

1-27-2014

Current, January 27, 2014

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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Recommended Citation

University of Missouri-St. Louis, "Current, January 27, 2014" (2014). *Current (2010s)*. 158.
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UMSL celebrates memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Touhill

HEATHER WELBORN
FEATURES EDITOR

Community members came together on January 20 to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. The program, titled "Is Dr. King's Voice Still Speaking Today?" included guest lectures, faculty performances and scholarship awards inspired by the ongoing memory of Dr. King. The event was sponsored by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, with co-sponsorship by the African American Alumni Chapter, African American Alumni Chapter, Coca Cola, Division of Student Affairs, Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, St. Louis Public Radio 90.7 KWMU, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Sodexo, Student Government Association, University Program Board, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Admission was free and open to the public.

The program opened with a greeting from Deborah Burris, Director and Chief Diversity Officer of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity. Burris encouraged members of the audience to be inspired by the speakers and performers of the afternoon. She co-dedicated the celebration to Dr. Nelson Mandela before turning the stage over to Jasmine Huda, anchor and reporter for KMOV-TV. Huda served as Mistress of Ceremonies at the event.

After briefly addressing the audience, Huda introduced the Cote Brillante Presbyterian Church Men's Chorus. Chorus director Dwayne Buggs encouraged attendees to sing along as the chorus sang "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," and "Lift Every Voice and Sing."



1) Cote Brillante Presbyterian Church Men's Chorus 2) Chancellor Tom George 3) Kimberly Phillips performs 'If I Can Help Somebody Dance'

Following the performance, Huda introduced Chancellor Thomas George, who extended his welcome to attendees. After the Chancellor's address was a dance, titled "If I Can Help Somebody." The piece was performed by Kimberly Phillips, senior, theater and dance, and choreographed by Jennifer Medina, assistant professor of Theater and Dance.

The guest speaker at the event was Wes Moore, host of "Beyond Belief" on the Oprah Winfrey

Network and author of the New York Times Bestseller "The Other Wes Moore." Moore is an author, youth advocate, Rhodes Scholar and Army veteran. His lecture drew from the work and philosophy of Dr. King, emphasizing social unity and service to fellow man.

A spoken word performance, entitled "Letter to Dr. King," was presented by the University of Missouri—St. Louis students Aleshia Patterson, senior, undeclared, and Gustavo Diaz

Perez, senior, music. The powerful performance paired Patterson's passionate speech with Perez's soulful song.

Charles Piller, past president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, Epsilon Lambda chapter, presented awards to the two recipients of the 2014 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship. Shawntelle Fisher, junior, education, and Briana Lawson, senior, psychology, read their winning essays to the audience, receiving thunderous applause.

A dramatic presentation, titled "The Mountaintop," was performed in front of a video screen with powerful imagery ranging from Dr. King's speeches to footage from Hurricane Katrina. The performance was directed by Jaqueline Thompson, assistant professor of Theater, Dance and Media Studies.

The Cote Brillante Presbyterian Men's Chorus closed out the celebration with a performance of "We Shall Overcome" with the audience.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 250 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent, or grammar. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

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NOW HIRING!

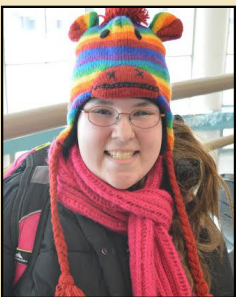
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THE UNDERCURRENT By Siyun Zhang

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THE SEMESTER?



CAMERON NUNN
Sophomore, Physics

“To survive the winter.”



CARL MANGANELLI
Sophomore,
Computer Science

“To get used to this school because this is my first semester here.”



KATIE SOEDER
Senior, Communications

“I’m graduating; that’s the number one goal in the semester. And I’m also doing an internship this semester. My second goal is to do well in my internship, and help spread the word about UMSL.”

MON 25^{HI}
5^{LOW}

TUE 21^{HI}
12^{LOW}

WED 37^{HI}
28^{LOW}

THU 43^{HI}
23^{LOW}

FRI 36^{HI}
30^{LOW}

SAT 41^{HI}
23^{LOW}

SUN 36^{HI}
23^{LOW}

NEWS BRIEFS



UM system president pushes for tuition freeze in 2014

Last week, Governor Jay Nixon proposed increased spending in higher education of more than \$80 million, with major allocations for STEM and mental health needs. Nixon, however, is calling on Missouri schools to not raise tuition for the 2014-2015 school year.

Tim Wolfe, president of the UM system, has agreed to make the recommendation to trustees, who may vote on the issue this week.

Some anxiety remains as the Legislature has not yet decided on Nixon's proposed measure.

New UMSL scholarship helps students graduate amidst Pell changes

Effective in the 2012-2013 school year, the Federal Pell Grant lifetime limit was reduced from 18 semesters to 12 semesters or from nine to six school years.

While individual Pell amounts have not changed, aid was effectively cut off for long-term students who had reached the maximum. With no grandfathering process, the

new policy left some projected 100,000 students across the nation on the verge of graduation without any federal aid and a whopping tuition bill.

UMSL has initiated a new scholarship, the Senior Degree Completion Program that has helped six recipients in fall semester of 2013. To be eligible, the student must: (1) have exhausted federal and state aid,

including loans; (2) be making Satisfactory Academic Progress with a 2.0 cumulative GPA; (3) be working on his/her first bachelor's degree; and (4) be within 30 credit hours of degree completion. Preference will be given to students within one semester of graduation with 15 credit hours or less remaining in their program.



**YOU'RE IN
DANGER**
OF LIVING A LONG,
HEALTHY LIFE.

Today, people are living longer than ever. Which means you'll need to be prepared not just for retirement, but for the 30 years after. We'll guide you through each one by putting together a comprehensive, personalized plan for you. It's one more way we deliver Outcomes That Matter.

Retirement can last 30 years or more.
We can get you through each one.
Get started at TIAA.org/plan.



Financial Services

Outcomes
That Matter



LIPPER
FUND AWARDS 2013
UNITED STATES
**BEST OVERALL
LARGE FUND
COMPANY**

The Lipper Award is based on a review of 36 companies' 2012 risk-adjusted performance.

The Lipper award is given to the group with the lowest average decile ranking of three years' Consistent Return for eligible funds over the three-year period ended 11/30/12. TIAA-CREF was ranked against 35 fund companies with at least five equity, five bond, or three mixed-asset portfolios.

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Type of service available varies.

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KMOX host Charlie Brennan speaks at economic lecture

HEATHER WELBORN
FEATURES EDITOR

Local radio personality Charlie Brennan was the guest speaker at the University of Missouri–St. Louis Economics Lecture Series on January 22. The event was held in the Social Sciences and Business Building McDonnell Conference Room and saw a sizable attendance. Brennan's speech drew from his new book, "Amazing St. Louis," in celebration of the city's upcoming 250th birthday.

Brennan expressed his love for the city of St. Louis in the form of a casual lesson in local history. He shared stories of the area's notable men and women whose lives and work made a lasting impact on the world. Brennan's speaking points ranged from well-known St. Louis celebrities to overlooked influential locals in the fields of politics, music, aviation and economics.

The lecture began with Brennan discussing the disputed date of when St. Louis was founded. While the specific calendar date is debated, what is certain is the age of St. Louis founder Auguste Chouteau, who was a mere 14 years old when he first arrived to the city in February 1764. "There's a lot about St. Louis that you don't learn in school," Brennan said.

Notable locals mentioned in Brennan's hour-long lecture ranged from Twitter founder Jack Dorsey to Beat literature legend William S. Burroughs. Brennan claimed Charles Lindbergh, the St. Louisian who first flew across the Atlantic, was effectively the first media superstar. A little gentle ribbing was included

in Brennan's lecture as he mentioned Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, the founder of the city of Chicago, Illinois. Point du Sable, a Missouri native who also died here, inspired the baseball fan in Brennan, who joked, "the founder of Chicago would rather live and die in Cardinal Nation."

"My point is, if you've got it, flaunt it," Brennan said before taking questions from the audience. He mentioned many instances of deeply impoverished locals, many of them orphans, defying odds and achieving widespread success within their lifetime. He emphasized how "humble beginnings went on to create great things."

Brennan has served St. Louis at KMOX for 25 years. Known for his passion for St. Louis, Brennan's work has received wide recognition. For five years in a row, he has been named "One of the Most Influential St. Louisans" by the St. Louis Business Journal. St. Louis Magazine called Brennan one of St. Louis' 50 Most Powerful People.

Brennan has been involved in many community-oriented campaigns. One recent initiative successfully restored medical benefits to blind Missourians. In 2012, Brennan recruited enough volunteers to plant flowers along area highways. To commemorate St. Louis native and "Father of Rock-n-Roll" Chuck Berry, Brennan and his listeners raised over \$100,000 in 2011 to erect a statue in Berry's honor.

Brennan has engaged listeners



Brennan spoke with UMSL students and faculty on January 22

in political causes, as well. In 2011, he urged listeners to call Missouri Governor Jay Nixon to stay the execution of death row inmate Richard Clay. In an act that surprised the nation, Brennan and his supporters swayed Nixon's decision. Clay

appeared on KMOX afterward to thank Brennan and his listeners.

Brennan hosts his radio show every weekday on KMOX from 8:30 to 11 a.m. He uses his air time to facilitate discussion on local and national issues,

interview newsmakers and take listener calls. Brennan is also the host of KETC-TV's "Donnybrook," the highest rated locally-produced talk show on PBS.

Hypnotist Josh McVicar enchants students at Pilot House

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

Students were under the spell of hypnotist Josh McVicar as he performed his trickster routine at the Pilot House on January 23. Some giggled as Mickey and Minnie Mouse made out. Others saw images of their parents in a state of bliss, rapture, and excitement. A group of giddy students danced to Miley Cyrus' "We Can't Stop." They even did Michael Jackson impersonations and went into a 1970's time warp.

McVicar is a certified hypnotherapist with over 10 years of stage experience. A member of the National Guild of Hypnotists, McVicar applies his extensive training to aid his

clients in achieving goals ranging from smoking cessation and weight loss to stress and anxiety management. His venues run the gamut from Applebee's to major corporations.

McVicar described the concept of hypnosis as aiding the mind's ability to learn. Elements of hypnotism include listening, seeing and feeling. McVicar claims that within a two-hour period, the hypnotic process can take a participant into a deep subconsciousness that results in a feeling parallel to receiving a full night of sleep.

"You cannot be hypnotized against your will, nor you will not

be induced into doing anything mortifying or demeaning," McVicar said. He comments on how hypnotism is a commonplace practice. "Many of you have been hypnotized many, many times before," McVicar said. "Whether you have lost your sense of direction on the road, or you are immersed in reading a book or an assignment."

McVicar presented the audience with an uproarious and sidesplitting show. The event was enhanced by the immediate audience interaction, quick wit, and explosive surprises brought about by the intonation of McVicar's voice. A large group

of students readily responded to McVicar's call for volunteers and clamored to the stage. McVicar put them into a deep trance with the cadence of his voice, repeatedly chanting "sleep" alongside soothing background music. The impact of his voice made its way to audience members seated at a back table.

When McVicar awakened the volunteers, everything and anything was fair game. The volunteers rushed out into the audience to help Peter Pan save Tinker Bell from an evil villain. Some participants had to explain why they were driving 95 miles an hour in a 50 mile per hour

zone to a police officer played by McVicar. "I had to go poop," one volunteer responded.

The volunteers became wild-life biologists who invented exotic animal hybrids ranging from tiger-squirrels to elephant-monkeys, each with odd sounds. Later, volunteers expressed their hidden peeves in members of the audience they were familiar with. "Why don't you just call me!" one woman ranted to her friend in the crowd.

For more information on Josh McVicar, visit mctrickster.com. You can also keep up with McVicar on Facebook and Twitter.

GALLERY VISIO

‘All That Becomes Death’ art exhibit opens at Gallery Visio

HEATHER WELBORN
FEATURES EDITOR

Gallery Visio hosted the opening reception of their newest exhibition, “All That Becomes Death,” on January 23. Students and faculty enjoyed a light buffet lunch as they viewed the works of St. Louis artist Peter Seay. The collection featured seven untitled mounted pieces and a dichromatic video projection.

The gallery space was packed for the opening, with curious viewers who snacked on spinach dip and baked desserts as they chatted with fellow attendees. Others stood closely to the artwork as they asked Seay questions. His responses to direct inquiries about his pieces were intentionally ambiguous, as was evident by the collection’s curator essay.

Instead of the usual string of paragraphs explaining the artist’s intent, Seay accompanied his exhibition with a list of cryptic clues. Of the nine puzzling hints, Clue 5 made the most sense in relation to the exhibit. It read “They direct to the sitting position (56),” ambiguously interpreted to represent the projected media piece.

The black and white footage that played on the wall featured a seated figure with a similar shadowy silhouette overlapping it. The visual layering created an eerie, ephemeral effect. Every few seconds, the position of the figures would change slightly, causing viewers to take a closer look at the footage. Many observers questioned if the image had changed at all, creating a collective sense of shared doubt while viewing the installation.

Seay’s printed pieces consisted of a single female figure photographed repeatedly in slightly altered positions. The photographs were printed onto massive pages before being sliced out and layered with a dozen other images, each varying only slightly from the next. These images were then nailed to a particle board and mounted on the gallery walls. The superimposition created a strange effect, reminiscent of a peripheral image or a song with a slight skip.

The overwhelming comment overheard at the opening was whether or not the images differed from one another. For instance, two unprocessed pieces that faced each other seemed identical, until



“Untitled” by Peter Seay

HEATHER WELBORN/THE CURRENT

inspecting the slight differences in hand position and wardrobe composition. In some portraits, the figure seems to differ only in the stitching of her jeans or how her hair lays over her shoulder.

One uncut piece seemed to stand alone upon initial inspection. Closer examination of the print showed a stack of paper underneath. With Seay’s permission, viewers carefully lifted each sheet to reveal additional images similar to the first with only slight alteration.

Seay mentioned the importance of selection of space to his work. He spent three days working on

the exhibit in the gallery. Instead of bringing in finished pieces, Seay photographed his subject on location, and prepared each piece within the gallery space. This element introduces a deeper connection to the physical creative environment. This link was further condensed in another untitled piece in the center of the room, where Seay hung the thick paper mat he used to prepare every paper component of the collection.

Seay commented on the intuitive trial-and-error process of producing fine art for a wide audience. He affirmed that his creative impulse was focused on

this process, more so than the finished product. He mused for a moment over an idea he usually employs in his paper installations, where he leaves the large scraps of sliced paper on the floor as they fall. The mess would have further emphasized the effort Seay put into his work within the gallery space.

“All That Becomes Death” will remain at the Gallery Visio until February 19. For information on gallery hours and upcoming events, visit the gallery in-person, or online at umsl.edu/~galvisio. More of Seay’s artwork can be found at peterseay.com

TOUHILL REVIEW

‘Wizard of Oz’ ballet spins magic on Touhill stage

CATE MARQUIS
A&E EDITOR



Children in fancy dress turned out in force for a charming, kid-friendly “Wizard of Oz” ballet at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center on January 24 and 25. The dance presenting organization Dance St. Louis brought Memphis Ballet’s production based on the popular L. Frank Baum favorite.

“The Wizard of Oz” books have been the inspiration for adaptation in several forms but the classic movie with Judy Garland is the

inspiration for the ballet. Fans of the movie are certain to be charmed by this light, sweet dance version.

The Touhill’s Anheuser-Busch Hall was packed for the Saturday afternoon matinee, with about half the audience made up of children and the rest parents, grandparents and dance fans. Besides the boys and girls dressed for a trip to a live performance, several girls were also dressed as Dorothy.

In dance, the story is told by

movement and music. In this case, that music is appealing, major-chord sounds by Benjamin Britten, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Gustav Holst. The choreography by Steven McMahon tells the story well, with sweet, sometimes comic dancing and a sprinkling of pantomime. Props and silhouettes projected on the backdrop create an appealing setting.

Dorothy was danced by Julie Niekrasz on Saturday afternoon, who danced with girlish energy as she frolicked in the yard of her Kansas farmhouse before the tornado whisked her off to Oz. Auntie Em (danced by Stephanie Mei Hom) and Uncle Henry (Daniel Russell Cooke) embodied domestic warm and parental concern when Dorothy goes missing before the approaching tornado. Bryn Gilbert portrays Miss Gulch with straight-backed, nose-up posture and twitchy movements, an effect both scary and funny. Rafael Ferreras Jr. was magically silly in his two roles, the

traveling magician in Kansas and, later, the Wizard of Oz. Virginia Pilgrim danced the role of Glinda the Good Witch with lightness and fairy-princess appeal. The Munchkins who send Dorothy off to see the Wizard are played by a children’s troupe, who are as cute as they could be. The same children also dance as citizens of the Emerald City, along with adult dancers.

The comic dance highlights of the show are Dorothy’s companions on the Yellow Brick Road, which is not surprising considering the cast of the film. Scarecrow, played by dancer Ray Bolger in the movie, is danced by Travis Bradley with energetic high leaps and wobbly legs, topped by a winning smile. Dylan G-Bowley adds touches of modern popping-and-locking to his dance portrayal of the Tin Man. The most comic and liveliest performance came from Kendall G. Britt Jr. as the shaggy-maned Cowardly Lion. These four dancers were the heart of this delightful

performance. Another stand-out was Crystal Brothers, who danced the role of the Wicked Witch with style and high leaping power. A green spotlight on the dancer added to her aura, as did a fabulous green and black costume.

Ensembles pieces were among the most charming. The Poppies the Wicked Witch sends to slow down Dorothy and her companions were portrayed by ballerinas in lovely yellow-orange tutus. Male dancers in white portrayed the Snow that Glinda the Good sends to counteract the effect of the sleep-inducing effect of the poppies. The scene was one of the prettiest and most pure ballet in the production. The Flying Monkeys were delightful as well, with arms bent and shoulders hunched forward as they menaced Dorothy and her friends.

The overall effect of Memphis Ballet’s “Wizard of Oz” was magical, light-hearted and charming, a perfect introduction to classical dance for any child.

KARLYNE KILLEBREW
STAFF WRITER

There are also tournaments for more traditional sports like basketball, volleyball, golf, badminton, and table tennis to name a few. No matter what the desire, there is something for everyone. For dates, times, and rules simply navigate to umsl.edu/~recsport/ to be guided through the numerous recreational opportunities.

UMSL CAMPUS RECREATION • SPRING 2014								
SPORTS & REC <i>Click on Activity for Flyer</i>	League Entries ✉	Divisions	Format	Dates	Days	Times	Place	Entry Deadline
Basketball 3-on-3		Mens, Womens	One-Nite Tourney 3:3	JAN 29	Wed	7-10pm	MT Gym	Tu, JAN 28
Ski & Snowboard Rec Trek	Text	OPEN	Off-Campus Adventure - \$25	JAN 31	Fri	6pm-12am	Hidden Valley Ski	Fri, JAN 24
Coed Volleyball	✉	COED A & B	LEAGUE 6:6	FEB 3 - APR 14	Mon	7-10pm	MT Gym	Th, JAN 30
Homecoming Battleship		OPEN 4:4	Battle to be Last Canoe Afloat	FEB 4	Tues	6-9pm	MT Pool	Mon, FEB 3
Arena Football	✉	Mens, Womens	LEAGUE 4:4	FEB 5 - MAR 5	Wed	7-10pm	MT Gym	Th, JAN 30
Basketball	✉	Mens, Womens	LEAGUE 5:5	FEB 11 - APR 15	Tues	7-10pm	MT Gym	Th, JAN 30
Badminton		M & W -Beg/Int/Adv	Singles/Doubles Tourney	FEB 13	Thur	7-10pm	MT Gym	Just Be There!
Kanjam & Cornhole		OPEN	Just for Fun & Something New!	FEB 13	Thur	7-10pm	MT Gym	Just Be There!
Table Tennis		M & W -Beg/Int/Adv	Singles/Doubles Tourney	FEB 17	Mon	7-9pm	221 MT	Fri, FEB 14
Weightlifting Contest		M & W -Wt Classes	Squat, Dead, Bench	FEB 26	Wed	1-4pm	MT Fitness Center	Just Be There!
Indoor Soccer	✉	Mens, Coed	LEAGUE 6:6	MAR 12 - APR 9	Wed	7-10pm	MT Gym	Th, MAR 6
3-Point BBall Contest		OPEN	Basketball Skill Contest	MAR 13	Thur	6:15-8pm	MT Rec Field	Just Be There!
Rock Gym 101		OPEN	Indoor Climbing Class - FREE!	APR 9	Wed	10:30am	Upper Limits Gym	Wed, APR 2
Volleyball		Mens, Womens	One-Nite Tourney 6:6	APR 21	Mon	7-10pm	MT Gym	Th, APR 17
Floor Hockey	✉	Mens, COED	MINI-LEAGUE 6:6	APR 23- MAY 7	Wed	7-10pm	MT Gym	Th, APR 17
Wallyball Triples		Mens, COED A & B	One-Nite Tourney 3:3	APR 28	Mon	6:45-10pm	MT RB Cts	Th, APR 24
Golf 9-Hole Tourney		M & W - Net & Gross	Turn Scorecard in to Rec Office	APR 28 - MAY 4	Any Day!	Any Time!	St. Anns Golf Course	Just Go Play!
BINGO Study Break Party		OPEN	BINGO, Prizes - FREE Food!	MAY 1	Thur	7-9pm	Provincial House	Just Be There!

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POINT

COUNTERPOINT

IS COLLEGE A WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY?

POINT: There are better ways to get ahead

The idea that a college education is a prerequisite for success if antiquated and ignorant. In this day and age, self-directed learning is easier than ever. Long gone are the days where books and information were only easily accessed by the wealthy. Anyone with an internet connection or a library card can increase their knowledge on just about any subject, if they're willing to put in the time and effort.

More and more top-tier universities are offering free distance learning courses. This means that just about anyone can sign up for an online course on a variety of subjects. These free courses allow participants to watch lectures (sometimes live), follow along on a course of scheduled readings, and engage with the course material in a hands-on way.

College is not enough on its own. Employers don't care that you went to college; what matters is the skill set that you can bring to the team. There are many ways

to build your own unique skill set without going into debt and paying hundred of dollars to take classes that have nothing to do with the career you're seeking.

High school graduates should forego college (and the beginnings of what is almost certain to be pointless and prodigious debt) in favor of getting their hands dirty. Get experience in the fields that you want without paying for it; apply for entry-level positions or volunteer at as many places as you can. You may not be making very much money, but at least you won't be spending money you don't have by taking out loans in order to finance an internship (a process that is, essentially, paying to work for free).

Real-life experience and self-directed learning is the way of the future. It's time that the next generation of leaders disentangle themselves from the financial and emotional trap of higher education and redefine success.

COUNTER: College is worth every penny

It's a well-known fact that college costs a lot, both in terms of money and time, but is it really worth the risk? Of course. It's true that money and time rules a lot of society as we know it, but one thing that we really shouldn't worry about when it comes down to those two factors is education. Going to college makes it easier to learn, have new experiences and build your own unique skill set.

Scholarships and grants are available to help students pay for college. Financial aid is also a huge benefit. It can provide students with the money they need in order to cover some of the costs that the school won't. With that, and grants becoming more readily available to students, the cost of college doesn't have to be so great.

Having an education is a privilege. When you've gone from kindergarten to middle school to high school, why wouldn't you want to see how far you can go in your education, and how far you can travel in your career with the help of a degree?

A lot of people underestimate the value of a college experience. By going to college, students are able to get their hands on a variety of opportunities that can positively shape their character and future, such as internships and study abroad experiences. Studying abroad helps students to expose themselves to other languages and cultures in a safe,

secure environment. Internships provide students with experience in the fields in which they wish to work, giving students a closer glimpse of that dream job they've always wanted.

College is also flexible when it comes to time. Many go for the online experience because they don't have the time to physically go to school, making it a great option for nontraditional students. For those who physically go to college, course offerings tend to be flexible, making it easier to work your class schedule around other responsibilities.

Of course, many see money as an obstacle but the truth of the matter is that money is always going to be an obstacle in life. Why not use the money you have for something grander that will benefit you in the end? College is the ultimate investment in yourself and your earning potential.

With a college education, you increase your intelligence and have experiences that may help you see the world in a different light. This can make life more enjoyable for you. Ultimately, however, investing in a college education means that, statistically, you're more likely to make more money than you would without a degree. So how can money or even time be an issue, when a college education means that, in the future, you'll be able to come by both of those things more easily?

Expanding Beyond Our Borders

Korean pop music takes America by storm

DANYEL POINDEXTER
STAFF WRITER

As the years have passed, America has embraced music from many different cultures. We are all used to different kinds of music such as Indian, Spanish, Japanese, and more. Even so, one pop culture trend has had our ears at attention: Korean music.

Korean music is known to a variety of Americans as Kpop, but the genre involves more than just pop music. Kpop influences vary from pop to rock, hip hop, and R&B. So why has this particular culture grabbed hold of so many of our attentions?

It could be fact that though a fair amount of Americans don't know what the artists are saying in their lyrics and their music videos are enjoyable to look at. They're creative and, most of the time, of out the ordinary, which is great for attracting attention.

For those who can understand the lyrics that are being performed, it's clear that the lyrics are very descriptive and poetic. Even the dance moves do a great job of portraying what the lyrics are trying to get across.

For instance, the very well-known Kpop artist Psy is known

for the song "Gangnam Style." His lyrics described how he likes to party and hangout. Gangnam is a wealthy neighborhood in South Korea and throughout his song, you can see that that's how he's decided to live it up. His video was completely entertaining, with entertaining dance moves, funny scenes and upbeat music. What's not to like?

There are many other reasons why Americans, even after "Gangnam Style," are so interested in Korean music. Many Kpop artists collaborate with American acts; for instance, Psy has collaborated with Snoop Lion and 2ne1, a Korean girl group, has worked with Will.i.Am.

Korea does a great job of promoting American music. Kpop artists regularly perform covers of popular American music during their concerts, ranging from Michael Jackson and the Black-Eyed Peas.

Oftentimes, American music can be heard in the background of many Korean films and television shows. Kpop artists also have concerts in America; this benefits the fans they already have here, but also gives



them the opportunity to attract new listeners.

Kpop artists work so hard to produce their music and have it prosper; it's only natural for people to learn to love something beyond what they're used to, when given the opportunity.

Korean music has done an excellent job at influencing Americans, but many should still remember that though Kpop is one of the big trends of today, there is still more music from various cultures that may spring into the spotlight as well. Hopefully, this is just the beginning of many changes to come.

— want to be —

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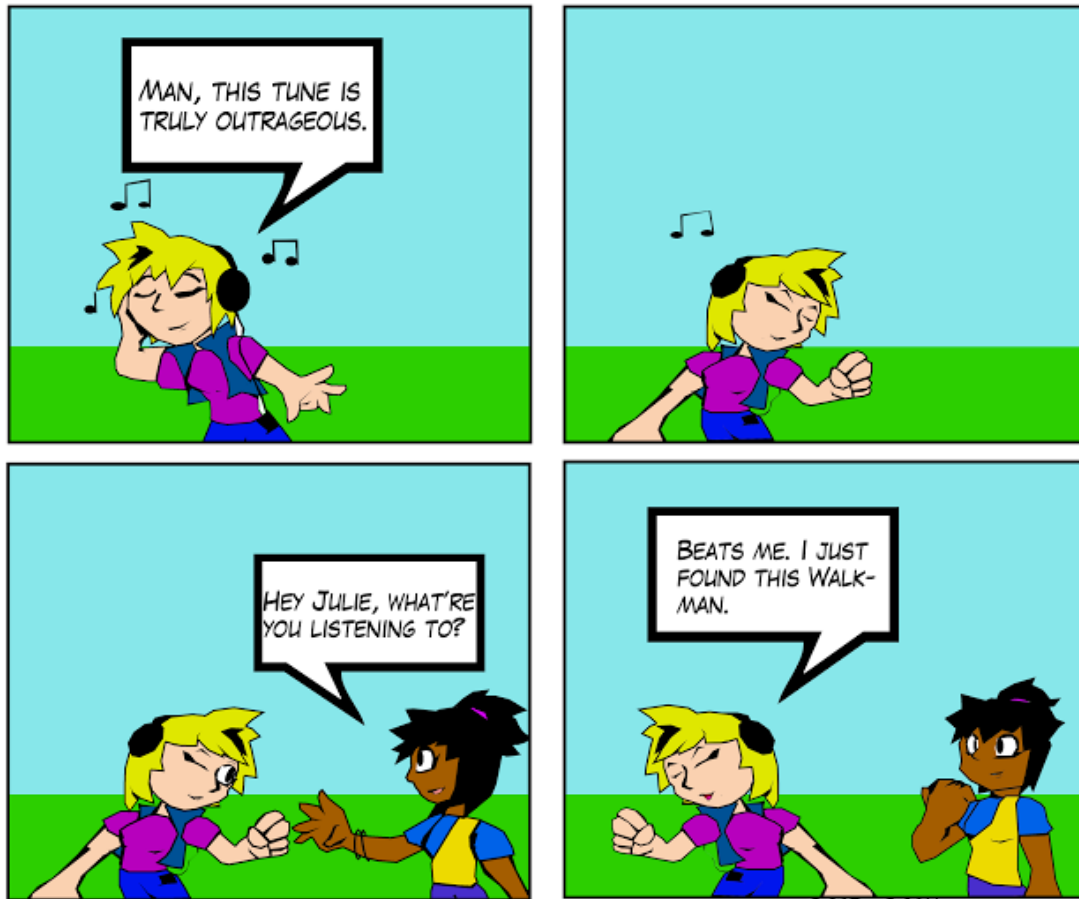
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Sasha & Nathan IN: HAPPY NOT-SO-NEW YEAR!



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-NEWS@NOON-

Sexual Assault in the Military

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 | **Time:** 12:15 to 1:30

Location: Century Room C, third floor of MSC

Presenters: Jim Craig, Associate Teaching Professor and Chair of the Department of Military and Veterans Studies, with Pamela Dorsey, Sexual Assault Prevention Program Director, Scott Air Force Base

Lunch: Pizza for the first 25 attendees

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