

THE CONCORDIA COURIER

INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

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One week left to register for 2018 Cornelius Business Plan Competition

STAFF REPORT

The Concordia School of Business Cornelius Business Plan Competition provides students an opportunity to participate in the entrepreneurial experience by turning an idea into a business. The competition is open to all majors, but teams need to sign up by Fri., Jan. 26.

The competition takes place on April 7 and students of all academic standings may also participate. "This year we are expanding the competition to include not only undergraduate students, but also we are inviting graduate students and CUI alumni to compete in an additional track of competition," explained Ryan Buuck, Director, Cornelius Business Plan Competition. "We're really excited about expanding this to involve more of the CUI community," Buuck added.

Teams attend workshops and receive mentoring by a business professional to learn the basics of starting a business, leveling the playing field for students who may not have business course experience, but have a passion project or great idea for a new business.

"Student teams have come up with everything from non-profit organizations to smartphone apps to restaurants to clothing lines to roasting coffee. Last year's winning team was called Future Direction and was comprised of international students whose business plan was to help integrate their fellow internationals into college life in the United States," Buuck said.

Along with collecting prize money, last year's winning team saw their project launched publicly. Two-time Cornelius Business Plan Competition

participant "NeighborING" successfully launched their company and are live on the app store.

Have a great idea for a new product, but never taken a business class? The workshops teach students how to refine ideas into a potential business, conduct

Fast-Pitch Competition, gives one person from each team a chance to give an "elevator pitch" to judges.

"Regardless of major or concentration, participants of the Cornelius Business Plan Competition get experience in turning an idea into something tangible which will be very



Cornelius Business Plan logo

research to create a marketing plan, and write financial statements. In addition, teams are assigned mentors who provide additional support, drawing from real professional experiences to help guide students toward the most comprehensive plan.

Teams then present their plan to a panel of judges in a 12-minute presentation. Judges in past competitions have included venture capitalists, private equity managers and founders and CEOs of companies such as Wahoo's Fish Tacos and Nothing Bundt Cakes.

Teams field five minutes of questions from the judging panel after their presentation is complete. Each team will compete for over \$10,000 in cash and in-kind business services. The secondary track, the 90 second

beneficial whether they ever start their own business or not," Buuck explained. "This competition is a great resume builder."

For more information or to sign up for the competition, go to cui.edu/bpc.

2018 Cornelius Business Plan Competition

Quick facts

- The Competition is open to students of all majors, including undergraduate and graduate students
 - Teams of 1-4 turn an idea into a business plan and pitch it to a panel of judges
 - There is a full-pitch competition and 90 second fast-pitch competition
 - Teams compete for over \$10,000 in cash prizes and in-kind business services
- Students may earn up to 3 units of elective credit
 - Business professionals will mentor the team
 - Five workshops will teach students how to write and pitch their business plan
 - Go to cui.edu/bpc for more information

Important dates

- Registration deadline January 26
- BPC Mixer Event April 6 on Grimm Hall Patio
- Business Plan Competition April 7 in the CU Center

Prizes

- \$3,000 First Place
- \$2,000 Second Place
- \$1,000 First place in the 90 second Fast Pitch Competition
- \$500 Second Place in the 90 second Fast Pitch Competition
- In-Kind Business Services provided to all winners



2016 1ST-2ND & 3RD PLACE TEAMS

Winners of the 2016 Concordia School of Business Cornelius Business Plan Competition pose outside of Grimm Hall. The 2018 competition is open to all students, both undergraduate and graduate. PC: CUI

An Overview of Concordia Spirit Week

MADDY HAASE
ASCUI SECRETARY

Homecoming is just around the corner! But before the big day, there is going to be a week full of events and activities for everyone. Spirit Week is from Jan. 29- Feb. 2. Each day is full of fun activities and themed dress-up days to show off our Concordia Spirit. Also, keep your eye out for the Spirit Week pop-up donut wall that will be making an appearance around campus!

The week kicks off with Monochromatic Monday. During the day, there is going to be a scavenger hunt for Marty, so get your best detective skills ready. The Men's Volleyball Team will be playing Hope International at 7 p.m. that night in the CU Arena, so make sure to stop by and cheer on your Eagles! Intramural basketball will commence after the game. So make sure all of your teams are together and you are ready to begin the week with intramurals.

The next dress-up day is Tie-Dye Tuesday. Dust off your best tie-dyed apparel. Or, if you don't have tie-dye apparel, come to the Student Union patio and create your own tie-dye masterpiece! If you were not able to attend intramurals Monday,

make sure to come to night two of games in the gym.

Get as much Concordia gear you have for Spirit Wear Wednesday and I Heart CUI. This day will be one full of Concordia spirit, along with faculty

and will have fun activities outside. Also, it will be a \$1 commuter lunch day! End the day by coming out to cheer on your intramural basketball teams and enjoy the food from a food truck provided by intramurals.

in the Caf. Also, you can get in touch with your emotions at the poetry reading event. Later in the evening, "All Shook Up," the musical, presented by CUI's Theatre department will be premiering,

will be preparing you for a night full of fancy fun at Homecoming. Attend a special Friday chapel followed by a Cheers and Hoops contest outside of the Caf with the chance to win cool prizes. This



Concordia students excitedly welcoming the year at CUI SOAR. PC: Emily Chan

and staff in the Caf to help serve the meal to show their love for Concordia. There will also be free shirts for the first people in line outside of the Caf that day. The entire Student Union will be decorated

On Thursday, get your Instagram's ready for Throwback Thursday. Dress in your favorite Throwback clothes from any era. Thursday is also another commuter lunch day with Middle East Fest

followed by SHOUT! There are so many events that you will want to make sure that your schedule is clear for all the fun activities.

The week ends with Fancy Friday. The day

year Homecoming is at Coto Valley Country Club. Make sure you get your tickets in the CSLD.

The ASCUI team is excited to see all of you at these events!

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Men's Volleyball Sets Their Season Off in New Conference

JAMI DERBY
SPORTS EDITOR

The Men's Volleyball Team kicked off their season on Saturday with a 3-1 win over the defending NCAA Division III champions, Springfield College.

The key difference in this season for the team is that they will not be apart of the NCAA Division II like the rest of the athletics at Concordia; they will compete in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF). The MPSF is a competitive conference in which select schools such as the USC Trojans, UCLA Bruins, Cal Bears, UCI Anteaters, BYU Cougars,

GCU Lopes, Pepperdine Waves, Stanford Cardinals, and more participate. The Eagles stand out as the only Division II team in the conference; all the other universities are NCAA Division I.

The switch to the MPSF comes after the Eagles 18-12 record in the 2017 season and the seventh pick in the preseason coaches' poll. The team is up for the challenge in the competitive conference and could use all the support in proving that Concordia is a force to be reckoned with. Their schedule for the spring is as follows:

Men's 2018 Volleyball Schedule

Saturday January 20 at University of California, San Diego / 7 p.m.

Wednesday January 24 vs. University of California, Irvine / 7 p.m.

Monday January 29 vs. Hope International University / 7 p.m.

Friday February 2 at Long Beach State University / 7 p.m.

Thursday February 8 vs. UCLA / 7 p.m.

Friday February 9 vs. University of California, San Diego / 7 p.m.

Saturday February 10 vs. Pepperdine University / 1 p.m.

Thursday February 15 vs. Stanford University / 7 p.m.

Saturday February 17 vs. Brigham Young University / 1 p.m.

Thursday February 22 vs. Grand Canyon University / 7 p.m.

Friday February 23 at University of Southern California / 7 p.m.

Saturday February 24 vs. California State University, Northridge

Friday March 2 at University of Hawaii / 9 p.m.(PST)

Sunday March 4 at University of Hawaii / 7 p.m. (PST)

Wednesday March 7 vs. Ball State University / 7 p.m.

Thursday March 8 vs. Loyola University Chicago / 7 p.m.

Saturday March 10 vs. Fort Wayne / 7 p.m.

Monday March 12 vs. Harvard University / 7 p.m.

Wednesday March 14 at UCLA / 7 p.m.

Thursday March 15 at Pepperdine University / 7 p.m.

Friday March 23 at Grand Canyon University / 6 p.m.

Saturday March 24 at Benedictine University at Mesa / 2 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Thursday March 29 at Brigham young University / 7 p.m.

Saturday March 31 at Stanford University / 5 p.m.

Friday April 6 vs. University of California, Santa Cruz / 7 p.m.

Saturday April 7 vs. University of Southern California / 7 p.m.



cuieagles.com

Super Bowl LII Gears Up to Entertain All

JAMI DERBY
SPORTS EDITOR

As the NFL season winds down, the anticipation of the remaining games and Super Bowl excitement heat up. The Super Bowl will be held on Sun., Feb. 4 at the U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Not only will the best football stars be performing but also some talented singers. Pink will be singing the national anthem and "Hamilton" star, and Tony Award Winner, Leslie Odom Jr. will sing "America the Beautiful." The halftime performance will feature Justin Timberlake, as he returns to the Super Bowl Sunday stage after his 2004 performance with Janet Jackson.

The divisional round of playoffs is now complete and four teams head into the conference championship game, or semifinals round.

The first-seed New England Patriots will gear up against the third-seed, Jacksonville Jaguars in their seventh straight appearance in the American Football Conference (AFC) championship game. The National Football Conference (NFC) championship game will feature the second-seeded Minnesota Vikings and the first-seed Philadelphia Eagles.

Many predictions say the Patriots will win the AFC, and the Super Bowl, with the help of veteran quarterback Tom Brady. His five career Super Bowl wins and amount of playoff appearances dominate the other three teams quarterbacks by seven. The Patriots had a 13-3 record on the season, carrying over the success from their 2017 Super Bowl Championship title.

The Jaguars went 10-6 in the regular season, and

faced the Patriots in the preseason beating them 31-24. Last week in the divisional round they out scored the Pittsburgh Steelers in a 45-42 upset.

The Vikings will put up a strong defensive fight with their #1 rated defense this season and a 13-3 record. The Vikings pulled off a 29-24 comeback win in the divisional round over the New Orleans Saints with a 61-yard touchdown pass

from quarterback Case Keenum to Stefon Diggs. The Vikings will be the first team to have a home field advantage if they make it to Super Bowl Sunday, making it only their fifth appearance in the 57-year team history.

The Eagles also went 13-3 on the season. In the divisional round, they outscored the previous the NFC champions the Atlanta falcons, in a low scoring

game of 15-10.

For those less interested in the athletic part of the Super Bowl, there is much to look forward to with the high profile performances and the highly anticipated commercials. Last year the most popular commercials came from Coca-Cola, Kia, Skittles, Hyundai, Ford and Budweiser.

Another option may be watching the Pro Bowl on Sun., Jan. 28, where the NFC and AFC all-star players will compete. The Pro Bowl can be an entertaining way to watch some of the best players in football, especially those whose team didn't make it into the Super Bowl.

Tune in this Sun., Jan. 21 to watch the conference championships at 12:05 p.m. and 3:40 p.m. The winners of those games will advance to the Super Bowl on Sun., Feb. 4 at 3:30 p.m.



Courtesy of Google

Disney's California Adventure Bids Adéu to Paradise Pier

KARINA DIEZ
MARKETING MANAGER

On Jan. 8, Disney's California Adventure closed down a number of attractions to make way for the upcoming remodel that will become Pixar Pier. The late Paradise Pier said goodbye to California Screamin', Mickey's Fun Wheel, games on the Boardwalk, Sideshow Shirts, Ariel's Grotto and Cove Bar. Upon Pixar Pier's opening in the summer of 2018, these attractions will undergo a makeover that aligns with the land's new theme.

For those annual passholders who were particularly attached to the Paradise Pier, have no fear!



Courtesy of disney.com

DEBATING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY & DISCRIMINATION

VIRTUALLY EVERYONE SUPPORTS RELIGIOUS LIBERTY, AND VIRTUALLY EVERYONE OPPOSES DISCRIMINATION. BUT HOW DO WE HANDLE THE HARD QUESTIONS THAT ARISE WHEN THESE TWO PRIORITIES SEEM TO CONFLICT? HOW DO WE PROMOTE THE COMMON GOOD WHILE RESPECTING CONSCIENCE IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY?

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30
4:30 PM
DENAULT AUDITORIUM

This event is free and open to the public, but space is limited. Please reserve free tickets in advance at CUI.EDU/DEBATE.

This University Convocation is presented by the Department of History & Political Thought and the School of Arts & Sciences at Concordia University Irvine.



JOHN CORVINO



RYAN T. ANDERSON

Speakers **JOHN CORVINO**, a longtime LGBT-rights advocate, and prominent social conservative **RYAN T. ANDERSON** debate these issues with civility, clarity, and flair. Their debate is an essential contribution to contemporary discussions about why religious liberty matters and what respecting it requires.

A few of the attractions that were previously a part of the land will remain and become known as part of the newly-named Paradise Park. These attractions include Paradise Gardens, Silly Symphony Swings, Jumpin' Jellyfish, Goofy's Sky School, Golden Zephyr, and The Little Mermaid: Ariel's Undersea Adventure.

There are plenty of new rides and good eats that will be making their way into California Adventure this summer. According to the official Disney Parks Blog, there will be multiple "neighborhoods" within the land.

The first neighborhood will be dedicated to "The Incredibles" which will house a rollercoaster and character meet-and-greets. The second neighborhood will be for all "Toy Story" lovers and will include the current version of Toy Story Midway Mania. The third neighborhood will involve one of Pixar's newer releases, "Inside Out," and unveil an entirely new ride for park visitors to enjoy. The last neighborhood will revolve around numerous Pixar films and boast a redecorated ferris wheel as well as boardwalk games.

Ariel's Grotto and Cove Bar, park favorites for their leisurely atmosphere and beautiful view of the Paradise Bay, will be revamped as a new themed restaurant. Disney Parks has yet to provide details on

what the spot will look like.

To celebrate the opening of the new land, California Adventure will be hosting Pixar Fest starting on April 13. Stop by the parks to enjoy two shows, two parades, entertainment, new characters, decorations, unique food and much more!

Go to <https://disneyland.disney.go.com/events-tours/pixar-fest/> to plan your next visit!

Desperate for God: A personal reflection from India mission trip

HOLLY SPENCER
LOCAL/GLOBAL EDITOR

On Dec. 26, 2017, I set off on a 9,000-mile journey to India. Accompanied by a team of 20 people from Rock Harbor Church in Costa Mesa, we were prepared to bring the gospel to the hearts of the broken until Jan. 8, 2018.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by the smiles of the locals and got on a long bus ride to Tenali in the state of Andhra Pradesh—the most rural and impoverished area of the state. Our first meal included lots of spice and carbs, oh how they love it there! Not to mention, eating with only our right hand (a cultural must).

In partnership with Harvest India Ministries, we put on a Vacation Bible School for orphans, fed the hungry, passed out medicine at free Medical Camps for the poor, visited an elderly home, served the outcast Leper community and more.

I was especially overjoyed to find that India loves to dance! Being a universal language, we were able to say so much

without any words. I had the opportunity to dance for the people, just as they loved to dance for us. It was a beautiful exchange of “language.”

The clothing and color of India seems to be what India is known for. The girls on our team got the chance to dress up in the traditional “Punjabis” for day time and “Sarees” for night time events, including a New Year’s Eve service that ended in fireworks! We had a blast jumping into the culture.

It is no secret that India is a third-world country. But what does this really mean? This means that many are homeless. This means that there are often piles of burning trash on the side of the road. This means they don’t have extravagant restrooms or showers. This means when you are given food, you do your best to eat it all. This means many are desperate.

The word desperation really stuck with me on my journey. I saw many begging for a simple

blanket and I thought back to the dozens of blankets I have in my home. They were also desperate for food—a state of mind a California girl truly cannot comprehend. Most importantly, they were desperate for God.

Their craving for Jesus and Jesus alone was one of the most beautiful phenomena I’ve witnessed. I saw women clinging to their Bible as if it was their only possession—most likely it may have been. I saw a man without hands, as

a consequence of his Leprosy, raise what he had and say, “Hallelujah.” I asked myself, “How often do I not say ‘hallelujah,’ with my full hand and all that I have?”

India understands what it means when we say, “With God, we have everything.” They know that without His strength, they may not make it. It is now my mindset to have this same desperation for God. In America, we are provided with an overabundance of material goods, that may take us away from Jesus Christ, the one true God.

Overall, I am beyond grateful to have had the chance to tangibly love on the people of India. It is my prayer that everyone would get to experience the faith of other cultures, as it is the same God we worship here in Irvine; and He loves the people of India too.

To read more about my experience in India, please visit rockharborindia.wordpress.com. Or to learn more about Harvest India’s work in expanding God’s Kingdom in India, visit harvestindia.org.



Three local girls from Tenali, India. PC: Ernest Lam

A review: 1 year with Trump

HOLLY SPENCER
LOCAL/GLOBAL EDITOR

This review of President Donald’s Trump’s first year is intended for the non-politic-type. This article lists 10 things that have happened under Trump’s tenure—in layman’s terms.

5 Positive Things:

1. He has helped the economy: Marc Thiessen, a writer for The Washington Post, said, “He enacted historic tax and regulatory reform that has unleashed economic growth.” Because of this, America’s economy seems to be on the up-and-up as we are in our third consecutive quarter of above 3 percent growth.
2. He declared Jerusalem as Israel’s capital: Four American presidents have promised to do this in the past, but Trump is the one that followed through.
3. He got more money to help us stay safe: Trump did this by getting NATO (The North Atlantic Treaty Organization) allies to give \$12 billion more toward our collective security. Again, prior Presidential administrations, such as Bush and Obama’s tried to get this kind of financial commitment, but Trump made it happen.
4. He renamed the “Asia-Pacific” the “Indo-Pacific”: Trump did this to be sure India would be included to ultimately prevent Chinese hegemony in Asia.
5. He admitted he was wrong: What?! Trump said he was wrong? That’s right, he is quoted regarding his original stance on pulling troops out of Afghanistan. “My original instinct was to pull out... But all my life, I’ve heard that decisions are much different when you sit behind the desk in the Oval Office... A hasty withdrawal would create a vacuum for terrorists,” said Trump.

5 Negative Things:

1. His tweets are weird: The use of Twitter itself seems to undermine his presidency. Twitter was not made to be a credible news source and it should not be treated as one. While Trump may feel strongly about a subject, he discredits himself by posting so frequently on social media.
2. He’s really bad at bipartisanship: Being the President means making and maintaining relationships—even with those from other political parties. But Trump has made no public effort in trying to kindle a friendship with anyone that would disagree with him politically.
3. He shocked Americans with his DACA repeal: Whether or not it was a good idea aside, he seemed to have done this solely to get Congress to act. Doing this early on in his Presidency reinforced the Democratic view of Trump, as he went after a topic dear to their heart.
4. He is self-sabotaging: Trump is known for shocking Americans with what he says in his Presidential speeches. He seems to have little political correctness for the one job that requires the utmost political correctness.
5. He has polarized the country like never before: Whether or not you love him or hate him, you either love him or hate him. There aren’t many midfielders out there nowadays. It seems as if people are truly clinging “left” or “right.”

“When Trump took office, he had 45 percent approval. Yet today... his approval has dropped 10 points to 35 percent, the lowest of any modern president at this time in his administration,” said Thiessen. Perhaps the list of negatives can attest to why this decline in approval may have occurred. However, we must remember that he is still our president and despite his personal quirks or relationship issues, he has made some positive reforms.

"Halfway There:" A Grimm New Installment

ALEXANDER CARR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

From Jan. 17 to Feb. 13, students passing through Grimm have a new artistic exhibition to appreciate. Jeremie D. Riggleman's "Halfway There: Reflections On Body And Spirit," takes a lighthearted look at dissatisfaction in an interesting way.

"This work is interested in the tension between longing (discontent) and belonging (contentment)," says Riggleman in his artist statement. "In all the places I've lived, I sense myself floating between alienation and assimilation, while balancing the complex polarities both around and within."

Feeling out of place is a common sentiment. Riggleman's artistic expression of that sentiment, however, is far from common. The "Halfway There" exhibit takes animal figurines, similar to what you'd find standing loud and gaudy on the edge of your

suburban neighbor's lawn, and makes them the focal point of his quietly introspective work.

The figurines help Riggleman explore a number of contentious emotions. In the piece printed below, a white duck in green boots stands in a patch of sand on what looks like your average neighborhood street. In front of the duck is a photo of waves crashing against the rocks of a beach, and even further before him, the blurry sidewalk and fence of a neighboring home looms in the background.

Now if that sounds silly on paper, it's almost supposed to. "It only has to be deep if you really want to go there," said Riggleman. "As an artist I want to be able to talk about these concepts. But the initial read, for sure, is fun and playful."

Riggleman discovered the inspiration for the exhibit about 12 years before its creation. At the time, he was developing a series of photos with a focus on people's lawn art. The more photos he

took, the more curious he became. "I was interested in homeowners and what they chose to display in their yards, what it said about them, and what kind of statement they were trying to make. So I was interviewing them, asking them why, and photographing it."

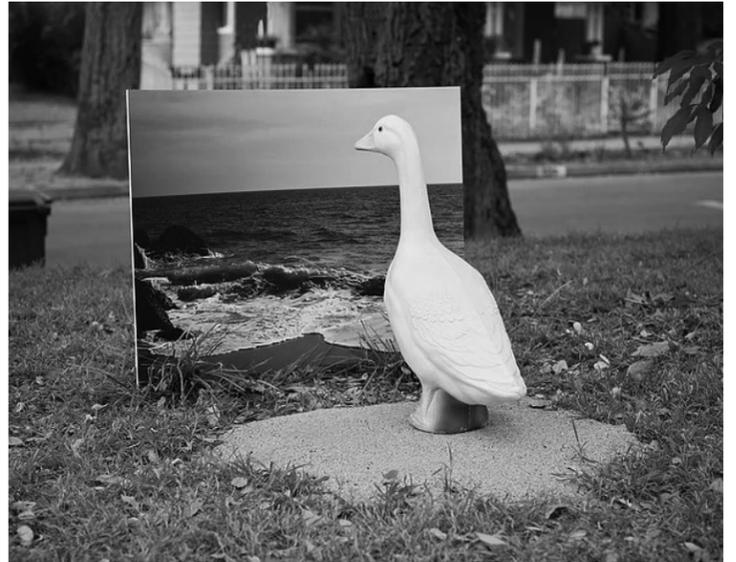
Riggleman's artwork has an obvious playful side, but in his eyes, the pieces also reveal a intersection between lawn ornaments, alienation and faith. "These creatures are like aliens. They're out of place and the yard doesn't seem to be for them," said Riggleman. "So I think these themes of alienation can relate to Christians and our faith." The Bible calls Christians to be set apart and describes them as a remnant, a people who live strange and foolish lives in the eyes of the world.

But Riggleman's art isn't overtly religious. It doesn't have to be. For students of faith, Riggleman hopes his work can be an example of how religion and art can coexist in subtle ways. "I'm a Christian

but I'm not making paintings of crosses or baby Jesus," said Riggleman. "I think it's important for Christians who want to be in contemporary art to think about how their faith can be integrated into their work in a way that's interesting. And I think I'm doing just that."

Jeremie Riggleman spent a se-

mester as adjunct at Concordia. Today he teaches at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana. More of his work is available for viewing on his website Jeremie Riggleman.com. If you'd like to hear more about Riggleman and his art, he'll be on campus showcasing his work in the Grimm Hall gallery Tues., Jan. 23 at 6:30 p.m.



PC: Jeremie Riggleman

"All Shook Up:" When Shakespeare Meets Footloose

ALEXANDER CARR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Next Friday on Jan. 26, Concordia's Theatre department premieres the first musical of the year, "All Shook Up." This jukebox musical takes Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night,' throws it into the 1950's and underscores the spectacle with classic rock and roll hits from the king himself--Elvis Presley.

But the musical isn't about Elvis. "That's actually one of the biggest misconceptions about the show," said Professor Lori Siekmann, Department Chair of Concordia Theatre and Director of the show. "'All Shook Up' tells its own story, but with the music of Elvis. It's like how 'Mamma Mia' uses ABBA music."

The story gets rolling with the introduction of Chad, a roustabout who rides his motorcycle into a sleepy town in the Midwest. "Very Elvis like," said Siekmann. When Chad arrives, the entire town is roused into one of the first big numbers, "C'mon Everybody," a piece that sets the tone with classic 50's style dance moves and belting vocal performances.

Complementing the big performances is a multi-disciplined cast and dance ensemble 25 students large. "It's

the biggest show that I have directed in that space," said Siekmann.

"We have a ton of talent in this school. A lot of them are Theatre majors, but many of them aren't. There's new students and freshmen performing too, which is exciting to see."

Michael Solomon, sophomore Theatre major who is playing the role of Chad, was equally excited to work with his fellow cast members. "There are people in this show that can belt their heads off. And these are freshmen coming in," said Solomon.

The story isn't officially about Elvis, but Solomon has a theory. "I was thinking, is Chad Elvis or is he not?" said Solomon. "I like to think about it like this. Elvis does exist, and maybe Chad wasn't the coolest kids growing up. So, the only way to find his inner cool was to impersonate Elvis."

Solomon's analysis is a good example how Concordia's "All Shook Up" aims to balance the big and loud of musical theatre with a desire to breathe life and depth into their characters.

Natalie, played by senior Theatre student Kyleigh Hoyer, walks the line between a fun leading-love-interest type and

an average-every-woman who has goals and aspirations. "She's very intentional about what she wants," said Kyleigh. Where some leading-ladies sacrifice everything for their love-interest, Kyleigh believes Natalie pursues love while staying true to her character.

That said, the show uses several classic musical tropes and Natalie, like many of the characters, is theatrical as they come. "Like in Twelfth Night, Natalie immediately falls in love, as we do in musical theater!" said Siekmann. And like Twelfth Night, Na-

talie uses an interesting strategy for getting to know Chad. "She decides if she were one of the guys she'd get to know him better," said Siekmann. "So she dresses like one. And nobody figures it out--because theatre."

The show is a mixed bag full of dramatic characters, Shakespearean misunderstanding, musical shenanigans and 50's style dance numbers. "It's a little cheesy and a lot of fun," said Siekmann. Themes of love and acceptance abound, and room for character analysis is there if you want it but for Siekmann, the primary goal is for the audience to have a good time.

"I want the audience to be able to come in, escape the stress and everything that's happening in the world and have a couple hours of entertainment," said Siekmann. "It's a feel good story. It doesn't have to be deeper than that."

If you can't make opening night the show runs for two weekends with shows on Jan. 26-27 and Feb. 1-3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Concordia Theatre. Matinee performances will also be available Jan. 28 2:00 p.m. Tickets available online or in the box office found in the CU Center.

ALL SHOOK UP
Inspired by and featuring the songs
of ELVIS PRESLEY®
Book by JOE DIPIETRO
Directed by Professor Lori C. Siekmann
January 26, 27 and February 1, 2, 3 at 7:30 p.m.
January 28 at 2 p.m.
University Studio Theatre, Concordia University Irvine
\$15 general admission | \$12 seniors/students
Free for CUI students, faculty, & staff
What happens when you take inspiration from Shakespeare's
Twelfth Night, set it in a little Midwest town in 1955, and
add Elvis music? You get ALL SHOOK UP! A heartfelt
story of the power of music and love, this high-energy
musical filled with dance, comedy and killer
vocals will have you tapping your
blue suede shoes!
Suitable for all ages
Performed under an agreement with
Theatrical Rights Worldwide

CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY IRVINE

PC: Concordia Theatre

Five Minutes with Dr. Jeff Held

STAFF REPORT

The Concordia Courier recently caught up with Concordia's School of Arts & Sciences Assistant Dean, Jeff Held, to learn about the University's behind-the-scenes decisions for developing the newest building on campus—the Music, Worship & Theology (MWT) building. Currently under construction between the library and the baseball field, the MWT building is scheduled to be completed spring 2019.

Q: There were several reasons why Concordia University Irvine chose WSDG to be the acoustic design firm for the MWT building. In your opinion, what were the top ones?

A: We went with Professor Steve Young's recommendation, since he has worked with this renowned acoustical firm in the past. As we did our research, we learned that the Walters-Storyk Design Group (WSDG) is a global acoustic design firm with an unparalleled reputation in the music industry. They're an 11-time National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Technical (TEC) Achievement Award winner. TEC awards recognize technical innovations behind the sound of recordings, live performances, films, television, video games and multi-media. In addition, WSDG has done some very impressive work at universities,

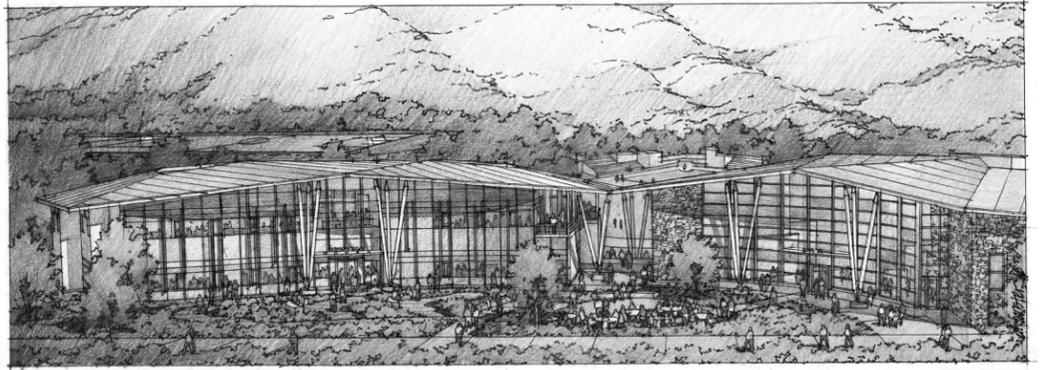
including the recently lauded renovations at the Berklee College of Music. They also did major work at America's premier jazz performance venue, Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City.

Q: The Commercial Music concentration is fairly new at CUI—almost a year old. What one element of the MWT building do you believe Commercial Music major students will benefit from the most?

A: Clearly, the recording studio, designed by WSDG, will be the magnet for commercial music students. It will be one of the finest, and most spacious recording studios in Orange County. And it's designed to be a teaching space. For example, the control room has a seating area so that lectures and demonstrations can be given to groups of students.

Q: The MWT building has two wings—one dedicated to the Department of Music, the other dedicated to Christ College, which includes theology and other departments—connected by a breezeway. Explain the thought process and logic behind this design?

A: Music and theology have gone hand-in-hand at Lutheran schools for 500 years. We know that Bach, the most famous Lutheran musician, wrote so much music for our Lutheran tradition because it



A rendering of the new Music, Worship & Theology building, designed by Newport Beach firm Bauer Architects. WSDG (Walters-Storyk Design Group) has been tapped to create a state-of-the-art recording studio, which will be housed inside. PC: CUI

was ingrained in him as a child. He sang hymns daily to learn the catechism and the Gospel story. Our work in the Music Department has the splendid opportunity to serve society at large and the church. We serve the church with many sacred concerts and musical worship ministry.

Q: There's a lot of buzz about the professional recording studio in the MWT building. Who will be able to use it? And for what purpose?

A: Students will have direct access to the finest equipment and best practices in the field. They'll be able to record professional demos and auditions for professional opportunities and graduate school. They'll also be able to do very sophisticated projects for classes. Institutionally, we now will have facilities to record our ensembles to better promote the university.

Q: If you had to pick your favorite feature of the record-

ing studio, what would it be and why?

A: Flexibility. The recording studio is a suite of rooms, all wired for sound. It even extends to the orchestra hall and choir rehearsal room, meaning that very large recording projects can take place in a sophisticated, controlled environment.

Q: Having a recording studio of this caliber in such close proximity to the LA-based music industry could be an advantage. Tell us what the Department of Music is doing to help students in this area.

A: Professor Steve Young has created an advisory board made up of industry professionals—just down the street in Los Angeles—who will be able to pour their insights and professional advice into students. With a jewel of a studio, our campus will become a hub for learning how to work with digital music mixing and mastering, especially since we

just became an Avid Learning Partner, meaning we will be one of the regional centers for training musicians and technicians to work with the industry-leading Pro Tools system.

Q: What's the first thing you plan to do when you move into the new MWT building?

A: Make music in every single room of the building! I can't wait to experience the excellent acoustics! Then, I'll put a comfortable chair in my office, look out the first external window I've ever had, and say a prayer of thanksgiving for all the students who have made music such a valuable part of Concordia's identity! I am so proud of our alumni, and look forward to training many more in these facilities.

This story is second in a series of stories related to the MWT building. To learn more about the MWT building go to cui.edu/en-us/giving/mwt/renderings.

Women's small group ministry kicks off with a B.Y.O.M. event

ASHLEY SANDS
STAFF WRITER

On Wed., Jan. 10, the Women's Small Group Ministry hosted a Bring Your Own Mug (B.Y.O.M) event to kick off the start of spring semester. Students gathered over coffee, hot chocolate and tea in the Rho Programming Center (RPC) and met with leaders and fellow members. Students signed up for small groups and lis-

tened to a devotion given by senior and small group ministry coordinator, Kylie May.

May explained that the small groups offer a tight-knit community. "Even on a small campus it's easy to think that you're anonymous or that other people don't recognize your presence," May said. "In a small group, it becomes obvious when you're here and when you're not."

When May became the co-

ordinator, she wanted to focus on making the different groups more connected. "The leaders are focused on the growth of their members and the coordinators are really focused on the growth of their leaders," May said.

Small groups focus on each individual member. "It's important to have a chance to connect with people on a regular basis who care about every aspect of you," May said. "You'll be surrounded by people who are going to be feeding you spiritually."

Although challenges are unavoidable, small groups may lessen the impact of them. "Being able to go through life with the care and wisdom of people who are also seeking a godly lifestyle makes everything a lot

easier," May said.

According to May, being a member has pushed her to grow while challenging some of her perspectives. "When you sign up for a small group, sometimes you're friends with people in it already and other times you're getting to know people," May said. "Either way, you are working towards loving everyone where they are at."

Junior Michelle Pettet leads a small group on Tuesday nights. "Being a part of the women's ministry is an amazing opportunity to meet new people, build your faith, and allow yourself to be surrounded by a loving community," Pettet said.

Although the small groups will be focusing on the book

"Uninvited," each discussion will vary. "As a leader, I think that I have learned more how to recognize what people need and try to meet those needs more on a case by case basis," May said.

Connecting with other individuals on a weekly basis promotes interconnectedness. "I've learned that it's important to be vulnerable and to not be afraid of making mistakes," Pettet said. "When someone sees you at your lowest point, they see the real you. Although you might not have it all together, realize that sometimes we can't, but Christ can."

Students who missed this first event can still sign up for a small group. Bible studies are weekly, but anyone is welcome to jump in at any time.



Students bring their favorite mugs and sign up for a small group. PC: Ashley Sands

Youtube Channel Review:

Channels to help you keep those New Year Resolutions

ALEXANDER CARR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Happy New Year, Eagles! As you read this, the first weeks of the New Year fade ever further into the depths memory. Maybe your months away and 2019 peaks its head over the horizon. Whenever you are, life has probably taken a bite or two out of that early year motivation. That diet you planned, the workout routine you started, those GPA goals, perhaps they are as distant and foggy as your memory of the night before the New Year.

If you think about it, motivation shares annoying similarities to that cat your best friend adopted. It was great at first, but as time went on, you realized it's really just a stubborn freeloader. Go ahead, keep calling its name. You know it is only going to come back when it wants something. And the only thing it wants is food.

Lucky for us, when our motivation gets catty, we have the internet! Home to cat videos galore! And since this metaphor is breaking down, when I say cat videos galore, I mean motivation videos.

Motivation videos galore!



Courtesy of Google

Thomas Frank and Improvement Pill are just two of the many Youtube personalities dedicated to helping us take charge in achieving the goals we strive for. Both channels use studies, expert opinions and personal anecdotes that arm viewers with functional tools and clever tactics for getting the most out of their daily lives.

For a life coach, a phrase that conjures the image squared jaws and whitened teeth, Improvement Pill is surprisingly camera shy. Instead of fish-hook smiles, power poses and over the top enthusiasm, Improvement Pill prefers the increasing popular whiteboard method of video making. With his voice over in the back-

ground, a marker illustrates every main point with simple drawings and comprehensive summaries.

His videos are broken down into four sections: Social Skills, Happiness, Health and Wealth. These videos cover classic self-help topics like how to overcome anxiety, how to wake up earlier or how to make more money. He also covers more in depth topics such as stock market investment and established philosophical ideas such as the law of attraction.

If your early year motivation is waning, I highly recommend his "Tamed." The series is designed to help participants overcome bad habits while developing better ones. Plus it's free!

If you'd like advice from someone a little more personable, Thomas Frank is the guy for you. This twenty-six year old entrepreneur has been developing his online presence for the last five years through blogs, podcast and Youtube videos. His goal: educate people on practical ways to get more done.

Originally known as the College Info Geek, his channel hosts a number of videos with titles like "Creating a Productive Study Space," "8 Habits of Highly Effective

Students," and "10 Books every student should read."

What's nice about Frank is that he never feels like an advice guru. He's just a guy. Someone you could know or easily befriend. It just so happens that he's a productivity geek, and takes an interest in the success of others, not just his own.

If you're looking for some help with your goals this year, I'd recommend one of Frank's newest videos titled, "How to Set Effective Goals." Taking a case study approach, Frank talks about the all too familiar trap of setting unrealistic goals and how to overcome it.

If you check them out and like what you see, show some support.

Improvement Pill accepts donations at his Patreon account (<https://www.patreon.com/ImprovementPill>) and the money helps him create new content. Thomas Frank host a podcast called the College Info Geek Podcast and has a book on amazon titled "Ten Steps to Earning Awesome Grades." And if you're college budget can't afford it, a simple like or subscribe goes a long way.

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