



THE CONCORDIA COURIER

INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

Volume 12, Issue 7

Concordia University Irvine

Friday, December 8, 2017

10 Things You Need To Know About The Music, Worship & Theology Building

STAFF REPORT

By now, you've seen—or felt—the construction activity between the library arts building and the baseball field. Although an inconvenience, it'll be a worthwhile project for students and faculty alike when completed. More parking spaces and improved traffic flow are just some of the improvements. But perhaps the most notable will be the new Music, Worship & Theology (MWT) building.

If you're going to be using the new MWT—to rehearse with a choir or ensemble, use a practice room, or to make a recording—here are 10 things you need to know about the building.

1. One + One = Two buildings

The MWT building will be two buildings—one housing Christ College, the other housing the Music Department—connected by a breezeway, similar to Grimm Hall.

2. Game Changer

The MWT building is a game changer for Concordia's music program. For the first time, there will be dedicated space that is custom built for music students in all concentrations, as well as for Worship Arts, and designed to accommodate vocal and instrumental ensembles.

3. Professional Recording Studio

One of the most interesting rooms of the music building will be the live room professional recording studio. Given Concordia's proximity to the Los Angeles music industry, the new recording studio will provide a venue for students, professors and artists to collaborate in facilities that meet the music industry's standards.

4. State-of-the-Art

The recording studio will serve

as a rehearsal facility with state-of-the-art, in-ear monitoring control and wireless mixing capabilities, making it one of the few studios of this caliber in Orange County and the region.

5. Award-winning Design Firm

Concordia has commissioned award-winning global architectural acoustic design firm WSDG (www.wsdg.com) of New York to design the MWT building's recording studio. WSDG, whose work has set the standard for excellence throughout the professional audio/video production industry, has designed recording studios for artists such as Jimi Hendrix, Bruce Springsteen, Alicia Keys, and Jay-Z; for educational institutions NYU and the Berklee College of Music in Boston and concert hall acoustic designs for such notable venues as Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York.

6. Commercial Music Students

Music students with a Commercial Music concentration

stand to benefit from the recording studio as they prepare for their vocations as instrumentalists and vocal performers for the stage and studio, songwriters, producers and other music-industry related professions.

7. Worship Arts Leaders

Students preparing for service in the Church as worship arts leaders will also benefit greatly from the recording studio. Students with dual concentrations in Church Music and Commercial Music, or one of these concentrations paired with a Worship Arts minor, also have much to gain from the state-of-the-art technology meant to help them thrive when they enter ministry in the local church.

8. Orchestra Hall + More

In addition to the recording studio, the MWT building will also house an orchestra hall, choral rehearsal hall, percussion room, piano instruction room, classrooms, faculty offices, conference and breakout rooms, practice rooms and faculty studios.

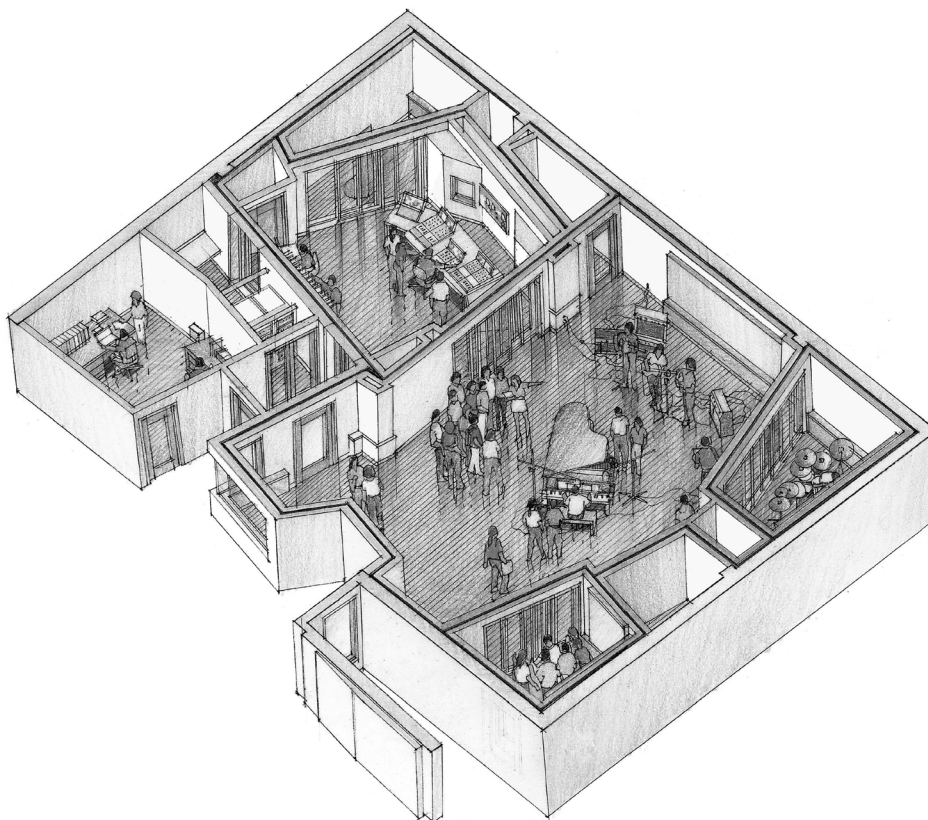
9. Commitment to Education

One reason Concordia's Music Department chose WSDG to design its recording studio is WSDG's commitment to education. WSDG Founding Partner John Storyk, along with other team members, lecture frequently at schools and universities around the globe. Another key factor: WSDG's commitment to the internship process. Students' hands-on learning in studios created by expert architects and acousticians like WSDG often lead to internships where qualified interns are promoted to full-time employment.

10. "Fine Tuning" Before Construction

Finally, designers had the benefit of "listening" to the rooms prior to construction. Precise readings of absorptive, reflective and isolation issues aided the designers in "fine-tuning" the rooms before the walls, floors and ceilings are constructed.

Stay tuned to learn more about the MWT building in this ongoing series.



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

Concordia Christmas Kicks Off The Holiday Season With A Fun-Filled Event

SARAH KRETSCHMAR
STAFF WRITER

Last night, Concordia held its annual Concordia Christmas event. Filled with fun, fellowship and food, this annual event is always a big holiday hit, and this year was no exception. The event graciously captured the youthful spirits of the Concordia community and embraced the celebration and happiness associated with the birth of Jesus Christ.

Concordia Christmas went very well because of the exquisite planning done by some of Concordia's very own. Jessica James, junior, is the co-chair for Concordia Christmas. "Concordia Christmas is a favorite tradition on campus where students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the local community come together to celebrate the Christmas season," said James.

There were many different activities that students could enjoy including meeting Santa Claus, carriage rides, ornament decorating, photo booths, craft tables and other Christmas themed fun. The students of Concordia enjoyed this fun-filled event, but most importantly enjoyed the delicious funnel cake that was offered for free to students in attendance with their student ID.

Another reason this event was a big hit was because of its theme. This year's Concordia Christmas was inspired by the hilarious and heart-warming movie, *Elf*. Also, the appearance of Buddy the Elf was nothing less than extraordinary at Concordia Christmas. Michael Nava, senior, said, "Elf is one of my all-time favorite holiday movies and seeing Concordia bring it to life

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ASCUI Semester Review: Seats, Surveys, and Study Spots

MADDY HAASE
ASCUI SECRETARY

This semester, ASCUI and University Services have been working to provide more amenities for students and listening to their feedback. This semester, there has been a push for new furniture in resident halls. The Friday before everyone left for Thanksgiving break, new

couches were put in the resident halls, similar to the ones set up around campus. This allows all of the resident halls to have a place where students can lounge and sit outside and do their homework. These comfortable seats provide an outdoor space to relax and take a break from the stress of the last full week of school.

Along with the new



PC: Maddy Haase

seating, the caf will be open during finals week, Monday through Thursday from 9:00pm to 2:00 a.m. for students to study. This will be a great place for students to gather as the week of finals approaches. There will be no food or drink provided in the caf during these times, but it provides a change of scenery other than dorms, the library and classrooms. The caf being open later allows for indoor seating during the cold Southern California nights.

This semester Senators and ASCUI have been sending out surveys to gauge the thoughts of both residents and commuter students. Through two main surveys, that each got about 200 responses, the groups were able to get feedback on all of the new and old amenities. Students responded to the new soft seating, lights and whether or not there should be heaters and chargers in the new

areas. Another survey examined the responses to the bookstore, mail room, copy center and the printing in the library.

Senate strives to make

"The caf will be open during finals week, Monday through Thursday from 9:00pm to 2:00 a.m. for students to study"

student voices heard on campus by administrators and staff. While reviewing the surveys, staff members are present so that they are able to ask questions and work to help better the university.

Senate has worked really hard this semester to gain more in-depth information from the students. If any students, faculty and staff have any questions or responses that they would like to bring up, Senate has open forum meetings starting back up next semester on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. We are excited to see what the next semester brings and how we can represent and bring a voice to the students. Thank you to all who took the surveys! We cannot wait to see all the amazing things that are in store for the spring semester. ASCUI and Senate hope and pray that you will have a good finals week and a good Holiday Season!

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Concordia Men's Water Polo Team Ends First NCAA Season on a High Note

SAMANTHA JENSEN
STAFF WRITER

The Concordia Men's Water Polo team had much to celebrate after their first season wrapped up as NCAA members. Dreason Barry, the men's water polo coach of three years, was very impressed with this year's team and their hard work put into the season. "The water polo community is seeing the success of our program and this year has really put Concordia on the map," said Barry.

Barry was also impressed with team captain, Josh Mundell, and his leadership. Mundell graduated in May of 2017 and is now an MBA student at Concordia. Having been

injured in his senior year, he came back to the team after a 15-month recovery and was eligible for play. He described this as "a dream come true" and a privilege to share his knowledge with the rest of the team.

Hard work and consistency were two significant values of the team, mainly since they practiced at 6 a.m. every weekday morning, plus three-hour long practices in the afternoon, three times a week. Though this was a considerable commitment, Mundell said, "the most important thing for me was to stay consistent, never make excuses because people depend on me and I always tried to live in the moment

because it won't last forever."

One major highlight was the Western Water Polo Association tournament, where eight teams competed in a "winner take all" tournament. Dreason mentally prepared his team to "hope for the best and prepare for the worst." The entire tournament was a test of the team's mental and physical endurance.

Mundell enjoyed seeing his teammates play, knowing that the future of Concordia water polo is in good hands. He highlighted Spencer Hosch, who had 15 goals in three games, and Angel Rojas who had ten goals. Though they lost the first game, they were able to win the last two

games. The final match against Santa Clara was the team's highlight. Barry said the team never gave in and came out with their victory. Mundell enjoyed it because his family came to cheer him on at the end of his water polo career. "I scored two goals, three assists and two steals." Mundell said, "Every time I did something well I could hear them in the stands yelling!"

Another highlight of the season was the match against California Baptist University. Even though Concordia lost in overtime, it was an unforgettable game for Mundell. "We had a huge crowd. The largest crowd I have ever had in my five years at

Concordia." Concordia lost 13-12 but remained a competitive team in the conference winning against Loyola Marymount University and Air Force.

The Men's Water Polo team and other student athletics wouldn't be where they are now without support from other students. It is essential for all of Concordia to support their fellow Eagles because it gives them a sense of identity. "CUI is a small school, which allows students to know who they are cheering for when they go to games," said Mundell. Barry also said that support from fans can push the athletes to the next level and that "we all need to lift each other up."

Soft-Volley-Base-Ball: Spring Sports Preview

REESE FLYNN
STAFF WRITER

The start of 2018 signifies that Concordia spring sports will gear up to begin their season. The start of the spring season is especially exciting because athletes will be competing as official members of the NCAA PacWest Conference. While the soccer, swim and men's water polo teams have all wrapped up their season, it is time to take a look at what is ahead in Concordia athletics come spring time.

However, men's volleyball will not be a part of PacWest, and for good reason too. The men's volleyball will be a Division

I team and playing in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF) and playing against the likes of USC, UCLA, Long Beach State and UCI. Having faced these teams last year in exhibition games, the team feels prepared for the challenge, ready to face their competitors in full blown conference matchups.

As one of the smallest universities in the MPSF in terms of enrollment, the team will look towards the screaming eagles and their loyal fans to provide that energetic and loud environment when these opposing teams enter the CU Arena.

Head Coach Joe Turgeon and his baseball program will see core start-

ers from last year's team which relied heavily on talented underclassmen. Of those freshmen, now sophomores, Haloa Dudiot and Carpenter Pagett were awarded with All PacWest recognitions. Throw in the valuable contributions from freshmen Jair Donovan, Bailey Collins, and Chris Martin, Coach Turgeon is grinning from ear to ear knowing the talent that he has, this year and years to come. Valuable experience was gained last season, as this spring the young guns will be asked to take a big step in their development in hopes of bringing home a PacWest championship and a postseason appearance.

Their quest begins Feb. 2 as the Eagles take on Cal State San Marcos here at Eagles Field. A preseason tournament combined with a matchup with Cal Poly Slo before conference play begins against rival, Azusa Pacific will follow.

The softball team is led by outstanding coaching, with head coach Crystal Rosenthal and a strong



Courtesy of CUI

pitching staff backed by great defense. The pitching staff and their 2016 PacWest pitcher of the year, senior Grayson Harvey, went 18-6 with an impressive 1.86 ERA over 163.0 innings pitched in 25 starts last year.

Sophomore Sarah Kretschmar touched on that leadership, pitching, and the team's expectations for the year. "We are super excited to battle for an NCAA title this year and look forward to a successful season alongside our strong pitching and coaching staff," said Kretschmar. That senior leadership includes the

standout centerfielder, who not only excels on the field but in the classroom as well. Center Fielder Ryann Ferguson repeated as PacWest Scholar Athlete of the Year and Academic All-American. This year she and her teammates have their eyes set on other hardware such as a national championship. The softball season kicks off after the alumni game on Jan. 27 and conference play begins on Feb. 24 in St. George, Utah.

Come cheer on the spring athletes this season, schedules can be found at cuieagles.com.



Courtesy of CUI

The True Story Of St. Nicholas

TAYLOR STICKLE
STAFF WRITER

“Here comes Santa Claus, here comes Santa Claus, right down Santa Claus Lane!” We all know jolly old St. Nick as a man in a big red suit with a white beard who flies around the world every Christmas Eve dropping off presents for all the good boys and girls. But who was the real Saint Nicholas and how did he become an American symbol for Christmas? To answer this question, Concordia faculty member Dr. Julie Stiegemeyer has insight from her published children’s book titled *St. Nicholas: The Real Story of the Christmas Legend* in 2006.

“St. Nicholas lived in the third century in modern-day Turkey. He grew up as a Christian, became a priest and rose to the rank of Bishop of Myra. Interestingly, as bishop, he was one of those in attendance at the Council of Nicea in 325,” said Stiegemeyer.

So how did a third century priest become Father Christmas? There have been many legends

about St. Nicholas since. Stiegemeyer points out that “it’s hard to sort the truth from fiction, but one legend is worth noting”—the legend of the dowries.

A long time ago in a land that would become known as Turkey, lived a father and his three daughters. The father was poor and thus had no money to serve as a dowry for his daughters, leaving their fate in adulthood uncertain. Without a dowry, the young women could not get married and after their father’s passing, if they had no husband, it is likely that they would be forced into bad circumstances. St. Nicholas, a man of God who had been left a large sum of money after his parents died when he was young, heard of the family’s plight and decided it was his duty to help.

One night, St. Nicholas took a bag of gold to the home of the man and his three daughters and dropped it down the chimney where it landed in a stocking that was left by the fire to dry. The anonymous gift was enough to

serve as a dowry for the oldest daughter. St. Nicholas later returned with another bag of gold for the second oldest daughter, which he again dropped down the chimney. The father, awestruck and determined to find the anonymous gift giver stayed up late next to the fireplace every evening. When St. Nicholas came to leave dowry money for the third daughter, the father caught St. Nicholas in the act.

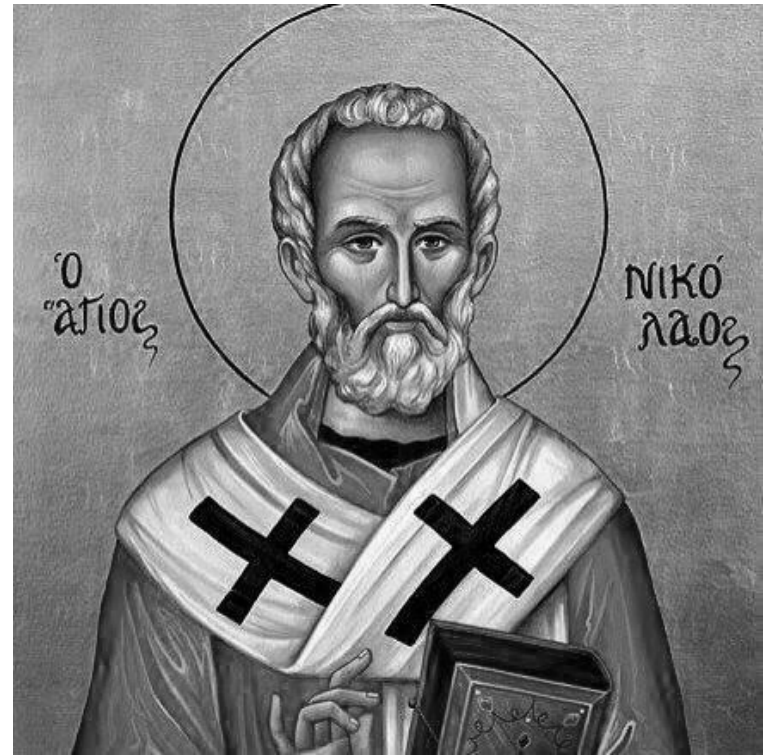
St. Nicholas begged the man not to reveal his identity, as he wished to remain anonymous. But the news got out that St. Nicholas was the man behind the generous gifts, and he became a legend. People started crediting him any time they received anonymous gifts.

“This generous gift-giving is what has led to his connection to Christmas,” said Stiegemeyer. “What I emphasized in my book is that Nicholas’ generosity reflects a giving God. As Nicholas had received, so he gave. This is the heart of Christian charity: we

give because of the lavish grace we have received in the Christ-Child, our only Hope and Salvation.”

The historical St. Nicholas is not the jolly old man in a big red suit. That image, which is now known better as Santa Claus, was

actually solidified by Coca-Cola in 1931 after decades of different depictions of the gift-giving, elf-like man. Since then, Santa Claus in his big red suit with white fur trim has become a Christmas icon.



Courtesy of Google

The Season of Giving: A Reference Guide of Charities in Need

NANCY PALMER
STAFF WRITER

During this holiday season take some time and spread a little cheer to those who are less fortunate by helping charities in Orange County. There are plenty of ways you can help.

Operation Santa Claus:

Operation Santa Claus provides gifts and toys to children who are abandoned, neglected and/or abused. They also help disadvantaged families who are receiving services from the County of Orange. Last year, their toy drives distributed over 39,000 toys and gifts! This program has been helping families and foster care children since 1962 and has expanded their operation in the past several decades.

You can donate new/unwrapped gifts for children ages newborn-18, as well as depen-

dent seniors. Gifts are needed for all ages; especially toddlers and teens. Buying a gift for a needy child or adult brings back the true meaning of the holidays.

During the month of December, in-kind donations can be dropped off at Operation Santa Claus located at 1505 East Warner Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705. Please call 714-679-2438 for hours of operation. Orange County Public Libraries and many county facilities also have drop off boxes for your convenience.

To get involved, please visit: <http://ssa.ocgov.com/volunteer/santa/programs>

Senior Santa:

Want to help seniors in our community? Senior Santa and friends provides gifts and special request items to

low income individuals who are elderly or adults who are severely disabled. Often these individuals are isolated from their family and community. Each year, they hand out items such as household appliances, special medical equipment, nutritional supplements or clothing.

If you are interested in helping or would like more information please call (714) 825-3111 or e-mail senior.santa@ssa.ocgov.com

Toys for Tots: U.S. Marine Corps Reserve:

The mission of Marine Toys for Tots is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year. They distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community. Each year, they collect

and distribute toys in the communities in which a Marine Corps Reserve Unit is located. If there is a place where there is no Reserve Unit, men and women, generally veteran Marines, authored by the Marine Toys for Tots foundation, will then conduct a local drive for that community.

There is still time to donate, so please visit the Toys for Tots

website to find out how you can donate: <https://toysfortots.org/donate/toys.aspx>

There are so many great opportunities to help your local charities this month. With all the chaos of the winter months, don’t forget that the true meaning of this holiday season is to spread a little joy to others. So get out there and give!



Courtesy of Google

Students Return from Guatemala Mission Trip with Full Hearts and Blessed Spirits

KAILEY VIGIL
STAFF REPORT

A team of eight Concordians traveled to Guatemala the week of Thanksgiving break to bring fellowship and the love of Christ to the people of El Progreso. Concordia students and professors partnered with a team from Bethany Lutheran in Long Beach and set up a Vacation Bible School and various activities for everyone in the village to attend. "We had 70 to 110 kids each day. We had crafts, games, music, coloring and snacks," said junior Arianna Dahlia.

In the evenings, the mission team would split up. Dr. Steigemeyer would gather the worship leaders of the village and host a theology session. The women of the mission team would get together with the older girls and women of the village to do crafts such as making picture frames and sewing.

"During that time, we got to pray with [the women] and they

didn't speak a lick of English, but they wrote down their prayer requests and Dr. Steigemeyer would translate them to us," explained junior, Laura Pierson.

When asked why they chose this particular mission trip, Dahlia responded, "It kept coming into my mind and I felt like this is something I'm being called to do." Each one of the participants from Concordia enrolled in a theology course before leaving for the trip in order to better understand the culture, language and faith of the people in Guatemala.

"With this mission trip, we are forced to stop and think about what we're doing, study the culture and know what we're getting into in order to gain a deeper understanding," said Dahlia. Each of the team members expressed their appreciation of the culture and the passion of El Progreso.

"This mission trip was specifically focused on how we were serving and how we are called to

serve," said junior, Chase Uden. The team spent time each morning preparing their hearts with a devotion and had a similar process at the end of their day.

The team was asked what their favorite part of the trip was and

each member shared a touching response. "I loved the truck rides and there was gorgeous scenery and interesting conversations with our group and our translator Charles to learn more about the culture," said Dahlia.

The team members would pile into a truck and travel to the school where VBS was held. Lush greenery and sights of mountains surrounded the team members on their way. Uden explained that the best experience for him was getting to play with little kids and that he enjoyed getting to do Vacation Bible School in another country.

"Going on this trip gave me perspective on the fact that I thought we were going to be bringing God to these people, but God was already there," said Pierson. "All of these people were very theologically mature and it was amazing to see how Christ's love has already reached the people of Guatemala. We were just there to strengthen this community of believers."

If you would like to find out more about mission trips at Concordia or how you can serve the community, please contact Jonathan Ruehs at jonathan.ruehs@cui.edu.



PC: Kailey Vigil

First Person: International Students Celebrate Thanksgiving at Laguna Beach

LAITH MTHAN
STAFF WRITER

On Wed., Nov. 22 at Laguna Beach, International students and Concordia's staff gathered together to celebrate Thanksgiving. The Thanksgiving picnic was sponsored by Dr. Dan Waite's family. Waite is the Senior Director of Global Studies. The Assistant Director of International Student Success, Dr. Cheri Chan, planned this perfectly warm Thanksgiving picnic.

There were many goals for this Thanksgiving gathering. The first goal was to support international students who live far away from home, making it tough to travel to gather with families and loved ones.

As an international student, I have felt sad because I would miss my family and friends. It is so hard to go back to our countries to see our families. For me, it takes

16 hours to fly back to my home country, Saudi Arabia.

Chan and Waite deciding to gather international stu-

Chan and Waite deciding to gather international students together for Thanksgiving was their way of saying, "We are here for you and you are not alone."

dents together for Thanksgiving was their way of saying, "We are here for you and you are not alone." This gave us courage to continue our semester successfully without feeling lonely or home sick.

Students from India, Saudi Arabia, Japan, South America, Iran and more were there! Everyone helped prepare the dinner and it

like a family. After that, Waite gave a speech about the history of Thanksgiving, which was especially useful for students who don't have

any background information about Thanksgiving.

After that, everyone filled

their plates and indulged in the main event--turkey. This was many student's first time eating turkey! Once Dr. Waite started to

cut the turkey, many of the students took out their phones and recorded the ex-

citing moment.

We all gathered around the table and it felt like we were with our families. It didn't seem like students and faculty were just meeting for Thanksgiving, but it looked like a big, happy family was having a great picnic. We also played games together and shared stories.

In my opinion, it was a brilliant idea to have this kind of activity to help and support international students through Thanksgiving break. I would encourage any international student to join us in the future for a "home" away from home.

"I would encourage any international student to join us in the future for a "home" away from home."

Surviving Finals: A Modest Reminder of Common Sense Tips for Success

ASHLEY SANDS
STAFF WRITER

Let's face it, finals week is upon us. That means long days and late nights filled with books, essays and studying. For anyone who needs a refresher, read on to learn the latest and greatest tips.

First, find out what works best for you. Senior Megan Dougherty suggests studying when you are most productive. "I like studying in the evening because that's when I usually do my homework, so my brain is used to doing school work at that time," said Dougherty.

Pick the right place to study. On campus, there's Eagle's Landing, the library (open until midnight this week), study rooms in upper and lower quads, Sigma Square and the RPC. Off campus, try Starbucks or Peet's Coffee, which both offer free Wi-Fi and

delicious drinks.

Stick to a routine. Now is not the week to try out new habits. "Whenever you prefer to do homework is a good time to study since it's part of your normal routine," said Dougherty.

Take breaks. "If you feel like your brain is turning to mush and

you can't concentrate anymore, take a break," said Dougherty. "Going on a walk or talking with a friend will help you recharge so you can study better later."

Balance work and play. "I would say it's important to take finals week seriously especially when a B- is worth a 2.7 and a B+ is worth a 3.3 on the GPA scale," said Andres Avelar, junior. "It's worth it to try and raise your grade, but it's just as important to smile and laugh. Remember stress won't make you work any harder or learn any faster; motivation will."

Dougherty also recommends getting enough sleep before and during finals week. "Your brain and body need to recharge during this stressful time," said Dougherty.

Study partners can be beneficial and make preparing for finals less stressful. "I like to study in groups. It allows everybody to help one another and keep the



Good luck on finals and happy winter break from the fall 2017 staff writers and editorial staff of The Concordia Courier.

atmosphere positive," said Avelar. "It's much easier for someone to make you laugh and allow you to relax than if you do it all on your own."

Try your best, but don't have unrealistic expectations. "Remember, grades don't define you," said Dougherty. "It's important to work hard and have academic

integrity, but if you don't ace all your finals, it is okay."

Prioritize what to study based on what material is most important, what exams come first and what classes need the most attention. While doing it, remember, "It's more important that you're happy and healthy," said Dougherty.

*"Stress
won't make
you work
any harder
or learn
any faster"*

The Global Poetry Project: Bridging Cultures through the Power of Poems

NIKKI IEZZA
STAFF WRITER

Last year Katherine Zaun, a teacher in the Intensive English Language department, created the on-campus Global Poetry Project. Zaun's inspiration for the project grew out of a desire to develop stronger communal bonds between domestic and international students. Through domestic and international poetry, the project aims to promote on-campus, cross-culture awareness. After hearing stories from students trying to adapt to a new culture, Zaun believes

the project gives these students an opportunity to share a piece of their culture with the community.

The displays can be seen all over campus and currently showcase work from 22 different countries in their original language with an English translation beside it. "The hope is that these poems promote international understanding and that the displays, which form a walking exhibit, create spaces for reflection, dialogue and connection," said Zaun.

The Global Poetry Project has an open submission policy, encouraging every-

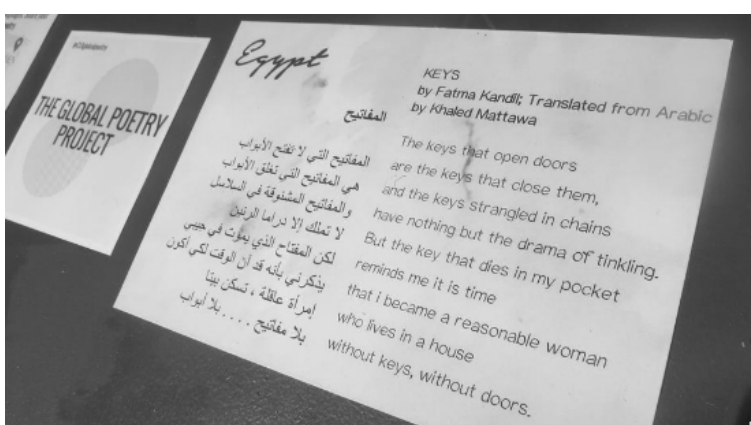
one on campus to submit a poem that could potentially be seen in one of the displays on campus. The current collection will soon be changed to a new theme in the spring. The next theme will showcase women poets both domestic and international.

When read aloud, poems can evoke emotion amongst even the most unsuspecting audience. Poetry is a platform for many, giving people a forum to articulate ideas and feelings difficult to convey in everyday conversation. It's also interpretative, thus, it is inherently interactive. The lack of formal rules and varying schools of thought also make it accessible to a range of different fluency levels.

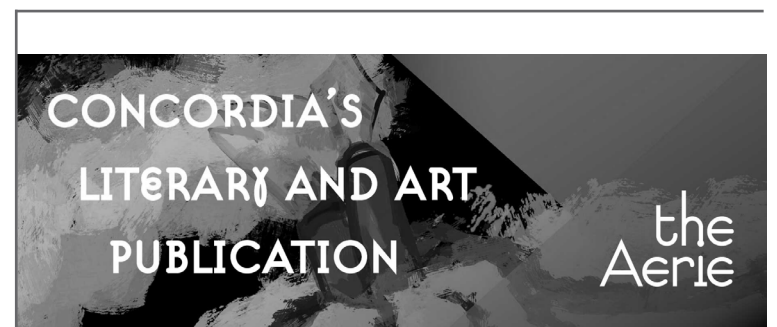
Last spring, there were various students gathered in the garden to read some of their favorite poems from around the world. The Global Poetry Project will be hosting another poetry reading in the new year, so stay tuned

for details. In the meantime, all staff and students are encouraged to submit a work of poetry for the new instal-

lation for the spring. Please send all submissions or inquiries about the project to katharine.zaun@cui.edu.



PC: Cheri Chan



A Message from the Art and English Departments

Send your Creative Submissions to The Aerie

The Aerie is the annual literary and arts journal which showcases creative writing and art by Concordia Irvine students, alumni, faculty and staff. The deadline for submissions is Friday, December 8th. Submission guidelines can be found on the MyCUI webpage.

Send submissions for creative writing to concordia.aerie.lit@gmail.com.

Questions? Contact kristen.schmidt@cui.edu (creative writing) or rachel.soo@cui.edu (art).

Concordia Christmas Kicks Off The Holiday Season With A Fun-Filled Event

Continued from p.1

was super cool.” Incorporating a popular Christmas movie into this event brought humor and happiness to all who attended.

However, this year’s Concordia Christmas was much more than a fun holiday event to start the season. Concordia Christmas did a great job of reminding all the people of the true reason for the season. This

year’s event kicked off the night “remembering why we celebrate the season with a live nativity scene to focus our hearts on Jesus,” said James. The birth of the savior Jesus Christ is something that should always be remembered and celebrated by all His people.

Concordia Christmas provides all of Concordia’s students,

faculty and staff with a great event that builds fellowship within the community. James said, “Concordia Christmas truly brings the campus together.” Spreading joy is one of the greatest attributes of the holiday season and Concordia Christmas did just that by capturing the beauty and importance of His birth.

Be sure to take part in the next holiday event that Concordia has to offer at Concordia Candlelight. Concordia Candlelight will take place on Tues., Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. in the CU Center. Come join the Concordia family once again in a candlelight worship service remembering the birth of the beloved savior, Jesus Christ.



Courtesy of ASCUI

Black Friday And Cyber Monday: The Best Deals

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With the holiday season upon us, Black Friday and Cyber Monday seem like the perfect opportunities to score Christmas gifts on a budget. In celebration, stores have adapted festive decorations over the years including lines of tents, outdoor folding chairs and anxious patrons to let everyone know the season of spending has kicked off.

Every year the deals start earlier and earlier. 2017 was no exception seeing that most people were out shopping before finishing their turkey dinner! So, what is all the hype about? Are the deals really that great? Listed below are the most sought after “must haves” of the 2017 Black Friday/Cyber Monday Season. The deals may be gone, but if you’re still wondering what to get that special someone for Christmas, look no further.

Nintendo Switch

The Nintendo Switch is



Courtesy of Google

Nintendo’s newest console and what makes it unique is its ability to “switch.” Unlike its competitors, the Switch is both a portable handheld and stay at home console. One of the most sought-after deals was the Nintendo Switch Neon Console with Mario Kart 8 Deluxe and 1-2 Switch for \$299. This deal was available on Amazon and reportedly sold out within minutes. The regular console alone is still available in stores and on Amazon for \$299.

Madden NFL 18

Madden NFL 18 is one of the most popular sports games of the year. It was rated 9/10 by gaming reviewers and received

praise for its single-player story mode. It is also the first Madden to be released from the EA company using Frostbite engine graphics which offer major visual enhancements. Best Buy, Target and Toys-R-Us were all offering the game for half off (\$30) and Game Stop was offering an exclusive deal for just \$27. If users were okay with not purchasing a physical copy, the Xbox and PlayStation stores were offering the digital copy for \$30 as well. Today you can grab Madden 18 at Walmart for \$39.99, still discounted compared to the original \$60.

Amazon Echo Dot

The Echo Dot is a small round device that gives users an unlimited range of knowledge and information with hands-free convenience. The dot can play music, control smart home devices, make calls, send and receive messages, provide information, read the news, set alarms, read audiobooks from Audible, control Amazon Video on Fire TV and more. Amazon has created their own digital assistant, “Alexa.” Many users love Alexa because she is very personalized and specific when finding

answers or helping complete tasks. The Amazon Echo Dot is regularly \$49.99, but was reduced to \$24.99 for Black Friday. The Echo Dot can still be found for half off through Amazon, Best Buy, Target and Bed Bath & Beyond.

Amazon’s 12 Days of Deals

Amazon started a new campaign on Dec. 3 where they have different items every day

listed at Black Friday/Cyber Monday prices. So far, each day has featured nine to twelve items anywhere from 20-60% off. Different items offering a wide range of products for diverse users are displayed. Even though these deals technically weren’t available on Black Friday/Cyber Monday, they are current and are worth an honorable mention.



Courtesy of Google



Courtesy of Google

**12 DAYS
OF DEALS**
now through 12/17
amazon

Courtesy of Google

What's New on Netflix: "Anthony Bourdain Parts Unknown"

SARA BARD
STAFF WRITER

"Rome is a city where you find the most extraordinary of pleasures in the most ordinary things," said Bourdain while enjoying a homemade pasta in a little hidden restaurant in Rome.

For a college student, traveling can be a challenging venture. But thanks to Anthony Bourdain's "Parts Unknown," in between studies, students can get a glimpse of the culture, food and experiences that various parts of the world have to offer. If you've ever wanted to go to France, Spain, or even Cuba, Anthony gives you an

inside look into the lives of the people living there.

Anthony Bourdain is not only a television personality, but also an American chef and author. In his television series, Anthony takes viewers off the comfort of their couches, and into countries and cities around the world. His show not only is comprised of intriguing storytelling, but also beautiful traditional music and mouthwatering scenes of food he enjoys with locals who treat him to authentic homemade meals. In his latest episode, he visits Rome, Italy.

On his trip to Italy, Anthony

Bourdain meets with actress Asia Argento and filmmaker Abel Ferrara to help him get an insider's tour of the many unique sites in Rome. This episode is filled with scenes showing the various activities that occur in Rome such as boxing matches and people enjoying evenings with family and friends while speaking the very romantic language of Italian.

Anthony also visits local supermarkets and farmer's markets to help prepare a traditional Italian meal with his local friends. During his meal with a local family, he tries the dishes of rigatoni, tripe and ragout which are popular Ro-

man meals.

Not only can you experience the food and culture, but also the history of each city and country that Anthony Bourdain travels to. In this episode, he explains the history of Rome under Benito Mussolini's rule and the experiences the people faced under his Fascism.

Bourdain also addresses the unique architecture of Rome and where the origins of the buildings came from. He visits many of the famous spots such as the EUR that were built during Mussolini's rule.

Bourdain's experience in Rome is just one of the various trips that

he takes in exploring cultures, histories and cuisines. The eight seasons offered on Netflix will make you feel like you took various trips around the world from the comfort of your home.

Anthony Bourdain's trip to Rome was very educational and will make you want to travel to experience this on your own. Even if you find yourself in Rome, Bourdain has some small advice. "You visit Rome slowly. You sit, you stroll, you take it slow and as it comes. You don't go to see stuff, you let it slip up on you -- one pizza, one fountain, one amazing structure at a time."

