Waves of Gamers Participate in Global Game Jam at UMSL

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Have you ever wanted to create a video game, tabletop game, or any other activity but did not have the resources or time? The Global Game Jam (GGJ) brings those interested in creating games together in one place with the sole purpose of creating a game over a 48-hour period. Ideally, teams are three to five people but some groups may be larger.

The GGJ was held from Jan. 20 through 22 at the University of Missouri–St. Louis by the Information Systems Programming Club (ISPC). The weekend event kicked off in room 222 of the Social Sciences & Business Building at 4:30 p.m. with people registering and forming groups for the weekend. The event ran through Sunday at 7 p.m. with the deadline for members to submit their game at 3 p.m. and demo their game and others afterwards. Spillover rooms for meals and sleep were provided. The opening and closing ceremonies took place in the auditorium and room 118 SSB.

The free, annual event allows participants to design and create digital and nondigital games over the course of the 48-hour period. Participants are expected to bring their own equipment while UMSL provides internet, some access to scanners and printers and access to a Tobii eye tracker. The games must follow a secret theme announced at the beginning of the event. This year’s theme was waves. Previous themes have included deception, extraction, and ritual.

Danish Mirchandani, chair of ISPC, said that since the event has been held at UMSL for six years, the planning has become a little easier. Langi said, “Not only do you learn a lot [at GGJ], but you also get to put it on your resume. This is their home. I want more students to participate.”

Mohamed Langi, senior, information systems, and president of ISPC, said that since the event has been held at UMSL for six years, the planning has become a little easier. Langi said, “Not only do you learn a lot [at GGJ], but you also get to put it on your resume. This is a businesslike environment. You have 48 hours to meet one goal and you have to work with a team. It doesn’t have to be fully working, but it does have to be presentable. It is like a hackathon.”

ISPC organized and provided the logistical space at UMSL for the event. Corporate sponsors like Nvidia and Riet Games provided a classroom in SSB transformed into a hospitality room that included food, beverages, and couches for relaxing all throughout the event. Meals were provided by Pointer’s Pizza, Panera Bread, Goodcents Deli, Hodak’s, Strange Donuts and Domino’s Pizza.

The keynote speakers of GGJ this year were the creative team behind Extra Credits (formally, The Escapist). In 2008, videos created by artist Daniel Floyd and designer James Portnow discussed game design and culture. Extra Credits’ pre-filmed keynote highlighted some of the expectations for the event. The narrator from Extra Credits said, “This is going to be a glorious weekend. Forty-eight hours of very little sleep, odor of the people around you, and staring into screen. Seriously, this is going to be a glorious weekend. Rarely do you get to create unfettered.”

The narrator continued, “Note that it is not just about this weekend. All of this is just a jumping off point. The people you’ll meet here, the ideas you’ll discover, and the things you’ll learn will carry with you long after you limp exhaustedly."

Challenges and achievements abound. The UMSL SOS focused on providing service to organizations as needed. For example, since Sladek is studying pedagogy and special education, she learned that working with those with disabilities is crucial. She also learned of the importance of being a part of the community and the surrounding area.

While most students provided services through UMSL SOS, members of UMSL’s international honors society in education, Kappa Delta Pi, provided service in their own way. Belinda Quimby, graduate, secondary education, and president of Kappa Delta Pi, helped to run a children’s program on the lower level of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. This is one of our biggest service projects that Kappa Delta Pi does annually. They’ve been doing it for several years now. It’s a children’s program that takes place during the same time that other celebrations and performances are going on in the auditorium for grown-ups. They can leave their kids here while they enjoy the other celebrations or they can stay and enjoy the music and food provided.

A team works on their game on Saturday night. This is the sixth year that UMSL has hosted the Global Game Jam.
TechShop Welcomes UMSL Students and Faculty

Chris Zuver
Staff Writer

This spring, TechShop, a community studio that focuses on cutting-edge workshop technology and equipment, is welcoming University of Missouri-St. Louis students and faculty for a second semester. TechShop, which has nine other studio locations across the country, opened its St. Louis branch in July of last year.

The studio itself is in the Cortex Innovation District on the corner of Boyle Avenue and Forest Park Avenue and is over 18,000 square feet in size. Students, teachers, entrepreneurs, entire companies, or just any ordinary person can walk in and sign up for a membership. UMSL’s College of Arts and Sciences has agreed, as of last semester, to pay the way for students to have a chance to experience TechShop and learn all about what it has to offer.

Starting last fall semester, a total of 20 memberships were given to students and faculty who signed up, allowing them to attend the workshop. This spring, there will be 20 memberships given out, followed by another 20 in the summer. Student members are able to learn about and work with a wide variety of technologies including laser cutters, 3-D printers, a machine shop, a woodshop, welding stations, design software, and much more. “There were plenty of knowledgeable staff members around to ask if I had a question or to bounce an idea off of,” said UMSL student Jordan Sieve, graduate student, who attended the workshop in the fall semester. “My favorite thing about it is that it’s a place I can go to and have access to an array of equipment that I wouldn’t normally have.”

Math Problem of the Week

Yesterday, at a hot dog stand, 100 people bought a single hot dog. Among these 100 people, 80 added mustard, 85 added ketchup, 80 added relish, and 90 added onions. What is the least number of hot dogs which had all four toppings? Email your solutions to covertdj@umsl.edu.
TechShop Welcomes UMSL Students and Faculty Another Semester

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think it opens some possibilities for other ways we can do things,” said Yasbin. “In the future, if there are more companies like TechShop who can integrate with colleges, it could be really helpful.”

UMSL Research Associate Professor Joel Epstein, who also attended in the fall, was positive about his experience. He said, “One of the things that surprised me the most about my time there was how friendly and helpful all the staff was. They worked with me to figure out what I needed to do to make it all work.”

“They have some incredible equipment that students and faculty can utilize for courses,” Dean Yasbin also commented. “Faculty are utilizing it for their classes. Students and staff are using it for their own projects, which is an incentive that we can advertise: the fact that we’re offering this to our students.”

“We knew that University membership would be a hit,” said TechShop General Manager Mike Hill, “and UMSL’s memberships are no exception. It’s exciting to see students and faculty working on projects and taking classes to enhance the work they’re already doing on campus. TechShop is thrilled to be the bridge for students between college and outside.”

TechShop is open from 9 a.m. until midnight, seven days a week. Additionally, the studio always welcomes walk-ins for tours.

New Placards for Dining Venues Around Campus

Lori Dresner
NEWS EDITOR

Those who dine in certain venues around campus this semester may notice the addition of new placards to the tables in those locations. The new signs allow patrons to indicate that others can either “take a seat” at their table, or that their table is unavailable.

Miriam Rocca, assistant dean of students at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, explained that the idea came from a transfer student who had seen this type of program at a previous university she attended.

“The student thought it was a great way for folks to feel comfortable sitting at a table with people they may not know when seating gets tight in the Nosh,” explained Rocca. She noted that a profile later appeared in the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) Bulletin that furthered Campus Life’s interest in getting a similar program off the ground at UMSL.

The placards can currently be found in the Nosh, the Pilot House, and the Provincial House Dining Hall. At each GGJ site, participants come together to develop ideas, form small groups, create new innovative games, and present them to their peers and the global community. Teams that have participated at UMSL in previous years have gone on to create startup companies and attracted the attention of funding and gaming communities like Butterscotch Shenanigans, who participated in UMSL’s first GGJ and later formed their company. One of the three brothers, Sam Coster, spoke at the opening ceremony this year.

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UMSL Hosts Global Game Jam

Lori Dresner
NEWS EDITOR

UMSL Researchers and students participated in the Global Game Jam, held locally at TechShop in the Centene District.

Participants working on their game in SSL

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[sic] out of those doors.

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Wes Ehrlichman was the event’s organizer this year. Ehrlichman and others in the community volunteered to organize the event. Ehrlichman said, “[GGJ] isn’t really owned by me; it’s owned by the community.” He encourages the community to participate in this jam or others during the year. Ehrlichman said, “The real resource you really need is time.”

Follow the St. Louis Game Jam @stlgamejam. Free development software and other resources are located at globalgamejam.org/jammer-resources. Information about the local jammers at stlgamejam.com. Games created at UMSL’s GGJ and others can be found on the website.

January 17: At 11:37 a.m. two vehicles were involved in an auto accident in the West Drive Garage; there was minor damage and no injuries. At 11:45 a.m. an UMSL student reported losing a wallet containing identification cards, cash, and a key at the Triton Store. At 6:01 p.m. an UMSL student was transported to the hospital after suffering from back pain.

January 18: At 11:33 a.m. UMSL PD responded to Lot L where they extinguished a vehicle fire; the mechanical cause of the fire was undetermined. At 2:10 p.m., an UMSL student at the Thomas Jefferson Library reported a lost purse.

January 19: At 6:30 a.m. a report of property damage was made to UMSL PD after an UMSL staff member discovered damaged drywall at the Arts Administration Building. At 10:30 a.m. an UMSL student made an informational report regarding a possible Title IX violation.

At 3:32 p.m. an UMSL student reported that an individual had borrowed their cell phone and ran away with it on Grubman Drive. At 6:52 p.m. an employee at Express Scripts was transported to the hospital after experiencing pregnancy complications. At 8:30 p.m. an UMSL student reported losing a wallet at Seton Hall; the wallet was recovered before the police report completion.

January 23: At 11:41 p.m. UMSL PD assisted the Normandy Police Department after an armed robbery occurred at Mansion Hill Apartments. At the time of the incident log’s last update, two suspects had been taken into custody by Normandy PD relative to the incident.
Baudelaire Children Brought to Netflix

‘La La Land’: A Masterpiece Musical for the Modern Era

Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone star in Damien Chazelle’s “La La Land,” a musical about two struggling artists who fall in love.

In an ensemble of youth, passion, and art, director Damien Chazelle—winner of seven Golden Globes, recipient of 11 Bafta nominations, and best known for the phenomenal film “Whiplash”—pieces together a masterpiece between two struggling artists that fall in love.

If you don’t know what all the hustle and bustle is about, it’s obvious you haven’t seen “La La Land,” released December 9. The enthralling story performed through music and dance surrounds Sebastian, played by Ryan Gosling, and Mia, played by Emma Stone, who become drawn together by their intense desire to realize their dreams in the art industry. Attracted by each other’s passion for life, the two eventually fall in love but face an array of decisions and consequences that slowly unravel the reality of their relationship and dreams.

In the opening credits of “La La Land,” the first official characters the audience are introduced to are not the protagonists who will fall in love, but a mass of youth and wonder performed using bright, vibrant colors that play a crucial part throughout the timeline of the movie. These various characters, like our two protagonists, wrestle with ambition as well, in hopes of accomplishing their dreams as expressed through the lyrics of the opening song, “Another Day of Sun.” Though neither of them knows what the future holds, as youths, they tend to stay confident when striving for their goals in life.

The opening song is just one of many in the soundtrack of “La La Land” that uses its lyrics to tell the story of the movie. The rest of the story is told through typical movie scenes and musical numbers that sometimes only include instruments. While lyrics and lines are vital to many stories, the right music adjusted to the mood of its scene can do just as much. This is a major accomplishment of “La La Land.”

To announce the presence of the youth, the opening music uses an arrangement of trumpets, drums, etc., for a loud active beginning to coincide with the dynamic color choices and sunny day.

While all of this may sound generic, ironic, overrated, or what have you to a lot of the young people of this generation, “La La Land” still does a compelling job of keeping the interest as it pertains to the youth of today. By using the vibrant colors throughout the movie, it physically and mentally describes the optimism we usually harbor in our prime, all while keeping the viewer focused on an intricate story of reaching a dream—and possibly falling in love.

Besides the energetic colors, music, and lyrics, what really gives this movie a successful outcome is the harmonizing relationship between actors Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling. Stone’s character, Mia, is a gifted aspiring actress who flickers between working at a coffee shop on the Warner Bros. studio lot and trying to get through fruitless auditions. Gosling’s character, Sebastian, is extremely ambitious with an overactive personality and is dead-ly in love with old jazz music, but with the digital era becoming more prominent to youthful eyes, it’s not the best music to be invested in. What each needs are opportunities, but what they find is one another. Of course, that sounds cheezy, but the movie and its actors show a strong story of realistic outcomes in the world today, no matter how much in love one is.

Stone and Gosling present a triple threat to the film industry with their dynamic combination of great acting, exceptional singing, and skillful dancing. This movie definitely wasn’t a walk in the park as the scene “A Lovely Night” would like you to believe. Other than learning the right pitch when singing, Stone and Gosling had to rehearse every day in order to learn an array of dance moves that included ballroom and tap dancing, all while keeping a steady chemistry on camera that connected their characters. Effortlessly, both stars stay attuned to each other’s steps and flow.

Director Damien Chazelle also brilliantly unifies modern day Los Angeles with old time musicals. Of course, some scenarios were modified to meet the requirements of the director, but ultimately all scenes were shot in some part of Los Angeles that included the shutdown of an entire highway. Those who think the musical era is dead might have to tell that to their tapping toes when they watch “La La Land.” Through this masterpiece, Damien Chazelle opens doors for future modern musicals in this new era of digital music.
Volunteering, Teaching, Speaking, and Singing: UMSL Celebrates MLK Day

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hang out and join the kids in the celebration,” Quimby said.

Quimby said that 12 to 14 teachers and professionals officially volunteered, but many of them brought friends and family members who remained behind with their children, for a total of about 20 adult volunteers who provided educational programs for 80 to 100 elementary-aged children.

Children could complete mindfulness activities and create crafts such as making and decorating buttons, bags, and bookmarks which featured symbols of peace, working together, and diversity. Children also completed global and culturally themed puzzles and literacy activities. Quimby said that the literacy activities featured MLK vocabulary and asked children to write something related to MLK.

Some of the parents who left their children in the care of Kappa Delta Pi members and students who did not serve with the SOS attended.

Dr. Sullivan starts each class by asking the attendees to focus on nothing but the sensation of breathing. Whenever they notice that their attention is no longer here and no longer with their breathing, they return to the sensation of breathing. Dr. Sullivan gently urges the attendees to focus on their breathing, just riding the waves of breathing, without judging themselves. He tells them, “When you notice that your attention is no longer here and no longer with your breathing, you bring your attention back to your breathing.”

Then he instructs them to relax their shoulders, then their hands, then their feet. He then explains how to notice their minds start to wander. Sullivan gently urges the attendees to acknowledge the thought and then return to the sensation of their breathing. He tells them, “When you notice that your attention is no longer here and no longer with your breathing, you bring your attention back to your breathing and then start to notice the waves of your breathing, fully conscious of the duration of each breath from moment to moment.”

After around 15 minutes of meditation, Dr. Sullivan brings the session to a close by ringing a bell and instructing attendees to open their eyes slowly. In the few minutes that remain, participants are invited to share their experiences with each other.

Regarding the health benefits of meditation, Dr. Sullivan said, “Mindfulness has a number of well undocumented and documented benefits.” The American Psychological Association identified a number of benefits: reduced rumination, stress reduction, improved self-awareness, focus, less emotional reactivity, greater cognitive flexibility, and reduced symptoms of depression. Students, faculty, and staff at UMSL are all welcome to participate in the Mindfulness Meditation sessions. More information about relaxation techniques can be found at the Counseling Services’ virtual relaxation room: http://www.umsl.edu/services/counselor/resources/Relaxation.html.
UMSL Triton Sport Recap
January 14–19

SPORTS

T he University of Missouri-St. Louis women’s basketball team fell by just three points to the Wiscon-
sin-Parkside Rangers on January 14. The Tritons faced an 86-59 setback, despite being within four points of the Rang-
ers on January 14 with the final score being 73-70. The Rangers picked up momentum in the fourth quarter, out-
scoring the Tritons 25-13. As of this game, UMSL now holds a 7-7 record and a 2-4 record in the Great Lake Valley Conference (GLVC) for the season. On a positive note, Jordan Flechtenmacher, junior, business mar-
keting, scored a season-high of 26 points. Shawnta Johnson, junior, men’s basketball, also scored her season best with 14 points.

The men’s basketball team also faced the Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers on January 14. The Tritons faced an 86-59 setback, despite being within four points of the Rang-
ers in the second half. However, the home team outscored the Tri-
tons in the final 20 minutes of the match up. As of this game, the team holds an 8-9 overall record and a 2-5 match up. As of this game, the team holds an 8-9 overall record and a 2-5 match up.

The UMSL men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams had an impressive GLVC record. The team posted an 8-9 overall record and a 2-5 match up. As of this game, the team holds an 8-9 overall record and a 2-5 match up.

Triton women’s basketball team had an impressive GLVC record. The women’s team won three of the eight events. Merel Visser, freshman, criminal justice won the 500-yard freestyle and also swam the third leg of the 200-yard med-
ley relay, which also included An-
tje Quiroga, junior, biology, Amber Visser, sophomore, criminal justice, and Agnieszka Blocka, sophomore, business. Blocka also won the 100-yard breaststroke competition.

In the men’s division, the men’s basketball team placed fourth in four events. Radu-Laszlo Chupka, sophomore, international business, won the 100-yard back-
stroke. Fernando Robledo, senior, international business, took home the 50-yard freestyle. Esteban Pombo, sophomore, business, won the 100-yard butterfly. The 200-yard medley relay was won by Chupka, Gabriel Jimenez, freshman, engineering, Mike Trefer, freshman, mathematics, and Mladen Senicar, senior, biology.

Former UMSL softball All-Americ-
ian, Hannah Perryman, was named the recipient of the John E. Wray-Myron Holtzman Award at the 55th Annual Baseball Writers Association of America St. Louis Chapter Dinner, which was held January 19.

Chupka took the 400-yard individ-
ual medley. Chupka also served as the lead leg in the 400-yard medley relay, which was also made up of Trefer, Jimenez, Trefer, and Robled. The group won by an impres-
sive 0.59 seconds. On the women’s side, it was Blocka who was able to put away the victory in the 100-
yard individual medley. In total, the Tritons won a combined 11 events against Lindenwood.

The Triton women’s basketball team fell 62-50 to the Maryville Univer-
sity team on January 16. Robesha Lee, senior, liberal studies, scored the most for the team with 15 points, while also adding four steals.

Both the men’s and women’s basketball teams walked away with the win against the visiting Quincy University on Thursday, January 19. The men’s team won a close 70-69 game on Thursday night, as Hunter Reine, senior, criminal justice, led the team to victory. Reine scored 18 of the team’s 70 points and went 6-for-6 from the free-throw line to knock off Quincy. The Tritons improved to a 9-9 overall record this season, while shifting up to 3-5 in the GLVC overall.

Swim Team Spotlight:
Senior Mladen Senicar

LANCE JORDAN
SPORTS EDITOR

T riton swimmer Mladen Senicar is the son of a coach and grew up knowing how to swim. His family moved from Mars Hill University, located in North Caroli-
na, to Missouri in 1999, when Mladen was 12 years old. He wanted to swim for Santa Fe Community College, but would have to wait until he was seven or eight and I was pretty excited," he said.

Swimming could offer him that chance. "In school I was pretty good. I was photogenic. In school I was pretty good. I was a pretty good swimmer before I started competitive swimming," he said. "I was excited and nervous at the same time," he said, describing his feel-
ings on initially joining the team. "My first month, I was pretty bummed out. I didn't know why, so I had to pick myself up, enjoy life and give back to the team. That's how I stayed on the team for 3 years." Looking to graduate this May, Senicar posted some of his best times during his career at UMSL this season at the Miami Invita-
tional in Oxford, Ohio. In the 50-
yard freestyle he posted a time of 20.82, in the 100-yard freestyle he posted 45.98, and in the 100-yard breaststroke he posted 58.18. As for the rest of the season, Senicar said, "Pretty much, get in shape for conference and maybe even try to make nationals." Outside of swim-
manship, Senicar’s favorite sports to go to include the Delmar Loop and the Galleria Mall. The last concert he attended was at the Pageant for “Schoolboy Q” back in October. The last film he saw was “Deadpool.”

Senicar has filled out the paper-
work to pursue his graduate degree here at UMSL. But, if this is his final semester at the university he will miss his team, coach, professors, and the staff at the Recreation and Wellness Center.

To members of his swim team, Senicar says, “You have to be patient. It doesn’t always go as planned. You have to keep your head up.”

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We cannot talk about things that people are too afraid to acknowledge.

Thousands marched in downtown St. Louis on Saturday to protest Donald Trump’s inauguration as president. The march was one of dozens of sister marches throughout the country, including in Washington, D.C.

The day was marked by the Women’s March on Long Island. Despite witnessing a plethora of Islamophobic slurs and insults there, one of the first things that most people asked me about Missouri was, “People are really racist there, aren’t they?” This type of thinking permeates how we think about ourselves and our prejudices towards others. Nobody wants to admit to not being inclusive or ignoring others’ viewpoints, but at the end of the day, since many of these prejudices are encoded into laws and practices, we all participate in the systems that perpetrate them. The point here is that, inevitably, we all hold some prejudices towards others. The only way to really come to terms with these beliefs is by talking to people of other positions and including those different voices and perspectives on your organizing board for events on inclusion and diversity, such as the Women’s Marches across the country.

This leads into the second issue that persistently plagued me while I wrote the article. I say that we should talk to each other, as did pretty much everyone else that I spoke with about the event. But as divided as we have become, that proved very difficult. I tried to find people who might oppose the march but, as usual, the people who are willing to look at the reasoning underlying their beliefs often feel threatened by potential reactions from opponents. People do not want to say what they think or talk about their beliefs or political opinions because they fear the repercussions. We cannot talk about things that people are too afraid to acknowledge. And this, too, is a problem.

At the same time, I understand the urge to react impulsively. As a woman, a vote for Trump feels like a vote saying that it is okay for men to gape me. A vote for Trump feels like it devalues me personally. It feels like it says that I— and my safety, security, and well-being— do not matter. Though I cannot speak definitively for other groups, I would imagine that those whom Trump demeaned with his rhetoric feel similarly. It is difficult to generate a real conversation about important topics when it feels like the other party has no regard for you as a person. It is hard to talk to someone to whom I do not matter. Like my roommate’s boss, I feel threatened coming to these conversations.

It is easier to ignore personal feelings about not being valued by the other speaker, the other thing that I did not deal with in these conversations would be the other party’s acceptance of hatred and bigotry. I could talk about policy, economics, and the like with the other side, but I think that an acceptance of the Trump administration is also an acceptance of the hateful rhetoric used in the past election cycle.

I think that the sort of solidarity shown at the Women’s March should not prevent conversation with the other side. This is difficult, however, given the level of animosity that exists between those of opposite political viewpoints. Quite frankly, this scares me almost as much as the incoming administration.
Volunteering, Teaching, Speaking, and Singing; UMSL Celebrates MLK Day

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Institute and has written about politics, work, culture, travel, technology, and race. In addressing the theme of the evening, Chideya spoke about a global “season” that she has observed in her conversations with white supremacists and in her travels to 49 states and 28 countries. “Right now we are going through a season,” she said. “In Europe, parties like the National Front and other far-right parties are bringing up vestiges of fascism, segregation, and hints of the Nazi era.”

She continued that though the United States has been in existence for hundreds of years, due to laws and practices barring African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Latinx Americans from voting, the country has only become a multi-racial democracy within the last 50 years. “I don’t believe as a nation we ever fully committed to equality…Equality is scary and equality is new,” she said.

Chideya continued to speak about how this global season has led to some frightening realities. “People are painting swastikas on playgrounds in Brooklyn. We are not living in times for the faint of white heart.”

She continued to cite the alt-right as a form of white supremacy which organizes and attacks people in online spaces. While some have dedicated themselves to Martin Luther King Jr’s fight for equality, others have come to realize that privilege can be lost and that success in society is based on competition, people become afraid.

“…so the question…that I am often left with is; how can we create an America where people can do their best and not worry about involuntary subordination and realize that you may not always be the fastest runner, but that’s okay and that we reward you for who you are? We have to reframe success in America,” she asked.

She suggested that the problem could be approached through both formal measures, in laws and policy, and through more informal measures, such as friendship. Her closing remarks resounded throughout the audience as she invoked the theme of the evening with a quote from Martin Luther King Jr., who said, “In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.” She ended the speech with a call for love.

Brain Owens and the Deacons of Soul accelerated the momentum of Chideya’s speech with another musical presentation, followed by closing remarks from Deborah Burris and a performance of “We Shall Overcome,” in which the audience was encouraged to participate.

“…the kind of men that we help and support.” She continued that through her travels to 49 states and 28 countries, she has observed in her conversations with white supremacists that this fight is not won. “We can recruit to the side of equality with this.”

Chideya reminded the audience that this fight is not won. “We can recruit to the side of equality with this.”

Volunteering, Teaching, Speaking, and Singing; UMSL Celebrates MLK Day

The latest theme of Free Fun Fridays are held on select Fridays and encourage students, faculty, and staff to attend. The latest theme of Free Fun Fridays was Game Day Frenzy and Fries. It was held in the Millennium Student Center Nosh from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the opportunity to play life-size board games. Games included Checkers, Pick up sticks, Connect 4, Operation, Kerplunk, and Jenga. Participants could also pick up one order of fries and dipping sauce at the MSC Nosh or Prin cipal House Dining Hall.

Free Fun Fridays Continue on UMSL Campus With Games

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organization began recruiting over the summer, they officially joined the ranks of UMSL’s Greek Life last November.

“Everything that you see in Hollywood about fraternities, we’re absolutely the opposite,” said Harris Musanovic, sophomore, marketing. “We have a strict no-hazing policy. We promote being a gentleman scholar of all things, and we hold five values dear to our hearts that we will not stray from. Most importantly, we look for the best men on campus, people who want to be successful and well-rounded as a man.”

The group members value charity, silence, honor, purity, and patriotism, according to Musanovic. He highlighted the organization’s hope to give back the UMSL’s campus and the fact that students who join in the upcoming fall semester will be considered founding fathers of the organization. “It’s going to be something that we form together. We are going to create a new experience for the students. That way we can really create great gentlemen and make the world a better place.” Musanovic said. “If you see yourself as a gentleman and a scholar, and you always want to better yourself as a man, we are the place to come to because that’s exactly the kind of people that we’re looking for and the kind of men that we help and support.”

The Winter Expo gave students the opportunity to develop relationships and connect with many organizations across campus, including, but not limited to cultural organizations, academic opportunities and programs, and, ironically, Greek Life, in order to find their way in the labyrinth of people, places, and activities at the beginning of the semester. Though the students did not use actual string like Theseus, the connections that they made with these organizations will hopefully guide them through their time at UMSL.