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The Student Movement Volume 105 Issue 14: Carousel of Composers: Harpist Among Highlights of Sunday's Showcase

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Carousel of Composers

HARPIST AMONG HIGHLIGHTS OF SUNDAY'S
SHOWCASE



Photo by Lloyd Martinez

News

[*Andrews University Choirs Performs Easter Tenebrae Service*](#)

Jenae Rogers

Article no longer exists.

NEWS

AUSA Hosts Easter Proximity Vespers

Terika Williams [04.06.2021](#)

On Friday, Apr. 2, AUSA and Proximity collaborated to commemorate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ about 2,000 years ago. Dubbed Glow Vespers, the venue featured low lighting in Johnson Gym and glow sticks to create a glowing garden-like ambiance. Each segment of the night focused on assuming a mindset of prayer. The acronym P.R.A.Y., meaning Praise, Repent, Ask and Yield, was used to split the program into 5 segments, each one having its own scripture reading and 5 minutes carved out so that students could pray.

For the Praise section, students sang songs. The Repent section reminded students that God offers help in turning from sinful ways. During this time, students were encouraged to walk around Johnson Gym where there were two stations. The first station, the paint wall, was available for students who wanted to paint how they felt about Jesus's sacrifice. The second station was a prayer station. Students were invited to write their prayer requests on sticky notes and pin them to the string lights on the wall and take a prayer request that was already stuck to the wall to pray over.

Next, the section Ask was introduced. In this section students were encouraged to share with each other what requests they had for Jesus. After Ask, the last section was Yield. Students discussed how they could let Jesus guide their lives and how they could see growth in their spiritual journeys.

Rael Kim (sophomore, biology) said that Glow Vespers opened her eyes to a new understanding of Easter. "Before the Glow Vespers, I really did not resonate with Easter, since it is not a holiday that is widely celebrated in the SDA community," she shared. "However, the Glow Vespers allowed me to resonate more about the core purpose of Easter celebration, which is to remember Jesus's sacrifice on the cross for His people. The amazing experiences that I had with my friends at the event truly allowed me to remember God's endless love and reflect on my personal relationship with God."

The structure and themes of the night allowed students to contemplate their spiritual lives and the importance for Christ's sacrifice. Another student,

Dongchan Kim (junior, religion), commented, “Glow vespers had various impacts on my personal spiritual life. Through Glow vespers, I was able to communicate with God through prayers and it was a joy to pray for one another in a group.”

Seth Carroll (junior, medical lab sciences) shared, “The aspect of prayer in particular was what really impressed me. At Jesus’ weakest moment in Gethsemane, He turned to prayer for help. This reminds me of how much more I can incorporate prayer in my life.” Prayer and connecting with the father helped Jesus fulfill his mission to save mankind, so we know for sure that prayer can impact our lives today.

NEWS

Makarios, AUSA, & Proximity Collaborate for Easter Sabbath

Amanda Cho [04.06.2021](#)

The grass was arrayed in a scene of colorful blankets. Actors marched in between the spectators, clear masks revealing their tearful faces as they watched Jesus carry the cross to Calvary. On Saturday, Apr. 3, Makarios, AUSA, and Proximity collaborated for Easter weekend, hosting the annual Passion Play as well as Sabbath lunch catered by Café Bon Appetit. With the sun shining, and the spring temperature, it was a perfect day to hold an outdoor Sabbath event. Students and the surrounding community gathered together in the soccer field, socially distancing and sitting on picnic blankets to watch the death and resurrection of Jesus play out before their eyes.

Cheryl Anne de Guzman (sophomore, medical laboratory science) commented, “The Passion Play was very touching, because it is not often that we see a real visual representation of what Jesus has done for us. It was very emotional. An SDA student such as myself often gets caught up in homework and the burdens of life, so it was really great to be reminded of the great gift of God sending his Son to die for us.”

By hosting the play outside, the Makarios actors were able to perform with greater safety for both the audience and the actors. The play was put on by Makarios and featured a number of different musicians and singers accompanying the actors’

performances of the scenes from Jesus's life.

Jel Tamayo (senior, nutrition) said, "I think that Makarios did a really good job. The last song, "They Could Not," performed by Kristin Ferrer was especially good and fit the emotion of the scene. It made me tear up, I was so touched."

The play featured a number of songs in different languages. Heeyun Oh (junior, biology) and Kristin Ferrer (senior, biology and public health) came together to sing "Above All" in Korean and English, while Ashley Yabut (sophomore, nursing) sang a rendition of "Via Dolorosa" in Tagalog and English.

Many students appreciated the diversity represented in the music. Glenn Orpiano (senior, nursing) shared, "I liked the diversity of the performances as well as the different languages of the songs. It reflects not only the university but also the mission of Jesus Christ. This was my first live experience of Makarios, so I didn't really know what to expect, but I really enjoyed it."

After the play had finished, lunch was provided through Café Bon Appetit. Students were then able to fellowship together and reflect on the message of the play while appreciating the beautiful weather.

Make sure to be on the lookout for sign ups for the Passion Play next year. Visit Andrews [Agenda](#) to keep up with the events happening at the university.

NEWS

Sunday Music Series Features Andrews University Composers

Elianna Srikureja **04.06.2021**

On Sunday, Apr. 4, 2021, the Andrews University Department of Music put on a concert featuring music written and performed by students. The program, hosted by Max Keller, opened with the piece "Reflexion," composed by Ludwig Natchimie (graduate, music). Utilizing a phonic setting and the repeated words "20-20 vision," this piece captured both the cheerful and darker moments of the past year.

Next, Nicole Powers' (sophomore, music) "The Enchantment" took listeners first on a whimsical, auditory journey through an enchanted forest. The piece was performed by Emily Jurek (sophomore, piano performance) on the piano. Then, Daley Lin's (junior, music performance) quartet piece "Awakening from

Hibernation” visualized animals awakening from rest. The fourth piece of the program, Andrew Pak’s (sophomore, music performance) “Wings,” showcased Beta Siriwattanakamol’s (senior, music education) mezzo-soprano voice accompanied by Diego Duran (sophomore, music performance) on the piano.

Based off of Acts 7’s account of Stephen’s martyrdom, Lorian Guillaume’s (senior, music) guitar performance of her own piece, “Stephen’s Stoning,” came next with harmonies capturing both the honor and horror of the stoning scene. Next, Daniel Sochkoff-Cerna’s (sophomore, music education) “Concerto for Clarinet and Strings” contrasted a slow and floating clarinet in the first movement and quick, extreme dynamics in the second. Then, “Carousel,” Ms. Powers’ second piece of the evening, featured Caralynn Chan (junior, speech-language pathology) on the harp with a waltz-like rhythm meant to mimic a spinning carousel. To conclude the concert, a string quartet performed Kaija Perry’s (graduate, music) piece “The Death of a Dream.”

Speaking about her performance and collaboration with Ms. Powers, Ms. Chan commented, “I prepared for this song three weeks in advance. The composer was quite receptive to my feedback on how to add embellishments to the repertoire, as well as how to make it more harp friendly.” Ms. Chan said that she tried to remain relaxed during the performance in an effort to create the desired mood. “We discussed tempos and what kind of nostalgic mood she wanted me to convey through the piece, while finding ways to let me infuse my own style and flair to the piece,” she explained.

Overall, the performances highlighted the talent within the Department of Music. Zoe Shui (sophomore, violin performance) noted, “this concert was a showcase for the works of the incredible composers studying here at Andrews. Through its numerous concerts and programs, the music department offers opportunities for Andrews’s students to enjoy, appreciate, and expand their knowledge about music.” She added, “the extended harmonies and the creative techniques the composers developed for performing were my favorite elements of the evening.” Anneliese Tessalee (freshman, chemistry) commented, “I enjoyed the unique and diverse styles of each piece. I was blown away by the various elements that were incorporated. The music was so beautifully and meticulously formulated by each composer and delivered wonderfully by the performers.”

The concert also presented an opportunity for many students to show support for their friends and for the Department of Music as a whole. Ms. Chan said, “I liked supporting and watching my friends and colleagues from the music department, orchestra, and wind symphony showcase their compositions and performance.”

Similarly, Ms. Tessalee commented, “the Department of Music brings life to the AU campus in a special way. Music in general brings people together in a way that no other medium can because it has the capacity to reach all people in every field of study. Music is what gives the AU campus an essential spark of life and human connection.”

This concert can still be viewed on the Department of Music Facebook [page](#). Additionally, check out the Department of Music Facebook home [page](#) for updates on concerts in April.

Pulse

PULSE

Dorm Plants

Masy Domicillo 04.06.2021



Photo by Public Domain

Life within the dorm room can be a rather dreary existence. Even with the presence of a roommate or suitemates, the addition of another life form can drastically improve the atmosphere. Nonetheless, the quest to procure another

organism can be hampered by pandemic and dorm regulations. Even with the distribution of the vaccine, it is still best to exercise caution when socializing. In addition, Meier and Lamson Hall have firm regulations on furry companions, leaving students with few choices. An individual can procure a fish, or perhaps, opt for an even lower maintenance companion.

Plants are lovely. Aside from making absolutely any space more aesthetically pleasing, they also provide a vital component of life: oxygen. Dorm rooms, due to limited circulation, are greatly assisted by these little green fellows. In addition, plants are easy enough to keep around. One does not have to feed them, walk them, or clean a litter box. Rather, they just need to be watered and repotted on a semi-regular basis. Their necessities for care are easy to remember, even for the ever-busy college student. Water for nutrition, and enough room to grow.

There are several species of plants that are particularly suited to the low light and low maintenance care that dorm living necessitates. The following recommendations are plants that I have observed that have the capability to thrive in such environments.

Snake plants. These broad-leafed plants are extremely tolerant of living in low light conditions. In addition, they are very easy to care for as their watering schedule can be as sporadic as you please. My roommate owned a snake plant, and it was near indestructible in the face of two forgetful college students. I particularly remember when we both realized the poor thing had not been watered for a couple weeks, but the snake plant gave no indication of its neglect. I can personally attest to the remarkable durability of snake plants.

Ivy plants. I am partial to ivy plants, particularly because they simply look gorgeous on a bookshelf. I have owned several kinds, such as the English ivy and the California fan ivy, and their care is rather straightforward. They are less forgiving than the snake plants, and need to be watered at least a few times a week. However, the key component of owning ivy plants is that they must be transplanted to a new pot rather often. The impressive thing about ivy plants is that they grow at such a rapid rate, and a singular plant can quickly turn into three.

Succulents. The large family of succulents have traditionally been a dorm favorite as they really require little maintenance. Succulents generally need little water, and do not grow at a rate that needs frequent repotting. My personal favorite feature of succulents is their ability to propagate from nearly any cut of the plant. A

succulent that has a dying leaf can have it removed, and placed in a semi-sunny area. A new sprout will grow if there is enough nutrition left within the leaf. This method is best done with healthy parts of the succulent, and is useful for individuals that want to increase their plant collection without spending more.

Although plant care can seem to be intimidating to get into, I would recommend that any individual within the dorm should attempt getting a low maintenance plant. The best way to learn, after all, is to have personal experience. Observing changes within the organism, how it reacts to certain amounts of water, light, and space, comprises the great majority of care. I would highly recommend acquiring a plant, as caring for these little green organisms certainly are attainable for any busy college student, no matter how haphazard.

Sleep Study

The topic of sleep for college students is often a complicated one. Most times we aim to get the recommended 7-8 hours a night, but that does not always unfold as we plan. No matter the major, college students seem to always be inundated with loads of work that keep them up way past their hoped bedtime. I interviewed several students from various majors to find any similarities in their work-life balance, i.e., sleep-study balance.

Interviews by Wambui Karanja 04.06.2021

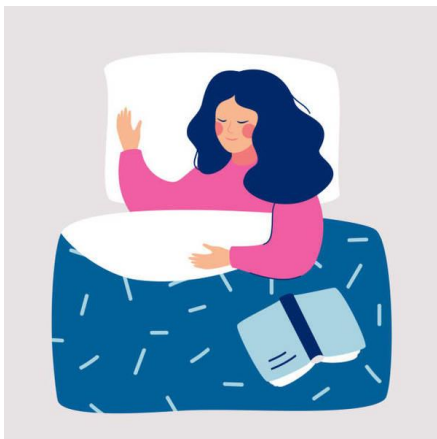


Photo by Public Domain

What is your major?

Nolan Keyes (freshman): Math

Jamison Moore (junior): Music

Morgan Williams (freshman): social work, pre-law

Malaika Ferguson (freshman): Pre-nursing

Milca Munoz (freshman): Spanish, pre-PT

Sammy Saint-Phard (freshman): Psychology

Julaine Phillips (freshman): Medical Laboratory Science, pre-dentistry

Kayla Brathwaite (freshman): Music

Drusilla Apola (freshman): Speech Pathology

How much sleep do you get nightly?

Keyes: 6 hours

Moore: Average of 5 hours

Williams: 6-7 hours

Ferguson: 7-8 hours

Munoz: 6-7 hours

Saint-Phard: 7-8 hours (most of the time)

Phillips: 5-7 hours

Brathwaite: 5-7 hours

Apola: 5-6 hours

Why do you get that amount of sleep?

Keyes: Homework

Moore: Sometimes I have homework that I can't do until nighttime. I also have to put in 3-4 hours of practice on my instrument every day; which is outside of chamber rehearsals, orchestra, class time, and other homework.

Williams: I stay up studying or talking with friends.

Ferguson: I get that amount of sleep because if I don't, [it is] really hard for me to function during the day.

Munoz: There's a lot of studying and assignments and projects and they are due roughly around the same time.

Saint-Phard: Because I do school online and can work on my own schedule.

Phillips: Either because I can't sleep or because of studying, or because of social media/shows/internet.

Brathwaite: Inability to sleep, up doing homework late, or staying on my phone.

Apola: Because I have a lot of reading to do and just a lot of responsibilities in

general.

What major do you expect gets the least sleep?

Keyes: Biochemistry

Moore: Music majors, pre-med, nursing, and business majors

Williams: None.

Ferguson: Pre-med.

Munoz: Anything in relation to the medical field.

Saint-Phard: Nursing or pre-med.

Phillips: Any science major (bio, MLS, chem, etc.)

Brathwaite: Science majors.

Apola: Biology.

PULSE

The Wellness Column: Better Slumber

Jessica Rim 04.06.2021

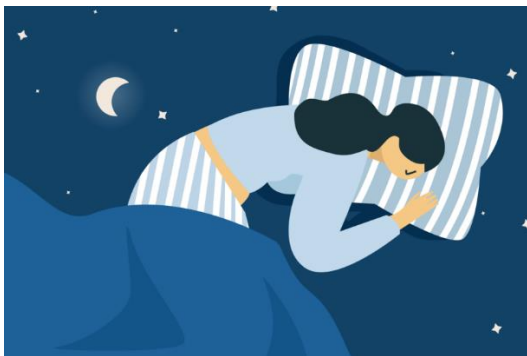


Photo by Public Domain

At any time between midnight and sunrise, students may realize one of the most unfortunate aspects of human functioning. Struggling to finish homework and projects on time, they combat the threat of succumbing to sleep, only to

ultimately slip into unconsciousness. However, when they are stretched out onto their bed, fully willing to welcome a sweet slumber, they cannot find sleep as easily as when working on an assignment. This incompatibility between will and the circadian rhythm can be immensely frustrating.

The dire consequences of foregone sleep are many and almost immediate: stress and anxiety levels spike, moods worsen, blood pressure increases, and the immune system weakens. Even small tasks seem much more cumbersome with the burden of sleep deprivation dragging down our efforts to maintain attention and energy. Clearly, one of the best things we can do for our physical and mental health would be to both keep a regular sleep schedule and to count sheep for the right number of hours.

Although rest can be elusive even when we truly wish for it, there are a few things that can be done in the few hours before bedtime to ease into sleep. One of these tips is to take a warm shower an hour or two before bed. During a warm shower, heat is dispersed through the hands and feet as blood reaches our periphery, cooling core body temperature and initiating sleep. Additionally, it is recommended that you finish dinner at least two hours before retiring to bed, as large meals can signal the brain to wake up. Midnight snacks may not be a good idea.

If falling asleep is not problematic, but you feel your energy dwindling during the day, taking naps may be a solution. Although short, naps can provide a much-needed boost in concentration and functioning when a good night of rest is not possible. In fact, naps should generally be around 15-30 minutes, as longer times may coax your body into deeper stages of sleep and therefore make you more sluggish upon awakening. As another warning, naps past 3 pm should be avoided because that can throw your sleep schedule into disarray. If these rules are followed, naps can keep the tiredness at bay throughout the day.

Given the barrage of assignments and tests that are coming up with finals approaching, we may be tempted to replace our sleeping hours with work. But considering that our cognitive functions slow down and stress can build, this may trigger a downward spiral of less work done and even fewer hours of sleep. A balance between sleep and work, then, is essential for a successful end to the semester and protection against illness. Sleep is not a luxury but a necessity, and if you find yourself fizzling out, perhaps it is time to conk out for a few minutes.

Humans

HUMANS

AU Takes a Stand Against AAPI Violence: An Interview with Eden Seo

(junior, theology)

Interviewed by Abigail Lee [04.06.2021](#)



Photo by Eden Seo

What clubs or organizations are you involved with on campus, and what are your roles in them?

I'm Assistant Proximity Director, so I help plan and run the Proximity Vespers every week. I help create new events and opportunities for students to get involved, and I look for speakers and people to pray. I'm also the Cultural Vice President of the Korean American Student Association. I help with different events put on by KASA but my focus is making sure that Korean American culture is represented on our campus. I plan and work with others to educate others about our heritage.

What motivated you to help create the “Stop AAPI Hate” event last Monday?

I realized that this kind of forum and discussion was necessary for our campus which has a large Asian American community. I wanted to create a safe place for us to speak our voices and share our experiences. I wanted to make sure that the school recognized the Asian community on campus and valued our feelings and thoughts on the recent events happening across the U.S.

Behind the scenes, what was the process for you to plan this event on such short notice?

Vice President Nixon reached out about having a discussion, then I reached out to some of the Asian Cultural clubs that I knew would love to get involved. We had a short meeting discussing what this forum should look like, and I communicated with the Club Presidents behind the scenes and created a short survey for people to fill out and to share their stories anonymously.

Ultimately, how did the “Stop AAPI Hate” event go, and what do you think was the most productive part to come out of it?

I think the fact that this event happened in the first place is already a huge step forward. It was the first time that I saw the campus recognize our struggles as Asians in America and value our stories. Our community is not used to speaking up about our experiences, but this event pushed many of us to finally say what was on our minds. I believe this forum allowed us to come together as an AAPI community in a way we hadn't before.

Why do you think that events like the one you hosted are important for people?

As I said earlier, it gives us a safe space for Asian students to come together and talk about the racism and discrimination we have faced here in America and even specifically at Andrews. It also allows others to be educated about how to be culturally sensitive to our differences. For the Asian community, it is crucial for us to come together, and to focus on our similarities rather than our differences and the tension that might have existed between our separate clubs and communities before.

Ultimately, do you feel that there has been sufficient support for the AAPI community on the Andrews campus since these events have occurred?

Yes, I have been given the privilege of being part of the AAPI weekend we are planning for next week. There will be a Thursday chapel with an official forum about the anti-Asian racial bias, and an AAPI Heritage Proximity Vespers on Friday. But we shouldn't stop here. We need to continue to come together to talk

about these issues as well as celebrate our heritage. I hope that this will set precedent for years to come.

HUMANS

Freshman Spotlight: Solana Campbell

(freshman, business administration)

Interviewed by Terika Williams [04.06.2021](#)



Photo by Solana Campbell

How have you been handling the challenges of college so far? What's the most challenging part about being a freshman now during COVID or regardless of COVID?

It hasn't really changed that much to be honest. I was an overachiever in high school so I took a bunch of college classes and was really busy and I honestly kind of feel like college has less homework, like less things to do. I do think I'm actually

less of a procrastinator, like I just tend to stay more on top of my schoolwork and stuff like that more than I did in high school. I mean, I would say the only tough part is that everything I do that is social, I have to plan ahead. So it's like, oh, I'm going to do dinner with this person like tomorrow evening, instead of it just being like randomly meeting up and hanging out because you run into someone. So, that can come to kind of feel overwhelming just because my schedule is so full all the time.

What have been your favorite things about Andrews so far?

Probably the diversity. Going around and seeing lots of different people that look really different and have different experiences is nice. I've been meeting new people and making new friends from different places.

What are you studying, and what are your career plans?

My major is business administration, at the moment. I will add a minor or double major in media and communications, or communications. I'm going to be a film producer.

What are some of your hobbies?

I don't really have a lot of hobbies. I like modeling; I've been doing a lot of that. I enjoy screenwriting or writing scripts. I don't really have that much free time, so I usually end up just watching Netflix movies or stuff like that.

What is your involvement in SASA (the Southern Asian Student Association) and why did you decide to join it?

I am the SASA secretary. I actually heard about SASA before I came and it was something that I knew I wanted to be part of because my mom is Indian. Growing up, I did go to school with some other Indian people and my mom had some Indian friends, but in high school, me and my brother and another girl were the only Indians in the whole school so we didn't really have a big Indian community. So I was excited to finally get that cultural experience here. I knew I wanted to be part of SASA and then I got lucky because one of the officers DM'd me and was like "Hey do you want to be an officer?" and I was like, "100% yes".

What was your involvement in the AAPI event that recently happened on campus? What was it supposed to bring awareness to? How did you influence and become a part of that?

I think one of the interesting things about the pandemic is that things that have been going on for years are starting to come to light and people are paying attention to it. Because Asian American hate has been a problem for years, it's not

something that all of a sudden just started, but finally people are paying attention to it. So basically several clubs organized a panel where people talked about their Asian-American experience. The President of SASA, Steven, asked me if I wanted to sit on it with him and I was happy to. And we didn't really know what it was going to be, we were like, "okay, I guess we'll just share our experiences" and it kind of ended up being this sort of storytelling space where we read stories that people had submitted, and there was an open mic where others could share stories live. Some of the people that were sitting on the panel shared their own stories, so basically there were two people from SASA, two Korean students, two students from the Indonesian club (ASIS, Andrews Society of Indonesian Students), and one from the Filipino club (AFIA, Andrews Filipino International Association). I was really excited to get the opportunity to be honest about my experiences. I mean being biracial can mean that sometimes I don't always feel super Indian, and so it was nice to know that people wanted to hear my perspective and my experience at the end, even though sometimes I've been told that I'm just white and my Indian experience has been negated at times, so it's really nice to have that be recognized. So yeah, basically it was really nice to finally feel heard, I guess, because I think racism against Asian Americans is so normalized. Just kind of all the little comments and all the nicknames and the ways we're portrayed in the media, it's just seen as something that's not really a problem. And so it was really nice to be able to talk about that, and people were able to talk about how they felt that Asian American problems aren't taken seriously on the campus. They were able to bring to light a lot of issues.

What would you like to say to all students of Andrews about stopping AAPI hate? What do you think is important for other minorities and also white people to do during this time to support?

I think it's really important to, first of all, not make racial jokes. It's not really funny to anyone in fact. I read this quote during the events that I read earlier in an article from Variety. Someone was talking about comedians that make jokes about Asian food and stuff, and said, "The insane racist vitriol made it all too clear that such comedy about Asian accents, food and mannerisms aren't rooted in people wanting to laugh, but wanting to assert dominance over cultures they find ridiculous." I keep updated on Variety and so I read that quote and thought it was really nice to finally feel understood. It always felt like if you get mad about those kinds of jokes, you're just sensitive, you know, and it was nice to feel like these jokes aren't funny. You're just mocking my culture for no reason. And so I would definitely say like first of all racist jokes are not funny. No matter who's saying

them. Second of all, I would say the tough part for Asian Americans, and this was something that came through in the event, is that our cultures tend to teach us to go with the flow. Like, don't make noise. I mean immigrant culture is very much focused on the idea that we just need to assimilate; if people give you trouble just move on, and I think that now especially that we're seeing people being shot and killed and people being attacked we can't be quiet and we can't just take the hate. So, I think it's important to create those kinds of safe spaces for your Asian American friends. Invite them to share because they probably won't. Otherwise they're just going to say it's not a big deal, you know, who cares if nobody can pronounce my name right but those things are really important and so I think it's important to remind your Asian American friends that they deserve respect just as much as any other culture deserves respect.

HUMANS

Senior Spotlight: Shelbi Slade

(senior, speech-language pathology, Spanish)

Interviewed by Brandi Seawood 04.06.2021

What were some of your favorite moments here at AU?

I really loved attending Almost Anything Goes every year. It was always such a great event to bond with my classmates and have fun. I loved the competition and, of course, the dance circle that would happen at the end. Infusion was also an amazing worship experience. I loved the music and it was very informative about different cultures that I did not know much about. I really could feel God moving in the HPAC during that service. I also just enjoyed random late-night chats with my friends on Friday nights.

Could you tell us a little bit about your experience going abroad to Argentina?

Overall it was a life-changing experience. I not only learned a lot of Spanish, but a lot about myself. It was a huge change for me because I had never left the US before.

Why did you decide to become an RA, and how has that experience been?

I thought it would be a good way to help change the campus environment. I had trouble adjusting to the dorm environment my freshman year and my RA's really

helped me feel comfortable at Lamson and taught me a lot. I wanted to be like that for my residents too. Due to COVID-19, being an RA this year is very different than normal. There are additional protocols and a greater responsibility to help keep our residents healthy and safe.

As an honors student, you are required to do research. Could you tell us a little bit about your project?

I sent a survey to all speech-pathology graduate students at Andrews and asked them questions about multicultural counseling (which is how cultural differences between the speech pathologist and patient affect treatment). I asked the students if they were comfortable treating people of different cultural backgrounds, if they felt education on how to interact with clients of different cultures was necessary, and if they felt the graduate program prepared them for working with clients of different cultures. Overall they felt that multicultural counseling was very important, but they had more ambivalent responses on whether or not they felt comfortable using it and if they felt well educated about it in the grad program.

What do you enjoy most about your major?

For speech pathology, I like that the major is very broad so there is always something new to learn and it is not overly repetitive. I also like that we get to go beyond the classroom and apply what we've learned in our clinical practicum. For Spanish, I love that we get to learn about Latin American culture in class through film and food. I also love the opportunity to study abroad and see the things we've learned about Latin American culture in action.

What advice would you give to any students interested in speech pathology?

Start thinking about grad school early on since you have to go to be a speech pathologist. But don't overthink it or you'll stress yourself out. Really think about why you want to study speech pathology because that will motivate you when it gets tough. Also, save your notes from A&P because all the classes build off of that.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I will be attending graduate school in Iowa for my masters in speech pathology.

Arts & Entertainment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Creative Spotlight: Andrew Pak

(freshman, music)

Interviewed by Megan Napod [04.06.2021](#)



Photo by Andrew Pak

What got you into creative writing?

I was always interested in stories and poems, but I never had the confidence to seriously write my own. However, in the early spring of last year, I was mentally exhausted from the absurdity of school days with the never-ending sick cycles of weekdays, weekends, and repeat, so I decided to write a poem about it. I asked some of my peers in school for editing suggestions, but they seemed to really enjoy what I've written and encouraged me to keep writing. So I did. A lot of my poems

and short stories at the time reflect certain ideas that have been marinating in my mind that I needed to get down on paper to organize or were based on pure emotion or feelings that I couldn't describe easily and had to write down to better convey. I suppose I just never stopped writing, and that's how I got here today. Of course, I still consider myself a novice writer who has a lot to learn, but I really enjoy the cathartic experience of dumping your pent-up thoughts onto a blank page, and sometimes when crafted well enough, it comes out really eloquently.

Who/what are your inspirations?

Savannah Brown is probably my biggest inspiration. When I first found her YouTube channel with spoken word poetry, it opened my eyes to more modern and personalized poetry that I thought I could write for myself—I don't mean I can write like her [laughs]. Of course, I had read some incredible poetry in English classes over my high school years, but I felt that I could never write at that level or in that style with the technicalities of meter and allusions to classical mythology and fine literature. Brown gave me the idea that I could write poetry in my own style, personalized to my own experience in life and accessible to others, as a starting point. Of course, in the future, I do want to eventually be able to write with more complexity (with her more expansive vocabulary) and better my craft (to eventually be able to use more techniques like poets that we studied in English class). Another thing was that at the time, I wasn't exactly exposed to much poetry, so her emotive power came as a shock to me—even among the more eloquently and subtle lines she uses, there is still that sense of mutual understanding of a certain feeling. I want to be able to replicate that in my own writing.

What is your favorite part of the creative writing process?

I don't know if I have a favorite part, but I just love seeing my creations grow up. Usually, they start with a single phrase or an interesting idea I thought of at 2 A.M, and from there I just build on it. Much of my creative process is experimentation since I never had any formal training in poetry. I've been trying to figure out over the past year how much rhyme works for my style without sounding like Dr. Seuss, what the larger form should look like for certain poems, how to evoke more emotion from certain phrases, what sounds cliché, and how to avoid it, how to be subtle enough to be more powerful than a direct statement yet not to the point where readers miss it entirely. There's a lot to keep in mind and so many directions I can go. Readers only see the end result, but every phrase I put into the

final version is mulled over and compared with a handful of other possibilities. A lot of times, I wonder if it could've been better another way, but I like to keep them the way I chose. Going back to the question, I suppose a fun part of the process is when I unintentionally end up creating a nice twist or big-brained connection by just experimenting. Of course, I'm trying to learn how to control that so I can eventually create those intentionally, but for now, it's fun seeing when it happens.

Why should people join the AU Scriptorium?

As a poet or author, especially if you're a novice like me, the Scriptorium is a great community of fellow creative writers to be in. With the added aspect of practicing sharing your work in front of others, there's the sense that you're not alone in taking the leap and being vulnerable since everyone else is daring to share as well. I also think it's healthy to receive critiques on your work because that's how you grow as a writer; another thing is that I can draw inspiration from what my peers have written and incorporate some aspects of their style into my own writing.

Could you describe the piece you are featuring and the story behind it?

The piece I'd like to share is titled "Carpe that Diem!" It's certainly one of my more experimental ones since I played with less expected language to describe a familiar phrase. It's built on the idea that time waits for no one, and our days are running away constantly. I think it's especially relevant during this time in the pandemic, as many of us have felt our lives were put on pause, when in fact, time is going on, we're getting older, and only we get to choose if we're seizing the days or letting them slip by. I feel that I should be chasing after my dreams passionately, almost violently (hence the aggressive language used in the poem), because as I mention in the second stanza, I have been waiting for much of my life for things to get better, when in fact, I'm the one who has to make them better myself. So instead of sitting around bemoaning the pandemic or other unfortunate circumstances of life, I encourage you all to seize every day and make them count.

"Carpe that Diem!"

Carpe that diem!

grip him by his neck—

hug him tightly to your chest like a football till

you touch down and descend to

the end zone of slumber—

pin him down to the ground, because he's
slippery, like a sneaky snake who slithers—
he wriggles and wiggles, he giggles
when you lose your hold over him—
he shrieks with joy like a little boy
and gallops away, away, away!
Chase after him, with haste and worry--
throw a lasso upon his jeering horse head
and crush him under your will!

and maybe you can rest for a while...
like you did for years with maggots and
gnats gnawing at your gnarly rotting soul in
the dumps of life called sitting death—
beware the sedentary Sasquatches that sorrow over
the human race, they squander their time for sighs
and on their armchairs criticize--

Hurry! Now he's getting away!
Carrying your hopes and dreams with him,
nicely tucked in a brown burlap sack,
fast as a gremlin, constant as a clock,
once he makes it past the horizon, the night will
mark the end of the chase and
his inevitable, predestined death—
but don't complain, don't cry, don't crumple and die for
the one who escaped your grasp, because
the moment you awake, a new one arrives
to start the cycle once more—
catch him again! again! and again!
every day at every morning,
catch him before he flees!
because how many diems are left for you?

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Spring Playlist

Created by Pearl Parker 04.06.2021



Photo by Public Domain

Spring marks the blossoming of new life, brings out heaps of sunlight, perfect weather, and vibrant trees and flowers. I mean, what's not to love? To match with that is the feeling spring gives us- a feeling which completely transforms and leads us to better attitudes. These vibes make us want to dance a little, bask in the moment, forget all of our worries, and most importantly, remind us how beautiful life is. This playlist is compiled of "spring" songs selected by myself and Andrews students Juriel Boyce (junior, animal science), Ebonie Thompson (junior, speech-language pathology & audiology), Lisa Nyange (senior, international business and marketing), Timmy Duardo (junior, marketing and communications), and Felix Gillett (senior, general studies). So take a listen, whether that be in the comfort of your room, on your way to class, or simply for a drive!

Here's the

playlist: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/6Xk5cl857rvidEairC4ucp?si=whMli-QERkGBN-mystEN8A>

"Free Like Me" by Marc E Bassy, Cory Henry

"Lockdown" by Koffee

"Good Days" by SZA

“The Kids Are Alright” by Chloe x Halle
“Put Your Records On” by Ritt Momney
“Best Interest” by Tyler, The Creator
“Introspection” by UMI
“Location” (feat. Burna Boy) by Dave, Burna Boy
“Good Life” by Kayne West, T-Pain
“Slow Down” by Skip Marley, H.E.R.
“Love Myself” by Hailee Steinfeld
“Wait a Minute!” by WILLOW
“Thru My Hair” by Teo
“Heavy, California” by Jungle
“Cool People” by Chloe x Halle

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Taylor’s Version

Kaela McFadden [04.06.2021](#)



Photo by Public Domain

On April 9, Taylor Swift is releasing the first of her re-recorded albums, “Fearless (Taylor’s Version).” When she released her new edition of “Love Story” back in February, some music fans were a bit confused; the song sounded almost exactly the same as the 2008 version. What they don’t seem to realize is that the

purpose of the re-released albums is not a matter of remixing older music, it is an artist standing up for herself and reclaiming her own work.

Taylor Swift signed with Big Machine Records releasing her debut album “Taylor Swift” in 2006 when she was only 16 years [old](#). Her first album paved the way for six more albums with Big Machine Records. After 13 years of working with the record company, Taylor signed with Universal Music Publishing Group after “Reputation” was released in 2017 and that is when everything began to [spiral](#). Big Machine Records was bought by Ithaca Holdings LLC in 2019 and Scooter Braun took [over](#). Taylor Swift was barred from being able to use any of her music produced with Big Machine Records, the music she had worked so hard on for the majority of her career. This stems from a problem in the contract she signed with Big Machine Records when she was only 15 years old. She made sure not to make the same mistake with her new recording label and will have ownership of her own [music](#). In addition to singing, Taylor Swift was involved in writing her music, famously putting together “Speak Now” without the usual amount of [co-writers](#). In all, Taylor has a reputation for being heavily involved in her music creations and the bad blood between Taylor and Scooter created a chasm. To make matters worse, Scooter Braun did offer to sell back her masters (for an undisclosed amount) if she would stay silent and stop talking about him [negatively](#). Taylor and her legal team refused to sign the non-disclosure agreement. In an act of retaliation, Scooter Braun had Taylor Swift’s masters sold yet again to another company, Shamrock Holdings. Taylor was not informed of the arrangement until Shamrock Holdings reached out to inform her of the sale. In a twitter post, Taylor says that this is the second time her masters were sold and she had been given no opportunity to buy them [herself](#). She also goes on to say that the contract between Shamrock Holdings and Scooter Braun will allow Scooter to continue to profit off of her Big Machine Records albums.

Taylor Swift was not able to acquire master recordings through the “Reputation” era so she is taking matters into her own hands and fighting back in the best way she can. With the release of “Lover,” her first self-owned record, she made it no secret that the atrocities committed by Scooter Braun would not stand. If big artists like Taylor Swift can be banned from playing their own music because they switched labels, imagine how many smaller musicians struggle with similar problems! She started by using music in “Lover” to make slights against Scooter Braun, found in her song “The Man.” Taylor is no stranger to working her real life difficulties with people through her music and in this case, it is not surprising. She also took another dig at him through a Match.com commercial produced by Ryan

Reynolds featuring her re-recorded “Love Story.” These references are reminders to the music community that this is still a conversation that is being addressed; however, her boldest resolution comes in her promise to re-record her albums that she made under Big Machine Records. In doing this, she will be reclaiming the music she wrote as well as reclaiming her dignity and control over her work. Now she has much more autonomy because she herself will have direct authority over her work as seen with the albums she already has complete ownership of: “ *Lover* ,” “ *Folklore* ,” and “ *Evermore* .”

As she re-records her previous albums “ *Taylor Swift* ,” “ *Fearless* ,” “ *Speak Now* ,” “ *Red* ,” “ *1989* ,” and “ *Reputation* ,” based on what Taylor has shown in her “ *Love Story (Taylor’s Version)* ”, fans can expect most of the music to remain true to the original form. The Swiftie fandom is powerful enough to back her re-recordings and have already shunned Scooter Braun and Big Machine Records because of their policies regarding Taylor Swift’s masters.

While the music itself isn’t likely to experience much change, the re-releasing of these past albums is opening another door for Taylor Swift. She is choosing to release old songs that hadn’t made it onto the original albums. The *Taylor’s Version* album is set to include all her original songs, including the extras from the album’s platinum version, as well as six new songs and one remix for a total of 27 [tracks](#). She is still featuring Colbie Caillat on “ *Breathe* ” and is bringing in the talents of Maren Morris and Keith Urban on her new songs.

This whole ordeal has been a rollercoaster ride for me as a fan. I have been listening and following Taylor Swift’s career since her first album and it was devastating when she couldn’t perform her iconic songs because of the ownership of her masters. Swifties everywhere have rallied behind Taylor in her quest for ownership of her music. Together it has been a journey that reminds us that music is property and there are people who certainly treat it as such. Musicians and artists get screwed over by their labels and only a few actually have the power to fight back. Taylor reclaiming her music is not only a business move, but hopefully a move towards more autonomy and control for musicians. It helps bring awareness for artists to pay attention to the contracts put in front of them. Read the fine print and know who controls the intellectual and artistic property. In this newest era, Taylor Swift is cementing herself as her own person and a voice for women in the music industry. Watching her change from the girl under Big Machine Records to the woman with ownership of her own music has also involved seeing her shed the opinions of others. She has allowed herself to speak her mind

and call people out for their slights. She has become a feminist voice, fighting against all those who have tried to fit her into a specific box.

Ideas

IDEAS

A Look Into the AUSA Senate

Abigail Lee 04.06.2021

Here at Andrews University, we are all aware of the many roles that students can take on in order to help the school and their attending peers. From jobs like working in the cafeteria, to becoming an elected leader within AUSA—anyone is able to leave their mark on campus through all kinds of service. However, there is one job out there that many of us may not realize is quietly changing Andrews University for the better: the AUSA Senators. These students are voted for and elected at the beginning of the year, but what is it exactly that they are doing after the nomination? In a behind-the-scenes look into an AUSA Senate meeting, I was able to look into how these world changers are solving our campus' problems, and what the student body can do to get involved.

Even with the pandemic, the Senate still gathers. Like life now for many of us, meetings are currently held through Zoom, where current Vice-President (and President-elect) Dongchan Kim (junior, religion) is charged with heading them. First, there is a prayer, then announcements. Kim explains events, deadlines, and reminders to the senators that are relevant to anything that they may be working on. Afterwards, the discussion goes to Spirit Grants, one of the larger responsibilities of the Senate. Current Senator (and Executive Vice-President-elect) T Bruggemann (sophomore, computer science and physics), explains that, "Spirit Grants are given to clubs or senators to assist them with a project that benefits all or most of the student body... The Senate evaluates whether the request does benefit the student body and may work with the club to get more information or talk about alternative options. Then, we vote as to whether or not to approve the grant." Requests for Spirit Grants can range from funding for clubs, cultural events, to even equipment for live streaming. Senators can also request grants for

their own individual or group projects. Ultimately if you or your club has an idea, the Senate may have the money to make it happen.

The next part of the meeting covers projects. Each senator, from the start of the year, is assigned to a committee where they are each trying to tackle a certain issue that needs to be fixed on campus. Senator Abraham Bravo (junior, political science) finds this to be the most valuable responsibility in the role and says, “While we don’t have the power to enact major change on campus, we can implement minor changes to help students/clubs as much as we can. These small changes that we make can one day lead to a more significant impact on this institution.” Some of the projects currently being worked on involve improving school wi-fi, lighting on campus, and air vents—all subjects important to the comfort and lives of the student body.

Now that you know what it is the Senate does, how can you get involved? One major way to stay updated on Senate happenings is through their Instagram, [@ausasenate](#). The account posts election dates, events, and which projects are being worked on and who is a part of them. Another way you can seek to bring change through the school is talking to your Senate Representative, who you can find through Dongchan Kim. Take some time to discuss with them an issue that you feel needs to be fixed, or something that you feel would benefit the school. Do you want something addressed? Your Senators can help get that to happen. Current Senator (and future Senator-at-Large) Karenna Lee (sophomore, business and English) says, “I enjoy being a part of Senate because I get to see behind-the-scenes of campus life. From the mundane such as purchasing new cameras for Zoom classes to the creative such as funding major club events, it's awesome to see how students have a real hand in what goes on.” If any of what you’ve read so far has struck an interest in your heart, consider becoming a senator next year. You’ll have access to a numerous amount of opportunities to change the campus for the better, and allow you a chance to serve the community in a way that few at the school may be able to do.

IDEAS

After Trauma

Adoniah Simon 04.06.2021

Junot Díaz's "[The Silence: The Legacy of Childhood Trauma](#)" is a 2018 New Yorker article like many others. It is both autobiographical and far-reaching. It's a well-crafted piece of writing. It is the writer's particular recounting of his life. There are many ways to tell one's story. There are many ways the Pulitzer Prize winner could have chosen to write about his. Díaz chose to be painfully honest. One event defined this telling of his life above all else, above his heritage as an Afro-Latinx man, above his work as a writer, his love life, or his education. His being raped as an eight year old boy changed everything. It so violently warped his self-perception and the ways in which he interacted with the world. He became depressed, and volatile, his anger creating havoc in his inner and outer worlds. For years and years, he went without help. Armed with a mask to keep everything out, even the people and experiences that were letting light into his life, he went it alone. Only after losing it all and then some, and then some more did therapy begin, and a lifetime's worth of survival patterns could begin to change.

There are a few reasons why I want to think and reflect on sexual assault. The Women's Empowerment Association of Andrews University (WEAAU), and the Pre-Law Society is halfway through its Tuesday co-curricular short on sexual assault. April begins Sexual Assault Awareness Month. In my "Human Behavior in the Social Environment" course, we've had discussions about it. It's in this class that I encountered this piece by Díaz. Maybe it disturbs you like it does me. Maybe someone you love has gone through it. Perhaps it's happened to you, and you haven't been able to call it exactly what it was. To whoever is reading this, I invite you, as it is safe and appropriate for you, to reflect on the things we do to protect ourselves from pain. I invite you to think along with me about how we can chart a path through traumatic experiences.

Let's begin with the mask. There is a certain, and healthy level of detachment that we learn to have. We are made to have healthy boundaries, and appropriate "masks," if you will. If every painful thing on the news, or every story of violence within our own communities felt as painful as it were happening to us personally, we would be absolutely overwhelmed. This is not to say that care and empathy are liabilities or weaknesses. No, I believe they are just the opposite. They drive us

towards fighting and advocating towards better.

There's a balance at play, at all times. Our brains and hearts are protecting us from the inundation of emotions that the media, and our environments, can wreak upon us, while also allowing us to feel for the plights of others, and respond to those in our midst. Paul, in his letter to the Romans tells them and us now to "Celebrate with those who celebrate, and weep with those who grieve. Live happily together in a spirit of harmony, and be as mindful of another's worth as you are your own" (12:15-18 TPT). Our letting down of our barriers, our lowering of our masks, is an essential part of sharing life with others. We must be able to feel for and feel with our brothers and sisters, our neighbors. We must be able to love. Trauma, be it physical, emotional, or sexual, can make loving others and being loved really, really hard.

Díaz's story mirrors those of countless others who have experienced life-altering violence. So many of these stories include an element of hiding, masking, compensating, or otherwise creating a new, safe version of oneself to interact with the world, receive some sort of love, and achieve things in the world. I think we are all familiar, on some level, about the ways in which our brains soften the blows that stressful and impactful experiences have on us. The mask, the imitation of a life, never fulfills the need for the real thing.

It can feel as though returning to your sites of greatest pain would mean your demise. It can seem counterintuitive, and outright insane, to willingly remember, and make an attempt at metabolizing the masses of unprocessed emotion surrounding that trauma. We do a lot to outpace the hurt of the past, so to return can feel like a heart-bounding encounter with death, because that assault, or that experience, almost destroyed us the first time. I'm here to say that there is healing to be had, and there cannot be true life and true love until we've made the journeys back toward trauma. The only way out of the cyclical thoughts and feelings of anger, frustration, worthlessness, and fear is through processing the underlying traumas underneath them. Nothing ignored ever really vanishes like we'd rather it would. Healing is an active verb, and it is something that doesn't happen in isolation.

The Counseling & Testing Center is one of many on-campus resources. The chaplain team at the Center for Faith Engagement is another. Student Life can support you if you've experienced sexual violence on campus. The residence hall deans, advisors, and professors are all a part of the system that is Andrews University, that isn't just interested in getting us through our respective years of education. They are also here to support our growth as full human beings. There

are a number of free online resources, hotlines, and messaging services out there to aid you when life is feeling hardest (i.e. [RAINN](#), [SAMHSA](#), or the [Trevor Project](#) to name a few). Reach out to friends, even if you feel like you'd be a bother. Talk to your parents, or supportive family members. Learn how your insurance may cover counseling or other services for you. There's so much life to live, and so much love to give and receive after sexual assault, violence, and other such traumas. Do what you can to make yourself available to opportunities to share love with those in your life. Let the people that care about you care for you. Then, when it is your turn, share the gift of love you've received with others.

IDEAS

Following your Curiosity: Sydney St. Jean's Honors Research

Sion Kim 04.06.2021



Photo by Anthony Isensee

On March 5, 2021, 28 students of the J.N Andrews Honors Program presented their research at the annual Honors Poster Symposium. These students presented their posters and shared about their research in various fields with students and faculties. From the list of researches printed on the program handout, an investigation titled "Socioeconomic Status and Ethnicity as Predictors of

Childhood Career Aspirations,” by Sydney Saint-Jean (senior, psychology), caught my attention. I hope this interview with Sydney will inspire you as it has inspired me.

Could you summarize your research topic, method, and findings?

My research project is on socioeconomic status and ethnicity as accurate predictors of childhood career aspirations. We aim to determine whether the income of the student, parent and school that they attend, influences what the student wants to be when they grow up. We did this by surveying students in 3rd, 6th, 9th and 11th grade and though I am still in the process of interpreting the data, so far we do not see a variable that has a significant influence on a child's career aspirations.

Why did you choose the research topic/question?

At the time I chose this research project, I was volunteering in Michigan to help young students read and write, and at times the students would tell me what they wanted to be when they grow up. When I went back home and took a job working with students, they also talked about their career aspirations and how their parents had a large influence on what they wanted to be. So I was just curious as to what factors can contribute to the career aspirations of students, and why some students' career aspirations differ in prestige.

What were some challenges that you faced?

As a result of COVID-19, many schools are very busy and are not allowing research to be performed on their students. So it was definitely hard finding schools to participate in this study. Although we did find schools, there were not a lot of subjects who participated from each of these schools, probably because they are busy with their coursework.

What are some takeaways from your research?

So far, we do not have definitive results, but we hope to see that there are variables such as ethnicity, grade level and gender that can have an effect on the career aspirations of students.

What are some things that you enjoyed while doing the research?

I did enjoy learning how to analyze the data. Although it was very difficult for me, being able to navigate my way through SPSS (IBM SPSS Statistics) and analyzing

my results was enjoyable.

What do you recommend or not recommend to future AU student researchers?

I would definitely say to start research early so you have enough time to collect data and work on your report, and start thinking about research questions you would like to turn into a project. Many times a curious thought can turn into a really great research project.

Any additional comments regarding your research or your research experience?

Research has been a great experience and I am happy to have done this with the help of my research advisors, Dr. Coria-Navia, Dr. McBride and Dr. Thayer and Academic Advisor, Dr. Bailey.

When I first saw the list of presenters and their research topics at the poster symposium, I was filled with amazement and respect for all the students and faculty members for their intelligence and hard work. Furthermore, their enthusiasm toward their research and politeness that flowed out from them during their presentations have inspired me. The research questions of Sydney Saint-Jean and the other presenters will continue to inspire current and future Andrews researchers. I encourage all of you to follow your own curiosity and see where it leads you!

IDEAS

To the One Who Believes

Evin N. Musgrove **04.06.2021**

I simply cannot fathom it...what it would be like to experience this life without the reassuring hope of a loving Jesus. A Savior, my Savior, who protects me from my own destruction and carefully guides me back to the narrow path. A reason to welcome His breath into my lungs each morning with utter gratitude. The opportunity to relive His sacrifice. His willingness to suffer on my behalf, and for no other reason than to make available an intimate friendship with Him which would one day transfer into eternity. Oh, how impoverished this world would be had the third day not represented what it does, had Christ not emerged from that tomb as if He'd never been spat on, mocked, and abused. I am filled with joy

knowing that I won't ever have to imagine such a reality, and to the one who believes in Christ's sacrifice, neither will you (John 1:12).

Growing up, I never truly considered the importance of this time of year, and I am sure I am not alone in this truth. Up until I had chosen the path of authentically seeking Christ, my observance of the resurrection was almost as fleeting as my care for the Easter Bunny. Sure, I winced at the gruesome portrayal of the crucifixion in "The Passion of the Christ," attended a few Easter reenactment plays, and "celebrated" a "risen Savior" with fellow Christians, but truthfully speaking, it hadn't "hit home" until *this* time around. So, what made the difference between then and now? What sparked my solemn reflection this Easter season? Dear friend, the difference is in my *personalization* of Christ's death and resurrection. Take a moment, and enter into my thought process.

There exists a God, One Who created everything I see, touch, and experience in this life. The ultimate goal of this grand, Supreme Being is to walk closely with me, hand-in-hand, as my Father and friend. For this to be so, this quintessential God willingly abandoned His perfection to embody the filth of a flawed, corrupted, weak humanity (Phil. 2:8). I am that humanity for whom Perfection (Jesus) tasted sin (1 Peter 3:18). This lowly embodiment led to a slow, loathsome death of whips, nails, dehydration, and mockery. All in all, a *tragic* story of *perfect* love. Then, at the epitome of despair, death's moment was no more, and hope was restored to the world, a world where *I* would reside. Now, this risen Christ invites *me* to be a light, not only for *Him*, but *with* Him. In moments when I feel too undeserving to accept this invitation, He reminds me why He became like me in the face of pain and loss. He reminds me that He would do it all again, just to have me by His side.

You see, personalizing what Christ did makes all the difference. It takes what seems to have become a cliché Christian saying, that is, "Jesus died on a cross for you!" and calls for careful consideration of what that actually means in your personal life. To bring it even closer to home, sometimes I think of my own low pain tolerance and imagine nails being hammered into my hands and feet, thorns piercing my skull as I publicly hang unclothed from a tall piece of wood in the heat of the day. Uncomfortable to think about, isn't it? Well, I think we owe Christ our mild discomfort as we ponder Jesus' uncomfortable, excruciating *reality* during the crucifixion. If not, we'll always forget that He was just as human as we are, that He felt pain no less than you and I do! That alone should put His suffering into perspective.

While this is a time of solemn reflection, it is even more so a time of celebration, happiness, and gratitude! A personal, powerful Christ LIVES, and He

doesn't just live, but lives inside of YOU! Do you understand? The same Savior that suffered torment, smiled at death, and then assumed His rightful position on the throne is not just around, beside, or above, but is *inside* of you! (Friends, you can't get any closer to someone who is literally in you.) It is because of this truth that we can face the demons of depression, abuse, anxiety, and loss. We can face injustice, unemployment, sickness, and sudden tragedy, and yet *still* not be taken out! Christ's resurrection is the reason we can still laugh, still pursue our goals, still look forward to living, and living well. When we have the kind of power that defeated death alive inside of us, how can we not choose to be grateful at every moment? How can we relish in feelings of dissatisfaction and hopelessness? Christ is hope and you and I have Christ. Friend, that hope is ours to keep (Rom. 15:13).

I encourage you to *personalize* this redemptive story. Read the Gospel accounts of Jesus' death as if it were only for you. Celebrate His life and the opportunity to live beside Him. Delight in the gift of the promise of Christ's perfect love to the one who believes.

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'"

John 11:25-26

The Last Word

THE LAST WORD

Trashy Andrews

Lily Burke [04.06.2021](#)

They say you can find out the truth about a person by observing how they act when they think no one is watching. A slight remix of that maxim archaeologists might support suggests that you can find out the truth about a community by looking at their trash. "Oh, no, I only eat a breakfast burrito once a week," your friend may airily announce, but their trash can's pile of Gazebo receipts and greasy crumpled tin foil will testify to the alternative. What is hidden will be made manifest, we're

warned, or perhaps promised. But is there ‘truth’ about a culture? Is there ‘truth’ about a person? Culture is an elusive term, and its forces influence our lives in myriad ways, contributing to the formation of both yogurt and war. Our identities are strands that weave together to create the very fabric of what we call culture. Investigating your culture and the way you personally interact with it with new, diverse lenses is a way to expose truth about yourself and discover agency and obligation you may have never known you held.

If the people suddenly all left, I muse as I walk across campus to class in Nethery, archaeologists would have an interesting time deciphering the culture of Andrews. In studying the past of culture groups that still survive today, “ethnoarchaeologists study present-day cultures to see how patterns of daily life become transformed into an assemblage of fragmentary remains of the sort encountered by archaeologists in their excavations and surveys” (LaBianca, 1990; Hodder 1982; Schiffer 1976; Binford 1983), but what if there were no people here to learn from, and only material remains? What could one use to learn about who we were, what we did, what we believed in, and what we wanted?

As I notice while walking to class, if you’re meandering down any sidewalk on campus, you’ll likely see some litter. Nothing too nefarious, just little swirls of confetti composed of Gazebo receipts, vibrant wrappers of ridiculously-priced vending machine snacks, and fragments of masks accenting a celebration of the vibrant life we live here in our corner of southwest Michigan. I pick up a silver gum wrapper, and absently crush it and put it in my pocket to throw away later. It crinkles like the corners of smiling eyes above a mask. We chew gum here, apparently - Extra is the brand some individual recently enjoyed. Would a gum wrapper be as good a starting point as any for deciphering Andrews culture? Someone very hungry for clues would probably care about it, but is such a tiny bit of trash, such a tiny fragment of life, really important to understanding the whole? Ralph Waldo Emerson suggested “ ‘Tis the good reader that makes the good book; in every book he finds passages which seem confidences or asides, hidden from all else and unmistakably meant for his ear” (Emerson, 1883). Perhaps we could augment this idea: ‘tis the good searcher that makes the good clue. The little scraps and shreds matter if you believe that they are important to the synergy of the whole. A bright orange concert ticket stub from last Sunday’s Andrews Composers concert broadcasts its neon color against the newly greening grass, and I pick up another clue to Andrews life, to Andrews culture. I suppose every individual bit of

trash is archaeologically important to the culture of Andrews. If every bit of trash is archaeologically important, how much more important are the individual people!

To exist as a human means you exist in relation to other humans. Philosophers of various persuasions, and the worldviews of more sociocentric cultures, have suggested understanding the self as socially situated, and context dependent, rather than independent and objective. We grow into our humanity alongside each other, as Seyla Benhabib notes, “The human infant becomes a person through contingent processes of socialization, acquires language and reason, develops a sense of justice and autonomy, and becomes capable of projecting a narrative of which she is not only the author but the actor as well” (Benhabib, 1994). Each human, in their personal, complex web of identity, is an integral part of their culture - just as each piece of trash would be a useful archaeological clue about the culture from whence it came.

My humanity, along with my trash, are integral parts of Andrews’ culture. If I broaden my understanding of culture to embrace an awareness of my integral part in it, a strong sense of personal responsibility and ethical commitment cannot be far behind. You are important! Therefore, your actions are important, and we each should shade our choices with more layers of intentionality and care. I bend to pick up a sun-faded red Doritos bag, half buried in the dirt by the door. Napoleon Hill suggested, “If you cannot do great things yourself, remember that you may do small things in a great way” (Hill, 1928), a concept which flows harmoniously with the idea of each person being essential, each fragment being a clue and a part of the whole.

I enter Nethery, emptying my pockets into the trashcan by the door of the litter I picked up on my short walk. As I watch the bits and pieces flit through my fingers - the silver gum wrapper, the concert ticket stub, a piece of a torn surgical mask, a plastic bottle cap, a stepped-on-and-crushed mechanical pencil - I remember William Blake’s invitation, “To see a world in a grain of sand / And a heaven in a wildflower / Hold infinity in the palm of your hand / And eternity in an hour” (Blake, 1803), and I consider the infinite complexity of experience that led these pieces of trash to this exact moment in time, to this exact interaction with me. I then turn to go to class, to interact with individuals, with a newfound respect for the wonder it is, that together, we make a culture.

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