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The Dateline



University of Houston-Downtown's Newspaper

Student Run Since Volume One

Volume 63 Issue 3

October 18, 2019

The bayou stretches to Taiwan: Two cultures connect through Bayou Connection Program

By Jaida Doll

Though Houston is nearly 8,000 miles from Taipei, Taiwan, the two cities are connected through the efforts of UHD's Bayou Connection Program. Since its establishment in 2001, the program has connected UHD to five universities in Taiwan. Through these partnerships, the program seeks a cultural exchange of ideas centered around criminal justice.

This collaboration between Taiwanese and Houstonian criminal justice scholars is accomplished through the opportunities the program offers to its students, such as study abroad excursions, research cooperation, faculty and student

exchanges, and scholarship endowments. Though the program's main goal is to expand opportunities for criminal justice majors from Taiwan, UHD's Bayou Connection expands opportunities for all UHD students.

When asked about the idea that sparked the Bayou Connection, the director of the program, Professor Hsiao-Ming Wang, Ph.D., explained how he served as a law enforcement officer in Taiwan before completing his doctorate degree in Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University. Though Wang studied the same subject in the two countries, the location, culture, and atmosphere in which he studied it was

starkly different.

"I found there was a lot of room for cooperation which would benefit both sides. So, this was my goal when I came to this school," Wang said.

This goal was to devise a program that would promote collaboration between UHD criminal justice scholars and their counterparts in Taiwan in order to comparatively analyze different issues in law enforcement between the two countries.

To accomplish this goal, Wang organized several UHD delegations to visit Taiwan with the goal of negotiating aca-

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Picture Professor Hsiao-Ming Wang Ph.D. poses by his "Wall of Honors"
Photo by Jaida Doll

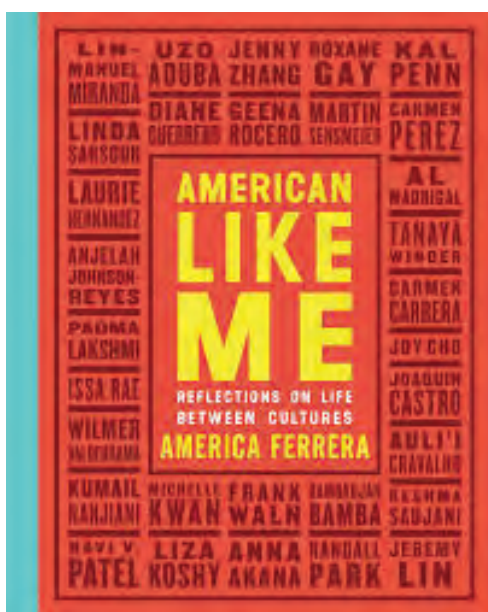
The Common Reader Program highlights "Life Between Cultures"

By Frederick Barnes

The Common Reader program at the University of Houston-Downtown has chosen actress America Ferrera's book, "America Like Me: Reflections on Life Between Cultures" as the 2019-2020 UHD Freshmen Common Reader.

Ferrera's book is a collection of essays written by her and 31 of her friends, notably Broadway Actor Lin-Manuel Miranda and Olympic Gold Medal-

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Inside the third Democratic Presidential debate Why hosting at an HBCU was so important

By Christopher Charleston

On September 12, the third Democratic presidential debate was held at Texas Southern University, one of Texas' Historically Black College & Universities.

In 2019, a presidential debate being held at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas, is a big deal.

A quick text message poll amongst friends will likely show that many individuals do not know why HBCUs were originally created. It is a doleful realization that the significance of these momentous institutions at times, seems to be slipping away. Because of this, paramount occasions held at HBCUs should

TSU debate continued
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always be used to draw attention to the importance of the hallowed ground in which they

are. For HBCUs, during segregation, were the only higher education options for African-Americans.



Senator Bernie Sanders talks to reporters after the Democratic presidential debate at Texas Southern University
Photo by Christopher Charleston

Imelda shuts down UHD

By Varah Thornton

On September 19, Tropical Depression Imelda rolled into Houston causing major flooding and stranding people across the city, including at UHD.

Tropical Depression Imelda never reached Hurricane status, but its torrential rainfall brought floods akin to Harvey within a few hours of coming ashore. Galveston County began experiencing flooding as early as Tuesday when Imelda made landfall. By Wednesday, the unpredictable system brought high waters to parts of Southeast Texas that previously never experienced flooding, including during Harvey.

UHD alerts added to the confusion concerning Imelda's movement. Late Tuesday night, UHD sent out an alert saying that operations were delayed until 10 a.m. the following morning while they monitored the weather.

Campus opened at the aforementioned time Wednesday morning, but another alert was sent mid-afternoon saying the university was still monitoring conditions as Imelda rolled in, encouraging students to be safe and exercise caution.

That night saw a heavy downpour as bands of Imelda reached the Houston Metro area. UHD sent out a notification early Thursday morning saying campus would be open, but to be cautious.

Bayous were running high across the city by midmorning. Despite urging students and faculty to remain in place, many opted to leave while they could.

Some braved the rain opting to take refuge at One Main Building and wait out the weather. However, those attempting to take the METRO Rail found the service unavailable.

Within the hour, reports began rolling in that flooding was intensifying across the city.

Imelda continued on page 5



A view of high water in downtown Houston from UHD's South Deck
Photo by Varah Thornton

Imelda timeline

Tuesday, September 17

6:46 p.m. UHD sends out alert saying the National Weather Service was forecasting heavy rainfall throughout the week and that the school was monitoring conditions. The school emphasized caution and to check Wednesday morning for updates

11:01 p.m. UHD sent out an alert delaying "operations until 10 a.m. Sept 18" and that a decision would be made early Wednesday morning as to whether the school would be closed for the entire day. Again, caution was emphasized

Wednesday, September 18

6:41 a.m. UHD sends out alert confirming that the school will open at 10 a.m. and that all roads near campus were clear.

4:01 p.m. UHD sends out alert once again saying that the National Weather Service is forecasting rainfall throughout the week and that the school was monitoring conditions. They emphasized exercising caution and to check back for updates Thursday morning, September 19

Thursday, September 19

6:14 a.m. UHD sends out alert saying campus is open and to exercise caution travelling to and from campus

11:11 a.m. The official METRO Houston Twitter account had tweeted "All METRO services are currently suspended due to heavy rain and flooding", the automated services at rail stations announcing similarly.

11:28 a.m. UHD sent out an alert saying that "all remaining classes, programs and activities" were cancelled. Despite urging students and faculty to remain in place, many opted to leave while they could.

12:39 p.m. Governor Greg Abbott announced via Twitter that a State of Emergency had been declared earlier that morning so that counties would have access to state resources.

1:30 p.m. People still on campus stepped onto the North Deck to view the bayou and found it over its banks. Buffalo bayou had engulfed not only the walkways, but the entire bottom half of the former Spaghetti Warehouse building's parking lot as well as the Milam Street Bridge.

2:52 p.m. UHD sent out an alert saying "Faculty, staff and students parked in surface lots may wish to check on their vehicles" advising people to use the parking shuttle buses to access the lots as they were still safe and operational.

4:41 p.m. UHD sent out an alert stating that if students were still on campus to go to A300 where they would "have movies, games and will provide dinner" to those still there during the storm. Vasquez said that this was an attempt by the school to get a headcount of who was still in the building, shutting down Student Activities at the same time.

5:26 p.m. The METRO Houston Twitter account updated "...Rail service resumes! Bus and HOV services remain suspended." Those who saw the message quickly made their way to the Red Line station to exit campus.

6:37 p.m. UHD's last alert confirmed that the school would be closed on Friday, September 20 "to allow community members time to recover from Tropical Storm Imelda" and expected to resume normal operations on Monday, September 23.

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Students volunteer at National Black MBA Association Annual Conference

By Nafisa Asif

More than 60 UHD students volunteered at the 41st National Black MBA Association Annual Conference in October 2019. UHD's Director of Student Activities Tremaine Kwasikpui organized the volunteer efforts.

The goal of the conference is to allow African-American business leaders and entrepreneurs to have the opportunity to network, seek professional job opportunities, and allow the same opportunities to reach out to students and provide internship opportunities.

In regards to the different volunteer opportunities at the conference, students were assigned tasks such as conference registrations and greeting all incoming attendees, in addition to welcoming representatives from companies such as Exxon and other well-known companies across the state to the luncheon during the afternoon hours.

Kwasikpui was very proud of the professionalism and enthusiasm that the students at UHD had portrayed at the conference.

"Students who attend the University of Houston-Downtown are some of the best future leaders and this conference gave UHD an opportunity to showcase ourselves in a selfless act of volunteering to help others while in our city," he said

One of the benefits for volunteers was the opportunity to visit the Career Expo located on the first floor. Students were given the chance to network and talk to numerous employers who were looking for bright individuals.

UHD staff who assisted in leading the students' activities included Krysti Turnquest, Naqui Davidson, Erika Harrison, Jacob Lipp, Keidrienne Day, Eugene Benard, and Ashley Rosebrough

Furthermore, the Title IX/Equity and Diversity



Gator volunteers at the National Black MBA Associations Annual Conference
Photo courtesy of Tremaine Kwasikpui

Officer at UHD, Erika Harrison was glad to have this opportunity for students to be involved and engage with opportunities that will be beneficial for them in the future.

"We saw the National Black MBA Conference as an exciting opportunity

to engage current students, alumni and community partners," she said. "Through the conference, UHD had the opportunity to connect with local high school students who were interested in attending UHD. We hosted a mixer on our campus for confer-

ence attendees and alums. Finally, our students had an amazing opportunity to volunteer for the conference granting them access to the Career Expo."

The lasting impression that UHD left with conference organizers had

the university invited back again to the next conference which will be held in 2020 in Washington D.C.

TSU debate (continued from page 1)

Inside the Spin Room at TSU, press from all over the world scurried from one end to the other trying to take notes and prepare their pieces for release. MSNBC, CNN and ABC News took up the majority of space, as ABC, the host for the evening, dominated the capacity of TSU's student recreation center, a converted gymnasium acting as media headquarters for the event.

As the debate began, sounds of chatter and greetings quickly turned into tedious typing and polished penmanship.

Ten individuals, who American citizens, to this point, have seen as the most qualified, took turns throwing punches at the candidates to their left and right, some harder than others.

They discussed everything from health care and gun control, to

recent events and personal career setbacks. When former Housing Secretary Julian Castro questioned former Vice President Joe Biden on contradicting himself, the room grew uneasy. It cheered when Texas Representative Beto O'Rourke promised to take away regular citizen's machine guns and laughed at every one of Sen. Bernie Sanders' scoffs and Senator Kamala Harris' attempts at wit, some successful.

Pressed on what they would do to fight climate change, Senator Elizabeth Warren expressed her belief that the United States must work on "every front" to tackle the problem.

Tech Executive Andrew Yang, a past vocal supporter of charter schools, tip-toed around the question when asked if this was still the case.

"I am pro-good

school," he said.

As each candidate attempted to command the stage with their own strategy, it became more and more evident the significance of this evening. This third presidential debate - the first of the campaign season confined to one night, as the qualified field

of candidates shriveled in size - being held in a red state, at an HBCU, was an odd pairing. Yet, at the same time, it made complete and perfect sense.

The 2020 election is likely to be largely influenced by young voters. These college students, millennials, and Gen-Z


members are present everywhere, including southern states like Texas.

Where better to shake hands and kiss babies than an area that Democrats would be thrilled to see turn blue next year? Seeing the candidates take turns praising an HBCU was simply icing on the

cake for many voters.


Though this election is far from over, it is going to be difficult to avoid the feeling that a major turning point happened right here in Houston, Texas.

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UHD hosts NBC News Learn town hall

By Indira Zaldivar

On September 24, students, staff, and all people with a vested interest in education had an opportunity to participate in the NBC News Learn: Education Now town hall hosted at our university.

KPRC2 broadcasted the first hour of the forum, but the whole two hour event was live streamed through the NBC and Click2Houston websites.

Soraya Gage, General Manager of NBC News Learn and Vice President of Education NBC News and UHD President Dr. Juan Sanchez-Muñoz were two of the four speakers who gave opening remarks welcoming people to become informed of the current issues affecting students and teachers in Houston.

“NBC News Learn goal is to create thoughtful commentary and calls to actions. One of the most concerning issues is the Texas Education Agency’s state take-over threat to HISD for the past two years,” said Gage.

A Texas Education Agency (TEA) law mandated that a state can take over a district when one of its schools obtains failing grades as evaluated for five or more consecutive years. Wheatley High School from HISD has been under this threat for the past 2 years. Rehema Ellis, NBC News Chief Education Correspondent interviewed Dr.

Grenita Lathan, Interim Superintendent from HISD to reveal their efforts and strategies to improve these ratings.

NBC asked the TEA for an interview, but the TEA refused.

One of those strategies was Achieve 180. Two years ago, Achieve 180 began and provided more resources to the lowest-performing schools in HISD through the addition of more human capital and increased funding.

Lathan credited Achieve 180 for helping three of the four schools with failing grades

according to House Bill 1842 obtain C or higher, moving from the improvement-required status. Achieve 180 offers counseling services and assistance from Baylor College of Medicine to students to deal with emotional distress or “anything that disturbs a child from being able to learn,” said Principal Khalilah Campbell-Rhone of HISD’s Worthington High School. Wheatley High School is yet to improve their status.

Another issue discussed is how 65 percent of jobs in Houston require education beyond high school, according to Ellis. Good Reason Houston, Greater Houston Partnership, and Chiefs for Change are non-profits that collaborated with school districts in Houston to provide opportunities for students to attain marketable skill sets through internship opportunities and community relations.

Alex Hales Elizondo, CEO of Good Reason Houston, emphasized the importance to team up with school districts. Elizondo explained they want, “to see every child in every neighborhood excel in a world class public school set up to thrive in the Houston of tomorrow.”

Similarly, President and CEO of Greater Houston Partnership Bob Harvey aims to link employers with schools.

“We’re thinking of building a 21st century economy that is all skills,” Harvey said. “It’s all about talent...We want to produce that talent locally”.

These are examples of the organizations in Houston influencing business leaders to get involved both at the policy level and school level to advance student development and readiness in the real world.

The recent events of Tropical Depression Imelda reminded many of the difficulties caused by Harvey in 2017. According to Dr. Julie Kaplow, more children show signs



Attendees at the NBC News Learn: Education Now town hall at UHD
Photo by Indira Zaldivar

of trauma now than after Harvey struck. Some of the recommendations to parents and teachers include paying attention to students who are not able to sleep, eat, and participate in the classroom.

Kaplow mentioned student nervousness of storms is expected. Harvey revealed the lack in schools for counseling and help students handle emotional stress. Principal Roy Moore at Nottingham Elementary School, Spring Branch ISD motivated teachers to put a priority in reconnecting with the students coming back to school after Harvey rather than academics.

Humble ISD Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Fagen raised value to conversation after witnessing the strengthening of the bonds with first-responders and community leaders with schools after Harvey to teach students the importance of community bonds in adversity.

In the forum, the panelists highlighted the importance of teaching students to build relationships.

When asked what is the best use of technology, Principal Roneka Lee at Pasadena ISD Bondy In-

termediate School said, “we can get through learning without technology but the relationship piece is so very important.”

Jennifer Jendrzej, Director of Strategic Learning and Evaluation at Raise Your Hand Texas, encouraged teachers to utilize a blended learning approach in using technology as a tool to enhance the mentoring role of teachers to a larger scale.

UHD Professor of Educational Research Dr. Ron Beebe urged teachers to analyze carefully the effects on using technology in the classrooms, “you can’t use technology just in terms of bells and whistles. It’s gotta be purposeful... ‘technology’. If you’re gonna put it in your lesson, you have to have a rationale for doing so.”

Teachers must be willing to partner towards ongoing professional development to serve

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the changing needs of the students in Houston efficiently. Education Now Houston, sponsored by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, will hopefully continue to inform on decades of research in the learning sciences and

equip the listener with information on how to overcome issues in the classroom and best practices for student learning.

Imelda (continued from page 2)

All televisions on campus were tuned to news channels covering Imelda and flash floods occurring in places that had not seen flooding during Hurricane Harvey.

Students Stranded at UHD

One of many still on campus was Assistant Director of Student Activities Jose Vasquez.

Around 11 a.m., the Student Activities center on the second floor of One Main Building began playing karaoke music on the sound system. It soon turned into a full-on party as students streamed in to enjoy the relaxed environment.

“We made sure not to play the news because we didn’t want to cause hysteria and paranoia,” said Vasquez.

However, they did have the news playing in the esports area on the main screen and in the hallways. Earlier that morning, Student Activities had sent out messages cancelling a planned tournament and notifying participants not to risk their safety. They also suspended all item checkout rules so that students could enjoy the area stress-free.

Students and faculty alike began telling one another to go check their cars if they were parked

on the first floor. This advice was warranted as many stepped out onto the cafeteria side of the North Deck to find the entire 45 North and HOV lane entrance on Milam Street totally submerged with the water stopping just below the train tracks.

Many at One Main Building had heeded Mayor Sylvester Turner’s advice to stay in place for three to four hours until Imelda passed through Houston. Avoiding the rain was the concern of most, but the rising water around the school or the temporary blockade of exit streets had not occurred to many. Any who tried to make it off campus by foot quickly turned back.

Anyone who was on the second floor was asked to move upstairs and Vasquez brought board games, a projector and some consoles so that people could have something to do. Some students were reportedly frustrated because they did not understand why they had to go upstairs instead of staying in Student Activities where things were livelier.

Vasquez went on to say that reality began to set in around 5 p.m. when students realized the school was making the

decision to shelter in place. He credits Cynthia Vargas with their emergency management team for working with other employees to secure cots from the Red Cross.

After the storm came through

Those who remained on campus after 6 p.m. were brought to A300 in the Academic building to get a headcount of how many people were without transportation. A group was able to go and retrieve the previously secured cots from Red Cross headquarters at 59 and Kirby. Vasquez estimated that there were still around 50 remaining students.

At one point around 7 p.m., Vasquez said that UHD President Juan Sanchez Muñoz stopped by A300 to make announcements and help calm nerves. At around 8 p.m. Provost Erick Link announced the METRO Rail was working and explained where people could go online to see where there was high water. Besides that, students were ultimately responsible for finding a way home.

Vasquez said the cots from the Red Cross arrived around 10 p.m. for the people remaining on campus in A300. Once they realized people were lying down to sleep, many of the Student Activities employees began to head home close to midnight, but a small group remained behind to stay overnight with the students.

Vasquez credits all the administrators with helping to get so many people off campus. He had his own insights as to how things could have gone better.

“One of the lessons learned for me is how can we better manage the texts messages that go out?” Vasquez continued, “If we send out too many messages, people are going to ignore them, right? Two things that I would do is send out an alert if you are parked in this parking lot, it is about to flood. That never hap-

pened. And then maybe hey, rail service or bus service is now running”

UHD has procedures to follow during emergencies

When reached for comment about the decisions behind the school messaging, UHD officials stated that there is an Emergency Management Board (EMB) and Crisis Management Handbook with procedures that the school follows.

When inclement weather is imminent, the EMB monitors conditions and participates in calls with local and regional emergency management groups such as the Harris County Office of Emergency Management as well as surrounding colleges and universities.

UHD uses a tool called Everbridge to send out emergency communication to all students, faculty and staff through text, email and social media posts. Once a decision is made, the

UHD Office of University Relations initiates emergency communication within 15 minutes, though network traffic and conditions may affect when people receive those notifications.

UHD officials commented, “When the decision was made to open campus early Thursday morning, most surrounding school districts, colleges and universities had made announcements that they would remain open. As the morning progressed, and it became clear that serious rain and flooding threatened the greater Houston area, a decision was made to cancel classes but to caution individuals not to drive in inclement weather for their own safety”

Safety is number one

Ultimately, Vasquez thinks the school did the best they could considering the situation.

“Nobody made a decision to purposefully frustrate the students,” he

said.

Considering Imelda’s wildly unpredictable nature across the south-east parts of the state, there are lessons to be learned on how best to communicate effectively with the student population. Even those who attempted to stay on top of news coverage and social media alerts received confusing and sometimes contradictory information as to how best proceed for their safety.

It is a lesson that Houston as a whole has been learning far too often for the past 10 years with the likes of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Ike. Nevertheless, everyone operated with the same goal in mind: safety.

Vasquez concluded, “At the end of the day, yes, people were inconvenienced, but they were doing it out of an overabundance of caution. At the end of the day we got the job done.”

The Dateline

University of Houston-Downtown's Newspaper

Student Run Since Volume One

The University of Houston-Downtown is seeking applicants for the position of **Editor** for Dateline, the student-run, bi-weekly newspaper.

This **paid position** (\$425/issue) begins spring semester 2020, and the applicants must commit to fill the position for the entire 2020 academic year. **Duties include responsibility for the overall editorial operation of the paper. Editors assemble and manage a team of student writers and sub-editors and assign them to cover news and events on campus and in the campus neighborhood.**

The position requires some familiarity with Adobe InDesign page-making software.

The paper runs stories anticipating campus events as well as reviewing them, including student activities and organizations, academics, athletics and lifestyle, university administration, and student government; also cultural coverage of activities in the theatre, film, music, sports and arts communities, particularly as they are of interest to UHD students.

Qualifications include at least sophomore standing, at least one semester in residence at UHD, successful completion of basic writing and communications courses, and a current 3.0 cumulative GPA. Applications accepted until position is filled.

To apply, contact the Dateline faculty advisor, Joe Sample, Associate Professor, at samplej@uhd.edu. Applications are sought immediately and will be accepted until position is filled.



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Building a L.E.G.A.C.I at UHD

By Blanca Guadiana

Men of L.E.G.A.C.I. supports underrepresented minority males in the University of Houston-Downtown. The L.E.G.A.C.I. of the name stands for Leadership, Excellence, Grades, Access, Collaboration, and Identity. The first three words represent the qualities those running the program wish to impart onto the students in their care, and the last three represent opportunities provided to help its students. The most crucial of these last three being giving them access to a support network during their time attending UHD.

Men of L.E.G.A.C.I. was established in summer 2016 by Jerry Wallace, Ph.D. and Vida Robertson, Ph.D. as part of a nationwide initiative to increase the

number of Black and Latino males who enroll in and graduate from college. The program's students are divided into four cohorts based on what year the student is in—freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

The members of these cohorts attend the same core classes, taught by the same teachers and attended by the mentors of the program. This makes it possible for the students to receive help from the other members of their cohort, their mentors, as well as their upperclassmen in older cohorts.

The hope of Men of L.E.G.A.C.I. Coordinator, Jobi Martinez, is that this experience will instill qualities in the older students that will allow them to eventually become mentors themselves.

“A passion to assist, a passion to lead, a passion to mentor, those qualities are instrumental to our work,” Martinez explained.

These are the qualities the program seeks to instill in the students as they learn from and come to look up to their upperclassmen and mentors. Although the mentees are the priority of the program, it seems that being a part of the program also has a positive effect on the mentors themselves, as is expressed by Head Mentor Zaida Quezada

“Being a mentor has improved many aspects of my life... mostly, it is seeing that we need to be much more diverse and culturally accepting,” Quezada said. “Working with these students has taught me how grateful



Men of L.E.G.A.C.I. co-founder Vida Robertson Ph.D., former Program Coordinator Pierre W. Banks, mentors and older two cohorts welcome newest cohort, August 14 2019
Photo courtesy of Men of L.E.G.A.C.I

and empathetic we should be in general.”

Quezada finds real fulfillment in the job and is very happy with what she does, stating that she wants to establish a career where she continues helping students like those

in the program.

Through people like Jobi Martinez and Zaida Quezada, Men of L.E.G.A.C.I. continues to help many young Black and Latino males, inspiring and helping them put their all into their school-

work and to bring the skills they have learned to their communities even outside of UHD, building a legacy they can be proud of.

Bayou City Art Festival

Saturday 10/12

10:00am-6:00pm

901 Bagby St

Water Lantern Festival

Saturday 10/19

4:00- 10:00 pm

Magnolia Garden Park

Houston Press Tacolandia

Saturday 10/19

4:00-7:00 pm

The Waterworks in Buffalo Bayou Park

Wings over Houston Airshow

Sat-Sun, 10/21-10/22

8:00am-6:00pm

Ellington Airport



Didi Lam

East End Street Fest

Saturday, 10/19

2:00-9:30pm

Navigation Esplanade

Splendid China

Friday, Sat 10/11, 10/12

7:30-9:30pm

Miller Outdoor

Guitars N' Cars Auto Show

Saturday, 10/21

12:00- 6:00pm

Sam Houston Race Park

Vegan State Fair

Sunday, 10/20

11:00am-6:00pm

Hughes Manor

Houston Italian Festival

Thu-Sun 10/10-10/13

Hours vary

University of St. Thomas

Full Moon Fridays: Ian Moore

Friday, 10/11

7:00- 9:30pm

Discovery Green

Students, staff, alumni get together for GatorServe 9/11

By Ana Gonzalez

Many students, staff, alumni, and community members gathered together for this year's GatorServe, a biannual tradition hosted by the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning where UHD community members complete projects throughout the community.

Organizations from the Accelerated Transfer Academy to Greek organizations and the Alumni Association were present during this special day.

The event, according to Dr. Poonam Gulati, capped off signups after 400.

"The response was overwhelming, and I couldn't be happier that we have such an amazing

community that cares," she said.

This year, the Gator community was stationed at Bryce-Dorian Park in Fifth Ward. Their goal is to help as many senior residents in the area as possible. Tasks included moving and packing items, yard work, painting, gardening and cleaning. This is UHD's second time helping out in Fifth Ward.

GatorServe kicked off the day with breakfast tacos, a phenomenal national anthem from UHD police officer Chris Vega, and a few words of encouragement from UHD President Juan Sanchez Munoz, and council members Jack Christie (At-Large District 5), and Jerry Davis (District B

and Vice Mayor Pro-Tem).

"This is our chance to give back to these people who've gone through a lot in their lives," said Davis, "we want to let them know that they are not alone and there is always help."

Volunteers were broken into several groups and traveled five miles within the vicinity of the park, where many of the senior citizens lived. Several of them were kind enough to give volunteers water and snacks to get through the hot September day.

The next GatorServe will be for Martin Luther King Jr. Day in spring 2020.



UHD volunteers pose with a homeowner during GatorServe, fall 2019
Photo by Ana Gonzalez

Professors present research at September Symposium

By Jaida Doll

UHD's English Department hosted their eighth annual September Symposium on September 26.

Each year, two professors are chosen to present their research to the students of UHD. This year, the conference featured Professor Adam Ellwanger, PhD, a UHD English professor. His presentation was entitled, "Metanoia, Identity Politics, and the Modern Transformation of Personal Transformation."

Professor Daniel Peña, a creative writing professor at UHD, also presented his work entitled, "F*ck La Migra: Researching and Writing On the Deportee

Communities of Mexico City." The free event was open to all UHD students and was followed by a catered dinner from Lupe Tortilla.

A first-time presenter at the September Symposium, Ellwanger shared research from his upcoming book, "Metanoia: Rhetoric, Authenticity, and the Transformation of the Self". Ellwanger began researching the book in late 2017 and Penn State University press will publish it in the spring of 2020.

Ellwanger presented research that focused on the concept of metanoia – or personal transformation. It explained not only how linguistic techniques are used by individuals to convince others of a personal transformation, but it also explained society's connection to and impact on an individual's personal identity and transformations.

Ellwanger was drawn to the topic of metanoia because fluidity of identity is such a prominent topic in our society.

"I think it's important [...] because fluidity of identity is kind of a meaningful part of the



Professor Adam Ellwanger presenting his research
Photo courtesy of Joe Sample

public discourse in 2019 in the U.S., and a lot of people wonder, 'How did we get to this point where the race you are, the sex you are, the gender you are, the religion you are is so up for grabs – so able to change from one thing to another?'" he explained.

Though fluidity is a meaningful part of the public discourse, it prompted Ellwanger to question the genuineness of the self-definition. Ellwanger stated the question that drove his research.

"Is there any essence to the self that is unchangeable?" Ellwanger asked. "That is immutable? That is natural and true? Or is it totally social constructs all the way down?"



Professor Daniel Peña presenting his research
Photo courtesy of Joe Sample

American Democracy in Black & Brown

A Lecture by **Dr. Sonia Lee**

October 24, 2019
12:30 - 2:00pm
UHD, Milam & Travis Room

Plus Special Guest Appearance at Sacred Women of Color Writing Retreat

October 25, 2019
9am
UHD, Tour Room

For more information contact Dr. Bonnie Lucero at lucerbo@uhd.edu

That was what was driving me as I worked on the project – trying to understand the way that the self is constructed in our era."

Professor Daniel Peña also presented at this year's September Symposium, but his presentation focused on his upcoming book entitled, "Snapshots of a Life in Flight."

Though very different from Ellwanger's topic, Ellwanger explains that

this is one of the benefits of the September Symposium.

"That's one of the cool things [about the Symposium] – that it's kind of kaleidoscopic in that you can have very different topics presented in the same night," he said.

In his presentation, Professor Daniel Peña detailed his work, which follows a year in the life of its subject, Diego

Miguel Maria. Maria was deported from Georgia in spring 2016, and Peña's book details his struggle to regain custody of his son, an American citizen.

Peña's work not only details Maria's personal struggles with immigration laws, but it also aims to contextualize his life into the political scene of today.

Symposium continued on page 10

Fandom UHD lends a hand at Delta H Con

By Ana Gonzalez

Heroes come in different sizes, even in groups. The Fandom UHD club traveled to the Westchase area to join hands in volunteering at Delta H Con on the weekend of September 20.

The anime and gaming convention brought congoers a little taste of anime, gaming, cosplay, and steampunk for its twelfth year.

This was Fandom UHD's first time volunteering as a group or organization, and some of the

members say that it was an interesting experience.

Joe Bentacourt, Fandom UHD's treasurer, says that volunteering at conventions was something the group has wanted to do for a while, but could not find the time to do so. He is glad to put in as many hours as he could while enjoying the convention with his members.

"You get to help out while making friends and talk about your favorite things. It's a win-win," he said.

Some of the members were scheduled in different areas of the convention. Some were general volunteers where, called the "winged monkeys" where they swing around each area to see if their fellow peers needed food, a bathroom break, or to step away from their post. Others were panel room moderators, where they checked attendee badges, and made sure panels ran on time.

"We wanted to bring that back, as part of our volunteering for Fandom,"

said club president Alicia Ipina, "The club has done so in the past with other conventions around the Houston area and even outside."

Special guests at Delta H Con included voice actors from the original Evangelion series, cosplay guests, and musical guests Kahsa and Melancholiaah. The convention will return for its thirteenth year at the Houston Marriott Westchase on July 17-19, 2020.



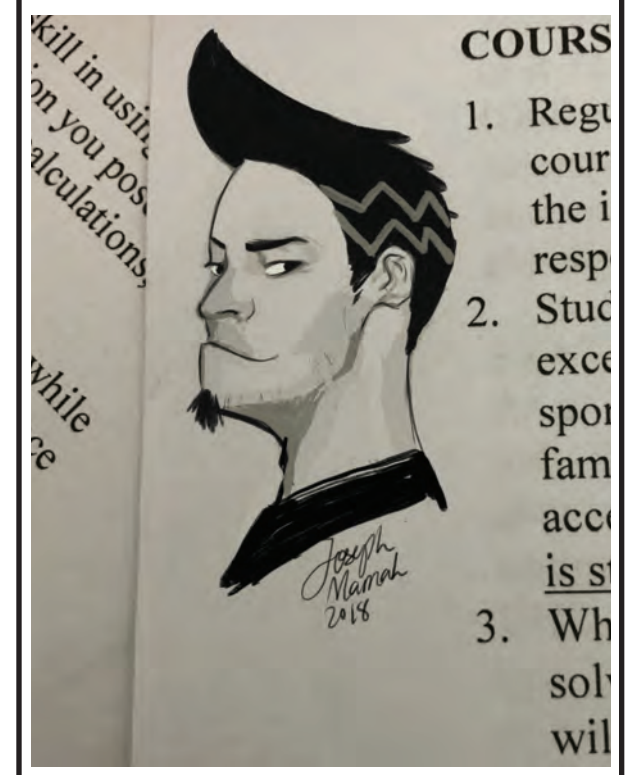
Fandom UHD members take a break from their volunteering duties with a group picture. This is their first time volunteering for anime convention Delta H Con, which took place at the Houston Marriott Westchase.

Photo courtesy of Fandom UHD's Facebook page

Venom vs. Spidey



A Syllabus Doodle



Common reader (continued from page 1)

ist Laurie Hernandez. The book is diverse and focuses on first person accounts about their experiences being first-generation Americans which runs parallel with UHD's uniquely diverse and complex student population.

UHD adopted the Common Reader program to promote intellectual engagement, foster critical thinking skills, and provide a valuable experience for fellow Gators. The program provides the freshman class an opportunity to build a strong foun-

ation which according to UHD website, may result in "higher levels of student success and retention."

This year's book selection has the potential to spark a passionate discussion. Dr. Scott Marzilli, Dean of the University College, discussed the book selection process.

Marzilli, who joined UHD as dean of University College and chief student success officer in June 2018, went on to say "Following the very inclusive Common Reader Selection process, the selection

committee was faced with choosing the 2019 Common Reader from an amazing list of three titles: America Ferrera's "American Like Me: Reflections on Life Between Cultures", Mario Alberto Zambrano's "Loteria", and Daniel Peña's "Bang". The committee continued the selection process by providing me the strengths and weakness of each of the aforementioned titles."

He explained that based on the combined feedback of student, staff, faculty and the committee,

he recommended Ferrera's book. Marzilli continued "

I felt, based on the entirety of the feedback, that America Ferrera's book offered a more diverse and multifaceted approach to exploring our theme and supporting our uniquely diverse and complex student population."

He went on to say "Overall the feedback from the students has been very good. Personally, during my facilitation of the Freshman Convocation's Common Reader discussion, the students I had in

my class really connected with the overall theme of the book, and more specifically, they were able to connect with one or more of the essays."

Regardless of cultural backgrounds, this is an opportunity for freshmen students to start their college experience off the right way. It is an opportunity to learn and develop crucial skills that will assist them on their journey even after college.

Marzilli wanted to leave students with a quote by Ferrera from "American

Like Me": "This compilation of personal stories, written by people I deeply admire and FAN girl out about on the regular, is my best answer to my nine-year-old self. My plan is to find a time machine and plop this book in her hands at the very moment she first thinks, *what do I call an American like me?* I'll tell her to read these stories and to know that she is not alone in her search for identity."

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

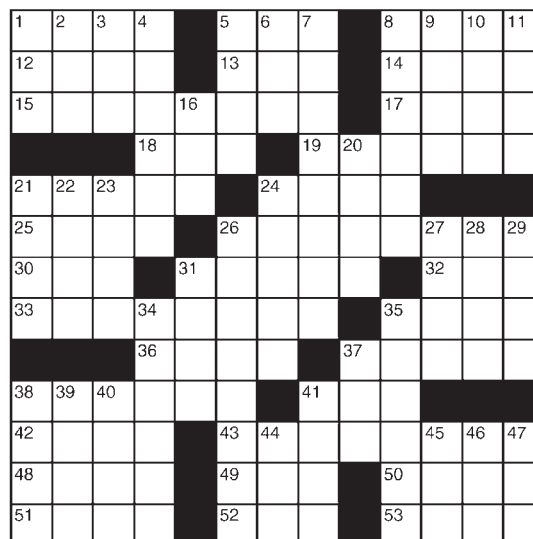


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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Bar order
- 5 Stick out
- 8 String tie
- 12 Incite
- 13 Blonde shade
- 14 Disney's "— and the Detectives"
- 15 O or W
- 17 Even, as a score
- 18 "— Abner"
- 19 Gap
- 21 Charley horse
- 24 Military status
- 25 Tatters
- 26 Quite attractive
- 30 Past
- 31 Paycheck extra
- 32 Altar affirmative
- 33 Artist Rene
- 35 Topped
- 36 Commotions
- 37 Jaunty cha-peau
- 38 Tray
- 41 Help
- 42 Neighborhood
- 43 Mississippi flower
- 48 "The View" alumna Lisa
- 49 Gorilla
- 50 St. Louis



- team
- 51 Shakespeare's shrew
- 52 Bow the head
- 53 Pumps up the volume
- 8 Cause to go
- 9 Leave out
- 10 Stead
- 11 Automaker
- 16 Speed
- 20 Hostels
- 21 Study at the last minute
- 22 Historic period
- 23 Sitarist's offering
- 24 Carries on
- 26 Subway employee
- 27 Layer
- 28 Between jobs
- 29 Filly's brother
- 31 Wait
- 34 Devastate
- 35 Indy Jones' hat
- 37 Crib
- 38 Polio vaccine pioneer
- 39 Met melody
- 40 Fasting period
- 41 On in years
- 44 Mil. address
- 45 Felon's flight
- 46 Little devil
- 47 Fool

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DOWN

- 1 Lazy person
- 2 Historic period
- 3 Ovum
- 4 Kingdoms
- 5 Hoosgow
- 6 Tars' org.
- 7 Netherlands city

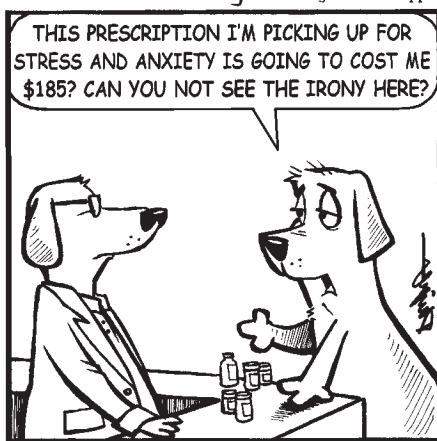
GRIN and BEAR IT



"You've been pre-approved for a gold card, Rex."

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



THIS PRESCRIPTION I'M PICKING UP FOR STRESS AND ANXIETY IS GOING TO COST ME \$185? CAN YOU NOT SEE THE IRONY HERE?

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6		1						9
		9	4					3
4				2	5			
7			5					8
6				4	2			9
		8	6					4
5				7				6
		7	5					3
2			9					7

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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MAGIC MAZE ● COMPUTER TERMS BEGINNING WITH A "B"

F Y V S P E M J H E B Y V H T
 Q O L I G D L B Y W T R P T M
 K I N F D E B I Y W U S Q D O
 M K S A I R N F F D B Z P I X
 W (B L U E T O O T H) U B U W S
 Q O N F B L L J B H C I K D F
 D C F A I A O S Y K W T C N V
 T U S Q N P S O N L C R A A K
 B I H P A M T I B D U A B B G
 F E C B R Z Y B C W V T B U U
 S R Q P Y N M L J I H E T Y B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

- Backbone
- Batch file
- Bit rate
- Buffer
- Backup
- Baud
- Bitmap
- Bus
- Bandwidth
- Binary
- Bluetooth
- Byte
- BASIC
- BIOS
- Boolean

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Strange but true

By Samantha Weaver
 It was multitalented Robert Anton Wilson -- he was, at various times in his life, a novelist, essayist, psychologist, editor, philosopher, playwright and mystic -- who made the following observation: "It only takes 20 years for a liberal to become a conservative without changing a single idea." It took between 75,000 and 80,000 workers to build the Panama Canal, linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans across the Isthmus of Panama.

When the Barbie doll was first introduced in 1959, it was described in The New York Times as a "crushing bomb." So much for early reviews.

Since then, more than a billion Barbies have been sold in more than 150 countries. Mattel, the doll's maker, claims that more than 100 dolls are sold every minute of every day. William Howard Taft, the 18th president of the United States, was quite a large man. Quite a large man, indeed. In fact, he was so large that his 300-pound bulk got stuck in a White House bathtub, and he had to summon help to extricate himself. Pope Benedict IX held the office three different times.

There are lots of sports fans out there, and a lot of sports to enjoy: football, basketball, soccer, baseball, hockey ...

olive oil wrestling? OK, maybe there aren't a lot of oiled wrestling events here in America, but in Turkey it's the national sport. Kirkpinar, as it's known there, has been popular since the Ottoman Empire. The Turkish town of Edirne has been hosting the annual tournament since 1361. Thought for the Day: "Even a purely moral act that has no hope of any immediate and visible political effect can gradually and indirectly, over time, gain in political significance." -- Vaclav Havel

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	-		x		28
-		x		-	
	+		x		20
x		+		x	
	x		-		27
20		26		25	

1 2 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

DIFFICULTY: ★

- ★ Moderate
- ★★ Difficult
- ★★★ GO FIGURE!

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Solutions to last issue's puzzles

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

B	E	E	R	J	U	T	B	O	L	O	
U	R	G	E	A	S	H	E	M	I	L	
M	A	G	A	Z	I	N	E	T	I	E	
C	R	A	M	P	R	A	N	K			
R	A	G	S	M	A	G	N	E	T	I	C
A	G	O	B	O	N	U	S	I	D	O	
M	A	G	R	I	T	T	E	F	E	L	L
S	A	L	V	E	R	A	I	D			
A	R	E	A	M	A	G	N	O	L	I	A
L	T	I	N	G	A	P	E	R	A	M	S
K	A	T	E	N	O	D	A	M	P	S	

Go Figure! — answers

6	-	2	x	7	28
-		x		-	
1	+	9	x	2	20
x		+		x	
4	x	8	-	5	27
20		26		25	

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

7	6	2	1	3	5	8	9	4
8	5	9	7	4	6	1	2	3
4	3	1	9	8	2	5	7	6
3	7	4	2	5	9	6	1	8
6	1	5	8	7	4	2	3	9
2	9	8	6	1	3	7	4	5
5	8	3	4	2	7	9	6	1
9	4	7	5	6	1	3	8	2
1	2	6	3	9	8	4	5	7

Oysters and wine on the shores of Arcachon, Part 1

By Michael Molina

Paris, France. One can imagine the “City of Lights,” the iconic “Red Light District,” the Louvre Museum, or the legendary Eiffel Tower. But the beautiful city has many more layers and locations to add to the long list of locations that people visit on a daily basis.

Twenty-five members of the University of Houston Downtown had the chance to explore France for an eleven day trip this past summer. The group consisted of students, professors, and deans. They not only had the opportunity to explore the beautiful country, but also to speak with peers and professors at the University of Bordeaux as well.

After a nine and a half hour flight to London, and another one hour flight to Paris, the Gators arrived at their destination. Tired and exhausted from jet lag and lack of sleep from the long

flight, students delivered their bags to the hotel before leaving for Musée d’Orsay in Paris.

The Musée d’Orsay was originally a railway station, Gare d’Orsay, and opened in 1900 until 1939 when it was used as a mailing service center during World War II.

Musée d’Orsay was set for demolition until it was put on the historical documentary in 1979 which allowed the former railway to remain opened as a museum of arts that could help connect the Louvre and the National Museum of Modern Art in France.

The arched ceilings and the picture of the enormous clock on the wall shaped an exhibit that connected the past with the present in forming a bridge between two time periods and showing the evolution of modern art.

“My favorite aspect of the Study Abroad in France was the Le Modèle Noir de Géricault á

Matisse exhibition in the Musée d’Orsay in Paris, which depicted black people in various forms of mediums from slavery to the Harlem Renaissance,” Myisha Williams commented on her experience from the trip to France. “[it] also perfectly summarized the influence of black people in France.

The exhibition of black art was a significant contrast to the infamous statues and portraits housed in the Louvre, and established evidence that black people can just as well be art and/or artists.”

On the second day, the Gator students and faculty traveled to the Palais Garnier, also known as the Parisian Opera. The large stone building loomed over the street as lines of tourists and students waited for their turn to enter the historic building. The grey stone entrance and gothic outdoor architecture was only the shell to rooms and ceilings interlaced

with gold and mirrors the size of the walls, a fact hinted to with the statues made of gold on the roof of the architecture. Paintings were displayed with pride throughout the halls and the ceilings were covered with murals reminiscent of the infamous Sistine Chapel.

Palais Garnier was built in 1875 and was a central location to meet up for businessmen, mistresses, and royalty to experience the beauty of the gold enlaced walls and infrastructure as well as enjoy the acting of the nights entertainment. The opera house was built in the Napoleon III style, which meant there was no space left undecorated in the opera. The opera features paintings and statuettes of different gods of goddesses of mythology to celebrate the arts. Palais Garnier was also the setting of Gaston Leroux’s famous 1910 novel “The Phantom of the Opera.”

Afterwards the gator

assembly traveled to Goutte D’Or, otherwise known as “Little Africa” in the poorer side of Paris in order to experience the culture of Paris outside of the more well-known tourist areas.

That afternoon, students were picked up and taken by the Arc de Triomphe where they were able to observe the large stone archway in the heart of Paris, France.

The Arc de Triomphe sits at the center of Place Charles de Gaulle and finished construction in 1836 under the collaboration of different architects over a thirty-year span. The Arc became an important rallying point for troops after major military victories as well the annual Bastille Day military parade. The Arc was originally commissioned by Emperor Napoleon in 1806 to celebrate a military victory in Austerlitz, also known as the Battle of Three Emperors during the Napoleonic Wars. The area

surrounding the Arc is a popular shopping district with high end restaurants and hotels to appeal to tourists and the elite.

“My favorite part about the Study Abroad trip to France was probably the night life,” student Stephanie Campos says of her experience in Paris. “I will never forget the beautiful lights that illuminate the cities. The unique building structures and scenery are something that I will carry with me in my memories for the rest of my life. Having had the opportunity to get out of the country for the first time, the experience strengthened my resolve to become an English teacher abroad.”

Paris is well known for being the city of lights and for its Red Light District housing the beautiful Moulin Rouge. The Eiffel Tower is lit up and you can see many cars

Oysters and wine continued on page 12

The Bayou Ballot Could Meal Plans Work at UHD?

By Christopher Charleston

Eating at UHD can be a hassle. As a non-traditional university, options are often limited for students who are tired of the available selections in the cafeteria. Additionally, dining on campus at UHD every day is essentially the equivalent of eating out, which can quickly become expensive for the average college student. Several universities in the Houston area have devised a solution to help students manage their money when it comes to budgeting for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Perhaps, it is time for UHD to follow suit.

Years ago, Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) introduced an auxiliary service entitled “Panther Bucks”. This is a program for current PVAMU students that turns their student ID cards into debit cards. When a student’s financial

aid is processed, all or part of their overpayment can be turned into what are called Panther Bucks. The student can swipe the card around campus, as well as businesses around town. It can be used to purchase food and educational materials such as textbooks, and school supplies like pencils, paper and scantrons. The student can also load their card online or in person at the Cashier’s Office. If the student is unable to dip into their overpayment, does not have one, or currently has no additional money to add to their card, a maximum deposit amount can be assessed to their student fees balance, and then added to their Panther Bucks account. The goal is to allow students to focus on their studies, rather than focusing on how to fund their next meal.

Texas A&M University has a similar program called “Aggie Bucks.”

Parents love the program as it is a way to ensure their children are spending money on food and books, as opposed to alcohol and tobacco, as neither is eligible to be purchased using the student ID cards, regardless of age. Implementing a similar program at UHD might enable the University to finally start offering meal plans to students. Some Gators are up for it.

“I don’t really eat in the cafeteria anymore because I guess I’ve grown tired of it. It would be helpful to have more options.”

Junior Leo Avila said. “I bring my lunch to school sometimes. But often I’m in a hurry and I forget. It would be cool if UHD partnered with restaurants close to campus in downtown.”

The Bayou Ballot’s polling question for this issue is as follows:

Would you be interested in UHD offering proposed meal plans to students? (Visit our Instagram page @The_Dateline and click on the link in the bio to vote.)

Voting ends on October 28

Last issue’s Ballot results are as follows:

Which 2020 presidential candidate do you think is best equipped to handle the student loan crisis?

*Elizabeth Warren (35.71%)
Bernie Sanders (21.43%)
Beto O’Rourke (14.29%)*



Symposium (continued from page 7)

Deported toward the end of the Obama administration, Maria’s case was largely complicated by the Trump administration’s restrictions on immigration.

Peña’s book also focuses on an internal struggle within Maria during his readjustment to Mexican society.

“What happens when you’re deported?” Peña asked. “How is it that one copes with being deported? And what is that like, to be reintegrated into a community you barely know?... How do you overcome that mass of isolation?”

To answer these questions, Peña visited Mexico City once a month. Though he could not spend enough time with his subject as he would have wanted, these short visits sparked the idea behind the formation of the narrative, “Snapshots in a Life of Flight.”

“I would go down there with a camera, and I would just snap as many pictures as I could... There’s only so much...

you can get in a single visit, so a lot of these chapters are just snapshots of a very specific moment of when I saw him, what he was doing, what’s he listening to, the projects he’s working on, how he’s staving off this kind of isolation,” Peña said.

By detailing his work and the research methods behind it, Peña ultimately aimed to demystify the process of writing. The idea of writing a full-length book is likely a daunting task to many students, but Peña’s presentation hopes to answer the questions that will make such a task seem undertakable.

“How is it that an idea becomes a book? What does that mean? My entire September Symposium is like demystifying what goes into the research and what goes into the writing of a book,” Peña said.

The Downtown Dollar

Save a little: The cheapest date nights in Houston

By Christopher Charleston

Right off the bat, I already know what you're thinking, "Oh, wow. Not every one of his columns is about boring money saving techniques. Here's something I can actually use." To that, I say, "OUCH." I also say, "You're right!"

College is a lifestyle of strict money management and budgeting, but it's also a time for fun activities like going out with your friends or partner. When it finally comes time to sit back and take a breather from the whirlwind that is college – studying, classes, and studying some more – I want to make sure that you don't outkick your coverage. Spend only what is necessary to have an amazing time, and more importantly, live to see date number two.

However, this article

isn't just for those in romantic relationships. If your parents helped pay your tuition this semester, they deserve something nice too. Friend dates are the best, so take notes, and treat whoever is most special to you to a great day on the town!

Digg.com reports that the average date night in Texas costs around \$110.99, which is much more expensive than our Oklahoman neighbors, who pay an average of \$63.65, and those in Arkansas who spend \$59.01.

While \$111 may seem like a lot, remember, it's still cheaper than a UHD textbook. My job is to get you below that figure. All the while, creating a Houdini-like illusion that you balled out on your bae as if you were a member of Migos. These are the cheapest date nights in Houston, Texas.

The first suggestion is for all of my outdoors-y people. Visit Port Houston's Sam Houston Landing, and book a FREE 90-minute boat tour. Assuming you don't get seasick, this is an entertaining and educational day trip that is sure to be something you and your friends have never experienced before. Tours are offered at 10:00am and 2:30pm, so you can prepare to spend the money you save on a nice lunch or dinner afterwards. If you are of age, try to book your tour on a Friday or Saturday, the same days that Houston Wine Merchant offers free wine tastings.

If you don't mind waking up early, my next suggestion is sure to be for you. Visit KHOU.com or email GreatDayTickets@KHOU.com and request tickets to the most popular morning show

in the city, Great Day Houston. Admission is free as long as you request in advance. Simply include in the email your name, the number of tickets you would like, the date you wish to attend, and your phone number. Just like that, you can treat someone special to a live taping of GDH and an opportunity to be on television. The KHOU studio normally has an incredible taco truck parked on the lot, so grab something to eat while you wait!

Finally, make like a turtle and responsibly race over to Little Woodrow's in Midtown on a Thursday night. If you're feeling lucky, participate in their weekly turtle racing competitions. That's right. Turtle racing. Because what can bring you and your partner together quite like the adrenaline rush of winning free stuff



in a matter of minutes? Drinks and food at Little Woodrow's won't break the bank, but if you aren't feeling hungry at all, race your turtle, collect your prize and exit like a boss. Like any serious sports league, it comes in seasons. So check online to make sure it's going down on your planned night.

If not, supplement that adrenaline rush for another by trying to attend every museum in Houston's Museum District on free Thursday. Only those

with the strongest feet and most comfortable shoes survive.

Don't go overboard buying tacos or museum souvenirs, and you'll surely spend much less than 111 bucks. Don't have a date? Who cares. Go alone, and enjoy the best our wonderful city has to offer.

If you'd like to take your day to the next level, try reading an issue of The Dateline in public. I find it makes you look ten times classier.

Bayou Connection (continued from page 1)

demic partnerships with schools throughout the country.

From 2002 – 2018, Wang and his associates took five trips to Taiwan and formed partnerships with five universities, National Chung-Cheng University (CCU), Central Police University (CPU), National Tainan University, Ming Chuan University (MCU), and Chung Hua University. The most recent trip was led by UHD President Juan Sánchez Muñoz who renewed the partnership with MCU and signed a new agreement with the CTBC Financial Management College.

The 2005 delegation was especially important, as it established a relationship with chairman of Evergreen Corp., Yung-Fa Chang, PhD. Over the course of the next five years, Chang donated over \$2 million to UHD. His generous endowments were used to fund need-based scholarships for UHD students. The Chang Yung-Fa Foundation Scholarship has been

awarded to more than 60 students.

In addition to the monetary donations from Chang, the Bayou Connection has received endowments from the Chinese/Taiwanese community in Houston. These donations have been used to fund the main aspect of the Bayou Connection Program – scholarships for criminal justice majors from Taiwan wanting to study at UHD.

The Bayou Connection Program offers three types of learning experiences at UHD for students from Taiwan. These are graduate studies, English language studies, and law enforcement studies.

The graduate program allows Taiwanese students to undertake a master's degree at UHD. Since 2004, 12 Taiwanese students have earned their Master of Security Management (MSM) or their Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ).

Two of these former students have continued their education beyond the master's program offered at UHD. These former

students not only earned doctorate degrees, but also became professors themselves. Two more former Bayou Connection students secured teaching positions in universities in Taiwan. Furthermore, four former students now work in law enforcement agencies in Taiwan.

The Bayou Connection Program also offers Taiwanese students the opportunity to study English as a second language. Since 2007, more than 250 Taiwanese students have studied at the English Language Institute (ELI). Though this facet of the program focuses on tackling the language barrier, participating students also have the opportunity to tour various criminal justice agencies throughout the city.

Lastly, the Bayou Connection Program offers Taiwanese students the opportunity to study and train at the UHD Criminal Justice Training Center (CJTC). In January 2018, UHD welcomed 40 cadets and two professors from CPU. In January

Professor spotlight

Snapshot across Cultures:

- **Name:** Hsiao-Ming Wang
- **Academic Background:** Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University
- **Professional Background:** Previously held a position as a law enforcement officer in Taiwan before he shifted his career to higher education
- **Position at UHD:** Criminal Justice Professor and Director of the Bayou Connection Program
- **Hobbies/interests?** Painting; listening to jazz piano music
- **What do you like most about working at UHD?** "Providing opportunities for my students to succeed"
- **Was there anything in particular that impacted your decision to teach at UHD?** "Houston was my first stop when I came to the United States. I love the diversity and inclusion of this dynamic city (where I can have really nice Chinese food). After I earned my PhD, teaching at UHD naturally was my first choice. The longer I teach, I more enjoy being part of UHD because I can help my students to succeed. To date, for example, at least three students I taught have earned their doctoral degrees and have become professors."

2019, they welcomed another 40 cadets and two professors. The third group of CPU students is expected to study at CJTC in January 2020.

Not only does the Bayou Connection Program bring Taiwanese students to UHD, but it also offers opportunities for UHD students to study abroad in Taiwan. Since 2005, the Bayou Connection has brought 40 UHD students to Taiwan to continue the cultural exchange of ideas by comparatively studying the criminal justice systems of both countries.

Though the program's main focus is to offer opportunities for Taiwanese criminal justice majors to study at UHD, Wang says that they are not the only ones who benefit from such a program. As the main purpose of Wang's program is to promote the exchange of ideas across two very diverse cultures, students from UHD and Taiwan reap the benefits of cultural exposure. This cultural immersion promotes the global collaboration and comparative exchange of ideas around which the program was designed.

Wang commented

that the Bayou Connection Program continues to benefit criminal justice students both UHD, in Taiwan, and beyond by utilizing these cultural exchanges as a foundation for future international cooperation in criminal justice.

"In the trend of globalization, technological advances are enhancing the capacity of criminals to work across borders," Wang said. "Hence, international cooperation in criminal justice is inevitable."

The Menil Collection to display Aboriginal Australian art

By Marlonn Bahena

The Menil Collection museum will be showcasing “Mapa Wiya (Your Map’s Not Needed): Australian Aboriginal Art from the Foundation Opale”, an event that will last throughout the year in midtown Houston.

The collection will display more than 100 contemporary Aboriginal paintings, log carvings, and shields all belonging to the various indigenous artists of Australia and Torres Straits after the 1950s.

The Menil Collection exhibition showcases art pieces from the Foundation Opale in Lens, Switzerland such as the exhibition title drawn by the late artist Kunmanara Williams (Mumu Mike), the first showing of his work in an American art

museum.

Aboriginal artwork tells a story about their respective lineage. Their art could be about daily life, hunting stories, or about their tribe. The artwork reflects their lifestyle, culture and was also used to paint the layout of the nearby geography around them.

Since the Aboriginal people do not have a formal written language, their artwork is central to their culture as a series of visual stories with layers of meaning directed towards different audiences.

Curated by Paul R Davis, PhD, the collection has come to Houston to create discussions amongst each other about indigenous people.

Helen Martinez, who curated an Ab-

original art exhibition titled “With Her Hands: Women’s Fiber Art from Gapuwiyak: The Louise Hamby Gift”, explains the significance of this type of artwork.

“This was a generous opportunity to showcase this artwork,” Martinez explains. “Because the Aboriginal artists are reclaiming their authority as artists and critique past treatment of indigenous and Aboriginal people.”

As part of her two-month summer internship at the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal art collection at the University of Virginia, Martinez researched fiber art sculptures and figures, edited and named labels for each object, and co-wrote three of the largest panels for the exhibit.

Martinez points out that Aboriginal fiber was

created by women for a variety of purposes such as ceremonial and everyday use and later commercial use. The weaving is considered a craft, not an art form.

With the addition of the exhibit, Martinez hopes the perspective of Aboriginal fiber will change as people become more aware of and recognize its artistic value.

“This exhibit has its own message, especially in terms of country and aboriginal claim to their land,” Martinez makes clear. “But overall, it adds to the conversation of indigenous people with them at the forefront.

The exhibition will be on display until February 2.



“Marlboree” by Tjumbo Tjapanangka
Photo by Marlonn Bahena

Oysters and wine (continued from page 10)



UHD Gators visited Notre Dame during their study abroad trip to France
Photo by Michael Molina

and motorcycles traveling throughout the city as patrons visit their favorite cafes and bars to enjoy a meal before beginning again the next day.

The final day in Paris was spent at the Louvre Palace, the home to many works of art that help to document and celebrate the long history of France. Louvre Palace is built on top of an ancient castle, the stones used to build the foundation of the castle are marked with hearts, the symbol and signature of the person that made the stone bricks all those

years ago. Some of the first artifacts found under the castle in the moat after it was drained were dice owned by guardsmen. It is speculated that the dice were discarded in order to not attract attention from superior officers while on shift.

The Louvre is home to many famous works of art, among them are the stature of “Venus de Milo”, the “Mona Lisa”, and “La Liberté guidant le peuple” (Liberty leading the people).

The Louvre was declared a museum following the French Revolution

after the National Assembly made the decision to make the Palace into a home for the masterpieces of France. The museum officially opened on August 10, 1793 and hosted over five hundred paintings confiscated from Church property and from the royals.

The infamous Louvre Pyramids began construction in October 1988 and the first phase was completed in 1989 with the inverted pyramid following completion in 1993. These pyramids were introduced as part of the Grand Louvre plan

to expand and move the French Ministry to the museum. The Louvre has experienced nearly double its yearly visitation records since the additions of the glass pyramids.

Next on the agenda was a trip to the Eiffel Tower within walking distance of the hotel where the group had been staying. The Eiffel Tower stands at 1063 feet tall and was built in 1889 as the entrance to the World’s Fair. The Eiffel Tower is the most visited paid monument in the world today.

After exploring the Eiffel Tower and enjoy-

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SOCIAL MEDIA



ing the sight of seeing France from so high up, the gator troupe rendezvoused at the nearby river where they took a boat to the historic location of Notre-Dame. Notre-Dame was completed in 1260 and withstood many different conflicts and renovations including desecration of artifacts and religious imagery during the French Revolution, as well the fire on April 15, 2019.

Although the fire destroyed much of the roof of the ancient cathedral,

Notre-Dame still stood strong, albeit a bit blackened from the burns, as the staff and students stood in awe of another piece of history from afar as the French Parliament had closed the cathedral to the public until reconstruction was complete.

The Louvre and visiting the Eiffel Tower, and Notre Dame marked the Gators’ last day in Paris before leaving the next day by train to the city of Bordeaux in southern France.