

YO MAGAZINE



Lose Yourself, Find Yourself
How Youngstown Led People To Self-Discovery

Experience A Rich History
Conserving Our Native American
Gems

Explore The Issues
From Local To International

Learn Through The Arts
The Importance Of The Theatre, Art and
Music Scenes

Cover Photo: Matt Parrish



SPRING 2019

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An eccentric young woman and her camper versus the world: a journey that sends a positive message to other women who aspire to travel solo.

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Dear Readers,

This section is dedicated to the contributors of YO Magazine, who dedicated their time for no pay. Their backgrounds and majors are various, but all involved had a similar goal of sharing personal experiences and the experiences of others to promote different topics and viewpoints pertaining to Youngstown.

Journey through the magazine with the writers as your tour guides. Allow them to clear the path for better understanding the city's past and present. Maneuver through the pages, and find tales of people, who once called Youngstown home, on their own journey outside city limits. Intently observe issues regarding race, gender and nearly unbreakable habits. Push through until the end to find celebration and camaraderie.

When your journey is through, we hope the experience led you to ponder and grow. And hopefully, you will want to take this journey again soon!

-Frances Clause/John Stran



By J. Harvard Feldhouse

THE CURRENT CAMPER LIFE OF WHITNEY TRESSEL

By Marah Morrison

Seasoned freelance photographer, photo editor and world traveler Whitney Tressel adopted the camper life May 1, 2017. Tressel bought a 1985 Toyota Dolphin camper and was prepped on the road two weeks later, by May 15.

She named her camper Penny Lane, after the real Pennie Lane Trumbull, personified by Kate Hudson in the movie “Almost Famous.”

“I like to think this Penny Lane, in vehicle form, is a symbol of strong, independent women believing in and following what they love,” Whitney Tressel said.



Photo Courtesy of Whitney Tressel



Whitney Tressel & Her Motivation

Whitney Tressel said the choice of camper itself was not the inspiration, but more the mode of travel, for a different lifestyle. She said logistically, she has been traveling so much, it made sense for her to live in the vehicle that transports her to do her work.

Also, Whitney Tressel said she wants her journey to deliver a positive message to young women who want to travel solo.

“I sometimes miss having a home base not on wheels,” Whitney Tressel said. “But for the message I’m trying to send and the lifestyle I currently want to lead, a camper is a perfect choice.”

Whitney Tressel is intentionally not working as much right now because she is hoping to let some personal projects of hers bud. However, she still consistently works for Google, National Geographic Student Expeditions and Budget Travel.

Whitney Tressel’s external work consists of her photographic work — and work she does for a living — which include Instagram stories for WeWork, videos for Budget Travel and Samsung, and live broadcasts for Zagat and Google. However, her internal work is work that benefits her life in positive ways such as having a morning meditation, reading books by heroes and mentors and leaving space for ideas and thoughts.

When it comes to her photography, video and writing business, Whitney Tressel hopes to work as she has been, but be brave enough to pursue personal projects and welcome transitions in her work. She said this happens with time, care and lots of reflection, but she will always be photographing.

Whitney Tressel said she is also working with WeWork, a new client that highlights her freelance camper life via Instagram

stories she sends them from various destinations. She also believes finding and maintaining work is more difficult when you are based in one place.

Whitney Tressel said her friends and

her family will be the first to tell someone she is a poor communicator. She said she truly tries to stay in contact, but she is also an advocate for keeping present in the moment, which often doesn’t include a cell phone or email inbox.

“They understand, but nonetheless I’m trying to improve,” Whitney Tressel said.

Whitney Tressel said both her mother, Carol Zabel, and her father, Jim Tressel, former Ohio State University and YSU head coach, and current president of YSU, are supportive of her camper adventures, and she cannot say they would have been the ones to think up such an idea for her. However, her parents know Whitney Tressel is a willful, adult woman and that she is

Continued on next page

A SPIRITUAL ASPECT

Whitney Tressel said she believes she is currently where she needs to be in life. She is happy she decided to make this jump. While at a yoga session in Portland, Oregon, Whitney Tressel said the instructor taught her a message which resonated with her road life. It was about how occurrences in life, both the good and the bad, do not happen “to you” but rather “for you.”

“This changed the game,” Whitney Tressel said. “Every challenge, and every celebration is not something that I achieved or am shamed by, but it’s for use.”

While on her camper travels, Whitney Tressel said the day after this session, she fell off a bike pretty hard, lost her wallet in the fall and then stalled out in the camper when she opted for driving instead of biking.

Whitney Tressel said she thinks the universe challenges people, does things for them to reflect on and use, and squashing the mentality that things happening to people has led to a more blissful experience of life in general.

going to do what she’s going to do regardless of anyone’s approval.

Jim Tressel said his daughter decided — rather than camping in New York City and flying everywhere — she just camps wherever she camps, flies to where she needs to go, and goes back to her camper and goes on to the next thing.

“With social media the way it is, she can do both of her passions of her artistic side and also her what will help the world side,” Jim Tressel said. “She’s a brave young lady with a lot of passion to be really good at her craft.”

Jim Tressel said his daughter wants to make a difference in other ways, and so she has a real desire to see everything in this country and a lot of things in the world.

At first Whitney’s mother had a lot of questions and concerns, also a lot of worry about what this looks like and how anybody would do this.

“I was pretty nervous, but I really trust Whitney,” Zabel said. “She’s really smart, intelligent, not spontaneous and thinks things through.”

Zabel said Whitney Tressel did a lot of soul searching even before she brought the camping adventure up. She said if people ever have children, they know they love them and worry about them from the moment their born and forever.

“It doesn’t go away, just because you guys become adults or that you’re on your own and you’re able to make your own decisions,” Zabel said. “Mothers and fathers continually think about your life choices, and where will it take you, and if you’re going to be all right.”

Zabel said at this point, she’s comfortable with what her daughter is doing, and she’s shown a lot of confidence, made great decisions. It’s a way of life.

“It’s a lifestyle, it’s not camping anymore,” Zabel said. “You wake up in the morning and you decide what does my day look like, where am I going to work, where

am I going to sleep tonight, where am I going to eat and how do I need to dress.”

Zabel said this lifestyle is different from the average person’s usual day. She said it goes right down to the basic needs and the safety needs of an individual.

Whitney Tressel said at the end of the day, her family knows how smart she is on the road, and how she has become an adversity expert. She said her sister and her brother are supportive as well, and she only hopes she can reciprocate one day for them.

“My motivation to live on the road is to be a symbol to young women that they too can be wild and free,” Whitney Tressel said. “They too can celebrate choice and responsibility and take ownership in the way they contribute to the world.”

Whitney Tressel said she hopes to be more involved, not only in media and the travel industry, but also on the ground as a daily messenger of kindness, adventure, open-mindedness and hope. She also said she thinks it is important for women and girls to feel comfortable out and about in their country, just as most men are.

“I believe that all people are mostly good, and part of the reason I’m out here is to prove that to myself — practicing what I preach,” Whitney Tressel said.

Whitney Tressel said this new adventure is good for her as an unrelenting New Yorker and an industrious Ohioan combination.

Whitney Tressel’s history of work and feedback on her work include working in seven countries so far, teaching for National Geographic Student Expeditions, over the past five summers, which is half the amount of years this arm of National Geographic Expeditions has even existed.

In 2016, her best “Coast-to-Coast by Word of Mouth” project was a finalist for Min Magazine/Folio Mag’s “Best of the Web” Awards for “Best Multi-Media Feature.” This was a project in which Tressel drove,

“I believe that all people are mostly good, and part of the reason I’m out here is to prove that to myself — practicing what I preach.”

-Whitney Tressel

solo (not in a camper), from Los Angeles to Charleston solely off the in-person word-of-mouth recommendations on where to eat and play, things to do and see. In this experience, Tressel was basically traveling blindly, all according to others. She said it was “wild.”

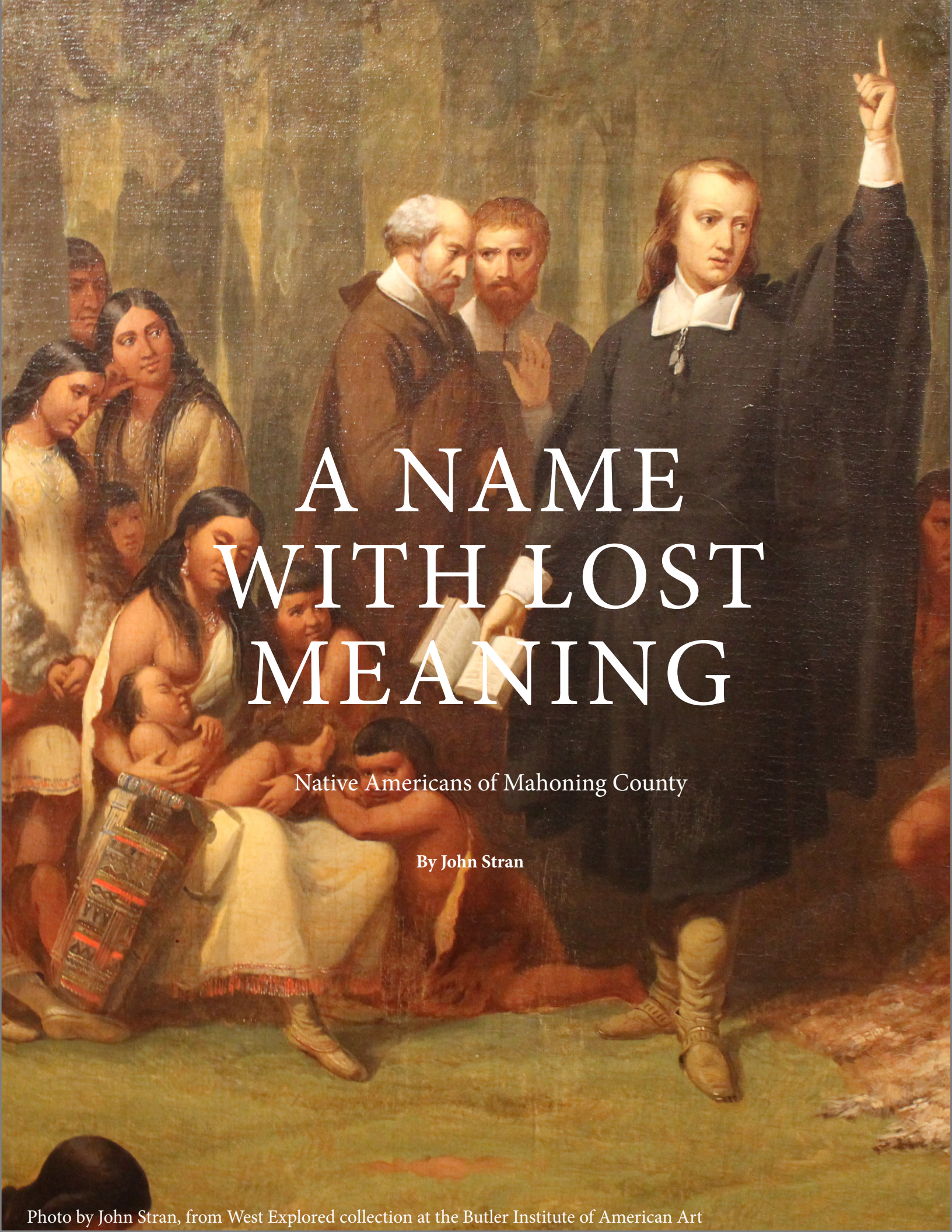
Whitney Tressel didn’t win, but she was a finalist. *Min Magazine* has since merged with *Folio Mag*, and she they still do these awards.

Whitney Tressel was one of the producers for “Food Tripping Live,” a project with the Zagat/Google team that was nominated for the 2017 Webby Award for “Best Social Video Series” when the team live broadcast the best of the food culture, such as restaurants, bars and farms, from 50 states over 50 days last summer.

Whitney Tressel was also interviewed by *Business Insider* in 2015: “A travel photographer reveals how to get the best photos while traveling,” which she said was “pretty fun.”

To keep up to date with Whitney Tressel and her adventures, follow her on Instagram @whitneytravels.





A NAME WITH LOST MEANING

Native Americans of Mahoning County

By John Stran

A section of Wick Avenue divides two art galleries — The Butler Institute of American Art and the John J. McDonough Museum of Art.

In the front lawn of the Butler, a sculpture that appears to have turned aged-copper green, crouches and observes traffic, with his hand just over eye view, intently watching how Youngstown State University has changed around him for the last 60 years. The statue is of a Native American man.

Pat McCormick, registrar for the Butler, said the sculpture was made by John Massey Rhind and has several replicas placed throughout the United States.

The Butler is known for being the first museum dedicated to exclusively collecting American Art, so a Native American collection within the museum, along with the statue, may have been an obvious guess. The collection is called the West Explored.

An intense red covers the walls where the collection is stored, a possible symbol of the blood shed by many a tribesperson, as they journeyed through the western United States and beyond.

McCormick said the earliest piece in this collection was a Joseph Sharp painting of someone from the Oglala Sioux tribe, which was purchased by founder Joseph G. Butler Jr. in the latter half of 1895.

McCormick said Joseph Sharp was a Cincinnati native who was intent on documenting the “vanishing life of Native Americans.” This is why McCormick feels it is important to display the collection: to show what has been lost.

These pieces are not of Native Americans from the Mahoning County, but there are artifacts and tales that depict the culture once roaming and claiming this county. And there are people who prove the culture is still alive today.

A Tribe of 19

Katie Marlow walks through one of several gymnasium type rooms in the Beeghly Center at YSU. As she walks, she talks about her major, exercise science, and how frustrated she is that her field of study is underfunded on campus.

It is likely she shares her ambivalence toward the major with other students. What Marlow may not share with other students in her major is nationality.

Marlow is of Native American decent. She was just one of 19 students enrolled at YSU in the spring 2019 semester who

share the culture. As the college expands its admission pool to international students, minority cultures such as Native American, may be at risk of decreasing even further.

Marlow said she is not surprised by the low number of Native American students but feels there may be a bit more than the 19; they just may identify as one of their other nationalities.

Marlow was adopted by a non-Native American family due to her biological parents’ unmanageable drug habits, which eventually killed her biological mother; drug addiction within Native American communities could fill an entirely different article.

Although she was not raised in one of these communities, Marlow was driven to learn more about a specific Native American culture. She decided on the Navajo.

She took a trip to the Southwestern part of the United States, where she immersed herself in Navajo culture by volunteering at a reservation, rebuilding homes and helping to repair a school.

According to the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Indian Affairs agency, there are roughly 326 “Indian land areas in the U.S. administered as federal Indian reservations,” none of which are in Ohio.

In 2016, there was a push from a Shawnee tribe in Oklahoma to obtain land in Lewistown, Ohio, which the tribe said still belongs to them. They were forced to leave this land in the 1830s after president Andrew Jackson passed the Indian Removal Act. Their attempt to retrieve the land was reported on by the Al-Jazeera news outlet; since the story’s release, no information has been released on the success of their efforts.

There are still tribes in Ohio, including the Chaliawa and the Munsee Delaware Indian nations, but neither reside in Mahoning County.

Stories Once Told

What mainly constitutes Native culture in the county today are stories kept of the time Iroquois and Shawnee tribes claimed Mahoning and landmarks that have amassed tales of being a gathering place for different tribes. One of these landmarks is Council Rock.

Council Rock sits at the peak of a hill in Lincoln Park on Youngstown’s east side. Its backdrop is a strip of woods with a few homes around it that appear to have been around as long as this rock has.

Historian Ted Heineman described the

legend as it has been written in different history books, including one by J.G. Butler Jr.

He said around 1755, members from different tribes including Seneca, Shawnee, Mingo and Delaware rallied at Council Rock after battling a British army and declaring victory.

During this celebration around the boulder that Heineman described as the size of a small automobile, the weather took a turn for the worse.

“The celebration feast had just begun when a violent windstorm suddenly descended on the assemblage; trees were blown over and crashed down on the tepees, killing squaws and children,” Heineman said. “In the middle of the storm, one single flash of lightning struck, splitting the great boulder where Indian tribes had gathered.”

In J.G. Butler’s book, “History of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley,” he wrote that the valley was once claimed by the Iroquois. He described these Iroquois as a crafty tribe who often dominated in battle and were feared by many of the other tribes.

Native Communities Today

McCormick said Joseph Sharp’s purpose when creating his pieces was to display the vanishing life of Native Americans. That was in the late 1800s.

Since then, the presence of the culture has vanished immensely, but thanks to people like Marlow, there is no eliminating it.

The tribes and parcels of land may be smaller, but this may be because some are stepping outside their reservations and pursuing life beyond what they have been constrained to.

Many of the tribes that are present today are relentless in telling the stories of their ancestors. This, along with the interest of historians and preservationists, means the history of Native Americans will grow with their present.

PRESERVING AND LEARNING:



How YSU Students are Helping the Valley to Conserve Its History

By Kelly Baer

It's a warm afternoon in Youngstown. Both the university campus and the city are buzzing with activity. Outside, students and faculty are enjoying the sunshine and hurrying from one class to the next.

But just off campus at the Mahoning Valley Historical Society [MVHS], a group of YSU students sit around a table inspecting a vast and diverse collection of Native American artifacts.

Some are members of the Anthropology Colloquium at the university; others are simply students who are majoring in anthropology. They volunteer at the MVHS a few days each week to help type and catalog the Calvin Collection.

None of these students are required to come to the group meetings to work, but their dedication to the project and desire to learn keep them coming back each week for more.

The Calvin Project centers around the Calvin Collection, an assortment of well over 10,000 Native American artifacts collected over many years by Lynn C. Calvin.

Calvin worked for the Ohio Water Service, which is now known as Aqua Ohio.

"His interest really spanned his whole lifetime," said Jessica D. Trickett, the Anne Kilcawley Christman Memorial Collections Manager at the MVHS.

The collection, which was donated in 1989, was part of a lifelong fascination with Native American history and culture that was instilled in Calvin from when he was a child.

Calvin grew up in Beaver Township and traveled around Mahoning County and the surrounding valley for most of his life. While working for the Ohio Water Service, Calvin occasionally found Native American spear points, tools and other artifacts.

The Calvin Collection is the culmination of decades of searching and amateur archaeology. The students have been working here since the beginning of the Fall 2018 semester, and it has become the favorite project of Trickett and the volunteers that spend their hours here every week.

Trickett started as an intern for the MVHS in 1998 and has over 20 years of experience. She put the students in contact

with the Historical Society and oversees the volunteers and their work on the project. Trickett works alongside the volunteers and professors from the university typing, cataloging and labeling the artifacts.

The group uses extensive curation sheets to record measurements, color, weight and other general information about each piece. According to Trickett, this is the first group of volunteers to work so extensively on the Calvin Project but not the first YSU students to take a crack at the collection.

"In the summer of 1991, there was a YSU student working here as an intern. She did most of the sorting of pieces by type. There was also another student a few years later who was volunteering here. He finished the sorting," she said.

So far, the current team of students has cataloged over 1000 artifacts. Trickett has been working closely with volunteer and student Esther Westfall to digitize the results of the cataloging process.

Both Trickett and Westfall work hard to enter all of the measurements and information on the curation sheets into a

collections management system known as PastPerfect. PastPerfect is a standardized database used by museums both around the United States and around the world.

Westfall spends four hours every Wednesday doing curation, data entry and photographing artifacts. This is on top of schoolwork, going to class and spending time with her family. She plans to continue volunteering at MVHS this summer and next fall.

"I feel like I'm gaining a lot of experience because I want to work in a museum one day," Westfall said. "This is an amazing project, and it's going to take a while. The project is so extensive; it will continue long after I graduate. I cannot wait to see it all done and recorded."

Westfall is planning to graduate at the end of the Fall 2019 semester. Thankfully, there is no shortage of volunteers at the Historical Society, and one very eager and proud volunteer is Sierra Braddy. Braddy is

a senior at Youngstown State University and dedicates two hours each week to typing and cataloging artifacts for the project. She has been working hard this year to graduate this May, but she also plans to volunteer this summer with Westfall and Trickett.

"Honestly, it's a great experience for the students," Braddy said. "And it's good exposure for both the university and the Mahoning Valley Historical Society."

"I think it's great for anyone in anthropology, especially archaeology, to get this experience. It's given me a lot of insight into what I can do with my major and my education," she added.

Braddy, like many other members of the student volunteers, plans to continue with grad school. She will be spending the next two years in France getting experience in the teaching field and scouting out schools to attend.

I have even had the honor of working with these amazing people. By the end of this semester, I will have typed and labeled over 100 Native American spear points. The volunteers here will have typed and labeled over 1200 as a collective.

The work that is being done at the MVHS is important to preserving the history of the Valley. The Calvin Collection is just one of many pieces to the puzzle that is the

Valley's past. Lynn C. Calvin most definitely left behind a legacy, and the volunteers at MVHS are seeing that legacy through.

I feel privileged to be able to work with such great people on such an amazing project. My only wish is that I could have met Calvin himself. I would have thanked him for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that he has provided so many students here at Youngstown State University and to the employees and volunteers of the MVHS.

The interest that was sparked in him at such a young age has sparked a passion for this work and these artifacts in so many students. It has reminded of what made me and so many others decide to major in anthropology in the first place: curiosity, a love of learning, and a desire to know the unknown.



A LOOK AT PUERTO RICO'S COLONIAL STATUS

By Carolyn Carradero

Puerto Rico is the vacation spot for many Americans — but little do they know about its history.

As history records, Christopher Columbus claimed Puerto Rico as a Spanish colony in 1493, and in the process, he killed all the natives and stole the land's gold.

Fast forward 400 years to the 1898 Spanish-American War, otherwise known as the aftermath of the explosion of the USS Maine in Cuba — the United States won Oct. 18, and as a result, Philippines was surrendered for \$20 million, while Puerto Rico and Guam were also “conceded.”

In 1900 came the Foraker Act, which established a local government. In 1917, the Jones Act gave Puerto Ricans American citizenship. In 1952, Puerto Ricans were finally able to vote to choose their own government.

But as of 2019, we still cannot vote for the U.S. president while living on the island. And while we can vote for our local government and legislation, federal laws affect us too — taxation without representation if you will — they can override our own laws and we have little say in the matter.

Growing up in a colonized country means having your own rich culture affected by the colonizing nation. Throughout the years, we have lost a significant number of traditions due to the modern Americanized culture that has infiltrated us.

To better understand the colonial situation in Puerto Rico, I interviewed Luis López Rojas (LLR), a humanities professor at the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao (UPRH), and JPSA, a current UPRH social sciences student who would like to remain anonymous.

What do you know about colonialism?

LLR: It's the submission of a country whose source of power is not itself. Colonialism consists of the dominion of a country over another.

JPSA: It's a crime — a relation of exploitation in which the metropolis uses the resources of the colony to its benefit; the colony does not have sovereignty.

What are some nonpolitical consequences of colonialism that are not immediately obvious?

LLR: How people perceive the world and its history from a perspective imposed by power. This means they see reality from the point of view of the person that dominates it. For example, in the beauty concept, white is accepted as pretty while black and its aesthetics are not.

JPSA: The cost of living is much more expensive since we cannot negotiate with other countries, then a dependency for the metropolis is created. We have gotten attached to the colonial life, and it is difficult to picture ourselves in a different way.

What is the other face of colonialism? What benefits has it had — if any — in your opinion?

LLR: It has had benefits, yes, for the master, for the colonizer because their objective is to create an imbalanced dynamic to obtain earnings, but this is done through exploitation. Colonialism only benefits one side.

JPSA: While we (P.R.) are a colony there is no need to govern, to make difficult decisions, to learn how to manage a country or do public relations and diplomacy. Also, colonialism has aided in Puerto Rico's rapid industrialization. We could argue that it benefited both sides because there was cheap labor, tax exemptions and Puerto Ricans had jobs in the industry.

How has it affected your daily life?

LLR: In the day-to-day, every time I go out to do shopping, I'm benefiting the colonizer. This is because every product comes from them — it's a closed market. Besides, it's dictated by law that all the merchandise that arrives in P.R. must arrive in U.S. ships, which only raises prices to benefit the colonizer.

JPSA: There is climate of uncertainty; people do not know if they're staying in P.R. or leaving to the U.S. to look for a better life. Something we do know is that in the next 10 years, things will only get worse, mainly because unemployment is high.

Do you think people in P.R. are aware of the political situation and they feel comfortable talking about it?

LLR: The people of P.R. are not aware of the unequal relation. This has a lot to do with the education system, since it is designed to favor the U.S. This prevents the citizens from being aware of the unequal relationship.

JPSA: They could be aware of the political situation but are not aware of the consequences that this presents. I could argue that they do not like it, but no one likes to admit that they live in mediocrity. We avoid the topic as much as we can to not have to deal with reality. We are experts in escaping reality to have a good time. Another important thing to put into perspective is the migration of Puerto Ricans to the mainland. Throughout the years, we have been subjected to tales of the so-called

“American Dream.” We grew up hearing how things were better in the U.S. and how lucky we were to have them “backing us up.” Because of this propaganda, a lot of Puerto Ricans have migrated to the U.S. throughout the decades.

The “Nuyorican” diaspora is one that’s well known, but Youngstown also has had a migration wave that became noticeable in the 1950s, primarily in order to work in the steel industry, which had a boom and needed employees. There are currently 7,136 Puerto Ricans in Youngstown, which accounts for 60% of the Latino Community here.

Personal Transition from Puerto Rico

In my case, I came to Youngstown from Puerto Rico in 2017 to study, and I’m currently working on a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering. It has had its fair share of challenges, starting with the language.

P.R.’s official language is Spanish, and only about 20% in the island speak English. Lucky for me, I was exposed to a lot of English from a young age in both movies and music, as well as from my dad who was born in New York, which gave me an advantage when I had to move to Youngstown. This is not the case with everyone.

Another challenge is the weather. Cold weather to us Puerto Ricans is in the low 70s, so Ohio’s freezing winter is definitely hard to bear. And finally, the racism.

It could come as a surprise, but it is an issue. Being Latina means I have two last names, an accent and dark(er) skin, but I still am an American citizen. A lot of Americans are unaware of this fact, and we are often cataloged, very crudely, as Mexicans.

As time passed, it became clear that Americans were not like Puerto Ricans in any sense.

Yesarily Sánchez Rivera, a fellow YSU student, also made the transition from Puerto Rico to the United States.

“My parents got divorced when I was 8 years old, and my mom came to live [in the U.S.] with my grandfather,” Rivera said.

I speculated that her grandfather was one of the many that came in the ’50s looking for a better life.

Being in Youngstown since a young age, I wanted to know how it affected her and if she liked it.

“I would have been happier in Puerto Rico because I would have had more friends,”

Rivera said. “Here, I feel alone and since it’s hard to make friends I feel like an outcast. It’s too quiet in here, I don’t like it. In Puerto Rico, there’s always things to do.”

I understood this because I have felt the same, mostly because I have been subject of microaggressions.

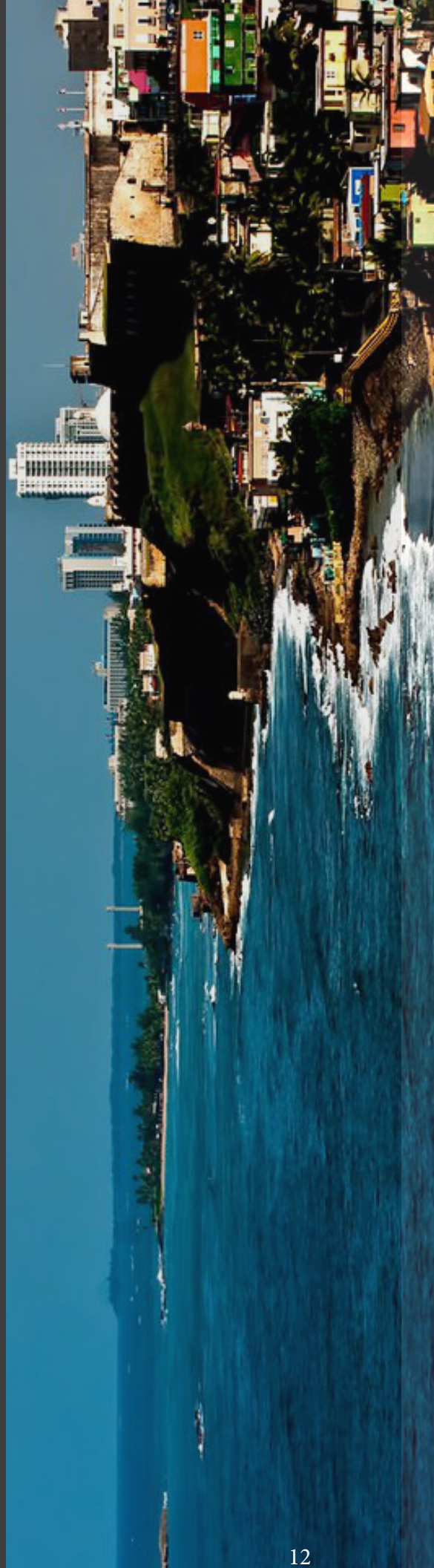
I have been asked for a passport or visa in situations where a license is enough. I have had to constantly tell people about P.R.’s status, thus explaining I’m not an illegal immigrant, and I was even asked to shut up in a public place while speaking Spanish.


While I believe we have adapted for the sake of survival, I do not believe our cultures are exactly suited for each other. I normally don’t believe in cultural incompatibility, but I do think that for proper migration, the place we migrate to has to be accepting of anyone that comes to live in the land.

Trust me when I say that it is horrible to feel like an unwelcome foreigner.

I recently traveled to Iceland where I met people who were more informed about P.R. history and status than many Americans. They knew where Puerto Rico was, and were able to speak to me in Spanish, something that I haven’t come across in my two years in the U.S.

I have made it my mission to inform people about P.R. as best as I can. I’m trying to make a difference and I’m trying to make us known because it is inconceivable that even Europeans know about P.R. and its status, while the people whose ancestors colonized our island don’t.





SPONTANEOUS DECISIONS AND FINDING YOURSELF

By Frances Clause

Sketches by Miguel Angel Reyes



By Claudia Gage

When Sebastian Calvin took the stage at the DeYor Performing Arts Center, the audience fell silent as his mellifluous flute-playing filled the hall.

With the accompaniment of the 2015 Youngstown Symphony Youth Orchestra behind him and his father watching, the final note of his senior solo would lead him to a future in music.

Performing was Calvin's obvious choice. Growing up in North Lima, Ohio, he fell in love with the flute while listening to NPR with his father.

"I heard Joshua Smith play flute in New World Symphony, and I wanted to impact someone's life the way he did mine," he said.

From his decision to pursue the woodwind in grade school to the standing ovation he received after his senior solo, Calvin knew music was the path for him.

Or so he thought.

"It was my senior year of high school that my dad was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer," he said. "I went to YSU because I wanted to be close to him."

But his father died May 18 of 2015, a week before Calvin graduated South Range High School. Despite this, his audition for the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University was successful, and the flute studio became his new home for the fall semester.

And he thrived. As a freshman, Calvin was already third chair flutist in YSU's top wind ensemble. He traveled to New York City November 2015 with the instrumental group to perform at Carnegie Hall. Every musician's dream had been accomplished by him at just 18-years-old.

However, it was a different story underneath his raw talent and happy demeanor.

"I flunked classes," he said. "Due to depression, I would wake up at 5 p.m. and be up all night and drive around the city [of Youngstown], only eating Pop-Tarts and popcorn."

He was stuck in a cycle: wake up late, drive aimlessly, crawl back into bed when the sun was just rising.

After struggling through the 2016 spring semester to preserve his love for flute, Calvin dropped out when he realized that same love wasn't coming back. He decided to work at a nursing home, saving money to travel.

"I never really lived anywhere but the farm," he said. "Growing up there, you don't really have time to go on vacation."

So when the opportunity to fly out to Los Angeles struck him like the strong chords

he had played throughout his life, he took it.

The Journey He Didn't Expect

Calvin had been using Grindr, the world's largest online dating application geared toward gay, bi, trans and queer people, according to the app's site. Just like a user would "swipe right" on Tinder to show interest in another user, someone from California "woofed" Calvin on Grindr.

"We started talking for a couple of months, and he said I should come out to Los Angeles to meet him," he said.

Calvin was convinced immediately. Because of his father's death, him and his mother were not getting along, and he had saved up money he earned from the nursing home to travel.

Feeling like he should be exploring the world after years on the farm, Calvin bought a plane ticket and was off to see what Los Angeles had to offer.

"I was only supposed to stay [in Los Angeles] for three weeks," he said. "By the beginning of the third week, I didn't want to leave."

Calvin was offered a guest bedroom by the Grindr user, and they had already worked out a rental agreement. His mind was set: like the flute studio and the farm, he would make a home out of Los Angeles.

"I called my mom and told her I was coming home for her birthday, but then I would be moving out to California permanently," he said.

When he returned home for that week, Calvin packed half of his belongings in a backpack and two suitcases, more excited than solemn.

"I thought to myself, 'Am I making the right decision?' But by the third day I was back home, I was already getting depressed again," he said. "Ohio wasn't the place for me."

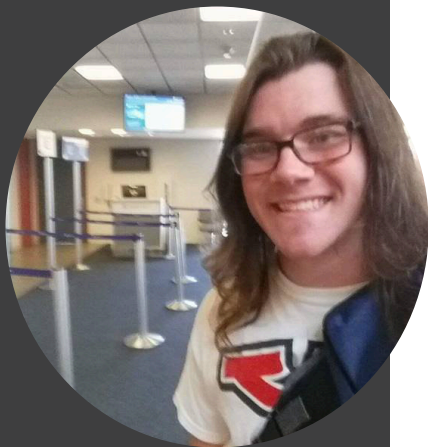
Unsure when he would return, Calvin went on coffee runs and lunches with friends before leaving for Los Angeles again.

A Man of Many Titles

Calvin found himself back in Westwood, a neighborhood encompassing the UCLA campus and a historic commercial district with restaurants and shops.

With the plane tickets eating through all his money, he decided to explore Indeed.com to come up with rent.

Continued on next page



With the plane tickets eating through all his money, he decided to explore Indeed.com to come up with rent.

“By this time, I didn’t have much on my resume besides farm work, the fact I was an Eagle Scout, my music credentials and the short time I worked at the nursing home,” he said.

Calvin began working at a grocery store near UCLA’s campus but was soon intrigued by The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles after hearing discussions about upcoming auditions.

“I wasn’t gonna audition because I was so sick of music by that point,” he said.

However, after giving the group some thought, he realized this would be a good opportunity to plug himself into Los Angeles society.

With vocal auditions, a barbershop quartet at YSU and an Italian aria under his belt, Calvin walked into his chorus audition and won a spot, effortlessly.

“Now, I’ve been in the chorus one-and-a-half years and have gotten to sing with Alan Cumming for my first show and performed at the Walt Disney Concert Hall,” he said.

Calvin even performed with the chorus on America’s Got Talent, and through its many members, he not only plugged himself into Los Angeles society but opened himself to endless opportunities.

“After you go through everything LA puts you through, you find the love,” he said. “Everyone out here is hustling and trying to make their dreams come to fruition.”

Go-go dancer, aerialist, candy shop employee, pet shop employee, door man, landscaper, personal assistant, front desk assistant, sketch model — these are some of the many titles held by Calvin, and he takes pride in them.

But Calvin’s most recent transformation was becoming Finnxdaniels.

This username, appearing on Twitter and Instagram, is how Calvin spreads his name in the porn industry.

Finding Himself

“This all started when I met Jack Dyer on Scruff or Tinder, and when I met up with him, he asked me if I wanted to do porn,” he said. “Jack said he’d introduce me to a director, and I would be a big hit if I wanted to be.”

Dyer, a professional porn actor, said he came up with Calvin’s username and was his partner in his first scene in November 2018.

Calvin said Dyer was upfront about everything — from the glamorous to the not-so-

glamorous aspects of the industry.

“It wasn’t shady. [Dyer] told me what to look out for and if I had any questions, to reach out to him,” he said. “We have really good chemistry when we shoot scenes.”

This was easy money for Calvin, earning \$500 in just one hour. He could safely say doing these scenes was the first time he was able to save money in Los Angeles.

Although he is an open book about many aspects of his life, Calvin has only told six people about this new side hustle.

“The misconception people have about porn is that those in the industry are always looking to have sex,” he said. “Yes, we’re selling a fantasy, but it is work; it’s acting.”

On top of this, Calvin said porn is also not really something he wants to do as often because of the energy it requires.

“Advice someone gave me was that I shouldn’t take jobs that distract me too much from my main goal,” he said.

Calvin has set his current goal on performing in a circus one day. With more dedication to aerial silks, this goal will be another one to add to his list of accomplishments.

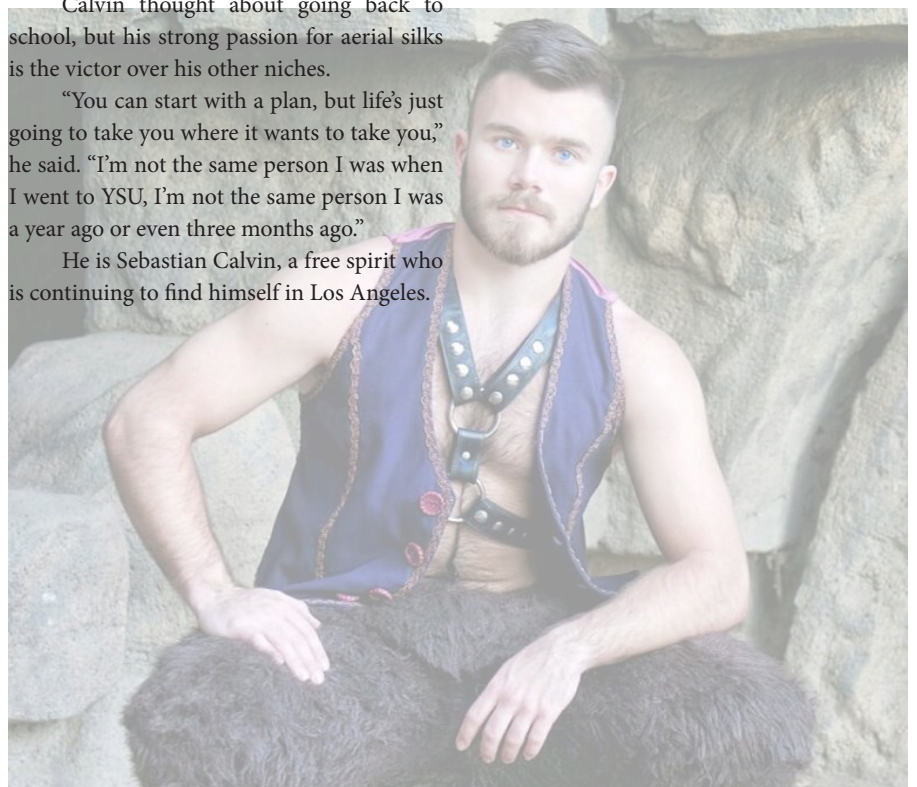
He takes pride in this performance art, where he executes aerial acrobatics while hanging from a fabric, gracefully.

“I don’t want to put too much effort into something that isn’t circus now,” he said, referring to his porn shoots and other jobs. “I’m in a moment of transition, and I’m still trying to figure out all I want to do.”

Calvin thought about going back to school, but his strong passion for aerial silks is the victor over his other niches.

“You can start with a plan, but life’s just going to take you where it wants to take you,” he said. “I’m not the same person I was when I went to YSU, I’m not the same person I was a year ago or even three months ago.”

He is Sebastian Calvin, a free spirit who is continuing to find himself in Los Angeles.



“
You can start with a plan, but life’s just going to take you where it wants to take you.”

By Ryan Stanford





How to Make it In America: Worst Take with Quincy Carrier

By Chris McBride

Quincy Carrier, a Youngstown State University graduate, and former actor turned YouTube sports commentator, wanted to do more than talk about this dream. He wanted to speak it into existence.

For Carrier his dream of being an actor traces all the way back to his time at Maple Heights High School in Cleveland.

Initially the only thing on his mind was securing a spot on the school's baseball team — a short-lived venture that was derailed before it could begin due to poor academics intruding on that idea.

"When I was 16 years old, I had let my GPA slip below a 1.7 which made me ineligible for baseball that spring," he said. With nothing but a lot of sitting around to look forward to and plenty of time on his hands, Carrier was presented with an opportunity.

A little encouragement from a friend led Carrier to the Maple Heights Auditorium.

His friend was, at the time, working on painting sets for an upcoming play and wanted Carrier to sit in on rehearsals to watch.

"My friend Savon Gibson was writing and directing the school play that semester," Carrier said, though he wasn't looking to recite lines in the spotlight just yet.

"I had thought of theatre at that point

as just Shakespeare and tights. I wanted to get involved but was timid to," he said.

What wasn't lost in his skepticism, though, was his excitement from just watching the actors perform. "It made me want to act," Carrier said.

Then out of nowhere as Carrier described, the director [Gibson] halted the rehearsal. He scanned the auditorium in search of an actor missing for a particular scene. Eventually his eyes settled on Carrier.

"Savon looked at me and said, 'Hey can you read for this scene?' I jumped out of my seat and said yes, seconds before someone else begged to do it," Carrier said, adding that he beat another eager audience member to the opportunity.

What stuck with Carrier about the play was the deep racial connotations behind Gibson's play as a part-black, part-Asian man himself.

"It was a about what high school is really like for inner city black youth. It had scenes about teen pregnancy, jail, gang violence and so many more of the serious real issues black inner city kids deal with," Carrier said.

With the script in hand, Carrier took the opportunity from there.

"I remember the emotions shooting out of me like Mentos in Pepsi. That's when I caught the acting bug," he described, carrying that emotion all the way to Youngstown.

A Man, a Four-Year Plan

In four years studying Telecommunications at Youngstown State University and featuring in several plays, Carrier methodically planned his future move.

"Everything was calculated," Carrier said. He'd spend countless hours mapping out the details down to the best month to go about apartment hunting in Los Angeles.

He did everything from building his credit score to saving more than 80 percent of his paychecks, always armed with his goals in mind.

'No More Parties in Cleveland'

After graduating in 2017, Carrier stuffed his life into a low mileage '07 Ford Focus and headed toward his ambition — a move that was met with support from Carrier's father despite his slight reserves about his son living on his own in such a cutthroat industry.

"My dad had always been supportive of me, so was my mom before she passed

in 2015 of my junior year of college,” said Carrier. “He’s scared I moved out here, and as a parent, I see how he sees it though he never discouraged me.”

Even the drive was planned, as it gave Carrier the time he needed to reflect.

“I thought it’d be cool to make it a road trip because I haven’t gotten to see a lot of stuff in the states,” he said adding, “I drove to Chicago, I went to visit my grandma in Las Vegas and hung out. It was about having time to decompress and get my mind right.”

He described some of his memories of the drive. “Iowa was just flat and empty, which was nice so I got a lot driving done without having to stop for gas,” Carrier said. “Colorado, on the other hand, was like driving through a highway made of just Cedar Point roller coasters which was terrifying and wasted a ton of gas.”

Not everything stuck to the script for Carrier, as he also shared some of his not-so-good moments on the road.

“I locked myself outta the car three times,” he recalled. “The most memorable though was in Utah because this area of Utah didn’t have AAA.”

“As a black man, in an area seemingly absent of black people, the ideal of calling the cops to help me break into my car didn’t seem like a great option,” Carrie says.

Over 2,000 miles, sometimes eight hours of driving squeezed into a day and a few nights in motels led to him finally touching down in LA.

A feat a few years in the making, he credits good planning and timing.

“Some people think they’re gonna come out here, stay with their friends for a few days. It doesn’t really work like that if you don’t have the money to back yourself up,” said Carrier.

The challenge of making it in LA requires a constant grind, even when you’re not working long hours on set.

Outside of acting, Carrier picked up several small jobs to keep food on his plate and maintain the rent of a studio apartment. He worked for Lyft, Target and Starbucks in Calabasas.

Carrier even secured a minor role in a movie directed by filmmaker Chris Stokes. “It was 18-hour days, I don’t think I left till 2 a.m. in the morning on some days,”

Keeping with his sports roots he compares it to being like basketball. “It’s like someone playing high school basketball versus playing in the NBA. It’s the same but a bigger production — more people, more lights.”

After that movie Carrier worked on a short-lived web series. His acting career eventually dissipated as he focused on other ventures.

“I’ve been focusing on YouTube more because I’ve found more success,” he said. “My channel started picking up steam and

generating revenue so I’m able to put my energy into that.”

‘Worst Take’ with Quincy Carrier

Carrier has since rebranded himself as a sports commentator.

Back in Cleveland since September 2018, he’s since started his YouTube series, “Worst Take.”

It was a choice that felt natural for him.

“I go by my gut,” he said. “Internally it felt like that’s where the world was pushing me. This is what I was supposed to be doing. When you’re contemplating on making it, you have those conversations with yourself.”

Even his first popular video came about on a whim, kickstarting his new career path, “I was watching a Colin Cowherd video and everything he said I disagreed with so I wanted to make a video response,” he remembers.

30,000 views later, he stuck with his gut building his audience to well over 5,000 subscribers.

“I’m used to putting out work and maybe getting three or four people to respond. Now I put out something and get 200-300 comments, negative or positive,” Carrier said.

Building an audience has been a “surreal experience” he described.

“You don’t really know your show has that much popularity. At times it just hits you,” he said. One moment stood out to him. “I was at a Hot Head in Cleveland when a guy stopped me and told he loved my videos.”

He quickly made a fan of on-again, off-again sports commentator and Browns superfan Michael Killi. “Quincy’s channel was a big inspiration,” Killi said, having discovered Carrier from a subreddit posting of his Cowherd video.

Killi added, “I’m a huge fan of what he does and the content he produces. Seeing him find success and build an audience showed me that there’s demand for fan-based Browns commentary and the Browns fans that are consuming it are really positive about the content.”

For the people who came up around him, like Bennet Ware who met Carrier while watching a Steelers-Bengals game in the dorms, it wasn’t much of a surprise to see this shift as much as it was a seemingly natural progression.

They spent many of their days at YSU debating and talking sports among friends.

“It was usually me and him versus everyone else because most of everyone else were Steelers fans,” he said. “Me and him had the sadness of being Jets and Browns fans. So he kind of got me, I kind of got him.”

“He was always informed about his teams and even others teams, he’d be more informed about your team than you,” Bennet recalled.

In reminiscing about Carrier’s sports knowledge, he also noted how Carrier sometimes used to use that knack for researching teams to terrorize the opposing benches at YSU football games.

“I remember him calling out numbers, calling out backgrounds,” Bennett, said laughing. “He’d be in the dorms doing research on the teams. It’s was like he was one of the players.”

Carrier continues that effort in his work when crafting his videos. “I try to make sure if I throw out a stat or a comparison based on certain statistics, I look at it thoroughly. It’s not just something I cut out a bunch of details to make my point. I make my point the simplest way possible to have a lot to base it on.”

Moving forward, Bennet believes Carrier is on the right path saying, “He’s got enough of a plan to where he can do it.”

Looking back on acting, it’s something Carrier sees as a hobby. For now Carrier is heavily focused on furthering his YouTube career.

BEYOND THE SIGNS: CAMPUS HARASSMENT

By Mac Pomeroy

April is Sexual Harassment Awareness Month, and YSU took the steps to inform students on how to be safe and what to do if something happens. The halls of Kilcawley Center were filled with signs and shirts promoting safe action. However, along with displaying these signs, we need to actually address what harassment is and what students on campus can do.

I hear it all the time from my peers that they do not believe the school will take action toward helping fix the problem. All the signs in the world do not really state whether someone is willing to back up their claims. In order to tell how seriously the campus really takes these allegations, I decided to talk to the people behind the signs.

Many of us have received an email update from the Title IX director Kelly Beers. These emails are usually sent to inform students about any changes to policy or special awareness events going on. As it turns out, Beers is an actual person behind the screen who also cares about her job and helping others.

I met her in her office on the third floor of Tod Hall. Immediately, it is very clear that Beers knows her job and is enthusiastic to help. Beers tells me that she has been working in her position as the Title IX director at YSU for one year, however, she worked in student conduct for two years prior.

Beers explained some of her roles as the Title IX director. "This is my first year as the Title IX director, so that means not only conducting the investigations, but also coordinating accommodations and the such," she said.

Beers explained that harassment issues are vastly underreported. YSU data shows that approximately 63% of students have experienced some form of sexual assault, either before or during their time as a YSU student. She feels that many people are afraid to report it because they think they are overreacting.

This isn't usually the case. Even if students are unsure, Beers still encourages that they report what happened if it made them uncomfortable. According to YSU policy, sexual harassment is "any intentional, nonconsensual, sexual contact with another person."

This can include not just sexual actions,

but also comments and gestures. Each of these are taken seriously by the Title IX office and will be properly sorted out. YSU takes the health and safety of its students very seriously.

When asked if there was anything she would like the students to know, Beers replied that she wanted them to know that colleges and universities take this kind of issue very seriously. While many K-12 schools do not take the proper action and responsibility, YSU and many other universities handle Title IX and harassment appropriately.

Unfortunately, the fact that many K-12 schools do not properly handle these cases makes students think that their issues will never be heard. Over 33% of the incoming freshman class has reported experiencing some form of sexual harassment. While the exact information and statistics is unavailable, many of these situations were not handled.

Beers also explained that the school has a nondiscrimination policy towards students who are reporting it. Regardless of age, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, disability, anything. YSU will take their case seriously. They will be heard.

Of course, not all harassment is sexual. There is also general harassment. This involves non-Title IX harassment. To get a better idea on this side of things, I headed down to the YSU Campus Police station to talk to Detective Doug Pusateri. Pusateri has been working with the campus police since 1996. He has seen many cases of harassment in his time and estimates that the campus gets about 50 reports of harassment a year, 10 of which are criminal-level harassment.

Pusateri defined harassment as repeated unwanted contact, especially after the "reportee" has stated that they do not wish to be contacted. According to the detective, this has gotten more frequent through the use of social media.

"People use their phones to harass others because they would never do it face to face, and social media allows them to dehumanize the other person and not think about the consequences of their actions," Pusateri said.

Of course, the mask of a screen makes people think they will not be caught. Whether online or in person, though, harassment is still harassment. It must be reported, and it will be taken seriously. Social media does not

change harmful behavior.

When faced with this situation, Pusateri says to do the following. First, tell the suspect to stop contacting you. If this is online, be sure to document it. Do not respond to the suspect after telling them to stop. If the suspect continues to contact you, report any further contact to the authorities.

When asked what he would like the students to know, Pusateri replied that he wants students to know that they need to report these situations. Whether to the police or to another source, always make sure to report any incidents of harassment. Even if you do not plan to take any action yourself, getting the harassment on record in case something happens again is best.

As long as a harassment case is reported within two years, the legal system may handle it. Fortunately, not all harassment cases reach a legal level. Some of them go instead to the Student Conduct Office, to director Erin Hungerman.

While this is Hungerman's first semester as YSU's student conduct director, she worked at other universities in similar positions for over nine years. She reported that there have been no sexual harassment cases so far this semester, and she has seen only three or four harassment cases so far during her time here.

Being a more commuter-based university, fewer incidents tend to occur at YSU. No matter where an incident is reported on campus — Title IX, the police department, Student Conduct, or elsewhere — if the case is serious, it will reach back to her.

However, this doesn't mean a student does not have choices. Even when one reports a situation, they still have the choice to pursue it or not. If a student chooses to pursue an incident, then the suspect will be informed of this. Often, a mutual no-contact order is issued.

From there, it will all depend. Hungerman, acting as the student conduct director, will arrange a meeting with the suspect. At the meeting, the suspect can either confirm and accept the claims, which will bring forth an immediate discussion of disciplinary action, or they can deny the claims.

If the suspect denies the claims, then a hearing will be arranged. A hearing is like a small trial where a suspect can plead their case.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

However, even if a hearing is arranged, the reportee will not be required to attend. They may either opt out of it or arrange to not be in the same room as the suspect.

Disciplinary action varies from case to case, typically a no-contact order, but also probation, suspension, or even expulsion. In the meantime, the university will work to make accommodations to allow the student to attend classes without any interruptions, and as painlessly as possible.

When asked what she would like the students to know, Hungerman gave a similar reply to Pusateri. She not only emphasized needing to report, she also emphasized making sure that students know that there are many resources on campus.

All across campus, there are people who

want to help. There are people like Detective Pusateri in the police station, or Kelly Beers in Title IX and Erin Hungerman in the Student Conduct Office. If a student finds the idea of one option frightening, there are always other options. Even if they are not sure, they can talk to someone. There is no penalty for being unsure if an action is harassment or not.

Going around campus, it wasn't hard to find the people beyond the signs. YSU is not just hanging a bunch of fliers and hoping that gets the job done. They have actual hardworking individuals striving to keep the campus safe. It isn't some cold court process, but actual humans who care about what they do.

If you or anyone you know experiences any form of harassment on campus, please either contact the campus police at 3527, the

Title IX office at 4629, or one of the many other great services.

You are not alone. Harassment is a terrible thing, and while it would be great if it never happened, until then we need to be prepared.

Stay safe and stay informed. Spread awareness for Sexual Harassment Awareness Month.

WHAT DOES YOUR RELATIONSHIP LOOK LIKE?

Has your partner ever intentionally hit or otherwise physically harmed you? Has your partner ever threatened to harm you? Has your partner ever threatened to harm themselves if you leave them?

Relationships naturally change over time, but sometimes the changes aren't good. Changes may happen so slowly we don't realize that they've happened; other times we're so focused on the good parts of the relationship that we ignore the bad parts of the relationship.

TOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
Title IX

WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE OR REPORT SOMETHING?
KELLY BEERS, TITLE IX COORDINATOR CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT
303 TOD HALL STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES 3303

WHAT DOES YOUR RELATIONSHIP LOOK LIKE?

Does your partner text/message/call you excessively? Does your partner insist on knowing where you are at all times? Does your partner check your phone or social media without your permission?

Relationships naturally change over time, but sometimes the changes aren't good. Changes may happen so slowly we don't realize that they've happened; other times we're so focused on the good parts of the relationship that we ignore the bad parts of the relationship.

WN STATE UNIVERSITY
Title IX

WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE OR REPORT SOMETHING?
KELLY BEERS, TITLE IX COORDINATOR CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT
303 TOD HALL STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES 3303
330 941 4629 RAPE CRISIS AND CHANGE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER 3303
KBEERS@YSU.EDU RAPE.ABUSE.AND/INVEST.NATURAL.NET

WHAT DOES YOUR RELATIONSHIP LOOK LIKE?

Is your partner's mood towards you unpredictable? Does your partner refuse to communicate with you when they're upset with you? Does your partner ignore you sometimes- even in public?

Relationships naturally change over time, but sometimes the changes aren't good. Changes may happen so slowly we don't realize that they've happened; other times we're so focused on the good parts of the relationship that we ignore the bad parts of the relationship.

OWN STATE UNIVERSITY
Title IX

WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE OR REPORT SOMETHING?
KELLY BEERS, TITLE IX COORDINATOR CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT
303 TOD HALL STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES 3303
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Photos of graphics by Frances Clause

What happens when your hometown that was once filled with opportunities and promise becomes the heart of a gut-wrenching epidemic, viciously taking the lives of young adults and teens?

You take a stand and raise your voice, which is exactly what Warren, Ohio, native, Emelia Sherin did.

Both Sherin and her co-writer Zachary Manthey decided to produce a play where activism meets the theatre stage in a way that is both touching and educating. The play is called “(IN)Dependent: The Heroin Project.”

This process started in 2016 when Sherin, a bubbly public relations student at Kent State University, got back from working on Disney Cruise Line and began noticing people from her high school passing away suddenly.

Fed up with the media always showcasing another death, Sherin began developing some ideas after researching the epidemic. However, she needed help piecing them together.

That is when her co-writer, Zach Manthey, came into the picture. Sherin and Manthey met in an introduction to communications class; they both shared a love of writing, and Sherin decided to ask him to help format the play.

As Sherin collected months of research, she also took it upon herself to conduct 50 interviews from police officers, paramedics, current users, families who went through recovery with their sons or daughters and many more.

The interviews played a major role in making the play come to life because the entire play is based off the different personalities and experiences these people went through.

“What they felt was a key factor in writing the play because that’s what you want the audience to feel,” Sherin said.

As the play began to unravel, Manthey came up with the idea to personify heroin.

“I brought the idea to Emelia to show her as this temptress type woman, much like the ones from old Nordic folklore I was studying at the time, and from there we were able to even show heroin’s side of the story as well,” Manthey said.

Personifying heroin helped audiences comprehend how users feel when she is around and how they bow down to her or ignore her. The play started catching the eyes of many after its debut at the Akron Civic Theatre under the Millennial Theatre Project in August 2017.

Around the same time, Sherin and Manthey were contacted by Erik Piepenburg, senior editor of The New York Times, to be interviewed for a piece he was writing. They sat down in Scribbles coffee shop in Kent and discussed their work.

Piepenburg noted, “Portrayals of heroin frequently appear in pop culture. Heroin addicts have jolted through films like ‘The Panic in Needle Park’ and ‘Trainspotting,’ television shows like ‘Girls’ and ‘Orange Is the New Black,’ and the Broadway musicals, ‘Rent,’ which also features HIV positive characters and ‘American Idiot.’”

In Ohio, it is relatively easy to have a script at hand and find a stage to perform on while keeping the price of admission affordable. Community theatre brings people together who want to be heard and creates an outlet for those who need it.

As of 2019, the show has been performed at the Akron Civic Theatre three times, Kent State University, Academy of Music Theatre in Northampton, Massachusetts, and it will possibly be in Colorado and at a Narcotics Anonymous convention in Minnesota. It was also performed at the Youngstown Playhouse in August 2018, where I had

the chance to work as the design assistant.

Working with the cast was thrilling; everyone was very welcoming and worked so hard to find the emotion and connection to bring to the stage.

There were moments where I found myself crying because you realize that this is not just a play; it is real life, and these things happen every day. It is our job to spread awareness and educate people on the heroin and opioid epidemics that affect everything around us — even ourselves.

Whether you know it or not, you have been affected by this epidemic — whether it was attending a school assembly about the effects of opioids, knowing someone who has used before or even seeing something in the news about another unfortunate death caused by drug abuse. The only way to overcome this is by talking about it and educating others.

Sherin got a message from Chris Columbus, the director of many notable Hollywood films, saying he loved it and was very moved by the play. Sherin even got in contact with Marvel comic illustrator, Marcus McLaurin, who drew the backdrop for the Northampton, Massachusetts, show at the Academy of Music Theatre.

When writing the play, Sherin said she wanted to create something that gave back to the community. Sherin and Manthey did just that. The show has been performed for two years and has raised over \$3,000 for local rehabilitation centers.

In October 2018, Sherin entered a scholarship program and became the next Miss Akron Canton with plans to run for Miss Ohio in June. Her platform is “We’re Only Human,” where she brings “addiction education and awareness, how to be (IN)Dependent and promote healthy coping mechanisms.”

Sherin became friends with former Miss Ohio winner, Matti-Lynn Chrisman. They met at the Akron Canton pageant where Sherin won. Chrisman’s platform is “Pain Isn’t Always Obvious.”

“It promotes mental health awareness and suicide prevention,” said Chrisman, who lost an aunt due to the epidemic in 2015.

According to a Kentwired.com article by Hannah Kelley, “Sherin’s plan after college is to do public relations work at the Akron Civic Theatre, the House of Blues or Oriana House in Cleveland.”

Sherin hopes to shed a light on this subject and educate people on the heroin epidemic. Both her and Manthey have different things they are working on for the future.

Sherin is working on a couple different projects, writing a play based on mental health, drawing from her own experiences and how it is like a shadow in some people’s daily life. She is also working on shining a light on people who are physically disabled, following the story of a young girl and how she has been discriminated in theatre because of her disability.

Sherin is planning to turn it into a musical using actors and actresses from a wheelchair dance community in Cleveland.

Manthey is writing another play that is more on the comedic side and talks about growing up, transitioning from high school to college and the struggles it brings.

For Sherin and Manthey, it was important to them that they shed light on the subject because we all have struggles. We are not alone. We are only human.



This place is all laid out
Our minds set to it
An empire
It's discipline
But we have the numbers
To change a crowd
We have the personas
To turn the party around
Bet
Make me a deal
I'll tell you what
We're an example of a
Simulation that's
Capable of panning out

- Rachael Moore



By Aaron Graneto



Enter the doors and turn right. A spectacle awaits for all the senses. Dozens of bowling lanes and the surrounding queue are lit by exciting blacklight that makes interesting objects, even clothing, glow.

The decor on the walls of the establishment give an eclectic feel, with a space mural on one side and an industrial city mural on the other. The combination of all this is an exciting bowling alley that clears out a few lanes to make for a welcoming stage and a close-knit community of music fans just about every week.

Westside Bowl started hosting concerts in the bowling alley area just over a year ago, providing an expansive space for powerful sounds from rock bands to nicely sit in the venue. This allowed for so much more than a beautiful acoustical setting.

Westside Bowl is also in this way providing a space where many people could listen in comfort and grow to love the bands playing there, all while having a great time bowling, eating delicious food and playing games to pass the time.

It is a community space that houses both a bar and a bowling alley, and it is the perfect location for a network of music fans to grow that sincerely appreciate every sound that comes from the stage.

At their one-year anniversary show March 30, the space brought in several bands that provided a wide range of sounds to grace the ears of its guests. Longtime favorites like East 9th, Northern Whale and Ghost Soul Trio rocked the house.

To close out the evening, Cosmic Lemons presented a set full of new music played by a new lineup of musicians. This was a welcome debut for a new stretch of music and concerts coming up for the group. Overall, the event was beautifully put together, complete with world-class sound mixed by Forty-Two Entertainment and intriguing art and other merchandise by each of the band's vendors.

Two members of these bands spoke on the power of Westside Bowl to bring people together in support of music and the diverse bands it allows to perform there.

Jesse DeLorenzo, drummer for Highland Rose, and Frank Toncar, the new bassist for Cosmic Lemons, had these thoughts on

their start at Westside and their event with other bands April 20 in the basement of the venue.

What drew you to apply and ask to perform at Westside Bowl?

JD: We play a lot of different venues in a lot of different areas, and we all agree there's something really special about playing Youngstown. When people started buzzing about WestSide Bowl as a venue, we were excited to get our foot in the door. Now, we're headed into our second show at the venue Saturday April 20, and we're all incredibly excited for it.

FT: Ryan Racketa from East 9th had heard that Cosmic Lemons was getting back together and approached me about West Fest being our first show back. He told me it was for the venue's one-year anniversary and presented me the rest of the lineup, which was stacked with incredible local talent. I was immediately intrigued and thought it was a great idea. I hadn't been to Westside Bowl yet at that time but had heard all sorts of great things about and figured it would be an awesome event for Lemons to be apart of.

What makes Westside Bowl different from anywhere you've performed before, aside from it being a bowling alley?

JD: Highland Rose is very passionate with what we do; it's always awesome to play venues that are as passionate about what they're doing as we are about what we're doing. WestSide Bowl definitely is a venue that works hard and devotes a lot to supporting the creative community.

FT: I think an important aspect of it is that during upstairs shows, shows, you truly can bowl and enjoy the show at the same time.

Other bowling alley venues I've been to have the stage area and the bowling area more separated. All bowling aspects aside though, the upstairs stage setup is probably the most professional stage in Youngstown that local bands can reasonably perform on. The show was run professionally, sounds fantastic and the crew is very helpful and easy to work with. Nate the owner is very supportive of the bands too, and I think that's huge. We need more quality relationships between venues, promoters and artists in Youngstown. Bartenders are very friendly as well, and overall, I think it's just a very fun and comfortable place to enjoy a show of any sort.

What stands out in the community of people that attend events at Westside Bowl?

JD: We believe rock 'n' roll is something that can bring people together, and WestSide Bowl has become an awesome hub for not only artists and musicians but a place where everyone is welcome and everyone can be included.

FT: I've only been there for shows three times, including West Fest, but what I've noticed is that the people that go are genuinely interested in the music. It's fun to play downtown, but when there's no cover charge, the crowd that shows up might very well not include anybody that really cares about the music; they may just be out to drink and have a good time. And there's nothing wrong with that, but it doesn't particularly help the bands that are performing to grow and expand their brand if the people they're trying to sell to aren't really into it. Westside Bowl is a good place that music fans can go to experience music, and bands can find and play for people who generally want to listen. Also, they have killer pizza!

What are you hoping the community and your band brings to the next show there?

JD: Highland Rose always looks to bring the party! We want to have a good time; we want everyone to have a good time. We want everyone to know they're invited and WestSide Bowl is an awesome place to be invited to. We always love seeing new faces and hope to be doing a lot of that Sat April 20 because we keep it about love and rock 'n' roll, and that's something we think everyone can get down with.

FT: I just hope the next show is as fun as the last one! It was a wonderful night for the Youngstown music scene in my opinion, and I was very proud of all the tremendous talent coming off the stage. I think if more people can have great experiences like that at that venue, it will continue to grow and flourish and become a staple in the Youngstown music scene!

Westside Bowl continues to provide an accepting space where music fans can come and support powerful music that nicely sits in the expanse of a bowling alley.



Photos by Kamron Meyers

ART DEPARTMENT: BANNER YEAR

By Abigail Cloutier

University is a formative period in many lives. This is most reflected in the art department, where experimental and transformative works often gain traction.

The opportunity for collaborative work and the intermixing of people from different talents and backgrounds bubbles together like no other place, and this was no more evident than in Teri Frame's performance, "Whiteface."

The performance took place in the McDonough Museum of Art April 4 at 5:30 p.m. It featured original music and collaborations from 12 Dana School of Music students and two Dana professors.

The performance began with a brief word from the artist, citing the performance as a statement on whiteness as race beginning in the Renaissance period. Soft classical music played in the background as Teri Frame, dressed in a stark, almost paneled, floor-length white dress, sat on a platform at the center of the dim gallery.

The music rose and fell as she deftly painted her face, neck and hair the same bright white as her dress and surroundings. The music died down and Professor Missy McCormick, assisting with the performance, knelt to press the play button on a Mac by a podium in the center aisle.

"The performance," Teri explained, "is meant to be viewed as centrally as possible."

It soon became clear why, as a projector whirred to life and a play button appeared over Teri's face. As another ensemble started playing an original composition, Teri transformed into dozens of people throughout history, from famous paintings to flappers to kings to cowboys.

Though her face was vaguely visible under the projections, she aligned nearly perfectly with each image, her eyes bringing their painted or printed ones to life. She moved to align with each image with a practiced grace.

As the projections jumped from famous men and women throughout history, Dana students moved throughout the McDonough, accompanying the performance. Duos and trios of violins and other strings, a solo bagpipe performance and two stunning voice solos spanned the hour-long performance. Yet somehow, the moments of silence between songs were equally as poignant.

But what happened after the performance is truly representative of the collaborative nature of college art and the year the art department has had.

The last projection faded and Teri rose and bowed. All 12 Dana students bowed with her. Audience and performers intermingled and talked in a room full of stunning student art on display after the 83rd Annual Juried Student Art and Design Exhibition.

Wandering and mingling, discussion and blends of thoughts and ideas, telecommunication and journalism students covered and filmed the event, and as a result, also existed as part of the intermingling and collaboration of departments.

Associate Professor Missy McCormick had a similar perspective on the collaborative nature, stating that, "I feel that interdepartmental collaboration is an exciting and rejuvenating process for artists of all levels and media. The experience can be so rewarding, inspiring, and each artist can take a lot away from working outside their comfort zone."

Performer Teri Frame agreed, noting that collaboration allowed each department to create something that transcended the bounds of their study.

"In this case, interdepartmental collaboration united both

students and faculty in order to combine their areas of specialization, such as visual art and music, to support a particular theme that is not limited to either area," Frame said.

While Frame didn't have much knowledge of music history or the type of music appropriate for the time frames explored via the projections, she explained, "Professor Cahn-Lipman and his students have a strong understanding of what genres were appropriate for the piece based on the time and context in which they were written."

This collaboration allowed for a discussion to grow beyond university bounds. McCormick said she hoped that we all go away from our daily experiences and share them with those close to us.

In the end, collaboration and art is all about a discussion and starting a thought process that exists beyond the doors of museums and institutions.

"This performance probably opened many people's eyes to a broader perspective of race performance, how white face started way before black face and how the race narrative continues to impact us all," McCormick said. "This performance gives an opportunity to start conversations, to continue the dialogue and to become more informed."

The McDonough alone has held dozens of art events over the past year, and is scheduled to hold more, including the Spring Graduating BFA Exhibition and the MFA Thesis Exhibition.

The Cliffe College of Creative Arts' Judith Rae Solomon Gallery has a constant stream of art, including local scholastic competitions and pieces from local high school workshops. The Butler Museum of Art also works with Youngstown State, hosting pieces and classes for the university.

While projects like "Whiteface" represent underground, modern works on commentary, bigger collaborative works like the Federal Frenzy often take the spotlight. The YSU event features a range of artists and mediums, from live art to spoken poetry to sculpture, as well as a range of musicians.

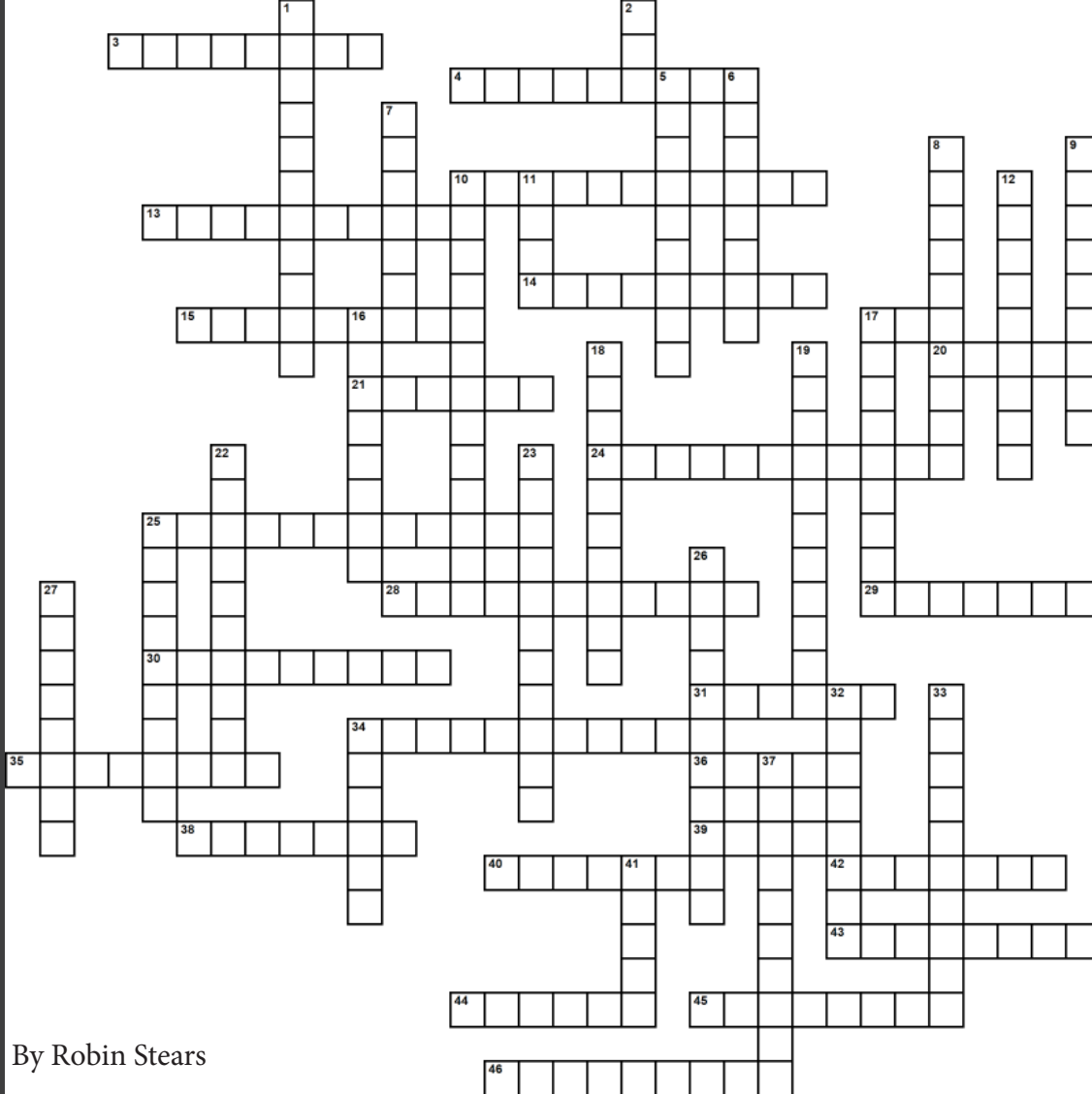
But it isn't just the art department that has had such a successful year. The theatre department is putting on eight shows for the 2018-2019 season, a diverse array from "Into the Woods" to "How I Learned to Drive" and the annual dance concerts.

A production like "Into the Woods" requires much more than just actors. Musicians put in dozens of hours learning the score for the performance, and artists and set designers put in just as many while painting and building sets to ensure a realistic and entertaining performance.

The music department alone has had dozens of workshops this year and hosted award-winning artists and mentors. Faculty continues to mentor jazz band, pep band, wind ensembles, marching band and more.

Sure, Youngstown State University would still be a fabulous research university with top tier STEM programs, great professors, researchers and faculty without the art department. But the opportunity for exploration, deep thought, artistic presentation and discussion of concepts that are pervasive outside of university doors might be lost.

Y O M A G C R O S S W O R D



By Robin Stears

Across

3. Dubic family eatery with spit-roasted lamb
4. Ice cream on a stick that was founded in Youngstown
10. Where fine art is displayed on Champion Street
13. Annual Greek community event
14. Family fun center with a Web City and bumper cars
15. "Little Italy" of Youngstown
17. Cassese's Smoky Hollow eatery that serves Tressel Tortellini
20. Erstwhile amusement park with a museum in Canfield
21. Auditorium that used to be a Warner Brothers movie palace
24. Youngstown's vintage "Millionaire's Row" neighborhood
25. Six-day extravaganza since 1846
28. Second oldest German singing club in Ohio
29. South Side ice cream stand since 1945
30. Greco-Roman style auditorium with an E.M. Skinner pipe organ
31. Downtown pub with 50 unique hot dog toppings
34. Tasty wedding tradition
35. Historic district

36. Fast food chain that started in Boardman
38. Boardman day spa retreat
39. Science and Technology STEM-focused children's center
40. Brewing company with an "Ash Kickin' Ale"
42. Cemetery at the start of the annual Youngstown Halloween Zombie Crawl
43. Hot sausage brand sold at Santisi's and Rulli Bros.
44. American art museum with over 20,000 works of art
45. "Woodsy" Youngstown neighborhood that hosts Tangiers, Crickets and La Villa Sports Bar & Grill
46. Oldest continually operating community theatre in the U.S.

Down

1. YSU's planetarium
2. Home to the Penguins
5. Park where you can take a trolley ride
6. NYC-style Italian ristorante in downtown
7. Centre where the Youngstown Phantoms play
8. Neighborhood with its own maple syrup brand
9. 10k international contest since 1975
10. Museum dedicated to preserving the history of mills in Youngstown
11. Family museum of local history on Wick Ave.
12. Youngstown's oldest bar
16. Theatre in a former Mahoning Commons church
17. Contemporary art museum on YSU's campus
18. Martini brothers' burger joint in the Knox Building
19. Legendary corned beef purveyor since 1939
22. Youngstown local newspaper
23. Bruce who sang about Youngstown's declining steel industry
25. Downtown development organization
26. Flea market on US-422 since 1951
27. River through Youngstown
32. Field where the Scrappers play ball
33. Fruit farm with a famous blueberry donut
34. Bar and music venue for indie artists in the West End
37. Struthers lanes where part of "The Deer Hunter" was filmed
41. Performing arts center that's home to the Youngstown Symphony

