



# THE MONITOR

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MARYMOUNT MANHATTAN COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

MARCH 10TH, 2019

## ARE SUMMITS ENOUGH?

TRUMP AND JONG-UN FAIL TO AGREE ON NUCLEAR DEAL



*Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia*

**By Fahima Degia**  
*Staff Editor*

Vietnam hosted a historic nuclear summit this week. North Korea's Kim Jong Un, met with Donald Trump in Hanoi, Vietnam. In the schedule of events, the discussion of nuclear weapons had high stakes. The discussion took place Thursday, it was supposed to be concluded with lunch and a signing ceremony. However, disagreements about sanctions placed on North Korea by the United States ended the summit. North Korea wanted the United States to grant partial sanctions in return for nuclear disarmament in Pyongyang, North Korea.

Trump left for the summit Monday afternoon and arrived Tuesday evening UTC time. Trump left with the hopes of convincing North Korean leaders to disarm nuclear weapons. Kim left Monday evening traveling by private train. On Wednesday, both leaders greeted each other, answered press questions, and had dinner. Thursday closed the events as Trump walked out before the meal and

ceremony. Both leaders concluded events by telling their perspective.

After the summit, Trump held a press conference discussing why both leaders couldn't reach agreements. During the conference Trump claimed his relationship with North Korea was still "very warm," and his encounter with Kim was like a "friendly walk." During the conference, Trump stated that he took Kim's word for the situation with Otto Warmbier, the American student detained in North Korea. Warmbier died of a coma when returned to the United States, due to harsh treatment in North Korean jails.

Coming out of the summit, Kim answered questions from the press with confidence and ease. Kim also stood firm with demands about releasing sanctions placed by the United States, as he built nuclear weapons despite U.S. hostility. Kim said he asked for partial sanction reliefs from the main site of nuclear weapons. Sources from NBC state, that Kim said he would portray the summit in North Korea as a victory for both leaders. Kim also

said he "appreciated that the second meeting in Hanoi offered an important occasion for deepening mutual respect and trust and putting the relations between the two countries on a new stage."

The first summit between Kim and Trump took place last June in Singapore. The aim of both summits from the U.S. perspective is to discuss an end to the Korean War. The top priority however is nuclear disarmament by North Korea.

Two summits later, both countries have not come up with an agreement and the threat of nuclear warfare looms high, with nine of the world's superpowers owning nuclear weapons. According to the Federation of American Scientists, out of the nine countries, North Korea is the only one actively testing nuclear weapons.

A summit is needed to discuss the fear of nuclear weapons. According to the Federation Of American Scientists, there are already 14,500 nuclear weapons in the world. Along with the the total number of nuclear

weapons in the world, people also fear North Korea. This is because it actively tests bombs capable of mass destruction.

Nuclear weapons create fear, we saw this generations ago in 1947 during the Cold War. Russia and the United States were actively testing weapons, fear ran so high that there were bomb drills in schools.

In 2017, there were similar trends. Fear came from bomb threats between North Korea and the United States. North Korea was testing an intercontinental ballistic missile that could reach the United States.

Fear of nuclear warfare created both summits. Despite summits and discourse between leaders about potential North Korean nuclear disarmament, no agreements were reached.

With no agreements being reached and the growing fear of nuclear warfare and destruction, the question looms, are summits enough?

## SGA UPDATE: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TALK TO FACULTY

**By Catherine Pool**  
*Staff Writer*

A great deal of the work done by the Student Government Association often flies under the radar of many students because typically it is comprised of small goals aimed at improving Marymount as a whole. There are rarely large events put together by SGA, but there are many small meetings conducted by the members with administration, faculty, and staff to improve problems both small and large at our school. Julia Furnari '20, Senator for Service and Sustainability, has four major goals for this semester in SGA all of which are either in progress or accomplished. Julia recognized that there is little to no recycling signage on campus and through meetings with Kathleen LeBesco, Lucia Wells, Diana Zambrotta, Emmalyn Yamrick and Dayne Hutchinson, an agreement was reached. The solution for better recycling signage around campus is placing signs

and/or decals on all the public garbage cans with information such as which recycling company we use and how the trash is sorted and recycled after being discarded. Organizing a Day of Action event(s) is a top priority for both Julia and SGA as a whole. In order to see this through, Julia has met with Core Council to brainstorm ideas for what campus involvement will look like. Another goal is planning and running events on campus for Earth Day. Through collaboration with myself and other Registered Student Organizations, these events will occur. Julia's final goal is assisting Social Sciences Assembly with the grant writing and overall presentation of their Green Roof Proposal. Each goal aligns with Julia's senator position and will help bring more sustainable practices and awareness of them to campus.

Kiara Mendez '20, the Senator for International Students has three goals for this semester. One of her goals was a talkback with administration to express the concerns faced by the international community on campus. This event took place on February 25th

of this year and some of the administration that participated in the talkback include Carol Jackson, Christian Andrade, and Rebecca Pinard. At the event, students were encouraged to express their concerns and discuss their need for work and useful information. Administration in attendance were receptive to the student concerns and offered answers and/or solutions to the best of their ability. Another goal is focused on requiring cultural sensitivity training for members of faculty. Kiara has discussed this with Rebecca Pinard and it is being explored as a possibility. The final goal is to give international students the option to live with other international students when they apply for residence life. This goal is new and still being discussed. Other goals of SGA in progress include Safer Sex Week, the continuation of the discussion about re-implementing the language minors, and the updates to our social medias. Overall, there are many exciting things to look forward to as this semester progresses.



# LETTER *from the* EDITOR

Dear Readers,

I’d like to thank you for picking up another issue of The Monitor. We are coming close to an end for the year, and I’m hoping that you have been entertained and impressed with our publication thus far. This issue, our writers delve into the National Eating Disorder Awareness week, go to page six to learn more from Meghan Masseron. We also have Jack Irvin celebrating the 15th anniversary of Confessions of a Teen-age Drama Queen and a few updates from the chaotic world of Donald Trump and American politics with Fahima.

Last week we had our Writers Workshop and it went wonderfully. I’d like to thank Billie Sangha, for spending her time and effort in creating a great presentation as well as editing our many articles. Laura Tropp for helping organize the workshop and even speak about the importance of finding the bigger story. Professor Serafin for giving us advice on the perfect way to present yourself online and to all of those who attended.

Our publication would not be possible without the students, staff, and faculty of Marymount and I am very grateful to be given the opportunity to make these issues happen with the help and guidance of my many student colleagues.

Thank you for reading and please enjoy.

With love,  
*Megan Arnold*  
Editor-in-Chief



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# MMC STUDENTS RAISE THEIR VOICE

## MMCCONFESSIONS RAISES POPULARITY ON INSTAGRAM



By Lauren Garafano  
Print Managing Editor

MMC Confessions has been an integral part of the Marymount Manhattan experience. The private Instagram account, currently with 735 followers, continues to be a safe space for students to vent and share personal experiences anonymously, without the fear of being judged, harassed, or even disciplined. The account is run by not one Marymount student, but a group of moderators associated with the school. In response to why the moderators have chosen to remain anonymous, the founder of the page responded with, “It feels fundamental to [MMC Confessions], if we’re impartial and anonymous the page can continue to do what it’s meant for. We want people to be able to express their opinions and tell their stories without worry.”

Students are able to submit their own confessions via direct message or anonymously through a link in the page’s bio. However, there is no guarantee that every confession submitted will be published. The moderators work together to figure out which confessions “hit multiple viewpoints or opinions” without over posting or creating a negative atmosphere. Additionally, confessions that pose “complaints, sexually explicit comments about individuals, and hate speech” are never posted. The founder

of the page even admitted that MMC Confessions has “taken down posts before because followers have let us know that it feels wrong.” In maintaining the integrity of the page, all the confessions are looked at before they get posted.

Similarly to the published content, not every follow request is accepted. The page’s founder remembered that when the page first started it was public. Once it reached around 500 followers, the moderators created a poll for the page’s followers and ultimately decided it would be best to make the page a “student only” space. This prevents the college’s staff, parents, and anyone not associated with MMC to see the confessions, maintaining the privacy and integrity MMC Confessions has strived to achieve. Though, if an MMC student is denied their follow request, they may reach out through DM to be approved.

While the account was not always the hit students know it as today, the founder said that their initial motivation for creating the account was “for people to share their funny or embarrassing secrets without judgment,” however as more students learned about the page the follower count multiplied shortly after. Since this rise in popularity and influence, the page has transformed from its original humorous posts to a platform to “help improve students lives and relationships with the school.” The founder of the page admits, “Everyone here, including myself, has had some issue or another at

Whether it be having a safe space to vent about a struggle they’ve been facing in class or to call attention to an injustice occurring in their own dorm room, MMC Confessions has seen it all.

MMC and its important to bond on them and expose what’s going on so we can incite change.” And the page has, in fact, instilled change in students’ lives at Marymount. The founder recalls one instance from Fall 2017, “One of our earlier posts was

about a room at Cooper Square that the late Emma Couture had lived in. When she passed suddenly, her roommates were distraught and needed to stay together for support.” During this transition, the RA living in the room left the position, and a new male-identifying RA was hired and expected to move into the room with Couture’s roommates. “The students living there were hurt and didn’t feel safe living with a male RA but didn’t want to leave each other in a time of mourning. One of them submitted [a confession] about it and according to them, it helped with [the situation].” Ultimately, the students were allowed to remain living together, without the discomfort of having a stranger move in.

The popularity of the page has grown dramatically since the time it was created. A page that was once created for humorous reasons has affected the student body in more ways than one. Whether it be having a safe space to vent about a struggle they’ve been facing in class or to call attention to an injustice occurring in their own dorm room, MMC Confessions has seen it all and will continue to be an outlet for the students at Marymount.

Interested in the page? Follow @mmccconfessions on Instagram



Images from MMCConfessions via Instagram



ART FROM OUR OWN

TWO MMC STUDENTS CURATE THEIR OWN EXHIBIT



By Jasime Ledesma  
Copy Editor

It is snowing lightly when I enter the library, a soft froth spilled neatly on the edges of buildings, streets and eyelashes. Across the street stands a tiny baby-blue Virgin Mary statue. A little holy. Outside, it is cold as toothache. Inside, however, is warm and orange. Like somebody else’s living room. I sit in the back of the library, right in the belly of the exhibit focused solely on student made work. Photos of bleeding sunsets and pastel pink portraits hang straight as theatre seats around me. I am curious already. I wait for a few minutes, scrolling through instagram past photos of art and dogs and shoes. When I look up, two students are walking in my direction seemingly without intention of turning any corners. They must be Cross Nelson and Ariella Bellingham. I have never met them before this moment and as they smile brightly at me, my suspicions are confirmed.



What was the process like? Considering this was your first time as curators.

Ariella: I would say we’ve learned a lot from this process. I think we tried to be as efficient as we possibly could but maybe from now on I think what we can take away are little things such as setting up more rules in place, make sure our artists are clear on what we want the show to be and time management.

The first question I ask is where Ariella got her earrings. They hang from her ears like odd chandeliers, blue and circular. I have always had a fascination with out of the ordinary jewelry and hers are no exception. I invite them to have a seat and we get our initial chatter out. As we settle in, I ask my first question, my phone sleeping on the table.

Tell me about the exhibit, whatever you want to say.

Ariella: We asked student artists to bring in their work and this is the first exhibit we’ve done in this space. We used all the work the artists submitted. We used the submissions to decide what we wanted as a theme and we chose to do student art.

Cross: They are all student artists ranging from freshman to seniors. We decided to call the exhibition art from our own. We are showcasing art from our own students and showing our pride in our artists and the creativity the community has. It is very broad because it is such a wide range

of art, from diverse mediums to subject matter. We wanted to do something that was all encompassing.

Cross: I agree. It was a huge learning experience for both of us since we had never done anything like this before. Now that we have a better grasp on the process, we can take things that really worked and use that next time and disregard things that didn’t. It was fun and we enjoyed getting to work with these artists, they were all really passionate.

Ariella: It was funny, actually. Even though we were curators, we set up the exhibition, too. We installed the art, had to measure and make sure everything was right. We made flyers, too. Brochures and flyers promoting the show. Cross: I think mainly what we learned is that there are so many pieces that go into it.

What would be your dream exhibition? What is one you fantasize about?

Cross: I love that you asked that. Well, my favorite artist is Van Gogh so my dream exhibition would be a show of his work and how it correlated with his battle with mental illness and everything leading up to his unfortunate suicide. As well as how his work transformed as he discovered himself as an artist. I would hope to take pieces from every part of the world and bring them together so everybody can experience his story. It would be amazing to do a retrospective show of that, someday.

Ariella: My dream exhibition would be taking something from the past, an issue or something. I like to deal with issues of political, social, economic status. I think that there are a lot of pieces of history that

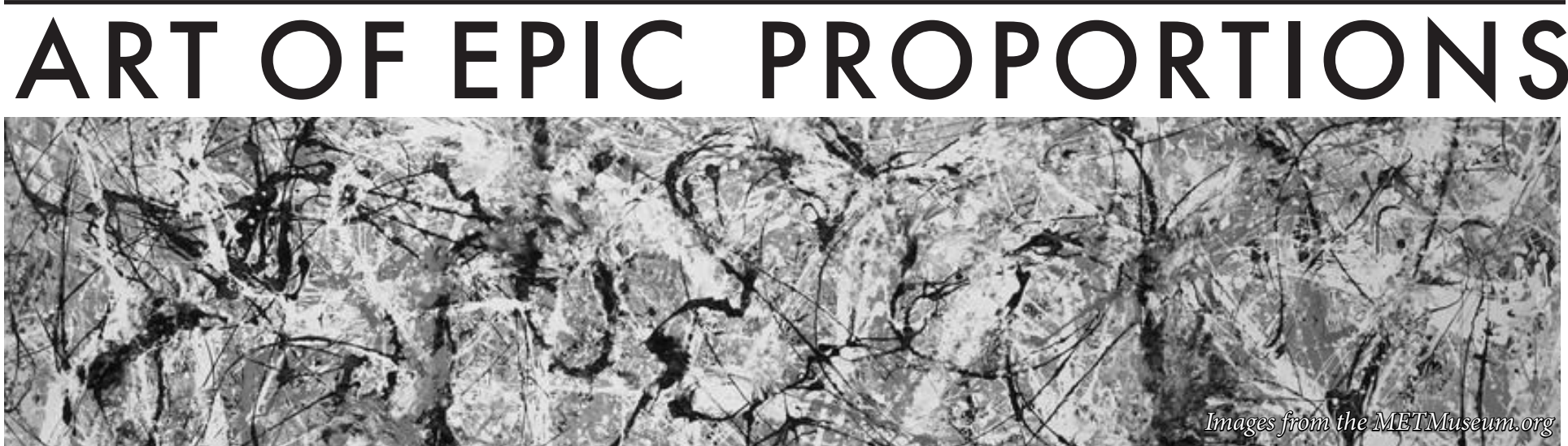
repeat themselves that we can relate to and learn from. So, maybe curating history, classical art, realism. We can all relate to those times. Maybe taking a period of art and looking at it through a lens of the past but also relating it to our future and creating a space and feel something. I



want to create a space where people can feel transported outside of aesthetics.

Then, it’s over. No more questions. It has been twenty five minutes of talk, the best twenty five minutes of Cross’s life, he claims giddily. I thank them and as they leave, the Virgin Mary stands in the same place, feathered with snow and dreams. I imagine the future. Cross will be standing in a white room, glossy and shy. The walls will be spotted with Vincent’s flowers and swirls. His love and life and passion, all there to see. The past to show us the future. Ariella will be there and it will still be snowing.

Photos Courtesy of Ethan Haug



THE MET PUTS ON NEW EPIC ABSTRACTIONS EXHIBIT

By Cross Nelson  
Staff Writer

Epic and abstraction are two words that hold thought provoking meanings that go deeper than just a simple usage of the words. In today’s standards, the word epic is generally used in the liberal sense of the word to describe something as “cool” or “amazing”; however, epic can also be used to describe something as having the qualities of an epic, which is a reference to epic poems in history such as the Odyssey or the Aeneid which follow a vast story that is significant to a specific time and transcendent of history. Describing something as epic gives the subject an identity of historical significance and cultural power that has the ability to move and inspire people. In this case, epic is being used to describe the word abstraction. Here, the word abstraction is a reference to the Abstract art movement of the twenty and twenty-first centuries, which was inspired by events of epic proportions. The Metropolitan Museum of Art’s special exhibition *Epic Abstraction*:

*Pollock to Herrera* provides a retrospective look into the pivotal Abstract movement of art from the 1940’s onward demonstrating how the artistic innovations of this period altered the course of art history forever. Upon walking into the exhibition, the viewer is immediately faced with a gruesome painting by Japanese painter, Kazuo Shiraga, who used his post World War II angst to create a piece that was representative of the fragility of the human condition in the aftermath of such a tragic event. This painting, which is untitled, utilizes techniques that were a hallmark of the abstraction movement: large scale painting and unconventional techniques. At the time, painting on a large format became popular not only because of aesthetics, but because it helped to evoke the idea that art could be considered an epic creation. Also, not only did Shiraga paint on a large scale, but he also painted a majority of his work using his only his hands and feet to emphasize the idea that easels and paint brushes could no longer properly convey the raw emotion of humanity. With this mindset in place, artists worldwide began reflecting upon the current conditions

of the world in their art, and abstraction became a mode of epic storytelling. In America, Jackson Pollock was greatly inspired by the European artists who came to America to escape Nazi persecution who introduced him to the Surrealist technique of “automatic marking” painting, which inspired his iconic drip paintings such as *Autumn Rhythm* which is on display at the exhibition. For Pollock, the 1940’s were his most fruitful years, because it was then that he was able to trademark his abstract style, and show the world the power of abstract art that became a staple of American art history. Like Shiraga, Pollock used his wartime and post war influences to shape his art in a moving and compelling way. As the exhibition follows the timeline of abstract art, it moves away from post war art and stretches into the later twentieth and early twenty-first century. Even though artists eventually stopped painting war inspired works, abstract painting was able to convey epic emotion through other subject matters. Artists began seeking inspiration in their own lives and cultures, such as Hungarian artist, Ilona Keserü who created a piece based around unique

heart shaped Hungarian gravestones to illustrate a merge between Hungary’s rich folk culture and modern abstraction. In doing so, she is able to tell an epic story of her country’s individualized culture that resonates a sense of pride with the people of Hungary and speaks to a larger audience worldwide of a specific cultural detail. Keserü’s unique work is just one of many examples of the artists in this exhibition who were able to take pieces of their own lives and incorporate them into their art in a way that intrigued and inspired people to feel something. Overall, this exhibition ingeniously combines the works of some of art history’s most innovative creators and storytellers who daringly looked the world in the eyes and brought the human condition to life in a way that no one ever had before. Epic Abstraction takes you on an epic journey through realms of color, emotion and experimentation, and leaves you yearning for more long afterwards. Experience the epic for yourself now at the Met.

RHEANN MENNEFIELD

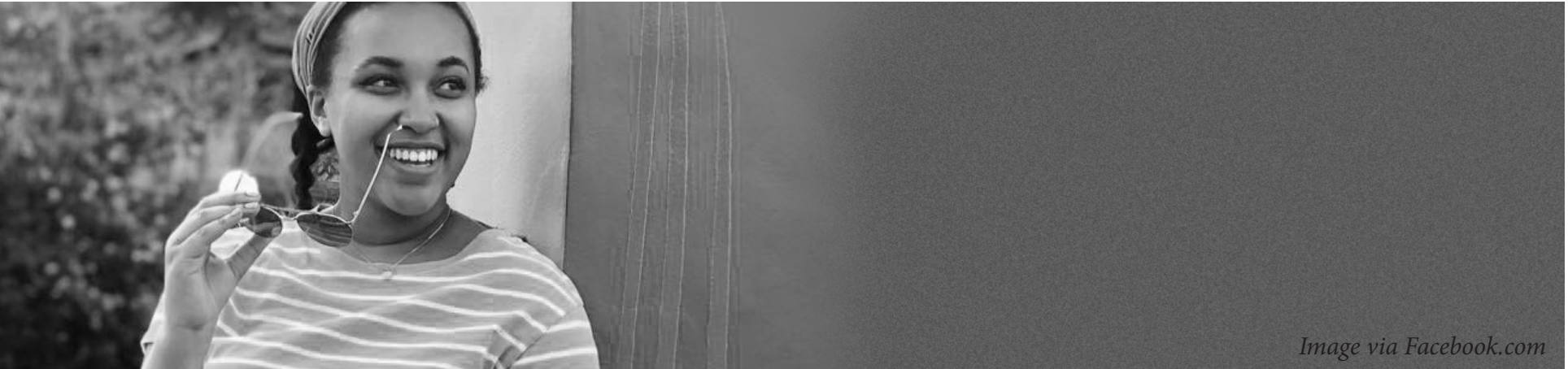


Image via Facebook.com

By Catherine Pool  
Staff Writer

She chooses to expand on art that touches the soul, she creates a safe space for her actors, and she recognizes the multitude of perspectives that can tell a story. RheAnn Mennefield is a senior Theatre Arts Major with a double concentration in Directing and Writing for the Stage, and during last semester, she was able to direct a show in her final year of projects at Marymount. She chose to work on the play “The Swan” by Elizabeth Egloff. The Swan is a playful story that delves into magical realism, which combines reality and fantasy into a whimsical and romantic play. Without going into a full synopsis, the play is about a female nurse named Dora who is dating a married milkman. Her romantic ventures are far from simple when a swan quite literally crashes into her life and she attempts to help him

learn how to be human. The milkman and the swan end up playing a game of tug of war for Dora’s heart. The surface of the show is dreamy and enchanting but it manages to ask the profound question about what it means to love someone else. The show becomes introspective as the swan tries to find humanity. In choosing this play, her last one as an undergraduate, RheAnn had to find something she was passionate about. She had to find a show that could lay the foundation for the building of knowledge and for self-discovery as well as finding a show that she could connect with. On the choice of genre, she said, “I’m drawn to things that don’t follow the rules of our world...my interests are strongest with things that are a little weird, a little twisted.” Choosing a show that connects the real to the make-believe was a way to stay true to her interests. She described the play as a way to feel like a child again, an

experience that she believed was for the audience, like stepping into a storybook. For RheAnn, this project enabled her to put on a production, to feel like it was hers and that she was putting it together like a real director in the working world. Directing is what she wants to do with her life. It is not about the recognition, but about feeling inspired and being able to create films with those she admires. This project was able to open doors for RheAnn, as it helped her understand that she could be a director. “The Swan” pulled her out of the very real trenches of self-doubt and she was able to take valuable tools away from the process, most importantly the value of the team. RheAnn stated, “The show wouldn’t have been the show that it was if it weren’t for the people that were involved”. This was celebration of talent; it was an entire team that helped carry RheAnn’s vision and bring the play to an audience that hopefully felt and understood the message

brought to them. The entire process including the performance, taught her about collaboration and communication, and each person on the team all created something that they were able to take pride in. The actors, the costume designer, the light designer - they all brought an essential skill to the process and all helped RheAnn create her final project. While she understands she cannot do any of it alone, she knows that she is capable of directing. Directing will allow her to create stories with good characters; good people with valuable lessons, creating more than the characters that do bad things for the drama of it, that the audience can mimic. Media has a direct impact on the individual perception of self and of society, so it is about creating characters that will help influence people for the better. “Some days I am a director first, some days I am a writer first, but everyday I am a storyteller.”



# BODY IMAGE & EATING DISORDER AWARENESS

BY MEG MASSERON

National Eating Disorders Awareness week provides an annual opportunity to educate the general public on the signs and symptoms of eating disorders, as well as the reality of

living with them and the stigma and challenges survivors of these illnesses endure. NEDA week came to a close on Sunday, March 6th, but the importance of continuing

misconceptions regarding eating disorders,so that those struggling with them can feel understood and seen.

What is an eating disorder? There are many, but the ones you probably know best are anorexia and

bulimia,as well as binge eating disorder. This article will focus on the three mentioned, but there are many other eating disorders worth researching and educating yourself about. Anorexia nervosa is defined by the National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA) as a disordered characterized by a number of symptoms, such as weight loss, distorted body image, and restrictive eating habits or a preoccupation with counting calories. The biggest red flag is not even necessarily an obsession with weight loss, but an intense fear of weight gain. A common misconception about anorexia is that the sufferer starves themselves, but this is rarely reality. Most anorexia sufferers do eat - they just don't eat enough. Another stereotype is that all anorexia sufferers are underweight. While weight loss is a common symptom of anorexia, anorexia is a psychological disorder with many physical complications. People of any body type can have anorexia exist inside their mind regardless of


whether or not they experience weight loss. This stereotype is particularly harmful because anorexia can go unseen and unnoticed in those that don't fit the general image of someone with the disorder. This could even lead to medical professionals not giving a proper diagnosis. Bulimia nervosa, which can often co-occur with anorexia, is defined by NEDA as a disorder characterized by the cycle of "bingeing and compensatory behaviors such as self-induced vomiting designed to undo or compensate for the effects of binge eating." NEDA's description addresses something very important for people to understand: self-induced vomiting is not the only bulimic behavior. Those struggling with bulimia may also resort to misuse of laxatives or weight loss pills, compulsive exercise, or fasting. Like anorexia, one definitive characteristic can be an intense fear of weight gain and a compulsive need to avoid it. Binge eating disorder is the most common eating disorder in the

United States, according to NEDA. They define binge eating disorder as having "recurrent episodes of eating large quantities of food (often very quickly and to the point of discomfort); a feeling of a loss of control during the binge; experiencing shame, distress or guilt afterwards; and not regularly using unhealthy compensatory measures to counter the binge eating." If an individual were to perform the last habit mentioned, that would be defined as bulimia instead. Because of constant stigma and shame surrounding food and weight perpetuated by diet culture in the media, those suffering from binge eating disorders may struggle with shame about their disorder and not reach out for help. It is very important to understand that those with binge eating disorders are not simply gluttonous or lacking discipline, but suffering from a psychological disorder equally as important as the previously mentioned eating disorders. A common myth surrounding

all of these disorders that it is vital to combat is that they are choices. Anorexia sufferers do not choose to continue restricting, nor do bulimia sufferers choose purging habits, nor do binge eaters choose to continue bingeing. This statement is as untrue as saying those that are depressed choose to be depressed. Eating disorder sufferers do not wake up one day and decide to have an eating disorder. Eating disorders develop over time due to a combination of environmental factors and psychological and likely even neurological factors, as recent studies are showing that there is likely a genetic predisposition to eating disorders, just as there is to diabetes and other diseases. Many people with eating disorders don't even realize they have one due to all the myths and misconceptions surrounding eating disorders. It is so, so important to understand the truths about these disorders and watch for signs and symptoms in ourselves and our loved


ones, and constantly ask ourselves if what we're thinking about our bodies or our eating habits are healthy. If you find yourself constantly obsessing over food, weight, or body image, you are likely at risk for an eating disorder, and if you identify with any of the symptoms previously mentioned, it is imperative you seek out help. Early intervention is key in eating disorder recovery, and the earlier an eating disorder is diagnosed and treated, the less risk there is of relapse. If you suspect yourself or a loved one has an eating disorder, or you simply want to educate yourself further, NEDA's website is a great start for finding resources on the subject so you can identify signs and symptoms, find treatment, and more. NEDA also has a helpline you can call at (800) 931-2237, and a chat feature on their website.

## KNOW THE SIGNS




**Lips**

Are they obsessive about food?




**Flips**

Is their behaviour changing?




**Hips**

Do they have distorted beliefs about their body size?




**Kips**

Are they often tired or struggling to concentrate?



**Nips**

Do they disappear to the toilet after meals?



**Skips**

Have they started exercising excessively?



MARCH HOROSCOPES

HOROSCOPES BY NATHALLIE HUGHES

These are horoscopes from March 11th through March 24th. You should read for you sun, moon, and rising sign. If you’re not sure what those are, you can find out at <https://horoscopes.astro-seek.com>. These messages are received through the use of oracle cards as a tool of Divination, or communicating with Spirit/God/Source/The Spaghetti Monster. If you like these, you can find pre-recorded tarot readings by me on YouTube at [Youtube.com/c/nathalliehughes](https://www.youtube.com/c/nathalliehughes). You should also put time in your schedule on March 12th to wish me a happy 20th birthday. Thanks in advance!

**Aries**

Forgive yourself. The time has come for to move on from what is no longer serving you. We know you like to come in first place, but some races aren't meant to be won by you. You don't have to finish this if it's not serving your highest good anymore. Tell your ego to pipe down. Release this and think about what you want moving forward. Once you decide what you truly want, it'll come to you. And it's gonna be good.

**Taurus**

Do it. Do the bold thing that puts you directly out of your comfort zone! Follow your intuition and take a chance. Consult someone who has done what you are trying to do if that will help. Whatever you're doing is going to directly promote and move you along your healing journey. Notice and listen to the signs and people around you that are encouraging you.

**Gemini**

A wonderful surprise orchestrated by the Divine is coming! Your prayers are being answered this issue and miracles are happening in accordance. For some this will be a promotion, a partner, or an inheritance. I see abundance coming in strong for you whether it be emotional or monetary!

**Cancer**

The universe is trying to guide you in the right direction towards your ambitions. You can't reach your dreams from the start line. Yes, you should send that email. Yes, you should send that application. Yes, you should start that blog. It's time to go after what you truly want, and if that means leaving some people, places, and/or concepts that no longer serve you behind then so be it!

**Leo**

There are several opportunities before you now, but you aren't able to see them all or make a clear decision because your relationship with masculine energies is impacting you in a negative way. For some, this is a father who didn't support you in your goals, causing you to doubt yourself. For others, this is an imbalance between masculine and feminine energies within yourself that causes you to remain stagnant instead of tapping into that yang energy and going for you goals with gusto. Either way, stay optimistic. If you were intuitively feeling like there was a better option out there, you're right. You just can see it until you believe in yourself. Create a self love and motivational playlist and listen to it right now. On repeat.

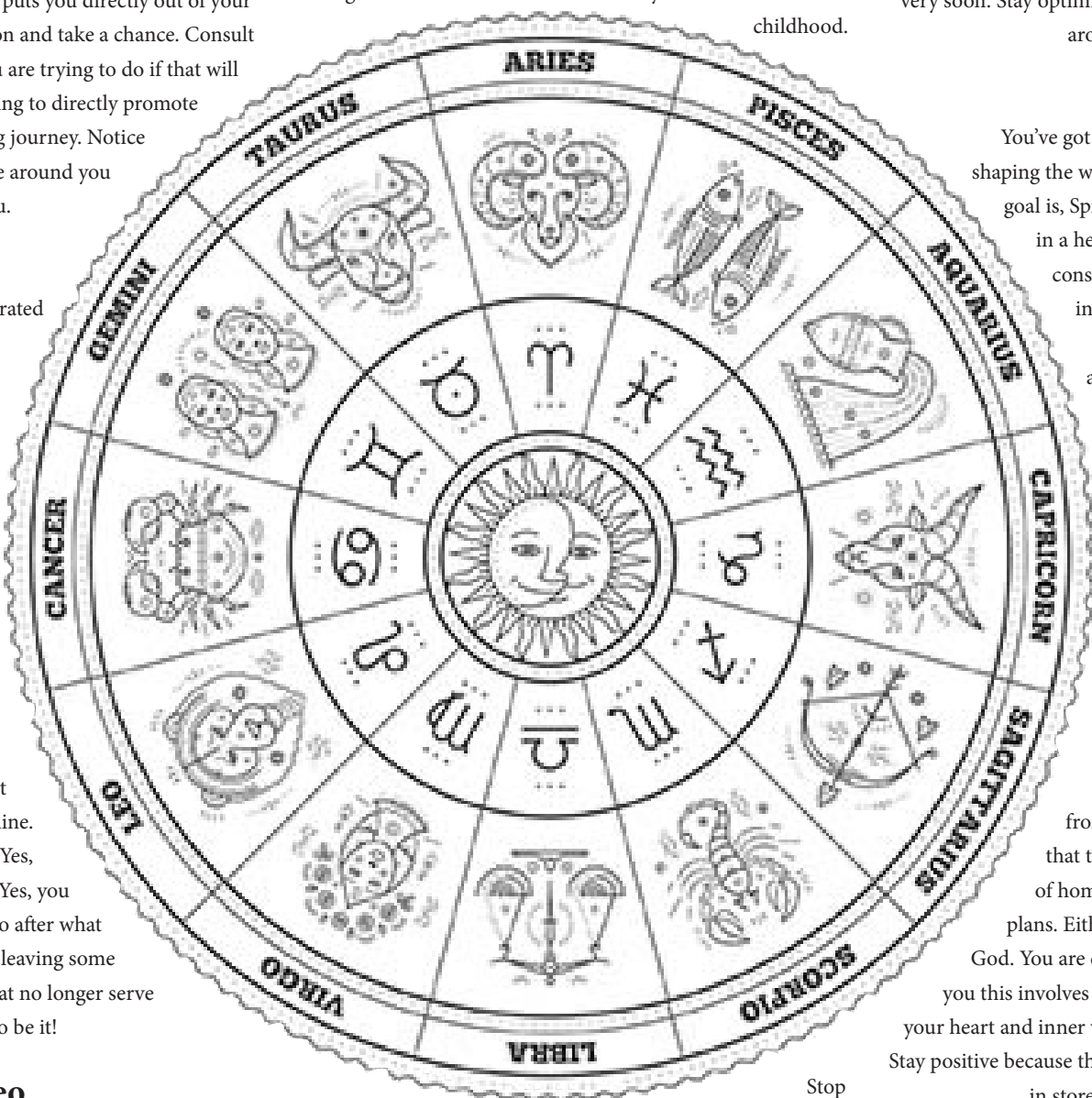
**Virgo**

Stop beating yourself up. God's working on it. Your miracle is coming. In order to expedite the shipping on your miracle, forgive yourself. Accept the past for what it is and then release it. Forgive and love the parts of yourself that you don't like. If

you've having trouble identifying those parts, look at charactics you despise in others. I know you've got a list, Virgo. Forgive, then watch your thoughts because Spirit will be sending you guidance on your next steps. For now, forgive and rest. You work too hard. Take a nap. And that's an order.

**Libra**

Stay optimistic because your miracle is coming. You're selling yourself short. You are so much more powerful than you realize, and your inability to step in your power is stemming from guilt. For most of you this comes from childhood.



accepting the blame in situations that have nothing to do with you. For others, this has to do with a work situation in which you were the scapegoat. Either way, your work is suffering because you are refusing to take a stand in your power. You're being called to step up (by The Cheetah Girls) and pull that blessing down from the spaghetti monster in the sky.

**Scorpio**

Take a nap. You are going through a transformation and at this time all you need to do is rest. You are breaking out of old ways of being that no longer serve you. Listen to your body and nap. There is a new dawn coming and you better dream big because your dreams are coming true. You know, or are going to meet, someone who can help you reach your goals. Don't be afraid reach out once you wake up because they are literally God sent.

**Sagittarius**

Work on forgiving your mother and/or repairing your relationship with feminine energies this issue. You are having trouble allowing yourself to receive. This can be praise, love, money, etc. No matter the case, you are moving into a new era wherein you are going to have to step into your yin energy and depend on others more than usual. This will be much easier once you stop equating feminine energy with being weak and/or wrong. There is nothing wrong with asking for help. In fact, asking for help is going to become a necessity to your growth very soon. Stay optimistic. You've got a good group of people around you to lean on.

**Capricorn**

You've got an issue with masculine energy that is shaping the way you go for your goals. Whatever your goal is, Spirit is encouraging you to go after it, but in a healthier way. You are being shown signs constantly that are encouraging you to move in more efficient ways. Do a quick review to find out where your misconception about go-getting comes from and how it's stopping you today. You are being asked to rest. You may try to overcompensate in your yang energy by constantly going and getting, but now is the time to address that issue because you are about to experience burnout.

**Aquarius**

YOUR PESSIMISM IS KILLING YOUR DREAMS! Some of you need to forgive your mother. Your relationship with feminine energies is blocking you from going after your goals. Some may feel that they will lose the protection and comfort of home by straying from their mother's path/ plans. Either way, you won't lose the protection of God. You are coming up on a new day and for many of you this involves your career goals and ambitions. Follow your heart and inner wisdom over the feelings of anyone else. Stay positive because the Divine has many prosperous surprises in store for you on this journey.

**Pisces**

Happy solar return, Pisces! For your birthdays: it is safe for you to do something new. Break free of what has been holding you back because your fears are stopping you from seeing the freedom on the other side. When you break out of your comfort zone this issue, you will have made significant strides on your healing journey. Don't think too hard about it. Pay attention to the signs and accept heaven's help by following the nudges inside of your mind. For many, that nudge will tell you to stop working and go have some fun. You won't regret it! Remember, It's your party and you can cry if you want to!

Photo courtesy of celestinevision.com

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Entertainment

THE 2019 OSCARS

THE 91ST ACADEMY AWARDS



Photo Courtesy of The Oscars

By Mary Durocher  
Guest Writer

The 91st Oscar's decided to ditch the traditional opening monologue and instead kick off with a glamorous performance from Queen. As Adam Lambert and the surviving members of the band played “We Will Rock You” and other hits, the energy in the Dolby Theatre seemed to shift. The celebrity-filled audience began to headbang and clap along to the music as larger than life clips of Freddie Mercury were projected on the stage. It was this easy-going tribute to the nominated film *Bohemian Rhapsody* that started the biggest night in Hollywood. Perhaps Queen's medley was a glimpse into the laid back and groundbreaking spirit of the rest of the evening. The demand for change and representation at the Oscars began back in 2015 when the hashtag, #OscarsSoWhite, was created by April Reign. The hashtag was in response to the lack of diversity reflected in the nominated actors

and films as well as the Academy members themselves. In both 2015 and 2016, all twenty of the best supporting and leading actor contenders were white, while in 2012 the LA Times reported that 94% of Academy voters were Caucasian and 77% male. The best director nominees in 2015 and 2016 were solely male and only one of the best picture nominees in 2015 featured an LGBTQ+ character. Films that featured people of color in their casts in 2015 and 2016 like, *Selma*, *Straight Outta Compton*, *Creed*, and *Beasts of No Nation*, were left out of the main nominations. The inequality of the Oscar's highlighted in those two years sparked outrage from viewers and celebrities, leading Will Smith, Jada Pickett Smith, Spike Lee, and Michael Moore to boycott. In contrast, this year's Oscars was a big step in the movement to honor a wider range of artistic voices. Often times there's one movie that sweeps the major awards (ex. *Titanic* won eleven awards in 1997 and *Gravity* won seven in 2013) and dominates the show. This year though, no one film snatched all the Oscars

and the winners were as diverse as the stories the best picture nominees told. The films ranged from biopics of a politician and rockstar to the memories of a childhood in Mexico City, and a blockbuster superhero movie. Five out of eight of the best pictures had a person of color as one of the lead characters and more than half included LGBTQ+ storylines. The films, each one from a different time and place, showcased the beauty in the Academy lifting up and supporting everyone narrative. The winners this year were not just diverse but historic. Black Panther's costume designer, Ruth Carter, and production designer, Hannah Beachler, were the first African-American women to win in their categories. Roma was Mexico's first film to win best foreign-language, Period. End of Sentence a documentary about menstruation rights in India won best short documentary, and Spike Lee jumped on Samuel L. Jackson in joy after winning his first Oscar for his adapted screenplay of *BlackKkKlansman*. *Bohemian Rhapsody's* Rami Malek, the first Egyptian-American to win best actor, summed up the mood of the night in his acceptance speech, “Listen, we made a film about a gay man, an immigrant, who lived his life just unapologetically himself. And the fact that I’m celebrating him and this story with you tonight is proof that we’re longing for stories like this.” Despite these advances towards equality in Hollywood, some were disappointed by Green Book's best picture win. The film, which chronicles the story of pianist Don Shirley and his driver Tony Lip traveling through the South, has been criticized for oversimplifying race relations in 1960s America. The best picture win, which film fans might consider a setback, shows that, as Black Panther's Ruth Carter said in her acceptance speech, diversity in Hollywood has “been a long time coming” and still has farther to go.

FIVE UNDERRATED TEEN MOVIES

15 YEARS OF CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN



By Jack Irvin  
Guest Writer

"I lied because I wanted to make myself seem more interesting." "More interesting? We are 1,000 miles from home in a New York police station with a drunken rockstar waiting for your dead father to show up. You want to be more interesting? More interesting than what?" Fifteen years ago, on February 20, 2004, *Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen* was released in theaters. The underrated coming of age film stars Lindsay Lohan and Megan Fox and features Tony nominated actress Alison Pill and Oscar nominated actress Carol Kane. *Confessions* is the story of a delusional, ambitious teenage girl, Lola Cep (Lohan), who rejects her birth name (Mary--- "I don't even know who this Mary is."), loves the band 'Siddharth', and desperately wants to be a Broadway actress. After moving from New York City to Dellwood, New Jersey (Deadwood, as Lola calls it) with her family (Okay, so the "1,000 miles from home" line is a bit far-fetched.), Lola does a bit of lying to seem more interesting. She bonds with Ella (Pill) over Siddharth, whom with she travels back to the Big Apple with to see their farewell

concert, and she fights with Carla (Fox) over acting roles and who really met and bonded with the drunken lead singer of the band, Stu Wolff, at the concert after party. While *Confessions* was a commercial success, in the grand scheme of Disney's teenage comedies and Lohan and Fox's respective filmographies, the movie is wildly overlooked as a teen classic. Comedic actress and legend Carol Kane portrays Miss Baggoli, a teacher at the teens' high school and director of the school musical, a ridiculous modernized version of George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*, which Lola lands the starring role in. Kane plays a wonderfully neurotic, yet nurturing teacher whose anxious bursts fuel the satirical nature of the teenagers' dramatic antics. In the school musical scenes of the film, Lohan performs a cover of David Bowie's "Changes," as well as an original song for the film, "Drama Queen (That Girl)," which is an undeniable bop, and that's final. *Confessions* also features tons of catfights between Lindsay Lohan and Megan Fox, and even a dance off between the two---dare I say---legends. *Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen* deserves to be up next to *Mean Girls'* level of iconic in terms of teen rom-coms, and it's not nearly the only deserving, yet overlooked teen film. Here are five underrated teen flicks that you must watch immediately:

**Jawbreaker (1999):** *Jawbreaker*, directed by Darren Stein, stars a young Rose McGowan as Courtney Shayne, the leader of a popular pack of girls in high school who, after a birthday prank gone wildly wrong, murder one of their best friends. After getting caught by a nerdy girl at school, Fern Mayo, Shayne decides to give Mayo a makeover in exchange for her silence. Complete with a new look and new name, Mayo becomes 'Vyllette' and quickly rockets past Shayne in popularity. With a wild, twisted plot, incredible '90s fashion, an on-screen The Donnas performance, and a great cast also featuring an appearance from Carol Kane as the school principal, *Jawbreaker* has developed a cult following, proving itself as an ignored classic. **G.B.F. (2013):** Darren Stein proved himself a teen movie mastermind with *G.B.F.*, a high school comedy about a gay student, Tanner, who outs himself in search of popularity. Quality LGBTQIA+ movies are far and few, but *G.B.F.* shines as it follows Tanner's puzzled path to living a comfortable, openly gay life. The film's reception was overall quiet, despite an ensemble cast featuring Megan Mullally, Natasha Lyonne, *Jawbreaker's* Rebecca Gayheart, and the ultimate underrated gay icon, pop singer JoJo. In a post-Love, Simon society, it's time to pay *G.B.F.* the respect it deserved when it was released.

**Saved! (2004):** Mandy Moore in a Christian girl group? Check. Macaulay Culkin plays her brother? Check. Jena Malone 'sacricing' her virginity to a gay man in order to make him straight and then getting pregnant? Uh...check! *Saved!* is a deep dive into the twisted tale of a pregnant Christian high school student. The low budget, controversial film did not gain much commercial success, but its cult following has kept its legacy alive. **LOL (2012):** As a society we have collectively decided to ignore the period of Miley Cyrus' career between Hannah Montana and twerking at the VMAs with Robin Thicke where America turned its back on her for smoking salvia, a legal substance---not marijuana, allegedly. *LOL*, a remake of a French film from the '60s of the same name, was released during this period of time to a lackluster box office response. The film was barely marketed, especially in the United States, possibly in part due to the alcohol and drug usage that occurs in the film lining up a bit too closely for comfort with Cyrus' persona, yet very public life at the time. It's a shame people did not catch onto the story of a rebellious teenager, Cyrus, exploring her relationship with her mom, played by Demi Moore.



WHITE STUDENTS AT POC EVENTS

PERCY JACKSON MAKES A SPLASH

A LACK OF WHITE STUDENTS AT CULTURAL EVENTS AT MMC

THE OFF-BROADWAY MUSICAL RETURNS TO NEW YORK



Marymount's Lunar New Year Celebration

Photo courtesy of author

By Billie Sangha  
Staff Editor

I had talked myself out of attending the 100 Nights Until Graduation event at Atwood Bar in late February maybe half a dozen times. This is because despite being an active student leader on campus who deserved a night to let loose and relax with peers, I really didn't want to get drunk around a bunch of white students who I had never seen attend any of the many events constantly occurring on campus. I am fully aware and openly critical of the clique culture at Marymount, and if I was going to be drinking and celebrating my senior year, I felt most comfortable around people of colour or at the very least people who had attended the countless (race-based) cultural events that are constantly happening, people who had engaged with my culture, and people who expressed a desire to learn and be inclusive.

I was sending a text bailing on the night when last minute encouragement swayed me. At Atwood, the demographic was definitely what I had assumed, but my friends were there, too. This isn't to say I couldn't have been friends with white students, or that I am not. This has more to do with the questions I have frequently posed in meetings and in conversations: 1) why is it the same batch of students who spend a lot of time in the Student Organization Suite attending and/or organizing student activities and events with the Student Development and Activities Board? And 2) where are the white students every other day?

This is a predominantly white institution. But I rarely see white students at events with all of this amazing food, music, cultural celebration, informative discussion, and creative media when it's associated with race. Why didn't I see that many at the Black

Experience cultural showcase? Or the Black and Latinx Student Association Opening Mixer? Or at the Lunar New Year Banquet? Or at the Bollywood Dance workshop? How many times can we say it was the schedule not lining up and avoid addressing the fact that white students do not typically engage with race-based events, unless they have a friend who brings them (who is usually of colour), unless a class brings them, or unless it's for extra credit? Nowhere in any event advertising did it say that any of these events were only for students of colour or students of the race/ethnicity that the event is celebrating. White students attending a school event celebrating people of colour (POC) is not threatening or disrespectful, if you ask me; it actually tells me (and means a lot to me) that you care enough to attend and learn. The discomfort of not wanting to be in a space where you don't know anyone or see anyone who looks like you? That's a daily experience for many of us, every single day that we show up to this school.

Reflecting on my nearly two years at Marymount as a transfer student, this has been a school where I have very quickly somehow become a spokesperson for India and Bollywood movies in my classes. This has happened as a result of the lack of cross-cultural interaction. But on the flip side, it's

also been a school where I see women of colour relentlessly leading student organizations and over half a dozen events every single month with the goal to inform, celebrate, and bring everyone together. This especially includes white people who could benefit the most from being there and improve their interactions with POC as a result. Maybe I'm not ready for this level or type of cultural change. Maybe I'm exhausting myself, wishing people knew what diversity looked like in action, wishing events were attended by more than the same people who go to the "coloured-people" events while white students feel most comfortable attending plays, musicals, and bar nights. How can I make such a bold statement? Because I'm showing up to the events where nobody looks like me, too. I've attended as much as I can, in an effort to engage and learn and build bridges, but that work is almost always done on the end of students of colour. Why don't white students feel compelled to bridge cultural gaps? Because you don't have to. The environments you exist in are designed for you not to have to care or think about it. Consequently, the self-imposed separation has no perceived impact.

Why am I perceiving an impact then? Because for me, a queer Punjabi girl who does not know a single other queer Indian girl

on campus, am hyper aware of the difference. And that's I'm trying to be as present and interactive on campus as I can. Because I might as well build something with the people who are here, not to mention I'm already spending thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours here. Why aren't others thinking like that? And if they are, why don't I know them? Contrary to a tone that someone could potentially detect here, I'm not mad at white students, and I don't really care how busy or uncomfortable anyone is because that's not a legitimate excuse that anyone else couldn't also use, that I couldn't use. I'm not mad. I just expect better. I would like more interaction. I would like more people to sheepishly poke their heads into rooms where we are meeting, watching films, making art, having conversations, and decide to push past that awkward hesitation, sit down and join us.

The best way to support students of colour on campus isn't to avoid them and decide for yourselves, with no actual reinforced advertisement or sentiment, that you can't come to black or brown events because you being white is going to upset us. I personally want you there. I personally want you to learn. I want you to bring your white friends. I don't want to feel so disconnected and frustrated with my own graduating class that I actually consider avoiding a celebration because I feel like you'll only voluntarily show up in spaces where you get to be comfortable and reflected in the crowd around you. That's lazy. That reinforces our isolation and inability to acknowledge, accept, know, and understand who else is existing right next to us. That needs to end, and we know how.



Photo via offline.con

By Kayla Pacenka  
Layout Design Editor

Based on Rick Riordan's New York Times Best Selling book series Percy Jackson and the Olympians, *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* tells the story of young Percy Jackson and his adventures as the Greek God Poseidon's son. With his ragtag group of demi-gods and a satyr, Jackson must go to extreme lengths to save his father and his uncle, Zeus, from destroying the world and to find Zeus's master weapon, a lightning bolt. *The Lightning Thief Musical* is returning to Manhattan on the Upper West Side for a short run at the end of March.

While some fans are skeptical of the musical because of the massive flop that was the 2010 movie and it's later sequel in 2013 starring Logan Lerman, others who have seen the musical insure there is no reason to worry. *The Lightning Thief Musical* contains the witty humor, dynamic characters, and action-packed plot of

the original book. Riordan, the author himself, has even assured fans that the musical has brought Percy Jackson a true adaptation that the books deserved. Riordan saying on his blog, "[My readers] have found it to be a fun, faithful, hilarious adaptation of Percy's story. So if you can make an off-Broadway production this spring, check it out!" *The Lightning Thief musical* first premiered in 2017 at the Lucille Lortel theatre in downtown Manhattan, managing to win Three Drama Desk Awards including best musical. It quickly sold-out it's off-broadway

production starred Chris McCarrell (*Les Miserables*), George Salazar (*Be More Chill*), and Kristin Stokes. The highly anticipated musical received over all positive reviews from theatre goers, *Timeout Magazine* calling it, "worthy of the gods." While fans of the book say that it's the adaptation that the books have needed since 2005, people unfamiliar think it's unlike any musical they've ever seen before. For people who have not read the book, the musical easily explains the plot so it is easy to follow with anyone who is not familiar with Percy Jackson or Greek myths. The show starts with the song "The Day I

got Expelled," sung by Jackson himself, explaining the myths and themes that the musical will take. The musical includes 20 songs, including "Good Kid" it's hit song, which now has over half a million streams on YouTube.

If you did not get the chance to see the sold-out run off-Broadway production of *The Lightning Thief Musical* in 2017, not to worry, The US tour of *The Lightning Thief Musical* is hitting the city once again at the beacon hill theatre on the Upper West Side from March 28th to the 31st. Chris McCarrell reprises his role as Percy Jackson and Kristin Stokes as Annabeth Chase, while Grover Underwood, originally played by George Salazar, is now played by Jorrel Javier because of Salazar's reprise role in *Be More Chill*. Playing only eight shows, *The Percy Jackson Musical* is something any theatre fan wouldn't want to miss. Tickets are on sale now on Ticketmaster for as low as 29 dollars.



Photo via Broadway in Detroit





STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS



# SPRING STUDENT ASSEMBLY

LOCATION: REGINA PERUGGI ROOM

TIME: 1:00PM-2:20PM

DATE: MARCH 25TH, 2019 (MONDAY)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [sga@mmm.edu](mailto:sga@mmm.edu)