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The Student Movement Volume 108 Issue 7: Not Throwing Away Our Shot: Honoring Hamilton's Legacy

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Not Throwing Away Our Shot:

HONORING HAMILTON'S LEGACY



Photo by @au honors Instagram

Humans

HUMANS

An Arboretum of Beauty

Anneliese Tessalee 11.03.23



Photo by Nathaniel Reid

At Andrews University, the changing of the seasons transforms the campus into a vision of beauty. The autumn season brings striking oranges, vibrant reds, and bright yellows that make walking to class feel like walking through a painting. The Andrews campus is really the Andrews University Arboretum, a botanical collection of a variety of species of trees. The Andrews Arboretum is filled with a variety of tree species that are labeled, studied, and enjoyed daily by students. Some students have experienced the Andrews Arboretum through all four seasons. I asked students what their favorite plant was on campus to get a feel for what it's like to live in an arboretum.

“Oh, I love the big tree that’s on the corner of the road that is behind the science complex... It's HUGE and the changing leaves are absolutely breathtaking this time of year. Also, there are those bushes that are in front of PMC that have turned a

bright pink/magenta, an INSANE transformation. I pretty much choose my favorite greenery depending on how “not-green” it becomes in the fall.”

Brandon Alvarez (senior, biochemistry and business)

“I like the line of trees at the front entrance of Andrews. I like them because when fall is starting they’re so beautiful and make the campus look inviting. Even though they don’t last long, it makes you appreciate them more when they’re in peak color.”

Carolina Smith (senior, animal science)

“The Japanese Angelica Tree, scientifically known as *Aralia elata*, is native to Korea, China, Japan, and Russia. Although it is a small tree that resembles a large shrub, its entire surface is covered with strong, sharp thorns. I have a deep appreciation for this thorny tree due to its exceptional taste. In early spring, young shoots emerge from its branches, which can be harvested and prepared. Given its prickly nature, it's essential to use puncture-resistant gloves when collecting the shoots. After cleaning them, the shoots can be blanched in boiling water for approximately 30 seconds before consumption. Koreans often season these shoots, while in Japan, they are commonly fried. Personally, I find the shoots from the Japanese Angelica tree to be among my favorite vegetables. They excel in every aspect, from their aroma, texture, to taste. If you ever have the opportunity, I encourage you to visit the agriculture building at Andrews University, where this remarkable tree can be found.”

Kiheon Chung (senior, religion and biochemistry)

“In the fall, I especially love the maple trees on campus, since the colors of the leaves are so vibrant. In the spring, I love the blooming cherry blossom trees. If you’re a plant lover, I highly recommend visiting the greenhouse on the 4th floor of the science complex. It’s a beautiful green space available to students.”

Ariana Coast-Dice (senior, biology and animal science)

“Yes! The magnolia trees around campus are so pretty! I love the pink flowers that bloom in the spring. The blossoms are such a beautiful pink and they are so nice to look at while walking to class.”

Lydia Sarpong (senior, speech-language pathology)

I think maple is my favorite because they turn different types of color and it's really pretty. It's also pretty walking to school and seeing the colored leaves are on the path, so those would probably be my favorite plant.

Rekha Isaac (senior, biochemistry and mathematics)

“I love the trees that line the main street into campus. During the summer months they are a bright green that welcomes anyone lucky enough to experience them. Once they turn in autumn, they are shades of orange and yellow that warm us up during the chilly months. In winter when they are frosted white, light reflects on them to illuminate even the grayest days. Finally, in spring they showcase their budding leaves just like the budding excitement on our campus as it starts to show signs of new life once again. These trees go through the motions with us but manage to still stand beautifully no matter the weather! I think they are a wonderful metaphor for inspiration to us all!”

Thandi Dewa (senior, Spanish and biology)

“My favorite tree on campus is the Hackberry tree. I like it because it is so tall and grand. The branches stick out perfectly like a drawing. It is a tree that I never get tired of seeing no matter the season. These types of trees could grow up to 60 feet tall! You can see it as you pass by the Andrews Clock.”

Anali Guzman (senior, public Health)

“I wanted to mention the grass and trees in the flag mall because every time I go to study at the library, my desk is facing them. I can see their colors change from one season to another and it reminds me that change brings beauty. Some changes are brighter than others, some are warmer, others colder. When looking at it we can always find a reason to stop and admire the transition. This view is one of my favorites on campus.”

Cesia Herrera (senior, speech-language pathology)

“My favorite plant on campus has to be the Common Jewel Weed known as the, “touch-me-not” plant that grows in the trails on campus. I love seeing students in

my biology lab get scared when the flower pops when they touch it... they scream and jump and it's so fun to see!"

Hannie Casamayor (senior, biology)

"I really love the collection of super cool willow trees near the side of the seminary. I love them because of their unique shape that goes downward like an umbrella. In the spring, they have flowers and one has a purple that I really like! I love all the colors of the flowers but the purple one has to be my favorite. Amongst all the green of the campus, the colors of the flowers of these trees are so nice!"

Carly Weems (senior, animal science)

"One of my favorite trees is the Ginkgo tree. It has such a beautiful and unique leaf shape resembling a partially folded fan that turns a brilliant gold in the fall. Also, it is said to be one of the oldest tree species in the world."

Gabriella Srikureja (senior, biochemistry)

HUMANS

Serving with All She's Got: Natalia's Mission Experience in the Dominican Republic

Nick Bishop 11.03.23



Photo by Natalia Poloche

This week has been truly enriching, as my soul had the privilege to be spiritually fed by the thought-provoking conversation with Natalia Poloche (sophomore, nutrition), an Andrews University student currently dedicating her time and energy to serving at an orphanage in the Dominican Republic. Her role as an English and music teacher has not only brought academic enrichment to the lives of young learners in the Dominican Republic but has also exemplified Mark 10:45, “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Natalia's approach to each day is both humbling and inspiring. Her morning prayer, with the words, "If I fail to teach English or music today, at the very least let them see Your unforsaken, never-ending, compassionate love flow through me," has inspired me to start my morning with words like, "If I fail my Anatomy test, or don't live up to my expectations, at the very least let those around me see Your reckless, unbound, compassionate love flow through me."

The sincerity of her prayer highlights the core of Natalia's service - not merely as an educator but as a vessel of God's love. Her commitment extends far beyond the classroom, as she strives to be a living embodiment of love, compassion, and hope to the people she encounters daily.

The captivating nature of Natalia's interview is a reminder that mission work is not confined to textbooks, lesson plans, or going overseas; it is about the transformation of hearts, the nurturing of hope, and the revelation of love in those who need it most. It can be done right here, right now, wherever or whoever you may be.

What inspired or called you to participate in a student mission trip within the Dominican Republic? Can you share your personal motivation or story?

Growing up attending a Seventh-Day Adventist school, the Bible camps that the school would organize always inspired us to dedicate a year of our lives to God before the age of 25. In my heart, I decided to do so. However, halfway through my first semester, I realized that life passes by too fast, and I needed to prioritize and make time for the things that truly mattered. To me, being a missionary was that thing and is a crucial reason I aspire to pursue a medical career. In short, I entered Teela Ruehle's (Director of Missions and Service Projects) office one day, expressing my desire to engage in mission work, and that's how I find myself here now.

Where in the Dominican Republic are you currently stationed, and what specific activities or projects are you involved in as part of your mission work?

Currently I am serving at an orphanage in Bona0, Dominican Republic. Because I am at an orphanage, there are so many different roles that I take on. However, the main "jobs" I am involved in are teaching English and music.

Can you describe a typical day or week in the Dominican Republic? What are your primary responsibilities and tasks?

Here, each day starts with a consistent routine. The house parents kick off our mornings by playing hymns on the speaker, acting as our gentle 'alarm clock' to rouse us for the 5:45 a.m. worship session. Following worship, we engage in household chores, enjoy breakfast, and get ready for school, which starts at 8:00 am and continues until 12:45 pm. I have the privilege of teaching English for the Secundaria (high school). After school, we gather for lunch and take a well-deserved break before the afternoon activities begin at 2:30 pm. The specifics of our afternoon sessions may vary, but they typically involve us instructing various classes, including ESL, music theory, cello, and guitar.

What has been the most fulfilling or rewarding part of your mission experience in the DR so far? Is there a specific moment or achievement that stands out to you?

Meeting the kids/local community and spending time with them has made this experience what it is. I find that it's the little things, such as walking into school or church and being overwhelmed with hugs and greetings from the younger ones or nights at the courts where we play basketball or a game of Uno. Even on days when the power goes out, and we get to sing songs while I play the guitar, these moments with them have made my time here so meaningful and heartwarming.

Have you encountered any significant challenges in the DR? How have you managed or overcome these challenges?

Cultural shock is something you can't grasp until you experience it. Being away from my family and friends has been challenging at times. After the first month and a half, I started feeling homesick now and then. Luckily, technology is a lifesaver – being able to call and text my family has been a real help. Then there's the food. Lunch is almost the same daily, with rice and beans as the main meal and some veggies on the side. Breakfast and dinner are all about carbs, like yucca, potatoes, bread, and the occasional fruit smoothie. We've gotten used to it, but we keep a little stash, our 'pantry,' one of our suitcases where we store stuff like cereal, rice cakes, peanut butter, and granola bars that we can munch on. And there are these little stores called colmados that sell food super cheap, so we grab avocados and mangoes from there once in a while.

What message or advice would you share with other students considering participating in a similar mission trip within the DR? Why should they consider it?

100% do it! If you feel that God is calling you to serve, pursue that calling. Being here has truly humbled and inspired me. Some days are tiresome and draining, but being around the kids and local people here makes it worth it. The orphanage where I am is unlike a typical or traditional orphanage where other families can adopt kids. Here, if a child is brought in, they stay until the age of 18, which is what is considered to be a legal adult. At 18, they then have the opportunity to decide to stay through college or leave. Staying here means that the institution pays for up to 75% of their college tuition, and they continue to provide the individual with food, shelter, medical care, etc. The majority of kids here come from really traumatic pasts. Some come from sexually abused homes, others from parents who neglect them, and some from parents who cannot provide or care for them. Here, they are offered so much. There are six homes with parents in each house that have chosen to live here and, in essence, become parents to these kids.

How has this experience broadened your understanding of the world and the importance of cross-cultural exchange and service, especially within your country?

From the moment I arrived, I was caught off guard by how joyful everyone was. Despite all that they have been through, their joy is consistently contagious. So far, this experience has taught me something about being grateful. Here, we don't have the same commodities that we have back in the U.S. Life is more simple and, as a result, more fulfilling.

Are there any specific projects or initiatives you're particularly proud of or excited about that you're currently working on in the DR?

One of the 'projects' we've launched is an English conversation class. This class is open to everyone, but it's primarily aimed at individuals genuinely interested in learning and practicing English beyond their regular school curriculum. University students, parents, and anyone looking to enhance their conversational skills are welcome. It's a relaxed and laid-back class where about 75% of our time is devoted to engaging in conversations on various topics and role-playing real-life situations, like placing an order at a restaurant. We also allocate a small portion of the class to introducing and practicing new grammatical concepts. So far, it's been a delightful class to teach!

What are your future plans or goals related to mission work or community service, and how has this experience influenced your aspirations?

In the three months I have been here, I have realized that I want this mission year to be more than just a mission year. I want to serve constantly and wherever I go because the truth is that mission work doesn't just happen overseas. You can serve right in your hometown or college campus. Even here, the parents and pastors always encourage the kids from the orphanage to serve. They emphasize the importance of our mission. So, every morning, my prayer has been that if I fail to teach English or music, at the very least, someone may see God's overwhelming love through me.

Can you share any unique traditions or cultural aspects of the DR you've learned or experienced there?

One tradition I will adopt from this experience is taking a daily nap. After lunch, we set aside thirty minutes to rest before diving into our afternoon classes and activities. These thirty minutes of recharging are a game-changer, and I intend to continue this habit daily.

HUMANS

WAUS Fall Fundraiser

Grace No 11.03.23



Photo by

This week, WAUS 90.7fm, located on the campus of Andrews University, completed a second week of its semi-annual fundraiser. This occasion is especially significant this year as the station celebrates its 100-year anniversary. The classical music station is a fan favorite of many listeners in the Michiana area and beyond and features ad-free listening at all hours of the day. I started working at the radio station as a student announcer nearly three years ago and have looked forward to our fundraisers ever since my first one. Not only is it enjoyable to connect with the other announcers as we promote the station throughout the week on air, but it's meaningful to interact directly with listeners when they call in to pledge their support. I asked some of the staff at the radio station about their perspectives on the fundraising event to get a better idea of the purpose of fundraising and what they like most about it. And if you love to listen to classical music during studying or relaxing, consider a pledge of support by calling us at 1-800-553-9287!

What is the fundraiser, and what's the point of it?

Chelsea Lake (Music Director): So, our fundraisers are really an opportunity for us to remind our current members that we need their support and that they're still a really big part of what we do here. We do it for them because of them. And we just ask that they help contribute in order to keep the station going and support the programming. It's also an opportunity for us to convince people who have been listening for a long time and maybe never been a member to consider a pledge of support, consider what they can give, and to remind them that public radio is free for them, but it's not free. If they would consider a financial contribution, it allows us to keep bringing them the service that they're enjoying without the need to put it behind a paywall.

How much does it cost to run the radio station in a year?

So we run a very tight ship because of the fact that we don't take any government funding. You know, I was just at a conference recently where other stations were talking about how their budget is like three to four million dollars. Ours is \$500,000, so we run a very, very tight ship and we make the dollars work hard.

What's your favorite thing about fundraiser?

Chelsea Lake: It's really fun to hear people talk about how they use the station. And I also like working with the students. It's the only time I really get to spend a lot of time with them and we get to chat and be silly when the microphone is off and all business when the microphone is on.

Jeff Smith (General Manager): It's an opportunity to connect with the audience and you know, it's backwards to what a lot of people are used to when you call a radio station: to win something, for example. So it might be a bit of a culture shock to call to give your financial information instead. But it's really neat because we know specifically who our supporters are and it's a great opportunity for us to connect with listeners.

Glenn Russell (Host of Scriptural Pursuit): Last Friday I had the privilege of participating in the WAUS fundraiser with Chelsea and with Jeff Smith. I have been a regular listener to WAUS for many years and I'm very thankful to have a local classical radio station. As host of Scriptural Pursuit, it has been a privilege to interact with hundreds of guests, mostly faculty from Andrews University.

Studying God's word and learning from the guests has enriched my life. WAUS continues to be the home of Scriptural Pursuit and the radio station is an important link with the campus and the community. It is my prayer that God may use this media ministry to touch many lives for eternity.

Teddy Weithers (Marketing Director): Working directly with the students. I enjoy meeting the students because it's the one time we really get to know who they are and all their quirky Gen Z personalities.

Arts & Entertainment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Art: A Window Into Another Reality

Madison Vath [11.03.23](#)



Photo by Loc Dang

My taste in art has grown over the years, right alongside how I look at different art pieces and analyze them (yes, I tend to analyze artwork for fun). With all that I've been learning in my many English classes, analyzing a visual art piece is something that I've grown to be fairly decent at, and I enjoy letting my brain nerd out a bit as I look at the different factors that constitute the meaning of a particular piece. So, before I delve into my own analysis of this artwork, I shall describe it, and then give the title.

The background is that of a blue hue with simplistic gold drawings of leaves. The subject herself appears to be young, considering her black hair is in two braids and on the table in front of her she's drawing the outline of a dress. Her gaze is cast downward, focusing on the task at hand. The artist paints her with a certain softness as the lines are somewhat blurred and not as clear cut. Overall, this piece seems to exude a sense of innocence and even childlike curiosity. One could potentially assume that this piece was intended as a snapshot of a simple life and, in a way, it is a reflection of life. A life very far from the one I personally live.

The artist of this piece is Malak Mattar, a [Palestinian artist](#) who was born in 1999 and raised in the Gaza Strip. She first began her art journey at thirteen years old during the 51-day Israeli assault on Gaza in 2014. Due to the blockade, she was unable to leave her house and so began posting her work on social media. Since then, she has produced 300 paintings and is currently studying under partial scholarships at Istanbul Aydin University. This brings me to the title of this particular work: "[Palestinian Child Writing Their Will During an Israeli Aggression.](#)"

Now, what can we, as the audience, infer about the piece after reading its title? Look at it again before reading further. Personally, my eyes are drawn right back to the outline of a dress on the pad in front of the little girl. Take from that what you will but personally, I can observe that a young child, barely old enough to read, is taking care to make sure her beloved possession is looked after should something happen to where she's unable to do so herself. How heartwrenching is that? With the newly acquired knowledge from the title, I feel as though the meaning of the work overall shifts while still retaining some of the aforementioned concepts discussed earlier. There's still the sense of softness and simplicity, but now, it's like looking at a snapshot of the few moments of peace before a raging and

devastating storm. Mattar manages to present a stark dichotomy between the artwork itself, and the intent with which she created it.

This is why I love art. Both visual, and written. Art is not only a way to express one's thoughts and emotions, it's also a way to make people think about experiences that are not their own. It's a reminder that as each of us are a part of the human race, we have a duty and responsibility to lift up those who are not able to stand and to speak when their voices are stolen from them. Many lessons can be learned from not only art, but also the artist. In an interview with GQ, Mattar makes a profound statement in saying, "I don't paint despite war and occupation. I paint because of it. Living through this era of war, there's a big part of me that wants to document. I have this feeling that everything I do will live longer than me, than everyone. Even with a portrait that has nothing to do with the situation, it is a document because I was the one who painted it. ([Malak Mattar: 'I Don't Care How the World Sees Me' - GQ Middle East](#))"

Ultimately, it's important to have an open and receptive mind when viewing any type of art piece, whether it be a sculpture or poetry. In having an open mind, we learn things about one another and ourselves, helping to uplift one another and the people around us.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Filipino Art Through Filipino Eyes: Celebrating A Culture

Amelia Stefanescu 11.03.23



Photo by Zach Liebelt

Filipino culture is a colorful one, literally and figuratively. It is filled with many beautiful forms of art, from folk architecture and weaving to oral literature and plastic arts. With a large variety to choose from, I asked some of our Filipino students what their favorite pieces of Filipino art were, from movies to paintings and everything in between.

Charisse Lapuebla (junior, speech-language pathology and audiology) talked with me about two of her favorite Filipino dramas, “On The Wings of Love” (2015-2016) and “Till I Met You” (2016-2017). They are both romantic comedy dramas, the first one dealing with two very different people having to marry for convenience to be able to stay in America, and the latter about three friends who end up forming a love triangle. Charisse fondly reminisced on how she was first introduced to Filipino dramas, recounting, “Ever since I was five years old, I remember coming home from school to my grandparents watching the newest episode of their

dramas on the Filipino channel. At first, I wanted to switch the channel to watch “Dora the Explorer.” However, over time, I also got invested in the drama and story. My favorite memories are from running back into the house and sitting around the TV next to my Lola (grandma) just in time to hear “Previously On…” blaring from the speakers.” She confided that these dramas help her feel more connected to her culture, especially being a first-generation American, saying, “ It’s hard to feel like a “real” Filipina or feel connected to my family’s culture. Through these shows, I’m able to be connected to my home country (and watch entertaining dramas because some of these plot twists come out of nowhere!) The simple act of hearing Tagalog being spoken as you consume media allows me to feel a connection to daily life that my parents and relatives must have and do experience in the Philippines.”

Daena Holbrook (sophomore, mechanical engineering) shared one of her favorite Filipino songs, “Rainbow” by South Border. South Border is a Filipino pop and R&B band formed in the early 1990s, and this particular song speaks about impermanence and how tragedy is often followed by good tidings. Daena expressed, “Some songs sound like candy to me, and this song is one of them. I love the melody and the chord progression, and it’s so fun to sing along to!” The song is especially important to her, as she confided that it reminds her of singing with different friends she’s “met in different parts of my life.” She also related it back to Filipino culture, explaining that “This song portrays the general optimism of Filipino culture. It has a chill, welcoming, and romantic vibe that is also reflected in Filipino culture.”



Photo by Zach Liebelt

On the other hand, Zach Liebelt (sophomore, math and physics) talked about two beautiful paintings he and his brother inherited from Lolo and Lola. He described the paintings, saying, “One of these paintings showcases a serene and calming night sky with fishing boats peacefully floating on calm waters. The other painting captures a beautiful sunrise, depicting a fisherman poised to catch fish.” He then delved into the emotional ties he has with the paintings, confiding, “These paintings hold a special place in my heart because they evoke memories of my grandparents and the stories they shared about their life in the Philippines. These paintings used to hang in their house, a place filled with fond memories from my childhood. Even though I can't discern the signature of the artist, I am still grateful that my Lolo and Lola recognized the value of these paintings during their time in the Philippines.” He then described them as a tangible connection to his Filipino heritage, saying, “They are unique in that they are not mass-produced media or art pieces, but rather something that has become more personal. They represent my culture by preserving an aspect of the essence of Filipino life, especially the importance of fishing in many coastal Filipino communities. The paintings offer a glimpse into the simple yet meaningful aspects of daily life in the Philippines, making them a cherished part of our family's cultural heritage.”

From modern media to rare gems, Filipino art continues to celebrate and highlight the Filipino experience, with many seeing it as a lifeline grounding them to their culture. It is a pleasure to be able to highlight the beauty of Filipino creativity!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

“Free-Falling Into Autumn”: A Fall Playlist

Amelia Stefanescu 11.03.23



Photo by Monstera Production and Spotify (composed by Nate)

As the trees are nearing their peak in their beautiful color transformation, all I want to do is take a walk surrounded by bright orange, red, and yellow hues while listening to some good music. Music, especially when well-chosen, always adds that special little touch to a circumstance, and I am a firm believer that the appropriate music makes everything that much better. Fall isn't an exception to this phenomenon, so as you have probably guessed it, it's time for a [fall playlist!](#)

The fall season tends to naturally lean towards nostalgic songs, reminiscing about the past, sometimes pleasantly, and sometimes unfortunately not. As the leaves crunch beneath your feet and your thoughts drift to the past, turning over conversations in your mind and recalling memories, good and bad, “The Night We Met” (Lord Huron), “cardigan” (Taylor Swift), “Sparks” (Coldplay), and “Somewhere Only We Know” (Keane) are perfect songs to put you into a thoughtful mood. These songs all deal with the bittersweetness of human relationships, depicting how fragile these relationships can really be.

On the other hand, fall can make you feel like you are falling in love (pun intended!) There is something quite romantic about the beautiful array of colors, the slowly creeping cold, and the rainy afternoons that songs like “Yellow” (Coldplay), “iloveyou” (BETWEEN FRIENDS), “Daylight” (Harry Styles), “Can I Call You Rose?” (Thee Sacred Souls), and “My Love Mine All Mine” (Mitski) capture so beautifully, adding a gentle, amorous touch to the season through their discussion of lighthearted, innocent love.

In terms of genre, autumn is known for its pleasing fit with jazz music, the playful melodies matching the same energy as that of the falling leaves. A fall playlist really isn't a fall playlist if it doesn't include a couple of jazz songs. Songs like “Let's Call the Whole Thing Off” (Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong), “I Could Write a Book” (Harry Connick Jr.), “But Not For Me” (Chet Baker), and “If I” (Les Imprimés) sweetly swing you into the fall season with their uplifting and engaging melodies.

We know that there are those songs that automatically put you into an autumn mood, making you want to put on a warm sweater, drink a hot beverage, and read a good book as you watch the leaves gliding down, leaving the trees bare and exposed. “Sweater Weather” (The Neighborhood), “Coffee Breath” (Sofia Mills), “Bookstore Girl” (Charlie Burg), “Eat Your Young” (Hozier), and “Leaves That Are Green” (Paul Simon) all seem to incarnate that feeling of sitting in a window seat and watching as the colors shift and the temperature chills.

I hope this playlist will be put to good use to help you romanticize even just a little bit this wonderful but brief season. So what are you waiting for? Go and put on a warm coat, grab your headphones, and take a walk while the colors are still bright and before the snow actually decides to set in.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Upcoming Events in the Art Department

Katrina Johnson 11.03.23



Photo by Nathaniel Reid

Andrews University's Department of Visual Art, Communication, and Design is a veritable treasure trove of opportunities for anyone looking to explore the vibrant world of art. To ensure you don't miss out on any upcoming events or exhibitions, it's essential to stay connected with the professors and remain in the loop. In this article, I've put together a comprehensive list of exciting art-related happenings on the horizon, complete with details on when and where you can experience them.

To gather this information, I spoke with Alyx Halsey, who is a professor of Fine Arts and Ceramics in the Department of Visual Art, Communication, and Design. She received a bachelor's degree in painting from Andrews University, as well as a master's degree in fine art from Central Michigan University (CMS). She has worked in holistic health and spent over fifteen years as a mind-body therapist.

Her experiences have taught her the importance of collaboration, networking and personal development. I am very lucky to have her as my ceramics professor this semester. She is patient and passionate about helping students succeed and create great artwork.

One of the ongoing attractions, which will run until November 10, is the alumni exhibition in the gallery on the second floor of Harrigan Hall. This exhibition serves as a showcase of the creative prowess of our esteemed alumni, offering a unique window into the artistic journeys of past students. It's a fantastic opportunity to see how our graduates have evolved and continued to contribute to the world of art.

Following a brief hiatus, the gallery will reopen on November 28 with a student show that promises to be a visual delight. This exhibition will feature works from students enrolled in Intro to Drawing, Painting, and History of Graphic Design, providing a captivating experience for art enthusiasts. On the evening of November 28, between 5 and 7 p.m., students will have the exclusive opportunity to visit the gallery and receive co-curricular credit for their attendance. This is not only a chance to view emerging talent but also an opportunity to support the hard work and dedication of these students.

Looking ahead to the next semester, an exhibition in January is anticipated to highlight book illustrations by a talented illustrator. While the specific dates are yet to be announced, this show promises to be a stunning showcase of the artistry that brings literature to life. Moreover, the exhibition is expected to run until mid-February or March, leading up to another intriguing art exhibit that is currently in the works. The anticipation surrounding these exhibitions is palpable, making them events to watch out for.

One of the highlights of the art department's calendar is the senior art exhibit taking place in April and May. These exhibitions will spotlight the work of Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Fine Arts students who are on the cusp of graduating in the spring. These seniors primarily major in graphic design, and impressively, many of them have already secured positions in their respective fields. Witnessing their final artistic contributions promises to be an exciting and inspiring experience. It's a moment of celebration for both the students and the university community, as it marks their transition from being learners to being contributors to the art world.

We wholeheartedly encourage you to take a trip to the art exhibit located on the top floor of Harrigan Hall. The exhibit is open as long as Harrigan Hall is accessible, offering convenient visiting hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The accessibility and generous visiting hours make it easy for everyone to immerse themselves in the world of art and experience the artistic endeavors of our talented students and alumni.

In conclusion, Andrews University's art department is teeming with artistic talent and an array of captivating exhibitions. By staying informed and making the most of these opportunities, you can immerse yourself in the world of art and appreciate the incredible creativity that our university community has to offer. Don't miss out on these fantastic opportunities to engage with art and be inspired by the talent that Andrews University nurtures and celebrates. Each of these exhibitions offers a unique and enriching experience that allows you to connect with the artistic community and witness the evolution of talent over time.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

What to do about Inhospitallity?: A Review of Mitski's Newest Album

Reagan McCain [11.03.23](#)



Photo by Elviss Railijs Bitāns

If you haven't heard, then allow me the pleasure of telling you – Mitski released her seventh studio album, "[The Land is Inhospitable and So Are We](#)" a little more than a month ago. You've likely heard her hit single, "My Love is Mine All Mine," all over Instagram and TikTok, even if you're not familiar with the artist herself. And if you're not familiar with Mitski, well, then allow me the even greater pleasure of introducing you! The American singer-songwriter began her career focusing on DIY style and Indie rock, self-releasing her first two albums while still a university student, but she's continued to experiment with different sounds and styles since her genre-defying 2018 album "Be the Cowboy" first won her mainstream purchase. While her last album, "Laurel Hell" (2022), consisted mostly of synth and dream pop, "The Land is Inhospitable" takes an unexpected left turn into a stripped-down acoustic, Americana folk.

On TikTok and other social media, Mitski can often be seen lumped in with a genre users dub as "Sad Girl Music." The kind of music, users insist, is meant to play in the background of a young lady's romanticized suffering, and very often, aren't allowed to do more than [that](#). In the past, Mitski has complained of this limiting perception. In a 2018 interview with "[The Fader](#)" magazine, she says, "The point of my music isn't to make you cry. I'm not trying to make torture porn." She feels this misrepresents her real artistic intentions, adding "I want to express, I don't know, the whole gamut of human experiences." Her intention and incredible ability to do just that had never been clearer than now. In just 34 minutes, she unflinchingly delves into the depths of human suffering but, even more impressively, braves to search for the remedy. This album sounds warmer and more reflective than any of her previous works. This is the kind of album you play on a Sunday, that liminal time between the fun of yesterday and the business of tomorrow.

Mitski, in this album, delivers what I guess you could classify as "sad songs." But of course, they're more than that. They're about addiction, shame, guilt, and grief. In her first song, "Bug Like An Angel," her warm voice sings about the end of a beverage, with the occasional word or phrase echoed by a choir. Here, she begins the habit she often repeats throughout the album of speaking to the audience as if giving advice. "Did you go and make promises you can't keep?" she asks before chiding "Rookie mistake" because "they break you right back." The song "I Don't Like My Mind" describes a phenomenon all too familiar to many, lying awake at night, remembering every embarrassing thing you've ever done. She regretfully

relates an anecdote of eating an entire cake until she felt sick to her stomach, the memory of the shameful over-indulgence haunting her still. Memories are again the topic in “When Memories Snow,” this time showing the overwhelming weight of her recollections in a climax of discordant instruments as she wonders how she could get away from them, “If I break,” she asks, “Could I go on break?”

Winter metaphors are utilized again in “The Frost,” likening it to a dust that has settled over her as she mourns the loss of a friend. Yet the melancholy song about grief doesn’t invite the audience to give up or languish. Mitski portrays the temptation to give up hope and give into cynicism in “The Deal.” She informs the audience that there might be a way to numb the suffering, but not without a grave cost. In this haunting tale, a bird speaks to Mitski, like the Raven once spoke to Edgar Allen Poe, “Your pain is eased,” but “You’re a cage without me, you’ll never be free.”

So, how can we be free of the suffering of shame and grief? In other words, is there any way to escape the Inhospitable Land? Maybe the answers to the problems presented in the captivately cryptic songs can be answered by changing ourselves and the way we relate to each other. Because, after all, aren’t we inhospitable too?

In “Heaven,” Mitski's most sweeping and unabashed love song to date, she reflectively sings over a sweeping orchestra, “Something set free is running through the night.” Yes, even though “The dark awaits us all around the corner,” we can find solace and comfort in the present with each other. Impermanence can’t spoil its gifts, as Mitski makes clear in “The Star.” Over a transcendent production that can only be described as sparkly, she promises to hold onto the love from a relationship that has since ended, the same way that a star still shines in the sky for our eyes even though it has already burned out lightyears away. Yes, love might be the only answer to our suffering, as Mitski sings in the warm melody that has already become beloved by so many, “My Love is Mine All Mine.” Mitski invites us to consider the transformative power of love, whose effects will last longer than the mortal body of its original vessel.

It makes sense then why Mitski chooses to conclude this album with the song “I Love Me After You.” In a strong marching voice, she describes her nighttime routine full of the cliché hallmarks of “self-love:” skincare, drinking water, and laughter. But then she sings “I love me after you.” It sounds strange to the ears in a time where advice like “put yourself first” is so ubiquitous, but her suggestion here

seems to be that self-love and to love others aren't in tension with one another. There is a way to put someone else first that isn't pathetic and doesn't have to be at the expense of yourself. Perhaps it's only with that love we have for ourselves and others that we can overcome the foreboding physical world around us. Armed with this knowledge she sings "let the darkness see me," she's not scared as she announces her triumph, "I'm king of all the land."

News

NEWS

Andrews Autumn Conference Promotes Peaceful Scientific Discourse

Andrew Francis [11.03.23](#)



Photo by Nathaniel Reid

Andrews University's Price Hall opened its doors on Friday evening and Sabbath, October 27 and 28, to welcome students, staff, and members of the religion and science group, The Colossian Forum, to discuss matters of the Christian faith and modern views of biology at the annual Andrews Autumn Conference. Organized and led by Dean of Research Dr. Gary Burdick, this year's topic was "Neither Fools nor Heretics: Celebrating 10 Years of Friendship Between a Young Earth Creationist and an Evolutionary Creationist."

This title refers to the conference's highlighted speakers, Dr. Rob Barrett, Dr. Todd Wood, and Dr. Darrel Falk, and Wood and Falk's book entitled, "The Fool and the Heretic." In the book, which was available for signings and giveaways during the event, the discussion by both authors is centered around the contemporary debate on Creationism. Two Andrews professors, Dr. Martin Hanna and Dr. Burdick, also gave presentations during the conference. One side of the debate contains young Earth creationists who believe in a literal six-day creation by God and the Earth existing somewhere between 6,000 to no more than 10,000 years in its entire history. They are put in opposition with evolutionary creationists who theorize that God may have used evolution and processes theorized by mainstream science to create the world in a non-literal six-day process. With Wood being in the traditional creationist camp and Falk being in evolutionary creationism, the two have been tied together throughout their careers as intellectual opponents. However, through various discussions and reconciliation, the dynamic between the two religious scientists has gone from rocky and testy to having mutual respect and cooperation, all while agreeing on relatively little.

At 7 pm on Friday, Dr. Barrett began the session with a presentation entitled "How to do what's right? Making space for virtue", discussing the various issues of interacting and respecting the rest of humanity. Through various social experiments and research he presented, Barrett asserted that as humans, our "moral behavior is often sensitive to the environment around [us]," making human reactions to arguments or other social situations dependent on conforming to the status quo a lot of the time.

Following Sabbath's breakfast at 8 am, Dr. Hanna presented the reconciliation that needs to happen between science and theology. He cited 2 Corinthians 5:18, which states, "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;" calling for much less

polarization than what we currently see today in public spheres. Dr. Hanna stated that although some fear theology would interfere with the scientific method and others think science would interfere with theological ideology, reflecting both would be most helpful in coming to sound conclusions. The great outcomes that can be seen from theological principles and human knowledge are seen in the Bible story of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, who grew up with Hebrew religious values but also were able to use their human skills and intelligence in Babylon. Dr. Hanna ended his presentation by citing Jesus' call for removing negative discourse when He states, "Agree with thine adversary quickly" in Matthew 5:25, a very relevant call in a modern context.

Dr. Wood's presentation helped to illustrate the creationist and evolutionary creationism debate clearly. Entitled "How do You Know?", Dr. Wood's presentation continued to emphasize the need for peaceful discussion between the two conflicting ideologies. As a young-Earth creationist, Dr. Wood pointed out how evolutionists often depict creationists as "ignorant" and creationists view evolutionists as "brainwashed." With many creationists believing there is no evidence for evolution and vice versa, intelligent conversations cannot be had if everyone involved does not respect each other as being intelligent. The main point of contention between the creationists and evolutionary creationists is how to interpret the Bible. When there are so many questions about taking the Bible literally in certain areas and not in others, the question of "Why should we trust the Bible?" can be difficult to answer for both sides. Although most view it as a chief authority, the confrontation of knowledge from religious authority versus knowledge from human experience can be difficult to traverse.

Dr. Falk's presentation entitled, "Thinking about the evolutionary creation of our species in light of the Creator whose essence is love", further examined the evolutionary creationist perspective. He pointed out that the theories of human evolution, as well as the evolution of other organisms, may not conflict with the Bible. This theory is not popular with many Christians since it is new and can be perceived to be contrary to the majority of Christian theology. Still, Dr. Falk echoed the earlier presentations by encouraging reflection of beliefs and more respectful dialogue to be had in order to form intelligent perspectives. At the end, he also cited James 3:17, "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere" (KJV), meaning that only God can give full perspective to the world he has created.

Dr. Burdick gave the final lecture before lunch that was entitled, “Living without having all the answers.” He pointed out all the assumptions and unanswered questions that we live with. Dr. Burdick pointed out that in history, the founders of modern science were religious, giving credibility to Creationism as a whole. Just as religion is seen to have conflict, science is abundant with conflict. With the internal conflicts of both religion and science, it makes sense that our limited human perspectives would presume there would be plenty of conflicts between the both of them.

After returning from lunch, attendees could participate in asking the presenters questions during a panel discussion before Wood and Falk’s book signing. Everyone in attendance had the opportunity to leave with new perspectives and ideologies to contemplate, ultimately being thankful for such a unique planet.

NEWS

Honors Goes to Hamilton

Melissa Moore 11.03.23



Photo by @au honors instagram

Ever since the musical Hamilton opened on Broadway in [2015](#), it has been a massive hit. According to [this article](#), Hamilton made over 1 billion dollars

globally, and that was only as of 2020, when the article was published. That number is likely much higher now. Hamilton's success comes as no surprise. The musical is a great way to learn about history as it is much more historically accurate than many other popular productions and is simultaneously well-crafted and entertaining. This means it can appeal to a wider audience, drawing in fans of musicals, history, and general entertainment alike. Soon after the onset of Covid-19, the cast even starred in a recorded version that fans can stream on Disney+. However, even though Hamilton enthusiasts can view Hamilton behind a screen whenever their hearts desire, it can never compare to seeing the show live.

This past Saturday night, one lucky group of sixty students and faculty were granted the opportunity to see the production live at the Nederlander Theater in Chicago. The Honors program was able to obtain tickets for this semester's cultural outing. It is not a surprise that every single ticket was claimed as people immediately jumped at the chance to see this world-famous musical. At 4:00 p.m., attendees loaded into an Andrews University coach bus. A couple of hours later, they arrived in Chicago with enough time to grab food and explore the nearby area for a while. Finally, as the clock neared 7:30 p.m., central time, the staff and students headed to the theater to find their seats. The line to enter stretched along the sidewalk and wound around the corner of the building. The evidence was clear; this Broadway in Chicago show was very popular. Attendees entered the theater and were directed to their seats in the grand Nederlander theater. The space was filled with the sound of excited chatter. Then, as the lights dimmed, a hush fell over the room, and the audience turned their attention to the stage. The typical announcement instructing the audience not to take pictures was presented on behalf of the King (King George is a character featured in the play), and then the opening score, "Alexander Hamilton," began. It did not disappoint. The first song was met with much enthusiasm as the crowd hooted, cheered, and applauded loudly at its close. The crowd continued to respond to the performance with similar energy and enthusiasm at the end of each song. Finally, after roughly an hour and thirty minutes, the lights brightened for the 15-minute intermission, bringing with it the chance to discuss the performance with friends or wait in the notoriously long restroom lines. Then, the play began again as the audience watched the beginning of the end for Hamilton. The last half of the performance evoked a whirlwind of emotions as the audience watched Hamilton lose his son and make unwise decisions that ultimately contribute to his demise. The production concluded with Eliza Hamilton and the cast performing "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story?" which presents the question of who preserves your story

when you are gone and explains how Eliza documented her husband's legacy. The performance ended with a standing ovation from the audience.

Although "Hamilton" was not performed by the original cast, it was still an incredible opportunity to watch this world-renowned work of art in person. Andrews Students who attended were pleased to have the opportunity to do so. In describing their Hamilton experience, many expressed positive feelings. When describing her experience, Chrissy Stowell (graduate, school psychology) says, "Although this wasn't my first time watching Hamilton, there is a unique experience in watching a performance live. I connected to both friends and strangers in singing the songs and discussing the storyline. It truly was a night to remember." Addy Rodriguez (sophomore, medical laboratory sciences) also explains a similar sentiment, "Hamilton was one of my favorite experiences organized by the Honors community; I really enjoyed the play, and [it] was such a fun moment." Similarly, Ralph Gifford (junior, math) explains, "It was [a] good [experience]." The atmosphere when students arrived back on campus was one of joy and satisfaction, even despite the late hour. It is not every day that students have the opportunity to enjoy famous performances in person, and the trip was worth it to live the dream of fans around the world and see Hamilton.

Unraveling the Historical Threads: The SDA Church's Journey with the Trinity

Brendan Oh 11.03.23

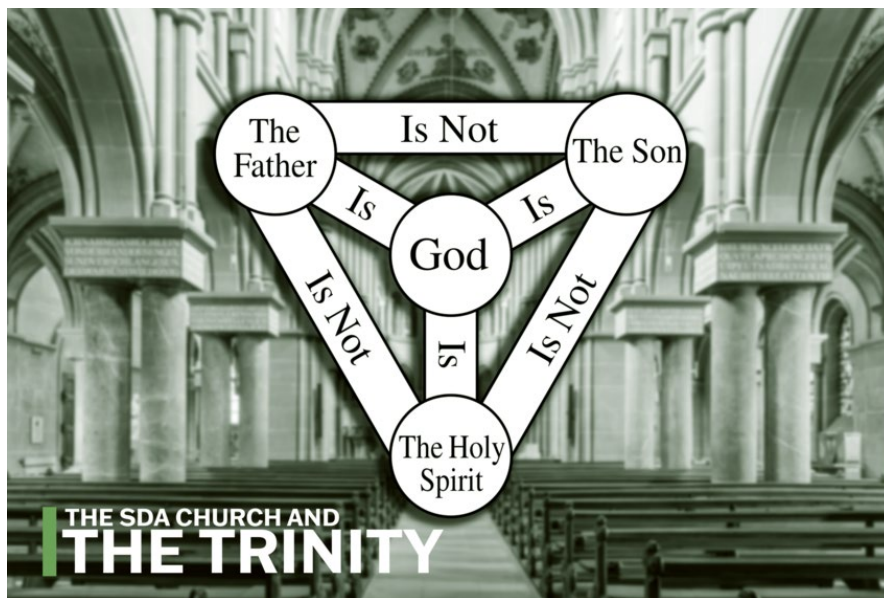


Photo by AnonMoos and Pixaby (composed by Nate)

For several decades after the formal establishment of the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church, a significant portion of its membership [did not adhere](#) to the doctrine of the Trinity. Remarkably, the concept of the Trinity was conspicuously absent from the church's official beliefs until the latter part of the 20th century, with its official inclusion occurring at the [1980 General Conference Session](#). This chapter in SDA history sheds light on the dynamic evolution of religious beliefs and how religious institutions adapt over time.

In the mid-19th century, when the SDA Church was in its infancy, the majority of its adherents [held non-Trinitarian views](#). Their convictions were deeply rooted in a belief in the oneness of God, akin to their predecessors in the Millerite and Restorationist movements. The [early Adventists](#) ardently believed that the Trinitarian concept conflicted with the central tenet of worshiping one true God, which had its roots in the teachings of the Hebrew Bible.

At that time, the theological landscape within the SDA Church was remarkably diverse, reflecting the broad spectrum of influences that had shaped the movement. This diversity extended to beliefs about the nature of God, ranging from staunch non-Trinitarianism to views more aligned with mainstream Christianity. Pioneering figures like J.N. Andrews, who wrote "The Three Messages of Revelation XIV," and Uriah Smith, the author of "Daniel and the Revelation," [held non-Trinitarian beliefs](#). The question of the Trinity was a subject of intense debate and discussion.

This early period of non-Trinitarianism in the SDA Church offers a significant glimpse into the history of religious beliefs. It underscores that religious institutions are not static but are shaped by evolving theological perspectives and debates.

As the SDA Church matured and defined its theological identity, it encountered both external pressures and internal theological diversity. The recognition of the need for greater theological cohesion and unity within the church was motivated by the desire to [maintain doctrinal consistency and clarity](#), alongside preserving the church's identity and relevance as it continued to grow. The decision to formally include the doctrine of the Trinity in its fundamental beliefs was a culmination of a theological consensus that had been developing within the church. Notably, the [influence of Ellen White](#) became markedly pronounced in this theological trajectory, particularly following the release of her influential work, "The Desire of Ages."

The official introduction of the Trinity into the SDA Church's fundamental beliefs in 1980 marked a significant departure from its earlier non-Trinitarian stance, aligning the church more closely with mainstream Christian theology. This transition was not without its share of [controversy and internal debate](#) but reflected the broader recognition of the need for theological unity within the denomination.

This historical transformation serves as a tangible illustration of the intricate processes religious institutions undergo as they expand and adapt their beliefs. It challenges the idea that any religious tradition has an immutable, complete monopoly on truth, demonstrating how faith communities adapt and evolve their beliefs over time.

In approaching this historical lesson, it is imperative to do so with respect and sensitivity. The SDA Church's journey regarding the Trinity is not a critique of its fundamental beliefs but an opportunity to explore the dynamics of religious history, demonstrating how faith traditions respond to historical, cultural, and contextual shifts and grow in their understanding of their own faith.

Ideas

IDEAS

Cats or Dogs?

Abby Shim 11.03.23



Photo by Helena Jankovičová Kováčová

Perhaps the only question that is more dividing than politics is whether you prefer cats or dogs. For some, man's best friend proves far superior, but for others, having a feline friend is preferable. As someone who loves both species equally, it's hard to choose between such lovable creatures.

On the one hand, dogs are typically more energetic, playful, and cuddly. If you're looking for some fitness motivation, going out to walk your dog is an easy way to start becoming more active. Dogs are also a great way to socialize more, as they are awesome companions to bring along when mingling with other dog owners. Yet they can also be a handful, and if you aren't a fan of being woken up at the crack of dawn to take them outside for their potty time, you might be more inclined to adopt a less high-maintenance pet.

On the other hand, cats maintain themselves (which can be convenient for a pet owner who doesn't like when their animal tracks in mud and doesn't clean themselves), are generally calmer, and knead biscuits (free massage!). They are pretty independent and are typically quieter (except for maybe orange cats...). However, if you don't like the sound of hairballs being hacked up or scratching behavior, cats may not be the best fit for you.

While most people might hotly contest one or the other, my solution is this: get both! In my opinion, the more the merrier. I hope to own both a kitten and a puppy one day.

To those of you who are allergic to either or both species, I feel very sorry for you. Even if you can't personally enjoy having a cat or a dog as a pet, here are some cute stories to brighten your day:

[Truffles the Kitty](#) is a friendly feline who helps kids feel more at ease during their optometrist appointments at A Child's Eyes, an eye clinic in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania run by optician Danielle Crull. She was adopted in November of 2017 after being spotted in a church parking lot. The owner of the eye clinic explained that Truffles was very easy to train as a kitten and not phased when she first wore glasses. Since then, Truffles has adopted several more pairs of specs and walks around the clinic at her will. Crull stated, "It can take me a long time to build a child's trust to get them trying on glasses, but in struts Truffles in her glasses, and the children immediately feel at ease around her."

[The Dogist](#) is a blog run by Elias Weiss Friedman, who documents the “beauty of dogs.” A graduate of Boston University, Friedman walks around New York City and approaches dog owners walking their pets, asking if he can take pictures of them. He asks the owners for the backstory behind their pets and inquires about any quirky personality traits they may have. Besides his email newsletter, Friedman runs multiple platforms (@thedogist) on Instagram, X (previously known as Twitter), and TikTok. With millions of followers, The Dogist is popular for good reason, as the dogs he photographs are always cute and sure to brighten your day.

Loving Cats Worldwide (LCWW) is an international cat extravaganza founded by cat judge Steven Meserve. Meserve showcases “best of breed” kitties, ranging from Bengals to Mainecoons. He is a passionate cat rescuer and enjoys spreading his love for cats around the world. The Meserve Foundation aims to “[drastically reduce the numbers in need and ensure a brighter future for all cats](#)”.

Nala the golden retriever is a beloved canine most popular on TikTok ([@adventuringwithnala](#)), where she went viral for her “Nala stomp.” Nala’s owner, Chris Lindamood, is an avid outdoorsman who loves to go hiking and backpacking across the country with Nala. The Nala stomp is a dance that Nala does with her owner, during which she goes into between his legs and stomps her legs back and forth while he sings, “She stomps, she stomps, she do the Nala stomp!”

Whatever your preference, it’s clear that both cats and dogs are wonderful friends to have. If you don’t already have a pet, hopefully this article will inspire you to get one of your own someday!

Exploring Student Perspectives on Jewelry

Reagan Westerman 11.03.23



Photo by Jimmy Chan

Andrews University has a wide range of students who hold a variety of beliefs. One such belief surrounds the topic of jewelry and is rarely discussed and may need to be a more open topic on this college campus. This is important because of the religious context of Andrews University as an Adventist institution. According to some Biblical texts and writings from Ellen White, jewelry is something that should not be worn.

The origin and history of jewelry can be observed through the Bible. God created precious jewels to be of use. Since even small portions of jewelry were rare or unusual, they were bartered and used as a select form of currency. Over time, individuals began to wear jewels in order to impress others with their [wealth](#). When at the market, people could simply pull off their bracelets or rings and pay for the item. In the Bible, we see this with Abraham's servant "paying" Rebecca

after she watered his camels, “And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold” Genesis 24:22. Similarly, when Israel built the temple, they brought an offering to the Lord using their jewelry (their money). “And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the Lord” Exodus 35:22. Some Adventists argue that God does not want his sons and daughters to adorn themselves with wealth for all to see. Rather, humble themselves and place all of the attention pointing towards God. The way we speak, dress, act, etc.

Many may point to Matthew 7:20, “By their fruits ye shall know them.” When saying this, it is believed that you know a Christian based on their actions, or their outer appearance. If they follow the character and image of God. Or, in other words, their fruits. You cannot know a person by what their intentions or beliefs may be, yet what the person produces, this is what others in the world should classify as a Christian: to be the body of Christ. Along those lines, John 20:21 states, “As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.” To be a demonstration of God, a representation of His image, 2 Corinthians 3:18 says, “We all... are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

Finally, the last big argument for conservative Adventists is that jewelry is a form of pride or that many who wear jewelry are not satisfied with themselves and must adorn themselves in order to feel priceless. Isaiah 3:16-23 reads, “Moreover the Lord says: Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with outstretched necks and wanton [seductive] eyes, Walking and mincing [swaying] as they go, ... In that day the Lord will take away the finery: The jingling anklets, the scarves, and the crescents; The pendants, the bracelets, and the veils; The headdresses, the leg ornaments, and the headbands; The perfume boxes, the charms, and the rings; The nose jewels, the festal apparel, and the mantles; The outer garments, the purses, and the mirrors; The fine linen, the turbans, and the robes.”

If you don't know whether it is wrong or not, perhaps it is best to just not do it at all. As [Doug Bachelor](#) has stated, “I know that on the judgment day, God will not condemn anyone

for not wearing enough jewelry.” So the safe thing to do is not wear any.

On Andrew's campus, some have stated their opinions, which leave this hotly debated topic open for discussion. Many from different cultures and a variety of backgrounds were generous enough to give their side of the story and opinions.

Uccitly Caballero (senior, French and psychology)

"[I grew up in] Mexican culture but also super strict SDA. It was almost as if the SDA church was saying you are betraying God and you are a heathen and going to hell [for wearing jewelry]. People should be allowed to freely express themselves. Diversity and culture is beautiful and when you try to eliminate that with strict laws it takes away the culture."

Anna Pak (sophomore, psychology and pre-optometry)

"My parents and my home church lean more on the conservative side, so I always was advised not to wear jewelry at all, no matter how simple or small. Now that I'm older, I've gotten the chance to experiment with my style and try out different types of jewelry, such as necklaces, rings, and earrings. A lot of pieces I wear tend to be more minimalistic, and some have been gifted to me. Although I do understand the Adventist perspective of not wanting to give off the impression of being vain, I do think jewelry can play an important part in how you express yourself, and so I do believe that jewelry should, in most circumstances, be okay."

Nalani Bodden (senior, psychology)

"Wearing jewelry is not an issue. I was always told jewelry was wrong. The Bible teaches that by having a real relationship with God, we will make it to heaven. I do not think that wearing jewelry will impact whether you make it to heaven or not. Many people from different religions will also make it to heaven, and some may wear jewelry, so why are we (Adventists) the exception? As Adventists, we are always focused on looking like a Christian, and if individuals don't, we judge them. Instead, we should encourage people to have an actual relationship with God."

Zoe Shiu (senior, music and psychology)

"Jewelry was generally discouraged in the culture of my church. Currently, I don't hold jewelry to be a moral issue based on what I gathered from my meager attempt at a preliminary Bible search. I also tend to think that there is sufficient suffering and trauma going on in humanity that moralizing jewelry may not be the most efficient use of our time or energy if we could be investing in providing humans with safety or relief from pain."

Lexie Dunham (junior, psychology)

"There was a lot of difference in opinions. It was really interesting because I never

remember my particular SDA church placing a strong emphasis on it at all. My parents were relatively neutral on the subject. They were never really against anyone who wore it unless it was in the rule book at school that we couldn't. My school was against it, but as I got older (same school), the rules started to get more relaxed. I personally do not. Only because I don't think it's a huge salvation issue. I think it's important that we don't look at what is on people's bodies but instead what is in their hearts and minds and what kind of person they are. I personally have a few rings and am planning to get a few more. I think it's really beautiful to be able to express yourself in different ways, as long as you never forget your inner beauty!"

Lia Glass (sophomore, digital communications)

My parents were always very chill about jewelry. I grew up being allowed to wear necklaces and stuff. My sister got her ears pierced when she was like 11. I don't agree with the Adventist view of no jewelry, I've always seen it as fine. I feel like "adorning yourself" is a mindset and has more to do with the intent than action.

Jewelry is a long standing issue, and whether jewelry should be appreciated or integrated into the church is a point of view that should not separate God's children or create a divide in which Christian's should act hostile or unloving toward one another.

IDEAS

Israeli- Gaza, the Split of Public Opinion, United Nations Resolutions and What We Can Do

Robert Zhang 11.03.23



Photo by Alyssa Joo

The issue of territorial sovereignty in the Middle East is arguably one of the most complicated issues in human history. The author goes so far as to assert that anyone who claims to fully understand the problems of the Middle East must not understand anything about the problems in the Middle East at all. Therefore, the main purpose of this article is only to bring a different perspective that the audience can use to look at this issue. After all, it is easy to just support one party that meets the geo-political needs of one's own country, but there are other important perspectives.

With the [Al-Aqsa Flood operation](#) launched by [Hamas](#) on October 7, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict once again returned to the spotlight. Palestinian

militants successfully broke through the separation wall and invaded the Israeli-occupied territories around Gaza, causing heavy casualties to Israeli soldiers and civilians before most militants were annihilated; [Hamas said](#) its attack was in response to [Israeli violations of Al-Aqsa Mosque](#) compound and rising [settler violence against Palestinians](#) in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem. Israel subsequently [declared war](#) on Hamas. US President Joe Biden and others described the day as "the worst mass murder of Jews since the Holocaust."

After the initial attack, Hamas took a large number of [civilians hostage](#) into Gaza to prevent Israeli retaliatory bombing. Following the Hamas attack, Israeli Prime Minister [Netanyahu](#) announced a mobilization order for 300,000 Israeli troops and a full-scale blockade of the Gaza Strip. Now, Israel has launched a [ground offensive](#) , but these days of siege and continuous [bombing of Gaza](#) have increased the number of civilian casualties.

Since the attack, the United Nations Security Council has launched several draft ceasefire resolutions, but, unfortunately, none of them were passed because its [five permanent members](#) could not reach consensus; the closest to being passed among them is [Brazil's draft](#) . Brazil's resolution clearly recognizes Hamas as a terrorist organization and calls for a humanitarian ceasefire; it received twelve votes in favor and was rejected by one vote. The reason for the vote to reject is that the draft resolution did not include Israel's right to self-defense. If the Security Council cannot reach an agreement, the decision will be made by the United Nations General Assembly. The [United Nations General Assembly](#) subsequently held an emergency meeting and adopted a resolution calling for a [humanitarian ceasefire](#) . The resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly are not mandatory. Only the resolutions of the UN Security Council can have [mandatory binding force](#) ; the resolutions of the UN General Assembly can only serve as political expressions.

After the initial weeks of almost unanimous condemnation of the Hamas terror attacks, public opinion now appears to be polarized. The first thing that needs to be said is that those who [support Palestine](#) are not of the same origin as those who support Hamas, and Pro-Palestinian voices also condemn Hamas' terrorist acts/attacks. As far as I know, from [New York](#) to [London](#) , people in Western countries that are stereotypically more pro-Israel have held large-scale demonstrations in support of Palestine. Such divisive remarks may be because of the increasingly extreme behavior on both sides of the conflict.

[Supporters](#) of Israel emphasize Israel's right to self-defense and human rights; they also emphasize Hamas as a terrorist organization (therefore Israel's military operations are just counter-terrorism operations), and condemn its terrorist acts. Such voices condemned Hamas' terrorist attacks and the act of taking hostages to prevent retaliation. They also condemned the periodic launching of rockets by Hamas to attack Israel, and Hamas's indiscriminate attacks on civilians.

However, the people who support Palestine think these actions by Hamas may be due to the greater humanitarian crisis caused by [Israel's siege](#). Pro-Palestinian voices also emphasize human rights; they condemn Israeli supporters for ignoring the human rights of Palestinian civilians. They state that the fundamental problem of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is Israel's policy of [encroaching](#) on Palestinian territory. The UN General Assembly condemns Israel's [actions](#) after occupying former Palestinian territories [almost every year](#), this does not go away and ultimately leads to its own bitter consequences. As UN Secretary-General [Guterres says](#): “This [crisis] did not happen in a vacuum.”

As of November 2, this conflict has caused almost 9,000 deaths and more than 20,000 injuries of Palestinians according to Gaza authorities and [UN news](#); the [Israeli](#) authorities claimed that there were only more than 1,000 deaths in Gaza, with no information on civilian injuries, and Israel has suffered approximately 1,400 deaths and 5,400 injuries. Due to the blockade by the Israel Defense Forces, only [272 trucks](#) carrying relief supplies have entered the Gaza Strip so far, yet urgently needed fuel and life-saving supplies are still unable to enter the Gaza Strip due to the [band](#) of Israeli authorities. It is conceivable that in the [Gaza Strip](#), which lacks fuel, food, freshwater and medical supplies, death is approaching step by step. For now, as the Gaza Strip is still in a state of blockade and war, the assistance that individuals can offer is very limited. As of October 27, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees ([UNRWA](#)) issued a statement stating that 14 people had been killed in the past 24 hours, and the total number of UN staff killed in Gaza had increased to 53; as of [November 2](#), the death toll had reached 70 and 22 injured. Perhaps a donation to [UNRWA](#) and dissemination of the organization's work is the best place to offer support. Whatever your views on the issue, the existence of a humanitarian crisis in Palestine is clear and well-documented; we must condemn all civilian casualties caused by any party and condemn all the humanitarian crises caused by any party, as this is the first step to call for peace.

Pulse

PULSE

“Everything Happens For A Reason”

Nicole Compton-Gray 11.03.23



Photo by Arina Krasnikova

Do you feel like everything happens for a reason? According to a [research study](#), 78% of individuals would answer “Yes” to this question. Imagine my utter astonishment when I discovered that I fit into the popular crowd, at least on this matter. Truly, it was a spit-your-latte kind of moment, dashing my hopes of being the eccentric, feather-boia-wearing lady all the little kids laugh at. Then I had to be honest and think back to a time when someone had said this phrase to me and it felt like needles being pushed into my heart. I remember thinking “How rude!” So,

back in my comfortable position—feathers primed—I found myself in a conundrum.

In both agreement and disagreement with this sentiment, I believe what it boils down to is empathic math. Empathic math is a feeling equation that will look something like considering the individual being affected, their personal feelings and beliefs, removing my personal feelings and beliefs, considering a positive communal effect or outcome, adding in Jesus's love and desire for his people, bringing to focus the plan of salvation from the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. While I do believe that everything happens for a reason, I also don't think it is appropriate to express this sentiment to someone who is grieving the loss of a loved one, just found out their child is going to be battling a terminal illness, or witnessed a catastrophic event. I think sometimes, as Christians, in our certainty of a Heavenly Father who is in control and soon coming, we may lose our humility in our knowledge of the plight of humanity. One individual may explain that they believe God stopped their sliding car and their life was saved from hitting a large tree. On the other hand a mother who watched her beautiful 12-year-old child's light fade from cancer is left wondering, "Why?" So how can the idea that everything happens for a reason be true?

Purpose and divine appointments are my answer. The first person in the previous scenario was not yet in a place of faith where their salvation was sure. Their purpose was not yet fulfilled, and they had divine appointments that were still to be met. The mother's child was already walking with Christ; there was not one person who came into contact with that child who could speak of anything other than the pure joy of being in the presence of the child, what light they were to others, and how medical research that the child participated in opened a medical discovery that would then save thousands of other lives. John 15:13 says, "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." Are we always privy to the reasoning of God? No, but because we have faith, we can have peace.

While some may be of the mind that this sentiment is more of an antidote to avoid difficult discussions or questions, I would strongly disagree. If anything, it would be my idea that this sentiment opens up and causes us to reason more, bringing us closer to the mercy of our Creator. For when you walk in purpose, do you not see purpose? When we surrender ourselves to God's perfect timing, walking the path He has planned for us, coupled with the knowledge of the Holy Spirit as our ever-present and perfect guide. Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a

future and a hope.” Is not every moment of our life a planned opportunity by God to fulfill his purpose in uplifting and helping each other overcome the tyranny of the adversary?

PULSE

Moral Conflict: What is the Right Thing to Do?

Katie Davis 11.03.23



Photo by Liza Summer

As young adults, we go through various changes that occur rapidly in our lives. We graduate from high school and start making the most challenging decisions in our lives, like what school we are going to, what degree we are going to get, and maybe finding a person to marry. Discovering who we are and who we are to become may be challenging as we begin to develop our moral compass. One major factor that

impacts this process is our cognitive dissonance. [Cognitive dissonance](#) is “the mental discomfort that results from holding two conflicting beliefs, values, or attitudes. People tend to seek consistency in their attitudes and perceptions, so this conflict causes unpleasant feelings or unease or discomfort.” This article will describe various signs of cognitive dissonance, give examples, and discuss the impact that it has on AU students.

We all experience some type of cognitive dissonance, some more than others. Some of the [signs](#) that individuals might experience include: experiencing apprehension prior to making choices or taking action, striving to justify or explain decisions or actions taken, grappling with self-consciousness or regret about one's actions and trying to keep them hidden, confronting feelings of guilt or remorse from past endeavors, and engaging in activities due to societal pressures or a fear of missing out. [Examples](#) of cognitive dissonance include: 1) Wanting to be healthy but not regularly exercise or eat a nutritious diet, making you feel guilty. 2) aspiring to increase your savings, but often you spend more than you receive, which leads you to regret spending money. 3) When you have an extensive list of tasks to complete, but instead of tackling them, you devote your day to enjoying your favorite shows. You don't want your parents to know, so you do minimalistic work just to get a passing grade on midterms.

As we reach a particular stage in life, we start formulating our unique set of morals and values to serve as our personal compass. However, due to deeply ingrained values we inherited from our parents, it becomes challenging to align our actions with these newly established principles. Establishing a fresh foundation of beliefs, while rooted in generations of pre-existing convictions, becomes a source of significant inner conflict, resulting in cognitive dissonance.

As students at Andrews University, we find ourselves in a cognitive dissonance battle with our morals and values. Our parents may have required us to participate in church activities. Still, now that we are at Andrews, we feel like we must participate in church services even though we do not want to because we notice that involvement in church does not give us the same excitement and joy as when we were younger. Or we grew up in a household that did not support our mental health, and now that we are at Andrews and have the opportunities to improve our mental health, however we do not actively seek it because of cognitive dissonance. As we progress through our college years at Andrews University, the struggle between adhering to inherited values and forging our own moral compass becomes increasingly pronounced. The tension of cognitive dissonance is

palpable, compelling us to reevaluate our beliefs, engagement in church, and the pursuit to improve aspects of our lives that are more important to us now. We are confronted with this intricate process of self-discovery and identity formation that will impact our future.

PULSE

Productivity & Success

Anna Rybachek 11.03.23



Photo by Ivan Samkov

HOW DOES THE ASSOCIATION OF PRODUCTIVITY WITH SUCCESS CHALLENGE COLLEGE?

When asked to define success, the answers among men and boys interviewed in this [Glamour video](#) varied. But a common theme emerged: Success is linked to achievement and satisfaction with oneself and one's accomplishments. Success is all about doing things. Accomplishing a particular goal, achieving a peaceful and happy state of mind, and being content with what one is and does. This idea of

success being associated closely with accomplishments is significant. This idea motivates people to do their best and reach for their dreams. But this mindset of success could also be harmful. We can get caught up in the endless cycle of chasing after our goals, never achieving that contented state of mind. In our hustle-and-grind culture, we often are so busy doing things that we may forget why we even do them.

College students are not immune to this idea. Achieving good grades, being involved in different groups and extracurricular activities, and leaving a legacy are just some of the pressures one experiences. Social media can fuel this flame of productivity and busyness, as comparing our accomplishments to those online may cause us to strive for higher levels of “success.” To see if this is true, I interviewed some students here on campus to see what they think about success and productivity.

Do you agree that “a productive person is a successful person?”

If they are being productive, then yes, I would say that person is successful.” - Alex Nwanganga (sophomore, computer engineering)

“I agree with the statement that a productive person is a successful person as that means you are making goals, doing things to accomplish those goals, basically being proactive.” - Lucas Lacy (sophomore, pre-physical therapy)

“It depends. For me personally, being productive and being successful can go hand in hand, but often, I gain inspiration in moments when I am not necessarily being productive. So I feel as though you do not necessarily have to be productive to be successful, but they are related.” - Jean Fitch (sophomore, digital communications)

Do you think college students are often pushed to be productive/successful?

“There is a high pressure to be productive because we have a lot of exams and things going on, and when we can rest, there are chapels and extracurriculars.” - Dayana Abou Haykal (senior, medical laboratory science)

“Also having to graduate puts a lot of pressure to be productive and successful.” - Joyce Hajaj (senior, medical laboratory sciences)

Overall, success is seen as an achievement-based measurement of what people are doing with their lives. And because productivity is often considered a measure of

success, very productive people are seen as successful. But this obsession with productivity and always going, going, going can result in many people feeling dissatisfied with their lives and constantly striving to do more. Often, people can experience dissatisfaction or burnout concerning their lives. We must understand that while being productive is essential, it looks different for everyone. Remember that the whole point of success is achieving one's goals and dreams and being satisfied with one's life. Obsession with being productive can result in you losing sight of your goal, which was the whole reason you tried to become productive in the first place. Remember why you are hustling. And take the time to evaluate whether you are hustling for a cause or just because everyone else is.

PULSE

Social Media and the College Student: A Useful Tool or a Destructive Spiral?

Rodney Bell II [11.03.23](#)

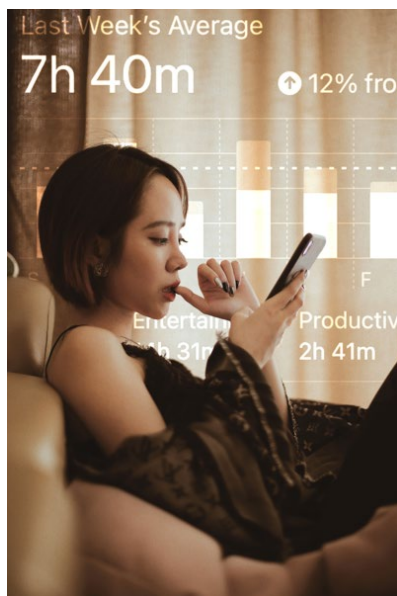


Photo by Teddy Yang

We all use social media in various ways—for educational purposes, connecting with friends, or simply for entertainment. In the past few years, short-form social media has become more prevalent with the introduction of mediums like TikTok, YouTube shorts, Instagram reels, and more. According to YouTube statistics, 74% of adult users watch YouTube shorts regularly, accumulating over 3.5 billion daily views in 2020. Advertisers use this increase in short-form content engagement to move towards one and two-second subliminal ad campaigns! There is a seriously negative impact all of this content can have on young people, however, especially on college students.

Feelings of [social isolation](#), depression, and anxiety have all increased in response to the heavy utilization of social media in the modern age. The World Health Organization (WHO) has even issued [statements](#) of concern over the impact social media is having on young minds and their development. We are blessed to live in a world with a wealth of information at our fingertips. On the other hand, however, this can lead to doom-scrolling, the act of consuming a large amount of content over an extended period of time. Its effects are often negative.

Another [study](#) examined the harms of social media scrolling and how easy it is to be sucked into a stream of content and only realize it when you leave it hours later.

I have certainly felt this downward media spiral myself. You click on a short created by someone you follow, then scroll down to see if there is anything else interesting until suddenly you realize you've been looking through media for an hour, if not more. Shorts, as well as other forms of microcontent, are designed to be [addictive](#) by grabbing your attention and making you lose track of time. Part of the reason for this is that shorts tend to get the point quickly, which ends up sending a constant stream of dopamine to our brains. More importantly, however, this issue concerns the nature of our attention spans.

A study at the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science showed that the average human attention span is actually about [8 seconds](#). We focus on long-form content by constantly re-engaging with it, though this is often done unconsciously rather than our attention simply being that length. On the one hand, this means that the idea of our attention spans getting shorter is false. But on the other hand, social media is still having an impact by teaching us how to use the skill of re-engagement less and less. This decrease in an unconscious ability to focus has seemingly led to decreased academic [performance](#) and social skills. If

you can't focus during a conversation with your friends, then they are likely to feel ignored or snubbed.

It is important to remember that no one thing is fully responsible for academic performance or social issues, but it is clear that the media has a key role to play in these issues. What should we do about it? After all, it isn't realistic to avoid all media in the modern age, especially if you are using technology to connect with friends and family over long distances. More than that, there is a lot of good that can be found on the same platforms where all of these problems are arising. Documentaries, news, educational content, and more are all mixed together with short-form, meaningless content. Should we simply get rid of both to stop ourselves from staying addicted to videos designed to do so?

A few solutions posited in several of the studies mentioned above include:

1. Only access YouTube from your computer. Shorts are much easier to avoid from the computer, and most of the issues come from mobile use, which is how 78% of users engage.
2. Don't keep your phone next to your bed/don't use social media first thing in the morning or last thing at night. These things impact your circadian rhythm and only serve to cause additional stress and problems that will only encourage addiction and engagement.
3. Reduce the amount of social media accounts you have. Having a few to engage with friends or watch some media on is reasonable and expected, but the more accounts with different apps you have, the more temptation comes along with it. Maybe instead of having YT, Twitter, TikTok, Instagram, etc., you only need one or two.
4. Take time to engage in long-form content. This will help your unconscious mind gain a better grasp on staying focused.
5. Spend time talking to others without technology present. Don't look at your phone while talking with new acquaintances or friends. Instead, choose to actively engage in what is happening around you.

If all else fails, seek additional help. This can be from a friend or professional, but if you simply cannot find it possible to control your own behavior and you have a problem, seeking assistance from others is recommended. There is nothing wrong with asking for help, and we all need a hand occasionally.

Last Word

LAST WORD

To Be Loved and to Love

Wambui Karanja 11.03.23



Photo by Wambui Karanja

Love. It's a concept that I have found to be particularly elusive.

It seems to have such a widely accepted and intuitive definition. Yet I cannot truly pinpoint what this definition is.

Yes, I *love* my mom; I *love* my friends.

But I also love butterflies, rolling down big hills, and sushi.

Can such a wide variety of things that constitute objects of my affection really be related back to the same concept of love?

In his book “The Art of Loving,” German social psychologist and psychoanalyst Erich Fromm suggests that “the active character of love becomes evident in the fact that it always implies certain basic elements, common to all forms of love. These are care, responsibility, respect and knowledge.”

In developing my personal philosophical paradigm—as we likely are all doing at this stage in our lives – I have found that to love and to be loved may be the quintessential goal of this life. Everything I do is either a response to or an initiation of Fromm's basic elements of love. The ways in which I relate to the divine, other people, and myself are all rooted in my view of love.

According to the Oxford Dictionary, “art” is defined as a "skill at doing a specified thing, typically one acquired through practice." The art of love, then, could be an ever-evolving skill that we practice throughout our lifetime, learning and adapting in each new experience.

Over this past summer, I took a trip to Cartagena, Colombia with my mom and some members of my home church. The purpose of our trip was to interact with and make an impact on as many people as we could in our time there. This included giving vision screenings and providing people with reading glasses, singing songs and playing games with children, and more. For the record, it should be noted that my personal ideas surrounding missionary work have been complicated because of its proximity to and involvement with colonialism – both historically and in the present day. However, I appreciated that the objective of this mission was less about what knowledge we could impart because of our supposed spiritual or other superiority and more about fostering spaces for genuine human interaction and encounters with the divine.

On our third day in Colombia, our group set out on an hour-long trip through the busy, motorbike-littered streets of Cartagena and into a smaller community outside of the city. The homes were close together, and children ran to and fro—stopping to stare curiously at the strangers that had just shown up in their neighborhood. Throughout the day, we sang songs with the kids, did vision screenings, gave out reading glasses, and ultimately formed authentic relationships with the people of that community—despite the language barrier. We

ended our time with a delicious meal that the mothers of the church prepared for us.

Once I returned to my room, I reflected on the events of the day. At the very core of my being, I felt nurtured and loved, and that I had also loved. I thought back to when we walked into a home in the community, and this precious little girl tapped me. When I bent down to look at her, she gave me the brightest smile and most enthusiastic wave. Throughout the day, I had experienced so many moments like this: moments where it became undeniably clear that we were created for love—for genuine human connection. I realized that this is one of the deepest human desires. The famous reggae musician Robert Nesta Marley asked an important question: “Could you *be* love and be loved?” That little girl who tapped me seemed to know the answer.