Campus Times

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Fashioning a fabulous Quinceañera



Ashley Villavicencio

Singer-songwriter Giselle Torres performs her song "15" Sunday during the Quinceañera Expo at the Fairplex. The anual expo at the Fariplex is hosted by Quinceañera Magazine to showcase dresses and event services for teens and their families preparing for Quinceañera parties.

Lecture explores role of Guadalupe

Savannah Dingman
Staff Writer

University of La Verne students, staff and recent graduates came together in the Interfaith Chapel to discuss La Virgen de Guadalupe's role in women's lives during a faith and justice lecture facilitated by University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner Thursday.

"A good theology and philosophy to live by is one that can help us look at the suffering straight on, and still have a sense that there's some place to go when we die," University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner said.

Guadalupe is a vessel for universal female empowerment, said Wagoner. Spirituality associated with Guadalupe has close ties to other female deities, and thus is believed to be a connection between worshipers and their indigenous history, she added.

Wagoner distributed an excerpt from "Entering Into The Serpent" by Gloria Anzaldùa, to better explain La Virgen's significance.

"I like to show this because it shows [Guadalupe's] richness and the depth, and the ways that she is weaving through people's experience," Wagoner said.

A few of the women who attended the lecture shared their experiences with reference to their religious and spiritual backgrounds.

For most of them, their journeys were heavily shaped and influenced by La Virgen.

Recent La Verne graduate Kimberly Gonzalez shared her lived experience while discussing the history of Guadalupe and worship practices influenced by pagan/folk traditions.

She focused on the pilgrimage to the Basilica, or shrine, of Guadalupe, and explained why millions of people participate each year.

"The pilgrimage is to show humility, faith, and love for Guadalupe and to thank her for answering your prayers," Gonzalez said. "People crawl on their hands and knees from the bottom to the top of the hill, kissing the floor."

Often times during this crawl, people scrape and bloody their knees, but Gonzalez said this process is seen as a sacrifice for Guadalupe.

As Wagoner explained Latina theological beliefs, she shared an important idea about approaching reality—including suffering—with honesty.

"Empapamiento of hope, or the saturation of hope," Wagoner said. "This theology should saturate us with hope."

"Saturating ourselves with hope—it creates a picture of going to the light," University President Devorah Lieberman said.

Guadalupe is not only an inspiration for women. She has played an extremely vital role in Mexican and Chicano culture as a whole. Her face has united farmworkers during protests and soldiers during the Mexican Revolution, according to Anzaldùa's book.

"I really appreciate you both [Wagoner and Gonzalez] for being able to talk about this, it brings me so much joy," Admissions Counselor Cynthia Ramirez said. "You make me feel comfort, like I'm still connected."

Savannah Dingman can be reached at ***savannah.dingman@laverne.edu.***

Abdullah discusses the state of black America

Jocelyn Arceo
Editor in Chief

Melina Abdullah, co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement, spoke to 120 members of the University community in honor of Black History Month Thursday in the Campus Center Ballrooms.

Abdullah spoke about the state of American policing, highlighted various historical figures within the black community, and discussed the Black Lives Matter movement before a packed audience.

"Black Lives Matter is working for a world where black lives are no longer systematically and intentionally targeted for demise," said Abdullah, who is also professor and chair of Pan-African studies at Cal State Los Angeles. "It wasn't an accident that Wakiesh Wilson was murdered. It wasn't an accident that Christopher Deandre Mitchell was murdered. It wasn't an accident that Kisha Michael and Marquintan Sandlin were murdered... Those aren't accidents."

Black Lives Matter is a movement, not a moment, Abdullah said. When speaking, her intentions are to remind people that the struggle for black freedom is not only the responsibility and sacred duty of black people, but of non-black people as well, she added.

"In fact, it may be more your responsibility because you benefit from the structures that oppress us," Abdullah said. "You need to do your work of betraying your privilege in toppling the systems that you think empower you, but oppress us."

The Black Lives Matter movement began on July 13, 2013 after George Zimmerman was acquitted of charges and given his gun back after murdering 17-year-old Trayvon Martin, an unarmed black minor targeted by racial profiling. On that day, black mothers began marching the streets. Thousands of people gathered to express their outrage as they continued to march for three days.

"All black lives matter. Black queer lives matter, black trans lives matter, black women's lives matter, poor black folk's lives matter, black formerly incarcerated – black incarcerated folks lives matter," Abdullah said. "All black lives matter, and in doing that and affirming that, we reject respectability politics both in terms of whose life matters but also in how we get down."

The Black Lives Matter movement does not believe in police reform because, typically, this reform only means feeding into a systematically oppressive

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‘Girls’ iluminates marginalization

David Gonzalez
LV Life Editor



Jaren Cyrus

Marcia Chatelain, professor of African American studies at Georgetown University, shares stories from her book “South Side Girls: Growing Up in the Great Migration” Tuesday in Morgan Auditorium. Chatelain wrote about the 1990s crises of black America.

Marcia Chatelain, professor of history and African American studies at Georgetown University, gave insight about the experiences of young African American girls who went through Chicago’s Great Migration after the Depression.

Chatelain’s speech was held in honor of human rights leader in the anti-slavery movement Frederick Douglass.

Chatelain said it was fitting that her speech was in his honor because children often do not understand their situation and were born into a state of the unfree.

“I think the reason why I’m so drawn to children’s history is because I’m always moved by the experiences of people who feel particularly vulnerable and feel like their options are limited,” Chatelain said. “When I think about writing about people who have to make sense of environments and changes that are nonsensical and they have no reference point, this is the place I think we can learn the most about the human experience.”

In her book “South Side Girls: Growing Up in the Great Migration,” Chatelain explores the stories of orphaned African American girls and people and organizations who helped empower them.

Chatelain said her book was written to make sense of her own upbringing in Chicago in the 1990s where she would hear stories about crises in black America.

“Every night on the news or on television talk shows someone was concerned about African American young people, but when they talk about African American youth, they really mean boys,” Chatelain said.

Chatelain focused on Amanda Berry Smith’s contributions to helping orphaned or abandoned African American girls. Smith saved the money she earned from speaking tours to open an orphanage in Harvey, Illinois, where she believed the children would be protected, Chatelain said.

Building up the Amanda Smith Industrial School for Colored Girls was difficult for Smith due to meager funding, Chatelain said.

“The more they built their institutions, the less incentives the state had in taking care of black children,” Chatelain said.

Because of this the school relied on the generosity of the public, Chatelain said.

Chatelain said that girls were often sent to institutions meant for girls who broke the law, like Park Ridge School for Girls and the Illinois State Training School for Girls, not because they broke the law, but because they were poor.

“I think our recent conversation about unaccompanied minors at our border also is provocative of these conversations,” Chatelain said. “How do we keep children who are often marginalized and vilified because of who they are and where they come from, safe and protected?”

Chatelain said she was interested in people with differing opinions and stories of people who are not viewed as perfect.

“I talk about girls that are very much a source of pride for African American communities,” Chatelain said. “The girls who do well at school, the ones who become campfire girls and girl scouts and then there are the girls who stress people out.”

Continued on page 3



Katelyn Keeling

Jane Beal, associate professor of English, speaks about her method of teaching a FLEX class focused on sci-fi literature Tuesday in the Executive Dining Room. Beal incorporates science fiction and fantasy to real life scenarios. Beal’s specialty is medieval and modern English literature.

Beal combines sci-fi and lit

Jane Beal, associate professor of English, shared how she connected science fiction and fantasy to real-life situations in her FLEX class, Tuesday in the Executive Dining Room.

The books and films analyzed in the course ultimately teach the themes of psychological depth, cultural criticism, technological progress, and philosophical issues, Beal said.

Beal said she decided to end the course with the popular apocalypse film “I Am Legend.”

The class began by discussing that the idea of the zombie originates in Haiti, its linkage to voodoo, and the reanimation of dead bodies under another’s control, Beal said.

“It can be interpreted as a cultural response to slavery,” Beal said. “The fear that if you die, you will still be under someone else’s control and the desire to be free from that is evident in the film.”

She said the zombies in the film are a symbol for the destructive reality of racism.

“This was without a doubt the most powerful night of the class,” Beal said.

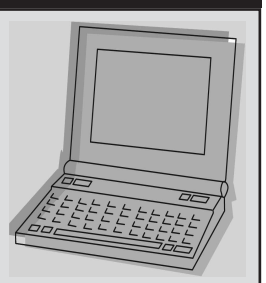
“The course objectives included ... understanding of common ideas, such as the butterfly effect, dystopia, utopia, time travel, ultimate universes, aliens, an apocalypse,” Beal said.

Kate Correnti, freshmen music major, also attended Beal’s lecture, and said she enjoyed how Beal connected real life problems to science fiction in her course.

“I would definitely love to take this course with Professor Beal,” Correnti said.

–Natalie Gutiérrez

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First 2 years of college could be free

Bill aims to boost education

Alondra Campos
Staff Writer

California Gov. Gavin Newsom hopes to let some community college students off the hook for tuition for two full years.

As part of his budget proposal announced in January, the governor wants to extend by an additional year the California College Promise Program, established in 2017 by former Gov. Jerry Brown.

The program currently covers full-time community college students tuition for their first year.

To be eligible for the Promise Program currently, students must be enrolled in 12 or more credits per semester, and must also complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or a California Dream Act application.

The proposed legislation will provide $1.4 billion for higher education to support increased enrollment, Newsom spokesman Jesse Melgar said in an emailed statement this week.

Of the $1.4 billion, community colleges will receive $402 million to cover students for those first two years.

Newsom's proposal has yet to be finalized and then must go to the state legislature for approval.

The expense of college keeps some students from exploring a higher education. And this proposed legislation could knock down that barrier, said Alisha Rosas, spokeswoman for Chaffey College, a state community college in Rancho Cucamonga.

"Education is an equalizer in our society and if we could help students find the staircase that takes them from a two-year education to a four-year education to possibly graduate school, that would be amazing," Rosas said.

Rosas said the average student at Chaffey College pays $46 per unit, which equals to about $500 for a full load of courses per semester.

Unfortunately, many students do not have the support they need to even pay for one semester of tuition at a community college level.

The proposed legislation could also help high school students who plan on attending their dream school, Rosas said.

"Many high school students have a dream school in mind but often have trouble finding a way to pay for it," Rosas said. "Through this legislation, students can easily finish their general education requirements for free in two years at a local community college. The biggest investment you can make is in yourself, and every student is worth the investment."

> 'Education is an equalizer in our society and if we could help students find the staircase that takes them from a two-year education to a four-year education to possibly graduate school, that would be amazing.'
> *—Alisha Rosas, Chaffey College spokeswoman*

Newsom's proposal was also praised by Eloy Ortiz Oakley, California Community Colleges Chancellor.

"Extending the College Promise will give more Californians the opportunity to gain the skills and credentials needed to succeed in today's economy," Oakley said in an emailed statement.

Oakley added that this will incentivise colleges to align with K-12 and university partners, while adopting student success reforms.

Bill Scroggins, Mt. San Antonio College president and CEO, said Newsom's attempt to build on the previous California College Promise program is needed and can help solve some of the unique challenges college students face.

"Cal Grants and Pell Grants are falling behind," Scroggins said. "The amount of financial aid they provide is not sufficient to cover the students' costs. This new monetary addition to the California College Promise program could help students purchase their textbooks as well as possibly help cover their child support or even transportation."

Scroggins said the program alone produced almost $1 million for Mt. SAC last year, which benefited both the college and its students.

"The only possible issue with this legislation is that the money goes directly to the students," Scroggins said.

"Although this money is theirs, its intention is to help students mostly with their academic needs, such as textbooks, school supplies, or anything like that."

Scroggins said Mt. SAC will need more advising and financial planning to help students use the money granted to them as best as possible.

Katrina Kasenda, freshman computer engineering major, transferred to La Verne from Chaffey College.

She said it is great for students in community college to gain this free access to education, but that the proposed legislation could also dramatically add on to the overwhelming number of students attending community colleges.

"My siblings also went to community college and a couple years ago (and) I remember they were able to still register for classes that were already at full capacity," Kasenda said. "But now community colleges are being very strict about the number of students attending because it's getting too full, and more free college can add to that."

Christopher Padilla, a student in the La Verne master's of business administration program, said that although this proposal sounds great, there are underlying issues not being addressed.

"As a community college transfer student to La Verne I've seen first-hand the downside of free community college," Padilla said. "The cash money that is given directly to students is supposed to be used for educational purposes, but the reality is that students do not use the money for that."

Padilla said that, as a former community college student and Mt. SAC financial specialist, he has seen many community college students use their money inefficiently.

By contrast, students attending four-year universities are forced to use their money solely for their education.

"The (proposed) legislation could possibly devalue the meaning of education," Padilla said. "Since students are not paying for their classes, it can be very easy for some to not go to class or just drop out."

Alondra Campos can be reached at ***alondra.campos@laverne.edu.***

Assembly bill could require full day kindergarten by '21

Aryn Plax
Politics Editor

A new assembly bill could require California public schools to implement full-day kindergarten programs by the year 2021.

The bill, drafted by Assemblywoman Shirley Weber (D-San Diego), would require that kindergarten programs abide by state-wide curriculum, which include all subjects, including visual/performing arts and physical education.

Chaparral Elementary School in Claremont used to have a half-day kindergarten program, but at the insistence of kindergarten teachers, the school transitioned into a more academic full-day program by 2008-2009.

Annette Reed, a former kindergarten teacher and current second grade teacher at Chaparral, contributed to that effort.

"When the kids left us at 11:45 a.m., most of them would just go to daycare," Reed said. "We felt like we could offer them more academics, a more structured environment, and add some things to our curriculum, like science, social studies, and art. We just decided it would be better for the kids if they were schooled just a longer day instead of being at home or at daycare."

Sycamore Elementary School, also in Claremont, never had a full-day kindergarten.

This school is unique in that kindergarten students, who stay for only a half-day program, spend class time with first-grade students, who stay for the whole day.

"Our particular school is rather developmental in nature," Sycamore Elementary School Principal Amy Stanger said. "We kind of have this constructivist philosophy and so we really believe that children should play and explore, so we've chosen that path for kindergarten as being kind of an entry point into school."

Constructivism entails that the program abides by an educational philosophy that claims students derive knowledge and meaning from their direct experiences – a sharp contrast to lecture-style instruction, Stanger said.

Denise Kennedy, associate professor of education at the University of La Verne and a specialist in early childhood development program, said there are a few logistical issues within the Assembly bill, such as the issue of increased demand for class space.

However, she acknowledges the benefits of the bill.

"If we're looking at low-income families, this would probably be a benefit just because of the cost of child care," Kennedy said. "A lot of families cannot afford childcare and if their child is in school longer, then that affords them more time to enter the workforce."

Lisa Looney, associate professor of education, said that with this bill comes with an increased emphasis on kindergarteners' academic progress, when there should also be emphasis on the children's development.

"Implementing a bill that requires full-day kindergarten, the hope is that it's going to bring children along faster. That's not necessarily the case," Looney said. "You can implement a full day kindergarten, but if that full day kindergarten isn't developmentally appropriate, if it's not taking into account the developmental needs of the children, you're not going to exit with a successful result, necessarily.

"My concern with a bill like this is more about the fact that it's not going to be a quick fix if that's what the issue is, right? It's not about putting kids in classrooms longer. It's about being effective in the time that they are there," Looney said.

Aryn Plax can be reached at ***aryn.plax@laverne.edu.***

'Girls'...

Continued from page 2

Chatelain said she also focused on a program for young mothers who had unplanned pregnancies and testimonies she found in an unpublished work by E. Franklin Frazier.

In the letters young women would talk about the hardships they faced, but despite their flaws still contributed to the knowledge of youth and families.

Jacqueline Galloway Blake gave a heartfelt testimony of her own experiences in relation to what Chatelain wrote in her book.

She told the story of her parents migrating from Virginia and Texas to New York City and how her great grandfather was a slave himself.

"My sister integrated with a school in New York City. I was a part of the Girl Scouts that was integrated, so much of what you talked about resonated with our life," Blake said.

Anayeli Dominguez, a masters student focusing on social justice in higher education, said that despite all the work others have done, there still a lot of work to be made in making African American students feel welcomed in schools like the University of La Verne.

"Having women of color coming empowers women of color on campus," Dominguez said.

Paril Patel, senior history major and ethnic studies minor, said that the marginalization of African American children, especially girls, is often unseen.

"Exposing the university to us is a big deal because on this campus what you see is a climate that has marginalized and is racist toward African American women," Patel said. "Its eye opening for everybody."

Patel said that there is a lack of cultural competency and inclusivity in the world, and that speeches like Chatelain's bring an understanding of the struggles of marginalized groups.

David Gonzalez can be reached at ***david.gonzalez9@laverne.edu***.

Mega storm could hit West Coast

Climate change will be the root cause of a rare mega storm called the ARkStorm that scientists say will send more than 1.5 million people on the West Coast fleeing as floodwaters swamp cities and form lakes in the Central Valley and Mojave Desert.

Not only will this storm produce immense damage, a recent analysis by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers predicts in populated areas of the Los Angeles Basin, epic runoff from the San Gabriel Mountains could rapidly overwhelm a flood control dam on the San Gabriel river and unleash floodwaters from Pico Rivera to Long Beach.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the winter storm aftermath could result in a $725 billion deficit – three times more damage than an earthquake along the San Andreas fault would cause.

The occurrence of this storm is unpredictable and is estimated to produce precipitation that would exceed levels only experienced in other places once every 500 to 1,000 years.

There is no denying this catastrophe is on its way. The question now is one of preparation. The ability of our federal, state and local disaster planning to handle a storm of such force is limited, and this is clearly not on their priority list. However, it should be, as this storm is predicted to cause damage unlike anything we have seen before. We need to be aware of the disasters our surroundings area are capable of, but also take note of necessary disaster preparedness steps.



editorial cartoon by Danielle De Luna

The Multi Hazards Demonstration Project uses hazards science to improve resilience of communities to natural disasters, alert policymakers, emergency planners and utility operators, and inform preparedness plans and to enhance resiliency.

Some devastating hypothetical effects the ARkstorm will have on the entire West Coast include hundreds of landslides that would damage roads, highways and homes and damage to power, phone, water and sewer would take weeks or months to restore and a $400 billion direct property loss.

The ARkStorm effects were developed by a team of 117 scientists, engineers, public-policy experts, insurance experts and employees of the affected lifelines. We cannot ignore the power this storm has in washing away a devastating portion of our population and infrastructure.

We must encourage our policymakers to focus their time and money on the detrimental effects this storm will produce and continue talking about this inevitable, inescapable and deadly storm that is quickly approaching.

LGBTQ rights, safety in danger

As of 2019, only 15 states have laws protecting LGBTQ people against conversion therapy.

Conversion therapy is the practice of attempting to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity. This practice is not only harmful to the client, but it is also ineffective.

The American Psychological Association found no scientific evidence for the practice of conversion therapy – meaning people cannot change the level of attraction they have toward a certain gender or change someone's gender identity.

In 2018, the Williams Institute at University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law released a report estimating 698,000 adults ages 18-59 have experienced conversion therapy. Of these adults, 350,000 experienced the practice in adolescence. The report also estimated that 20,000 youths ages 13-17 will go through conversion therapy from a licensed healthcare professional, and 57,000 more will go through conversion therapy from religious or spiritual advisors.

People who have undergone conversion therapy are likely to experience depression, anxiety and in some cases, suicidal ideation. The laws against the practice are typically targeted at licensed professionals, while religious leaders slip under the radar.

Conversion therapy is usually motivated by religion and parents seeking to "fix" their child's sexual orientation.

This idea comes from the Bible's many anti-gay quotes, namely Leviticus 18:22, which states, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination."

The documentary "Kidnapped for Christ" tells the story of a teenager, David, who identifies as gay, but was sent to an overseas school for troubled youth called Escuela Caribe by his parents. The leaders at the school would administer "culture shock therapy," in which the victims experienced intense forced labor and repetitive exercise, physical beatings and extreme isolation.

Conversion therapy is a form of child abuse and it's time to focus on banning conversion therapy from being given by both licensed professionals and religious leaders across all 50 states.

Athletes deserve to earn money

On Feb. 4, California Sen. Nancy Skinner, D-Berkeley introduced a senate bill called the Fair to Play Act that would allow college athletes to receive compensation in the form of third-party endorsements or sponsorships. The NCAA has had a long-standing history with athlete compensation, or a lack thereof and the Fair to Play Act is one of many recent campaigns designed to generate greater equality for these college athletes.

The NCAA is a billion-dollar company that does not give a cent to its players. It collects over $800 million annually in just television and marketing fees, with another $100 million acquired through their championships and other investments.

In 2009 former UCLA basketball player Ed O'Bannon filed a lawsuit against the NCAA for licensing the rights to his likeness in EA Sports' "NCAA Basketball '09" video game. O'Bannon would eventually win the case, with the court ruling that the NCAA's practice of barring payments to athletes violated antitrust laws.

A 2012 study by the National College Players Association and Drexel University Sports Management Program found that the 10 players with the highest market value, ranging from $345,000 to $514,000, all lived below the federal poverty line.

Another study in 2014 by the College Sport Research Institute at the University of South Carolina found that male college athletes had a 17.5 percent lower chance to graduate when compared to non-athlete male students.

With many game programs and posters using the players' faces to promote the school, the athletes get nothing out of it. It should be a criminal act not to pay these athletes because they are being exploited for their free labor.

Amidst the many scandals throughout recent years, the system within the NCAA is clearly broken and something has to be done.

This bill could be the first of many necessary changes to help athletes win a war against an organization that is already in hot water.

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**.

CAMPUS TIMES
SPRING 2019

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Jaysin Brandt, Jaren Cyrus, Molly Garry, Nikky Huynh, Katelyn Keeling, Kayla Salas, Ashley Villavicencio

Advertising Manager ..... Sienna Kendricks
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Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the Campus Times editorial board. Signed columns are the opinion of the individuals and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Campus Times. Letters to the Editor are due by Tuesday at 3 p.m. Letters must be typed, no more than 400 words in length, relate to a topic covered in the Campus Times, and are subject to editing for clarity and space.

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Arts, etc...

Happenings

Michael Ryan and Friends

The next Sundays at the Morgan concert will feature Michael Ryan and Friends at 6 p.m. March 10 in Morgan Auditorium.

Tickets are $10 at the door or free for students with ID card.

'What Lies Beneath'

The La Verne Academy Lecture Series presents Jon Leaver, professor of art history, for his lecture, "What Lies Beneath" at noon Tuesday in the Executive Dining Room. Admission is free.

'No, No, Nanette'

"No, No, Nanette" is a tap dancing musical comedy about three couples who share a cottage in Atlantic City in the roaring 1920s.

Performances will run Friday through April 13 at the Candlelight Pavillion in Claremont. For tickets or more information, visit **candlelightpavillion.com.**

Seaver Theatre

Pomona College will feature "Metamorphoses," a comedic and tragic play that retells Ovid's interwoven myths of Gods, humans and nature.

The play will run Thursday through March 9 in the Seaver Theatre at Pomona College. Tickets range from $6 to $11. For more information, visit **pomona.edu/events/metamorphoses.**

Saturday Art Walk

The Claremont Village monthly art walk will take place Saurday from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Admission is free.

'Newsies'

The Grove Theatre will feature a musical based on the 1992 Disney movie "Newsies," about a group of newsboys who stand up to New York's most powerful men from March 1 to March 3.

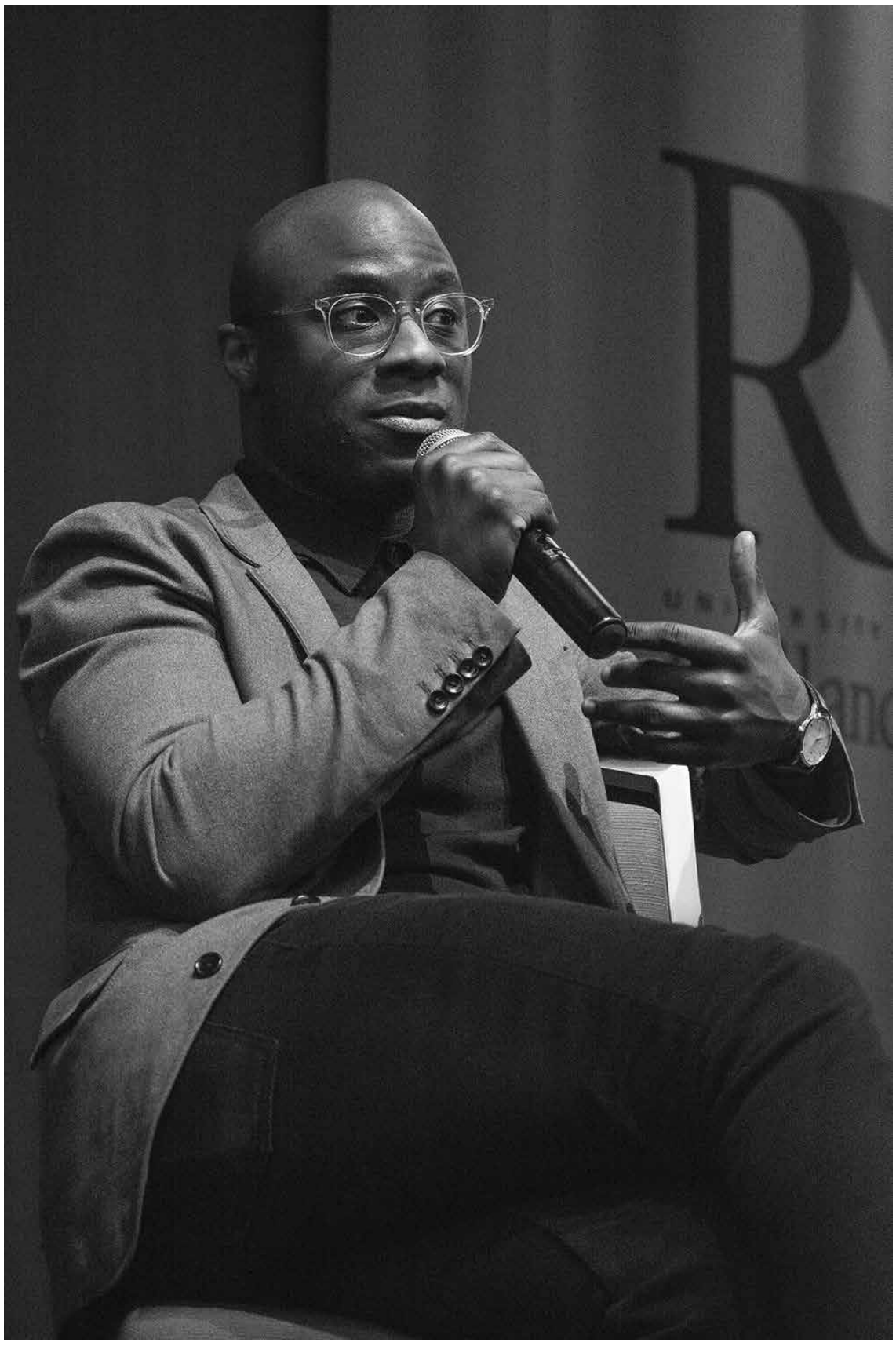
Tickets are $26 when you visit ***gold-star.com.***

—Campus Times Staff

Oscar winner shares Creative journey

by Layla Abbas

photography by Kayla Salas



Barry Jenkins, director of "Moonlight" and "If Beale Street Could Talk," shared insight into his filmmaking career Tuesday at the University of Redlands. He said everyone can be a filmmaker thanks to easily accessible smart phone cameras.

Barry Jenkins, the award-winning director of "Moonlight" and "If Beale Street Could Talk," reflected on a particular college breakup that introduced him to the American novelist and activist, James Baldwin.

"My favorite James Baldwin work is Giovanni's Room," Jenkins said. "I discovered James Baldwin when I was a sophomore and I was dating a senior who was more attractive, more worldly and more intelligent. So of course when she broke up with me, she did so by giving me a copy of Giovanni's Room."

Jenkins spoke with ease, casualness and gratitude about his filmmaking career to a crowd of roughly 200 people Tuesday at the University of Redlands.

His recent adaptation of the James Baldwin novel "If Beale Street Could Talk," topped the 34th Film Independent Spirit Awards, winning best film, best director and best supporting female for Regina King.

Jenkins shared the intricate details he weaved into the story of "If Beale Street Could Talk," to capture the stories sweet tenderness through the main woman character's point of view.

The movie captures the innocent young love of two black people whose devotion and strength is outlined and tested by the faulty criminal justice system.

"The history of black folks in this country has been rooted in some element of suffering since our arrival on these shores," Jenkins said. "And yet there has always been love and family and that is the reason why black culture and black lives have endured."

Jenkins said he wanted the audience involvement in a way that they can understand what it feels like to communicate through barriers for loved ones.

"It is one thing to walk a mile in someone else's shoes but we walk into an auditorium and now have the opportunity to force you to put on the character shoes," Jenkins said. "It is an intellectual concept that is made emotional through the performance."

Jennifer Tilton, associate professor of race and ethnic studies at the University of Redlands, said she was particularly impressed with Jenkins' ability to connect and forge community.

"Jenkins is incredibly generous and skilled at talking to groups," Tilton said. "He has found ways to tell stories that are close and far away from him and build a community that lets him."

Jenkins' next project, an adaptation of the Underground Railroad written by Colson Whitehead, will consist of an 11 episode television limited series for Amazon Studios.

The story of engineers and conductors operating a network of tracks and tunnels constructed in secret beneath the Southern soil in which they were enslaved is a story that deserves to be retold, Jenkins said.

"Some people say, 'Another slave narrative?' Jenkins said. "You now why if you go to Germany people will be hard pressed to see a swastika anywhere? Because there has been thousands of books and movies. It is in the public consciousness. You know why I can drive 20 minutes from here and see a Confederate flag? Because it is not the same presentation so that story will be told."

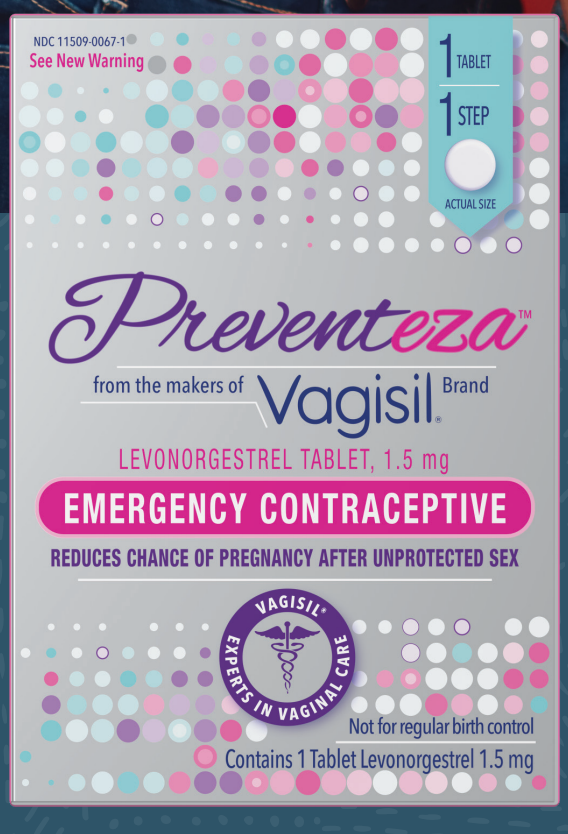
Michelle Williams, educator in San Bernardino, said she brought her daughter along to see that ordinary people can do extraordinary things.

"Jenkins is talking about subjects that have been deemed taboo but we are mak-

Continued on page 10



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RITE AID PHARMACY

Movie Review

Oscar winner is painful and endearing

Emily J. Sullivan
Staff Writer

Like some mid-20th Century white families vacationing via road trips with maps and yellow pages, African-Americans used the Green Book, published from 1936-1966, to find establishments that were welcoming to non-white tourists and travelers.

In the three-Oscar winning film "The Green Book," Italian-American Tony Vallelonga, played by Viggo Mortensen, is down on his luck after a string of short-lived employment flukes and failures.

He is presented with a business opportunity to drive and accompany an African-American classically trained pianist throughout his two-month tour of the Deep South.

Vallelonga, a racist tough-guy who lived in the Bronx his entire life, had never heard of the Green Book.

Together, the unlikely duo embark on a remarkable journey in which stereotypes are crushed, personal transformations flourish and a complicated friendship blossoms.

The film is simultaneously painful and endearing, horrific and sweet.

The story, based on true events and a real life friendship between Shirley and Vallelonga, is an easier-to-swallow depiction of only a fraction of the monstrosities of a Jim Crow era existence.

In the end, the overwhelming value of the film can be characterized as the beauty that can be born out of disaster and the power of learning from one another, especially those who are most different from ourselves.

Dr. Don Shirley, played by Mahershala Ali, is a brilliant pianist that lives above Carnegie Hall. He is the frontman of an impressive world-class trio that tours the country playing concerts for the wealthy upper-class.

Shirley is repeatedly confronted with the complications of being praised by white American elites in one aspect of his life and degraded and demoralized in the other.

He is welcomed to play on their stages and entertain white audiences but refused a seat in their restaurants.

He is flooded with thunderous applause, only to be shunned to a filthy outhouse rather than offered the in-house restroom.

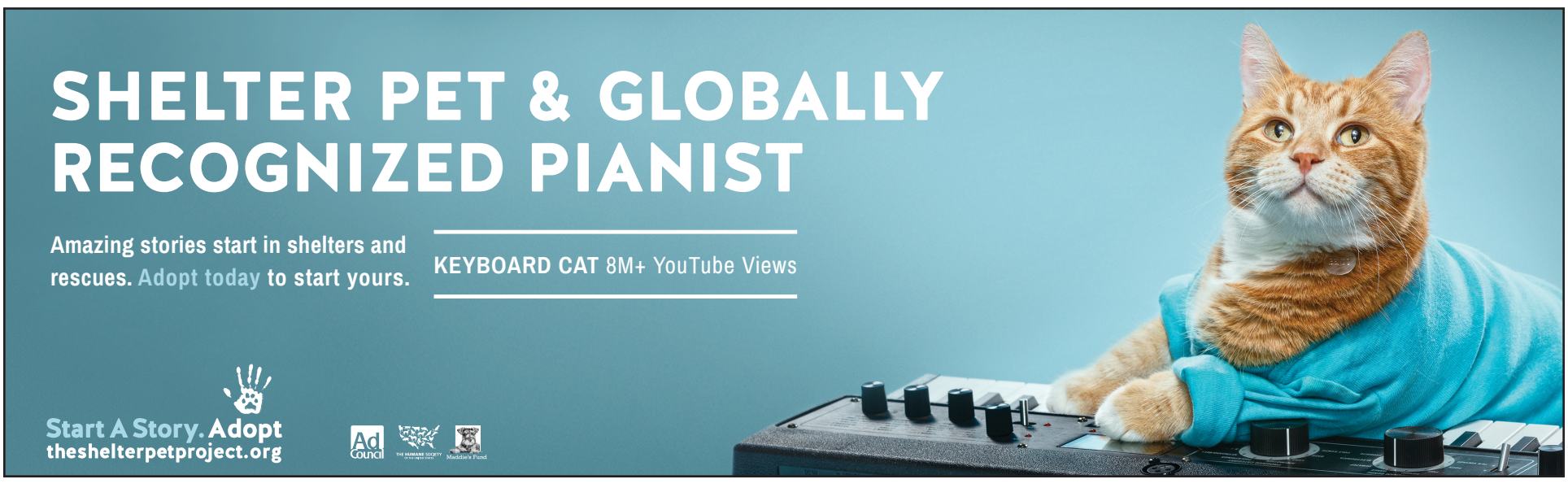
It is through these persistent attacks on Shirley's basic treatment as a human that Vallelonga's eyes are opened and assumptions challenged.

Controversy regarding the film's Oscar win has been trending in the news and social media. The New York Times called it a "racial reconciliation fantasy."

But I think the film's three wins, including Best Original Screenplay, Best Supporting Actor and Best Picture were well deserved.

Emily J. Sullivan can be reached at ***emily.sullivan@laverne.edu.***





Spirituality resonates at the Morgan

Hannah Rogers
Staff Writer



Molly Garry

Drummer Lyndon Rochelle plays a powerful rendition of "Thank You Lord for All You Do" after explaining that he has chronic pain and epilepsy. He was accompanied by his jazz band Sunday at Morgan Auditorium.

Lyndon Rochelle and his band, The Rochelle Experience, moved many audience members to tears with spiritual gospel music at their performance Sunday in the Morgan Auditorium.

Audience members were shouting, singing, dancing, crying and clapping as they felt the power of the performance.

On stage, Rochelle sang and played the drums while he welcomed Kenneth Crouch on piano, Joel Whitley on guitar, Jerohn Garnett on bass and vocal group SSK.

"That music uplifted my soul, and I love gospel music," said Jane Beal, associate professor of English British literature. "I had a hard day and it was not completely easy for me, but coming and listening to the music that focuses on courage helped."

Rochelle opened up with a song titled "Moaning," which he related back to his enslaved ancestors. Rochelle said that music helped the enslaved people get through hardships because they would hum to songs as a way to help pass time during their difficult work day.

The singers, pianist and drummers kept an upbeat rhythm throughout the performance.

Many audience members agreed with Rochelle as they were nodding their heads while he spoke about the mistreatment of his ancestors and the hardships they endured, but how they used spirituals to persevere.

"They have appropriated a message and used it for liberation and empowerment. That is exactly what spirituals are meant to do," Elaine Padilla, associate professor of philosophy and religion, said.

"Spirituals are meant to take a message and empower you, inspire you and liberate you from oppression and injustice."

The SSK vocalists introduced the song "Bless that Wonderful Name of Jesus." It was clear the audience enjoyed the piece as people were seen dancing, jumping and clapping along.

"I wanted to dance," Jesus Ramirez, freshman world languages major, said. "The music was so rhythmic and had so much energy. If I was not so shy I would have gotten up and danced."

Garnett also sang "How Great is Our God."

In response to the powerful song, some audience members cried while others swayed back and forth with their hands in the air.

"The music was spiritual music that is meant to touch your spirit, and really was something that touched my spirit and really spoke to me at the deepest level," said Padilla.

The last song Rochelle played was "Thank You Lord for All You Do."

Rochelle chose this song because he suffers from chronic pain and epilepsy, something he said he would not have gotten through without the help of God by his side.

Rochelle gave an inspiring speech about how one should be thankful for everything that they have even if they are going through troubling times because of the plan God has for them.

"The music made me feel happy, it was very exciting and really emphasized the message of thankfulness," Hanien Samara, junior biology major, said.

Michael Ryan and Friends will perform at the next Sundays at the Morgan concert March 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Hannah Rogers can be reached at ***hannah.rogers@laverne.edu.***

Political landscapes fill walls at Art After Hours

Maydeen Merino
Staff Writer

The Pomona College Museum of Art provided a chance to view the scenes behind the "Stories: Selections from the Permanent Collection" exhibit, led by junior Pomona College student and co-curator Daphnide McDermet.

A small group of about 10 people gathered together to enjoy art, music and food at the weekly Art After Hours event Feb. 21.

McDermet did most of the curating by researching, collecting and organizing all of the art, while being mentored by senior curator Rebecca McGrew.

"A few things ended up happening when choosing what pieces to use, there are pieces that have been featured in previous exhibits, such as the 'Artist Project Series,' which had work done by Andrea Bowers," McDermet said.

One piece of Bowers' art work is presented in the current exhibition. Bowers' work contains three people at the bottom right corner of a blank white paper, with each person holding a sign that says things such as "End Sexual Violence" and "Why?"

"I tried finding a balance that included pieces that are interesting, that work together and then creating a coherent theme out of them," McDermet said.

The gallery contained artwork of landscapes from other artists, but not the conventional type. These art pieces included political statements and ideologies.

"If you look in the dictionary, landscape is both a definite obvious landscape, but landscape can also be a political landscape, not a physical landscape, and that's the idea I wanted to run with," McDermet said.

McDermet and her co-curator worked all summer to create this artistic environment and support the theme of political landscapes.

"As a viewer, you just walk in and see the art, but there is actually months and months of work put into it," Pomona College sophomore neuroscience major Justé Marija Simanauskaité said.

The event shifted in mood as they introduced live music from students on the Pomona College campus, such as a sophomore political science major Michaela Shelton.

Shelton was born in New York City and has been singing since she was 4 years old.

She began songwriting in high school and has now created her own EP titled "Naturally Me."

Shelton sang a couple of covers such as "Shea Butter Baby," by Ari Lennox and J.Cole as well as songs from her EP "Naturally Me" expressing her self-love and her African heritage.

"Art After Hours is a great way to engage the student body and support local student artists," Shelton said.

The gallery tries to provide various ways in which students can be involved in the arts.

"Art isn't just something to see, it is a movement, a symbol, a marker of something significant of what this college values, what our society values, whether its critical thinking, collective ideologies, creativity, it provides voices to those who may not have one," museum coordinator Justine Bae said.

Art After Hours happens every Thursday from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the art museum on the campus of Pomona College.

"We as a museum and collaborator on this liberal arts campus develop programming and exhibits that really encourage critical thinking through the visual arts and creative responses because we do a lot of things that engage the audience that collaborate with other departments," Bae said.

For more information about other Art After Hours events, visit **pomona.edu/museum.**

Maydeen Merino can be reached at ***maydeen.merino@laverne.edu.***

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Focused on social justice

Stephanie Joseph
Staff Writer

Issues of social justice and injustices were brought to light during an evening of senior thesis presentations Wednesday.

The Center for Multicultural Services hosted the event in honor of Social Justice Day in the Executive Dining Room.

The event featured the presentations based on the topic of social injustice.

Senior social justice in education major Rudy Amaya, with his group, discussed the importance of mentoring children and listening to them.

They discussed their mentoring program called Tree of Life, where they take kids on excursions and college tours.

"I am passionate about this program because of the mentors I had in my life and the children I met," Amaya said. "A lot of times people don't see mentoring as important, but it is."

This program started in 2017, Amaya said. Since then, they have taken about 20 children from the Santa Ana Church of the Brethren on a tour of the University of La Verne and Cal State Fullerton.

The children visited with faculty here and even made a stop at President Lieberman's office, Amaya said.

Senior communications major Arturo Gomez Molina talked about his work with an organization called Inner City Struggle.

They help to fight evictions by informing tenants in unincorporated areas about renter's rights. His presentation focused on the work he is producing for the organization.

Gomez Molina said he wants to bring awareness to gentrification, the process of renovating and improving a house or district so that it conforms to middle-class taste, and will help Inner City Struggle with an upcoming campaign.

The event was organized by senior history major Paril Patel and Assistant Director of Multicultural Affairs Misty Levingston.

Among those who attended was President Devorah Lieberman.

"I was deeply impressed that every presentation," Lieberman said. "The presenters were very passionate about their topic. Their professors should be very proud of their research."

Stephanie Joseph can be reached at ***stephanie.joseph@laverne.edu.***

Skip the morning rush



Nikky Huynh

FLOAT, or Fly Over All Traffic, promoting air travel for commuters who drive more than 50 miles offered a demo flight Monday, from Bracket Field Airport in La Verne to Santa Monica. By car that commute could take an hour-and-a-half or more. But the flight is just 15 minutes. The view out of the nine-passenger Mokulele plane shows 405 Freeway stretching south into the horizon.

New club builds professional network

Alondra Campos
Staff Writer

The La Verne chapter of the Association of Latino Professionals for America, was started here in January to support students' professional success.

Julio Garcia, junior economics major, founded the La Verne ALPFA chapter.

"This club could bring more attention to (ULV) students as they enter the workforce," Garcia said. "The club also communicates to the world who La Verne is and how this university can provide not only efficient workers but great leaders too."

ALPFA, founded in Los Angeles in the 1970s, was the first national Latino professional association in the United States.

The club was first established to help struggling Latinos in the United States improve their skills and knowledge in the workforce.

ALPFA is now one of the most diverse associations in the country and has chapters in various recognized universities.

"This club is no longer just for Latinos," Garcia said. "The name still remains there because it was founded by Latinos way back. ALPFA chapters in universities such as USC or UCLA are very diverse in their club members. Some of their club presidents are Indian or Asian while others are Caucasian."

ALPFA first began as an association solely for business administration, but is now an association that can help students in any field with the process of interviewing, job development and skills for any profession.

"ALPFA at La Verne has an opportunity to be different," Garcia said.

"Since La Verne is so small, we have an opportunity to cater to everyone who needs help. We encourage all majors to join this club and reach out to us for help. We don't want to just be an accounting or finance club, but a club that can help students in any area of interest."

Fidel Gomez, a business manager at the Small Business Development Center, offered Garcia the opportunity to establish the club.

"I found Julio as a perfect fit for this position because he had such a hunger for knowledge and a desire to do something but just did not have the guidance or resources to do it," Gomez said.

Gomez also serves as a professional on the board of ALPFA. She said the club strives to provide students with as many tools as possible for them to become leaders in our community.

"At some point in your life you're going to have to apply for a job, schedule an interview and work with professionals," Gomez said.

"What's so great about this student club is that the skills we plant into our students can help anyone."

Biology majors, for example, want to connect with big corporations such as Kaiser Permanente, and ALPFA can help them connect with these large companies or leaders in that field, Gomez said.

"It's about bringing resources to ULV," Gomez said. "ALPFA is driven to attend the actual needs of an institution and we want to do just that for the University."

Marwan Hassan, freshman political science and computer engineering double major, said this club would provide much needed guidance for his future.

"I can personally benefit a lot from this club because I suck at creating resumes or preparing for job applications," Hassan said.

"Since people in the club have real world connections, they know what large corporations, such as Google or Apple, want to see in an applicant and that places us ahead of other college students we're competing against."

Hassan emphasized that student clubs like ALPFA are important because not many students have the help they need for their future and applying to jobs is not always as easy as it may look.

Hannah Cokash, freshman creative writing major, said the club could not only help students grow in their professional field but also grow as individuals.

"I can definitely see the passion this club has to help students like me with their future," Cokash said.

"The club is also involved in not only one, but multiple communities which brings this feeling of belonging to me."

Cokash said the club also helps promote one of the University's core values of diversity and inclusivity.

"Within this club there are so many different opinions from dedicated people who just want to see you be the best you can be," Cokash said.

"Being surrounded by individuals with different backgrounds and individuals who might want the same thing you want but in a different field just creates open mindedness and a better understanding of the diversity in the world."

President Devorah Lieberman and Dean of the College of Business and Public Management Abe Helou are both big supporters of the chapter.

"This is an opportunity for students to feel like they belong," Helou said.

"By being a part of an ALPFA chapter, students are open to interact with other chapters at national conventions and share skills they have learned within their own club."

Alondra Campos can be reached at ***alondra.campos@laverne.edu.***

Bill would let college athletes profit

Students are eligible for sponsorships

Joey Matsuzawa
Sports Editor

A bill introduced last month could allow college athletes in California to accept sponsorships and endorsements from third-party sources.

Sen. Nancy Skinner, D-Berkley, introduced last month Senate Bill 206, dubbed the Fair to Play Act, would not give players a salary per se, but rather sanction the NCAA from penalizing players that pursue sponsorship opportunities.

"Over the course of many years, college sports has become quite lucrative," Faculty Athletics Representative Rick Hasse said. "It's not really fair that the athletes don't get a piece of that."

This senate bill is part of an ongoing saga between college athletes and the NCAA that dates back to the mid 1990s.

In 2009, former UCLA men's basketball star Ed O'Bannon filed a federal lawsuit against the NCAA for using his likeness from UCLA's 1995 championship team in the "NCAA Basketball '09" video game without his knowledge or consent.

The trial lasted through 2014, with the court ruling in favor of O'Bannon, stating that the NCAA's practice of barring payment to student athletes violated antitrust laws. The NCAA has since appealed the ruling, but the loss of their video game was only the start.

"This Senate bill is to add further backbone to that judicial case, to say: if you're going to play sports in California for a state institution, you are going to be compensated for the revenue you generate," Hasse said.

Earlier in 2006, USC star football running back and Heisman trophy winner Reggie Bush, as well as basketball player O.J. Mayo, were found to have been accepting lavish gifts from sports agents during their time at USC.

For Bush, this included new suits and limousine rides to the Heisman ceremony and NFL Combine, as well as a rent-free home for his family to stay at while he went to school.

While Bush and Mayo went on to play in the NFL and NBA respectively, heavy sanctions were placed on USC that included forfeiting their next season, being stripped of over 30 scholarships, and being barred from postseason competition.

In 2015, the NCAA began to allow schools to pay some of their athletes a cash stipend as to cover extra food, entertainment, or other student fees. However, many feel that these athletes still deserve much more.

"I think that stipend does not amount to as much as those top players truly deserve," senior basketball player Evan Gustafson said. "They're always talked about on SportsCenter, Twitter, YouTube, and they get nothing out of it other than draft stock."

Another concern with the stipend is a problem of fairness. Because the schools have to be selective with the stipend, it could lead to some teams receiving more than another, which then becomes a Title IX problem.

A 2012 study by the National College Players Association and Drexel University Sports Management Program found that the 10 players with the highest market value (ranging from $345,000 to $514,000) all lived below the federal poverty line, while a study in 2014 by the College Sport Research Institute at the University of South Carolina found that male college athletes had a 17.5 percent lower likelihood of graduating when compared to other non-athlete male students.

"(With) the schedule that most D-I athletes go through they have no time to have a job," Gustafson said. "They go to class, then they got a couple hours of workouts, couple hours of practice and a couple hours of tutoring. Where do they have time to get a job? This sport is their job essentially."

The NCAA is a billion-dollar organization, that rakes in more than $800 million a year in marketing fees alone.

In addition to being an extremely profitable business, the NCAA is also a non-profit organization, which means they are exempt from paying the federal income tax.

"When the NCAA broadcasts or uses student athletes for their own profit, I think that's where it becomes a negative." senior distance runner Rachael Dela Cruz said. "Because [the NCAA] is supposedly invested in the athletes. So if they're getting something out it and it's not going back to the athlete, are they really fulfilling their purpose?"

Joey Matsuzawa can be reached at ***joe.matsuzawa@laverne.edu***

Abdullah...

Continued from page 1

system, she said. They believe in abolitionism, which she described as completely toppling the systems put in place to oppress black people, such as the incarceration system.

However, as long as there is an incarceration system in place, it should be full of the officers who murder, instead of the overwhelming amount of black people who are incarcerated today, she said.

"We have to prosecute the police who kill our people. Even though we're abolitionists and we don't like saying 'send people to jail,' if we're going to send somebody to jail then it needs to be one of the 575 cops, or all of the 575 cops, who have murdered our folks over the last six years," Abdullah said.

Audience members were given a chance to ask Abdullah questions afterwards. The first question was posed by an unnamed audience member, who explained that he did not understand how his brother, a police officer, contributes to the systematic oppression Abdullah referenced. He simultaneously asked if she really believed that black people are not equal enough in this day and age to oppress others.

"It's important that when we are in an institution of higher learning you commit yourself to actually learning, not to entrenching yourself into some kind of dogma that helps you to justify what your brother does," Abdullah said. "There's no instance where black people have been able to engage in racism... Racism requires the power to oppress, black people as a whole do not have the power to oppress based on race, white people do."

"This is about his [your brother's] willingness to participate in a system that intentionally targets black people, and brown folks, for their demise," Abdullah said. "I'm not saying it's your brother pulling the trigger in these murders, but what I am saying is that we all have a responsibility to resist systems that are murderous."

She went on to explain that people who try to enter into an oppressive system with the intentions to change it from within are instead changed by the system themselves. Abdullah said that intentions are pointless when they are still contributing to the oppression of her people.

Sheila Hines-Brim, aunt of Wakiesh Wilson who was murdered in police custody, attended the discussion with Abdullah. She told the story of her niece who had a mental illness and was treated unfairly, and ultimately murdered, by police officers who were there to protect each other, not the people.

"Your brother, whether you know it or not, is protecting the ones doing wrong. When your silent and not saying anything, you're just as guilty as the ones pulling the trigger," Hines-Brim said. "They always come up with excuses. My niece, 22 minutes of the tape missing, what happened? I'm here to say that no, I don't like the cops. They all, now, today, wear the white uniform of the KKK."

The emotion behind the voice of Kim Dieu, assistant professor of psychology, could be heard by everyone present in the room. She said that sitting there, she could feel in her gut how upsetting it is that nobody says anything as these issues come up in social media and news segments – the murders of black people that she equated to lynchings of the past.

"How can we live with ourselves like that?" Dieu said. "Is there hope?"

Abdullah said that in remembering those who have lost their lives to a systematically oppressive system, it can get heavy. They sometimes forget to acknowledge their victories, such as Los Angeles County's move this month to shut down Men's Central Jail and replace it with a mental health facility.

She also mentioned the victory of seeing five police officers lose their jobs due to injustice, as well as the resignation of Police Chief Charlie Beck of the Los Angeles Police Department.

"We have to count our wins," Abdullah said. "Everybody here had heard of Black Lives Matter before they came into this room, that's a victory. We keep winning."

One last question was posed by Jonas Poggi, a sophomore political science and speech communications double major, who explained to Abdullah that within the last year, students on campus have been calling into question the cultural competency of faculty members through protest.

"My question is, as an educator yourself, what do you believe that other educators can do to advance the betterment of lives of people of color, and what can we as the student body do to best hold educators who fail to meet that standard accountable?" Poggi asked.

Demand for a real ethnic studies department, not just a program, is necessary, Abdullah said.

Knowing how to interact with others while actually understanding their stories is much more important than learning how to dissect a frog, referring to the general education requirement of a science lab, she said.

"You can demand these things, and what that will do is force you to have faculty members who are experts," Abdullah said. "Don't accept some watered-down version of an ethnic studies requirement where historians and English professors think that because they read James Baldwin once they get to teach you ethnic studies. Demand a real Ethnic Studies department."

"Don't ever just sit there. Be an ally."

Jocelyn Arceo can be reached at ***jocelyn.arceo@laverne.edu***.

Creative journey...

Continued from page 5

ing them mainstream," Williams said. "I want my daughter to see up and close a regular guy doing great things."

Jenkins said his movie "Moonlight" was actually a mistake after plans to create "If Beale Street Could Talk," hit a road bump.

"Moonlight," which won a Golden Globe for best picture in 2017, is centered around a young black man named Chirone who is learning to balance his sexuality and torn family dynamics in a drug filled neighborhood in Miami.

"'Moonlight' is a movie about experience," Jenkins said. "Often times when you know someone very well what they say does not often match how they feel. Chirone is a character that does not speak often. When he is not speaking, he is still experiencing the world and so the audience is still experiencing the film."

Jenkins said in the current political climate that is loud and noisy many things are being hidden. Silence can became very powerful when it is juxtaposed against something that is very loud, Jenkins said.

Justino Flores, lab manager for the psychology department at UC Riverside, said the film "Moonlight" resonated with him personally.

"As a gay man of color my experience is different than a gay white man," Flores said. "To see that manifested through film was so important."

Flores, also program director for the San Bernardino LGBTQ Center, said it is important to point his community of color to films that represent their identities like in "Moonlight."

Jenkins said women are still fighting for representation and acknowledgment in the film industry.

Jenkins said not a single woman was nominated for best director at the Oscars, yet he can name at least three films created by women that were as good as anyone else produced.

"Nobody in the world can exist without a woman and yet woman make only 4 percent of studio directors," Jenkins said. "Do we think women can't write as good as men? Hell no. Do we think women can't direct as good as men? Hell no. So what is happening? The system is designed to disenfranchise people so we have to keep dismantling the systems in place."

Layla Abbas can be reached at ***layla.abbas@laverne.edu.***

Softball splits series with Redlands

Leos drop to third in SCIAC

Christopher Livingston
Staff Writer



Ariel Torres

La Verne senior outfielder Sienna Kendricks bats during the bottom of the sixth inning Saturday at Campus West. The Leopards won the first game, 6-4, and lost the second, 4-2. They will face the Berry University Vikings on March 10 at noon.

Defense and pitching were the story for the Leopards as they split a win with the Redlands Bulldogs in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference softball doubleheader at Campus West on Saturday.

Leopards won 6-4 in game one and lost 4-2 in game two.

The win and loss gave the Leopards a 3-1 record in SCIAC competition and a 6-2 overall record for the season.

The Leopards struck first in game one when sophomore first baseman Gabriella Underwood crushed a solo home run over the left center field wall in the bottom of the first inning.

"I was just thinking that we need to score first, we're 0-0, we've got to get on top, and I have to help my team score a run to keep winning," Underwood said.

A triple from freshman outfielder Hayley DiMase, followed by an RBI single to center field by senior catcher Nova Siegel, allowed Redlands to tie the game at the top of the third inning.

Base hits by senior outfielder Sienna Kendricks, senior designated player Melissa Garcia, and senior outfielder Rachel Ogata helped the Leopards retake a 2-1 lead in the fourth inning.

Most of the Leopards' strong defensive performance in game one can be credited to the arm of junior pitcher Katheryn Navarro, who pitched a complete game with seven strikeouts in game one.

Redlands was able to rally back in the sixth inning after sophomore infielder Ryanna Curtis drove in two runs on a base hit while subbing in as a pinch hitter.

The Leopards responded offensively in a big way at the bottom of the sixth inning with Kendricks, junior outfielder Kayla Giannatasio and junior third baseman Justice Borden contributing four runs to put the Leopards up 6-3.

Redlands loaded the bases in the seventh inning but were only able to drive in one run.

A combination of Navarro's pitching and great defense allowed the Leopards to run away with the victory in game one.

Redlands started game two by loading the bases early in the first inning, similar to the first game's conclusion.

After walking sophomore outfielder Sam Rivas, and advancing Ryanna Curtis on a hit by pitch, the Bulldogs took a 2-0 lead.

The Leopards tied the game at the bottom of the first inning after a base hit to left field from Garcia, which allowed Navarro and Underwood to reach home plate. Unfortunately, the Leopards offense would stall for the remainder of the game.

Siegel succeeded in driving in the go-ahead run in the second inning to give the Bulldogs a 3-2 lead.

Defense and pitching would take over for the next five innings of the game.

Sophomore pitcher Jiana Rojo struck out seven and pitched a complete game in game two.

"I feel like I did as much as I could in this game," Rojo said. "At some points I felt like my hands were tied. It was either sink or swim, and I had to swim with this one."

Despite attempts to rally back throughout the game, the Leopards could not drive in the runs needed to stay in the game.

Interim head coach Henry Moranchel believed that his hitters were not dialed in on the right pitches, which contributed to the Leopards' offensive woes.

"They wanted to go for the home run on every single [pitch]," Moranchel said. "If they can go ahead and dial it down a little bit more and realize that it's one at a time, then I think we will be a lot more successful." Moranchel said.

The loss ended a six-game winning streak for the Leopards.

Despite the loss, players like Navarro are confident they will improve from on their performance in both games.

"We learn from our losses, honestly we will bounce back and come back better than what we did this weekend." Navarro said.

The Leopards move to a 6-2 overall and 3-1 record in SCIAC. The team hits the road Saturday to take on Occidental at noon and 2 p.m.

Christopher Livingston can be reached at ***christopher.livingston@laverne.edu.***

Leopards work toward first SCIAC meet

Rex Sample
Staff Writer

La Verne's track and field teams competed in the 23rd annual Rossi Relays on Saturday.

Claremont-Mudd-Scripps hosted the event at the Burns Track and Field Complex.

Senior Melissa Cerrillos, distance runner for the Leopards, took second overall in the Women's 3,000-meter run finishing with a time of 10:05.52.

She followed right behind Point Loma's Zita Molnar who finished with a 9:58.06.

Leopards' senior distance runner Rachael Dela Cruz finished 18th place.

During the race the Leopards held a strong pace, keeping the other competitors on their toes.

A big theme for the Leopards early season competition is to make sure they are working towards the end results they are hoping for, rather than focusing on their immediate results.

"Progress not perfection, despite how we are doing right now we are trying to improve for when season begins," junior distance runner Catherina Makinna Posada said.

During the men's 4x400 meter relay the Leopards were close behind other Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference schools.

The Leopards finished the race in ninth, finishing one second behind Whittier and Occidental, while Chapman was right behind the Leopards.

"It's pretty even between CMS, Oxy and Pomona, they have a lot of athletes and it's [more difficult] to compete because they have more chances to receive points," junior sprints and hurdles runner Patrick Cornwell said.

La Verne's smaller roster is a potential disadvantage when it comes to scoring, because fewer athletes means fewer chances for the team to score points in their meets.

"I wouldn't say they aren't better teams than us, they just have more athletes," Cornwell said.

Cornwell finished 13th overall in the men's 400-meter hurdles with a time of 59.12 seconds.

He is in a gradual transition from the 400-meter sprint to the 400-meter hurdles.

For this meet, many of the athletes did not compete at their best, as this is a preparation meet for their first SCIAC meet Saturday.

"We have high expectations, but we are not in full strength necessarily," assistant coach Justin Wood said. "We don't have everyone entered in their best events, but we are really just looking for a solid meet this weekend to try and set us up for our first SCIAC Multi Dual next weekend."

For the Leopards, this weekend came as a good break from the very unfortunate weather they have been dealing with throughout the past few weeks.

The change in weather was very pleasing for Wood.

"It's been less than optimal with the rain and the cold, as the weather turns we have no limitations, and I think we are going to reap the benefits of that coming into March and April," Wood said.

Looking into SCIAC competition, the Leopards are not focusing on one specific competitor as they believe that anyone can win in this year's SCIAC play.

"Oxy is usually a strong competitor who have some fast runners" said senior hurdler Jessica Portillo.

Many of the athletes also say that Claremont and Pomona-Pitzer are the Leopards main competitors for the season.

The first SCIAC Multi Dual of the season, starting at 10 a.m. Saturday at Redlands, will be a benchmark to see how the rest of their season will go.

"The main thing coach [Kevin] Reid and I have been doing is raising the bar for this squad and trying to teach them championship culture," Wood said.

Rex Sample can be reached at ***rex.sample@laverne.edu.***

Baseball comes out swinging in opener

Leos top Panthers for 7th win

Dominic Honoré
Staff Writer

It was a battle of apex predators for the La Verne Leopards baseball team in their Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference opener against the Chapman Panthers, who are ranked 20th nationally in Division III. Ultimately the Leopards came out victorious, winning the match-up 5-3 and captured their seventh straight win of the season.

"It was a good college baseball game, it was 5-3 and we saw a little bit of everything," head coach Scott Winterburn said. "It was just a good, fun game to be part of this early in the season."

The game did not start off well for the Leopards as Chapman scored first in the 1st inning with an RBI through a single by senior outfielder Tristan Kevitch to bring his teammate senior outfielder Alex Tsuruda on third base home.

Chapman maintained a 1-0 lead until the bottom of the 3rd inning when La Verne freshmen first basemen Tanner Siffert hit a RBI off a double, down the left foul line to bring junior shortstop Jacob Benson home to tie the game up.

Benson, then at the bottom of the fourth, had his own RBI off a single to bring home both freshmen first basemen John Bike and senior outfielder Chris Ligot making the score 3-1.

"I felt pretty good, we needed a ball in play with two strikes and I got a good piece of it, you know whatever helps the team," Benson said.

Ligot also contributed an RBI off a single to right field with bases loaded bringing home Tanner Siffert and senior utility player Christopher Peres giving the leopards a four point lead.

"Really I was just trying to do a job," Ligot said. "Just trying to get a ball out there in the outfield where they could tag up, just trying to get the first thing available and not think too much about it, just so happened that the ball landed and we scored two runs."

Chapman responded with two more RBIs in the top of the sixth inning.

Sophomore outfielder Henry Zeisler hit a triple to center field, which brought in freshmen infielder Miguel Cebedo from second base.

The final score for the Panthers came from an RBI off a double hit to center field by sophomore infielder Mark Cheli to bring home Zeisler.

Defensively the Leopards performed well with three clean innings in the top of the fifth under junior pitcher Cody Norman and the other two in the top of the seventh and eighth innings under fellow junior pitcher Devon Burhans.

"It felt really good because that's exactly what the team needed from me after my previous inning," Burhans said. "I just wanted to go in and give our team a chance to fight and put some zeroes in there"

The game ended with the Leopards canceling Chapman in the top of the ninth inning.

Peres led the defense in closing out the game.

After two outs off a caught pop fly and an out at second base, it came down to Peres and junior catcher Kevin Gregersen at bat.

The game was down to the wire as the Leopard defense stalled, with two strikes and two balls on the board.

On the next pitch, Gregersen hit a single to second and was taken out at first, leading the Leopards to complete the upset in a 5-3 victory over the Panthers.

Winterburn also credited those three particular innings as an integral part of the team's upset win.

"I mean those are really big in a college baseball game because that usually doesn't happen, its pretty offensive in college," Winterburn said. "You're usually looking at four or five batters an inning so to have a couple of clean innings really put some distance under out belts to get into the later innings."

Earlier last month, the baseball team traveled to Arizona to compete in the Cactus Classic Tournament. At the tournament, La Verne would drop their first game against Pacific Lutheran 6-4, but would go on to win their next three games in dominating fashion 12-2, 17-1, 16-4 against George Fox, Pacific and Texas-Dallas respectively.

After sweeping Centenary in a three game series following the tournament (8-0, 6-4, 7-5), the Leopards looked to continue their win streak.

But following their initial win over Chapman, the Leopards went on to play Chapman again in a doubleheader on the road the next day where they would lose both games 4-3 and 7-1, ending their seven-game win streak.

The team now looks to transition into SCIAC play with a record of 7-3 overall.

Currently at 1-2 in SCIAC, La Verne is ranked at fifth – just outside of the top four of Chapman, Pomona-Pitzer, Cal Lutheran and Whittier, all sporting 2-1 records.

Their next competition will be at 2:30 p.m. Friday at Ben Hines Field against Pomona-Pitzer.

Dominic Honoré can be reached at ***dominic.honore@laverne.edu***.

