Campus Times

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New scholarship honors diversity

Fund will go to Muslim students

Layla Abbas
Assistant Editor

Taghi Mirsepassi founded and established the Heshmat Mirsepassi Endowed Scholarship for Muslim Students at the University of La Verne in honor of his late wife Heshmat.

The first recipient of the scholarship will be awarded for the 2018-2019 school year.

The scholarship is offered to Muslim students who attend La Verne, participate in the Muslim Student Association, demonstrate financial need, maintain a 3.0 GPA and submit a letter of recommendation from their imam or local Muslim leader.

Taghi Mirsepassi, 96 years old, spoke about his late wife, Heshmat Mirsepassi, while tears trickled down his face.

"From the time we got married she was very unhappy that the students would come to school with nothing to eat," he said. "So that is when she decided to save as much as she could to help the needy students."

Heshmat Mirsepassi tucked away money in a box for 65 years. She did not reveal her box of savings to her husband until a week before she died in 2016.

Heshmat Mirsepassi was determined to give back to the community after her time as a school teacher in Iran.

She told Taghi Mirsepassi to use the savings to help Muslim students in need. Taghi Mirsepassi was inspired by his wife's gratitude and her willingness to help students.

"Heshmat was very caring to her students," Taghi Mirsepassi said. "All of the students loved her, because she was very friendly and warm with each of them."

Taghi Mirsepassi became well acquainted with his wife's family after living with them in Tehran, Iran while he attended college. He remembers the generosity of Heshmat's mother who cared for five of her own children and took him in.

Taghi Mirsepassi was 22 years old when his father asked him to start thinking about his own future.

"So I chose to get married, I chose my future to be my wife," Taghi Mirsepassi said. "The rest of it was in the hands of my father. He met with Heshmat's family and made arrangements for the marriage."

At the time, Taghi Mirsepassi made enough money from the railways to support both of them. Heshmat Mirsepassi stopped teaching to take care of their only daughter. Taghi Mirsepassi attended Columbia University and received his master's degree in mechanical engineering in 1948.

After searching for a place to start this scholarship in memory of his wife, he spoke with his neighbor of 30 years and former philosophy/religion professor at La Verne, John Khanjian.

Khanjian told Mirsepassi to speak with the University and he eventually established the scholarship.

"Most Arabs coming to La Verne are going to be first generation, meaning they are not wealthy people," Khanjian said. "They need help, because nobody can support themselves independently. Education is so expensive now."

Nala Kachour, sophomore biology major, heard about the scholarship at her high school in Pomona, City of Knowledge.

The scholarship essay question asked, "How do you think being Muslim will influence your future profession?"

Kachour said Muslims are expected to work hard every day of their life.

"Islam is a religion that encourages people to find success by doing things for your own religion in order to succeed in the next life, but to also succeed in this life as well," Kachour said.

Kachour referenced a quote from Imam Ali that says, "Work for your afterlife as if you will die tomorrow, and work for this life as if you will live forever."

"Ali encourages us to think about our year after and about this life," Kachour said. "As a Muslim half of my entire faith is dedicated to thinking about how I am going to succeed in this life as if I am going to live forever and that alone encourages me so much."

Kachour has noticed more women in hijabs, a scarf covering worn by Muslim women, on campus.

"Before, it would just be myself and one other person wearing the hijab," Kachour said. "The campus is small so you pretty much see everyone. The name of Islam is more heard in La Verne now."

Zandra Wagoner, university chaplain and professor of philosophy and religion, said it is a great opportunity for La Verne

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Sunday's unique vocals



Maydeen Merino

Bruce Henry, a vocalist from Chicago, performs Sunday in Morgan Auditorium. Henry is known for his unique vocals because he can control a three-octave range. Henry performed songs including "Africa Cries" and "Mighty, Mighty" from his album, "Connections." Henry conducts a traveling workshop called "Evolution of African American Music" for students in Illinois.

Financial aid gets new chief

Novello to streamline process

Aryn Plax
Editor in Chief

After a year without a permanent director of financial aid, the University hired Nicholas Novello for the position, and he started the job Jan. 16.

Novello previously worked as the associate director of financial aid at Cal Poly Pomona and Cal State Dominguez Hills, and as a loan services supervisor for the UCLA.

"I've worked for the state of California's public institutions, both the UCs and the CSUs, for almost 13 years at this point," Novello said.

"I went to Champlain College at Burlington, Vermont, and it's a very similar school to the University of La Verne. It was just a very natural fit, it felt like coming home," he said.

Karen Lange, associate director of compliance in the financial aid department, served as interim director of financial aid before Novello's arrival.

The office of financial aid had vacancies during her term as interim director, and last semester some students received financial aid packages later than they had expected.

"It was a combination of factors, one being a transition with the office and being without a permanent director," Novello said.

"The other piece is the overall communication with students who have more complicated financial situations," he said.

Juan Regalado, associate dean of students, said that part of the difficulties experienced in the financial aid department is due to the need to abide by both federal and state regulations.

"Sometimes the perception is, not just here in La Verne, but everywhere, is that financial aid is not as welcoming," Regalado said.

"That's actually across most colleges. Ninety percent of the experience in how people think of financial aid is that it's just [...] very complicated and cumbersome and overwhelming. It can feel like this black box that is really hard to understand," he said.

Novello said that students often see the office as a hurdle, a notion that he wants to dispel.

Novello worked at Cal State Dominguez Hills, with undergraduate enrollment of 12,632, and at UCLA, with undergrad enrollment of 30,680 in fall 2016.

In comparison, ULV has a total undergraduate enrollment of 2,809.

Todd Eckel, interim associate dean of admissions, said that, due to working on a smaller campus, Novello will be working with less regimented departments that communicate with each other on a more regular

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Celeste Drake

Nicholas Novello, new director of financial aid, wants to make the financial aid process easier for students. He said that part of ULV's appeal is its similarity to Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont, where he had completed his undergraduate education. Novello started working at La Verne on Jan. 16 after leaving his position as the associate director of financial aid at Cal Poly Pomona.

Financial...

Continued from page 1

basis.

"Ninety six percent of all our freshman students rely on some type of aid, whether that's merit aid or financial aid, per year," Eckel said.

Chris Krich, head football coach, said Novello would also be working more closely with students.

"He has the ability to help more here," Krich said. "When it comes to students who are maybe looking at leaving because of cost, or along those lines, he's going to be able to have more of a personal connection or personal tie."

Devorah Lieberman, president of the University, said that, in the few weeks that Novello has been part of the University of La Verne community, he had resolved long standing issues within the financial aid department.

"The financial aid packages that he sent out have been sent earlier than they ever have before," Lieberman said.

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Scholarship...

Continued from page 1

to offer this scholarship for Muslim students.

"We want to be an institution that the Muslim community trusts and would want to attend, but we do not have a large critical mass of Muslim students," Wagoner said. "We all know a sense of belonging in a place is increased when you know there are other people who look like you and have similar experiences."

Wagoner said she hopes this scholarship increases the amount of Muslim students on campus.

The diversity and inclusivity core value is a commitment to provide a quality and inclusive education to any student that attends La Verne.

"This scholarship is helping increase a tangible symbol of that commitment," Wagoner said. "It is also a great opportunity to reach out to the Muslim community and say we are actually committed to you as a community. We are not just saying diversity as an empty phrase, it actually has resources behind it."

The new building of the Ludwick Center for Spirituality, Multicultural Advancement and Community Engagement will have a designated area where Muslims can go to pray five times a day.

The bathrooms on the first floor will be equipped with washing stations so students can properly cleanse themselves before prayer.

"We want the Muslim community to feel welcomed here and want to further their education on our campus," Wagoner said.

"We hope our tangible symbol of our commitment encourages more Muslims to attend the University."

Mirsepassi is glad to have his scholarship offered to students at La Verne who will benefit fully from the money.

"I'm sure my wife would be happy I did this, no doubt about it," Mirsepassi said.

"She told me many times, if she had money she is going to spend it to help the students and the scholarship is the best way you can do that."

Kachour said she was glad to apply to this scholarship dedicated to the Muslim community.

"This scholarship inspires others to do good for their own community," Kachour said. "There are so many scholarships for so many other things, but you rarely see a scholarship for Muslim students. Heshmat Mirsepassi made a change and did something new which is really aspiring."

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Corrections

The Campus Times is committed to accuracy. When we make mistakes, however, it is our policy to correct them as soon as they are brought to our attention. If you find a mistake in the Campus Times, please let us know at ***ctimes@laverne.edu***.

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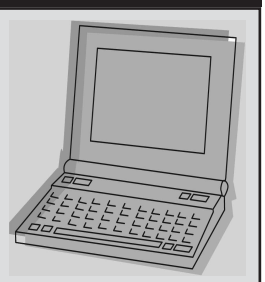

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Gong discusses technology trends

Supply and demand discussed

Amanda Gabriela Beltran
Staff Writer

More than a dozen faculty and students gathered for a talk about "The Impact of Information Technology on Production Interdependence" Tuesday in the President's Dining Room, by Fengmei Gong, assistant professor of operations and information technology.

Gong's presentation explored the concept of industries becoming increasingly dependent on "upstream suppliers," who provide the raw materials for companies to produce products.

"There is an increase in trends of information technology," Gong said.

She said that this is causing the industries to become more integrated with their suppliers.

Professor of Humanities Al Clark added that this would cause industries to become more dependent on upstream suppliers.

"As you integrate the technology they are going to have fewer things in their warehouses, so they need the suppliers to give them their stuff as quickly as possible," Clark said.

The presentation focused on the relationship between information technology and hardware and software industries.

Hardware includes physically owned equipment, while software includes operating systems.

She then expanded on how the dependence between two industries responsible for separate stages of production – namely, the relationship between the manufacturers and the supplier of raw materials – can be measured as direct backward linkage.

Direct backward linkage is a term that describes the relationship between an industry and its supplier.

For example, the automobile industry has a direct backward linkage to the steel industry because steel is used to make cars, and a boon in the automobile industry results in a boon for the steel industry.

The transaction cost theory says that industries outsource products or services when outsourcing is cheaper than producing them within the industry. Gong explained how transaction cost theory affected production interdependence between hardware and software.

"When we measure with direct backward linkage, production interdependence decreased with hardware and increased with software," Gong said.

Professor of Management and Leadership Louise Kelly said Gong's presentation was stimulating and that she agrees with his notions.

"I think that the future of business is more interdependence, and now we're more dependent on our suppliers, dependent on our customers so I thought that was very interesting," Kelly said.

Gong explained how America's recent climb in manufacturing has benefited IT and made the relationship between industry and upstream suppliers more dependable.

Kelly said that recent changes in America's economy and manufacturing is what makes Gong's research that much more important.

"The fact that manufacturing is becoming a little more important in the U.S. because it went down, down, down, and now it's not, but we're still 80 percent service," she said.

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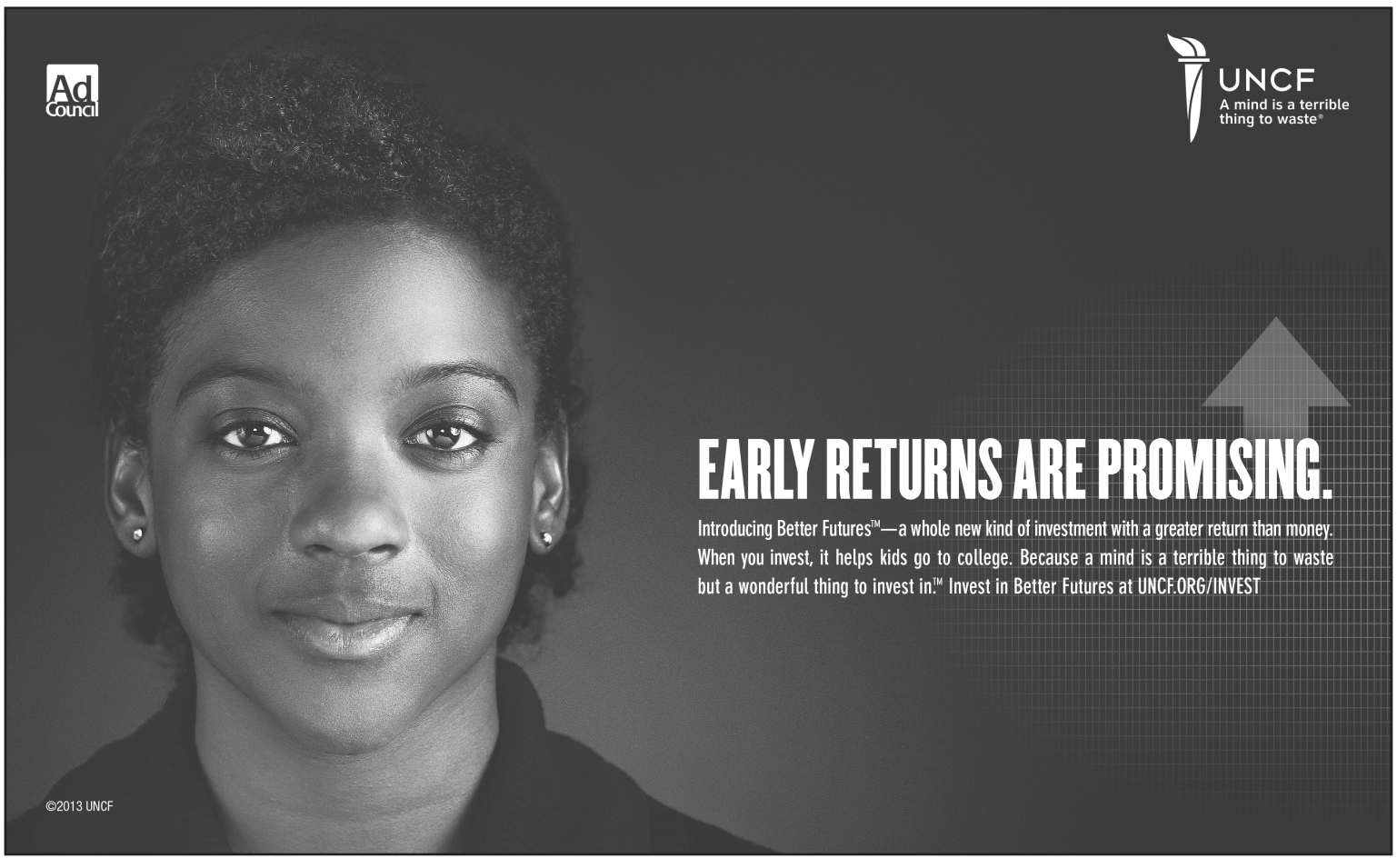
Cortney Mace

Fengmei Gong, assistant professor of operations and information technology, talks about "The Impact of Information Technology on Production Interdependence" in the President's Dining Room Tuesday. For her research, Gong collected data from 18 manufacturers between the years of 1997 to 2013. The lecture was sponsored by the La Verne Academy.





Russia rings in Trump support

With the 2018 midterm election approaching, the U.S. government is not giving enough attention to Russia targeting voters.

The Internet Research Association, or IRA, was identified as a Russian based group after forming in 2013. Its influence was found to rig the results of the 2016 presidential election in Trump's favor.

"We expect Russia to continue using propaganda, social media, false flag personas, sympathetic spokesmen and other means to influence and try to build its wide range of operations," Dan Coats, director of intelligence for the United States said in an address to the Senate Intelligence Committee on Feb. 13.

Tactics have been so easily ignored by the American government, unlike European countries like Lithuania, Poland and Romania which have implemented anti-propaganda laws.

According to NBC News, Russian linked accounts have gone so far as to pose as Black Lives Matter and women's rights activists on social media to gain support from the groups that Trump's policies hurt the most.

Some tweets were tracked and deleted, and now appear on NBC News' database of 'Ten sample influential Russian Trolls.'

Here are some examples:

"Sorry Hillary: Trump's policies are clearly better for blacks" - *@Missourinewsus*

"Why can't the media talk about the real issues, the fraud, the lies, and the scandals of Clinton?? #NeverHillary" - *@Missourinewsus*

"Reminder: Hillary took $150mil from Muslim States! They totally control her every decision! #DebateNight" - *@ten_gop*

"We have 2 problems:

Muslims who keep attacking us every day, Liberals who keep calling them peaceful!" - *@ten_gop*

True activists would not post such biases, and would instead address the facts that Islam does not equal terrorism and Muslims are not the only people that do such things.

Had the trolls' accounts not been ceased, they would surely not address the outbreak of domestic terrorism since Trump has been in office.

If the government does not investigate further and put a stop to this, Russian influence will continue to sway elections and gain more control in America's politics.

"We need to inform the American public that this is real, that this is going to happen," Coats said. America needs "to stand up and say we're not going to allow some Russian to tell us how to vote, how we ought to run our own country."

The trolls' constant bashing of media coverage of politics and Hillary Clinton, the false tales of unlikely groups supporting Trump, as well as the fact that he and the government has not taken steps to acknowledge, let alone take action to stop the issue brings suspicion of Trump being in cahoots with Russia.



editorial cartoon by Sarah Borer

Cultural cuisine leaves bad taste

In honor of Black History Month, the Black Student Union provided traditional soul food, Afro-Latino, Creole and Caribbean recipes to Bon Appétit, upon their request, to serve in Davenport Dining Hall during February.

But Bon Appétit, rather than follow those recipes, made a feeble attempt at what amounted to a fast food gesture toward African American cuisine.

Of the 40 pages of recipes they received, they ignored the details and method of preparation and cooking and chose to make the dishes their own way.

This is not the first time that Bon Appétit has attempted to cook cultural food and been less than successful.

Latkes and matzo balls were served in December in celebration of Hanukkah. Latkes are fried potato pancakes traditionally eaten on Hanukkah, but Bon Appétit's version included carrots in the recipe, which traditionally are not found in latkes. As for the matzo balls, they were almost unrecognizable.

Matzo balls are a soup dumpling made from a mix of matzo meal, eggs, water, and either uses oil, margarine, or chicken fat to hold the dumplings together. Davenport's version, in lieu of the matzo meal, crushed up matzah crackers and added carrots to the dumpling when in traditional recipes, the carrots are present in the broth only.

This time around, Bon Appétit asked for recipes, so it seemed they wanted to have input from BSU to prepare and serve authentic soul food.

> It's not that we don't appreciate the gesture, but obviously making culturally accurate food in earnest will take some follow-through on the part of our food service provider.

But again the food was not an accurate representation of the recipes sent in. The fried catfish they served was actually cod.

This misrepresentation of the food seemed like a purposeful disregard of the efforts of BSU's executive board and their traditional recipes.

There were also errors with the collard greens, which were watered down and served in the soup section.

For fried chicken and waffles, they gave us chicken strips and frozen Eggo-esque waffles. Come on.

It would not have been as big of an issue had Bon Appétit not requested the help of the students.

It's not that we don't appreciate the gesture, but obviously making culturally accurate food in earnest will take some follow-through on the part of our food service provider.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Campus Times encourages readers to submit letters to the editors regarding topics covered in the paper. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length and are due by Tuesday at 3 p.m. The Campus Times reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, space and libel. Letters may be sent to **ctimes@laverne.edu**.

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SPRING 2018

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Foxy brings new flavors to Upland

Owner opens third restaurant

Remy Hogan
Staff Writer

Restaurateur Joyce Patra opened her third eatery, Foxy Noodles and BBQ, in Upland this January.

Foxy Noodles is Patra's third restaurant, joining her lineup with 50-Fifty Asian Fusion in Claremont and Bangkok Blue Thai Cuisine in La Verne.

"I wanted Foxy Noodles to be something very easy, casual but yet healthy and tasty," Patra said.

Bejan Hejazi and his family patroned the new Foxy Noodles and BBQ with his family. This was their first Thai cuisine experience.

"The chicken Pad See Ew was so tasty, I would definitely recommend it to my family and friends," Hejazi said.

Patra, who is half Thai and half Chinese, was inspired by her father to open her own restaurants.

While growing up in Bangkok, Patra's father used to cook for their neighbors, and she helped by serving the dishes.

She went on to earn her bachelor's degree in hospitality and hotel management in Bangkok before relocating to Sydney, Australia, for an extension program that would give her the credentials to open her own restaurant.

It was in Australia where Patra met her husband, who played in a jazz band at the same Thai restaurant she worked at. The two fell in love and moved to America to begin their married life.

Patra opened her first authentic Thai restaurant in La Verne and named it Bangkok Blue Thai Cuisine.

Ten years later, she sold Bangkok to start fresh with 50-Fifty Asian Fusion in Claremont.

The success of the two restaurants encouraged Patra to open her third restaurant, Foxy Noodles and BBQ.

Patra loves a challenge, and she wanted to try running a restaurant with a different atmosphere.

"I always like to create new dishes and do something new," Patra said.

Patra said she wanted Foxy Noodles and BBQ to be more of a relaxed setting for people of all ages to come and enjoy her renowned Thai food at reasonable prices.

Ultimately, she wanted to serve comfort food.

Sudakan Watcharasakunee, also known as "Gift," has been working as an employee of Patra's for seven years.

"My favorite dishes are the foxy crispy chicken or the spicy tom yum noodles" Watcharasakunee said.

Thitapa Wade has been work-

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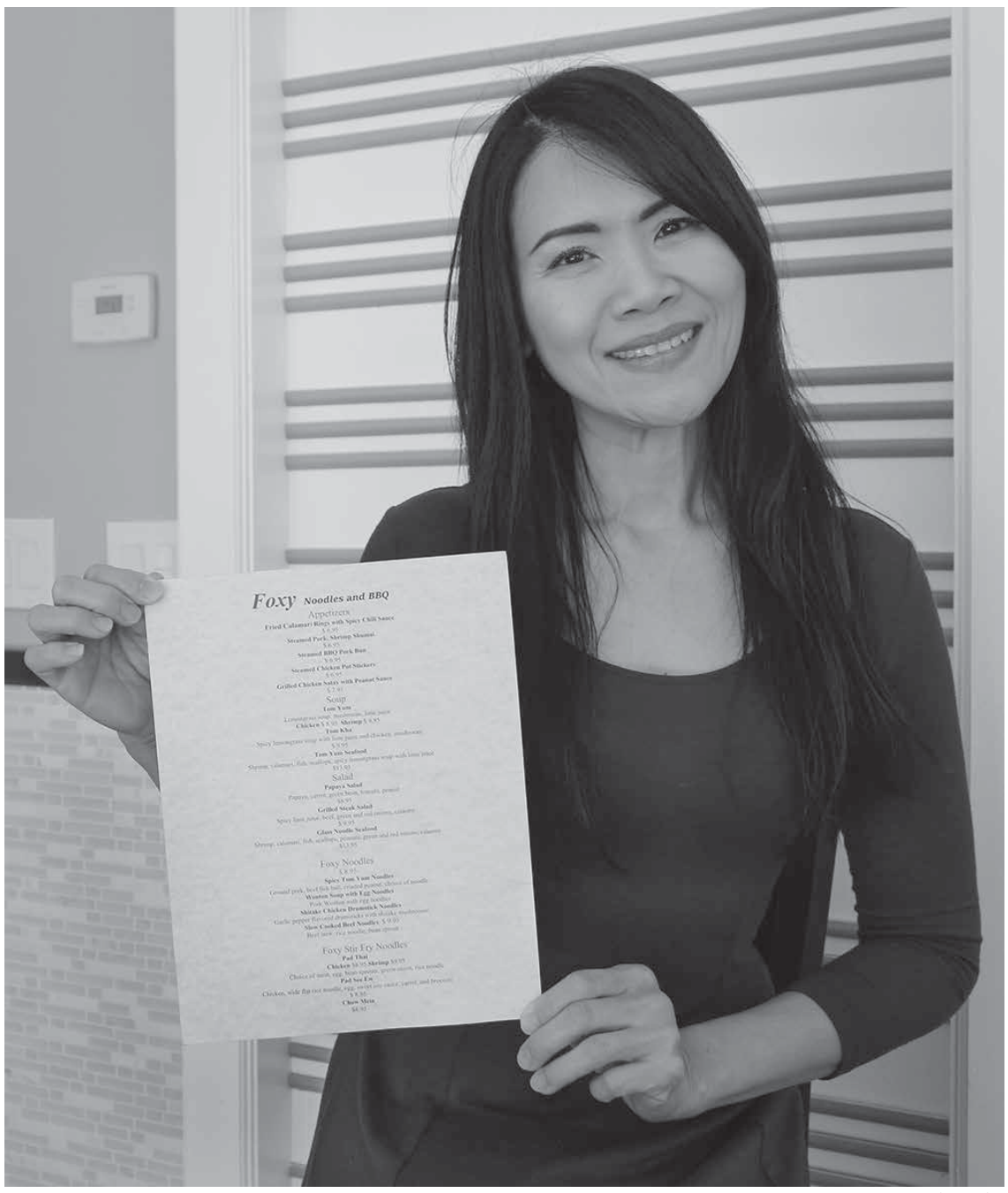


Tyler Evains

Joyce Patra recently opened her third restaurant, Foxy Noodles and BBQ, at 507 N. Mountain Ave. in Upland. After a 20-year stint in restaurant management in Thailand and Australia, Patra opened her first restaurant, Bangkok Blue, in La Verne in 2003. She sold the restaurant 10 years later to open 50-Fifty Asian Fusion on Indian Hill Boulevard in Claremont.

Climbing gym provides workout alternatives

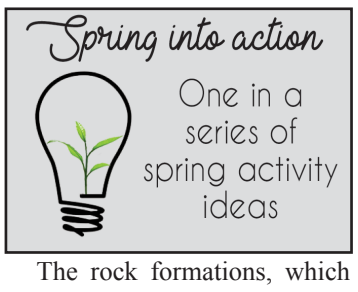
Catalina Diaz
LV Life Editor

Keeping fit has had a major boom in recent years, with new and unique health gyms like SoulCycle becoming major players.

Many fitness enthusiasts are finding alternatives for their regular workout regimen, like climbing gyms.

Hangar 18, an indoor climbing gym that provides a workout for everyone from beginners to experts, keeps climbers on their feet, literally, as they scale different sized and shaped rocks to the very top, where a sense of accomplishment and success awaits.

"I've been climbing at Hangar 18 for 10 years now, and there's always been a community of people that solve these intricate problems or climbs," Upland native and avid climber Jonny Gonzalez said.



The rock formations, which are changed weekly by employees of the facility, provide plenty of challenges. Each formation is graded based on its difficulty, giving climbers a good sense of their level of progress.

"It's self-rewarding, and by getting to the top, it makes you want to accomplish even more," Gonzalez said.

For beginners, intermediate climbers and experts alike, there is an immense sense of community and motivation inside Hangar 18.

Rock trails begin after only a few steps of entering the climbing gym, many of which reach nearly three stories high which may be intimidating to some.

Instead of hearing machines and bars clinking together, like in an LA Fitness or a 24 Hour Fitness, climbers hear 1980s classics coming from the gym-surrounded speakers and a lot of chatting.

Often one will hear shouts like, "you've got it" or "look to the left," where people are pushing each other to reach the top by helping them find the next best move.

Hangar 18 offers various types of climbing such as: bouldering, which is a free climb that consists of trails much shorter than that of its opposite style, top-roping.

With top-roping, climbers will be connected by rope to another person who is stationed on the ground.

In addition to climbing, the gym offers lessons for beginners as well as yoga classes twice a week, to enhance mobility and encourage wellness.

"To us it's just climbing and having fun, but in reality we are training for outdoors, and it makes us more comfortable when were on actual rock so we're not as scared," Joseph William Martinez said.

He has been climbing at Hangar 18 for over five years.

Martinez said that the friendships he's made at the gym are great and assist in his overall fitness progression.

Anthony Sciutto, a Cincinnati native who travels to California often, met Martinez and Gonzalez his first day of visiting the climbing gym.

"I feel like these guys are a testament to the community of this place," Sciutto said.

Sciutto said he has only been in California for three weeks, and during his first visit to Hangar 18, both Gonzalez and Martinez were more than willing to help him with his climbing technique.

The gym has members who have been going for several years, as well as those who have come back after a hiatus.

"I grew up in Upland and used to come to Hangar, but I stopped after my family moved," Rancho Cucamonga resident James Cribb said.

He said that he decided to return to Hangar 18 because of a coworker who also frequents the climbing gym.

Hangar 18 is located at 256 E Stowell St. in Upland.

The gym is open, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., and 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. over the weekend.

Student memberships are $36, and do not require a contract.

For more information about Hangar 18 and its locations, visit **climbhangar18.com**.

Catalina Diaz can be reached at ***catalina.diaz@laverne.edu***.

Class cultivates California natives

Brian Rios
Staff Writer

Eli Feldman, horticulturist and educator, led the workshop "Grow our Future," on how to cultivate California native plants Saturday at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont.

About 25 people attended the class, which featured a slide show and also offered samples of native plants to taste and smell.

"This ... is a great way to inspire people who are thinking about starting their own home garden," said Yuwen Wang, a Diamond Bar High School student who attended the workshop.

Feldman elaborated on the slide show presentation by sharing his own experiences working with the various native plants.

Feldman also talked about the different growing strategies: in-ground, pots and trays.

Some plants grow better in the ground and others in pots or trays.

Space, water and sun exposure should always be considered when deciding among these, he said.

White sage, for example, does better in the ground than a pot.

Continued on page 7



Spencer Croce

Horticulture educator Eli Feldman teaches Shawn and Deborah Taylor how to care for and prepare miner's lettuce and stinging nettle as table-ready garden crops Saturday at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont. The Taylors drove from Banning to attend the workshop focused on cultivating California native plants after re-landscaping their property using all California native plants, especially edible ones. The workshop offered an overview of California natives including elderberries, white sage and holly berries, which were traditional food sources for Native American populations.



On the Calendar

Friday Focus

Full-time and adjunct faculty, administrators and staff are invited to participate in the new Friday Focus series from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. today in the Campus Center Ballroom.

This is the first meeting of a monthly series to discuss specific topics related to the University.

Human Rights Lecture

Kenneth B. Morris Jr. will present the annual Frederick Douglass Human Rights Lecture at 6 p.m. Monday in Morgan Auditorium.

Barbecue

Campus Activities Board will host a Black History Barbecue at 10 p.m. Monday in Sneaky Park.

Hot Spots

The Model United Nations club will present "The United Nations P5 on the North Korean Nuclear Missile Problem" at noon Wednesday in the President's Dining Room.

Beverly Hills Dog Show

Purebred dogs and their owners will grace the Fairplex for the Beverly Hills Dog Show March 3 and March 4 in Expo Halls 4 and 6.

Arbor Day Celebration

Arbor Day will be celebrated with a tree-planting ceremony, games, food and entertainment beginning at 8:30 a.m. March 10 at Blaisdell Park in Claremont.

—Catalina Diaz

Garden...

Continued from page 6

"Certain groups use sage... for certain practices or customs," Feldman added.

Feldman also discussed the importance of safely and ethically harvesting plants.

A plant as common as raw rhubarb contains poisonous substances, but once it is cooked, it can be the key ingredient in a rhubarb pie, Feldman said.

Pamela Clarke, who recently graduated from UC Riverside's gardening program attended the workshop.

She said she enjoyed it so much, she plans to attend more in future.

And Clark said she plans to make soda through the fermentation method Feldman included in the workshop discussion.

Clark said that she will be on the lookout for elderberries and holly berries for a tea.

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The job hunt



Ashlyn Hulin

Jose Aran, senior business administration major, talks with Jo Jo Delgado, an employee at Quinn CAT Rental Services, Wednesday at the Career and Internship Fair in the Campus Center. The fair, hosted by the Office of Career Services and Professional Development, gives students the opportunity to speak with potential employers.

Foxy...

Continued from page 5

ing for Patra for two years. In the two months Wade has been working at Foxy Noodles and BBQ, she has decided that her favorite dish is the shrimp pad Thai.

For Patra, picking just one favorite dish is not easy. Patra said her favorite salad is the papaya salad.

As for noodles, she loves the spicy tom yum noodles most and her favorite chicken dish is the foxy crispy chicken, which comes with garlic fried rice and a sweet and spicy sauce.

"A lot of my customers love the foxy crispy chicken," Patra said.

Patra said is very close with many of her customers and has never been much for paperwork. "I love to interact with people and I love the service industry," Patra said.

She goes out of her way to make sure that her customers are taken care of and that they enjoy her food. Hejazi, ordered the seafood tom yum soup.

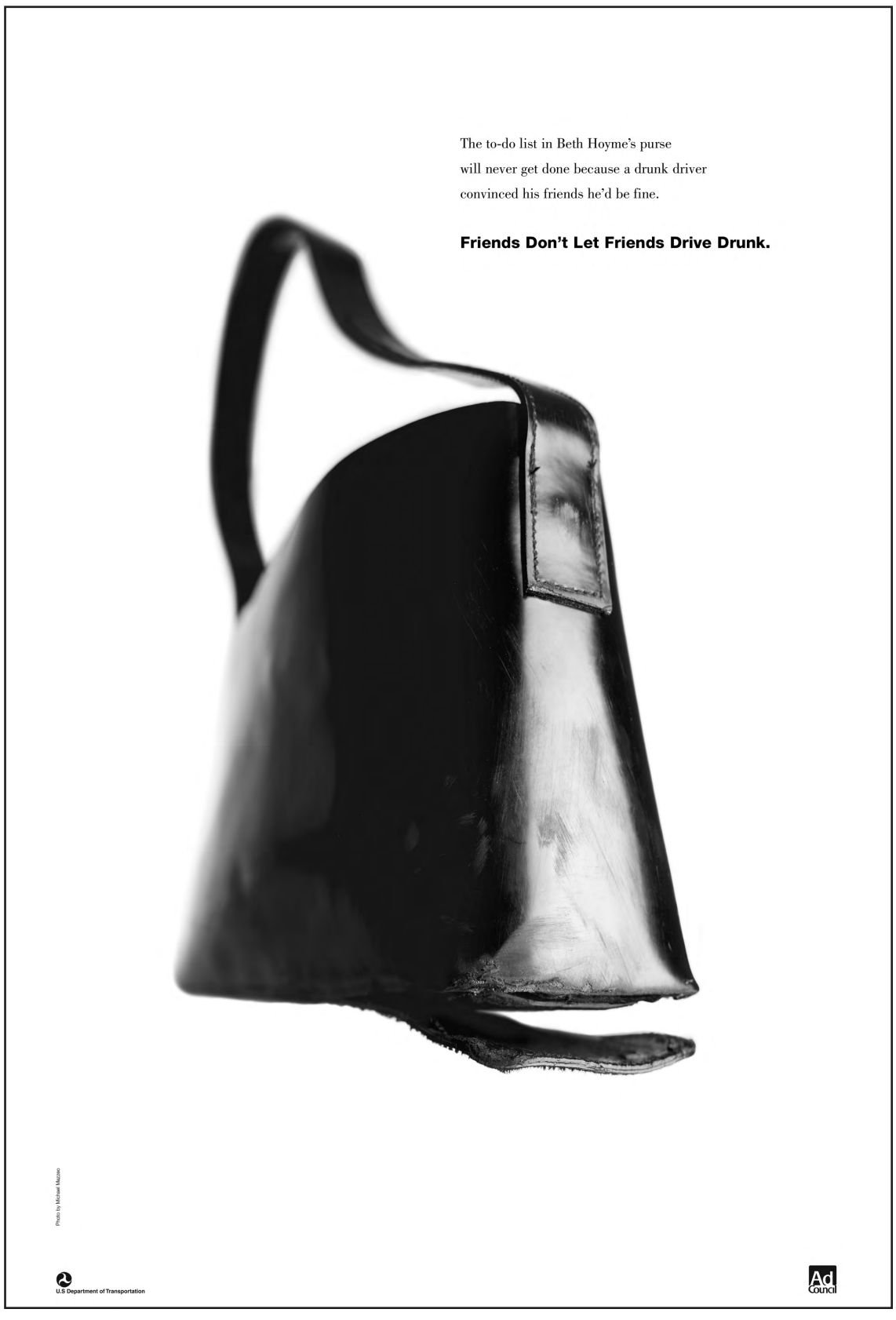
"It was so filling even though the portion was not too big," Hejazi said.

Gift says she believes that everyone who eats at Foxy Noodles and BBQ will surely find that the food is high quality, authentic and reasonably priced.

Foxy Noodles and BBQ is located at 507 N. Mountain Ave. in Upland.

The hours of operation are Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Remy Hogan can be reached at ***remy.hogan@laverne.edu***.



HAPPENINGS

Harris Gallery

Chris Christion and Jessica Wimbley display projects that contextualize the visual arts within a "biomythography," a literary term meaning a style of composition that weaves myth and history. The exhibit is on display in the Harris Gallery through April 26.

'Water Works'

Adjunct Professor of Communications Danielle Eubank showcases her new solo exhibit "Water Works" at the Channel Islands Maritime Museum through March 25. Admission is $7 for adults and $3 for children.

The museum is located at 3900 Bluefin Circle in Oxnard.

For more information visit **cimmvc.org.**

Open Mic Night

The Dope Spot, a recording and event studio in Pomona, is hosting an open mic night at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the dA Center for the Arts in Pomona. Sign ups for performers begin at 7 p.m.

For more information visit **dacenter.org**

Sculpture HeART Auction

"Simply Red," an auction held by the dA Center of the Arts where local artists' work is sold to raise funds for art programs that will benefit the community will take place through March 25 at the dA Center of the Arts.

Artisan Market

Merchants and artists will sell artisan goods and handmade crafts from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at the Claremont Packing House.

For more information visit **claremontpackinghouse.com.**

dA Fundraiser

The dA Center for the Arts will hold a fundraiser featuring floral artist and gardeners that created pieces inspired by the "Simply Red" exhibit at 7 p.m. March 9.

— Layla Abbas, Arturo Gomez Molina

Museum art talk is Out of this world

by Christian Shepard

photography by Dorothy Gartsman

The Inland Empire Museum of Arts filled its reception hall for the "Moon of Many Petals" artist talk on Saturday.

The talk was named after artist and author Cindy Rinne's new book of poetry.

The walls of the venue were filled with the work of four different artists.

IEMA hosts an artist talk each month, but this was the first time that the talk included live performance.

The first performance was a piece set only to the sounds of a ticking clock and numerous cell phone rings.

Penny McElroy, professor of art at the University of Redlands, shared a collection of poetry she said was inspired by real life experiences and observations.

"I know she said the poetry was about her story," Arcadia resident Margareta Thorsen said.

"I can visualize it in my own life as well. I wasn't sure what to expect, but seeing this poetry live has been really great."

The poem, titled "Moving Day," was written in response to a progressive illness McElroy's mother had been suffering from.

McElroy's poetry was followed by a musical duo by the name of Plum Nelly, featuring two guitars and vocals.

"We originally had a set list that we were going to go off of," said Wendy Hunt, lead vocalist of the duo, making final adjustments to her guitar straps and microphone. "But we are letting the room speak to us and are going to change it up a bit."

The stage was located directly in front of a multi-layered painting that featured a bevy of swans.

The first song Plum Nelly played, "12 is the Tree," referenced a wedge of 12 swans flying freely through the sky.

Hunt said that, while music has been a lifelong passion of hers, it was not until she hit her mid-life crisis in 2008 that she began to find her voice and have something to say to the world.

At the end of their set list, the audience joined Hunt in singing the words to one of Plum Nelly's songs, "Fly Away."

Rinne, who curated the "Moon of Many Petals" exhibition, ended the night with samples of her poetry sourced from three of her published collections. Her poetry was read set to background guitar melodies played by Plum Nelly.



Snezana Saraswati Petrovic performs at the Inland Empire Museum of Art for the "Moon of Many Petals" exhibition Saturday. During this performance, Petrovic wanted to portray the life of an artist and how one can be easily distracted by having a phone ring at random moments during the performance. Petrovic was one of four artists whose work was in the gallery for the exhibition.

Gene Sasse, founder of IEMA, said that the museum plans on doing many more events similar to this one.

Sasse founded the museum in 2013 to promote the arts within the Inland Empire.

"It was a desert out here when it came to the arts," Sasse said.

IEMA has over 800 pieces of artwork in their collection, sourced from countless countries like South Korea, New Guinea, Mexico and Romania.

The oldest painting in the collection dates back to the 17th century Spain.

The museum reaches out to neighboring schools and organizations to help educated students and the public on different mediums of art.

Their next event, "Shared Vision," curated by Bill Catling and Nery Lemus, will have its opening reception March 4, with art talks on March 17 and April 21.

The collection will focus on creating a spiritual connection between the past and the present.

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Plastic bags embody impermanence

Amanda Romano
Staff Writer



Spencer Croce

Senior journalism major Nadira Fatah talks to Canadian photographer Wes Bell via webcam Feb. 15 at "Snag: Impermanence on the Vast Alberta Prairie" at the Carlson Gallery. The show exhibits Bell's photographs of plastic bags caught on the barbed wire fences that line a highway in Alberta, Canada. Bell conceived the project after driving home from visiting his mother, who was dying of cancer. He saw the snagged plastic as a metaphor for the impermanence of life. "Snag" will remain in the Carlson Gallery until March 16.

The Carlson Gallery's new exhibit, "Snag: Impermanence on the Vast Alberta Prairie," featuring artist Wes Bell's photography, opened Feb. 15.

The opening featured a video call with Bell.

His photos show plastic bags he found while crossing the Alberta prairie. Beaten by the harsh conditions of this deserted landscape, Bell used the remnants to depict his own emotions.

His career as a photographer and artist started after leaving his small hometown to pursue a studio-intensive program at the Alberta College of Art and Design, Bell said.

During his video call, Bell said he wanted viewers to understand that these photographs were deeply rooted in loss, mortality and remembrance.

The idea for "Snag" came when he learned of his mother's cancer diagnosis. For Bell, these plastic bags caught in barbed wire fences reflected feelings of pain and loss.

"The bags reminded me of the way a model moves on a set or down a runway," Bell said.

Bell said that the movement the wind inflicted upon the shredded bags helped him in his newest endeavor of breathing life back into the forgotten and bringing the unseen to the forefront of his photography.

Professor of Photography Gary Colby curated the exhibit. He said that many of the underlying themes of the Carlson Gallery have been this idea of transition, impermanence and moving on.

For Colby, the rather unusual series allowed the opportunity to have a conversation about the photographs and how people interpreted it.

"If they get those underlying themes that's great and if they don't it allows us to have a conversation," Colby said. "You look at the plastic bags and give it more meaning then it actually has and I think that is kind of cool."

Molly Garry, junior studio art major said that, being from the Midwest, the barren background of Bell's photos resonated with her.

They reminded her of the openness and emptiness she had experienced herself and could quickly feel the emotions pouring out of his photos, she said.

"I was really surprised at how he made something so beautiful out of something so simple," Garry said.

Elmeera Nosrati, junior business administration major, said she initially interpreted the work to be a reference to the lyric "Do you ever feel like a plastic bag, drifting through the wind?" from Katy Perry's song "Firework." She said her interpretation changed when she heard Bell's meaning behind his work.

"The black and white photos reminded me of life and death and the bags flying in the wind made me think of the lost members of society being pulled away but still trying to find their place," Nosrati said.

Junior history major Ryan Hoffman was not sure what to make of the photos.

His expectations where limited when he was first exposed to Bell's exhibit.

At first he saw the barbed wire fences and lacerated bags for what they were, and not what Bell had transformed them into.

However, his understanding quickly changed once he was able to hear from the artist himself the explanation behind such an unusual series.

It was then that Hoffman understood the emotional expression these once seemingly simple photos portrayed.

Like Hoffman, Jeffrey Chun, junior business administration major, found that the story behind the photos were also not what he expected of plastic bags.

"It was his way of saying goodbye to his mother," Chun said.

Photographing these new surroundings was an important part of a healing process he had to go through.

It was in making the unseen seen that he had found peace, Bell said.

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Johnson's collection features energized artwork

Work spans more than 10 years

Christian Shepherd
Staff Writer

Dion Johnson, director of art galleries and distinguished artist at the University of La Verne, is exhibiting a collection of his own artwork titled "Feel the Sky – A Ten Year Survey," at Azusa Pacific University.

The title of the exhibition comes from the largest of his paintings in the exhibit, "Feel the Sky," which Johnson completed in 2014.

The piece spans over 12 feet long and demonstrates an array of different colors and shapes. The abstract artwork emphasizes hard edges, solid colors and line curvature.

"There is an energy that goes across the room from canvas to canvas," Johnson said about the acrylic and watercolor pieces throughout the exhibition that was 10 years in the making. "I want the paintings that sit still on the wall to feel energized with movement."

Johnson uses the two largest sections of color in the piece, a contrasting duet of dark and light blues, to symbolize the shifting color of the sky as it moves through the day.

Johnson did not organize the show chronologically.

Instead, he chose a structure that he believes focuses on arousing an emotional response within the viewer.

The first piece in the show is a watercolor painting titled, "Edge 2008."

In "Dion Johnson: Feel the Sky: A Ten-Year Retrospective," an online tour with Eric Minh Swenson, Johnson said that it was an experimental piece that served as the spring board for the rest of the collection and features only three colors: blue, orange and yellow.

"Giving myself simple rules of using three colors, working from top to bottom and (with) bold colors really created a new energy in the picture," Johnson said in the same tour with Swenson.

"Instead of a narrative, it's more about sensations," he said.

"The color choices he used were something I never would have thought of," said Josephine Jimenez, production assistant for the department of art and design.

"It was all systematically beautiful in a way I never would have thought of myself," she said.

As a visiting artist for APU, Johnson provides graduate students criticism on their work.

He also answers questions about his own work and the process he goes through.

Jon Leaver, chairman of the art department at ULV, said that Johnson's expertise as a practicing artist is one of his biggest assets to students.

"He is very much a part of the Los Angeles contemporary art scene," Leaver said.

"He gives our students incredible access to what's going on in the contemporary art world," he said.

Leaver said that one of the unique techniques that Johnson employs is his use of tools not traditionally associated with fine art.

Instead of paintbrushes, he opts instead for masking tape, stencils, spray guns, or other instruments that are more likely to be found at a hardware store than an art shop.

"I think that his art definitely has a different look or feel to what I would usually expect to see at an art gallery," said Ashley Osburn, adjunct professor for the School of Nursing at APU.

"I really like this style of art and it has definitely made me more aware that art that is simple and clean can be just as emotional as something more complex," she said.

"Feel the Sky" will be on display in the Duke Art Gallery at APU until March 2.

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Student provides creative platform

Ashley Mubiru
Staff Writer

Junior speech communication and philosophy major Tyler Faye Anderson designed Unidentifiable Creative, a content creation company dedicated to helping artists who cannot limit their art and ideas to one medium, showcasing their work and connecting them with endorsements, sponsorships and collaborations through online and social media promotion.

The website name, Anderson said, represents the eclectic nature of its content.

"It's a term that encompasses everything we're about," Anderson said.

Unidentifiable's artists work in a variety of media, from painting to sculpture to music, and Anderson does this through creating videos and graphics to promote them.

To encompass this, the header of the site reads: "For the universoul artist."

"Tyler is a natural born leader (who) can literally figure out anything," Jedaun Carter said, senior psychology major and friend of Anderson's.

According to her friends, Anderson is always thinking about her next business venture. She held an event in November 2017 called Backyard Boogie: Creator's Carnival which allowed local artists to paint and install pieces live as well as showcase their music, poetry and products.

"She is cultivating a space for creatives to showcase themselves ... to capitalize off their creativity," junior creative writing and Spanish major Cheyenne Avila said, who is a poet and spoken word artist and friend of Anderson's.

The business' site went up in November 2017 although Anderson began planning Unidentifiable in February 2016.

Unidentifiable works as an agency connecting creatives to opportunities within their fields that allow both the artists and Unidentifiable to profit.

"We specialize in branding so we build portfolios and create for them on other media blogs, sites, and other artists' pages," Anderson said.

Some artists featured on the site are graphic artist John Doe, who recycles old skateboards to use as canvases and fashion designer, Z, who creates wearable art intended to raise consciousness.

According to the site, "These are the artists that are multifaceted and want to be known for all of their creativity...For the rappers that are painters, to the models that are writers."

Anderson said that another aspect to Unidentifiable Creative is mentorship.

"Our goal within the next year is to set up creative programs with elementary schools that allow kids to understand that they can choose other routes ...to create businesses for themselves (based on) their passions," Anderson said.

Anderson said that her creations are not solely for her, but for her community.

She said she strives to show her community that they have options, while actually giving it access to them.

Avila said that Anderson provides platforms, visibility, and representation for her community.

"A part of our digital platform and our website is having features for each artist, and they each have different profiles so that you can contact us to get to them," she said.

Anderson envisions Unidentifiable's list of creators growing far beyond what she or her team can imagine.

Anderson has always had aspirations of working for herself. She collaborates with different artists, while giving them an audience by advertising their work on Unidentifiable Creative's website and social media.

"I feel like I've always had the spirit of an entrepreneur, but I didn't really know that it was something I wanted to do," Anderson said.

Anderson finds herself starting most of her days with to-do lists.

She is often juggling playing the role of the creative director, modeling, and endeavors within her business.

Besides modeling and creative direction, Anderson has her plate full with painting, and poetry as well.

It is all about setting goals and reaching them, Anderson said.

She also has a team of four others who help her along the way, one of which is sophomore English major Christian Nuñez.

Nuñez and Anderson touch base with each other almost every day, making sure they are on the same page regarding projects, reaching out to clients, so that everything is in order.

"Tyler has been everything I could ask for in a partner – diligent, idealistic, ambitious visionary, and understanding," Nuñez said.

"All of us at Unidentifiable are working our hardest to manifest our best career together, to be multifaceted people. We are intent on making our productivity and creativity work in tandem."

Anderson believes that collaboration is the essence of her business and leadership style. She is a person that understands effective leadership and focuses on the fact that she must communicate with people.

"Collaboration is showing people that it's them that can make their dreams happen," Anderson said.

Anderson said her goal is to see the many different channels included in Unidentifiable Creative someday operate on their own.

Ashley Mubiru can be reached at ***ashley.mubiru@laverne.edu***.



Sara Flores

Tyler Faye Anderson, junior speech communication and philosophy major, founded Unidentifiable Creative, an online content company. Anderson said she empowers individuals to trust their creativity and make it a livelihood, not just a hobby or side job. She manages the agency, which gives mainstream artist easier access to the content that she creates for them. The website contributors include a fashion designer, graphic artist, rapper and screenplay writer.

Exhibiting women artists



Katie Pyne

Eve Kaufman, an intern at Claremont Heritage, discusses Kanala Das' painting, "Woman Cat," with Claremont Heritage archivist Sean Stanley. The exhibit, "Women Who Paint," is housed at the Garner House on Indian Hill Boulevard in Claremont. Curated by artist Barbra Beretich, the exhibit features her personal collection of work from several female artists. Beretich has been an intergral part of the art scene in Claremont for the past 50 years. As Claremont Heritage's first exhibit of 2018, it relates to their theme of the year, women of art and culture. The exhibit will have many of its pieces for sale until its conclusion Friday.

Perez has strong 1st season as a Leo

Mark Acosta
Sports Editor

In her first full season for the women's basketball team, junior guard Clarissa Perez finished second in the nation in scoring at 24.1 points per game.

Perez previously played at a community college in Utah, and the University of Antelope Valley where she played under current head coach Jason Pruitt.

"Her maturity level and work ethic has gotten better every year," Pruitt said. "What she was able to do this year she deserved because she put the work in during the offseason."

Perez grew up playing multiple sports, in fact, her first love was actually football. But after a serious injury to her elbow, her mother did not allow her to play anymore. From middle school and on, basketball was her main focus.

After playing four years at St. Paul High School in Santa Fe Springs, Pruitt recruited Perez but she decided to attended Utah State Eastern instead. After things did not work out there, she came back home to California and reached out to Pruitt and ended up at the Antelope Valley.

Pruitt decided to leave Antelope Valley after they won a conference championship last year and become the next head coach at La Verne, and Perez wanted to stick with him.

"I asked for my release from the school," Perez said. "When I got released I asked him if I could go along and he said yeah."

Coming to her third school in three years, Perez is still settling in to the school and the community. She said she enjoys the mixture of students and cultures.

La Verne was coming off of three wins in the previous season with not many expectations this season. Pruitt brought along a new energy and a different style of play. Perez flourished in her first season at La Verne in Pruitt's system, leading the conference in scoring and coming in second nationally.

One of the things that Perez cited for her success was how she watches more film this year. She is able to see how she performs during games and can critique herself and watch film of the teams she will face which can better prepare her for the next game.

"She was very important to our team," junior guard Bailey Kurahashi said. "She led us in the right direction.

Assistant coach Michael Walker, who was with Perez and Pruitt at UAV, says he also noticed the work Perez had put in before this season.

"She is way more skilled now than she was back then," Walker said. "I am really impressed by her ability to get to the basket because before she was mostly a perimeter shooter at UAV."

Walker said that the coaching staff has had to ask Perez to dial back training at times because they do not want her to overexert herself. Perez played over 30 minutes a game for the team this year.

The team improved this season, going from three wins to five. It is not only the wins, but some of the losses that have Perez encouraged for next season.

"As a team, we improved so much and I think we shocked a lot people with how we played," Perez said. "Even competing with some of the teams we competed with."

With the season now behind her, Perez says she plans to stay with the same routine that got her to where she is now.

In the offseason, she has a trainer for conditioning and also one specifically for improving her basketball skills. Her focus is to stay healthy and have fun until during the offseason until the start of next season.

"Next season the goal is to win a national title," Perez said. "I am going to be a senior so this is it, and I do not want to settle for anything less."

Mark Acosta can be reached at ***mark.acosta@laverne.edu***.



Natasha Brennan

Junior criminology major Clarissa Perez is No. 1 in scoring for SCIAC and No. 2 in the nation at Division III women's basketball, scoring an average of 24.1 points a game. As point guard and shooting guard, Perez hit the 600-point mark in last week's basketball game against Pomona-Pitzer. Perez made First Team All-SCIAC and hopes to join an All-American team and play professionally overseas after graduation. Perez transferred from the University of Antelope Valley where she played under current La Verne head coach Jason Pruitt. Of the 25 games played this season, Perez scored in double figures for 22 of those games. Her high was a 44-point effort against La Sierra.

LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

Men's Basketball, Feb. 17
Caltech-86
La Verne-96

Softball, Feb. 17
La Verne-3
Chapman-2

La Verne-10
Chapman-9

Baseball, Feb. 17
La Verne-5
Cal Lutheran-10

La Verne-8
Cal Lutheran-3

SCHEDULE

Friday
Baseball @ Caltech, 2:30 p.m.

Saturday
Men's and women's track and field @ Rossi Relays, Claremont, 11 a.m.
Baseball vs. Caltech 11 a.m.
Softball vs. Cal Lutheran, noon
Baseball vs. Caltech 2 p.m.
Softball vs Cal Lutheran, 2 p.m.

Wednesday
Women's water polo @ Chapman, 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

	SCIAC	Overall
CMS	15-1	22-3
Chapman	15-1	21-4
Cal Lutheran	10-6	15-10
Redlands	9-7	14-11
Whittier	7-9	10-15
Occidental	5-11	11-14
Pomona-Pitzer	5-11	8-17
Caltech	3-13	5-20
La Verne	3-13	5-20

Leos drop finale to Beavers, 97-74

La Verne wraps up season

Hailey Helms
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team lost to Caltech in their final game of the season on Saturday at Frantz Athletic Court, 97-74.

La Verne honored the two seniors on the team, forward Kayla Chism and guard Kristi Sakamoto, who were playing their final game.

"It meant a lot to me that both Kayla and Kristi came out of retirement and came back to play," head coach Jason Pruitt said. "Both of them were not playing the year before. I'm forever grateful for them taking the time out of their schedule and come back to play for a year."

> 'It meant a lot to me that both Kayla (Chism) and Kristi (Sakamoto) came out of retirement and came back to play. Both of them were not playing the year before. I'm forever grateful for them taking the time out of their schedule and come back to play for a year.'
> *—Jason Pruitt, head coach*

Caltech's team came in to the game with confidence.

"I'm really excited. I mean, it's our last game and there's a lot on the line, but I think we're going to do well," Caltech sophomore forward Alexa Lauinger said. "I'm confident about it."

At the beginning of the first quarter, the Leopards came out strong on offense, immediately putting pressure on Caltech. The Leopards also forced the Beavers into some early turnovers.

With seven minutes left in the quarter, the score was tied at 6-6 until the Leopards broke the tie with a layup from junior guard Clarissa Perez.

Both team were running and getting a lot of shots up, but neither team was particularly efficient to start. After a three-point shot by junior guard Bailey Kurahashi made it 11-8, Caltech called a timeout.

After the timeout Caltech came out and went on a 10-0 run and overtook the lead from the Leopards by making free throws and layups.

La Verne went cold and could not make a basket until Chism made a layup, stopping a three-minute drought.

The first quarter ended with both teams getting hot and trading baskets, the quarter ended with the Leopards trailing 27-22.

Throughout the second quarter, La Verne began to fall behind because Caltech's defensive pressure.

The Beavers were able to force the Leopards into multiple turnovers.

Caltech had great ball movement which provided them with easy layup opportunities and great shots that they made.

La Verne continued to play hard even though they were down. The second quarter ended with Caltech leading La Verne, 50-40.

"Going into the last game was just really emotional because it's our senior night. It's been four long years, but our team did a really good job at just letting us know how loved we are," Chism said. "We wanted to win, but unfortunately we couldn't do it, but we just tried to play well and leave it all on the court for the last time."

After halftime, Caltech stretched their lead to 64-53 with four minutes to go in the third quarter.

La Verne was able to make shots but turnovers and Caltech's offensive success pushed the lead to nearly 20 before the end of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter was much of the same as Caltech was getting easy shots and making them. La Verne fought, but could not overcome the lead the Beavers built.

On the season, La Verne finishes with a record of 3-13 in Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play, and 5-20 overall. The Leopards finished in an eighth place tie with Caltech.

This is an improvement from last season and the team is very young and promising when looking to next season and beyond.

Even with the loss Saturday, it was a memorable night for the seniors that are leaving and heading toward future endeavors.

"It was a bittersweet feeling knowing that it was our last game ever and it's really sad, but our teammates did a great job and they were always there for us throughout this whole season and they made us feel very loved for senior night," Sakamoto said. "I wish them the best of luck for next season."

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Claudia Ceja

Jessica Hanashiro, La Verne freshman guard, makes the basket to end the second quarter Saturday. The score was 79-60 in favor of Caltech. La Verne fought hard but fell on Senior Night, 97-74, to the Beavers at Frantz Athletic Court in its final home game of the season. The Leopards ended the season with a record of 5-20 overall and 3-13 in Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play.



