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STATE OF THE ART

Art Department faces complaints about art facilities

MELISSA BURGESS
Assistant News Director

The University's art facilities are a contrast to the artwork produced inside them.

In 2015, Rise Miami News reported that art students were forced to learn in dirty and potentially unsafe education spaces, reporting that the art facilities had mold in classrooms, dirty bathrooms, broken and rusting equipment and water damage.

Brian Schriener, the dean of the College of Communication, Architecture and The Arts at FIU, responded to Rise Miami News saying the department would be investigating the college's infrastructure, facilities, equipment and technology.

However, Schriener says that last year there was a problem that extended beyond facilities needing a fresh coat of paint.

"There were [rodents], in the ceramics lab, because the University had put a dumpster near the lab after football games. One of the professors had complained that it had attracted rodents and then they stopped putting the dumpsters [there], but that was over a year ago," Schriener said. "There hasn't been anything brought to my attention of any infestations of rodents."

Pip Brant, an associate professor in the Painting Department, says that she fixed the rat problems she saw in W9.

"I helped patch some holes into the wall and I have cats outside to help keep the rats away," Brant said to Student Media.

As of last year, Schriener said, there have not been any rat problems and that he didn't have any records of recent issues with the facilities other than the dirty bathrooms. He referred Student Media to Jacek Kolasinski, the chairperson of the Art and Art History Department, for more information.

Kolasinski said that it's normal for art classes to be dirty or messy because maintenance for classrooms and art studios are different.

"Our maintenance is different because in regular

classrooms, students sit for an hour and leave, while art students spend excessive hours [in the rooms] and move equipment all the time and scratch the floor," Kolasinski said to Student Media. "It's everyone's substantial effort to keep their environment clean. Students throughout the semester paint on the walls for their pieces and when the semester is over we put a fresh coat of paint."

“

They've worked really hard on the sculpture building which was probably the most impacted by neglect and it's pretty decent. I think student pressure helped that ...[Art] students pay the same tuition as everyone else and we haven't gotten a benefactor to build us a building.

Pip Brant
Associate professor
Painting Department

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Crystal Rodriguez, a senior majoring in graphic design and minoring in art history, said though the classes can be messy, it shouldn't mean the facilities shouldn't be cleaned regularly by janitors.

Brant said that she wishes that the department would have a building specifically for the painting students.

"They've worked really hard on the sculpture building which was probably the most impacted by neglect and it's pretty decent. I think student pressure helped that ...," said Brant. "[Art] students pay the same tuition as everyone else and we haven't gotten a benefactor to build us a building."

There were also complaints about the distance of the art studios from the rest of the campus.

Rodriguez said that she feels it's unfair that she has to travel to the far-west side of campus, past the soccer and baseball fields, to get to her studio classes.

"I have classes on the main part of campus and then I have a class in the portables and it's annoying because I have a small interval of time between classes to get there," said Rodriguez.

Brant said that because the portables are far away from the main campus, she feels students are isolated from the FIU community.

"The hardest thing is that the buildings are so distal from each other," she said. "The painters and the sculptors don't know anyone else, so we're just like islands and there's hardly any dialogue between art students and the outside community."

However, Kolasinski said that because art students are constantly working with different art materials, it's necessary to have some facilities away from the main part of campus.

"We have a lot of different art facilities throughout the University, but some are located on the parameters of campus because there's a lot of dirty projects and materials that art students use," he said. "There's sculptures, painting, melting, burning and the use of other materials that are essential to be kept away from the main campus. Our students do require a lot of time to travel between classes but we try to accommodate them the best we can."

Kolasinski also said that although he agrees that some of the art facilities are older buildings, the department is trying to renovate the buildings overtime.

"We've done a lot of renovations ... and we see how we can utilize space the best we can, just like the sculpture building," he said. "These renovations are all based on growth; if there are significant problems, we try to address them as quick as we can. Sometimes they require funding or working with the dean and administration, but we try our best to fix what is in our power."

BISCAYNE BAY

Bayview receives 'immense' satisfaction from residents

DOUGLASS GAVILAN
Staff Writer

With less than two months left in the semester, Bayview residents must begin or may have already begun the process of re-applying for their lease. The prices to live by the Bay may have changed, but not many students complained about the change.

On the Bayview website, students are able to write critiques on the privately-owned facility; the majority of students had positive reviews.

"I've received immense amounts of satisfaction from guests at Bayview," said former Housing Senator for BBC Nikole Torregiante. "Rarely do I ever hear any complaints, especially this semester now that the jitters

of being a new complex have dissipated and any issues in office that may have existed have been resolved. Everyone loves the convenience and the community of the complex."

In 2014, the previous student housing complex, Bay Vista, a privately owned facility, closed down. In August 2016, Bayview served as a replacement.

Located behind the Marine Science Building and next to the Roz and Cal Kovens Conference Center, the nine-story building features 410 rooms, a pool, sky lounge, 24-hour gym, lounge area with televisions located on every floor, study rooms, free internet and cable, computer lab with both PCs and MAC computers, a free printing machine and a conference room.

However, Bayview does have some flaws; some residents had complaints, including problems with the wifi and cell phone connection. One student also made note of the change in payment.

"I don't really like how the leasing works. They kind of just changed the amount that I have to pay and didn't tell me anything," said Fiorella Jones, a digital media senior. "Plus, the leasing doesn't have any plan for students that graduate in the fall semester. I have to find someone to take my room. The people here aren't much help."

Despite the criticism, Jones still rated Bayview four out of five stars.

BAYVIEW, PAGE 6

Muslim students still face uncertainty under ban

ZUE LOPEZ-DIAZ
Staff Writer

In the wake of President Donald Trump's executive order banning the entry of all residents from seven predominantly muslim countries and its temporary block by federal judges, some students are left feeling uncertain about their future.

In February, Provost, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President of Student Affairs Kenneth G. Furton communicated this through an email to the FIU community, stating "as a community we must all come together to support those among us who may be feeling particularly vulnerable during this uncertain time."

However, Muslim students such as Ayaz Parbtani, an FIU undergraduate student originally from Pakistan, are still feeling the indirect implications of the ban—the feeling that they are not wanted.

Parbtani came to the United States

with his family in 2000 and joined the U.S military in 2006. As an Army veteran, he served for six years before deciding to come back to FIU to get an education.

Although he is an American citizen, he said he still felt the repercussions of the ban.

"I know I'm not banned right now," said Parbtani. "But what's to say 10 days down the road I won't be banned? I served America, my country, for six years."

Victoria Rivera is also an American citizen who studied at FIU. A convert to the religion, she has currently had trouble feeling accepted by society.

"I converted to Islam about five months ago when I was in Montana on a paid volunteer position," said Rivera. "I came to a point where the only thing keeping me from converting was the tension surrounding this election."

Other students have been directly

BAN, PAGE 6

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

In Haiti, a hit song about ‘sugar babies’ and ‘papas’ becomes social commentary

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti _ The catchy song with the frenetic beat airs the dirty secret that everyone knows but no one talks about: “The brother is shacking up with mademoiselle but mademoiselle leaves him and takes an old man.”

Born in Haiti’s most notorious slum, the wildly popular hit song “Madan Papa” loose translation from Creole, sugar baby or daddy’s girl has set off an uncomfortable debate about a sad reality. This nation’s brutal economic environment is leading young women to enter into sexual relationships with older men in exchange for financial favors as a means of survival.

Scientists find what could be the oldest fossils on Earth

Scientists have found what they claim are the oldest-known fossils on Earth, embedded in Canadian rocks that are at least 3.7 billion years old.

If they are right, the discovery suggests that life on Earth began within 200 to 500 million years of the birth of the planet 4.5 billion years ago.

“These findings show that life managed to emerge and evolve very rapidly on Earth,” said Matthew Dodd, a graduate student at the University College London and first author of a study published Wednesday in the journal Nature.

Netanyahu, military faulted in watchdog report on 2014 Gaza war

TEL AVIV, Israel _ An Israeli watchdog’s report on the 2014 Gaza Strip war paints an unflattering picture of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s wartime leadership at a time when he is weakened by suspicions of influence-peddling.

Strategy and goals were only discussed in depth after the military’s operational plans were already approved, and diplomatic alternatives weren’t considered, state comptroller Joseph Shapira wrote. He found the army was unprepared for the threat presented by cross-border attack tunnels from the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip and said Netanyahu withheld critical information from cabinet members that could have altered the course of the 50-day conflict.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SING IT OUT



MARTINA BRETOUS/PANTHER PRESS

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia puts on a show for students during “Sinfonia Week 2017” in the Graham Center pit to raise money for the Mills Music Mission on Friday, March 3.

Bringing ‘RoboCop’ to life

Discovery Lab’s TeleBot helps disabled veterans and officers

TAPKANNIA KOEUN
Staff Writer

FIU’s Discovery Lab is researching the possibility of robots aiding disabled police officers.

The lab is building a TeleBot to perform duties that would otherwise be impossible for disabled officers.

The Discovery Lab was established in 2012 when founding member and Director of Computer Science, S. Sitharama Iyengar, says he envisioned an environment where students can be inventive and apply it to tangible research.

“I thought about starting a lab where the students would play a very significant role in being very creative, such as building systems and man-made contraptions,” Iyengar said to Student Media.

The TeleBot project, affectionately known

Colonel Jerry Miller, said to Student Media.

In the five years since the project began, there has been significant research and progress on bringing the “RoboCop” to life. The robot is equipped with visual capabilities to create the ‘telepresence’ effect, where two video cameras operate through the eyes allowing for stereoscopic vision. The nose acts as a sonar to detect objects and it has smart sensors enabling it to physically lift and grip objects.

The TeleBot previously functioned through Bluetooth programming, where it would imitate a person’s movements within proximity of the connection. Currently, the robot functions through Wi-Fi and is controlled by a computer program.

“Now that it’s controlled through the computer and we hooked him up to the internet, it could be out on the street, away from the police station and doing what the officer wants him to do,” said Miller.

Much of the research and building on the TeleBot are performed by the lab’s four to five undergraduate students, who actively contribute in writing its programs and algorithms.

Manuel Garcia, a senior computer science major and research assistant to the Discovery Lab, joined the program in the summer of 2013 and is one of the students currently working on the TeleBot.

“I was looking for something to push my limits and do something outside of class that pushes you to learn new things. I was really interested in A.I. (artificial intelligence) and I saw an opportunity to implement A.I. since the TeleBot has cameras and sensors,” Garcia said to Student Media.

His main focus on the robot is improving its motion-capture system to create accurate movements.

The research produced in the Discovery Lab offers students with real-world application of concepts learned inside the classroom as well as those not covered in the classroom.

“Each part of the TeleBot uses different [computational] languages and modules that they don’t teach you in class and it’s nice learning these new things that industries will require,” said Garcia.

The real-life “RoboCop” is constantly being tested for new research applications and is a continuous work in progress, according to Miller. The lab is also working on object avoidance and thinking capabilities so the robot can act more independently.

“The most striking thing to me is how students can play an active role in understanding the problem, enhancing their creativity, and it is challenging, but that is the beauty of designing all of these robots,” said Iyengar.

“The most striking thing to me is how students can play an active role in understanding the problem, enhancing their creativity, and it is challenging, but that is the beauty of designing all of these robots,

S. Sitharama Iyengar
Director
School of Computer Science

as “RoboCop” to model the film’s futuristic law enforcement, began with a research proposal soon after the lab’s inception.

Lieutenant Commander Jeremy Robins of the U.S. Navy Reserves, noticed that disabled veterans and police officers were marginalized from carrying out their official duties because of their disability. As a result, Robins donated \$20,000 to the Discovery Lab with a specific purpose: to design a robot that can assist disabled veterans and officers.

“The objective of the TeleBot is to create an avatar, or ‘telepresence’ robot that would enable an officer to serve while sitting at the police station, regardless of their disability,” the Discovery Lab’s Research Coordinator,

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m.
(305) 348-2709
news@fiusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus:
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m.
(305) 919-4722
bbc@fiusm.com

Fax:
(305) 348-2712

Editor-in-Chief:
(305) 348-1580
cayla.bush@fiusm.com

Advertising:
(305) 348-6994
advertising@fiusm.com

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Whitewashing: Hollywood's continual racism

SERIOUSLY,
FOLKS



CAROLINE
LOZANO

The most horrific portrayal of a minority I've ever seen was that of Mr. Yunioshi, the Japanese landlord in "Breakfast at Tiffany's."

Apart from being buck-toothed and squinty-eyed, the character was played by Mickey Rooney, a white actor, who exaggerated his eccentricity, giving audiences a stereotypical view of Japanese men.

Of course, since the film dates back to 1961, you would think that the industry has

expanded, becoming more diverse and inclusive as the years passed.

However, we still face the problem of whitewashing in today's film industry.

Whitewashing, in the simplest terms, refers to the practice of casting white actors in non-white roles.

Unfortunately, Hollywood has been getting away with it for decades.

Films like "The Last Airbender," "Pan" and the upcoming "Ghost in the Shell" prove that the industry hasn't quite embraced the idea of casting minorities for their respective roles.

Last year's film "Doctor Strange" had Tilda Swinton, a white actress, playing "The Ancient One," a character who, according to the comics, is supposed to be Tibetan and male.

Born in Kamar-Taj, a fictional hidden location in the Himalayan Mountains in an area known as Tibet, "The title as being "a moniker passed down through time, and in this particular film the embodiment is Celtic."

“

When a film studio tries to justify their whitewash of a non-white character, it hurts minorities just as much as it hurts the industry.

”

"Ancient One" is the bringer of immortality to his village as a result of delving into sorcery and learning how to harness mystical powers.

It didn't help that Marvel released a statement that was less than satisfactory against the backlash.

According to Screen Rant, Marvel described the character's

When a film studio tries to justify their whitewashing of a non-white character, it hurts minorities just as much as it hurts the industry. It does a disservice to those who are less represented in film by denying them the role of a character that they can relate to.

Likewise, a film loses realism when it attempts to pass off a

white woman as a canonically Native American princess.

I'm not trying to pin the blame on the actors nor am I insinuating that the actors in the films mentioned delivered bad performances.

Excluding "The Last Airbender," I think all of the actors in these films are talented people who gave decent performances, for the most part.

However, casting directors should put more effort in choosing the correct actors for the correct roles.

Caroline Lozano is a contributing writer for Panther Press. Her column, Seriously, Folks, is a commentary on the arts and entertainment industry and how it relates to society today.

America "The Great," except when it comes to driving

HIGH VELOCITY



MARCUS
BERGGREN

As an automotive journalist, I've driven in almost 30 countries on four different continents, and I average 45,000 miles per year. I've also driven in around 20 different U.S. states.

Throughout my travels

expect Italians to drive like maniacs and Germans to drive like demi-gods. In the same way, you would expect Americans to be decent drivers with at least a hint of respect for the rules, especially considering that it's one of the most bureaucratic countries on earth.

After all, America is a country on wheels and there's literally a drive-thru everything. I won't bore you with statistics, but if you decide to look them up, you'll probably be surprised by how many traffic deaths there are.

man, not Randy Pobst. This isn't an opinion I base on some sort of personal vendetta, instead it's based on facts.

One concrete example is Florida Law 316.081(2) and (3) which states that "Slower traffic keep right and all traffic yield left lane to traffic approaching from behind."

After just five minutes of driving in Florida, you notice no one pays attention to this law.

Everyone drives where they please and faster drivers basically turn the entire highway into a race track. It's a form of organized chaos.

Even if this isn't the case in all states — drivers farther north seem to have adapted a more European driving style — it certainly is a problem almost everywhere.

I'm not trying to paint a picture of the U.S. being every driver's doom while Europe is some sort of haven.

Granted, in southern Europe, driving seems to be an anarchic activity, but for the most part, there



MARCUS BERGGREN/PANTHER PRESS

“

Compared to Europe, getting a license in the U.S. is like getting your passport renewed, while in Europe it's more like getting a 2400 on the SATs.

”

I always analyze the driving styles of other countries based on my own expectations.

In other words, you

Obviously, not all Americans are terrible drivers, but frankly, the majority is. This column is in regards to the common

is great lane discipline and a consideration of other road users.

In the U.S., you'll often find trucks doing 55 in the left lane for no apparent reason.

Moreover, the every-man-for-himself mentality seems widespread in the U.S., and people are generally more keen on getting into accidents than helping others out.

There's obviously a reason all those dash cam videos on Youtube are

either from the U.S. or Russia.

So, why is it that the entire traffic situation basically is a mobocracy combined with a police state?

When interviewing students about their driving habits, the majority considered themselves to be great drivers. I think that the entire driving test procedure has to be overhauled in the U.S.

Compared to Europe, getting a license in the

U.S. is like getting your passport renewed, while in Europe it's more like getting a 2400 on the SATs.

"Americans can't drive" won't be taken lightly. Although, factually-speaking, that seems to be the case.

Marcus Berggren is a contributing writer for Panther Press. His column, High Velocity, is a commentary on the car industry.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send an email to opinion@fiusm.com. Be sure to include your name, major and year and a photo of yourself. Letters must be less than 400 words and may be edited for clarity and length. Panther Press will only run two letters a semester from any individual.

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STAR GAZING

Panthers invited to cycle at ‘high intensity’ under the stars



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIA ROMAN, PROGRAM ASSISTANT FOR MARKETING AT THE WRC

Fitness Instructor Victoria Mendez leads cycling class in the Wellness and Rec Center.

JOSHUA CEBALLOS
Assistant Entertainment Director

If you are looking for a high intensity workout in a cool setting, then Cycling Under the Stars is the event for you, says junior international relations major and fitness instructor Victoria Mendez.

“Cycling Under the Stars... it’s a fundraiser. Basically we’re cycling outside of the arena, and we’re going to have lights similar to our Cyclub class,” said Mendez.

This event is being held as a fundraiser for Pulmonary Hypertension Research, according to the WRC. All of the proceeds from participants signing up for the class will go towards research on this disease that “can lead to right heart failure if left untreated,” a type of heart failure that affects the right ventricle and causes congestion of blood flow, according to the Pulmonary Hypertension Association.

Cycling, a workout which involves riding on a fixed gear, weighted flywheel, has been gaining a lot of popularity and traction at FIU, according to Mendez.

“I think that it’s more the intensity. For me, personally, whenever I teach my classes, it’s the

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The lights are off, you don’t feel like people are watching you, and you’re really just focused on you, your body and the bike,

Victoria Mendez
Fitness Instructor, Fitness Program Assistant
Wellness and Recreation Center

”

motivation too. The lights are off, you don’t feel like people are watching you, and you’re really just focused

on you, your body and the bike,” says Mendez.

The weather Thursday evening in the Miami area will be around 67 degrees, according to The Weather Channel. Mendez feels that for this event in particular, students will enjoy the change in atmosphere from a regular cycling class.

“It’s super fun. The difference is, usually in the cycling classes it’s really hot, but when you’re outside you have a really nice cool breeze, the environment is really cool, and it’s just nice being in that nighttime environment,” commented Mendez.

Mendez said that she will be using a special playlist for Thursday’s event that she has not used before, her energy will be at top levels for her classes that night, and participants should be ready to have fun.

“Cycling Under the Stars” will be held at 7 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. outside the FIU Arena on March 9. Bystanders can come and watch and enjoy the festivities. To sign up for the event, visit recreation.fiu.edu.

‘Fresh tunes’ to add to your March playlist

FRESH BAKE



CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ

March starts us off with the reunion of Cash Money alumni, a surprisingly decent new song by Coldplay and more.

Here are the fresh tunes you should be adding to your playlists.

multiple personas, echoing his work on the “Jeffery” mixtape. It’s difficult not to be amused by his energetic and multi-faceted flow.

Meanwhile, Birdman dragging out his “Put some respek on my name” meme elicits an eye roll on one of the track’s few weak moments. Nonetheless, his non-complicated delivery echoes the contrast he demonstrated with his former protegee, Lil Wayne.

1 Rich Gang (ft. Birdman and Young Thug)- “Bit Bak”

The Cash Money project is resurrected as the duo of Birdman and Young Thug in the first single from an upcoming mixtape due in April.

Over a raucous beat provided by in-demand trap producers Lex Luger and Southside under their 808 Mafia alias, the rappers sound loose, a surprise for the usually stale Birdman. Thug, on the other hand, amps his usual mania to another level, using different voices and careening through

2 Alex G- “Witch”

On his first new release since 2015’s “Beach Music”, musician Alexander Giannicola serves up some of his strongest work yet; an effectively hypnotic lo-fi single with chiming guitars and a processed echoing vocal that pushes through the twinkling production.

Coming off a year of hype following his work with Frank Ocean on “Blonde,” Giannicola turns it down a notch to offer something less experimental than his previous work.

3 Tennis- “My Emotions Are Blinding”

Reminiscent in theme to their earlier single “Ladies Don’t Play Guitar,” singer Alaina Moore offers up ironic tongue-in-cheek depictions of femininity (“I’m just a vehicle for the material”) over the 70s lounge-pop-meets-slacker-rock inspired approach that seems to define their upcoming album “Yours Conditionally.”

The song swings into the sing-along chorus, anchored by Moore’s confident delivery, with gusto, contributing to the earworm nature of the track.

Tennis’ move away from the indie pop sound that defined their earlier work and Moore’s confident explorations of individuality (in a band she started with her now-husband Patrick Riley) makes their latest work all the more intriguing.

4 Coldplay- “Hypnotised”

Following a nauseating chance collaboration with EDM bros-of-the-moment

The Chainsmokers, Coldplay tones it down on their latest release, a warm and soft piano-driven ballad that recalls the formula of the band’s early albums, particularly not far from anything found on their 2005 album “X&Y.”

For his part, lead singer Chris Martin offers up the usual vaguely poetic but slightly nonsensical lyrics one would expect from a Coldplay song. Nonetheless, the song takes its time, riding on repetitive chords and dense production in which marks a surprisingly welcome departure from their recent dance-oriented records.

The latest single will be featured on an upcoming five-song EP “Kaleidoscope” to be released in June.

Fresh Bake is a weekly column that reviews new music releases in various genres. Christopher Rodriguez also hosts a weekly radio show on The Roar, where he plays latest releases.

Marian Hill produces 'album to watch'

COLUMNIST



HAROLD LOPEZ

Marian Hill, an electropop duo from Philadelphia, is taking over the mainstream scene with their radio smash hit, "Down."

Marian Hill comprises vocalist Samantha Gongol and production artist Jeremy Lloyd.

Inspired by the musical "The Music Man," the duo got their name by combining the first name and last name of two of the characters: Marian Paroo and Harold Hill.

Throughout 2016, Marian Hill released singles leading up to their debut album "ACT ONE." The album, which was released in June, hadn't been noticed until now.

The entire album has influences from electronic music.

"Down" is the opening track. It has a piano melody, a beat drop mid-song and electro sass to the chorus.

"Talk To Me" has a faster rhythm due to horns blasting and the jazz-influenced vibe in it.

"Wild" spices things up with sounds made using the mouth and hands reminiscent of the "Cups" song by Anna Kendrick used in Pitch Perfect but with an electro makeover.

In the following track, Marian Hill gets more personal with a light bubble pop song called,

"Bout You."

"Take Your Time" was a pretty weak track as it brings a promiscuous side to the duo.

The ballad of the album, "I Know Why," shows the chemistry between Gongol and Lloyd in their creative world. The echo in Gongol's voice grasps onto the rhythm of the soft beat.

"Good" is a feel-good song for when someone is feeling like themselves as they check themselves in a mirror before going out with their friends on a Friday night.

"Thinking" absolutely gave me a mix of Lana Del Rey and Yuna making a baby with this magic wonder.

"Sad Song" is not really a sad song but a fierce track.

"Mistaken," includes vocals from Steve Davit and it is reminiscent of the beginning of Gwen Stefani's pop smash hit, "Hollaback Girl."

The emotions run-in of "Same Thing" allows listeners to hear the soft side of Gongol.

"I Want You" shuts down the album with a clap pop and fun bubblelicious song.

It's evident that Marian Hill knows who they are as artists just from this fresh debut album.

"ACT ONE" is an album to watch for it might break the scene in 2017 as Marian Hill is exposed to a broader audience.

Music Matters is weekly music column that reviews pop, rock and alternative music albums and singles.

Wolfsonian-FIU invites students to 'Tune in, drop in'



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEG FLORYAN, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER FOR THE WOLFSONIAN

A collection of radios, as part of the Wolfsonian's exhibition on the history of radio.

ANGELIQUE DUCOUNGE Contributing Writer

To celebrate a 20-year partnership, the Wolfsonian-FIU wants visitors to tune in and drop in.

RadioFest, a full-day festival celebrating the history, technology, and future of radio, will come to the Wolfsonian on March 11. The collaboration between WLRN and The New Tropic will feature workshops, live talks, panel discussions and live performances.

Meg Floryan, the museum's communications manager, explained the connection between both institutions. Floryan said that the FIU community is an integral part of The Wolfsonian, just as the Wolfsonian is a part of FIU culture.

"We've collaborated with FIU professors on installations, programs, and symposia, and work very closely with students on both Wolfsonian projects as well as their own studies, theses, and internships," said Floryan. "We go hand in hand."

Heather Cook, creator and programmer, notes that in addition to the educational components, RadioFest will be an immersive and interactive experience for FIU students to enjoy.

"You'll be able to make your own radio speakers with Moonlighter Maker Space. You can record your interviews with WLRN. You can go to the radio plays at night," said Cook. "So I think it's perfect for an FIU student who wants to balance learning things and peaking their curiosity about history, but also just having a really fun day out here at Miami Beach interacting with their friends and with these different activities."

Floryan says that the event is two-fold, creating an atmosphere of fun and inspiration while also providing an educational experience that serves as an avenue into learning more about The Wolfsonian's collection.

"There's a little something for everyone in RadioFest. Interactive activities for the younger folks, nostalgia for the older crowd, live performances for theater geeks, a talk on internet radio for the tech-inclined," said Floryan. "It's a full-fledged, one-day festival—which is a rare thing at The Wolfsonian."

The event will feature nighttime radio plays; four 15-minute plays

“There’s a little something for everyone in RadioFest. Interactive activities for the younger folks, nostalgia for the older crowd, live performances for theater geeks, a talk on internet radio for the tech-inclined,

Meg Floryan
Communications Manager
Wolfsonian-FIU

based on South Florida news stories dramatized in, Cook said, a “cool, old-fashioned way.”

For the event's "Cafecito and Conversation" segment, the museum's Bridge Tender House will be transformed into a pop-up live recording booth right in the streets of Miami Beach. Participants will be invited into the booth for some coffee and to ask their opinion on their favorite and least favorite things about living in

Miami.

"So, we're sure to get some interesting answers," Cook said.

Participants will also be asked to describe a sound or noise that impacted their lives later on in the proceedings. At 2 p.m. the doors to the recording booth will close and a WLRN member will go on to edit these interviews and create short radio stories out of them.

Throughout the process participants will be able to peer in through the booth's windows and witness the behind-the-scenes work by a professional. Cook notes that this is one of many areas that might attract the interest of FIU students, particularly broadcast, communications and media majors.

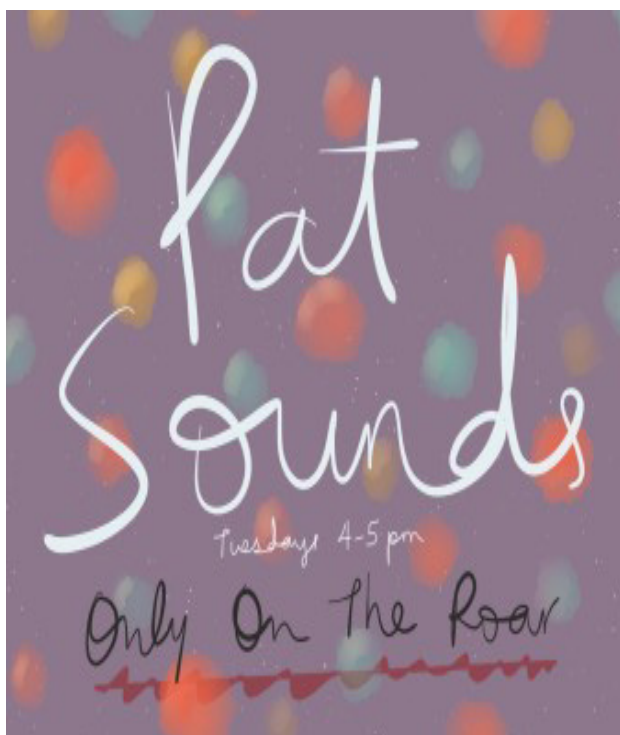
"For students, especially those in communications, I would also suggest coming to the panel discussions on internet radio because that just might be something that students studying marketing, or communication or media might be interested in learning more about," said Cook.

RadioFest will be a mix of local South Floridian culture while highlighting the global importance and history of radio.

"In usual Wolfsonian style, it's going to be a little bit quirky, a little bit off-beat, and very much about getting Miamians to see an everyday objects and well-known medium in a new way," said Floryan.

Museum admission will be free for the day while tickets to the radio plays will be \$10 for nonmembers and \$5 for Wolfsonian members; one ticket buys entry to all 4 performances.

The festival will be on all day March 11, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.



Students ‘voice concerns’ over proposed ban

BAN, PAGE 1

impacted, such as FIU research student Ehssan Amir Sayyafi, who had parents who lost their money trying to get visas.

“They spent a lot of money to get the visa. It takes months to check background, and the visa only gives you three months to stay in the U.S, and they had to travel to other countries to get the visa.”

Occasional family visits are what keep him and his wife grounded, since Ph.D. research can take an average of 8.2 years to complete. With the recent birth of their baby boy, their parents’ plans to visit were cut short by the ban as well.

Sayyafi explained that even though the muslim ban was not active, it would be hard to start the process again.

“The last time I saw my parents was two years ago when they came to visit.

We just had a baby, a new baby,” said Sayyafi. “They just want to see their grandson.”

Glenn Hutchinson, an FIU English professor, might not have been impacted by the ban and its aftermath, but he nevertheless feels empathy for his students. Also a volunteer for Friends of Miami detainees, he has seen first-hand the immigrants who were not so lucky and were detained illegally.

“Over the past year, I had been visiting a man from Bangladesh who is Muslim. I was so happy that he was able to win political asylum last month. He was released and able to be reunited with his uncle in New York,” said Hutchinson.

Hutchinson said he worries about how this will affect Muslims in the community.

“I am glad that students are voicing their concerns at FIU,” said Hutchinson.

Bayview residents say there ‘are no bad views’ for lease

BAYVIEW, PAGE 1

The new housing payments revolve on paying extra depending on the view that the student would like. Students are allowed to select between either four, two or single bedroom.

After that, residents can decide what view they would like to have. The current two choices are either campus view or a view of the bay. Finally, students have the option to chose upgrade to a prime or penthouse room option.

“Even as a resident,

I’ve come to find Bayview has no bad views from what I’ve experienced,” said Torregiante. “If a view, in addition to what you get as part of your rent, is something you’d truly want, then it kind of plays with supply and demand.”

Students also voiced their concern over the problem with traveling to retail and grocery stores. There are only five locations to eat on campus that are all closed on Saturday and Sunday. Most residents have struggled with driving to

local business like Publix and Costco. The concern is with people that do not own cars.

“While living at Bayview, residents have access to the Panther Express which transports the students between campuses free of charge,” said Kristie Zapata, assistant community director for Bayview student living. “The NOMI Express is a public transportation bus that travels all throughout North Miami on four routes. NOMI is free of charge, and has a stop

that is walking distance from Bayview. These two modes of transportation make it easy for our residents to get around town without the use of a personal vehicle.”

For students who may be interested, Bayview offers a tour of the area, which includes a sample room and a view of the sky lounge located on the ninth floor. Space is almost at full capacity.

For more information please contact the front desk or visit their website at <https://www.bayviewfiu.com/>.

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FIU Student Media is now accepting applications for Editor in Chief of Panther Press and PantherNOW.com and General Manager of The Roar Student Radio. If interested, visit GC 210 for more information.



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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Head coach showcases influential African-American women through social media

PETER HOLLAND
Staff Writer

Head coach Tiara Malcom has been active on social media for the past month. Since the first day of February, the first-year head coach would post a picture of famous African-American women and summarize what they have accomplished along with the hashtag #BreakBarriers on Instagram.

Although Black History Month is gone, the head coach is still managing to tie both February and March, Women's History Month, together each day.

"Well for me in celebration of Black

History Month, I always done that in some social media such as Facebook or Twitter and Instagram," said Malcom.

From posting about Autherine Lucy on Feb. 1, the first black student to attend University of Alabama, to Viola Davis on Feb. 27, the first black woman to win an Emmy, Tony and Oscar as an actress, Malcom wants to inspire her followers in the success of African-American women that paved the way for the women of the future.

"I just started off and said I am a female, let me try to kind of do it," said Malcom.

"You know Black History ties in with females that paved the way."

Malcom would also bring it up to her players to empower them to strive for greatness. The 34-year-old coach wants her team to feel inspired despite the different ethnic backgrounds each player comes from. She would tell her players about their future not only as athletes, but students as well.

"We actually had a conversation in practice before the UTEP game," Malcom said. "The kids were caught talking about it [history]



PANTHER PRESS FILE PHOTO

Head coach Tiara Malcom speaks to basketball players at a game during half-time.

and generated a conversation, but then I tied it back into basketball and them (SIC) knowing your

history where Nina [Nikolina Todorovic] is from and the history of where are coaches are from. You have to know where you came from in order to establish where are you going in the future."

FOOTBALL

Running back coach believes athletes have 'great chance' to improve

BRETT SHWEKY
Staff Writer



TIM HARRIS JR.

Running back coach Tim Harris Jr. believes that the running back core could be the cornerstone of the Panthers' offense.

"[We want to] get everyone in the group better, not just the guys that have played a good amount," said Harris Jr. "Players that necessarily haven't had a significant amount of playing time, I feel they have a great chance to improve their skill set going into spring training."

With senior Alex Gardner and junior Anthony Jones returning, FIU brings in an experienced group of running backs.

In the 2016 season under Coach Harris Jr.'s leadership, both Gardner and Jones accumulated 1,492 yards rushing. To go along with 297 carries, the duo scored 10 touchdowns on the ground for the Panthers.

Gardner going into his senior year, owns the FIU all-time rushing record with 2,272 rushing yards. The senior currently ranks third in all-time touchdowns with 16.

The running game going

into the 2017 season will be challenged by the loss of two starting offensive linemen. Both center Michael Montero and tackle Dieugot Joseph were large factors in the Panther ground game as they consistently established running lanes for the FIU runners.

Next season the Panthers will look to sophomore Dallas Connell and junior Neal Mars to help fill the gaps in the offensive line. Connell and Mars spent much of the 2016 season backing up Montero and Joseph, giving the players limited, however, valuable experience.

Coach Harris Jr. believes through the recruiting in previous years, the team has been able to create necessary weight.

"FIU has been able to add depth through recruiting," the coach said. "Beyond the starters, we as a coaching staff believe that those guys have an opportunity to show that they can contribute at a high-level for the team."

Prior to coaching at FIU, Harris Jr. was the head football coach for Booker T. Washington High School. Under his one-year tenure as a head coach for the Tornadoes, he led the team to their second 14-0 record, while also winning their third-straight Class 4A state title.

PantherNOW.com

FIU Student Media's
rebranded website

is still bringing
up to the minute

news coverage,

instant sports updates,

what's new in student life,

music and talk shows,

event photo galleries and more.

WELLNESS AND REC

CASUAL CANOE



NICHOLAS POBLETE/PANTHER PRESS

Left: Participants return to BBC to gather around bonfires and roast marshmallows.
Top right: Participants receive instructions before departing from BBC.
Bottom right: Kayaks are prepped and positioned by the Biscayne Bay.

BBC's Wellness and Recreation Center organizes nighttime kayaking

NICHOLAS POBLETE
Staff Writer

FIU's Biscayne Bay Campus Wellness and Recreation Center offers monthly kayaking -- with a twist.

BBC's recreation coordinator Jonathan Torrey designed the nighttime excursion about five years ago, and said that it allows participants to enjoy an illuminated trip through the Biscayne Bay area.

The kayak ride takes riders through Oleta River State Park's mangrove-filled kayak trail, followed by a stop on Sandspur Island. Once arrived at the island, also known as Beer Can Island, riders can sit and gaze at the Miami skyline.

Riders then make their way back to campus, ending the night around a bonfire, making s'mores.

The kayaks fit two riders, with a maximum of 20 riders per excursion. Participants are supervised by two lifeguards who are certified by the American Canoe Association.

Riders of all skill levels are welcome, with costs at \$7 for students and \$15 for everyone else.

BBC lifeguard Nicole Mare is one of

the excursion leaders. Mare, a sophomore majoring in social work, said the theme is what makes the adventure so different.

"The LED lights that are attached to the kayaks make this excursion unique," Mare said.

In addition to the lights, the scenery had

ride.

"When you pass by Oleta, the mangroves create a sort of tunnel," Pozo said. "The excursion was unlike any other excursion I had participated in."

Junior Caleb Swanner, an international business and marketing major, said

island and just hang out."

Torrey said the program began with one kayak and has now expanded to 10 kayaks, with further expansion on his mind.

"Nighttime always brings out a different vibe with people," Torrey said.

If any students or members of the

“

When you pass by Oleta, the mangroves create a sort of tunnel... the excursion was unlike any other excursion I had participated in.

Maria Pozo
Senior
Biology

”

some students amazed as well.

Maria Pozo, a senior studying biology, said she is an avid kayaker and was surprised from start to finish by the kayak

he would definitely participate in the excursion again.

"The lifeguards were very helpful," Swanner said. "I got to sit down on the

community wish to participate in kayaking, or any other event that BBC offers, contact the Wellness and Recreational center, or visit FIU's Student Affairs website.