University Responds to ‘Aida’ Protests

In response to accusations of blackface in the recent student production of “Aida,” Montclair State’s Department of Theatre and Dance plans to host a series of discussion forums to promote open conversation about inclusion and the arts.

“I am glad that the department engages in plays and musicals that inspire meaningful discussion,” Randy Mugleston, chairperson of the theatre and dance department, said in the wake of student protests outside Memorial Hall. “When students find topics they are passionate about, it allows us the opportunity to reflect on the issues brought up by the plays including design choices.”

The theatre department initially denied the protest, insisting they were only employing standard use of stage makeup.

“This is not about stage makeup,” said student Dania Felix, who spearheaded the protests. “This is about darkening yourself for a person of color role.”

Felix explained, “I was on the show, and I had to remove myself because I just felt really uncomfortable with it and what was going on in it. I talked to the head of the department, and they just kind of dismissed me and said that I didn’t know what I was talking about in terms of stage makeup.

“Aida” is a musical set in Egypt, where an Ethiopian princess—after whom the play is named—is brought after being captured. A plotline of love and tragedy unfolds in the original opera by Giuseppe Verdi.

The Montclair State production, directed by assistant Professor Gary La Rosa, opened last night and starred Virginia Vass, an African-American student, as Aida. However, the use of makeup to darken the bare-chested students playing Egyptian soldiers sparked some controversy. While some have labeled it blackfacing—the practice of painting an actor’s face to portray a character of a different race—others have deemed it a routine part of acting in theatre.

“I’m trying to have a good discussion and no one wanted to have a discussion with me prior to the protest,” Felix said. “This was my last option. I wasn’t trying to get here; I was just trying to get word out.”
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Aida Protests: Dispute of Blackface Protests Ope Disussion Formats

Despite Samsung’s best effort to make another Note 7 or comparable smartphone, the store they bought it from. The replacement Note 7 phones begun to cause the phones to explode. This case is under investigation.

A student was granted a temporary restraining order, yet it still caught fire and exploded. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. There have been reports of it catching fire and exploding. 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Montclair State students channeled their artistic side during Student Life at Montclair’s (SLAM) canvas painting event for Homecoming Week on Oct. 19. The event was inspired by the Tin Man from “The Wizard of Oz,” as students strived to put the art in heart by painting Montclair State’s beloved school mascot, Rocky the Redhawk.

Students had the opportunity to attend one of two painting sessions offered during the day to allow more people the chance to paint if they had a class conflict with one of the sessions. Times. Tables were spread out throughout the Student Center Ballroom with everything students would need including smocks, canvases, paintbrushes and a plate full of different colored paints.

Tomika from Amped Events, the company based in Charlotte, North Carolina, led the painting class and promoted positivity and school spirit with her canvas painting of Rocky, soaring with his wings. While students also designed something from there seeing the mascot, she designed something for Homecoming and sent her pictures of Rocky. After wetting the canvas, she designed something from there that was structured in its design but still allowed students to utilize their own creativity.

Tomika said all of the paintings came out really well and the sessions went great.

“Tomika was contacted by SLAM to create a painting design for Homecoming and sent her pictures of Rocky. After wetting the canvas, she designed something from there that was structured in its design but still allowed students to utilize their own creativity. Students were given an outline of the Red Hawk design and tracing paper to create the basic design for their portrait. From there, Tomika helpfully led students step by step with each color by allowing students to pick things like the color and message of the bunner and the background and letting them paint at their own pace. Tomika stressed the importance of having fun and knowing that everyone’s paintings will be different but it’ll still be an enjoyable experience to create something and meet new people while doing it.

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SLAM’s SLAMIN’ Halloween Canvas Painting event was created by SLAM’s on-campus events chair, Althea Truskolawski. She wanted Fall events like pumpkin painting and snack foods that would help de-stress students from midterms.

“Everything was very convenient when we walked in,” said sophomore Taylor Moore. “I love how they have little snacks and stuff, so while your paint is drying you can go eat and have like apple cider and stuff. It gets you in the mood for the holiday.”

“I think it’s a cool way to re-ax some stress and get rid of school work,” said sophomore Ananda Coitran. “I think it just really cool that we get to paint little pumpkins for the holiday because I don’t have many decorations for my room,” said sophomore Alyssa Pritidemange.

Freshmen Marcus Faux and Erin Del Rio sat together while coloring. “It’s something fun to do on a Monday night,” Faux said. “Mid-terms are coming up, and it’s pretty stressful, so doing something as simple as coloring takes the stress out of you.”

“Besides the lack of pumpkins right now, I think it’s pretty cool,” said Del Rio. “There’s a good chance to meet some new people if you’re interested in that.”

SLAM ran out of pumpkins momentarily and went to get more, Del Rio said.

Freshman Melanie Muino liked that everyone could paint pumpkins before Halloween. She said it’s nice for those who don’t have the chance to go home to pick pumpkins. “It brings everyone together,” Muino said. “It celebrates the holiday.”

The student showcase is a time for student organizations to highlight their performance skills and get ready for the big game. Students wear costumes and coordinate routines for the entertainment of fellow peers, alumni and other organizations.

Canvas Painting Promotes School Spirit

Alexandra Clark
Assistant News Editor

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The Montclarion

Feliciano School of Entrepreneurship Hosts Women Empowerment Week Events

Charlia German
Contributing Writer

Montclair State University helped to celebrate Women Empowerment Week by joining 16 other New Jersey colleges and universities in the initiative.

In more than 11 countries, including the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Chile, China, India, Nigeria, Spain, Thailand, Vietnam, the United States, people embraced the power of knowing themselves and their success throughout the week.

The annual event that started was the community’s campus in 2014 by the Feliciana Center for Entrepreneurship. The event has continued from Oct. 18 and 19 at University Hall this year. The event featured a variety of successful women who talked about leadership, risk taking, tips on succeeding and how to juggle everything.

“Power Play: What Makes Women Great Leaders” was the first event held on Oct. 18 for Women Empowerment Week. The panel was moderated by Linda Lacina, a morning co-anchor of CNBC. She featured Aedah Belayneh of Applied Underwriting, Companies, Zinn and Wyn- dham CEO and president and CEO Gall Man- del of Envisionary, president and CEO Rina Byrne, vice president of global trend and communication strategies for the Service Payments Business Barbara An- derson of Agoglia and Community, and president of the New Jersey Delaware FieldBank of New Jersey CEO Domenic Belfanti.

Each of the women talked about their professions and their opinions on how to dominate in a field that is mostly controlled by men. A discussion was formed on how women leaders use their power differently from men, and as women in these positions, they need to be able to help aspiring entrepreneurs.

On Oct. 19, a full-day conference was held for women entrepreneurs. The conference was packed with a mixture of women and men who sat and listened to various panels throughout the day. For the first part of the conference, founder and CEO of BAM Real Estate Mia Fel- liciano, talked about learning how to get and trust those around her more. At the end of her speech, she enlightened the crowd with a short poem by Rev. Sadie Rosow called “She Let Go.” Afterwards, “The Taking Risks” panel was handed over to moderator Michele Ams- herger, who recently retired from Prudential Financial. Panelists included corporate Vice President of Client Experience Debbie Dyon, founder and CEO of Waverock Jessica Gulliford and Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, Suvi Hel- lander, the founder and president of the Bedtime Math Founda- tion. Each of the panelists was asked to describe a point in their life characterized by taking risks and explain how she felt about it in that moment. Each had taken different risks, ones that weren’t automatic- ally successful but led them to achieve success in their careers later on. Dyon expressed to the audience that taking risks was difficult, but “if not try new thing then will never know.”

The second featured panel of Social Media Links – Susan French, president of 24 Seven Ceeblo Gudga and CEO of Turtle & Hughes Jayne Millard. It was moderated by founder and president of Women Presidents’ Organiza-

The Montclarion

Sixth Annual Suicide Prevention Walk Honors Frank Ciappi Jr.

Amanda Williams
Staff Writer

On Apr. 15, 2009, Frank Ciappi Jr. died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head near his mother’s house. He had attended high school at Clifton High School. Having just been accepted into Keene University for Marine Biology, Ciappi’s family did not realize how close he was to death. He was 18 years old.

“He was a good kid,” said Carmen Garcia, Ciappi’s step- mother. “He struggled and we never really realized the signs. Walking [today] means being able to have the op- portunity to raise funds and awareness and, at the same time, honor Frankie so that he didn’t die in vain.”

Montclair State University, along with the rest of the darkness suicide prevention community, held its annual Out of the Darkness suicide awareness walk on the Student Center quad, where hundreds of people gathered to celebrate and support suicide awareness with the goal of reducing the national suicide rate 20 percent by 2025.

For Laura Chiappi, founder and president of the AFSP, “afsp.org” was the first thing that came to her mind. “All funds raised [are] put toward the event,” said Chiappi. “There are resources available to get through these difficult times.”
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Photo by Laurence Winnel
The Global Living Community: Helping Students Connect

Victoria Campisi
Contributing Writer

The Global Living Community (GLC) at Montclair State University provides an easy way for international students to be able to connect with one another and begin close friendships.

Daniel Lawrence, 21, of Bournemouth University in England, said, “I think [the GLC] helped me because everybody’s in the same boat. It’s quite handy because I don’t have any clue what I’m doing.” Lawrence, who is studying screenwriting for film and television, had been to America twice before he knew he wanted to come back to study abroad. “It’s near New York,” he said. “That’s kind of the reason why I picked it.”

In 2003, the Global Living Community grew from just a few apartments and moved into Alice Paul Hall, located in The Village Apartments, where it now occupies the third and fourth floors of the building. According to Montclair State’s website, “The Global Living Community (GLC) is a residential community of International and American students [at Montclair State].” Its aim is to create a bond not only among the international students living there, but also with the American students with whom they share apartments.

Forty-two-year-old television production student, Jessica Browning, who is also from Bournemouth University, had a reasoning similar to Lawrence’s for choosing Montclair State to study abroad. “I wanted to study at Montclair mainly because I heard it had a good reputation for TV, but also because it’s close to New York,” she said. “It’s a comfort knowing that, even if I don’t meet people in my classes, I still have the international people to fall back on,” continued Browning.

Lawrence and Browning agreed that the GLC has helped them create a bond with the other study abroad students on campus. “The very first week, they put us together and made us do team building activities,” said Browning. “They were a bit cheesy, but really good.”

Cant noticed that this year’s group of students is social and willing to get together and do activities. “We’re all really up for doing the touristy things like going to New York and going to see a baseball game,” said Browning. “That’s something we’re really into because it’s so alien from back home.”

Every Thursday night in the Alice Paul lounge, there is an event called Cookies and Culture put on by the GLC staff. “I had a birthday party, so we thought we would be fun,” said Cant. “We try to fit the event the international students, help them create memories and connecting people across cultures,” which is a focus of the GLC. “I think it’s fun to create opportunities for the students to get to know each other,” she said. “I hope that the really good stuff is what happens in people’s apartments and that they develop friendships. The real hope is that, ultimately, the international students go home and keep friendships developed. I think that’s my favorite part.”

Photo courtesy of Angela Cant
"Good vibes only."

Another day, another decision on how I can gain some extra weight. Food and I are going to get married and I know she doesn’t care about my body. She just likes me for me; who could ask for anything more from a lover? Today, I was interested in a place quite local to me, three blocks to be exact. An adventurous friend of mine took a picture of a pink neon sign with a white wall backdrop that read “good vibes only” in a restaurant. It reminded me of California for some reason. I asked her where it was, and she said that it was this restaurant called The Corner on the corner of Walnut Street and Grove Street. Now, I have a huge distaste for the word “vibes”. Cannot stand that word, but I’ll save that rant for another forum. Back to the food!

As I walk into The Corner, I see the neon pink sign. I see a packed crowd, creating extra heat on what was already a sweaty day. With that in mind, along with the ISO food safety restrictions for indoor settings, requesting a seat outside was only fitting. The seating outside is nice. Four picnic-like tables stack up against the brick foundation of the restaurant. The seats are long, wooden benches, smooth to avoid splinters. When handed the menu, I was already familiar with some of the choices, due to the research I had done the day before. I belittled the minimalist approach to the options given for the likes of breakfast and lunch, but I would soon see why that was a blessing rather than a mistake. I ordered the Breakfast Sandwich along with a 12 ounce juice called the Bounce Back. The Breakfast Sandwich comes with an over-easy egg, garlic aioli and greens with pickled red onion, two buttermilk biscuits and chicken apple sausage. The Bounce Back contains grapefruit, grapes, lemon, orange and beets.

Now, two things stood out to me in all of this: the over-easy eggs on the Breakfast Sandwich and the beets in my juice. I love my eggs scrambled maybe 98.9 percent of the time and I am not a fan of beets, although it has been forever since I last had a taste of them. The Corner turned me into a believer of both. The over-easy eggs bled into the food with ease. I barely noticed the difference in taste because the meal was marvelous. The pickled red onions had some strong kickback to them. The zesty flavor added character to the entire plate. The chicken apple sausage was thick, juicy and other words not safe for work. The juice demanded my attention after the first sip. The beet flavor was noticeable, but didn’t push the envelope, creating room for the other ingredients to flourish. I felt so health-conscious eating the whole thing. These weren’t your typical heart-stopping buttermilk biscuits from Popeyes. Just as the meal vanished into my stomach, the server kindly asked us what we would like for dessert. I couldn’t resist her suggestion of the 230 Cookie, a cookie that is made fresh every day at 2:30 p.m. It costs $2.30. Right as she went to get the cookie, a baby soiled himself right on his mother’s shoulder while she was talking to her friend. They went inside to change the child, but as tasty as the scene was, all I kept thinking about was that cookie and the delicious lunch I just ate. Nothing, not even baby crap, was going to ruin that for me. The cookie came out a few minutes later and it was perfect. It carried the shape of a muffin, but you knew as soon as you held it in your hand that it was a soft, gooey piece of perfection. It put shame on the high fructose corn syrup cookies I ate in middle school. The Corner, we will meet again.

The Corner is located at 115 Grove St. Montclair, NJ 07042.
Montclair State Professor Experiences Dakota Pipeline Protest

Jennifer Leon  
Staff Writer

Mark Clatterbuck, an associate professor of religion at Montclair State University, was present at the Native American resistance protest in North Dakota to help fight the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL), operated by Energy Transfer, is a 1,172-mile pipeline project that would carry fracked oil from North Dakota through South Dakota and Iowa. It would then travel through Illinois and down to the Gulf Coast for export.

There is Native American resistance to the DAPL, as it would devastate tribal, sacred and ceremonial sites. Native American tribes are seeking to halt the project, which would disturb graves, stone features and ancestral homeland.

The pipeline, if completed, would cross the Missouri River and Lake Oahe, the reservoir that provides drinking water for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

DAPL is slated to go right through ancestral tribal lands of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of Lakota and Dakota ancestry.

Clatterbuck said, “A treaty in the 1800s gave the territory to the Sioux tribe and said that, as long as the grass grows and water flows, the land is yours, but when gold was found, the federal government took the land from them.”

Clatterbuck, who appeared very shaken, explained that there was a violent confrontation where pipeline crews pepper sprayed and unleashed attack dogs on unarmed Native American protesters, including children and elders.

“That tribe has organized a camp, and so I went out as an independent observer,” said Clatterbuck, who was present with his young daughter.

According to Clatterbuck, there are about 2,000 people camped out at the site in an effort to halt the work.

“They want it to be known that they will gather here and be the physical resistance to the pipeline with their bodies,” said Clatterbuck. “It is super powerful to see how committed these people are. People have lost their jobs in order to come out, others cook for everyone, and there have even been people setting up schools for the Native students.”

People have been arrested for physically trying to stop bulldozers, chaining themselves to bulldozers, and even laying down in front of them.

“They are unarmed, but it’s a big group of people. So either the company voluntarily halts construction on the project or Federal Regulatory agencies shut them down,” said Clatterbuck.

“North Dakota’s winter is harsh, but they are willing to stay there if that’s what it takes,” he continued.

Clatterbuck helps run a 501 federal non-profit, Lancaster Against Pipelines, and has shown support by standing with the Sioux tribe. According to Clatterbuck, this fight is a spiritual event. “Water is sacred,” he said. “This site is sacred.”
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Paying it Forward
Montclair State Greeks Visit Nursing Home

Last month, the sisters of Sigma Delta Tau Sorority at Montclair State University visited the Canterbury Village Senior Assisted Living Residence in West Orange, New Jersey with the brothers of Delta Chi Fraternity.

They were spent the morning with residents playing board games and checkers, giving manicures, singing, dancing, playing music and telling stories back and forth.

Sigma Delta Tau and Delta Chi had a rewarding experience at the home, knowing they were able to spend time with the residents and brighten their spirits.

Sigma Delta Tau’s vice president of philanthropy Melanie Ventura, who coordinated the event, plans on returning again to spend more time with the residents, who enjoy the company.

Photo Essay by Krista Cerminaro
HELP WANTED

MONTCLAIR • October 27, 2016 • PAGE 11

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Help Wanted

Help Wanted

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Help Wanted

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WARNING

PLEASE BE AWARE that the State of New Jersey laws regarding the sale, distribution and use of alcohol are being enforced around the NJIT and Rutgers-Newark campuses.

VIOLATORS WILL BE ARRESTED AND THEIR NAMES WILL BE PUBLISHED FROM THE POLICE BLOTTER.

Sponsoring student organizations violating New Jersey laws WILL BE subject to campus sanctions.

In Conjunction With:
City of Newark
NJIT Public Safety
Rutgers University Police Department (Newark Division)
The Montclarion’s Endorsement: Why We’re With Her

A far more than a year of incessant bickering and political brawling, thousands of Montclair State students will vote for the first time in a presidential election in less than two weeks. The decisions facing students is easy: Hillary Clinton is qualified and wholly prepared to assume office, while Donald Trump is unfit to become president and represents a danger to our democracy.

The choice could not be more clear for college students. One candidate has laid out a detailed plan to combat the student debt crisis and lower the cost of college, and the other candidate created a for-profit college that exploited its students.

One candidate realizes the urgency and importance of making public higher education available to everyone, and the other candidate can’t be bothered to dedicate more than two bullet points on his website to explain how he’ll make college more affordable.

We know what to expect when Clinton gets into office. No, we don’t believe Clinton has the magic bullet to fix every problem with higher education, and we don’t believe Clinton will be able to get all of her proposals through Congress. What we do know, though, is that Clinton will be dogged in her pursuit to lessen the burden of student debt and ensure college is more available to all, regardless of socioeconomic status.

Even if reforming higher education becomes a priority in a potential Clinton administration, we know that Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Sen. Bernie Sanders will constantly prod Clinton to solve the student debt crisis and be unreleining in their push to make higher education better for future generations of students.

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That is the mark of an authoritarian ruler and not a president. Trump displays no understanding of what it takes to be America’s president.

Montclair State’s mission statement pledges a commitment to creating an environment that promotes diversity and is characterized by “tolerance and openness in the exploration of ideas.” Clinton epitomized that statement when she started to go to China in 1993 and proudly declare “women’s rights are human rights.” Clinton began her career by fighting for better public education at the Children’s Defense Fund and later as the first lady of Arkansas, and then fought for women’s rights across the globe as Secretary of State.

She isn’t perfect, but her opponent is far worse. Trump, who often derides political correctness, has blacklisted news organizations who have criticized him. Trump has hinted that he wants to “open up the libel laws.” Trump has threatened to sue every one of his accusers, and he has made his campaigns about appealing to America’s worst fears and pitying Americans against each other.

Simply, a Trump administration would guarantee that America becomes less inclusive and more divisive.

The choice is clear for Montclair State students. Clinton has her flaws and her use of a private email server shows a lack of judgment. However, her misgivings pale in comparison to Trump’s numerous blunders.

We’re with her — and not just against him.

HILLARY CLINTON SAYS...

“IF I WANT TO KNOCK A STORY OFF THE FRONT PAGE, I JUST HAVE TO CHANGE MY HAIRSTYLE.”

“HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WOMEN’S RIGHTS, AND WOMEN’S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS”

“IF YOU ARE TOO DANGEROUS TO GET ON A PLANE, YOU ARE TOO DANGEROUS TO OWN A GUN.”

“I THINK OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY AS AN INVERTED TRIANGLE, RESTING ON THE SHOULDER OF THE AMERICAN CONSUMER, AND IF THE AMERICAN CONSUMER CANNOT HAVE ENOUGH DISPOSABLE INCOME IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A STANDARD OF LIVING THAT CREATES MORE OPPORTUNITIES GENERATION AFTER GENERATION, THAT’S BAD FOR EVERYBODY.”

“WE’RE ALWAYS GOING TO ARGUE ABOUT ABORTION, IT’S A HARD CHOICE AND IT’S CONTROVERSIAL, AND THAT’S WHY I’M PRO-CHOICE, BECAUSE I WANT PEOPLE TO MAKE THEIR OWN CHOICES.”

“LET’S TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE OF SYSTEMATIC RACISM, INVEST IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR AND FINALLY PASS COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM.”

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Students React to Theatre Department Production

James Guest Writer

The opening of the play “Aida” seems to have unleashed a massive amount of controversy on Montclair State’s campus. Students lined up with signs and megaphones to protest what they saw as blackface. Now, what would happen to the production on campus—whether involved in the production or not—has an opinion on the matter. “Blackface” is defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as “makeup worn by a white actor playing a black person.” Supporters of the production’s makeup claim that the goal of the makeup is only to ton the actors, as the characters they portray are in the sunlight for most their lives, and therefore its application is not blackface.

Several of the actors portray Egyptian characters, whereas claim that the use of bronzer is racially insensitive. They believe this tanning procedure is, in fact, blackface—even if it is not as obvious as the kind used in minstrel shows of the late nineteenth century, the term became popularized.

If this was the only evidence both for and against the accusation of blackface in the show, the conversation would be short-lived. However, there is in fact a much larger context surrounding the claim that blackface is being used in the show.

In the traditional casting of Aida, the Egyptian characters were played by white actors and the Nubian ones were played by black actors. Supporters of the show are able to argue this claim that the tanning of white actors isn’t blackface—after all, these actors are meant to represent white racial struggles in America. In this case, the casting decisions. Aida is traditionally a show being one big metaphor, then there is no need for black actors in the show, because at the time, Egypt and Nubia were inhabited solely by people of color. The realization that characters who are outside of the use their skin darkened by the sun, without the realization that all Egyptians in the area the show would take place would have naturally dark skin even before tanning, is ultimately what protesters have taken issue with.

The original concerns raised by a group of students were thrown out the window, according to the student who sparked protests, and now many individuals have attempted to explain how the use of this makeup is not blackface. Even if it was definitively argued that this makeup was not blackface, individuals cannot be the ones who claim this is not a problem, as only people of color can determine what is or is not racially insensitive. At the end of the day, if one is not white, then one is not aware that blackface is being done.

The takeaway of this incident is that Montclair State University is an extremely diverse school and that we need to do a much better job of acknowledging the cause of our reputation as a diverse institution, to accept responsibility when we have wronged—but because of our reputation, we must admit when we have wronged. It is the only way for us to prove we are an institution.

Until Montclair’s theatre department takes responsibility for this lapse of judgment, students will remain skeptical of their racial sensitivity. For now, students will ask the theatre department to see what their next move is—especially as they prepare for their production of West Side Story, whose characters are entirely of Latin American descent, in the spring semester.

[The department] and the controversial situation and it became a much more sensitive to African-American culture. Once people saw the play, they were able to recognize it as beautiful theatre.

Olivia Manna
Visual Communication, Freshman

“I personally don’t really mind who you are, as long as the art is fantastic.”

- Michael Oddo
Music Education, Freshman

“Everyone is equal, so if you can’t see your skin as another color it shouldn’t be an issue.”

- Jessica Zarnick
Art Education, Senior

“Yes, I think so because when [peo- ple] are using blackface for discrimination. Like on social media, it’s very wrong.”

- Niah Aberdeen
Biology, Freshman

[Image] Students protesting “Aida” outside of Memorial Auditorium.
Fools Shouldn’t Run for President, and Trump Is a Fool

Republican presidential nominee is less than presidential

If Trump ever gets elected, he is going to make the rest of the international community hate Americans. Our country can’t afford any more enemies. The United States of America is a diverse country that is made of people from all over the world. Without immigration, many of us would not be here today. Building walls and closing our borders will do nothing, but harm. People used to immigrate to our country to build a better life. They thought we were the greatest place on earth. How great can our country be if he is a man like himself forgotten this far in the election? Trump is an embarrassment to our country’s people, history and values. He should not represent our country. His inability to act like a member of our society proves it. He has shown us so many reasons why we should not vote for a fool like him. Your future is at stake, so don’t forget to vote on November 8.

Amina Abdelrahim, a communications student major, is in her first year as a columnist for The Montclarion.
Montclair State University’s Players brought the time warp back with their annual lyrical showcasing of classic musical comedy Rocky Horror Picture Show from Oct. 20 to 22 at 8 p.m. and midnight each day.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show was created in the 1970s and tells a story about love, hate, adventure and, for the most part, sex. It starts out with Brad and Janet, a newly engaged couple from Ohio, whose car breaks down on a dark stormy night. Those strange dwellers up ahead is Dr. Frank-N-Furter, the Transylvanian head of the household, welcomes Brad and Janet with a goal in mind: to bring their deepest, darkest fantasies to life. The tale concludes with Brad and Janet being transformed into sexually-charged aliens themselves.

Junior Madison Glassman played Columbia, the colorful maids in the Transylvanian manor.

Glassman said, “I really like this show because it has a liberating atmosphere. When you are performing in it, you aren’t being judged. You have fun, be free and sexy!”

Juniior Ben Souillard plays the criminologist and described Rocky Horror as “one of the craziest shows that exist today.”

Souillard added, “It allows you to discover parts of yourself through the character played, whether good or evil.”

I, being a straight-laced person, I play the criminologist who is also the narrator, and he is the most straight-laced character in the entire show. I play his character up a little bit, making him more feminine. If you come see the show, you will understand what I mean at the end.”

When asked about the reheasal time for Rocky Horror Picture Show, Glassman explained that it is a four-week process Monday through Friday from 6 to 10 p.m., and sometimes later. Acting and dancing experience is required, but singing is not. Players also have an improv group, called Montclair Improv League and Friends (MILF), that performs throughout the year.

Fashion Director Jenn Zerilli said that visuals are very important in theater, and that playing a game where you would eat food from the cast members heads would have very different reactions. I heard vulgar call-outs traditionally being shouted to poke fun throughout the entire show. It was something that left me shocked, laughing and, at times, embarrassed.

The show had a lot of intimacy—more than I expected. However, I noticed that every single person on stage had a different and shocking energy. The choreography, fashion and the setting were incredible.

‘Aida’ Wows Montclair State Amid Controversy

“Aida” was spectacular. The Department of Theater and Dance brought the acclaimed opera by Giuseppe Verdi, “Aida,” to Montclair State’s Memorial Auditorium.

The musical takes place in ancient Egypt, where Aida, an Ethiopian princess, is held prisoner and becomes a slave of Amneris, the Egyptian king’s daugh- ter. Aida and the Egyptian general, Radames, fall in love, causing Aida to be conflicted. Radames is held prisoner and becomes a slave of Amneris, the Egyptian king’s daughter. To complicate things even further, Radames and Amneris are en-

Aida was phenomenal. She portrayed every emotion perfectly, and her singing was fantastic. One of the best songs in the play was “The Gods Love Nubia,” which played right before the intermission started. Vass and the ensemble cast beautifully sang this song, and it was an ex-

The orchestra did nothing short of an excellent job. Addi-
tionally, this version of “Aida” had music by Elton John and lyrics by Tim Rice. Using rock numbers and heart-wrenching ballads as a way of making this play modern was really clever.

All of the actors on stage were magnificent. Virginia Vass as Aida was phenomenal. She portrayed every emotion perfectly, and her singing was fantastic. One of the best songs in the play was “The Gods Love Nubia,” which played right before the intermission started. Vass and the ensemble cast beautifully sang this song, and it was an ex-

Exploring the plot with a new cast member. Photo courtesy of Virginia Vass.
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http://www.montclair.edu/global-education/study-abroad/outgoing-students/
The performance of the "Plough and the Stars" at the Alexander Kasser Theater's Peak Performance series was electrifying, as expected. The play, written by the Irish playwright Seán O'Casey, was first performed on Feb. 8, 1926, and revolves around a bloody uprising in Ireland in the beginning of the 20th century.

The first two acts are set a few months before the unsuccessful Easter Uprising of 1916. It was an insurrection initiated by Irish republicans who tried to get their independence from the United Kingdom. The last two acts take place during the uprising, when the British used artillery and heavy machine guns, often mistakenly, against civilians.

The storyline focuses on everyday people in Dublin living in uncertainty in the face of the rising tensions between the Irish civilians and the British rulers.

The first two acts incorporate comedic relief, which made the complicated relationships between the characters even more believable and the family members and friends more likeable. One character who provided comedy to the overall dramatic play was Young Convey, a young Communist who isn't taken seriously by his friends and family, but who makes jokes on behalf of an old labourer for being too old. One of the most heart-wrenching moments of the play was when Jack Clitheroe, a soldier of the Irish Citizen Army, leaves his family to fight alongside his men. A few weeks before, Nora received a letter stating that Jack had been promoted to commandant. She burned the letter to stop Jack from leaving her.

One day when they are getting intimate with each other Captain Brennan, one of Jack's men, knocks on their door and asks for "Commandant Clitheroe," Jack immediately gets dressed to join his men. Nora, not knowing how else to respond, gives Jack an ultimatum: it's either her or his men.

The show was at times hard to follow due to the thick Irish accents of characters throughout the play. However, never took away from the drama and the pain that the characters were going through. "The Plough and the Stars" gives audiences a better understanding of what the Easter Uprising of 1916 was like and what the uprising meant for average people.

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the United States, in 2014, 1 in 36 adults were under some sort of adult supervision. In the United Kingdom, it would be devastating to find out that just one of your classmates that you have grown up with for years was going to prison. In the documentary film, "The One That Got Away," the true story behind this statistic is explored and brought to light. This film

Montclair State Staff Co-Produces Montclair-Based Documentary

'The Plough and the Stars' Takes Audiences Back to 1916 Ireland

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Q: What is your biggest motivation?
A: I like to affect other people. I know that I’ve given them something new to ponder, or a new way to think about something. Whether you should buy, rent or skip the particular films.

Q: Are you your biggest inspiration?
A: When I was four years old, my parents took me to see CATS and mentioned the possibility of exploring every aspect of myself, and to implement this method into my life through the per- sonas—and Montclair State’s productions really offer me the room I need.

Q: Who are your biggest supporters?
A: My parents, my professors and Taco Bell.

Q: What’s your latest project?
A: I’m the assistant director for Iphigenia, which goes up at the Kasser Theater the first week of November. I’ll also be overseeing the film and the stage combat sequence and providing the audience with a safe and fun time.

Anthony Tarisitano, a New York City-raised filmmaker, gives a presentation at the weekly film forum this past Tuesday.

Tarisitano has written and di- rected two feature-length films along with one short film. He proudly showed the audience his second feature film, “Lost Cat Corona,” which stars Ralph Macchio, Paul Sorvino and Gina Gershon. It’s about an ordinary married couple with a missing cat, and along the way encounters dangerous elements of the New York hood. It is a dark comedy which has other story arcs involving drug deals, and the main character’s family life.

The film was about an hour and a half long, and Tarisitano managed to get a very talented cast for a small-budget film. The cast also included a couple of actors from acclaimed shows such as “Dexter” and “Orange is the New Black.”

He stated that he wanted to make a comedy that was on par with his sense of humor and was someone he could laugh at. Some laughs. Furthermore, Tar- isitano explored social themes that were present during the dramatic time of the film, such as self-identity and being your own person, which is told in a unique way in this dark comedy.

Another interesting factor about the film was that a lot of the filming locations where in a neighborhood that the direc- tor knew very well. The church that was in the movie was the church that his parents got mar- ried in, and one of the houses in the film was his own house.

While Tarisitano was giving his commentary after the film was over, he explained how fortunate he was to work with a talented cast, and he eventually talked about the beginning of his career. He was originally an art director, and he also wrote and directed this film to make his moves. Taris- itano has written and directed numerous television and radio spots for MasterCard, Citibank, Quicken Loans, Aetna Insur- ance, 21st Century Insurance and Nickelodeon.

He always wanted to do films, so the films that he start- ed to create appeared in festi- vals—not notably, his short film “Joey” qualified for Tribeca Film Festival, Ram- dance Film Festival in London, and it gained a Jury Award at the USA Film Festival.

His success with his films did not stop after his short film. Tarisitano’s first feature-length film, “Calling It Quits,” gained nu- merous awards at the domestic level, including Best Director, Best Feature Film, Best Actor, Best Ensemble, Best Story and Best Cinematography.

While talking about his past work, he never mentioned how many awards it won, but instead talked about how his ex- periences with his films were excellent.

The impression that most of the audience members got was that he is a modest filmmaker who works in a field that he loves.

Tarisitano said his favorite di- rectors that inspired him to purs- ues filmmaking were Stanley Kubrick and The Coen Brothers. It is evident that there are some elements of The Coen Brothers in “Lost Cat Corona,” especially with the humor and the way the film ends.

The editor of the film was also in the crowd, and Tarisitano said he was going to direct either a film or a television show for his next project.

Anthony Tarisitano Speaks at Film Forum

Bryan Sudfield

Got-Busting Writer

Last week, three big titles came to Blu-Ray: Independ- ence Day: Resurgence, Alice Through the Looking Glass and Cafe Society, and the Montclarion has a little about whether you should buy, rent or skip the particular films.

"Independence Day: Resurgence"

After twenty years, the sequ- el to the iconic blockbuster has arrived with the return of stars Jeff Goldblum and Bill Pullman, as well as director Roland Emmerich.

You know what that means! Movies, more movies and more-stupidity. If you want to be a real film snob, I have to say this isn’t it. Re- member how bad the first one was? How bad it was with the buffoonish actors and bad special effects? Well, there is no way to compare it to one of the streaming services (i.e. Netflix). BOR- RENT.

"Alice Through the Looking Glass"

Six years after the commer- cially-successful Tim Burton-di- rected film, nearly all the orig- inal actors return to reprise their roles, including Johnny Depp who received a Golden Globe nomination as the wacky Mad Hatter.

In this film, Alice (Mia Was- sikowska) returns to Wonderland after finding out the Mad Hatter is being pursued by personal- struggles, which leads Alice traveling through time.

The Muppets director James Bobin takes the helm from Bur- ton and this is one of the worst films of the year. I hated this film because it drooped dropped out of it, and it’s not well-done in my opinion. This is the true definition of a sequel no one ever asked for. SKIP.

"Cafe Society"

Woody Allen has been writ- ing and directing for the better part of about 50 years. His latest project is set in the Golden Age of Hollywood in the 1930s with our lead, Bobby (Jesse Eisen- berg), a young New Yorker who moves to Los Angeles working for his uncle (Phil Stevan Cutt), who happens to be a big-scaled agent. Bobby then falls in love with Phil’s assistant Connie (Kristen Stewart), and that’s all I’m going to say without re- vealing more.

This film is quite a ride and I loved it. I’m not a hater of Allen’s work, but I’m not a lover of all either. This is a strong example of an Allen film that anyone can enjoy watching. It’s funny, engaging and somewhat heartwarming. I highly recom- mend it, especially if you’re a fan of strong dialogues and stel- lar performances.

BUY.
"Ouiji Origin of Evil" is a prequel to the 2014 horror film "Ouiji". This prequel takes place in 1965 Los Angeles, and it follows a widowed mother and her two daughters who run a scamming business. The former revolusionary idea of bringing people over to talk to dead spirits to ultimately give them a Ouija board one day, the youngest mother brings home a Ouija board, who goes by the alias Christian. The main character, who goes by the alias Christian Wolff (Ben Affleck), has a high functioning form of autism. Wolff has many symptoms of Asperger's Syndrome and is an extremely gifted person. He is a Asperger's Syndrome and is an extremely gifted person. He is a smart but socially awkward person. He has a very particular way of doing things and putting the money back into the business to increase and put it to good use. Everyone at the company starts up dead. At the same time, Department of Treasury agents are working on figuring out who the myster- tory accountant for the elderly is. Thankfully, the story never turns into a cat-and-mouse chase.

Wolff wants to finish the job he started to find out what's going on. He can't also stop something once he starts, which is an auton- matic tick. The film is an explo- ration of autism in a way, which can be a bit of a letdown. But Wolff's intelligence comes from the main character, who has trouble expressing himself and socializing. There are a series of flashbacks, but it's impossible to answer any big questions. For example, Wolff's real name is never revealed, which is a bit of a letdown.

The other problem was the lack of a substantial role for Anna Kendrick. She plays Dana, an accountant at the company Wolff uncovers the secrets of. Assassins wind up pursuing her and Wolff for their roles in figuring out the truth, but Ken- drick is under used and has a weak role. She usually has stronger roles, leading to disap- pointment in this film.

"Ouiji: Origins of Evil" is to spread the mes- sage that everyone has a differ- ent definition of normal, which is a bit of a letdown. It doesn’t matter if you are picking up or you are not; you can achieve great things and make a good life for yourself. This film tries to intrigue people through some ideas. The Accountant will make you think in ways you might not have been ex- pecting.

The topic of autism is rarely brought up in movies, especially in crime stories. It was odd that The Accountant attempted to take on a hot but- ton issue and even more sur- prising that it succeeded. Under all the murder and secrets lies a heart-warming message of how people with autism aren't inca- pable of accomplishing more than their handicap.

The Ac- countant, who goes by the alias Christian Wolff (Ben Affleck), has a high functioning form of autism. Wolff has many symptoms of Asperger's Syndrome and is an extremely gifted person. He is a Asperger's Syndrome and is an extremely gifted person. He is a smart but socially awkward person. He has a very particular way of doing things and putting the money back into the business to increase and put it to good use. Everyone at the company starts up dead. At the same time, Department of Treasury agents are working on figuring out who the myster- tory accountant for the elderly is. Thankfully, the story never turns into a cat-and-mouse chase.

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A few months ago, I had the chance to experience Video Game Live – a masterful symphonic suite of classic video game music across multiple decades. This concept was unforgettable for several of my relatives, who couldn’t comprehend how anyone would want to listen to the Super Mario Brothers theme on repeat for two hours. It came to my attention that, unless someone took the time to actively listen to the progression of video game music, they would still think it’s nothing more than ‘beeps and bleeps.’

Firstly, it is important to note the 1980’s, video game music consisted of chiptunes, 8-bit anthems composed electronically through synthesizer. Gaming composers could create impressive tunes for the time, and some tracks, such as the iconic theme to The Legend of Zelda, are still instantly recognizable today. Music could only take up so much space on a cartridge, so composers had to be as efficient as possible, craft each melody to make it stand out. There weren’t much depth behind these 8-bit tracks, but the simplistic music of the melodies allowed them to nest within your head well after turning off the console. Despite the popularity of 8-bit music among gamers, chiptunes aren’t exactly cherished among those out of the retro gaming loop. Luckily, with each new generation came updated technology and vastly improved instrumentation.

When the 16 and 44-bit era arrived, video game music was already well beyond the limitations of the past. Although some games would still utilize 8-bit sound fonts for a dose of retro nostalgia, composers were now able to use fully synthesized instruments, such as pianos, harps, guitars and trumpets. Most notably, David Wise, the musical maestro behind the Donkey Kong Country soundtrack, revolutionized the idea of a “video game soundtrack.” Wise found his unique style through the use of percussion, nature sound effects and even elements of ambient music in his tracks. His music became so praised among gamers and critics alike, an official soundtrack was released just a year after the game’s initial launch. This was perhaps the first instance of a video game soundtrack steadily finding mainstream attention, to success.

Today, video game music has evolved even further, with fully-synthesized soundtracks becoming the norm for titles such as 2012’s award-winning indie hit, Journey. Back in 2006, MTV presented a video game music segment during their annual VMA’s, honoring The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion with an award for best gaming soundtrack of the year. Even Nintendo’s famous mascot received a surprising orchestral soundtrack, with the 2007 release of Super Mario Galaxy.

Video games are no longer confined to their humble, pixelated beginnings. With each new generation, game composers must adapt to technological upgrades. The gorgeous, hi-resolution landscapes of modern titles would feel utterly lifeless without an accompanying musical score. The array of emotions that game composers can create is truly a testament to how far video games have come throughout the years.
Men’s Ice Hockey Team Takes Home the Win at Homecoming
Team Comes out Victorious 6-2 Over Monmouth University

Montclair State’s club sports men’s ice hockey team earned a homecoming weekend victory, beating Monmouth University 6-2 on Oct. 22. With another win under their belt, the Red Hawks have earned 13 points this season and hold a 5-2-1-2 record.

Captain Sam Enright expressed his feelings on what playing homecoming weekend meant for him and the team: “Homecoming is a big part of this school and a lot of alumni come out. It’s a lot of fun when everyone comes back,” Enright said. “It’s just got a good feeling. And now that we have an early game on homecoming day and everyone has time to get ready [and] go back out as a team. It’s always fun to be together.”

The puck dropped a little after noon and Monmouth and Montclair State battled to score the first goal of the game. Forward Michael Buckel scored the Red Hawks’ first goal 10 minutes into the game to take a 1-0 lead. With a little over a minute left in play, Monmouth earned a crosschecking penalty. The Red Hawks received a power play and, with exactly 59 seconds left, captain Chris Preziosi scored, increasing the Red Hawks’ lead to 2-0.

As the second period began, Montclair State defenseman Colton Shan quickly increased the lead to 3-0. About four minutes later, Preziosi scored his second goal, which put the Red Hawks up by four. The Red Hawks’ penalty kill halted two consecutive Monmouth power-plays. The Red Hawks responded with a goal, increasing the score to 5-0.

Monmouth eventually beat Montclair State goalminder Jordan Stack twice to make the score 5-2. Approximately five minutes into the third period, Montclair State earned a tripping penalty and Stack was forced to make some key saves. Stack remained strong throughout the game and was able to demonstrate his quick goaltending skills.

One of Montclair’s was ejected and the team was given a 10 minute misconduct penalty. The Red Hawks stopped Monmouth’s momentum and took advantage as Matt Cofrancesco scored the final goal of the game, pushing the score to 6-2.

Montclair State’s next game is at home against Bryant University on Oct. 29.

Montana Peschler
Contributing Writer

This Week in Red Hawk Sports

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<td>Women’s Swimming at The College of New Jersey 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>No Games</td>
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Red Hawk Recap

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Red Hawks Volleyball: 3 New Jersey City University: 1
Club Baseball Team Bonds Through Play

Daniel Waffenfeld
Staff Writer

The Montclair State club baseball team has a new look this year, with more motivation and determination than ever before. Co-presidents Ronaldo Ramirez and Marty Keating have been bringing new energy and attitude into the locker room, which has helped the team execute more efficiently than in previous years. The team is currently 3-3 in the conference and 4-3 overall. With some major games left in the season, the team is looking to continue improving and developing along the way.

This is the team’s sixth year since being established in 2010. The first year the team was created, they were ranked number one in the nation and they are hoping to live up to those standards this year. The entire team has been enjoying one another’s company and supporting one another throughout the season. “This team is like one big family,” Keating said. “We all hang out together on and off the field, plus its like a big band of brothers who love to play baseball. We are all here because we want to be part of the team and we want to win, but have fun at the same time.”

The Red Hawks have been motivated to work hard and put as much effort as possible into practices so that they can perform better during games. Keating believes that if they keep themselves focused on having fun, they will take the field as a more relaxed team. “We tend to put a lot of pressure on ourselves. If we tense up then we’ll lose the game,” Keating said. “If we can have fun with one another and share a laugh then the team will be able to overcome any obstacles.”

The team’s hard work has been paying off so far as they work toward making the playoffs and eventually the College World Series in Kansas City. “Our goal is to make the playoffs for the first time in our team’s history, which would be a major honor,” Ramirez said. Ramirez has been an inspirational leader on the team this season after suffering an injury before the season, preventing him from returning to action until it fully healed. “In order to be successful, we need to play hard for [one] another and trust the men around them,” Ramirez said. “I’m making sure they’re not taking each day for granted. We’re pushing ourselves to be the best in every way imaginable.”

The team looks to seniors Ramirez and Keating for guidance, as they have both been on the team for four years. “The chemistry is not only what brings us together as a strong team, but it’s also my favorite part being surrounded by the guys,” Ramirez said. “Our team is close and always tells jokes to lighten up the mood and enjoy the game we all love so much.”

The Red Hawks know how to enjoy the game on and off the field, which is certainly important when balancing their busy schedules. “We are able to put aside the seriousness and just have fun,” said teammate Mike Chance. “The team this year is more open and ready to have fun, rather than last year’s team which was much more serious and passed along a completely different energy. Everyone has been working with one another to improve their individual performance and skills. “I think this team will excel because every single person on the team deserves their spot,” Chance said. “Regardless of who is or isn’t playing, there is no weak spot. We all simply love baseball and want to try and be the best we can possibly be.”

The remaining games of the schedule will be played on Oct. 29 and Oct. 30, against Lafayette College, to close out the fall season.
The wind was blowing hard throughout the stands and the field. Rain was all over the place. For those people with no gloves, their hands were freezing. The band played some tunes, and it got the fans moving up out their seats. The cold didn't appear to affect the dancers, but the football seemed to curve to several odd directions during field goal attempts. The wind could have been a factor. This was the scene at the 2016 Homecoming football game at Sprague Field.

Homecoming Day is always a festive day on the campus of Montclair State, but this past homecoming, the weather conditions tried to stop the fun, the key word being, "tried." The annual Homecoming football game would not be cancelled due to some ugly skies, cold temperatures, wind and rain. Fans still came out to support the Red Hawks, who beat The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) 21-7. With the win, Montclair State improves to a record of 4-3.

The majority of fans were present during the first half. The home side seats were about 80 percent full, but as the game continued and the weather conditions persisted, some fans started leaving.

"For me, the weather conditions affected my fan experience," junior Diego Coya said. "I wanted to stay for the whole game, because our football team was doing so good, but it was so freezing, I couldn't concentrate on the game." The majority of fans were present during the first half. The home side seats were about 80 percent full, but as the game continued and the weather conditions persisted, some fans started leaving.

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