Campus Times

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Lecture considers appropriate AI use

Marina Bravo
Arts Editor

Karen Beavers, research and instructional librarian, presented the different research strategies she explored and learned during her sabbatical Tuesday as part of the faculty lecture series.

Beavers' presentation titled "How do I know which article to choose?" explored different methods professors can use to present to students when finding academic and scholarly articles.

About 25 faculty members and students attended the talk on Zoom and in person the Quay Davis Executive Board Room.

Beavers was introduced by Megan Granquist, professor of kinesiology.

"Researching is a process," Beavers said. "The relevance (of a source) is not just the objective or if it is the perfect source, it is figuring out and making sure it answers what you are representing in your research."

Beavers went on to share various techniques and strategies that professors can use to guide their students in the research process and even use for their own research.

These methods included Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy and Purpose, or CRAAP, developed at Cal State Chico; Evaluating Resources developed at UC-Berkeley ; and Background Sources, Exhibit sources, Argument sources, and Theory or Method sources, BEAT or BEAM, developed by Joseph Bizup.

Each strategy helps one figure out how to use sources in arguments and how to find the best articles to back up their arguments, Beavers explained.

Along with the various approaches, Beavers also went into depth on how to navigate the new search engines on online databases like JSTOR and ProQuest.

Beavers reminded her audience that this new AI era in a digital age is inevitable.

As much as it scares her, as much as she dislikes it, AI is here to stay, Beavers said.

Marcia Godwin, associate dean and professor of public administration, talked about how she is uneasy about using some online databases.

"I am on the fence about even ProQuest," Godwin said. "They seem to be taking our work to train these machines to have the answers."

Beavers reminded that even the "trustworthy" online databases have developed AI tool options that are presented in such a "human" way and that is alone a big problem.

"We can see that the AI systems use the terms 'responsible' and 'reliable'," Beavers said. "They promise to help the students craft their searches and construct their searches. In ProQuest, as you search, it prompts you with possible related terms that are generated by AI."

Beavers reminded the audience that even though it's an uncomfortable topic, educators need to stay on top of it. Educators need to learn with the system so they can better assist their students in differentiating among AI tools when they come across them.



Marina Bravo

Karen Beavers, interim co-dean of the Library and Learning Commons, presents her sabbatical lecture, "How Do I Know Which Article to Choose?" on Tuesday in the Quay Davis Executive Board Room. Beavers discussed different techniques to help students with their research process and how to navigate the infiltration of AI in online databases.

"It is interesting that even the legendary JSTOR is susceptible to AI," Kenneth Marcus, professor of history, said.

Professor of Political Science Jason Neidleman shared his own concerns with AI. He reminded the group about the value of humanity over AI.

"AI is coming and normalizing what might be eccentric in your search," Neidleman said. "And it is the eccentricity of your search that makes it valuable. AI by definition cannot do that because it is trained on things that people have already said."

Beavers acknowledged that AI is scary, however, the reality is students are using these tools and it is important to understand them in order to redirect students. Her approach to redirection with students is to give the pen back to the writer. She wants to empower the students and remind them that when looking for sources, they are the ones who know their research topic best.

"You are the person who knows about your topic," Beavers said. "I think sometimes the worry about getting a perfect set of sources so their professors won't fail them does get in the way. There is really so much more that should go into the research process."

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Padilla highlights light and darkness

Olivia Russo
Editor-in-Chief

Elaine Padilla shared her research, titled "Being/Not: A Decolonial Option for Authentically Becoming Human," which covers four different philosophical theories in relation to how humans see themselves and their reality, to an audience of about 30.

Padilla, professor and chair of philosophy and religion and Latin American studies, spoke Wednesday in the Hanawalt House as a part of the Socrates' Cafe series.

"This is a project that has taken me about 10 years to complete," Padilla said. "So it has all these layers, it feels segmented in other ways because when you write and stop and write again, you are getting all these new ideas."

Padilla explained that her research follows the theories of Walter Mignolo, semiotician and professor at Duke University, as a way to explain the colonization that comes with Western Christianity and philosophical theories. She also uses various visual pieces in her research to relate the theories to something, explaining that it helped her understand the theories more than if she were just writing them herself.

"I bring aesthetics because I see things in images, I think in images," Padilla said. "I can read theory, and I can understand it, but somehow it takes me back to the literary."

The research presentation was split into four parts, for the four different theories that Padilla chose to research, including: decolonial theory, liberation theology, apophatic theory and feminist theory. She then tied these theories to the concepts brought from Mignolo as well as literature, plays, paintings and journal entries.

Padilla started by sharing some of the history of colonization in relation to philosophy. She explains that the transportation of African people is what began the creation of the colo-

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On the Cover

Chasca Valdez, freshman biology major, helps hang up clothes from the thrift donation section in the Vista La Verne Courtyard for the Earth Fair on Wednesday. Clothes, accessories and shoes were donated to offer free thrifting to all students in attendance. Happy Ice, fruit bowls from The Munchie Spot and Trader Joes spin the wheel games were also offered. / photo by Stephanie Amaya

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New leaders to work with admins

ASULV wants clear ICE policy

Cassidy Diaz
Assistant Editor

Evan Lyons and Savanna Castillo were elected as the Associated Students of the University of La Verne's president and executive vice president, respectively, for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Lyons, who was re-elected for a second term, is a junior political science major, and Castillo is a sophomore English major.

The election results were announced last month. Through a formal endorsement process, Lyons and Castillo had support from ASULV members. They also campaigned across campus prior to the March election. During their tabling campaigns, they discussed their future plans and commitments to their constituents.

"Through ASULV I am able to just oversee multiple issues and areas of campus to make it a better place and make it a better community," said Castillo, who currently serves as a senator at large and vice president of communications.

Castillo is also a student ambassador for the admissions office, a current pledge for a sorority Iota Delta sorority and a member of the English club.

What inspired Castillo to join ASULV is her motivation to be an active community. She hopes to one day be a corporate lawyer.

"I just felt like student government was definitely the way to go to get involved on campus as my first year being here I wanted to make as many connections as possible and be able to help out my community," Castillo said.

Castillo said that Lyons encouraged her to run for executive vice president.

"I had talked to him a lot about wanting to be ASULV president one day," Castillo said. "So I worked a lot with him and followed him closely to see his roles, his responsibilities and how he takes care of everything."

The executive vice president's job involved staying in contact with University administration to ensure that students are part of the shared governance process along with faculty and staff.

Castillo said she will seek feedback from her student constituents.

She said she will continue some of the projects she started as a senator this year, including working on dealing with the Metro A Line to get free or reduced fare to take the newly extended light rail.

"Everywhere I go I'm always asking people… 'hey how can the campus improve, or have you seen any issues or anything like that?" Castillo said. "Just to make sure I'm always getting feedback and to bring it up to ASULV."

"(Castillo) has been amazing and … is very time sensitive with everything, which you really need when it comes to being involved in these kinds of conversations," Lyons said. "She's more than ready to jump into that role and I've been … looking forward to working with her."

> 'A lot of students who we interacted with have mentioned that they'd like to see a more firm (ICE) policy, so that will be something that will still be a focus going into next year.'
> *—Evan Lyons, ASULV president*

Lyons first joined ASULV in 2023 as a freshman. Right out of high school he knew he wanted to be involved in the school's government.

He previously served as vice president.

"As vice president I was able to interact on a completely new level with the campus community and … navigate the landscape with upper administration," Lyons said.

It was a shift and learning experience for Lyons from vice president to president with the different conversations and interactions the job involved.

"Representing the students (and the) concern of those around me is a skill to provide my insight as a student," Lyons said.

One of Lyons' priorities is to understand the elimination of January Interterm and to support students through the transition.

He also will seek some clarity regarding the University's plans for dealing with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, should agents come to campus.

"A lot of students who we interacted with have mentioned that they'd like to see a more firm (ICE) policy, so that will be something that will still be a focus going into next year," Lyons said.

Both Lyons and Castillo have the support of their fellow ASULV members.

"They're both so passionate about student advocacy and that's what I admire the most about them is like they don't do it for the positions or to put it on their resume or to check off a box," said Audrie Pagano, senior sociology major and current executive vice president. "It truly stems from a passion for student advocacy and wanting to improve things on campus and I think they're both very much on the same page about that."

"Evan and Savannah both have a really good dynamic," said Samantha Aguilar, sophomore political science major and ASULV vice president of finance. "I'm interested in how they're going to implement their new protocols and their new policies that they want to implement."

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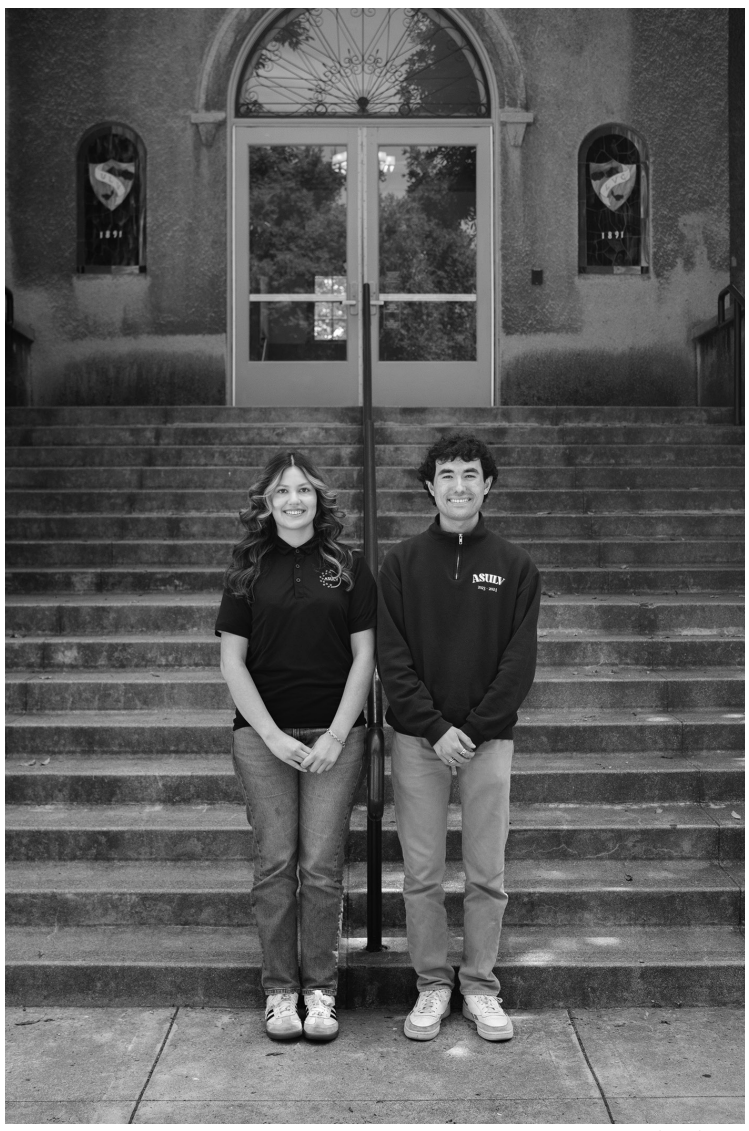

Mia Byington

Savanna Castillo, sophomore English major, has been elected ASULV vice president and Evan Lyons, junior political science major, has been re-elected ASULV president. Their election promises included student metro passes and developing a firm safety procedure regarding ICE visits to campus.

Talking spirituality



Amore Mason

Scheduled lecture turns into an informal conversation between Junior English major Garrett Gonzales and Director of Multicultural Affairs Daniel Loera. Gonzales shares his views on spirituality and religion while Loera explains the perception of how spirituality and religion both affect them and the way they view things in the world.

Earth Day highlights sustainability

Donya Rouzbehi
Sports Editor



Stephanie Amaya

Martisha Davis, sophomore information technology major, plants seeds into a small pot at the Huerta Del Valle booth at the Earth Day Fair on Wednesday at Citrus Lawn and the Vista La Verne Courtyard. Many booths offered fresh vegetables, small prizes, and food.

The University held an Earth Day Fair on Wednesday at the Vista La Verne Courtyard and Citrus Lawn. The fair included free thrifting, live music, eco-friendly crafts, food and drinks.

The midday event attracted a big crowd of students with a variety of on campus organizations and outside vendors.

Trader Joe's gave out free tote bags.

The fair united students and faculty on campus to celebrate sustainability, art and the planet.

Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970. It was created by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, who wanted to raise awareness about environmental issues like pollution and oil spills. On the first Earth Day, over 20 million Americans came together to demand change.

At one booth students sorted through racks of donated clothing, supporting so-called slow fashion, which emphasizes reusing of hand-me-down clothing vs. buying new.

Live music played throughout the event, which created a festive atmosphere.

Students gathered on the grass with food and drinks in hand, while others checked out the booths and vendors.

Eraci Hamed, a senior biology major, ran a booth for her business fraternity, Phi Epsilon Kappa, and explained why it's important to recognize Earth Day on college campuses.

"It's showing how important the Earth is," Hamed said. "All the booths here have different things that are eco-friendly and biodegradable."

California is currently facing water shortages due to recurring drought conditions and increasing pressure on water supplies. Many booths highlighted how everyday activities can contribute to water waste.

Organizers emphasized that even small changes, like reusing clothing and being mindful of daily water use, can help address the Earth's ongoing water challenges.

Alyssa Navarro, a junior business administration major, shared about her booth for Sigma Kappa, which emphasized recycling. Navarro explained how recycling benefits the Earth in specific ways and what people can do to contribute to sustainability.

"We come together and educate ourselves about an environmental issue," Navarro said. "It's just the community all coming together to clean up the environment and have a clean Earth. We want to stay here as long as we can."

Today, Earth Day is celebrated in over 190 countries and has involved more than one billion people each year. It has helped increase awareness about climate change and pollution. Earth Day encourages people to recycle and practice sustainable habits while also inspiring global movements to protect the environment.

Event organizers shared a common motive of making sustainability approachable and actionable.

By combining education and interactive activities, the fair showed that being environmentally mindful does not have to be complicated or expensive.

Helen Davtyan, a junior criminology major, works for the Office of Student Engagement and Leadership and helped out with the shaved ice vendor. Davtyan discussed how the fair's treats and gifts helped engage students on campus and get them involved with different organizations.

"They have to go to every table, they have to talk to someone," Davtyan said. "And then they get like a little reward at the end."

Earth Day serves as a reminder that the planet's resources are limited. It also brings awareness that human actions directly impact the environment, and everyone plays a role in protecting the Earth.

"I came because there were many booths available," Harmony Rocha, freshman education major, said. "I love getting to know new people(and) I heard about the free food."

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Speech team showcases their skills





Left: Rania Kartouch, junior political science major, emotes during her speech Tuesday in the La Fetra Lecture Hall during the Lordsburg Speech team showcase. Gelsey Chan, junior sociology major, and Abby Branaman, freshman computer science major, also performed speeches at the event.

Right: Kael Matias, senior communications major, performs his speech Tuesday in the La Fetra Lecture Hall during the Lordsburg Speech Team showcase. Each speaker placed in the top 20 in their category at their national competition.

photography by
Mia Byington

HAPPENINGS

'Nine Reflections'

The Irene Carlson Gallery of Photography will show "Nine Reflections: 2026 Senior Thesis Exhibition" from April 27 through Aug. 1 in the Irene Carlson Gallery of Photography in Miller Hall. The opening reception is at 4 p.m. Thursday in the Gallery.

The exhibit will feature works of graduating senior photography majors Ronald Banks, Liberty Belle, Mia Byington, Emily Casillas, Antonio Ceniceros, Rylee Fournier, Jesse Juarez, Joseph Nocero and Vicente Rodriguez.

For more information, contact Fred Brashear Jr. at **fbrashear@laverne.edu**.

Spring Concert

The La Verne Symphony Orchestra's spring concert "Operation Opera," will be at 4 p.m. May 2 in Morgan Auditorium. The concert, headed by music director and conductor Sylvia Lee Mann, will feature guest vocalist Sherry Kaplan. The program will feature the works of Verdi, Mozart, Puccini and more. For more information visit **lvso.org**.

Lavernapalooza

Lavernapalooza, the annual concert event, will be held at 7:30 p.m. May 7 at the Fox Theater in Pomona. This year's headliner is Latin EDM DJ, BOLO. Other performers are to be announced by the Campus Activities Board. Tickets are free for undergraduate students only, $44 for others. For more information, visit **foxpomona.com/events**.

Unity Through Rhythm

The University of La Verne music department will present Unity Through Rhythm at 3 p.m. May 18 in Morgan Auditorium. This will be the finale for the Sundays at the Morgan music series. It will feature music from Igaba, Ron Powell, Nat Scott, Cory Hogan and Homero Chavez.

Suggested donation is $20. For more information email **music@laverne.edu**.

—Cassidy Diaz

Ceramics depict cultural 'Revolution'

by Natalia Rodriguez

photography by Joseph Nocero



The "Fired in Revolution: Ceramics from the People's Republic of China" exhibit at the American Museum of Ceramic Art in Pomona includes a variety of work, such as drinking vessels, commemorative busts and scenes of Communist life reflecting China's cultural revolution from 1966 to 1976. The exhibit runs through May 3.

The American Museum of Ceramic Art's exhibit "Fired in Revolution: Ceramics From the People's Republic of China" showcases works created during China's Cultural Revolution, between 1966 and 1976.

Some of the works feature artists' names, while many of the pieces on display were made by unknown artists.

"It was really about illustrating a broader movement, rather than an individual's work, or an individual's contribution," said Jamie Kwan, the exhibit's curator.

During the Cultural Revolution Mao Zedong, the chairman of the Chinese Communist Party and leader of China at the time, attempted to rid Chinese society of its capitalist and traditionalist elements. In doing so, he asserted his power over the Chinese people.

Many of the pieces in the AMOCA exhibit depict Mao, both by himself and with others. Some of the ceramics showed images of Mao with what appears to be common people.

One lineup places him alongside Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin, all dominant communist figures in history. Similarly, many of the other works depicting people show them praising Mao and his ideology.

Two works in particular highlighted this: in one, a trio of soldiers stood proud, lifting copies of Mao's "Little Red Book."

In the other, a group of people held portraits of Mao and the red flag.

"The almost religious quality it has where you're not simply telling people what to do, though they did a lot of that," said Steve Moss, who recently attended the exhibit. "They're trying to get people to buy into the ideology."

Frederick Ernst, a student at the Science Academy STEM Magnet in North Hollywood, attended the exhibit because he is interested in learning about different governments in history.

"The peasants weren't exactly that educated," Ernst said. "So having a visual way to introduce the ideologies of the CPP (Chinese Communist Party) and of Mao seemed really interesting to me… I wanted to know more of how that worked."

Several pieces in the show depicted landscapes painted onto porcelain jars and other surfaces. Some of the walls in the gallery provided more information about the different aspects of the Cultural Revolution, such as the cult of Mao and information on the Red Guard, among other things.

"Overall, it is the creation of different sections and themes that I think are really important for the visitor experience and to better understand the history of the movement and artistic practice in ceramic production during this time," Kwan said.

Kwan said he wanted people to see this show to learn more about this period in history, as it is not something taught in many high school classrooms. Pam Aliaga, the exhibition manager at AMOCA, echoed the sentiment.

"Everyone tends to learn about the Holocaust, so you do have an idea of what a dictatorship is, and what propaganda looks like," Aliaga said. "However, you don't realize. . . that's happened elsewhere with other dictatorships, unless you're a history major or a history buff, then you do get to learn about those."

The exhibition runs until May 3. AMOCA is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays through Sundays. Ticket prices range from $0 for members to $14 for general admission and students pay $7.

For more information, visit **amoca.org**.

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The pieces featured in the "Fired in Revolution: Ceramics from the People's Republic of China" exhibit at the American Museum of Ceramic Art in Pomona reflect the cultural upheaval in the lives of artists during China's Cultural Revolution. Their work depicts messages approved by the Chinese Communist Party.

Poets get personal in spring reading

Natalia Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The University of La Verne's creative writing program presented its Spring Poetry Reading on Wednesday in the Ludwick Center Sacred Space.

The reading featured poet J. Jennifer Espinoza, finalist for the 2025 Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Poetry and 2026 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, and author of "I Don't Want to Be Understood," her newest poetry collection.

Additionally, four ULV students – Raquel Rivera, Kayla Taylor, Simone Warren and Jesus Velazquez – read their poetry to an audience of approximately 30 people.

The student writers read first, beginning with Taylor, followed by Rivera, Velazquez and then Warren.

Taylor, a junior creative writing major, said that her three poems, titled "Motherhood," "Existence," and "Woman," all drew from her experiences as a black woman.

With "Existence," she shared how she wants to ignore people's negative views of her, and just let everything roll off her back. She also emphasized her desire to have people connect with her through her poetry.

"I just want everyone who reads my poems or listens to them to really connect with me on a deeper level outside of just me being the poet," Taylor said. "I want to build that. . . almost like a familial connection."

Rivera said that she enjoyed writing poetry for the class, and added that being a songwriter has improved in her ability to write lyrics. Her poems were titled "Worn-ridden Clown," "Distance" and "There's Still Time."

"It was great to read … and have that support from the community," Rivera, a junior English major, said. "I think people knowing a little bit about what motivates you and what inspires your art can really help you meet more people and start those conversations."

Warren, a senior criminology major, read two poems titled "A Mother's Love" and "The One Who Performs, Starring Miss Prima Donna."

Despite studying criminology, Warren said she's been a creative person ever since she was young.

"The One Who Performs…" materialized after a conversation she had with peers about when they first realized they were women, she said.

"We came up with this idea that we just have this obsession, this need to perform, and I was like, 'Okay, so what happens when we go home? Do we ever truly stop performing,'" Warren said.

Velazquez read four pieces titled "Burn," "Off the Wall," "Light the Fire" and "The Cycle of the Interconnectedness of Humans."

"I just think each of them individually are fantastic poets," said Sara Ellen Fowler, adjunct professor of creative writing. "And I also appreciated how they contributed to the atmosphere of the class this whole semester, so I kind of wanted to celebrate that too, in this public way."

Fowler, the students' poems initially started as imitations based on annotations they did of other poems featured in Poetry Magazine. She said she enjoys seeing the development of "The Cycle of the Interconnectedness of Humans" over time.

Espinoza read a series of poems from her collection "I Don't Want to Be Understood." She described the collection as being a kind of memoir in verse.

In it, the narrator, a trans woman, is in the airport on the way to visit family for the first time after coming out. After an incident with the TSA, she runs away and begins to recall different stages of her life.

"I think early on, a lot of my poetry was very fragmentary, and it sort of gestured towards autobiography or details of my life, and it was all so opaque and kind of in pieces," Espinoza said. "I feel like as I've grown as a poet and grown as a person, and integrated more of my own life narrative. . . the poetry that I write about myself starts to feel like it has more shape and form to it."To conclude the event, Espinoza then read two newer poems.

Her future projects include a novel and a nonfiction essay series—also a memoir.

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Theater fraternity performs 'Genderbent' cabaret

Lila Gongora
Staff Writer

Alpha Psi Omega presented their "Cabaret: A Genderbent Night" on Wednesday in Morgan Auditorium to raise money for theater productions.

Current and future Alpha Psi Omega members performed an assortment of acts, including songs and poems, giving them the chance to perform in a way they don't normally get to.

The second annual fundraiser event gave out mocktails before the performances.

"When people don't realize that gender bending is queer art, but, for instance, I have a very low voice, and I often feel that in musicals my voice type is not represented," senior political science major Rania Kartouch said. "A lot of our girls are altos and would love to sing a song written by a guy or have a dream male role."

Kartouch coordinated the event and further explained that the event allows the fraternity to fundraise money, as well as showcase to the public what they do as an on-campus organization.

She explained that this event is a way for people to learn more about Alpha Psi Omega and take an interest in initiation, even if they are not a theater major or minor.

Performers took part in singing songs from Broadway musicals or from popular songs by artists such as Olivia Dean. Other performances included a poetry reading and a lip sync by drag queen Lydia Crow, or junior theatre arts major Nathan Terrazas.

Freshman theatre arts major Nick Onalfo, performed "When You're Good to Mama," from the musical Chicago.

As he sang with a red feather boa wrapped around his neck, the audience was able to get a snippet of the musical's plot in just those two minutes.

"This song brings a lot of energy, but I was terrified because I can be really nitpicky on myself," Onalfo said.

"When we were doing our dress tech, though, my friend yelled at me to take the mic off the stand before starting the song and that released every bit of anxiety inside me."

Small adjustments like this are what allow a performer to step into their character and embrace a personality that might be different from who they are.

The support from the crowd as each act did this showed appreciation for tangible art in not only our school community, but throughout society.

Senior English major Christopher Cummings read a poem and created space for the audience to appreciate the words of the author.

The words made an impactful statement on the harassment of women.

"I'm someone who wasn't ever into theatre," Cummings said. "I did not think I would be, and I walked in on a whim.

I did my first show last year, and I've loved it more than anything else I've found on campus."

Around 50 students attended the event to support the fraternity, donating $5 each to watch the assortment of performances.

"I am supporting the department of theatre arts and APO, which a lot of my friends are in, so it's exciting to commemorate the year ending," Kelia Hulon, senior rhetoric and communication major, said.

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Students share Lavernapalooza hopes, dreams

Asha Longsworth
Staff Writer

Thirteen out of 21 University of La Verne students said they don't listen to electronic dance music, or EDM, the style of this year's Lavernapalooza headliner, BOLO, and most also don't recognize the artists performing at Lavernapalooza, in a recent informal survey on campus.

Nonetheless 18 out of the 21 students asked said they still plan to go to the annual concert event scheduled for May 7.

Now in its 17th year, Lavernapalooza is the student-led and organized spring concert held at the Fox Theatre in Pomona.

Each year the question of who will be the headliner is a big deal. Previous Lavernapalooza headliners include Travis Scott, Saweetie, Flo Rida and T-Pain.

"I've never heard of (BOLO's) music," Megan Orellana, senior psychology major, said. "It didn't catch my eye, but I'm a big music fan so I'll go to anything. I'm going to go just because it's free."

Originally based in San Diego, BOLO is known for its fusion of Latinx prosody with electronic dance music.

EDM is often associated with rave culture and not always seen as a mainstream or universally embraced genre.

"Personally, I don't rave but I've been to one of his raves, and to be honest it's all about the vibes," Daniel Solano, senior criminology major, said. "Wherever there's music, people are going to vibe to it."

All students surveyed, however, said BOLO was an unusual pick. The presence of BOLO,

Continued on page 7

Wine Walk draws crowds



Baljot Rathor

Amber Adams from Wanderlust Country Band performs outside the Hanawalt Dental Office on D Street at the Wine Walk on Saturday in downtown La Verne. The band was one of several to perform throughout the evening. The annual Wine Walk drew more than 1,000 visitors who sampled wine and food from various downtown businesses.

Leopards win doubleheader



Aaliyah Alamillo

Occidental senior second baseman Nicholas Gonzalez misses a throw to allow La Verne senior shortstop Ryan Vosika to steal second base at Ben Hines Field on Saturday. The Leopards won the game, 20-6, in seven innings in the first game of their doubleheader with the Tigers.

Padilla...

Continued from page 2

nial wound, as well as the feelings of inferiority and superiority.

This type of thinking directly leads to the entrapment of the colonial lens, which takes the framework of darkness and light, representing both negative and positive attributes, respectively. Padilla then compared this to Plato's allegory of the cave.

"You're going to see that the whole of the model is describing the case," Padilla said. "We are all within the cave. Nobody happens to be outside of the cave. There is no outside of the cave."

Padilla compared the cave analogy to thinking in Western culture, and how everyone is within the darkness of Western culture. From there, Padilla explained how each of the suggested theories showcase themselves in the case of being human versus not being.

She said that to Liberation thinkers, God can sometimes identify with humanity and what humanity does, so much so that God can become nonexistent. With this line of thinking, God darkens to deeper levels and can actually transcend into the colonial wound and make an impact on the universe.

This relates to the concept of Being/Not, which functions as a boundary line that can be used for emergence within the wound. Padilla then explains that some may have a hard time understanding because of the Western perspective. Instead of the philosophers she is suggesting, Western culture commonly thinks there is an outside of the cave and that there is a need to escape. In reality, there is no need to escape but to create a better world inside the cave.

"So the challenge is how to do that when you are also experiencing injustices," Padilla said. "We're experiencing the burden of being human. We would like to be the divine, but we are just humans."

At the end, the room was opened up for questions and comments about Padilla's research. Shannon Mathews, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, took the time to offer some well-wishes to the students in the room.

"I want to point out that as an intellectual, you're constantly growing and the material you're engaging as you evolve is influencing you also…" Mathews said. "You may be entrenched in one discipline, but learning across the liberal arts creates opportunities."

Some other staff took the time to comment on some of the points brought up in the research, like the relationship between religion and voodoo.

"Voodoo is such an interesting example for religious syncretism in particular," Lauren Crossland-Marr, assistant professor of anthropology, said. "The Virgin Mary has completely different symbols that get brought up this way."

Another guest at the lecture, Jay Jones, emeritus professor of biology, connected the content of the lecture to Earth Day.

"The idea of our behavior and our economics and environmental impact on the world as a whole," Jones said. "Those of you who have traveled to other parts of the world see the very clear impact that we end."

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Softball rallies after loss



Joseph Nocero

Freshman second baseman Angelina Ratzlaff makes a throw against Chapman in the first game of their Saturday doubleheader at Campus West. The Leopards lost the game, 5-4, but won the second game.

Lavernapalooza...

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recognized as the first Latino EDM DJ, also contributed to broader conversations about representation.

"I'm Mexicana, so it's really exciting to see someone who is like me to represent," Ariadne Gamboa, senior criminology major, said.

"I'm excited because they picked this artist, but it's a response to everything that has been going on, on campus," Gabrielle Pugay, freshman criminology major, said.

Diversity and representation were frequent adjectives used to describe the opener of this year's Lavernapalooza.

However, conversations about the University's support of a diverse and inclusive environment, were supplemental to this compliment.

"He is a Hispanic artist which I like," Ayalen Ortiz, sophomore studio art and biology major, said. "But also La Verne and the whole ICE thing has been a really big problem."

"It makes me feel considered, they are really emphasizing the H in HSI," Kesia Quintero, junior biology major, said.

Still, half of students surveyed mentioned concerns about safety on campus concerning the University's unclear ICE protocols.

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LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

Baseball, April 18
Occidental – 6
La Verne – 20

Baseball, April 18
Occidental – 3
La Verne – 13

Softball, April 18
Chapman – 5
La Verne – 4

Softball, April 18
Chapman – 2
La Verne – 10

SCHEDULE

Friday
Softball vs. Pomona-Pitzer, 3 p.m.
Baseball vs. Chapman, 3 p.m.

Saturday
Baseball @ Chapman, 11 a.m.
Softball @ Pomona-Pitzer, noon
Softball @ Pomona-Pitzer, 2 p.m.
Baseball @ Chapman, 2:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL STANDINGS

	SCIAC	Overall
Redlands	14-1	29-4
Chapman	11-4	26-8
Pomona-Pitzer	9-6	16-18
La Verne	**8-7**	**14-20**
Whittier	7-8	19-15
Claremont-Mudd-Scripps	5-10	14-16-1
Cal Lutheran	5-10	13-18
Occidental	1-14	4-26

La Verne hosts Leopard Invitational

photography by
Jesse Juarez



Clockwise from top: Sophomore pole vaulter Chloe Chong makes her first attempt to make it over the bar at the Leopard Invitational track meet on April 16 at Ortmayer Stadium. Chong achieved a new personal record in the pole vault at 2.75 meters. The team's next meet will be Saturday in Walnut for the Mt. SAC Relays.

Sophomore sprinter Jai'la Counts is determined to pass Occidental freshman sprinter Katie Lee in the 100 meter dash preliminaries at the Leopard Invitational track meet on April 16 at Ortmayer Stadium. Counts finished her dash prelim at 14.30 seconds and also led La Verne with a personal record in the long jump at 3.98 meters.

Sophomore jumper Towart Kahungu takes flight in the long jump at the Leopard Invitational track meet on April 16 at Ortmayer Stadium. Kahungu finished sixth.

Freshman Elena Cox is focused on passing Paradise Valley sophomore Jaylee Spivey in the 100 meter dash preliminaries at the Leopard Invitational track meet on April 16 at Ortmayer Stadium. Cox finished her dash prelim at 14.46 seconds. Cox also achieved a new personal record in the pole vault at 2.75 meters, matching teammate Chloe Chong's mark, which places this duo in the top 10 in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.





