By: Brianna Walker

The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and the Office of Student Media will host the fifth annual NSU Multimedia Conference on Jan. 28 from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Carl DeSantis building.

The conference will feature media professionals facilitating over 40 sessions on topics relating to print journalism, broadcast and film. Some session topics will include finding internships, employment in media fields, fashion blogging, building social media presences, telling the multimedia story, leadership, improving on-air performance and radio’s place in the advancing media environment.

Conference sessions will be hosted by media professionals from WSVN-TV, Redline Media Group, Ocean Drive Magazine, the Sun Sentinel, Sun Coast Press, CNN, 99 Jamz and NSU.

This year an internship fair will be added to the conference’s activities. The conference will also include a media panel, where attendees will be able to ask professionals questions about their field.

Scott Pritchett, business development manager for Redline Media Group, has hosted conference sessions for the past three years.

“I think the conference is a great idea for Nova to gather the students together and give them a chance to hear from people who are in the field,” Pritchett said. “The students that attend are fantastic. They are enthusiastic about it and they are there because they want to be there.”

Senior communication studies major, Li Cohen, has attended the last three multimedia conferences and has even hosted her own session for the conference.

Cohen said that one of her most memorable moments from the conference was her freshmen year when Adam Kuperstein, the co-anchor for NBC 6 news on weeknights, was present.

“With the tripod and the camera, he had to cue himself to go and he would have an hour or less to film, edit and send, especially with breaking news,” Cohen said. “It was just incredible to hear him talk about all that stuff. It inspired me in a lot of ways and made want to be that person.”

The conference is open to the NSU community, high school students and community college students.

Cohen said, “If you are in the communication field, you should go and network. Our curriculum here at NSU is great, but there is only so much that they can teach us in the classroom, and going to the conference and hearing about the reporters’ experiences puts you on a whole other playing field.”

Registration is free for NSU students and $10 for non-NSU students. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served at the conference. The dress code is casual.

Registration is open until the day of the Jan. 28. For more information about the conference or to register visit nova.edu/studentmedia/multimediaconference/index.html.

By: Rachael Hirstein

SLCE leads the way to success

The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement (SLCE) will host the annual Leadership Conference on Jan. 28 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Carl DeSantis building.

The conference will include all the organizations from NSU, a keynote speaker, three additional speakers and nine different programs to choose from during three different breakout sessions so that students can learn about different ways of becoming a leader. A free lunch is also provided.

Steffi Schoeder, graduate assistant for Leadership Development and Civic Engagement, said most presenters would be from NSU.

“Most are professional staff or faculty from around campus,” she said. “We also have students who are presenting while supervised by faculty or staff, so they will also be able to help out other students.”

The conference will encourage students to not only focus on academics but also on developing leadership and communication skills. These skills include interpersonal interaction, personal growth, group development and diversity and inclusion.

Gabriela Allara, senior business and finance administration major and member of the leadership conference committee, said students who register for the conference have a great opportunity to further develop the skills they already have as well as an opportunity to learn new ones.

“This conference … shows that it’s not just about a set of steps you have to do to become a leader but to discover what kind of leader a student is,” she said.

This is the ninth year SLCE has hosted this event and all students are welcome and encouraged to attend.

“This conference is for students who already describe themselves as leaders and for students who don’t think they are so they can start their leadership journey,” Schoeder said.

SLCE asks students to register for the conference by Jan. 20 at 5 p.m. at nova.edu/leadershipconference so that they can estimate how many students will be at each program during the breakout sessions. Business casual attire is required.

For more information, contact the SLCE office at slce@nova.edu or call 954-262-7195.

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Iraqi officers announced that Iraqi special forces have entered Mosul University in their advancement along the eastern front of the city on Jan 13. They have taken control of the university’s technical institute and a neighborhood on the northeastern border of the campus. The battle between Iraqi special forces and Islamic State (IS) forces for Mosul is entering its fourth month. In that time, Iraqi special forces have reclaimed a third of the city from IS control.

Iraqi special forces enter Mosul University in battle for Mosul

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Collapse of building in Istanbul kills 2, injures 17

Two people were killed and 17 were injured when an abandoned six-story building in Istanbul, Turkey collapsed on Jan. 13, according to the New York Times. Other buildings in the area were also damaged because of the collapse. Earlier the same week, another building accident in Istanbul killed one person and injured 10.

Jan. 11 marks first day in two years without murders in El Salvador

El Salvador recorded its first day without a single homicide in two years on Jan. 11, according to NBC News. With 81.2 murders for every 100,000 people and an average of 34.4 homicides each day, El Salvador is one of the most violent countries in the world, although its murder rate fell last year. These high numbers are the result of the country’s warring gangs, which have driven thousands of citizens to leave for Mexico. NBC News reported that the day without homicides is possibly the result of a truce between opposing gangs.

NEWS BRIEFS

Seth Siegel to discuss global water shortages and solutions

NSU’s Distinguished Speakers Series is having Seth M. Siegel, J.D. present a lecture and Q&A session on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center. The lecture will be on world-wide water issues. It is free to attend; however, a ticket is needed to enter. Tickets become available on Jan. 30 in the Farquhar Honors College Office of the Dean in the Mailman-Hollywood Building from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 954-262-8236 or email dsiegel@nova.edu.

Africa to remove health check for Cuban immigrants

According to the Associated Press, the African Union has refused to recognize Yahya Jammeh as president of Gambia after his term expires on Jan. 18. Jammeh lost the election in December to winner Adama Barrow. He called for an amendment of the election results after the electoral commission admitted that it had made some errors, but the commission said that its errors did not affect the results of the election. Jammeh has said that he will not resign his presidency until the Supreme Court hears the challenge regarding the election’s outcome in May.

NSU's RecWell is hosting Dance Jam on Jan. 31

NSU’s RecWell is hosting Dance Jam on Jan. 31 from 7:30-10 p.m. in the RecPlex court, second floor. Hip-hop, Bollywood and Zumba dances are featured, and all students and RecPlex members are welcome to at no cost. For more information, contact wellness@nova.edu or 954-262-7510.

African Presence Art Exhibition kicks off with a reception on Feb. 3

The exhibition this year is “Afrotopia: Art and the Politics of Representation” and will include the culture of African descendants. The exhibit will open after the reception at 8 p.m. To RSVP, visit nova.edu/blackhistory. For more information, call 954-262-5357.

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Winter volunteer fair

The Office of Student Leadership & Civic Engagement (SLCE) is hosting the Winter Volunteer Fair on Jan. 18 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University Center spire. Local organizations from the community will be coming to discuss available projects and ongoing opportunities for students and organizations to get involved with. For more information, contact the SLCE office at 954-262-7105 or slce@nova.edu.

Dance Jam

NSU’s RecWell is hosting Dance Jam on Jan. 31 from 7:30-10 p.m. in the RecPlex court, second floor. Hip-hop, Bollywood and Zumba dances are featured, and all students and RecPlex members are welcome to at no cost. For more information, contact wellness@nova.edu or 954-262-7510.

Are you interested in writing for the newspaper?

Come to one of The Current’s general meetings on Tuesdays in SAB 104 from noon to 1p.m.
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Email: sharktv@nova.edu
A field guide to preventing domestic violence

By: Jacqueline Lyde

DEFINING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is a violent behavior that includes various subsets, including physical, sexual, psychological, emotional and financial abuse.

Physical abuse

According to Loveisrespect.org, physical abuse is any intentional or unwanted contact between you and someone close to your body. Not all physical abuse causes pain. Some examples of physical abuse include: punching, pulling hair, pushing, grabbing and forcing.

Psychological abuse

According to Loveisrespect.org, psychological abuse includes behaviors such as threats, insults, constant monitoring or “checking in,” excessive texting, humiliation, intimidation or isolation. Some identifying behaviors of emotional abuse might be: calling you names, putting you down, yelling and screaming, preventing you from seeing friends and family, telling you what to do and wear, making you feel guilty and threatening to harm you, your pet or your child. Do you find yourself experiencing domestic violence?

If you find yourself experiencing domestic violence, remember you aren’t alone. There are various ways to obtain help, one being from Loveisrespect.org. According to Laura Bennett, NSW Title IX coordinator, the university has obligations to support the individual experiencing it, according to Loveisrespect.org. Some examples of this abuse include: giving you an allowance, forbidding you to work or limiting hours you do, maxing out their credit cards for you to use, prohibiting you from going places, checking in,” excessive texting, humiliation, intimidation or isolation. Some identifying behaviors of emotional abuse might be: calling you names, putting you down, yelling and screaming, preventing you from seeing friends and family, telling you what to do and wear, making you feel guilty and threatening to harm you, your pet or your child.

If you are at least 18 years old, have a

If you find someone you love in a domestic violence relationship?

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Fully there been there. You’re having a good night staying in. It’s 8 p.m. on a Friday and you have your Netflix going for an evening of relaxation, but then you check your Snapchat, Instagram and Facebook. You see a lot of your friends having the time of their lives. They’re going out and you’re warded to stay in with your comforter. How can you benefit you greatly. courses required for graduation and your major or four classes can be enough of a struggle. you’re hired once you graduate? Maybe you think involved could affect your chances of getting legacy to be as a Shark. what you want to learn and what you want your for you to decide what matters the most to you, and looks ahead — reframing his or her mind to studying or anything within your life, inside and Florida State University. Samantha is a proud the University of Central Florida and her master success coach for the Office of Undergraduate Sometimes things don’t go as planned or you’re having a good night, but consider being involved in more than just the comes down to interviews in the future, being overwhelming, but remember: you are a Shark you chose to come to NSU to fulfill your goals and dreams. You also have many resources that can assist you along the way toward whatever your ideal destination may be. The Office of Undergraduate Student Success can assist you through coaching appointments to set goals and schedule. It will connect you to additional campus resources. This office also has an academic success workshop series and hosts the annual Success Fair, where multiple support offices and resources at NSU come together to share information with others. Find them at nova.edu/yoursuccess.

There are so many opportunities for growth at NSU, both academically and personally. There are numerous student clubs, sports teams, support services and programs, as well as faculty, staff and students. Ultimately, the decision is in your hands as far as what you want to go from this point onwards. It may seem scary or even overwhelming, but remember: you are a Shark for a reason. You chose to come to NSU to fulfill your goals and dreams. You also have many resources that can assist you along the way toward whatever your ideal destination may be.

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Samantha Yorke

By: Samantha Yorke

A shark can always regrow its teeth

Thinking outside your major

Have you thought about how much being involved could affect your chances of getting hired once you graduate? Maybe you think your schedule is too demanding to be involved in anything other than classes and studying, because trying to find balance between three or four classes can be enough of a struggle. However, joining a club or organization and being involved in something other than just courses required for graduation and your major can benefit you greatly.

According to an article in The Atlantic, employers listed internships, jobs, volunteering and extracurricular activities as the most important top non-academic elements when looking to hire recent college graduates.

Samantha Yorke, assistant director of undergraduate student success, said, “When it comes down to interviews in the future, being well-rounded is going to set you apart.”

If you are a biology major, that’s great — but consider being involved in more than just the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society. That’s what Nahomi Guzman, sophomore biology major who works in the front office of Student Media, did.

“Being involved outside my major is important to me because it forces me to get out of my comfort zone,” said Guzman. “Student media has taught me a lot about communication, which is completely different than courses I take for biology.”

OK, OK, maybe student media isn’t your thing. NSU also has several opportunities to rush

for a fraternity or a sorority. Joining one can be a great way to meet new people and make lifelong friends. Aside from making new friends, Greek life also provides students with the opportunity to be involved with charitable organizations and the community. This can help you learn about the community outside NSU.

Since fraternities and sororities aren’t for everyone, here are some other options that might work for you:

• Volunteer with a local charity or organization — you can find an extensive list of local organizations and charities at greatnonprofits.org/city/fort-lauderdale/FL/
• Join a local church
• Look for an on-campus or off-campus job

These four years can go by faster than you think and before you know it, you may be a senior without experience in other areas aside from your major. Being involved, even for just an hour or two a week, will help you build skills your future employers will be looking for in a potential candidate.

“Getting involved outside your major helps you explore who you are and college is the time to do that. It will also help to develop transferrable skills by being involved,” said Yorke.

So, do yourself a favor and find something to be involved in and excel in it. You will thank yourself when you are able to showcase your experiences on your resume.
Men’s Basketball

The NSU men’s basketball team ended a four-game skid with a 63-56 win during a home game with Rollins on Jan. 11. Harrison Goodrick and Troy Spears combined for 35 points. With that win, the Sharks improved to 5-10 overall and 2-6 in SSC. The Sharks will play again on Jan. 18 at Eckerd.

Women’s Basketball

The women’s basketball team earned a much-needed win on Jan. 11. They relied on tenacious defense to win 62-48 over the Rollins Tars. With that victory, the Sharks improved to 10-6 overall and 6-2 in SSC. Christen Prasse led the Sharks with 14 points, followed by Katie Barnard with 11 points.

Men’s and Women’s Swimming

On Jan. 14, both the men’s and women’s swim teams were victorious on Senior Day at the NSU swimming complex. The men’s team picked up a 150-112 victory, while the women’s team picked up a 155-107 win.

Clemson wins national championship against Alabama

The Clemson Tigers won the 2017 College Football Playoff National Championship on Jan. 9, according to CBS Sports. The Tigers overcame an early 14-0 deficit in the first quarter to win a thrilling 35-31 over the team CBS Sports called “the kings of college football,” the Alabama Crimson Tide.

Dolphins’ season comes to an end in Pittsburg

After a surprising 10-6 season, which included a misleading 1-4 start and their first playoff appearance since 2008, the Miami Dolphins’ unexpected season came to an end on Jan. 8 with a 30-12 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers, according to the Sun-Sentinel.

Jaguars hire new head coach and VP of football operations

The Jacksonville Jaguars have hired Doug Marrone and Tom Coughlin as head coach and executive vice president of football operations, respectively, according to First Coast News. Marrone was the Buffalo Bills’ head coach from 2013-2014, and the Jaguars offensive line coach from 2015-2016. Coughlin was the Jaguars’ initial head coach in 1995 and went on to become a two-time Super Bowl Champion coach with the New York Giants.

Former Dolphins’ defensive coordinator named Broncos’ head coach

Vance Joseph was officially named the Denver Broncos’ new head coach on Jan. 11, according to USA Today Sports. Joseph had a successful season as the Miami Dolphins’ defensive coordinator, especially since it was his first year as one.

Panthers claim victory twice in one week

The Florida Panthers were victorious twice last week with wins against the New Jersey Devils (3-0) on Jan. 9 and the New York Islanders (2-1) on Jan. 11., according to the Miami Herald. These wins put the Panthers two points out of the last playoff spot.

Women’s Basketball

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Hailing from Florida’s own Pembroke Pines, Michael Hernandez is a senior business administration major currently playing on NSU’s baseball team. Hernandez has been playing baseball since he was four years old and has no plans of stopping anytime soon.

In high school, Hernandez played four years at Archbishop McCarthy and won four state championships. He was scouted for NSU’s baseball team as a result.

In Hernandez’s sophomore year playing at NSU, he played in 40 games as the starting catcher and surpassed his freshman year record by the second game. As a junior, Hernandez helped his team win the National Championship, a title which Hernandez plans on maintaining this upcoming season.

Hernandez offered some insight into his passion for baseball and his plans for the future.

**By: Jenna Kopec**

What encouraged you to play baseball?

“I got a ball in a bag when I was four years old on Christmas, and I didn’t stop playing with it. My parents noticed and decided to throw me into baseball and [I’ve] loved it ever since.”

Why did you decide to play for NSU?

“Nova was close to my home, and I couldn’t see myself playing baseball anywhere else.”

What are your plans for after college? Do you plan on continuing with baseball?

“I plan to continue with my baseball career… If that doesn’t work out I plan to get into sales, but I’m hopeful that my baseball career will work out.”

The incidents that have taken place in college basketball seem to prove that this isn’t the case.

The same goes for a reversal. What’s going to stop a coach from poor conduct if he knows that the penalty will ultimately be for his players and not for him? There’s nothing wrong with having strict rules or a zero-tolerance policy for fighting in any sport. It just needs to exist across the board.

Next time two coaches come to blows on the court, eject them, too. You can cut coaches too. After a fight broke out at a women’s basketball game between UNILV and Utah State on Jan. 7, eight players were ejected from the game. This seems fair. That same day, however, Kent Davidson and Steve Shields, who hold administrative positions for Georgia and Missouri, respectively, came to blows. Their teams were given fouls and they both went back to doing their jobs after half time. This seems a lot less fair.

In the world of sports, there’s a warm and fuzzy narrative that surrounds a coach and his players: He may push them hard, but he wants what’s best for the team. There’s a strong belief that his players are a reflection of him. We see this story told in movies, we mention names like Tom Brady and Bill Belichick and we seldom question whether or not this narrative is true. The incidents that have taken place in college basketball seem to prove that this isn’t the case.

This isn’t to say that these coaches and administrative figures don’t care about their players, but their relationships aren’t as connected as they are portrayed to be. If players were truly a reflection of their coach, both parties would suffer the same consequences. Why aren’t Kent Davidson and Steve Shields pulled from the game?

Perhaps the argument could be made that the ladies of Utah State and UNILV had a bigger brawl. Media outlets like CBS Sports described it as brutal. Yet, both situations involved more than just two people and were broken up rather quickly. So why were players punished in both situations and not coaches?

Of course, the mechanics of a team are intricate and all the moving parts do have a connection to each other. So, the loss of team members from UNILV and Utah State probably did have a negative impact on the coaches and so did the fouls that were given to Georgia and Missouri. But consequences hit those they are given to directly the hardest. College players have a lot to lose and a lot to think about. Getting ejected from a game or being given fouls directly impacts the player much more than their coach. The same goes for a reversal. What’s going to stop a coach from poor conduct if he knows that the penalty will ultimately be for his players and not for him?

“I’d say Yardia Melania, because I feel that his game is similar to the way that I play my game, with regards to the defense and offensive.”

If you could choose any baseball players to create a dream team with, who would you choose?

“Johnny Bench, Hank Aaron and Ozzie Smith. All of these players are basically legends. You say their names and any baseball player is going to know who those three guys are.”

What are your plans for after college? Do you plan on continuing with baseball?

“I plan to continue with my baseball career… If that doesn’t work out I plan to get into sales, but I’m hopeful that my baseball career will work out.”

**ON DECK**

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

vs. Eckerd  
St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Jan. 18 | 7:30 p.m.

vs. Barry  
NSU Arena  
Jan. 21 | 4 p.m.

vs. Tampa  
NSU Arena  
Jan. 25 | 7:30 p.m.

vs. Florida Southern  
Lakeland, Fla.  
Jan. 28 | 7:30 p.m.

**WOMEN’S TENNIS**

vs. Broward College  
NSU Tennis Complex  
Jan. 20 | 9 a.m.

**MEN & WOMEN’S SWIMMING**

vs. Florida Southern  
NSU Aquatic Complex  
Jan 14 | 2 p.m.

vs. Keiser University  
West Palm Beach, Fla.  
Jan. 27 | 2 p.m.
Alison Ewing plays Fräulein Kost and Fritzie in the Roundabout Theatre Company’s production of “Cabaret,” playing at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. The musical takes place in 1929 to 1930 in Berlin, Germany. Ewing described her experiences as an actress and what it was like to take on this role.

**Can you tell me a little bit of information about yourself?**

“I live just north of San Francisco with my husband, and I have a degree in musical theatre. I’ve done mostly musicals in my career but I’ve also done plays. I work regionally all across the country. Last year, I closed “Mamma Mia!” on Broadway in New York, and then I went on this tour about three months later. So, I’ve been busy the last few years. My husband is an actor, too, and we live very crazy travelling lifestyles together. I went to college at Millikin University in Illinois, and then I started auditioning in New York City right after that. And I’ve been taking jobs in acting ever since.”

**What made you want to become an actress?**

“That’s a great question. I think what I loved, and I think what it was for me, was that I knew that that’s what I wanted to do and that’s what I wanted to do. And I just remember being extremely jealous. I wanted to take these acting classes but I was too afraid to ask my parents. They somehow just knew that that’s what I wanted to do and that’s what I wanted to do and that’s what I wanted to do.”

**What sparked the interest in musical theater?**

“I don’t know. It’s not like I specifically made a choice. I auditioned to be in a community theatre production of “The Music Man” when I was 11, and I got in and had a couple lines. I really, really loved it. The man who directed it had a children’s theater and all my friends were going on Saturday mornings to be in his classes, and I just remember being extremely jealous. I wanted to take these acting classes but I was too afraid to ask my parents. They somehow just knew that that’s what I wanted to do and that’s what I wanted to do.”

**What’s the most rewarding part of the major you chose?**

“Getting to be able to create something that is in the gallery in the UC. Students submit their work, and I also do paintings and drawings.”

**What’s your biggest accomplishment thus far in your career or education?**

“I won a couple awards in the Student Juried Show the last two years. It’s an art show that is in the gallery in the UC. Students submit work and then they get juried into the show. A few are picked for first, second and third, different awards.”

**To read A&E editor Ben Underhill’s review of this production of Cabaret, visit nsucurrent.nova.edu.**

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**Senior Spotlight: Jennifer Hicks**

**By: Jacqueline Lytle**

Jennifer Hicks is a senior graphic design major with a minor in business. Originally an undecided major, Hicks developed an interest in graphic design after taking various art courses at NSU.

Hicks went on to talk about who she is and what she aspires to be.

**Where are you from?**

“I’m from here in Davie, Florida.”

**What are you involved in on campus?**

“I am the president of the Commuter Student Organization, and then I also work in Student Affairs in the marketing department.”

**What did you choose to be a graphic design major and what do you do?**

“Through middle school and high school, I was really involved in my art classes and clubs, and I came here and really wasn’t sure what I wanted to go in. Then I started taking some classes, and it just felt like the right fit for me. I work with print material like creating posters and flyers, business cards, logos.”

**Why did you choose NSU and do you think NSU has helped you improve your craft?**

“I wanted a close college [to home], but I also really fell in love with the campus. Going in, I had an art background, but I didn’t have any background in graphic designing or any of the programs that we use. So I really came in from nothing almost. I definitely learned a lot, and the professors are really helpful.”

**What do you find most challenging about your major?**

“Having to work with people. People have an idea of what they want, but a lot of times, they can’t communicate that. So we have to figure out a way to represent that and to get that idea out of their head… in a way that looks good but is also what they want.”

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**What sparked the interest in musical theater?**

“By: Jenna Kopec
@Jen_Kopec

I knew that that’s what I wanted to do and that’s what I wanted to do. And I just remember being extremely jealous. I wanted to take these acting classes but I was too afraid to ask my parents. They somehow just knew that that’s what I wanted to do and that’s what I wanted to do.”

**What was the hardest part about performing in this role? And what’s been your favorite part?**

“I guess the hardest part, on a very basic level, is that our show has a lot of cigarette smoke in it. And just travelling and singing eight times a week and keeping your energy up amongst rehearsals and reboots. This particular show is hard because there’s so many people doing so many things, so it does require a lot of rehearsal. It’s just a lot to try and maintain your health and well-being. On the same note, the greatest thing has been travelling and going to different places and meeting new people and playing different theaters. Playing really beautiful, old theaters across the country is always wonderful and an honor.”

**Do you have any strategies to keep that energy up?**

“Well, I just try to eat well, and I seek out a gym as soon as we get to the city that we’re working. I work out and stretch every day, and I sweat because that seems to warm me up. I like to take naps in the afternoon and, personally, I like to have a lot of alone time during the day so that I can prepare for what we have to do at night.”

**Is there anything that you want to say that I might have forgotten to ask?**

“I would say that “Cabaret” is really a wonderful production and a must-see because it is so politically current right now. In its essence, it’s a love story, but it has everything. It’s exciting to watch; the singing and music and dancing are electric. It will make you think about the past and where we’re going from here. It has all the elements of a wonderful production. So, go see it.”

Roundabout Theatre Company’s production of “Cabaret” is showing at the Au-Rene Theatre in the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are available on Ticketmaster.

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**OFF SHORE CALENDAR**

"Cabaret" Jan. 10-22 @Au-Rene Theater, Broward Center for the Performing Arts

**Domestic Animals** Jan. 13-22 @Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 Clematis St., West Palm Beach, FL

Golden Dragon Acrobats Jan. 18-19, 7-9 p.m. @Coral Springs Center for the Arts

Circus Cowboys Jan. 19 – Feb. 5 @Amaturo Theater, Broward Center for the Performing Arts

Tunes ‘N Trucks Concert: Soul Circus Cowboys Jan. 20 | 6-9 p.m. @Sunrise Civic Center

Amphitheater

The Comedy Get Down Jan. 21 | 3-8 p.m. @BB&T Center

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Hicks went on to talk about who she is and what she aspires to be.

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**Why did you choose NSU and do you think NSU has helped you improve your craft?**

“I wanted a close college [to home], but I also really fell in love with the campus. Going in, I had an art background, but I didn’t have any background in graphic designing or any of the programs that we use. So I really came in from nothing almost. I definitely learned a lot, and the professors are really helpful.”

**What do you find most challenging about your major?**

“Having to work with people. People have an idea of what they want, but a lot of times, they can’t communicate that. So we have to figure out a way to represent that and to get that idea out of their head… in a way that looks good but is also what they want.”
The internet is home to a lot of questionable content, ranging from unmentionable to downright disturbing. People create this content for a variety of reasons. Some do it for satirical purposes, some do it to offend people and some do it simply, because they enjoy watching people squirm. However, someone like George Miller does it for all three reasons.

Aside from producing music under the name of “Ajd,” Miller has built quite the impressive fan base on YouTube with just over 4 million subscribers on his channel “TVFilthyFrank.” On the channel, he plays many ridiculous characters for the purposes of idiotic and gross-out humor, as well as satirical commentary on various issues.

Miller’s most popular character, however, is Pink Guy. He is essentially just Miller in a pink morphsuit with the face cut out, but the character is extremely socially inept. Despite this, Pink Guy also produces very well-made music, rapping and singing very eloquently. After uploading a few joke videos of Pink Guy performing, Miller’s fans requested more, which eventually led to “TVFilthyFrank.” So naturally I loved the musical. I have always had a passionate interest in zoology and geography, so naturally I loved the musical. I have always had a passionate interest with it since I was a little girl because it was the musical for me in high school.

By: The Current Staff

Staff picks: Favorite Broadway musical

Musicals are one of the very few all-inclusive forms of art, and they are fun, emotional and interesting to watch. From the talented acting to the amazing dance breaks, here are some of our favorite musicals.

Danielle Pacillo, multimedia manager, said, “The Lion King.”

“The Lion King” is my favorite Broadway musical. I have always had a passionate interest in musical theatre, and “The Lion King” is a lost animated film as a child. But the Broadway musical brings the vibrant horizon of the African plains to life and lends the characters an anthropomorphic charm. I’m very fond of some of the historical and religious references in the show. I personally see some religious parallels in “He Lives in You,” which is my favorite song from the musical.

Jaque Lynn Lytle, co-editor-in-chief, said, “Hairspray.”

While I haven’t seen many Broadway musicals to truly have a favorite, one I absolutely loved both onstage and on-screen was “Hairspray.” Following a spunky, plus-sized teenager named Tracy Turnblad in 1962, the musical extends the message of acceptance to all in zoology and geography, so naturally I loved the musical. I have always had a passionate interest with it since I was a little girl because it was the musical for me in high school.

Grace Ducanis, co-editor-in-chief, said, “Bye Bye Birdie.”

Although “Wicked” comes in at a close second, no other musical is as entertaining and influential somebody who wants equality for all. Award-winning musical is bright and inspiring, for racial integration on Corny’s show. The Tony Award-winning musical is based on the story of Elvis Presley’s drive into the army in 1957, never fails to dazzle with crooning 50s tunes, outdated teenage slang and flashy dance sequences. Though the high school girls of Sweet Apple, Ohio will have to say goodbye to Corny, “Bye Bye Birdie” is one show I’ll never say goodbye to.

Brianna Walker, assistant news editor intern, said, “Hairspray.”

I say this half as a joke, but I’m completely serious. If you love the movie Shrek, which I hope you do or you’ll miss out on the best show since “Wicked,” you will love this musical. It’s a beautiful love story with a lot of serious. If you love the movie Shrek, which I hope you do or you’ll miss out on the best show since “Wicked,” you will love this musical. It’s a beautiful love story with a lot of serious. If you love the movie Shrek, which I hope you do or you’ll miss out on the best show since “Wicked,” you will love this musical. It’s a beautiful love story with a lot of

Nicole Chavannes, copy editor, said, “Les Misérables.”

I have never seen a Broadway musical until recently. I have to say, “Cabinet” is one spectacular show. My favorite song from the piece is definitely “Maybe This Time.” Despite the humor that lies throughout the production, there are a lot of layers and depth to the script and characters. In terms of a well-planned script and plot, you can’t ask for much more. If you’re into comedic relief, it’s all here with a dash of dark ending, but I’m sure we’ll all love “Cabinet” together.

Jenna Kopec, features editor, said “Cabaret.”

While I had never seen a Broadway musical until recently. I have to say, “Cabinet” is one spectacular show. My favorite song from the piece is definitely “Maybe This Time.” Despite the humor that lies throughout the production, there are a lot of layers and depth to the script and characters. In terms of a well-planned script and plot, you can’t ask for much more. If you’re into comedic relief, it’s all here with a dash of dark ending, but I’m sure we’ll all love “Cabinet” together.

The album also contains a few “food raps” such as “Rice Balls” and “Fried Noodles.” The lyrics don’t always relate to the foods but the music videos accompanying these songs feature Pink Guy cooking whatever food the title names in unconventionally gross ways. “Trap Dumplings” is the best out of these “food raps” included on the album and features a creative beat by Holder. It uses the sounds of clanging cookware to form the percussion with some deep bass while Pink Guy performs a rap comparing other rappers to the dumplings he’s cooking.

While throwaway humor tracks are nothing new to Pink Guy’s records, there are just a few too many on this one. Track like “Goody’s Trial,” “I Have a Gun,” and “Meme Machine” all keep up with the humor fans can expect, but don’t really add much to the overall experience. The album’s impressive 35 song track list becomes a little less impressive when 6-7 of them are these short, inconsequential joke tracks.

Regardless of its few shortcomings, “Pink Season” is a well-done album that deserves all of the attention it has been getting from fans and music critics alike. Even if the content on the record is controversial and may or may not be taken too seriously by listeners, it shows that crude, humorous music can be a very effective avenue for delivering satirical arguments. Judging from the album’s success, it’s only a matter of time before Filthy Frank releases an even filthier third record that his fans will definitely look forward to.
Seriously Kidding
a satire column

President Obama has officially served his two terms of presidency. The man in the White House is on his way out Jan. 20, handing over the reins to president-elect Donald Trump. But what will he do then, when he’s no longer responsible for a country and the 319 million people in it?

“I’m going to take a break,” he said when asked. “I need some time off. I deserve it.” His vice president and close friend Joe Biden echoed this sentiment.

“Yeah, me and Barack had to basically fight our way through these past eight years,” said Vice President Biden. “I’m tired and so is he. We need some bro-time after dealing with the Republicans in Congress for so long. Trust me, having to handle that for eight years does things to people.”

Obama said he and Biden will be going on a weeklong trip to Las Vegas as soon as the inauguration is over.

“Maybe it’ll help put a dent in the national debt,” the vice president joked. “Maybe it makes it “just like dealing with Congress.”

When asked about their wives’ thoughts on their week-long trip to Vegas, Vice President Biden said, “We didn’t tell them. There’s a level of secrecy that the president and vice president have to maintain on certain issues, even when we’re out of office. This definitely counts as one of those ‘highly classified’ types of things. National security and all, you understand?”

What do the two men plan to do? Obama said that he wanted to try his hand at poker since National security and all, you understand?”

Joe Biden, on the other hand, said he would like to try to hit the jackpot on a slot machine. “Maybe it’ll help put a dent in the national debt,” the vice president joked.

The two men refused to divulge where specifically they will be going in Vegas and what their itinerary is for the week. According to Obama, some things are best left unsaid.

For Razor’s Edge students, this year’s 25th annual “Anything That Floats” Raft Race was particularly challenging, as if trying to cross a lake in a handmade raft wasn’t challenging enough. They were required to form teams for their rafts that included a number of “uninvolved” students, which didn’t include students who had jobs on campus.

While there’s nothing wrong with wanting to engage students with certain aspects of campus life, NSU’s continual push to get more students involved may have the unintended effect of criminalizing the students that apparently need more involving.

NSU’s reasoning is relatively sound. Studies by the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) link student involvement to student retention. If students are involved, they will want to stay, which is better for NSU’s growth. However, the issue lies with what seems to be NSU’s beliefs about student involvement and what it means to be “uninvolved.” NSU’s definition of involvement is much narrower than the NSSE’s definition of involvement.

The NSSE has come up with 10 engagement indicators organized into four distinct themes: academic challenge, learning with peers, experiences with faculty and campus environment. NSU’s campus club, raft race, cheerleading version of involvement doesn’t seem to fit well within the NSSE’s version of involvement. It’s much too simplistic. The truth is, involvement among students is just as diverse as NSU itself. Involvement is not as easy as signing up for the campus chess club.

Commuter students and non-traditional students may not be as likely to go to the homecoming bash or join a student club, but they shouldn’t be labeled “uninvolved.” They don’t need to fit NSU’s vision of the consummately involved student to engage with faculty and with their classmates, to be challenged academically or to feel supported and at home at the university. Some students may not be able to join SEA-Board or SGA or another organization because they have other obligations, and calling them “uninvolved” is alienating. Other students may just not enjoy the kind of involvement that NSU feels is so necessary.

Ultimately, NSU students are paying for their time at NSU. If they want to join a club or organization, that’s their choice. And if they don’t, they shouldn’t be made to feel like they’re not as much a part of the university as students who choose differently. Involvement is about feeling connected to and invested in NSU, and there’s more than one way to go about it.

UNINVOLVED students aren’t uninvolved

By: Grace Ducanis
@GraceDucanis

For Razor’s Edge students, this year’s 25th annual “Anything That Floats” Raft Race was particularly challenging, as if trying to cross a lake in a handmade raft wasn’t challenging enough. They were required to form teams for their rafts that included a number of “uninvolved” students, which didn’t include students who had jobs on campus.

While there’s nothing wrong with wanting to engage students with certain aspects of campus life, NSU’s continual push to get more students involved may have the unintended effect of criminalizing the students that apparently need more involving.

NSU’s reasoning is relatively sound. Studies by the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) link student involvement to student retention. If students are involved, they will want to stay, which is better for NSU’s growth. However, the issue lies with what seems to be NSU’s beliefs about student involvement and what it means to be “uninvolved.” NSU’s definition of involvement is much narrower than the NSSE’s definition of involvement.

The NSSE has come up with 10 engagement indicators organized into four distinct themes: academic challenge, learning with peers, experiences with faculty and campus environment. NSU’s campus club, raft race,
Men should care about Planned Parenthood

By: Ben Underhill
@ActualBenU

As the Republicans dominate both the Executive and Legislative branches of the federal government, talks have begun again about defunding Planned Parenthood because it provides abortions for women. Planned Parenthood is funded through the Title X Family Planning Program, a government grant program that helps family planning and prevention, and Medicaid coverage. Multiple advocacy groups that support Planned Parenthood, often called pro-choice, and those against it, often called pro-life, have risen to either oppose or support the new legislation. Throughout the ordeal, a question arose: what do men have to lose?

Morally, it is logical for men to want to support women by providing safe access to affordable healthcare. Oftentimes, these services are offered in low-income areas and are potentially the only affordable healthcare available. If an impoverished girl becomes pregnant unexpectedly, it could lead to a lifetime of poverty for her since she would need to take care of her child financially. A father should want his daughter to have the opportunity to succeed in life, whether it is by pursuing higher education, joining the workforce or military or something else. Planned Parenthood helps prevent unwanted pregnancies, thus, helping people plan a family when they are in a stable place to do so.

Despite unpopular opinion, Planned Parenthood provides more than just abortion services. They provide sexually-transmitted disease (STD) testing, contraceptives and cancer screenings, just to name a few. These services, which men do benefit from, allow for a healthy sex life and help stop preventable diseases, especially in areas with poor sexual education. For example, according to ABC news, in 2015 an outbreak of chlamydia hit a Texas high school that did not teach sexual education. Planned Parenthood has the proper tools necessary to help students easily overcome the STD outbreak at a reasonable cost.

Funding Planned Parenthood makes the lives of millions of women easier. According to Planned Parenthood’s website, only three percent of their services are abortion, while 80 percent are services meant to prevent unwanted pregnancies. Ironically for those against abortion, if Planned Parenthood is defunded, fewer women would have access to safe contraceptives, meaning it is possible more abortions would occur due to unwanted pregnancies. Part of being a decent person, man or woman, is wanting a woman to be independent, and affordable healthcare is one way to do so.

Aside from the moral considerations, defunding Planned Parenthood has many frightening political implications that affect both sexes. The Hyde Amendment, which was passed in 1976, states that federal funding cannot be used for abortion services, except in the case of rape, incest or if the mother’s life is in danger. This law has repeatedly been referenced during attempts to defund Planned Parenthood. Although Planned Parenthood provides abortion services outside of those requirements, when the state permits, of course, they follow the Hyde Amendment’s requirements and use non-federal funds in such cases.

Despite this, lawmakers are still adamant about revoking funding simply because Planned Parenthood provides abortions. The political implication is that it sets a dangerous precedent that lawmakers can defund programs if that program provides a service the lawmaker does not like, even if the government does not fund that specific service. Man or woman, no one should want a politician to pass legislation for no legitimate reason.

On top of this precedent, a recent incident regarding Speaker of the House Paul Ryan brings a note of fear to our political system. According to the Huffington Post, on Jan. 6, 2017, women’s healthcare advocates brought 87,000 petition signatures asking Speaker of the House Paul Ryan not to defund Planned Parenthood. They were met by Capitol police blocking their entrance, which is out of the ordinary. Once they were escorted in, there was another oddity. They found Ryan’s door was locked and he was not accepting walk-ins or drop-offs.

This incident sets yet another dangerous precedent. America was founded on the rights of the people to assemble and petition the government. Not allowing these activists to deliver petitions not only infringed on their First Amendment right to petition, but it also made it seem OK to ignore the people in future cases. Whether or not you agree with Planned Parenthood or abortion, the rights both men and women possess are essential. It may start with Planned Parenthood activists being denied their rights, but once it starts, where does it stop?

Planned Parenthood is one of the most important affordable healthcare providers in the country. Men have a stake in the company when it comes to the healthcare it provides, as well as the connotations of the decisions of lawmakers trying to stop it. Men need to stand with Planned Parenthood and the ideals it stands for.

WHAT ARE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS FOR THE YEAR?

“My academic goals are to get a 4.0 GPA and be eligible to take all of my science courses. I can be on the pre-med track to medical school on time. Medical school requires a 4.0 all the time, and I got a 3.7 last semester, so I always want to upgrade.”
- Krista Floyd, freshman biology major

“To stay above a 2.0 average. Just to get by, basically. I guess, academically, just to stay eligible for the scholarships that are going to help me get through college.”
- Taylor Crispin, undecided freshman major

“My academic goals for the year are to finish my final two classes for the program, to finish my first year of seeing clients at my practicum site and hopefully have at least two book chapters in a psycho-neuroimmunology textbook.”
- Kaylee Hulsing, sophomore behavioral neuroscience major

“To keep a planner is something that would help to keep my schedule from becoming disorganized. I want to avoid being stressed. I also want to eat healthier and get fit.”
- Toby Toole, third year clinical psychology student

“I want to practice better study habits, practice better time management and avoid procrastination. This year, I’ll try to be more confident in myself and remember to stop comparing myself to others.”
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- Malique Elder, junior business marketing major

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