



THE GAUNTLET

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

The University of Calgary's independent student newspaper

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The Gauntlet is proud of its independence

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the *Gauntlet*. Earlier this year, our alumna, Susanne Craig, won a Pulitzer Prize for her investigative reporting at the *New York Times* on Donald Trump's taxes. Her return to Calgary marked a renewed interest in the *Gauntlet*, and we have been referred to on many occasions as the "University of Calgary's newspaper." This seems like a good time to reiterate our independence, both from the Students' Union and from the university itself, especially for students who don't know who we are.

We are proud to be located on the University of Calgary campus. We are proud to be students of this institution. We are proud to bring you information about initiatives and events happening on campus, no matter who is putting them on. We are proud of our positive relationship with both the university and the SU and believe that working together benefits everyone. But, we are also proud of our independence.

On Sept. 6, 1979, the *Gauntlet* ran its first editorial as an autonomous newspaper. Michele Bestianich and Rory Cooney wrote:

"For a newspaper to be truly independent, it must be autonomous, both financially and editorially — from any influences that might bias its selection of staff, the reporting of news and the position it takes on controversial issues. Newspapers are built on the principle that they should be an authority within itself. The Gauntlet Publications Society — open to all students and administered by an elected board of directors — is that authority."

A look through the *Gauntlet* archives showcases continual discussions of press freedom — freedom to criticize the institutions we exist alongside, freedom to hold elected officials and university administrators to account, freedom to dissent from popular opinions on campus and freedom to maintain editorial control over the stories we print. Those things were hard-fought and often-challenged, and we are im-



GAUNTLET ARCHIVES

mensely proud to have emerged with our independence.

In a 1984 editorial entitled "Freedom of press at stake," Pam Belyte and Warren Kinsella wrote:

"The *Gauntlet* is every single student at the University of Calgary. The *Gauntlet* is you. That's who we're run by, that's who we're answerable to. [...] The *Gauntlet* has open avenues for disagreement; if

students feel that their particular view is not represented in the newspaper, they are welcome to join the *Gauntlet* itself."

None of this has changed. We are independent, student-run and would be thrilled to have you contribute your voice to the paper.

-Kristy Koehler
 Gauntlet Editor-in-Chief

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The *Gauntlet* is printed on recycled paper and uses an ink made from melted down makeup. We urge you to recycle/several issues of the *Gauntlet* together like a handkerchief chain.

The Cover
 Photo by Dennis Ivy

WHAT'S HAPPENING

HALF PRICED APPIES

IT'S CALLED BURGER AND BREW

ALL FOR 12 BUCKS

NEWS »

SUSTAINABILITY »

New waste diversion system in MacHall

Kristy Koehler
Editor-in-Chief

If you're having trouble finding a garbage can in MacHall, it's because there's a new waste diversion system in place.

Two waste diversion tables are now located in strategic places in MacHall, and are the first component of the new system. A composter that creates compost starter is the second.

"MacHall is one of the busiest places on campus and as a result, is one of the buildings that generates the most waste on campus," said Omer Mansoor, Students' Union vice-president operations and finance. "As building managers, it's our responsibility to be champions and leaders in sustainability. Introducing these waste diversion tables will hopefully be one way we can achieve an increase in diversion

rates."

Students come up to the table, drop off their waste and trained professional staff will sort it into one of four bins — trash, beverage containers, mixed recyclables and compostables. The first three are taken to the City and dealt with there while compostables go down to the composter in MacHall.

The composter makes a compost starter and Mansoor says this can be used in the campus community kitchen and other green spaces on campus.

Mansoor says attempts in the past to increase diversion rates — such as having educators at the bins or changing signage — were unsuccessful. This new system is a one-year pilot project aimed at achieving a higher rate of waste diversion.

"Hopefully after a year, we'll have a lot more data to plan next

steps," he said.

One of the tables — the one near the microwaves — is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to accommodate

the lunch rush and Mansoor says the process of sorting the waste is quick, so a backlog shouldn't occur, even when MacHall is packed.



MacHall's new waste diversion table

MARIAH WILSON

CLUBS »

New creative writing club on campus

Kristy Koehler
Editor-in-Chief

There's a new club on campus — the U of C Creative Writing Circle. Alisha Ebrahim, a student in her second year of Health Sciences, and Rukhsar Ali, an English major, started the club to build a writing community on campus.

"We're going to have things like write nights and writing workshops," said Ebrahim. "Our end goal is to publish a chapbook — a small book of poetry and writing that we can distribute to the U of C students. We're hoping to get people involved in creative writing and maybe even get some exposure and have people read our work."

Ebrahim said that, although she is in health sciences, she's always loved writing stories and poems, and the membership of the club so far represents a diverse range of faculties and majors.

Though Ali is already an English major, it was a particular professor on campus who inspired her to pursue creative writing.

"I started actually last year with a class given by Vivek Shraya and she inspired me to get into creative writing," said Ali. "So, when Alisha came to me with this idea, I really wanted to help."

"Students should get involved with our club because we're trying to create a writing community on campus where you can feel safe to try new things," she continued. "If people want to experiment or are already experienced writers or are completely new to it they should look into our club. I think it will be the best platform for them to try new things, not be afraid to fail and also to have a really supportive community around them."

Ebrahim says their first event will likely be a get-to-know-everyone 'write night' where people can partake in a creative writing activity.

"People who don't think they're good at it, they can learn more about it and people with a passion for it can continue to express that," she said.

Those looking to get involved can find the group on Instagram at @uofc_cwc.

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE »

Thrive Priority Support Network identifies struggling students

Kristy Koehler
Editor-in-Chief

The University of Calgary's Thrive Priority Support Network is an early-identification system designed to assist students who are having academic difficulty. Thrive aims to connect these students with the right resources to help them succeed.

A D2L algorithm picks up on students who have a large differential between grades that they came into university with, and the grades currently being achieved.

Susan Barker, vice-provost student experience, says the system relies on professors using D2L and the online grade book.

"It's okay to be a C student and to continue on as a C student," she says. "What we're doing is looking at somebody in the transition from high school to university who is clearly not performing at the level at which they were in high school. Something is going on — maybe they're struggling with the transi-

tion, maybe there's homesickness, maybe they're partying — it could be a whole host of reasons."

Barker says students who are flagged by the system are sent three e-mails offering assistance around the mid-point in the semester.

"Twenty-one per cent take up the offer of help," says Barker. "When they take up the offer of help, they get one-to-one support with an academic development specialist. That person will triage to other supports after having an open and frank conversation. Sometimes it's a referral to a mental health professional or to workshops on procrastination, on planning or on time management."

Because the algorithm detects uncharacteristic declines in performance, Barker says that the Thrive Network's ability to pick up on someone who might be in crisis has been helpful in the past in getting students the help they need, especially as it relates to mental health.

Barker says she isn't concerned that only twenty-one per cent of

students respond to the offer of help, as often, the e-mail that they aren't doing as well as they should be is a wake-up call in itself.

"Sometimes that email is sufficient to say, 'Oh my gosh — I've got to get back on track,' and it enables them to pick things up before finals at the end of term," she says. "Sometimes just the message that the university cares about what you're doing, is noticing what you're doing and is offering help is enough."

The algorithm is performed on first years. They are looking at ways to expand the program, but for now, it is designed to assist those in transition from high school to university.

"These are very complicated situations," says Barker. "Why do people struggle in that first-year transition? Sometimes it's just that freedom — and that freedom brings with it many privileges and opportunities but for some it's a bit of a challenge in terms of that self-management of their studies."

For those who do take up the offer of help, Barker says the long-term success rates are very good.

More international students than domestic students respond to the offer of help, and more females than males take up the offer. Barker attributes some of this to the nuanced culture of help-seeking, as well as the stakes being higher for international students.

"If you get kicked out of university, you might lose your study permit and have to go back home," she says.

Her ultimate message is that the university cares and that there are support systems in place for a reason — to ensure that students succeed.

"The last thing we want to do is to let them carry on without any support," she says.

The Thrive Priority Support Network is confidential — it doesn't go on your transcript or general student record.

STUDENTS' UNION »

Who's Who in the SU: Meet your arts reps

Kristy Koehler
Editor-in-Chief

In an effort to introduce new — or even continuing — students to representatives in the Students' Union and in the Students' Legislative Council, the *Gauntlet* is running the series, 'Who's Who in the SU.' In this issue, we interviewed the Faculty of Arts representatives — Marley Gillies, Justin Gotta, Rayane Issa and Tomiwa Oje. Full interviews can be found on thegauntlet.ca.

The *Gauntlet*: Why did you run for your role?

Marley Gillies: I decided to run for Arts Faculty Representative in my first year at the university because I was motivated to ignite change within the role, and transform the position to one that students would see to be more approachable, accessible and impactful. With personality and professionalism, this role was attractive to me because of the impact my abilities would bring to the students of the largest — and best — faculty on campus.

Justin Gotta: Student politics have always been an interest of mine and something I wanted to get into. I've always seen myself as somewhat of a 'doer' and after hearing many students' comments and concerns about our campus, I decided to run to help solve various student issues. As well as all this, I believed in my vision for a better campus life and decided to run to put that vision into action.

Rayane Issa: When I enrolled in university, I had one plan and that was to get in, get my degree and leave. It was never a part of the plan to get involved in student politics. This all changed after talking to several students in my faculty about what we think are some pillars that need to be improved within our faculty, whether it was education, infrastructure or health-wise. Then, those same students encouraged me to run on these exact platform points. Having that kind of support and realizing what our faculty lacks sparked a passion in me.

Tomiwa Oje: I wanted to run for this role because one of my main goals is to make every single arts student proud of their faculty. Instead of running for a position in which I would represent the student body at large, I know the most effective way to have an impact in my faculty is to be hands-on and focused only on my faculty. I wanted to put on events that would be both enjoyable and beneficial to the university experience of arts students.

G: What do you specifically plan to do within your role?

MG: Being elected for a second term has an even more significant meaning to me, and the way I am approaching this year. Being re-elected means that the voting students reacted to the work I had accomplished in my first term, so much so to spend another year doing the same, with the necessary changes I advertised in my campaign platform.

This term, I plan to continue hosting the faculty-uniting events that I began last term. The Arts Faculty Town Hall is the faculty's only opportunity to unify our incredible clubs, students and faculty in one room, to learn, benefit, connect and create with one another. The first annual town hall of this nature was a huge success, and I look forward to improving the event and hosting it again this year. One big issue that faces all students is mental health. Fueled by my own personal experiences, I am empowered to provide students with the opportunity to utilize the resources that the Students' Union, and the university provides.

Although these resources are not always perfect, it is important that every student actually knows that they exist. Specifically the SU Wellness Center, regardless of varying student experiences in the office, is a step in the right direction in terms of improving mental health among the student population. As someone who has experienced and witnessed the constant battle of mental health, the Wellness Center provided nothing but support. They brought me to a position of someone willing to learn from it, talk about it and even advocate for it, all aspects that I hope to bring to the students of my faculty this year.

JG: Within my role, I look to overhaul the SU Online Exam Bank to bring more practice exams to our faculty by expanding it for more departments and getting clubs that provide practice exams involved with our online exam bank. I'm also looking to bring a textbook fair to our faculty in order to provide an easy place to buy and sell textbooks at affordable prices. One of my goals I am excited to pursue is to introduce a summer internship and employment fair to the Faculty of Arts to help students find summer employment by inviting various businesses to showcase their employment opportunities and internships. Last but not least, I look to renovate the spaces around the Arts Lounge to make a more enjoyable commons space for students in my faculty to meet, hangout and study.

RI: My platform consists of three major projects that I will be working on during my term as an Arts Representative. The first one focuses on Arts Opportunity. I am hoping to expand relationships between the faculty and students by hosting interactive events. I am also looking at engaging students and understanding what some issues are in the faculty that matter to them, from job opportunities to co-op as well as scholarships.

My second initiative focuses on arts infrastructure. There are a couple of projects and applications that I am working on that are concerned with improving the Arts buildings and student study spaces in order to improve the students' overall experience.

The third project that I am working on comes from the utmost need for more mental health programming on campus. This should be an internal priority for everyone here on campus, and I intend to push for better mental health programming not only for my faculty's students but for all students.

TO: I am currently planning a panel-style event that focuses on Entrepreneurship in the Arts that will take place Oct. 2 at 3 p.m. in the Hunter Hub with local entrepreneurs that have a background in the arts faculty. From talking to students, I believe that arts students feel as if entrepreneurship is only meant for Haskayne students, thus many arts students are not being fully immersed in the discussion of entrepreneurial thinking that is making a wave throughout this university. I am hoping that this event will inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs and an arts degree arms students with specific qualities to conquer new markets.

Another thing I want to plan within this role is to collaborate with the Consent Awareness and Sexual Education club on campus, to push for all syllabuses to require having some sort of reference to sexual violence policy and resources. Because 41 per cent of all sexual violence cases in Canada happen on a campus, I believe that this is a small yet impactful step for raising awareness of sexual violence policy and consequently making campus a safer place for all students.

I also plan on working with career services to create an arts faculty-specific career fair with domestic and international industries tailored for arts and fine arts students because education students have their own career fair and science and engineering students have their own career fair. As the largest faculty, I believe it is only fair that students in arts have the same opportunities for career development and growth.



Faculty of Arts Representative Marley Gillies.

MARIAH WILSON



Faculty of Arts Representative Justin Gotta.

MARIAH WILSON



Faculty of Arts Representative Rayane Issa.

MARIAH WILSON

STUDENTS' UNION »

Meet your arts reps, continued.

G: What do you specifically plan to do within your role?

TO: Lastly, in collaboration with the other arts reps, we plan to put on events that will increase student engagement within the arts faculty and that would create opportunities for students to interact with their representatives, get to know us and ask questions about things that concern them. We are currently brainstorming some events that would be both fun and interactive such as mini doughnuts and hot chocolates and a cotton candy machine.

G: A year from now, when you are done your role, what do you want to look back on and see?

MG: Ultimately, I hope to look back on a faculty that is more connected than it was before. The Arts Faculty, even just for the short two years I've been a part of it, has influenced who I am, and the way that I carry myself as an elected official, but also as a student. I want every student to experience this same connectedness. The realities of a commuter campus, combined with the size and variety of our faculty

makes this an almost impossible task, but it is a task that is important for the future of those with an arts degree. Connections, knowledge, idea-sharing and progress is what creates our future. Our programs do not have very much in common, but whether Fine Arts, Economics, English, Psychology, and everything in between, we share the reality that our future depends on the relationships we nurture during our time as undergraduate students, and it is never known which connection will take us to where we need to be going forward. So, when looking back, I hope that my time as a representative reflected this thinking, and assisted even just a few students with their connections and relationships, to have a positive impact on their time at the university and afterwards.

JG: When I'm done my role I look to leave with my successors and faculty a summer internship and employment fair that will help students kick start their careers and leave an ever-lasting impact not just on the faculty but students lives moving forward as they enter the world. In the end, I look

to leave not just a positive impact on the faculty but the lives of the students within it, even past their graduation.

I also look to leave a positive impact on students in their studies. I know many students love to use practice exams to study so I really want to improve our online exam bank to make sure students have proper access to these resources to help improve their time studying.

RI: Having this opportunity to represent the amazing students in my faculty is something that I plan to honour throughout this year. My aim for this year is to interact with as many Arts students as I possibly can and spread awareness about our role. The students voted for us, and we are here for them. When I look back, I want to be able to see the impact that I had on the students — regardless of how big or small — that have possibly improved their education and quality of life on campus.

TO: A year from now when I'm done this role, I want to look back on what I've accomplished and be

proud of it. Regardless of if I am able to accomplish all my goals, I want to know I worked hard at accomplishing my goals and be proud of the hard work I have put into this role.

G: How can students get in contact with you if they need you?

MG: I am easily accessible by email, at arts1@su.ucalgary.ca.

JG: Students can contact me at arts2@su.ucalgary.ca.

RI: I am always available by email at arts3@su.ucalgary.ca.

TO: Students can get in contact through arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

Edited for clarity and brevity.



Faculty of Arts Representative Tomiwa Oje.

MARIAH WILSON

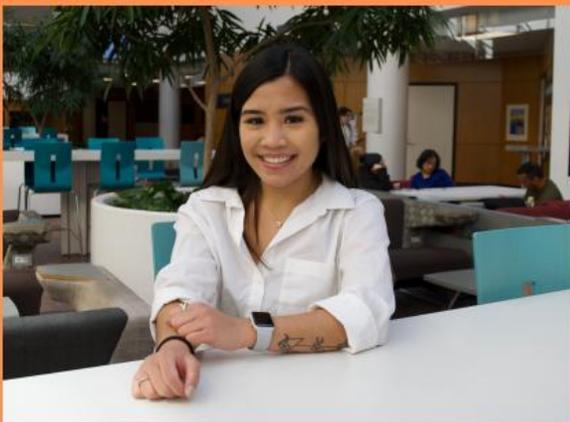
Humans of UCalgary

The Gauntlet has teamed up with Humans of UCalgary, a campus club inspired by Humans of New York, to share University of Calgary students' often unheard stories. For more, visit facebook.com/HumansofUCalgary.

"A lot has changed since junior high. Since then, I've started telling people I have two moms and I know it's not a bad thing."

My moms are still really cute together. They constantly do nice things for each other. They celebrate "month-saries." For their twelfth anniversary, my stepmom calculated the number of seconds that she had loved my mom for.

My family is really, really close. They're my family and my best friends. I tell them everything, and we have so many traditions together. We go to wing night every Wednesday. We go to the gym together. I'd say it's no different from having a typical mom and dad. To me, family means loving someone no matter what. You're there for them forever. It's eternal. You know you love someone when you're at peace in your heart and you know you're safe. You just know. And I think my moms just knew."



"It took a long time to come to terms with my sexuality. A while ago my dad had asked me if I was gay. I completely denied it back then. But two years ago, I told him everything, and surprisingly, he told me he already knew! My mom on the other hand still thinks it's a phase. She's still a little hesitant whenever I bring it up, but she's slowly becoming more understanding. She attended the Pride parade last year and I can see that she's truly making an effort to make sense of who I am as a person. Underdeveloped countries have a lot to learn regarding gender and identity. Seychelles is slowly becoming progressive with time."

To young girls who are conflicted, know that the internet is your best friend sometimes. Check out your Plan Parenthood clinics and other places similar to the Q-Centre. It's okay to come out to someone other than your parents at first, if you think they'll give you more support. Just take it one step at a time. My parents were very conservative and thought differently, but try to gauge how your parents will take in this new information. Just communicate and help them learn, because at the end of the day, they simply want the best for you. Tell them about yourself in small doses now and then. Maybe you'll be surprised by how much they already know."

ALUMNI WEEKEND »

Pulitzer Prize-winning Susanne Craig comes home for the weekend

Photos by Mariah Wilson



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BOOKS »

Craig DiLouie issues a warning with *Our War*

Troy Hasselman
Arts & Culture Editor

The last few years have been rough for pretty much everyone. We're more polarized than we've ever been and live in echo chambers of our own creation. Everything is ammunition for an endless culture war that is, of course, based in politics, but also transcends politics and living conditions. Discourse is stifled through a sea of misinformation and mischaracterization that serves to only vilify us towards one another. American-bred and Calgary-based author Craig DiLouie has noticed this and has used it for the basis of his new novel *Our War*, which was released by Orbit Books on Aug. 20 and takes place in America, telling the story of the country's cultural divisions giving way to a full-fledged war.

"Over the last couple of years I became increasingly aware that I was living in a dystopia so I wrote a dystopian book," DiLouie laughs. "I've been politically aware for many years and have watched with dismay as my home country, the United States, has become increasingly politically polarized. That kind of tribalization is dangerous, not just because nothing gets done but because people end up living in entirely different realities. Every single thing that happens on the news, one person on one side of the political spectrum will interpret it entirely differently than a person on the other end of the political spectrum and feel passionate about it and say 'We're right.'"

While these concerns have festered for years, they have become more prominent since the election of Donald Trump to the presidency and the galvanization of extremists across the country in its wake.

"When Trump was elected a lot of this came to the fore because he's pretty far-right and the Republicans have been shifting to the right for years. The far-right movement celebrated and started to talk civil war," DiLouie says. "The rhetoric started to be hotter and hotter to say 'If he's impeached we may take up our guns, if he loses the election we may take up our guns.' This kind of freaked me out like it should freak anybody out. That rhetoric matters. It may not



Craig DiLouie's *Our War* was released on Aug. 20 by Orbit Books.

courtesy CRAIG DILOUIE

mean there's this giant orchestrated movement but it matters to individuals who then act."

This increasingly hostile rhetoric and polarized landscape served as the inspiration for *Our War*, with DiLouie envisioning what this environment could lead into.

"The genesis of my novel *Our War* is what if this actually happens? What if they put their money where their mouth was? What if a Trump-like president was impeached, the Senate convicted him and he said 'I'm not going' and a national, armed protest by the right suddenly happens and armed groups are seizing government buildings? You find that this isn't a protest, it's a revolution," DiLouie says. "Then you would have the response, with police departments responding and people arming themselves to defend their own neighbourhoods which would be the start of the militias on the other side."

This vision of a second American Civil War bears a stronger resemblance to sectarian conflicts found in places like Syria and the Balkans in the 1990's, as opposed to the American Civil war which had a clear divide between the northern and southern parts of the country. The conflict in DiLouie's book will look more at the divide between urban and rural areas in the United States.

"I didn't look at it as red state vs. blue state," DiLouie says. "What I looked at is how did people vote on the county level? If you look at

that map, the United States is all of these islands of deep blue in a sea of red and purple, I imagine the battle lines in the war would be drawn around those boundaries so that the war would be like civil wars in Syria and other countries. The war would be everywhere and everyone would fight. The military meanwhile would be paralyzed because whose side do they take? If they do take a side, are they going to have soldiers shooting at each other because the ranks are going to be divided? The military is frozen because they are looking at the president and Congress to make a political solution, meanwhile the militias are out there fighting."

While DiLouie has noticed more tense rhetoric since the election of Trump, he doesn't want to specifically blame the right wing for our current conditions.

"I think liberals and conservatives both have something to say and I think the best government we can get is through the conflict between these parties and that's a good thing. There are no villains in my book," DiLouie explains. "The viewpoints of both are espoused fairly. I tried to keep myself as much out of the novel as possible even though I have strong ideas, if there's a real villain in the book it's the war itself. It's the idea that we've become so polarized that we start shooting each other."

DiLouie doesn't think that having moved to Canada has changed his perspective towards his home country a great deal and instead

sees his perspective on Canada to be different than that of most Canadians.

"I'd love to say yes but not really. As an American living in Canada I'm still an American patriot and I follow the news there but I've grown to love Canada. I've been living here for quite a long time now and have roots here, my children are here and I couldn't be happier living here. My main reflections aren't so much on how I look at the US and more on how I look at Canada," DiLouie says. "I lived in New York City and my wife at the time survived the World Trade Center attack in 2001, she was on the 87th floor of the North Tower and that was a hell of a time. Within two years we decided to leave and we ended up coming to Canada rather than staying in the US. I've really come to appreciate the fantastic health care and general peacefulness. It's not as polarized, the political process is a little more sane."

While DiLouie hopes that Canada doesn't reach the same points of division that he sees in his home country, he does see it as a possibility.

"I think there's a potential for it," DiLouie says. "It depends how the elites treat their constituencies, especially the more extreme fringe of their constituencies. If they latch on them and bring them into the mainstream and make them a part of the face of the party then that's very polarizing and Canada risks going down the same paths in terms of polarization and turmoil. I really hope

that doesn't happen here because I feel like regardless of what party's in power, I could always look at the other side and say I respect them and they're not crazy and I don't like what they're doing but I don't hate them and I want them to succeed for the country."

DiLouie sees no easy answers to the current, polarized state of affairs and sees his book not as a means of offering solutions to our predicament but rather as a way of sending a warning about the current path that we find ourselves on and the dangers that can arise from it.

"I've written a dystopian novel which provides a warning. If we take something bad from the present day and take it to its logical conclusion and accelerates it into the future this could happen," DiLouie says. "For me, as the author, my main job was to point at the problem and exaggerate it to call attention to it and say 'this is a warning, how do you feel about this?' The novel's main purpose is to entertain and engage the reader viscerally. If they come away reflecting on the themes and they discuss it with other people, that's even better. The easy answer is both sides should be talking less and listening more. But there's so much institutionalized and so much money and power vested in the polarization I'm not sure what the solution would be."

Our War is available wherever books are sold in physical, e-book and audiobook format.

MUSIC »

Rhye's Mike Milosh talks touring, collaboration and staying creative



Rhye will perform at the Palace Theatre in Calgary on Sept. 19.

courtesy TORE SETRE
/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Troy Hasselman
Arts & Culture Editor

Since the release of the Juno-winning and Polaris Prize-nominated R&B project's debut album *Woman* in 2013, Rhye frontman Mike Milosh has kept himself busy through constant touring and his numerous creative interests. The project's newest release, *Spirit* came out earlier this year and uses more ambient, piano-focused compositions than previous Rhye releases. The *Gauntlet* spoke to Milosh from Los Angeles where he is gearing up for a Rhye Canadian tour that will include a stop at Calgary's Palace Theatre on Sept. 19.

The *Gauntlet*: The new release, *Spirit*, came out in May, a little over a year after your last album. Did this project come together in that brief time period or is it ideas you've had kicking around for longer?

Mike Milosh: I wrote it fairly quickly, after the last show I did, in November or something like that. The tune with Olafur Arnalds I had done in September and the one with Thomas Bartlett I had also done earlier. It was a response to all of the touring and me just needing to make something that was gentle, and I don't want to sound cheesy, but something that was easy on my soul, kind of a catharsis from a really hectic year of touring. I was kind of itching to

create something again — I love touring but you're not writing or creating in the same way and I felt I needed to do some work.

G: Collaborators Olafur Arnalds and Thomas Bartlett both make music that mixes elements of ambient and classical music, which I can hear in this project. How big of an influence do your collaborators have on your work? Do you have an idea for a sound and seek out collaborators to make that sound or are you influenced by those around you?

Milosh: It's a percentage of both of those things. When you're in a room with someone — even sitting next to someone in a creative environment — they influence you. It's hard to diagnose exactly what that influence is, but there's an approach to every person that is slightly different. You still have your core creative self and I've got song objectives that I'm trying to reach. There's a beauty to collaborating with people, you see another version of yourself and see another version of them and come together in this place that feels natural when you've got the right collaboration. For example, Olafur Arnalds is a really amazing piano player so I'm acquiescing to his piano prowess in that moment. Part of the beauty of this collaboration is he does chords that I wouldn't have thought of. Working with Dan Wilson, I'm playing the piano and he's playing the guitar

and it turned out in another way. It's fluid and every collaboration is different.

G: Your music on record is very tight and composed and your live show is more sprawling and uses a lot of dynamics. You also don't have a set list and decide on stage what songs to play. How important is spontaneity to your music?

Milosh: It is for me. For example in a year I played 130 shows. If I was playing the same show every night I'd fall in the danger of it becoming a job. That repetition would be a bit boring for me and it would be dangerous creatively for me to get caught in a rut. On stage I make a lot of decisions. For example I'd say 'Hey, Pat take a solo here,' and then he will and everyone has to tune into what I'm doing onstage, just being aware of our timeline and wanting to accomplish certain things onstage. I like to have big moments that get kind of psychedelic and weird but I also want to bring it down to sentimental intimate moments that are just vocal so you can create a deep emotion on stage. For me, it's important. The only thing that prevents it is, for example, this last tour I did a few dates with Feist. We had a new drummer because our drummer couldn't be on that tour. So with the new drummer I couldn't take as many risks because they just didn't know all of the material so we had to be more regimented and by the third show I was like 'Well

we've done a lot of rehearsals but I can't just be spontaneous and pull a song out randomly on people,' which is more fun.

G: In the five years between your first and second album there aren't any huge breaks in your touring schedule and you've been touring pretty consistently since the second album came out as well. Do you think constantly playing music and performing is important to maintaining creativity?

Milosh: I think there's a bunch of factors that make it important. One is, I think it's very important to have that constant feedback from a crowd. Because you can feel really quickly when something doesn't work. It's a really bad feeling onstage when you're trying something and you're losing the crowd because you're indulging in a moment and just don't have that thing that grabs someone. That feedback plays into the studio environment, you take that with you to say 'Okay, I've gotta make sure I'm constantly aware of that.' Even if it's kind of a constant awareness it still affects decisions you make in that environment. I also think it's important to not be locked away in the studio from an emotional wellbeing standpoint. There's no windows in the studio, it's a dark environment. It's definitely another world. It's important to be out there and see people and get to know people and experience travel and I think there's a lot of benefits for me as a person who

loves to write music. If I don't have experiences because I'm constantly inwards because I'm always in the studio, I think a creative implosion can happen there. I think it's dangerous to be doing one thing or the other. It's important to have a happy balance. It's also about having time off to do things that are completely unrelated to music as well, explore other art forms like photography and film. I don't just want to do one thing.

G: *Spirit* almost reminds me of a film soundtrack in certain ways. Is film something that has influenced your work? Would you be interested in doing soundtracks?

Milosh: Film is something that interests me in general in a really big way. I have my own RED camera package for a reason. I do a lot of filming. I direct and shoot and edit most of my own videos. Not that I'm the best at it but I like it, it feels fun. Making music for film is a very natural connection for me, I'm not always doing that. Sometimes I get like, 'Oh yeah I'm making something that would work really well in a live environment'. *Spirit* to me is very soundtrack-oriented in a lot of ways. It's not specifically for film but it's definitely of that world. It comes from that world of music to accompany an emotion or a scene.

G: Your life has changed a lot since the first Rhye album came out. Do you still relate to the older material or has how you relate to

MUSIC »

it changed?

Milosh: The way I relate to it changes. The first Rhye record I wrote eight years ago. My life is dramatically different now. Songs don't lose meaning to me but you start realizing there's other meanings in the songs. I have this weird connection with my old music where I can feel I can hear that I prophesy a lot of the things that have happened in my life, which is why I try and never put out negative songs or anything that has negative connotations because it often manifests itself at some point in reality. For me, the songs they do change and my relationship to them changes. Also, the live show has changed too. We are augmenting or changing parts or modulating sections or slowing down the tempo. Sometimes I'll hear the first record and be like 'Oh that's how it goes. I've changed it so much it's half-time now.' I don't think music is supposed to be exactly how it is when you recorded it. I think you're supposed to allow your life to influence the way you play it and your relationship with songs can change. Your whole perspective changes on it.

G: *Spirit* is much more piano focused, will your live show be switched around to reflect this? Will

you change the arrangement of your other signs to reflect the focus on the piano in this album?

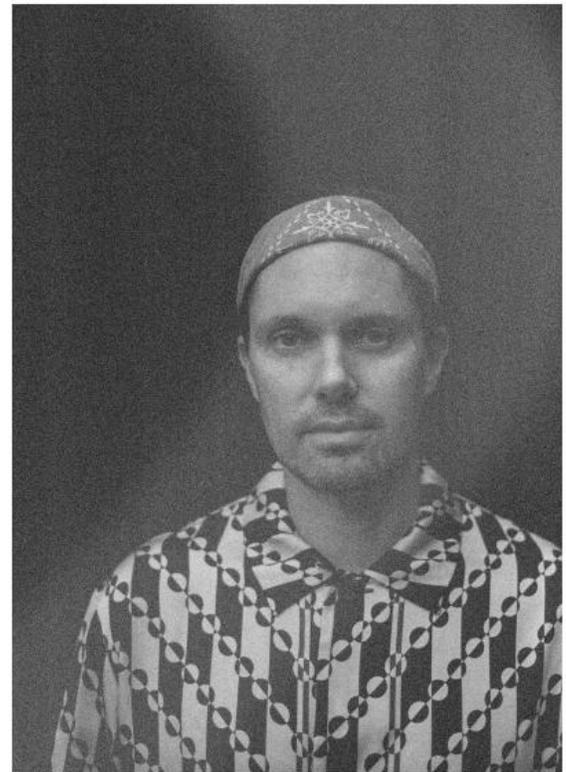
Milosh: No. For me. If I was to properly do *Spirit* as a live show I'd do it just as piano and vocals and I'd make it a 40 minute show just in a 40 person venue or something like that. Really quaint, really small, really special. For me a Rhye isn't just trying to emulate *Spirit*. It's one piece of work in a much larger body. The way I approach live shows, it's not just the album either. Me just doing *Spirit* and just doing the piano is not what I'm doing. This tour we're doing in Canada is seven people on stage, it's guitar and cello — there's violins. There's a lot more going on and a lot more dynamics than *Spirit* has. *Spirit* feels to me like a record that you listen to by yourself but if I had to do all of those songs I'd recreate the feeling of playing for one individual. For Rhye shows I don't know how that music would translate to some of the environments Rhye plays. I think it requires a different environment.

G: Has travelling and living in different places around the world had an influence on your creativity?

Milosh: Yeah, 100 percent. I used

to feel it had an even bigger impact but then I started to realize at a certain point that my personal relationships really have the biggest impact on my music because they really affect different states of being. Travel has a massive impact on the rhythms of your own life and your views on things. You get to be exposed to all of these different artists especially because we play a lot of festivals I get to hear a lot of different artists that I maybe wouldn't have the time to search out myself and that kind of falls into things like 'Oh wow, there are things happening in music that sounds like that. Do I want to do that? Maybe not?' Sometimes I react against it almost negatively but that also means I was informed in some way. I've got this deep disdain for trap beats right now because I keep hearing so much of it and everything I'm doing is personally staying away from that genre because there's enough trap in the world and there's enough of those recycled 808 beats that I'm like 'Eh, I'm definitely not doing that' so I'm also informed by that as a reaction against it. You definitely have to get out there and partake in things to have a creative identity.

This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity



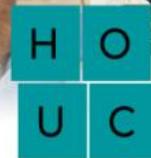
Rhye's latest album *Spirit* was released in May.

courtesy NICOLE MANGIOLA

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MOVIES »



Melanie Martinez's *K-12* was released on Sept. 5 in conjunction with her album of the same name.

courtesy YOUTUBE

K-12: Social Justice or Sensationalism?

Olivia Van Nguyen
Contributor

I was a fan of Melanie Martinez's debut album, *Crybaby*. The album had a very distinct and interesting tone and it didn't shy away from dealing with important issues. Songs on the album included themes of beauty and plastic surgery culture on "Mrs. Potato Head" and dysfunctional families on "Dollhouse." Melanie Martinez also has a very unique voice which I liked. Four years later, Melanie has now released a new album, *K-12*, accompanied by a feature-length movie.

The opening of the movie is very promising, my favourite part. *Crybaby* (Melanie Martinez) wakes up in a pastel-pink, Carrollian bedroom, which I adored. The entire movie has a whimsical tone which can dive into dark territory — it's biggest strength. The sets and costumes are lavish and the accompanying album acts as a soundtrack, making the music distinct. The incorporation of the opening song really is smooth, catchy and upbeat. The sequence made me optimistic for what was to come. Then, the movie's issue's began.

I assumed that since the album was written to accompany the movie, it would play out like a musical and the songs would elevate the plot. Instead, it's clear the songs were written first. *K-12* suffers from jukebox musical syndrome. The plot is messy and meandering and it feels like the characters are acting out any needed scenarios for the songs to play in order. This

is fine if you're watching for the world and music, but if you were expecting a central message, *K-12* is unable to provide one.

The acting is another issue. Melanie Martinez is a good singer and musician, but I'm not confident in her acting. She needs to convey some heavy emotions throughout the story, and it comes off as stiff, especially next to the other actors.

This is a very social-justice oriented film. It attempts to make statements about social issues such as drugs, racism, suicide, taxes on tampons, sexualization of women, rape culture, pedophilia, eating disorders, fame, crowd mentality, gender roles, transgender politics, misogyny and Donald Trump to name a few. Since this film has so much to say, your attention is drawn to how ill-equipped the plot is to deal with it.

It's not enough to simply bring up an issue, you also need to make a statement about it. *K-12* doesn't spend enough time on each issue to do that. There's a scene where a black student refuses to stand for the pledge of allegiance and gets dragged off by guards with no follow-up. The scene lasts thirty seconds and the student isn't seen again. In another scene, a teacher gets fired for coming out as transgender, but it's also ineffective for the same reason.

The motif is limiting. With the first album, you got the sense that Martinez was working with child-like devices such as toys and elementary school. It was an interesting shtick, but not

everything in the album had to tie directly into it. Since *K-12* is a movie and follows the storyline of a character dressed in pastel clothes going to elementary school, the motif can't be turned off when it doesn't fit. Even though the message about legalizing cannabis holds up, it's a little hard to agree with when it's being spoken by characters who are supposed to be children.

Other issues include some sexually explicit scenes done by actors who are supposed to be portraying kids. I suppose the age of the characters is ambiguous, but it still leaves an uncomfortable feeling. There's a song about bulimia called "Orange Juice" that conflates bulimic people with juicers because you put in solid food and liquid comes out. Another song is called "High School Sweethearts" and is one of those "I'm a hot mess and you'd better put up with it" songs. It's a little concerning that the typecast "good guy" is singing that.

The closest thing to a plot is that *Crybaby* and her friends have superpowers and they're trying to find other people who have those powers. I'm not sure what the superpowers represent here, but every possibility I can think of is problematic in some way.

This is a bold statement that may be presumptuous, but I think this film does not actually care about the social issues it presents. I am not saying Martinez or the people involved in the film don't care. I am saying that the film does not care.

There's an entire sequence dedi-

cated to eating disorders, in which the protagonist states to the camera that your body is perfect the way it is and you're beautiful at any size. This is a great message. However, it's a little hard to believe that the movie believes this because there is not a single plus-size actor in it, either as a main character or an extra. Not one. Even the actress portraying a bulimic character is conventionally beautiful.

There's a scene about sexism, in which the protagonist again states directly to the camera that people should not be limited to certain roles because of their gender. But again, does the movie actually believe that? So many characters are just gender stereotypes. Characters with traditionally feminine traits are all catty, drama-stirring villains, and characters who are traditionally masculine are all misogynists, pedophiles and rapists. All of the men in this movie are villains except the two POC men, and non-binary representation is nonexistent.

The film discusses racism through a ham-fisted Colin Kaepernick parallel. But it's hard to imagine there was no racial bias on set when every single "bad guy" character is portrayed by a white person. Eighty-five per cent of the cast and extras are white, and the remaining minority is predominantly black. I can count the extras of other ethnicities on one hand. To me, that's a good sign that the casting would rather not be diverse,

and a small group of black people were cast out of white guilt.

K-12 exemplifies everything wrong with what I like to call social justice sensationalism. In areas where the audience is paying attention, the film is more than happy to spout lines about progressivism. But where the audience isn't paying attention, the movie is practically stuck in the eighties. *K-12* doesn't care about impeaching Donald Trump, it just wants you to know it hates Donald Trump. *K-12* doesn't want to do anything about racism, it just wants you to know it hates racism. This is a syndrome that spreads to plenty of other films claiming to make a social statement.

The next time you see a piece of media that claims to be making a social statement, think critically about what it actually believes. Does this "strong female character" movie truly believe women are just as strong as men? If so, then why are all the villain's hench people portrayed by men? Does this black character represent diversity? If so, then why is he the only black character? If we judge *K-12* by the messages it sets by example, it's that women are superior to men, white men are the root of all evil, and all authority figures should die. So overall, Melanie Martinez's *K-12* gets a rating of 2/10. I do recommend watching it though, if only for the visuals, music and for the realizations it gave me.

CCMA's »

Canadian Country Music Awards give Calgary some giddy up

Photos by Bradley Dezall

The Canadian Country Music Association Awards came to Calgary Sept. 8 and the *Gauntlet* had a front row seat for the action, both on the red carpet and backstage. Old favourites like Billy Ray Cyrus walked the carpet alongside up-and-coming stars like JoJo Mason and Sons of Daughters. Enjoy the photo recap and check out the interviews online at thegauntlet.ca.



Brett Kissel took home the Fan's Choice Award.



Brett Kissel was nominated in multiple categories.

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Tenille Townes took home Female Artist of the Year.



Jade Eagleson won the Rising Star award.



The Washboard Union took home the award for Group of the Year.



Alan Doyle was a presenter. He's recently signed a solo deal.



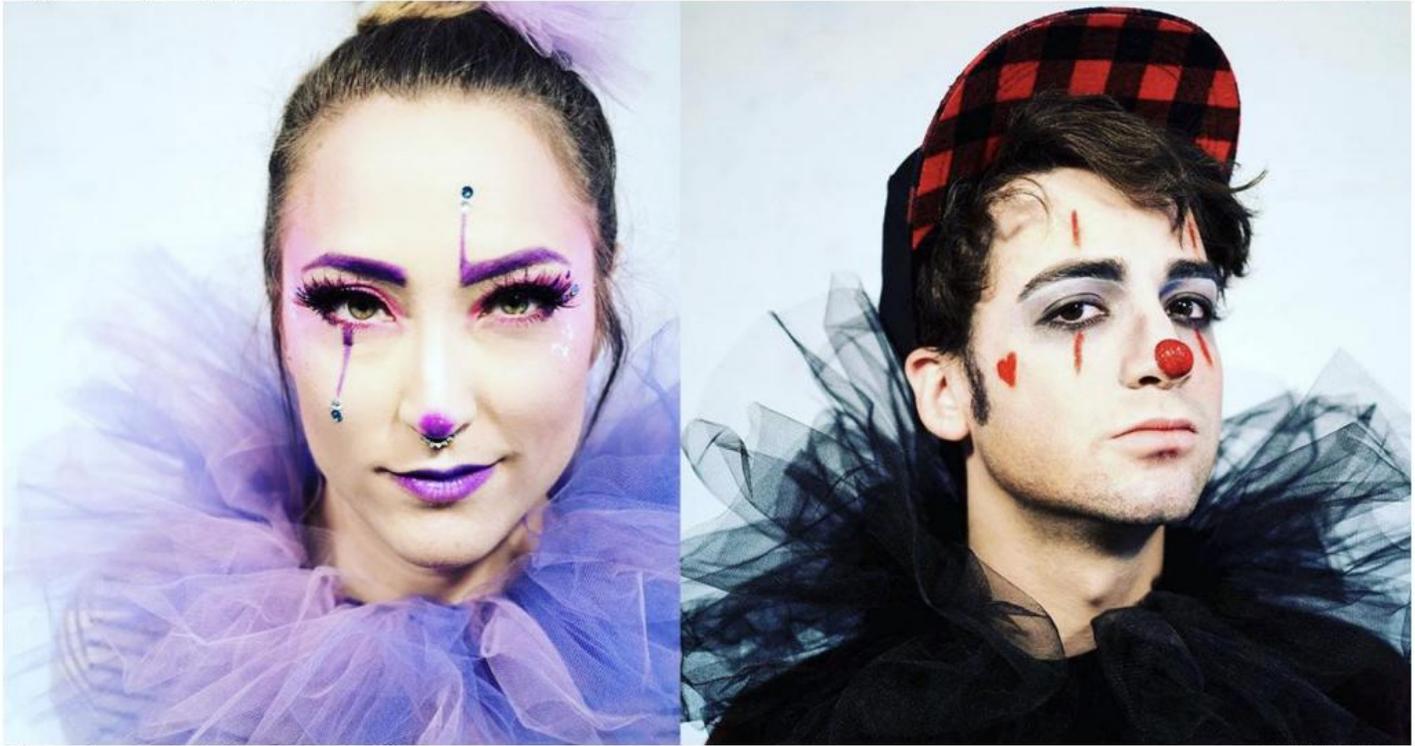
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Calgary Clown Festival will run Sept. 18–21.

courtesy CALGARY CLOWN FESTIVAL

Calgary Clown Festival celebrates physical comedy

Troy Hasselman
Arts & Culture Editor

The Pumphouse Theatre will play host to Calgary's clowns and clown-lovers alike in the inaugural Calgary Clown Festival. Over four days in September red noses, wild hair and white makeup will reign in a diverse lineup that showcases the great clown work done here in Calgary and across the country and as well show the depths of clownery.

The idea for the Calgary Clown Festival came in collaboration between the Pumphouse Theatre and Calgary Clown Society, taking inspiration from similar festivals that happen in other Canadian cities.

"Chris Gamble, the artistic director of the Calgary Clown Society, and I have worked together before and we both practice the art of clowning," says Kelly Malcolm, Pumphouse Theatre Programming Director. "We both said to ourselves 'It would be really great if we could have a clown festival here in the city. Because Toronto has one, Montreal has one, Edmonton has one so it would be really nice to see that here in our own city.' I approached them and said, 'Is this something we as the Pumphouse would be interested in?' We collaborated on it and we're very excited."

The lineup for the festival in-

cludes both established and local clowns, with the headliners being Canadian clowning legends Mump and Smoot, who will perform their show *Something* on Sept. 20 and 21. *Something* follows Mump and Smoot through a chaotic nightmare world with stopovers including a wake and a disastrous trip to a doctor's office.

"When we think of Canadian clowns, Mump and Smoot are it," Malcolm says. "They were here a few years ago for the High Performance Rodeo and sold out the Martha Cohen Theatre at Alberta Theatre Projects. We are so excited to have them."

Local talent is showcased in the Clown Snack Pack, three short shows with two done by clowns from Edmonton and one done by a Calgary clown.

"One of those shows is *Desperate Shakespeare*, about a woman clown who is inspired as a housewife to take on all the women characters of Shakespeare," Malcolm says. "That is played by Iam Coulter, who was the artistic director of the Shakespeare Company here in Calgary for years and is a Shakespeare expert so we're so excited to have her share her expertise on that. We have another one called *Mandated Birthday* which is all about socialist clowns having a mandated birthday party which will be a lot of fun. We also have a

show called *Bubbling Over* which has two haphazard scientists create experiments in their lab and it goes a bit wonky."

Other performances featured in the festival include the darker *Jan and Peg's Ritual Sacrifice* about a tupperware party that turns into a trip to hell. *Teddy* is a family-friendly by Calgary's Green Fools Theatre Society that follows a clown on his search for his beloved, lost dog Bella.

More family-friendly clowning will be on the festival's Family Fun Day on Sept. 21, which includes a performance of *Teddy* and an appearance from vaudevillian James Jordan which combines magic, juggling, music and comedy. Free events on that day will include a dance party with DJ Hankstar, along with crafting, face-painting and a show from *Hamlet the Clown*.

Late night cabarets will be held on Sept. 20 and 21 with performances from local clowns who are working on some new pieces.

The organizers hope that this will give a bigger platform for clowning and physical theatre and make a case for the importance of the arts in building a city.

"It would be really great for the city to have a better understanding of how physical theatre in general works. Not just the practice of clowning, but the art of physi-

cal theatre in general. We have a lot of great practitioners in the city," Malcolm says. "We just want to make sure that continues to be highlighted. With arts funding being cut in recent years, we want to make sure there is a place for stuff like this to be seen, not just in fringe festivals where a lot of our artists get their shows out. We want to make sure our clowns and our physical theatre artists have a place to perform."

The festival shows the range of clowning, with a wide variety of shows and types of clowns being showcased throughout.

"We do have performers who do wear a clown nose but that doesn't necessarily mean it's a red nose — Teddy for example has makeup on his face and a black nose," Malcolm says. "We have performers that will be wearing a clown nose, we have performers like Jan and Peg who will not be wearing a nose. There are a wide range of different themes and styles of clowning that suits not only for young people but things for adults and date nights as well. Mump and Smoot definitely would be a great night — that's a little more of an 18-plus show — so there's something for everyone at our festival."

With the new *It* movie, the upcoming *Joker* movie and the ubiquitousness of clowns in internet memes it feels like clowns are

having a greater cultural presence than they've had in years. Malcolm says that this isn't a coincidence and reflects the chaos found in the world over the last few years. Clowns can act as a barometer for social upheaval and have had their popularity increase in other tumultuous times in history. One only has to look a few years back to remember the bizarre clown sightings across North America in the divisive weeks before the 2016 election.

"Clowns tend to have resurgence when there's turmoil in the world. We kind of work our way out of the woodwork when the world seems to be a little topsy-turvy," Malcolm says. "The clown community has an ability to hold a mirror up to society and say 'Look at how ridiculous we are.' It gives us an ability to laugh at others' misfortunes and to have the ability to express emotion that we can't do otherwise when we're looking at the news, and it's so hard to look at sometimes. We can go to a clown and they can look at the news and we can laugh at that. It's a way for us to express ourselves and reflect that society and give people a chance to reflect those emotions."

The Calgary Clown Festival will be Sept. 18–21 at the Pumphouse Theatre. Information about the theatre and tickets can be found at pumphousetheatre.ca.

FESTIVALS »



Beakerhead emphasises art, science and engineering and will run Sept. 18–22.

courtesy CYNTHIA RADFORD

Beakerhead brings science and art to centre stage

Troy Hasselman
Arts & Culture Editor

Beakerhead, Calgary's annual festival that exists on the intersection of arts, science and technology is set to return with showcases of exhibits across the city that are equal parts innovative and confounding.

The origins of Beakerhead stretch back to 2008 when Beakerhead co-founder Jay Ingram — also known for his time hosting CBC's *Quirks and Quarks* and Discovery's *Daily Planet* — and his partner, new Telus SPARK CEO Mary Anne Moser, were running a science communications program at the Banff Centre. Ingram credits Moser with the concept for Beakerhead.

"She thought a science event in the streets of Calgary that combined art, science and engineering would have some appeal," Ingram says. "I get credit for being the co-founder because she said 'Do you think that's a good idea?' And I said 'Yeah.' Then it came to name it and she had two ideas for a name. Beakerhead was one — I don't know where that came from — and the other was going to be Robertson after the Canadian-invented screwdriver and actually Robertson isn't a bad name but she said 'Which one do you like?' and I said 'Beakerhead.' So that cemented my status as co-founder and that was it."

Beakerhead has steadily grown in popularity and attendance since its inaugural run in 2013. As Ingram noted, this hasn't been without the difficulties of establishing a new festival and dealing with the always-unpredictable Calgary

weather.

"In our first year we got tremendous crowd reaction — people loved it," Ingram says. "We had a three-piece robot, heavy-metal band. Chris Hadfield was at Arts Commons with a band that I play with and we had fantastic people that night. At the same time, if you went around the streets of Calgary after and asked people 'Have you ever heard of Beakerhead?' 19/20 people would say 'No, what is it?' There's no such thing as an overnight sensation, it felt like it but we had to build audience awareness and confidence ever since. We get plagued by bad weather sometimes. The 2014 snowstorm wiped out the first day completely. Last year, Beakerhead on Saturday night at Fort Calgary, the weather was horrid. But people love it, there is something about it that sets it apart from the science center or arts offerings. It works somewhere in between."

In past years, Beakerhead has received a large portion of its exhibitions from outside sources like the Burning Man Festival which happens the first week of September in Nevada. In recent years, however, the festival has been focusing on showcasing local talent and the festival this year has an exceptionally high proportion of local talent.

"We don't want to keep importing art installations from elsewhere," Ingram says. "We want them to be imagined, constructed and designed here in Calgary, if not somewhere in Alberta, and if not Canada. We've brought stuff from Australia, Europe, everywhere but we really want to create a local

group of people to do this. I'd say out of the installations on Prince's Island Park this year, probably four or five are from outside but most of the rest are from here."

For this year's edition, the festival will culminate in "The Spectacle" on Sept. 21 in Prince's Island Park, moving the venue from its previous location at Fort Calgary. Ingram says this change of location offers a more close-together space to hold the event.

"This year, the decision was made to focus more tightly," Ingram says. "Both in terms of numbers of events or installation but also because we're selling tickets now. We sold tickets at Fort Calgary last year and it's very difficult at such a vast area. Prince's island is much more focused, if you price the tickets reasonably you can give people a fantastic experience because it's going to be a lot of Beakerhead stuff in very close quarters with propane everywhere. So I'm confident it's going to be great. It's really more of a logistical thing, if we're going to ask people to pay money we have to make sure it's not too far-flung and it's something they'll have a great experience with."

Some highlights from this year's festival will include work done by local artist Paul Magnuson, who has been previously involved with the festival, and a piece that will have its first display here after technical difficulties prevented a previous exhibition at Burning Man.

"There is a local guy named Paul Magnuson and he's designed something called The Cube which responds to movement and colour

and will react in terms of sound and colour," Ingram says. "We love two things, we love interactive, but we also love putting two things together that you don't ever expect to be together. There's another one called Paraluna by Chrisopher Schardt, whose called the Godfather of LED's. It was at Burning Man but it broke down so it's never been fully shown. It's got 17,000 LED's — it looms over you."

"There is, of course, a fire-breathing dragon as there has to be," Ingram laughs.

Ingram hopes for the festival to continue and be able to grow and join the Stampede as one of the star attractions that people associate our city with.

"I think a city like Calgary that scores incredibly high on liveability, there was that survey that came out recently that places us in fifth in the world or something crazy like that," Ingram says. "I think we should be represented by a more significant event as well as a rodeo, let's have something that reflects tech and the artistic community."

Beakerhead acts as a festival but as well as a means of interesting people in science, and especially gettings kids interested in science.

"I know about the community of people that care about science in this country pretty well," Ingram says. "For many of them, you've got to talk hard science, you've got to get people understanding just what's at the frontiers in science and quite often that's not the right place to start. You can go to quite a few Beakerhead installations and walk away and not really have

learned any science. But we think that experience you've had is one of delight. 'Oh wow, I've seen that. That's incredible.' Not only that but we want kids to think 'You know, maybe I can do that.'

Ingram notes that the link between art and science is one of the things that makes the festival so unique, and the emotional reactions that the festival can give are important to spreading the appreciation of science.

"When I started my career I was keen to give people all the science they could possibly handle and I've become really much more interested in making it entertaining, pulling at your emotions," Ingram says. "Honestly, if you don't communicate a message that has emotion in it, you might as well forget it. I was at a writers event in Ottawa and Guy Vanderhaeghe, the great short story writer, said 'You know, if I want to communicate information I'll write an essay. If I want to communicate emotion I'll write a short story.' He's right, emotion has to be a part of it. If you come up and there's an amazing 35-foot bear that can give you an emotional reaction and if you want to find out more about how those things can be built you can do that."

Beakerhead runs from Sept. 18–22 with exhibitions, workshops and shows taking place over the four days. Tickets range between free and \$70 for events in the festival, with tickets to The Spectacle costing \$27.50 for adults, \$22.50 for youth and free for children 12 and under. For more information about the festival, the lineup and tickets visit Beakerhead.com.

CITY »

Transit cuts impact student commute

Serena Sajan
Contributor

Calgary Transit has been undergoing many budget cuts throughout the years, and this year it is expected that the City of Calgary will be reducing the budget by \$9.3 million. This translates into a cut of 80,000 service hours. There's already a long list of complaints about Calgary Transit, including bus drivers, seeing you running for the bus but deciding to drive away, drivers arriving too early or too late at the bus stop, trains being delayed constantly or rush hour forcing you to wait for the next train. The new municipal budget cut just made this list a bit more interesting. What does the budget cut mean for local Calgarians using transit services?

With a cut of \$2.4 million to "specialized transit," the Calgary Transit Access service will be affected and may cause problems for the 15,000 Calgarians that cannot use regular transit services due to a disability.

There will be increased wait times for Calgarians at bus stops and train stations. This was an issue already, but now it will be much



C-train service will have reduced services after 8 p.m. and on weekends.

MARIAH WILSON

worse. Calgarians can expect to wait up to 40 minutes in cases when a bus is missed or wait 10–15 minutes between trains. Currently, it is forecasted that the Red Line and the Blue Line LRTs will be affected the most, with reduced servicing hours after 8 p.m. and on weekends.

Another issue that the budget cut gives rise to is longer transfers. For those that opt not to purchase a monthly transit pass or don't have a UPass, they may have to purchase

more than one fare during the day due to longer wait times and reduced service hours. Although Calgary Transit expresses that there will be other routes to fill in, it is inevitable that there may only be one way, such as a bus — or a bus and train — to get to a specific destination. It is frustrating, as a student whose commute is about an hour long, to see Calgary Transit struggle to maintain convenience for its users.

What is true disappointment? Missing the bus. Because then you must wait for at least 20 minutes, depending on the route, for the next one. In this way, you might end up late for a class or another commitment. There are many issues that need to be addressed, and this budget cut only adds more fuel to the fire.

New routes were established in fall 2018 with mixed response. Some people found the new routes

to be efficient, whereas it proved to be more troublesome for others. The new route changes introduced three "MAX" buses which are supposed to be faster with intentional stops. However, the MAX Orange took even longer to get to university for the students living in the NE quadrant of the city. Would it not be more efficient if there was a special service bus for university students, say a bus for Mount Royal University and University of Calgary? A service like that would be similar to those offered to high school students that are assigned Transit buses. Of course, with the new budget cuts, this may not be possible anytime soon.

Calgary Transit also expresses that they conduct surveys, asking for feedback and suggestions from the local public that use their services. Either this survey is not marketed enough, or I have been ignorant, because what is supposed to provide the most convenience is evidently becoming a huge inconvenience. Budget cuts or no budget cuts, Calgary Transit needs to take a step back and analyze if they are making decisions that are best for them or the people using their services.

PARKING »

The woes of McMahon stadium parking

Cristina Paolozzi
Opinions Editor

McMahon Stadium has been hosting football games for the Calgary population since 1960. The oldest stadium in the Canadian Football League (CFL), this open space reminds old and new of the thrill of watching people run up and down a really big grassy field. Enchanting. However, McMahon is also used by the students of the University of Calgary as extra parking during the school year. By purchasing a pass from the University's Parking and Transportation Services, you are eligible for a yearly or semesterly parking spot. Extra parking on campus may be music to many students' ears, however, this back-to-school season has me in a little bit of a rant-mode. So buckle up for this hot take on McMahon Stadium and the nuisances of parking a kilometer away from the actual campus.

I've used Purgatory as a meta-

phor for McMahon Stadium many times before, and I don't think it's that off of a description. Usually, there are many people — or cars — just wandering aimlessly. They're probably looking for a parking spot, but could also be searching for a purpose. It can be argued that these are one in the same. If you Google "Purgatory" to try and get a baseline definition, it will let you know that Purgatory is a place for temporary punishment. Alright, maybe I didn't do all of my readings, maybe I didn't study as hard for my algebra midterm as I should have, maybe I was too busy riding a Lime scooter along the river because I wanted to feel alive for a second and forget about the crushing weight of my responsibilities. But the experience of trying to park in McMahon, with its bumpy and uneven lots, seems a little excessive. Not to mention the fact that this space isn't available all the time. If there's a football game later on in the day, you will be encouraged

to leave before five o'clock, which is of course ideal if you have late night courses.

All of these grievances pale in comparison to the fact that McMahon is one whole kilometer away from the campus. You are required to walk for a good 10 minutes to your next class from the football stadium. And I know exactly how this sounds — some lazy undergrad who can't walk a couple of minutes down the street is complaining about the convenience of parking at a little bit of a distance. Hark! 'Tis not mine intention. With the correct circumstances, this is a nightmare.

Imagine: Mid-January, 12 feet of snow, shady weather conditions — but you dragged yourself out of bed anyway because it's a hashtag new year new me — you're turning into McMahon, can't see any of the yellow lines, everyone is parked like a maniac but I suppose you can't blame them because it's a guessing game all around, you pull up beside someone, teeter-

ing precariously, and it finally hits you — it's freezing. And you have a 10 minute walk in the blistering cold ahead of you. You must prepare. You must stay vigilant. Ahead is a steel bus shelter that promises quick transportation. In light of the new budget cuts to Calgary Transit, this bus may take longer than expected. Will it even come at all? You look down at your phone, realizing you have three minutes before your class starts. So alas, the billowing tun-

dra awaits.

There is no mistaking the pain and suffering McMahon Stadium instills in me whenever a new school year comes around. It's a psychological battle, made for individuals with exceptional mental fortitude. I am also a big enough person to let you know that this rant will not enact change, for I will most definitely be parking at McMahon again this year, and therefore must sing these sorrows only to myself.



McMahon stadium offers student parking.

MARIAH WILSON



MARIAH WILSON

CAMPUS COMMUNITY »

Student clubs are a great way to get involved and make new friends

Valery Perez
Contributor

As a new year begins, so does the anticipation/dread of the course load about to come and we find ourselves in search of something to break the same routine of lectures, assignments and work. Wandering around the halls from class to class can feel lonely, as you struggle to awkwardly introduce yourself to classmates in hopes of sparking a more meaningful connection other than just passing each other lecture notes from skipped classes. In an attempt to become involved in a community, looking at clubs can be a good first step in the right direction. However, looking through 334 club profiles can be overwhelming. Below are a few highlighted clubs to help give you some ideas about which ones you might like to join.

Outdoor Clubs:

Calgarians are incredibly blessed

to have one of the greatest neighbouring landscapes in the world — The Rocky Mountains. Locally born and raised individuals tend to take advantage of their beautiful backyard and be heavily involved in outdoor activities. Throughout the year, you can find them camping and hiking and being unafraid of winter while snowshoeing or skiing. Many are also interested in the conservation work that can be done and the knowledge gained from working to preserve the Rockies. The U of C has a variety of clubs that involve students interested in exploring the mountains, providing activities for individuals of various experience levels to get in touch with their inner adventure buff. The Outdoor Adventures Club is a group focused on promoting a healthy lifestyle through the outdoors. They offer group hikes and scrambles, rock climbing, and other activities meant for people of all experience levels. The UCalgary Parks Canada Club is a group focused on in-

spiring and encouraging students to explore Canada's parks. As well as encouraging conservation. This club hosts events such as Learn to Camp, where they teach individuals how to do anything from starting a fire to packing their own mountain-appropriate first aid kit. They also plan on hosting an information evening with various speakers from the parks, with the purpose of informing and involving individuals in the conservation of the mountains.

Cultural Clubs:

Many Canadians are also immigrants or have immigrant parents or backgrounds. Having a culture or cultures to which we feel connected to and make us who we are, helps to find common ground. The University of Calgary celebrates the diversity of its students by providing a broad range of social cultural clubs. This allows students of similar backgrounds to expand their social network through the planning of potluck dinners, karaoke nights

and other fun social events. There are 32 cultural and ethnic clubs to choose from, the Arabic Culture Club, the Taiwanese Students' Association and the Polish Students' Club. The Latin American Student's Association (LASA) focuses on connecting individuals through various Latin American cultures. They are an active group that hosts potlucks, galas and a Year End Fiesta. It is the perfect club to join if you're looking to form connections with individuals from the different Latin American communities — Latin American ethnicity not needed.

Volunteer-Based Clubs:

For those students interested in volunteering their time to organizations in Calgary, there are a few clubs affiliated with Calgarian volunteer foundations and organizations. The LINKages club is affiliated with the LINKages Society in Calgary, whose goal is to end the segregation of older generations in mainstream society. This is done through hosting various types of events, such as

music nights or board game nights, where the older generation can connect with students. If people aren't your cup of tea, Pawsitive Change might be the perfect choice. They are a club on campus affiliated with the Pawsitive Match Rescue Foundation in Calgary, an animal shelter that focuses on rescuing and housing animals in life-threatening situations. The Pawsitive change club focuses on recruiting volunteers for the Almost Home shelter, and hosting events to raise funds for the shelter's needs.

This list does not begin to cover the variety of clubs offered on campus, but it does highlight some good ones. If you want to know more, visit the Students' Union Club Hub website at <https://su-uofc.campuslabs.ca/engage/organizations>. Many clubs will also be featured during the University of Calgary's own Clubs' Week from September 16 — 20. Club presentations vary daily, so make sure to visit more than once. See you there!

RELATIONSHIPS »

I'll give you mine if you give me yours

Tori Talyor
Lifestyle Editor

I avoid listening to radio talk-shows as much as possible. But, on the rare occasion that my phone fails to sync up with my car's Bluetooth fast enough, I find myself catching a few lines of radio commentary. This was the situation a couple mornings ago. I ended up hearing a conversation regarding the timeline in which it becomes acceptable for a couple to exchange phone and social media passwords. When my music overrode the station and the discussion cut off — I immediately turned it back.

You know when you are repulsed by something but just can't look away? Yeah, that's what happened. I knew I needed to stop listening but my mind was so blown away by the insanity of the opinion that I just couldn't turn it off.

Apparently, giving away the right to personal privacy is how some people show their commitment in a relationship. This boggles my

mind. I've spent a few days wondering in which situation I would ever assume someone's love for me was based on my ability to log-in to their Instagram. I mean— they must be my soulmate because they want to access my phone whenever they please. Should I even consider it a real relationship if they can't read my messages before I do?

The idea that two people need to find security through the exchange of passwords just screams "red-flag" to me. I am an advocate for personal privacy. And I genuinely think that part of caring about someone means you allow that person the same right to their own privacy. You fall in love with a person because of who they are. I think that if you invade every inch of that person's space because you think it will make your relationship more secure then you are fooling yourself. Instead, if you're feeling like you need to monitor the person in order to feel safe— it's likely time to step back and ask some hard questions about

your own insecurities. Why would you need to know a partner's passwords? I don't want to be in a relationship where I feel like it's my job to police their socializations. Likewise, I'm a grown-ass adult and do not need to explain why my Instagram DM's have a few regular creepers. I'm never going to meet @trucksnbuts123456 in person, trust me.

Instagram is filled with beautifully-edited photos and I am the first to like a whole slew of gorgeous bikini pictures. I'm not going to defend my right to follow however many gorgeous people I want just because my partner takes their insecurities out through my social media. I wouldn't love someone less or pick a fight about an ex liking a picture of their #leanandgreen breakfast smoothie.

I'm not an overly private person. I'll hand out my passwords to friends when I'm too lazy to reach for my own phone. If you're closest to it and I need to know who is blowing my phone up then I'll tell you to rapid fire your finger on the number one until the lock screen disappears. But

it's a completely different situation to believe that you deserve my passwords. I have vulnerable conversations with family and friends that will always remain private between myself and the other party. I respect my sister and when she trusts me with her personal problems — I don't go to tell other people. There are some things don't need to be shared. I believe that whomever you choose to partner up with should be the first to trust that you share with them almost everything because you want to do so — not because you're obligated by a

social norm that fuels insecurity and jealousy.

At the end of the day, every relationship is unique and so are the boundaries between the people involved. I would suggest thinking twice before diving down the rabbit hole of "regulated password exchanges." It may be a better idea to have a conversation about trust and open conversation within your partnership so that you both feel genuine security instead of an impulse to go through their text messages as validation.



Is it a sign of relationship security when you share phone passwords? TRICIA LIM

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LIFESTYLE »

RISE & SHINE »

Find your morning routine for a more productive day

Tori Taylor
Lifestyle Editor

Sticking to a healthy morning schedule will set you up for a productive day. A morning routine is a way to organize your mind and body before taking on whatever tasks you have planned. Some days — even entire weeks — can seem overwhelming and frantic. It's not easy to get through the days when you wake up agitated and feeling behind from the very start. You can set yourself up for success and a better mood by putting a steady morning routine in place.

Everybody has slightly different variations of what they prefer to do in the early morning. Some people enjoy breakfast and some people do not. Some people are quite active and others are not. Some people work or have school early and some people don't need to be up and at it until much later in the day. Regardless of your daily schedule, there are certain things that you should always include.

Pick the right wake-up time:

There is no need to stress out about a 5 a.m. alarm. Not everyone is able to wake up that early and have a good day. It has long been said that early

morning people are more productive. There is good evidence to suggest that early-risers do accomplish more than those who sleeping. However, this is not necessarily true. These studies focus on the majority of people who work 9–5 day jobs. There are actually many people who work best in the afternoon and evening. There is nothing wrong with being a night-owl as long as you are able to sleep appropriately. Picking a wake-up time that fits your body and your daily needs is important. You don't want to sacrifice sleep or sanity to fit yourself into a box that doesn't work for you.

Make the big daily decisions the night before:

It can be stressful to wake up and feel like you need to immediately put together your day while frantically making coffee and trying to find your keys. Instead of thinking you'll make your schedule on the fly, try writing out your daily to-dos the night before. If you wake-up to an already-planned day then it is easy to move from one item to the next without forgetting anything. Waking up to an alarm and having a schedule to follow without having to stress over what to do first in the morning haze before your coffee kicks in will give your brain an easier morning start. You can focus

**Drink a big glass of water before bed.**

CHEYENNE LEMAIRE

energy on completing the things you already know you have to do instead of focusing on cramming your tasks in last minute or forgetting something important.

Focus your mind and body in a positive way:

There are a lot of different routines that work well. It's a unique process for you to experiment with and find out what fits your needs. For some people it is important to spend a few minutes with their significant other. For people it is important to have positive affirmations be the first thing they say or hear. The best way to focus your mind and body when you

wake up is to know what fuels you. Positive energy is so important and establishing an attitude of confidence before you leave your house will help you succeed. You might want to try journaling for five minutes about something up-lifting. You might enjoy a form of meditation to ground your mind and be present in the new day. Sometimes spending a few minutes stretching can be a great way to get your body moving.

Exercise and hydration:

A big glass of lemon water goes a very long way. Lemon water will wake you up and hydrate your organs. It quenches your thirst and can bal-

ance your body's pH levels. If lemon water isn't something you are willing to try then you just try a big glass of regular water. Starting your morning with hydration has got to be the best feeling. Sometimes we go all day without realizing we've barely hydrated our bodies. Dehydration is a huge reason for headaches and feeling sick or lethargic. It's also important to get your blood flowing and warm up your body before sitting down in a desk or at in office. If you can implement a way to be physically active for even a short amount of time every morning you will reap benefits. Being able to exercise before you start your day can ground your mind and fire up your body.

With this open blue print in mind, it's up to you to decide what your morning routine should look like. The main idea is that you wake up feeling happy and prepared for your day. Don't sit on social media scrolling while your confidence drops as fast as your will to get out of bed. Find things that lift you up and fuel you. What you choose to do when you wake up sets the tone for your whole day. It only makes sense to have a set routine that feeds your potential and prepares you to tackle whatever you've got going on.

FACEBOOK OFFICIAL»

Why you should not rush into relationship labeling

Tori Taylor
Lifestyle Editor

In a dating-app saturated generation, there is pressure to put a label on any and every type of relationship that you click into. It makes sense. You meet someone new. You enjoy them and decide to meet up again. Repeat this a few times and then delete Hinge because the "single" box no longer defines you. But, it is unlikely that rushing to put on the "I'm with him" name-tag will bring you the happiness that you're looking for. With social media being such a heavy part of our lives, labeling relationships has become just as important — if not more important — in the online world. "Facebook official" was the status of security when I was in high school. Now, I notice many people feel they've locked down a stable relationship if their Instagram bio includes a partners initials or certain emojis — like locks. It would seem that we have gone above and beyond the simple girlfriend/boyfriend labels and moved right onto marking our territory online. We want the label in our

**Rushing into labels can add unnecessary pressure.**

MARIAH WILSON

real-world socialization. We crave the publicity of our partnership in the online-world. And, eventually, we idealize that physical band on our finger as the ultimate safe-space.

Of course, this is not the case for all of us. I know many people share my frustrated stance on the pressure to put a fluid thing in a solid box. I find there are those that take labels to another level and thrive off of them. And, on the other end — almost equally — there are those of us who seem quite repulsed by the idea.

There are several routine markers that a relationship is progressing towards the "what are we" talk. If you are exclusive, spending weekends together and people describing you as a couple if they see you in public then you are likely dating. But whether or not that talk is important to you remains unique to the parties involved. It seems silly to force a conversation when the natural flow feels healthy and happy. It could be said that if you're feeling a need for definition because you don't feel secure in the relationship

— it perhaps is not the healthiest. I would like to think that being called someone's girlfriend is not what gives me a feeling of confidence in the relationship. If the person you are with makes you feel respected and valued then I am a supporter of enjoying the growth of the relationship without pressure to label anything.

Putting a label on something can add negative pressure — particularly if the label is used before the natural progression of the relationship has actually reached that point. There can be a lot of expectations behind "dating." If this pressure comes too soon, you might risk losing something that could have blossomed without being spooked. A lot of us have been in crappy relationships and it's hard not to bring some of that baggage into new ones. If there are labels tossed around too early it isn't weird that someone might feel suddenly trapped and overwhelmed.

Another issue with labels might arise as the people involved leave their "honeymoon phase." In other words, when you first meet some-

one, it's easy to get swept away by the thrill. It's difficult to really know the other person when you're focused on that first rush of infatuation. By avoiding labeling the relationship right away, you can give yourself more time to get to know each other without pressure. It's important to let a natural bond form. It feels a lot better knowing that you both want to be together because of mutual feelings instead of just wanting to flush away your "single" label as quickly as Bumble does your data.

Evaluating what relationship labeling means to you is an interesting exercise. A label can be highly valued or devalued based on the power you give it. For some of us, being married is held in high esteem and, oppositely, there are some of us that feel the word is meaningless. At the end of the day it is up to you whether you feel you need to be with someone who finds security in labelling your relationship or if the labels do not change the actual relationship you have with your partner.



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INTRAMURALS »

Stay active and social with friends on campus

Tori Taylor
Sports and Lifestyle Editor

Welcome to the level playing field of sports. Most of us have specific sports we are experienced in or physical capabilities that are more finetuned than others. We often stick to these skills and don't seek out learning new ones. It can be intimidating to feel vulnerable as an adult learning a new sport. But, when it comes to intramural teams, there is an even ground for everyone to join in. You do not need to be a soccer, volleyball or basketball player to enjoy playing on an intramural team at the University of Calgary.

University is a rewarding and amazing place full of learning opportunities. However, it can also be incredibly stressful and leave you feeling overwhelmed and imbalanced. If you are not someone with a regimented exercise routine or social life it can be quite difficult to stay healthy and make friends. Intramurals offer the best of both worlds — taking care of your physical and mental health.

Setting aside time to workout can be tough. It's often pushed to the end of the day and then neglected. Instead of forcing yourself onto a treadmill, try heading



Intramural Sports are a great way to keep active while building long-lasting friendships.

SHANGNONG HU

out with friends to spend a couple hours enjoying company and playing a good, sweaty volleyball game.

Intramurals offer students time to turn off their academic brains and relax. We all need the chance to turn off. It's great to be able to wind down from the stress of mid-terms and essays while keeping your body healthy. Laughter is

medicine and you will definitely find a lot to laugh about while casually competing in team sports.

Making new friends on campus can be a difficult situation. Playing team sports gives you the opportunity to meet new people in a capacity that builds long-lasting friendships. The people you play with will support you as you learn

new skills and build each other up. You'll learn to work as a group and compete positively against other teams. This is the perfect environment for real connections to take place.

The U of C offers competitive and recreational league options for each sport. If you want to try something brand new then you can

be in a recreational league. If you are more interested in playing a sport you're familiar with then it's probably best that you play on a competitive team. The university offers basketball, volleyball, soccer, hockey, flag football and dodgeball. All intramural information can be found on www.ucalgary.ca/active-living.

BEDTIME RITUALS »

Having a healthy bedtime routine will set you up for success

Tori Taylor
Sports and Lifestyle Editor

As a student, it's very important that you are getting the right amount of sleep. Going to bed can be hard to do if you don't have a regular routine because your body's rhythm is off. Having morning and evening rituals that signify the beginning and end of your day will help your mind and body know when to turn on and when to turn off. A bedtime routine allows you to create evening habits for relaxation that makes it easier to fall asleep on a schedule.

Stay on a schedule:

It doesn't seem like something that should matter, but going to bed and waking up around the same time is quite important for your mind and body. We all have internal clocks and when we mess them up or deprive them of what they need, it becomes harder to sleep. When we don't get enough sleep then we have rough days and set up a negative cycle that is difficult to correct. Sticking to your routine will let your body set into its natural rhythm and you will have an easier time putting yourself to bed.



Creating a consistent ritual before bed will allow your body to fall into its natural rhythm.

YASMINE ELSAYED

Pay attention to what you eat or drink close to bedtime:

For most of us, it's hard to sleep if you have caffeine or any type of stimulant before bed. Some people are even more sensitive and should avoid caffeine any time in the later afternoon. Listening to your body is important as you wind down for the evening. Every one is different and reacts different to eating before bed. For some people it helps to have a light snack before bed. Healthy snacks like fruit, almonds and vegetables can be part of a nightly rou-

outine. Drinking a big glass of water before bed is a great way to stay hydrated and may help your sleep quality. Kombucha or fermented foods can also be good evening snacks as they are full of probiotics and regulate your body's gut flora.

Have a peaceful bedroom:

The mood in your bedroom is a huge deal when it comes to setting healthy sleeping habits. If you do a lot of activities in your that are not sleeping then your bedroom can become a place that is no longer linked to

sleep. Making your bedroom a sleep-only or relaxation-only zone will go a very long way. If your brain links your bedroom to a quiet area for sleeping, then you will find it much easier to fall asleep just by being in your room. You can make your bedroom a peaceful place with dim lighting or candles. You might start a rule where you have no electronics after a certain hour. Perhaps you like a relaxing type of music that you can play as you prepare for bed. Keeping your area tidy and clean may also play a role in the ambience. If your bed is covered in dirty clothes

and food wrappers, then you may find it hard to get a good night sleep — unless you go by Oscar and have an overgrowth of long green body hair.

Pick a bedtime ritual:

A bedtime ritual can be a number of different activities. Finding what suits you best can be a fun experiment to try out over the next while. Trying to shut down electronics before bed is a good idea. Replacing the bedtime-scroll with a book or journaling is a great place to start. Reading a book for 10–20 minutes may be the perfect routine to close your eyes and quiet down your mind. Likewise, journaling about your day or the day-to-come may be an opportunity for peaceful reflection and goal-setting. Perhaps you like to take baths or an evening shower. Putting on a face mask or taking time for self-care is another great route to explore.

At the end of the day we all need time to wind down and release stress. The specific routine that you choose to set for yourselves depends on your own needs. It is important to take time and set up the best possible nightly schedule so that you can be well rested and prepared for the next day.

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HUMOUR »

HOW DO YOU DO, FELLOW KIDS? »

Observations from infiltrating orientation

Clandestine Clown
Incognito and idiotic

Look around my orientation group in fear as they loudly recite “our” faculty cheer. Hopefully, my reaction will be interpreted as first-year jitters rather than revealing that I’m used to the energy of a much less excitable faculty — and that I’m not in my first year. My disguise is simple — a faculty colour-coded T-shirt. The second you put it on, you cease being a regular person. You are a First-Year Baby, who will never be questioned for taking free stuff. The free stuff is for First-Year Babies, after all!

I’m not good at lying. My friend, who is not a University of Calgary student but is a fellow fan of free stuff, accompanies me and aides in the lying department. Having someone that you can hide in a corner with makes it a lot easier to avoid having to lie at all. Any situation where I’m with an actual first-year is a moment closer to me blowing my cover because I simply cannot handle the upkeep of such a ruse, even while making small talk. It’s not necessar-



My collection of faculty shirts.

MARIAH WILSON

ily disastrous if this happens, but I suppose it takes all the fun out of having a secret. I just can’t help but feel that in a situation such as, let’s say a scavenger hunt for example, that I wouldn’t want to partake in this more lengthy activity with people just for them to potentially find out down the road that I betrayed them with my shenanigans. Or maybe they wouldn’t care at all, because either way, we won a gift card.

Over the years of pretending to be a first-year, I’m often asked if it’s worth the ruse. Is the free stuff really that good? The answer is no, of course not. Campus Expo, originally my favourite place to get free stuff, has been separated from orientation at this point. No ruse required. This year’s Kickoff Tailgate, which is open to everyone and free for students, gave out free phone grips, beef jerky and a frankly unreasonable amount of

foam footballs. At this point, the only free stuff that requires some level of deceit is the faculty T-shirt and bracelets for free lunch. With a schedule for orientation, one could easily pop in just to get free stuff, stealthily sneaking out of Induction and elective sessions. But is that what I did? Of course not.

This year’s Induction really cemented for me that this ceremony is really not meant to be attended

more than once. Being exposed to the exact same speech by the vice-provost of student experience year after year, complete with repeated jokes, made me realize the depths of my own memory. But to be fair, she has no reason to rewrite a single word of it. This is what I’ve signed myself up for.

Elective sessions are completely different. You never know what to expect. Last year, the session on entrepreneurial thinking was listed to take place in a room where a different session was already taking place, sending a flock of confused students to the Hunter Hub. It’s meant to be on entrepreneurial thinking, after all. But alas, it was closed, not an innovative thought to be found. This year, I attended a tour of CJSW during which a student asked if they played “good music.”

Would I recommend sneaking into orientation? I guess that depends on if you also want to build a rainbow in faculty shirts.

And who am I? That’s one secret I’ll never tell. You know you love me.

XOXO,
Clandestine Clown

HOROSCOPES »

Will you fall in love this Thursden?

Samantha Rigor
Specialist of the stars

ball guy eating a whole pizza like a taco is the most interesting thing ever.

The figure approaches and it’s PeTeR TrAcEy.

Libra
(Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)
From O-week to the first full week of hell — I mean classes — you’ll have no shortage of new friends, but maybe not a lover this time round. Unless...?

Capricorn
(Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)
Treat yourself right this Thursden! Have fun! Order whatever you want. After all, summer’s over! How are you going to love someone else if you can’t love yourself. #freshman15

Aries
(March 21 – April 19)
Have your heart — and stomach — open for what Thursden has to offer. Just be sure you’re prepared to open them back up for returning those offers back up in the toilet. You know how they say to find love in unexpected places. Who’s that holding your hair?

Scorpio
(Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)
Maybe you’ll meet someone new in that awful UPass line in Science B. You’ll head to Thursden for a date and finish the night on a romantic stroll past the UPass line for old times’ sake.

Aquarius
(Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)
You’ve enrolled in two horrible classes this term and will come to regret it after experiencing a whole week of them. Instead of finding love at Thursden, you open your phone to find a substitute class.

Taurus
(April 20 – May 20)
Highlights of this Thursden will just include chowing down enough half-price pizzas to last you into midterms with your best buddies. Who says Thursden has to be about romance?

Sagittarius
(Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)
You took full advantage of The Den’s drink pricing on Thursdays. You say the wrong thing to a date, pretend that it didn’t just happen and look around The Den as if a foot-

Pisces
(Feb. 19 – March 20)
You find yourself at The Den, keeping an eye out and someone special makes their way out of the dimly lit crowd amidst those fat beats.

Gemini
(May 21 – June 20)
Take a chance! Take Thursden as a sign of luck. Instead of confessing anonymously to ucalgaryconfessions on



YASMINE ELSAYED

Instagram, shoot your shot towards that special someone and hand them a note asking “Do you like me? Yes or no.”

not food.

Cancer
(June 21 – July 22)
You’ll find yourself relaxing amidst the streetlamps and tropical plants in the atrium instead of partying at Thursden. Plants will always be there for you. Plants are friends,

Leo
(July 23 – Aug. 22)
Your love life resembles the Rundle elevator. It hits home and doesn’t go anywhere.

Virgo
(Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)
You ask a server for a serving of love. They give you a burger.

BINGO »

BINGO

Written by Derek Baker
Designed by Tricia Lim

TFDL

WATCH SOMEONE ASSEMBLE A FULL-COURSE DINNER IN A CUBICLE.	A "STUDY" GROUP BLARES MUSIC ON THE THIRD FLOOR.	COUGHING FIT ON THE SIXTH FLOOR.	SOMEONE MISSED THE TOILET. AGAIN.	GO INTO DEBT AFTER BUYING LUNCH FROM GOOD EARTH.
RETURN A BOOK THREE YEARS OVERDUE BECAUSE THEY WON'T LET YOU GRADUATE.	FACE IN SOMEONE'S ARMPIT IN A CRAMMED ELEVATOR.	NO SPOTS DURING EXAMS.	PRONOUNCE THE TFDL AS "THE TUFF-DULL."	WONDER HOW THIS TAYLOR GUY GOT SO RICH.
TRIP OUT OVER THE SHIFTING MOON ARTWORK.	WONDER HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE HAD SEX ON THIS BEANBAG CHAIR.	REALIZE THAT THE LIBRARY IS ACTUALLY A GOOD RESOURCE IN YOUR FINAL YEAR.	RESTRAIN YOURSELF FROM SLAPPING WHOEVER'S CRUNCHING ON CHIPS ON A QUIET FLOOR.	FALL ASLEEP. WAKE UP FOUR HOURS LATER.
SOMEONE HAS THEIR LAPTOP OPEN AT A COMPUTER DESK.	GET NO WORK DONE AT A WINDOW SEAT.	HAVE A MESSY BREAKDOWN.	CONVERSELY. FEEL SELF-CONSCIOUS OF HOW LOUDLY YOU'RE SNACKING ON A QUIET FLOOR.	SOMEONE FORGETS TO PLUG IN THEIR HEADPHONES AND BLARES CASCADA'S "EVERYTIME WE TOUCH."
RUN OUT OF PRINTING MONEY WHEN IT'S LEAST CONVENIENT.	WIFI WON'T WORK.	SNIPE A WORKROOM SINCE THE GROUP WHO BOOKED IT IS LATE.	IS THAT A MAGPIE?	THE BOOK YOU NEED IS CHECKED OUT FOR THE WHOLE SEMESTER.

TFDL

BINGO

PRIDE 2019 »

Photo recap: Pride



PHOTOS BY MARIAH WILSON

CROSSWORD »

Highschool bye-school Crossword

Frankie Hart
Puzzle Composer

Congratulations to Nikita Tripathi and Sami Parker for being the first students to submit last issue's crossword!

ACROSS:

- 4. ____ were observed through deep elastic scatter.
- 5. ____ rasa.
- 7. Structure(s) cut during a vasectomy.
- 9. "____ is the soul of wit."
- 10. Solitary, poor, nasty, ____, and short.
- 11. In the linear equation $y=mx+b$, m represents the ____.
- 12. Valence electrons of atoms in a molecule can be represented by ____ structures.

Send a photo of a completed crossword to humour@thegauntlet.ca. Be among the first three submitters to be congratulated in our next issue and win a *Gauntlet* toque!

LAST ISSUE'S CROSSWORD »

DOWN:

- 1. "Look like th' innocent flower, but be the ____ under 't."
- 2. In algebra, an equation is ____ if a does not equal zero.
- 3. ____ increase reaction rates.
- 5. "Do you bite your ____ at us, sir?"
- 6. The right ____ pumps blood to the lungs.
- 8. Mass multiplied by acceleration is equal to ____.

