel through

Concordia Students Share Their Favorite Places to Study on and off Campus

SARA BARD
STAFF WRITER

Concordia's beautiful campus provides a peaceful and safe place for students to thrive. Students can be found

anywhere from the library, Global Village or Eagles' Landing, to study and socialize with other students.

Students shared some personal study tools that they think can benefit other stu-

dents in the Concordia community. Kayla Lugo, a sophomore Psychology major, advised Concordia students to use flashcards. "[They] will save your life," said Lugo. Her favorite place to study

on campus is the library in study rooms, or if she is working on a group project, she prefers to meet outside of Library Arts on the benches with her classmates. When she is not on campus, Lugo likes to study at the Orange Public Library because it's close to her home and it's an environment that helps her remain focused on her studies without being distracted.

Yuelin Chang, a Humanities and Fine Arts major, said that she prefers to study in the Concordia library because it feels like a classroom. When she is assigned to complete a group project, she likes to study with her friends in Global Village's lounge area.

A group of freshmen who are in their first semester here at Concordia are still trying to find a preferable place to study, but English major Ellie Swan said she

eventually wants to go study at a local beach, but for now she likes the library because of the air-conditioning.

If you do not feel relaxed enough on campus, go study while feeling a nice breeze from the beautiful beaches that are located just a few miles away from campus. If the beach will only distract you from your studies, there are also many local coffee shops such as Peet's coffee located in the University Town Center, or Cielo coffee located in the Parkview Center across from campus.

Concordia students are all unique in the approach that they take to accomplish their studies. We can learn from fellow students that it's important to find a place that makes you feel the most comfortable for getting into a studying mindset and achieving your short-term and long-term goals.



PC: cui.edu/studentlife

CUI's first show of the year Still Life with Iris is an Enchanting Success

MAKENNA MYERS
FREELANCE WRITER

The first show of Concordia's theatrical season is, without a doubt, an enchanting triumph. Part of the beauty of theatre as an art form is its unique ability to provide the audience with an escape from their everyday troubles, whisking them away to a new world on stage. "Still Life with Iris" is exactly that—a fanciful escape from reality.

Young Iris, played by senior Emily Porr, lives in the magical world of Nocturno where daily occupations include painting the spots on ladybugs and teaching the wind to whistle. Each citizen of Nocturno wears a "past coat" that contains all of their memories which, if removed or torn, will result in a state of amnesia.

The play centers around Iris' journey, physically and emotionally, to reclaim her stolen memory. She is accompanied by her newfound friends—Annabel Lee from the classic Edgar Allan

Poe poem, played by sophomore Cassie Sheek, and an eleven year old version of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, played by sophomore Michael Solomon.

The journey the unlikely trio takes is filled with a plethora of emotions, peppered with humor, and heartwarming triumph that all blends together to create an unforgettable tale.

The small cast of 11 and crew of 17 do a stellar job of making the show come alive. Many of the actors are double, even triple casted, but each character portrayed in the show is unique and purposeful in their own right.

Another wonderful aspect of the show is that it is performed in the round. This means the audience surrounds the stage on all sides. Director and Concordia Professor Lori Siekmann does a wonderful job of immersing the audience in the story by leaving no space unused, the actors never ceasing to move and explore their environment.

The beauty of "Still Life with



Courtesy of the Theatre Department

Iris" is its creativity and child-like nature. The set is simplistic, much of the show relying on the imagination of the audience to picture the world of Nocturno. The crew and design team provide environmental framework, using lights to show the many different locations.

"Still Life with Iris" undoubtedly draws the audience out of reality and into the imaginative world of a child. The show is successful in every right, providing an experience children can marvel at and adults can enjoy for the deeper messages and technical execution. With only

a weekend of production left, "Still Life with Iris" is a delightful must-see.

Final showings are tonight at 7:30 in the Concordia Black Box Theater, Sat., Sept. 16 at the same time and Sun., Sept. 17 at 2:00.



Courtesy of the Theatre Department