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PIONEER



Cyrano:

OCCC, USAO alliance brings famed play to campus

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The second collaboration between the Oklahoma City Community College and the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha came to the Bruce Owen Theater in November.

Cyrano de Bergerac is a romantic play that tells the story of the young man, Cyrano, who is regarded as a true renaissance man. Cyrano is a poet, an actor, and a fierce fighter who is only hindered by his large and ugly nose. He falls in love with his distant cousin Roxane, but does not think he is worthy of her love.

In an unusual move, OCCC Theatre major Miranda LoPresti was cast as Cyrano -- a decision that wasn't lost on LoPresti.

During the audition process, she expected a man to be cast for the role. LoPresti said she was pleasantly surprised when she found out she got the lead.

"It's a traditionally male part, and so when I found out I got cast as a said 'Well, I guess I did something right,'" LoPresti said.

Cyrano is the main character as the title would imply. He's a poet, with much parallels to Don Quixote, who has this idea of honor and duty, and how it ought to be. He sticks to that moral code as rigid as he can in a world where other people are willing to compromise to get their way, she said.

Dewayne Delaney a USAO theatre major, was chosen as Christian, Cyrano's friend. Delaney said he had to approach the part with a different mentality.

"Christian is a new guard in the troupe that Cyrano is in. He falls in love with Roxane, and she falls in love with him sort of. She turns out to be very big on words and intelligence. Christian is only street smart, he's not the best with words," he said.

Delaney was part of a USAO George Kaiser play, which is considered to be German Expressionist. Because Cyrano is considered a romantic piece, Delaney said the more grand gestures and higher emotions proved to be challenging.

"He agrees to Cyrano's help in writing letters to

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EDITORIAL/OPINION

EDITORIAL | HOW TO STAY POLITICALLY CONCIOUS AFTER THE ELECTION

Now the real work for voters begins



Since Donald Trump won the November 8 presidential election, marches and protests under the message, “Not My President” have taken place across the U.S.

Hundreds of protestors took to the streets of New York City, Los Angeles, Portland, Boston, and dozens of other cities to protest the result of the

election. Because Hillary Clinton earned more than half of the votes cast, the majority of American voters said they did not want a Trump presidency.

When the protests die down and the streets become clear again, there will be work to do. Now is the time for dissatisfied voters to organize, plan, and set an agenda for the 2018 and 2020 elections.

The first and most important step: Start locally.

Do you know where your local Democratic or Republican party meetings are held?

Have you ever been to one?

If you were not happy with the result of the presidency and answered “no” to both of those questions, find out where the closest meeting is and start attending. If there is no organized meeting place, this is your chance to start one.

These meetings will allow you to meet your local party leaders, future candidates, and grassroots organizers and volunteers that work in your own community. Without active participation in your own political party, your voice will only be heard in the fraction your vote comes down to after an election.

A Facebook search can easily bring up an assortment of political groups and coalitions that you may be interested in, connecting you with like minded individuals from your own state. Many of us are already active Facebook users, posting and sharing in the online world. Take the internet participation further, set up in-person meetings with your online followers and friends to start mobilizing your agendas.

Already established movements and groups like Our Revolution, the National Organization for Women, and the American Civil Liberties Union of

Oklahoma are open for membership and participation, leading local initiatives through the nation and state.

Another avenue towards participation in local affairs is becoming involved in your district’s school board. School boards serve as watchdogs for education, making sure that tax dollars are spent on what is most important for students.

School boards include the community’s wants and needs for education, looking out for the students that make up their school district. Thirteen Oklahoma school districts will have a total of 16 seats up for election February 17, 2017. Oklahomans can now file for candidacy on the Oklahoma State Election Board website.

Vote in the Midterms

Oklahoma’s 2018 midterm elections will be held in just two years, and the state governorship will be up for election. Gov. Mary Fallin has reached her two-term limit, meaning new blood will take Oklahoma’s seat for governor. Attorney General Scott Pruitt, State Treasurer Ken A. Miller, and Lieutenant Governor Todd Lamb are all potential Republican candidates. Both Pruitt and Lamb have participated in the Trump campaign. Pruitt attended Trump fundraising events and Lamb invited the Trump family to his annual “turkey hunt.”

Five U.S. Representative seats will also be up for election in 2018, all holding Republican incumbents. To ensure we do not have candidates governing our state that are like-minded with Trump, we have to carefully vet who we elect in the 2018 gubernatorial elections. This means nominating candidates that represent our views, and not Trump.

Speak With Your Legislators

You can find your legislators by visiting the Oklahoma State Legislature website.

When there is an issue you want your congressman to address, there are several methods you can use (some more effective than others) to get their attention. Writing letters to your district office can be helpful, but direct phone calls to district offices are harder to ignore.

Volunteering at the headquarters of your party is a way to meet the leaders of your party, while also becoming familiar with the process of “how things

work.”

Attending city council meetings is another direct way to meet with your representatives, as every city has monthly if not weekly municipal meetings.

Get Out the Vote

Preparing for the 2018 and 2020 elections means getting more people out to vote. Voting numbers for Oklahoma midterm elections have been historically low in recent years, with only 40.7 percent of registered voters turning out in 2014. These numbers will have to be much higher in the 2018 midterms if any shift of power is desired.

Low voter turnout translates to a small number of Oklahoman’s electing officials that represent a large number of people. Our democracy will not function in our favor if progressives do not organize and motivate voters.

Stand Up, Speak Out Against Discrimination

Those against Trump’s presidency have become scared of the retribution they may face from his hostile rhetoric. President-elect Trump campaigned on a platform of discrimination and exclusion, promising mass deportations of illegal immigrants and the building of a wall. Trump referred to Mexicans as rapists and killers, was endorsed by former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, and said women who have had abortions should face “some form of punishment.” Trump’s vice president-elect, Mike Pence, has notoriously held anti-LGBT beliefs, supporting conversion therapy and the ban of gay marriage.

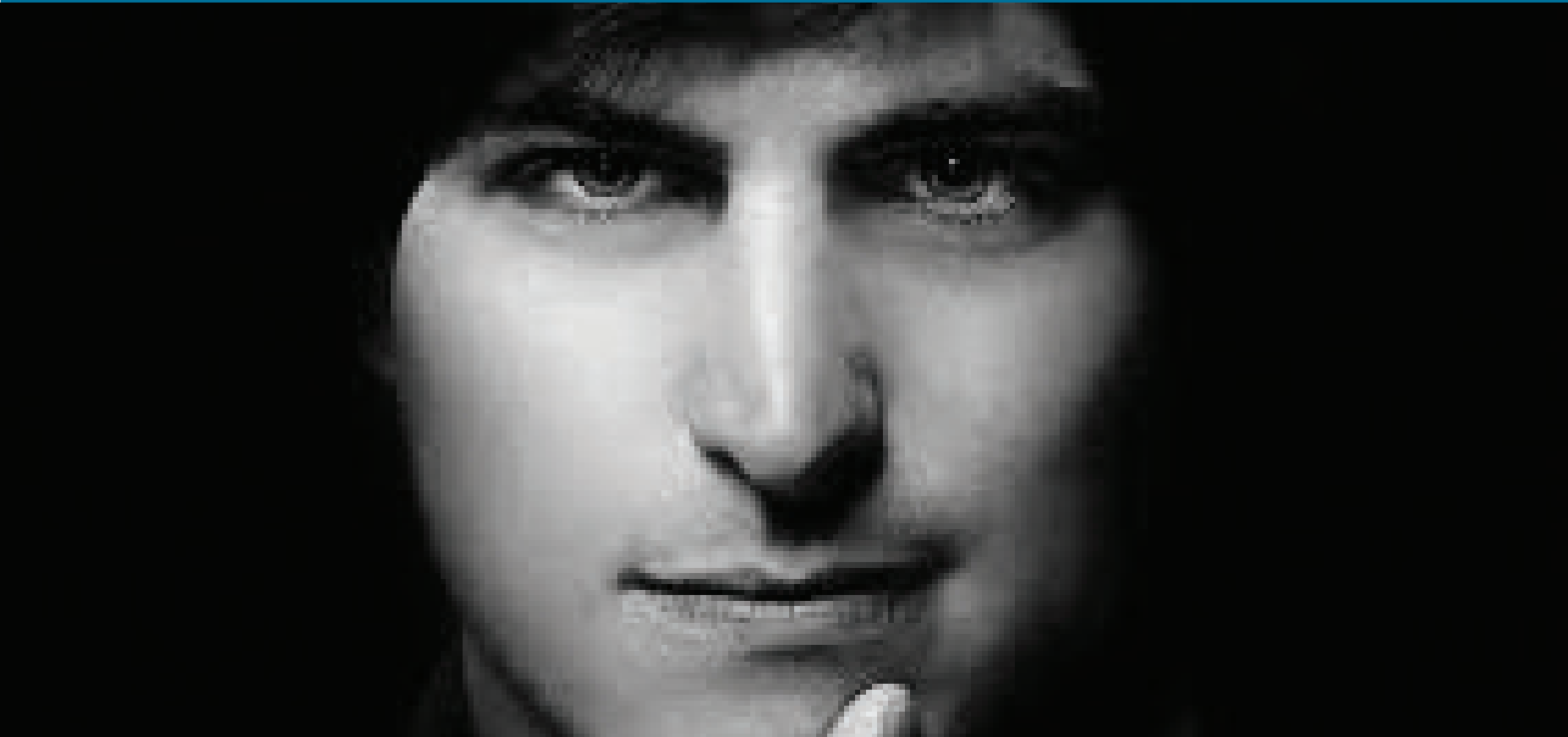
The influence Trump’s cabinet and supporters will have over the people of the United States is frightening, especially when it comes to discrimination and hate speech.

We cannot take a stand of complacency when witnessing adversity. It is now the responsibility of the people, the press, and our affiliated parties to rebuke hateful legislation and denounce discrimination. Becoming directly involved in local politics will revolutionize our state from the ground up, effectively working towards a more progressive Oklahoma. It is not the time for discouragement, but fierce adherence to upholding both equality and diversity in America.

—SOPHIA BABB
EDITOR

We value your opinion.
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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS



MOVIE REVIEW | MEET STEVE JOBS, FLAWS AND ALL

Movie explores the man behind Apple

I’ve known a bit about Steve Jobs, even before he passed away and the world mourned. Computer scientists have always had an admiration for the innovators and creators that have shaped the face of technology. We never bothered to dive in the details, but the “devil is in the details” – so they say.

“The Man in the Machine” sends its message early on, showing the impact of Steve Jobs’ death in the first moments. It poses the question of ‘Why did the world mourn a stranger?’ In any case, it’s a fair question. Who really was Steve Jobs? This documentary wanted to paint a picture of the man, and what his intentions and definitions of success really were. Jobs was special and always got his way, but it never mattered who was in the way or who helped him get to where he wanted to be for him.

He wasn’t the perfect man everyone made him out to be and the people who knew him best remain conflicted. The way he dealt with the business and personal conflicts in his life are definitely off, and the people around him knew.

Apple was always the focus of his life. It was that and his ego that always pushed people away through his actions and decisions.

The film goes through his life, from the conception of the company, his philosophical views, his departure from Apple, to his return in what people call the ‘Renaissance’ of the company with the iMac, iPod and iPhone, and finally the true impact and meaning of his death. The film does not have a mission to show Jobs in a negative light, it wants to show him in his true light.

It was through the relationships he made through his life that defined him. The decisions he made throughout his career shaped and clearly made him out to be someone who is out of touch. Even though Jobs had changed the world in a way, it never changed who he really was.

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Vol. 45 No. 08

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The PIONEER is a student publication of Oklahoma City Community College through the Division of Arts. It is published bi-weekly during the 16-week fall and spring semesters and the eight-week summer session.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the PIONEER, the college or the publisher.

The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author’s name, address, phone number and signature.

E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The PIONEER will withhold the author’s name if the request is made in writing.

The PIONEER reserves the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be no more than 250 words. Students must list a major. OCCC staff and faculty must list a work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included.

The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed at <http://pioneer.occc.edu>.

Trump, Oklahoma republicans claim victory



REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR:

Mary Fallin makes a speech at the GOP watch party on Nov. 8 in Oklahoma City. On Monday, Nov. 21, Fallin, who is being considered a possible candidate to head the Department of the Interior, met with president-elect Donald Trump. Fallin said no offer was made at the meeting but she and Trump discussed a "variety of topics."

*Aaron Cardenas/
Pioneer*

SOPHIA BABB

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Donald Trump has been elected as the 45th president of the United States, despite polling that predicted a win by Trump's opponent, Hillary Rodham Clinton. Trump delivered his acceptance speech in the early hours of Nov. 9.

According to numbers from the Associated Press, Trump won 279 electoral votes, compared to Hillary's 228 electoral votes. Trump handily won Oklahoma's seven electoral votes, winning all 77 counties.

In his acceptance speech, Trump said Clinton had contacted him.

"I've just received a call from Secretary Clinton. She congratulated us. It's about us. On our victory, and I congratulated her and her family on a very, very hard-fought campaign," he said. "Hillary has worked very long and very hard over a long period of time, and we owe her a major debt of gratitude for her service to our country. I mean that very sincerely. Now it is time for America to bind the wounds of division, have to get together."

Clinton delivered her concession speech in New York City on Wednesday morning.

She took the popular vote with 59,648,347 votes,

208,015 votes ahead of Trump.

"I know how disappointed you feel, because I feel it too. And so do tens of millions of Americans who invested their hopes and dreams in this effort," Clinton said. "This is painful, and it will be for a long time. But I want you to remember this: Our campaign was never about one person, or even one election. It was about the country we love and building an America that is hopeful, inclusive, and big-hearted. We have seen that our nation is more deeply divided than we thought. But I still believe in America, and I always will."



In Oklahoma, Sen. James Lankford, a Republican, kept his seat in the U.S. Senate. Lankford won against Democrat Mike Workman of Tulsa.

Oklahoma also returned all of its incumbent Republican Congressmen, including Markwayne Mullin, Frank D. Lucas, Tom Cole, and Steve Russell.

Six state questions were on last week's ballot. State Question 776, enshrining the death penalty in the state constitution, was approved by a 66 percent "yes" vote. The "Right to Farm" amendment, SQ 777, did not pass, with a 60 percent "no" vote.

The Education Sales Tax Amendment, SQ 779, failed with a 59 percent "no" vote.

David Boren, University of Oklahoma president and supporter of the question conceded the loss of

the effort.

"I think it is important for all of us to realize and celebrate tonight that we have started a conversation in Oklahoma all across our state. We've made the people of Oklahoma aware of this need," Boren said. "We cannot secure our future by ignorance, and this campaign has alerted hundreds of thousands of Oklahomans."

SQ 790, which would have removed the state's ban on government funds for religious purposes, was also rejected by Oklahoma voters.

State questions 780 and 781 were both approved, passing an amendment to reduce criminal sentences for drug and property crimes, while also funding rehabilitative programs for addiction.

SQ 792 passed with a 66 percent "yes" vote.

Next year, Oklahomans will be able to purchase high point beer and wine in grocery stores with the passage of the question. Alex Weintz, spokesperson for the Yes on 792 campaign believed the results "couldn't have been any better."

"Oklahomans spoke loud and clear, they want to modernize beer and wine laws. I think voters knew it was going to be great for the economy, good for consumers in terms of better selection, lower prices, more convenience, and everyone here is very excited," Weintz said. "A lot of the people here are part of the industry, craft brewers, winery owners, so there are a lot of local businesses that are really excited about the outcome today."

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Dusty shoebox reveals WWII love story



A PIECE OF HISTORY: Photo Illustration by Brandon King/OCCC News Writing Student

BRANDON KING
OCCC News Writing Student

In 2004, 81-year-old Rosalee Sanders died. She named her grandson, Ted Shepherd, the executor of the estate. As Shepherd sifted through Sanders' fading memories and cluttered pieces of a life well-lived, he found a dust covered metal box and a crumpled shoebox.

Those boxes, Shepherd said, were "a piece of my history and all our histories."

Shepherd has worked in the lab at Community Hospital on SW 89th street in Oklahoma City for many years. Although his career involves drawing blood and working with doctors throughout the hospital, Shepherd has always been fascinated by history.

"I knew I had something here," he said, speaking of the boxes he found. "This is the stuff you'd read about in a book or a history textbook. But it's mine. It's my family's history right in front of me."

Inside the boxes were an assortment of letters. Love letters written in the midst of one of the greatest human tragedies known to the world: World War II. Those letters follow Private First Class Johnny Coleman in the 47th Infantry from 1942, through the war, Coleman's imprisonment in a German POW camp and his return to the United States.

The year 1942 changed everything for Coleman. Not only was the nation he had grown up in thrust into its second World War, but Coleman would soon be forced to leave his girlfriend, Rosalee.

Without a the hope that he would come home from the war, Coleman married Rosalee just before he went to Basic Training in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

The pair wrote regularly during that time. One of

the earliest letters came from Rosalee on October 10, 1942. She wrote Coleman about the OU and Texas football game.

"Dear Johnny, we came to the Fort Hill game and Texas beat us again," Rosalee wrote. "We are going home Sunday - I'll answer your letter there. Sincerely, Mrs. John Coleman."

The letters between the newlyweds continued even after Coleman shipped out to the North African Theater in Tunisia. The US sent forces there to combat the Italian and Nazi forces that occupied North Africa in an operation called "The Tunisia Campaign."

Not long after that, Coleman was captured and taken prisoner.

On April 9, 1943, and Rosalee waited on her regularly scheduled letter. Something was wrong. No letters arrived and Rosalee grew more anxious.

Two months later, on June 6, 1943, Rosalee received a different letter. Instead of the United States postage stamp and the casual writing, this letter had the word "Kriegsgefangenenlager" and a purple postage stamp with the image of Adolf Hitler.

Rosalee didn't realize that Kriegsgefangenenlager was that the German word for "Prisoner Of War Camp."

Coleman's letter was short: "Dear Darling, here I am writing you from a prison camp in Germany. I hope it is not long until I see you again. You know that I can't say much. Well honey, this is a hell of a place to be but I will have to stay here 'til the war is over. With lots of love forever, Johnny Coleman."

Federal records show that Coleman was captured by Nazi forces on April 17, 1943. He, along with the surviving members of his infantry, was taken to a Stalag 2B Hammerstein 99 Work Camps in V, a

concentration camp located in Germany.

Coleman, records show, was allowed to keep his weathered copy of The New Testament and a green pocket journal. The camp allowed for the POWs to send one letter a day which was a luxury compared to many concentration camps across Germany at the time.

In the few written pages, The Pioneer was able to investigate a few of the names written down and concluded that the names were fellow POW's in the camp.

The letters sent by the POWs were heavily edited before being shipped to the destination. Whether it was whited out or simply cut and ripped out of the letter, each letter was marked in purple stamps and the face of fascism.

It would not be until September 23, 1944, that Coleman would be liberated by Allied Forces. After his rescue, he was taken for medical treatment and honorably discharged. Coleman was home, stateside, with his wife by the time World War II ended.

Throughout the war, Rosalee worked in factories building tanks and airplanes for the Allied war effort. When her husband returned home, Rosalee quit her job and supported Coleman while he readjusted to civilian life. It would not be until 1946 that Coleman would get a job as a mechanic working for Cadillac-Chevrolet in Oklahoma City at \$50 per week.

Several years later, in May of 1952, the US War Claims Commission would send Coleman a compensation form.

"This claims application is for compensation for subjection to inhumane treatment by the enemy government and/ or because the ex-prisoner of war performed compulsory labor under terms and conditions which violated certain articles of the Geneva Convention of July 27, 1929," the form read.

Coleman would receive \$475 in compensation for his hardships in the war.

Coleman and Rosalee would remain married until July 4, 1989 when he died from brain cancer.

"My grandma was devastated when he passed," Shepherd said. "He didn't talk much about the war with anyone but who would? But yeah, she couldn't handle being alone without him. Without someone to help her."

Eventually, Rosalee would meet Orvil Sanders, a former World War II media who was stationed in Florida. Sanders and Rosalee were married during the 1990s. Rosalee died in 2004.

"I have nothing but respect for him (Sanders)," Shepherd said. "He really helped Rosalee whenever she was struggling and I don't know where she would have been if it weren't for him."

It's often said that was is destructive and catastrophic. That nothing can grow from the ashes of what has been destroyed through the rash reactions to a harsher side of human nature, but for Coleman and his bride, Rosalee, the saying became nothing more than a myth.

And their letters, safely stored away for decades, offer those who read them a brief, yet pure, look into the past.



Cyrano:

A performance that's literally moving

Continued from Page 1

Roxane for him to still be with the one he loves. He thinks that will work, until it doesn't," he said.

Having three days of shows already done, Delaney said he felt good for the upcoming shows at OCCC.

"I feel more prepared. The opening day jitters are gone and away. It's a new stage so new problems will arise, but we've gone through one opening night already so I think everyone is in a more relaxed state. We're excited and ready to go," Delaney said.

Director and USAO Theatre professor Katie Davis said she has put more focus on process than product. She makes it a priority to make sure the students learn through class, rehearsal, and production.

"I was very pleased to have a show that was suitable to put in front of an audience, but what was more exciting for me was the opportunity to watch the show grow," she said.

The OCCC shows will be the second run for the Cyrano production, already having performed three shows at the USAO theater the previous week.

"We had pretty small audiences in Chickasha, so it'll be exciting, hopefully at the Bruce Owen Theater, to have a little more in the crowd and see how the actors respond with that," Davis said.

Moving the whole cast and stage sets from theater to theater meant everyone had to adapt to the new environment. Davis said this is the first time her department has ever moved a full production from one stage to another.

"This isn't something we've ever done before. Being able to do lighting and scenery even in our home theater is a challenge, so to have a set that we could take apart and move to another location, then refocusing lights and write a whole new set of light queues in a different space has been really challenging," she said.

USAO Theatre student and production flyman Serik Taylor said the transition and working with the space has had its ups and downs. "I make sure that certain aspects of the scene can go in and out, up or down. At USAO I'm on the ground and don't have much room to breathe, but here I get a birdseye view from the walkway above the stage," he said.



PERFORMERS:

OCCC student actors during a dress rehearsal of Cyrano De Bergerac.

(Above Left) Miranda LoPresti

(Above) Jackson Ewing

(Left) Miranda Lo Presti

(Below) Left to right: Miranda

LoPresti, Ryan Haddon, Gates

McCarley,

Kala Anderson, Will Baird, Olen

Cox,

Dewayne Delaney

Victor A. Pozadas/Pioneer



National Day of Action: Pipeline protests in OKC

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More than 100 Native Americans and their allies gathered in Oklahoma City in support of the No Dakota Pipeline Day of Action on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

People from all ages and backgrounds circled together at the foot of Oklahoma City's Skydance Bridge, saying opposed to the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The Dakota Access Pipeline is supposed to stretch across four states, transporting an estimated 470,000 barrels a day through the midwest. Supporters of the pipeline say that it will allow the United States greater energy independence from the importing of foreign oil.

Hundreds of peaceful protests were held across the nation Tuesday in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. Thousands of protesting indigenous people have traveled to the Sacred Stone Camp in North Dakota since April 2016, with dozens more arriving each month.

Protesters said the construction of the pipeline will endanger the Sioux's drinking water, and the eight-million people who will live downstream from the pipeline. They also claim that the pipeline will disrupt or destroy sites that are sacred to indigenous peoples.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released a statement earlier this week, delaying further construction until there were new talks with the tribe could be held.

"While these discussions are ongoing, construction on or under corps land bordering Lake Oahe cannot occur because the Army has not made a final decision on whether to grant an easement," the statement said.

The protest stood in stark contrast against the Oklahoma City skyline of energy company buildings. The multi-billion dollar oil and gas industry makes up the heart of the state, contrasting the nonprofit, grassroots organizations opposing the pipeline.

Speakers from the American Indian Movement, OKC Artists for Justice, and other advocacy groups passed around a microphone to share their reasons for supporting Standing Rock. Protesters shaded their eyes and used homemade posters to block the sun's glare as they listened.

Around 10:20 a.m. the protesters began marching



OKLAHOMA CITY: Sophia Babb/Pioneer

toward downtown. "Mni Wiconi," the Lakota word for "water is life," was chanted in waves through the long line of protestors.

"Can't drink oil, keep it in the soil," and "When our water is under attack, what do we do? Fight back!" were also repeated during the protest.

Jacob Shaw, a representative of the American Indian Movement, helped organize the Oklahoma City protest.

"This protest shows everyone that our problems and fights are the same, whether we're in Oklahoma, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, New York, Florida, California, doesn't matter. It's literally the exact same fight," Shaw said. "Each movement we have to make sure that we are tactical, peaceful, and that we are heard."

As the march proceeded, Shaw led call-and-response chants.

The protesters marched twenty minutes to reach the Continental Resources building, owned by Harold G. Hamm. In between the chants, the protestors were silent.

Shaw commented that Hamm, among President-elect Donald Trump's possible candidates for energy secretary, has supported the pipeline's construction. Hamm is currently the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Continental Resources, headquartered in Oklahoma City.

"Harold Hamm calls Oklahoma City home. On a national scale, Donald Trump is directly invested in energy partners and ConocoPhillips," Shaw said. "It's not about someone's opinion on a pipeline or on a company or a candidate, this is fighting so that we can drink clean water."

Records show that Trump has investments in Energy Transfer Partners, the builder of the pipeline,

and investments in Phillips 66. ConocoPhillips would own a quarter of the pipeline after completion.

Ragan Marsee, Native American and student at Oklahoma City Community College, felt empowered by the protest.

"Seeing so many indigenous people and everyone else come together was a really powerful experience. I think that it was a monumental day and important time to see all these people come together," she said. "We marched all the way to the Continental Resources building, stood outside and chanted and chanted. We want our voices to be heard."

When asked why she stood against the pipeline, Marsee said she viewed it as a personal responsibility.

"I want to preserve the earth and our way of life for the next generations who will come after us," she said.

A constant topic during the march was how to help the water protectors, or those who are currently protesting in North Dakota. Marsee emphasized the importance of donations.

"One could donate blankets, socks, shoes, tents, heating units, firewood, basically the necessities someone would need to live in a really cold environment," Marsee said. "Use social media outlets, make sure the native people's voice is heard and they have room to speak."

Shaw also encouraged speaking about the issue, and promoted meaningful discussion.

"Keep spreading the message, not just on Facebook. We don't want to constrain ourselves to being facebook warriors," he said. "It's a good way to spread information to keep everyone informed, but you need to let your friends and family know, bring up these conversations at the dinner table. You need to be talking to everyone."



PROTEST: Sophia Babb/Pioneer

The American protest songs:

GRACE BABB

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Call it an anthem for an ailing nation. A ballad for the disenfranchised. A hymn from those deemed unholy – call it the protest song.

Kierston White is a Nursing Sciences Major at Oklahoma City Community College by day, and a folk musician by night. Oklahoma is home to a robust music scene, including the Red Dirt genre, a musical movement native to Oklahoma that often addresses social injustice through song.

White believes “protest songs are as important now as they have ever been in our lifetime.”

“Songwriters and poets who reject inequality each have an important job to do. We have to pull that anger and fear out of our hearts and form it into positively charged anthems that can penetrate the stubbornest of ears,” White said.

This history of protest songs is as long as the history of the United States. Protest songs date back to the 18th Century, capturing historical strife through lines and verses in times of slavery, revolution, war, economic depression, and injustice.

The first American protest songs were sung by African American slaves during long hours of work. They could not openly express their longing for freedom, but they could sing about it.

Songs that seemed to be about Old Testament Israelites enslaved in Egypt had a deeper meaning to the slaves that sang them.

Slaves seeking to escape used coded songs to strategically communicate without a white person being able to understand. Songs like these were especially helpful for fleeing slaves who utilized the Underground Railroad, a network of routes that slaves took in order to reach free states and Canada.

Harriet Tubman was known for using the song “Wade in the Water” to instruct slaves to carry on their path through water instead of on a trail, so that slave catchers’ dogs would not be able to hunt them down. To someone unaware of any meaning, the song could be passed off as harmless as any other tune. When put into context, the verses below hold a new importance:

Who are those children all dressed in Red?

God’s gonna trouble the water.

Must be the ones that Moses led.

God’s gonna trouble the water.

African American spirituals and folk songs continued to serve as avenues of expression throughout the 19th Century. Jim Crow laws prevented the ability to speak freely against segregation and Ku Klux Klan activity, so singing became one of the only ways to openly state opposition in opinion.

In the early 20th Century, war and union movements were national topics that bled into the music of the time. The working class fought for fair wages and began to unionize in mass numbers.

Joe Hill was a labor activist turned songwriter for the



WOODY GUTHRIE: Photo from Library of Congress

Industrial Workers of the World, a group formed to combat the American Federation of Labor’s policies.

In 1911, Hill wrote “The Preacher and the Slave,” which called for “Workingmen of all countries, unite / Side by side we for freedom will fight / When the world and its wealth we have gained / To the grafters we will sing this refrain.”

As the years moved on, so did the material of the protest songs.

During the teens of the 20th century, World War I spurred a new conversation. The American people opposed the entering of the European war, which was made clear in songs such as Alfred Bryan’s “I Didn’t Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier”:

*I didn’t raise my boy to be a soldier,
I brought him up to be my pride and joy,
Who dares to put a musket on his shoulder,
To shoot some other mother’s darling boy?
Let nations arbitrate their future troubles,
It’s time to lay the sword and gun away,
There’d be no war today,
If mothers all would say,
I didn’t raise my boy to be a soldier.*

After World War I, the Great Depression soon followed. Musicians and artists voiced the pain of

the people as the nation suffered through its longest major recession.

Folk singer Aunt Molly Jackson was the wife of a Kentucky miner during the Depression. Jackson wrote and sang songs about the mining strikes and the hard conditions the poor families faced.

Her song “Hungry Ragged Blues,” written in 1930, painted a picture of the daily pain that the families of miners withstood:

*All the women in the coal camps are sitting with
bowed down heads,*

*Ragged and bare-footed, and the children cryin’
for bread.*

*No food, no clothes for our children, I’m sure this
head don’t lie;*

*If we can’t get more for our labor we’ll starve to
death and die!*

In the 1940s, Oklahoma born Woody Guthrie began to make his mark in folk music. He wrote hundreds of political songs during his time as a musician, which spanned over two decades. He quickly became a figurehead for the folk movement supporting union workers, and opposing fascist expansion by Hitler.

See the continuation on Page 10

the history and the evolution

Continued from Page 8

On his guitar was a sticker that read, “This Machine Kills Fascists.”

Guthrie’s influence lasted well after his death, inspiring young musicians of the 1960s to be politically active and aware. Bob Dylan was a young man when Guthrie began to suffer from Huntington’s Disease in the early 1960s. Dylan discovered Guthrie’s whereabouts in a New Jersey hospital and became a regular visitor.

Dylan and his singing partner, Joan Baez, became two major voices of various movements in the sixties. They sang at civil rights rallies, including the March on Washington where the famous “I Have a Dream” speech was given by Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dylan wrote a number of protest songs, including “The Times They Are A-Changin’,” “Blowin’ in the Wind,” “Talking World War III Blues,” and “Masters of War.”

Pete Seeger, a contemporary of Guthrie who also inspired Dylan, was a significant voice of protest throughout his musical career. He wrote “If I Had a Hammer” which was covered by Peter, Paul and Mary and subsequently went to the top of the charts, becoming a favorite among those who participated in the American Civil Rights movement.

Folk revival music reigned throughout the rest of the 1960s, before being met with harder rock musicians and bands like Jimi Hendrix and Crosby, Stills, Nash,

and Young. Hendrix wrote a lengthy song protesting the Vietnam War called “Machine Gun,” using his guitar to emulate sounds of explosions, screams, and helicopters.

“Ohio,” written by Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young, was another protest song that grew in popularity.

The 1980s saw both protest songs against the Reagan administration and the birth of American

in its National Recording Registry, making it the first hip hop recording to ever be included.

Punk made its presence known with its angry vocals and loud guitars. The BBC described Black Flag’s debut album, *Damaged*, as “essentially an album of electric protest songs.” In the 1990s, bands like Rage Against the Machine and Sonic Youth used their music as a way to voice their activism.

The third wave of feminism inspired an underground feminist punk movement, referred to as the Riot Grrrl scene. Bands like Bikini Kill, Heavens to Betsy, and Sleater-Kinney wrote songs addressing sexuality, racism, rape and

the patriarchy.

Though passion filled protest songs continued to be written, the nineties saw a significant decline in the mainstream popularity of protest songs. The decline continued into the 2000s, with fewer and fewer artists willing to speak on a given issue due to major pushback from fans and management. The Dixie Chicks experienced criticism and financial blows due to a negative comment that lead singer Natalie Maines made on President George W. Bush.

“Just so you know,” said Maines, “we’re on the good side with y’all. We do not want this war, this violence, and we’re ashamed that the president of the United States is from Texas.”

The band then suffered declines in ticket sales, radio play, and were essentially shunned from the mainstream country music scene.

Few songs of protest or activist matter made it anywhere near top of the radio charts, though well known bands like Green Day and musicians like Pink and Neil Young have released modern day protest songs, addressing George W. Bush, the war Iraq, and GMO.

In today’s political world, there is much to draw from for inspiration.

Grant Peeples, a Florida musician known for his “unflinching social insight and cultural acuity,” believes the artist serves a purpose in times like these, but not as an explicit advocate.

“It is tempting for an artist, once [they] make a determination about a subject, for [them] to advocate for or against that subject in art. But this is not the function of an artist. This is the purpose of advocates, of policy makers, politicians, experts. These are the people who deal in facts and statistics and data,” Peeples said.

Though this does not mean that artists do not have an important role, he says:

“The tools of our trade are: symbols, metaphors, irony, parody, allegory. . .when we use these things effectively. . .we are able to transcend the factual, and connect with the human heart in ways that facts and figures simply can not do.”

Whether protest songs succeed in the mainstream music industry or not, they have had a place in American history for centuries, and will continue to say what is not easily said.

“The tools of our trade are: symbols, metaphors, irony, parody, allegory...” Grant Peeples

rap. Bruce Springsteen’s “Born in the U.S.A.” was a criticism of the effects and mistreatment of veterans that the Vietnam war caused.

Grandmaster Flash released “The Message” in 1982, a hip hop song commenting on inner city troubles and the cycle that the young black community was caught in:

*You’ll grow in the ghetto livin’ second-rate
And your eyes will sing a song called deep hate
The places you play and where you stay
Looks like one great big alleyway
You’ll admire all the number-book takers
Thugs, pimps and pushers and the big money-makers*

*Drivin’ big cars, spendin’ twenties and tens
And you’ll wanna grow up to be just like them, huh*
The Library of Congress chose to include this song



JOAN BAEZ AND BOB DYLAN: Photo from Library of Congress



Dancers highlight Native American heritage month

The Chickasaw Nation, in partnership with the Native American Student Association, OCCC Arts and Humanities, and OCCC Public Relations, brought a native dance troupe who demonstrated a Chickasaw tribe social dance.

This was the fifth event celebrating Native American Heritage Month at the Oklahoma City Community College campus. The attending crowd was given the history of the dance and the stories, tragedies and strength that have led the Nation to where it is now.

Victor A. Pozadas/Pioneer

Crime report: Woman cusses and spits at campus police

GRACE BABB

Senior Writer
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On October 17, the Oklahoma City Community College police department responded to a woman, who had been reported for behaving strangely, possibly under the influence. The woman was seen walking in circles and talking to herself as she repeatedly smeared lipstick on her face.

Upon the arrival of officers, the woman began walking away quickly.

An OCCC police officer made contact with the woman who continued to walk away. The woman stated that she was going to enroll, and that he had better not try to stop her.

The woman said that she was leaving and taking the bus, but was informed that she was not free to go. The officer gained control of both of her arms and escorted her to the back of the nearest police car.

Police said the woman yelled “f--k you, motherf--cker” and “f--k you, you ugly b-tch” as she tried to get away.

On the way to the Oklahoma County Jail, she spit in the control car.

On October 24, a male subject approached a police officer and said he needed help because someone following him.

When asked who was following him, he looked around nervously and stated that he didn’t want to talk about it in public. He followed the officer to the Campus Police Department where he told police that he knew someone was following him. When officers attempted to obtain more information, the man became visibly upset and left the office.

On October 31, a woman stated that her cell phone was stolen in the third floor women’s restroom of the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library. The suspect was identified by police, and the phone was retrieved. Felony criminal charges will be filed, police said.

On November 4, a Pathways High School Student was reported for stealing Skullcandy earbuds from the campus bookstore. A video was reviewed and the student was then identified and contacted.

On November 9, a female student contacted her professor crying and stated that she would not be in class due to a domestic issue at her residence off campus.

On November 11, a female student stole a bag of chips from the coffee shop. She said that she didn’t have any money and was hungry. She was transported to the Oklahoma County Jail.



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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. Site of the Taj Mahal
- 5. Faux --- (blunder)
- 8. "Edward Scissorhands" star
- 12. Tries for the prize
- 13. Exhorts
- 15. Malarial fever
- 16. Start of a Yogi Berra quip
- 19. Disco guy on "The Simpsons"
- 20. Hooded snake
- 21. Weigh heavily on
- 22. Jr.'s son
- 23. Poison ivy problem
- 25. Darling
- 26. U.S. visitor since 1976
- 27. Part 2 of the quip
- 31. Once again
- 32. Highway bailout
- 33. Society newsmaker
- 34. Low point
- 36. Choose
- 38. Lacquer ingredient
- 42. --- cit. (where cited)
- 44. "___-la-la!"
- 46. Puerto ---
- 47. Part 3 of the quip
- 52. Time of note
- 53. Nice notion?
- 54. Musical Tommy
- 55. Irving or Grant
- 56. Circus safeguard
- 57. Blow it
- 58. Good place to get in hot water
- 61. End of the quip
- 65. Debussy's "Clair de ---"
- 66. Silence breaker
- 67. Became frayed
- 68. Cartesian conjunction
- 69. Grassy expanse
- 70. Apt name for a guy in debt?

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14		15	
16					17				18			
19				20			21			22		
		23	24			25				26		
27	28					29				30		
31					32			33				
34				35		36		37		38	39	40
				42		43		44		45	46	
47	48	49				50			51			
52				53				54				
55				56			57			58	59	60
61			62				63			64		
65					66				67			
68						69				70		

Down

- 1. Ovid's bird
- 2. Kind of wrap
- 3. Came full circle
- 4. Grate stuff
- 5. Make ready
- 6. Long trailer
- 7. Nasal partition
- 8. '50s sitcom staple
- 9. Snob
- 10. Discipline
- 11. Fashionably small
- 13. End result
- 14. On the agenda
- 17. Manhattan border river
- 18. City in SW England
- 24. Freely
- 25. Ranch hand
- 27. Pallid
- 28. Santa --- wind
- 29. Soft murmur
- 30. King of the fairies, in folklore
- 35. Rodeo feat
- 37. Truck scale unit
- 39. Supplement to the main event
- 40. Hostile, as a reception
- 41. Turn-downs
- 43. Officers in training
- 45. Souped-up wheels
- 47. Short-legged hound
- 48. "Knight Without ---" (1937 Marlene Dietrich film)
- 49. Hen's work
- 50. Upgrade the machinery
- 51. Baby's output
- 57. Sicilian landmark
- 59. A Dumas
- 60. Revival cry
- 62. Prefix with classic
- 63. "A Boy Named ---"
- 64. Afternoon hour



PROFESSOR: James Morone from Brown University speaks to students about the results of the general election. *Aaron Cardenas/Pioneer*

Political scientist gives post-election analysis

NICK SARDIS
OCCC News Writing Student

Political scientist James Morone spoke to students and faculty at OCCC's Visual and Performing Arts Center about the presidential election on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Morone, a professor at Brown University and a former Pulitzer Prize finalist, said Donald Trump won the presidential election because of four reasons: the Electoral College, voter turnout, FBI director James Comey, and populism.

Morone said the country's Electoral College system was a main reason why Trump won.

"A few squeaker states moved this election," he said.

He said even though Clinton won the popular vote, many of her votes were essentially wasted.

For example, Clinton won California in a landslide, but it didn't matter how close the margin is in the winner-take-all system of the Electoral College.

Even if you only receive one more vote than your opponent, you will still gain all of the electoral votes from that state, he said.

Morone said another reason Trump won the election was because of voter turnout.

"Republicans turned out their base. Democrats failed to turn out their base," he said. As to why this was the case, Morone explained that Republicans were much more excited about their candidate than Democrats were for their candidate.

The third reason behind the election outcome was the action taken by FBI director James Comey. Eleven

days before the election, Comey announced the FBI would review newly discovered emails.

"Every campaign tries to paint a narrative of the other candidate, and Trump's narrative was vindicated by James Comey," Morone said.

That narrative, Morone said, is best illustrated by Trump's comments during a rally in Michigan just days before the election: "Hillary Clinton is guilty. She knows it, the FBI knows it, the people know it, and now it's up to the American people to deliver justice at the ballot box on November 8," Trump said.

Morone said the fourth explanation to why Donald Trump won was because Trump captured the populist spirit.

The Cambridge Dictionary defines populism as "political ideas and activities that are intended to get the support of ordinary people by giving them what they want," he said. Trump took advantage of the fact that many Americans are angry and want a lot of things to change.

After describing how Trump won the election, Morone spoke of what the election meant for American politics. Since the president and Congress will both be controlled by the Republican Party, he explained how the Democratic Party is becoming weaker.

Even though the party is weakening, he said political parties are similar to a pendulum. When one side starts to become more powerful, the power tends to shift to the other side.

Morone concluded his speech by saying the future is in the hands of the younger generation and that everyone should care about these issues.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Clothing Drive

Kappa Beta Delta will be taking donations of clothing to Our Sister's Closet to support the YWCA. Donation Boxes can be found at the Business Division Office, Accounting/Business Lab, Social Sciences Division Office, IT Division Office on the library's third floor, Math Division Office and the Engineering and Sciences Division Office from Oct. 31 to Dec. 1.

Christians on Campus Bible Study

Bible studies take place Noon to 12:45 p.m. Mondays and 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Tuesdays in room 1C5. For details, email christiansoncampus.occ@gmail.com or text/call 210-685-8718.

Thanksgiving Break

Campus will be closed from Wednesday, Nov. 23 through Sunday, Nov. 27.