

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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Rising from ruin

Twenty years after touchdown

Glenn Kranking

Samantha Walters
Staff Writer

Next week marks the 20-year anniversary of the devastating F3 tornado which hit St. Peter in 1998.

The tornado arrived at 5 p.m. on March 29, and resulted in over \$50 million in damage to the Gustavus campus, with even more damage to the wider St. Peter area.

Over 200 homes were destroyed, along with over 17,000 trees lost. Gustavus alone lost over 2,000 fully-grown trees, and 80 percent of its windows.

"It was the first time you could see the town from campus, because all of the trees were down. But it made it feel like we were really part of the town," Professor Glenn Kranking '98 said, who was a senior living in the Swedish House, the second oldest building on campus, at the time of the tornado.

According to the National Weather Service, the tornado was part of a supercell that struck Comfrey and Le Center.

The event was the greatest March tornado outbreak in Minnesota history.

To commemorate the natural disaster and the rebuilding of

the community, four witnesses spoke at a panel at Gustavus this week about their experiences 20 years ago.

leaning up against his front door: "The garage wall is blown out and the garage door is laying on top of my car... when I looked out, there was a car hood against my front door... nothing outside seemed like it was where it was supposed to be."

JoNes VanHecke '88, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students, recounts her experience coming back to campus: "The parking lot was a mess. There were cars flipped, on top of each other, on their sides."

Kjellgren recalls the bank alarms going off "as if it was being robbed." He compared it to a warzone.

"All of our shingles were in the front yard," Alumni Dean Wahlund '72 said.

All four panelists agree it was a terrifying and traumatic experience, but one that brought the whole community together.

"Those people that were here really did pull together and there was a common mission and that was getting the doors open so the students could finish out the year," Kjellgren said.

Continues on page 3



Glenn Kranking

Steve Kjellgren '86, Associate Vice President of Auxiliary Services, said, "It was just like you hear people talk about; the pressure [just] dropped... I remember it being so loud."

"You could feel the pressure in the air, in your lungs," Kranking said.

Kjellgren said that a car was



Glenn Kranking

Then student, now professor Glenn Kranking stands in front of the wreckage of the former Swedish house.

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Campus Safety Report

Thursday, March 15

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Sorensen Hall. A student was transported to the hospital.
- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Beck Hall and transported an injured employee to the hospital.
- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at the Schaefer Fine Arts/Music Building and provided basic first aid to an injured student.
- Campus Safety took a report of cash stolen from an

unlocked locker in the Lund Center.

- Campus Safety and the Saint Peter Police Department responded to a non-Gustavus motor vehicle that had slipped off the road on the Broadway Practice Field access road and needed the assistance of a tow truck.

Friday, March 16

- Campus Safety responded to an underage alcohol violation on College grounds. Case referred to the campus conduct system.

Saturday, March 17

- Campus Safety responded to an alcohol violation, and medical assist in Pittman Hall. A student was transported to the hospital.
- Campus Safety responded to of-age alcohol violations on College grounds.
- Campus Safety and Residential Life staff responded to an alcohol violation in Norelius Hall. One student was transported to the hospital by ambulance.
- Campus Safety responded to an underage alcohol violation in Norelius Hall. A student

was transported to Rivers Edge, and later transported to detox.

- Campus Safety and Residential Life responded to an underage alcohol violation involving a student and a non-student.

Sunday, March 18

- Campus Safety took a report of damage to a door at Southwest Hall.
- Campus Safety responded to a call regarding a suspicious person on College grounds that was a possible mental

health concern. A non-student was monitored by the Saint Peter Police Department as they left campus.

- Campus Safety responded to a report of theft of personal property in the International Center and took a report of prior assault and unwanted communications involving a non-student. The items reported stolen were later recovered.
- Campus Safety responded to a suspicious incident at the Lund Center. Unauthorized non-students were escorted out of the building.

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New! Urgent Care Hours

Beginning **April 2** the Urgent Care Hours will be:

Monday - Friday Saturday & Sunday
 12 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

RIVER'S EDGE

HOSPITAL • ST. PETER



1900 North Sunrise Drive | St. Peter

'Twenty years after touchdown'
continued from page 3

"We didn't compromise what we stood for, and that was to provide a good experience for our students."

Thankfully, Gustavus students were on spring break during the storm; originally, spring break was supposed to take place a week later.

But, due to fate or luck, there were very few people on campus at the time of the storm.

There were no casualties despite the 50 students living on campus during the break.

Gustavus reopened three weeks after the tornado, with almost half of the classrooms unusable.

Johnson Hall, a small residential building, was completely

destroyed along with the Swedish House.

The St. Peter Catholic Church, the Arts and Heritage Center, the St. Peter Evangelical Church, and the St. Peter Community Center were all destroyed, and the Library and Hospital were both damaged.

Also, the recognizable spire of Christ Chapel fell and the cross was found on the other side of campus.

However, according to Wahlund, "When you walked in the chapel, the everlasting light was still going. That's when you knew it was safe."

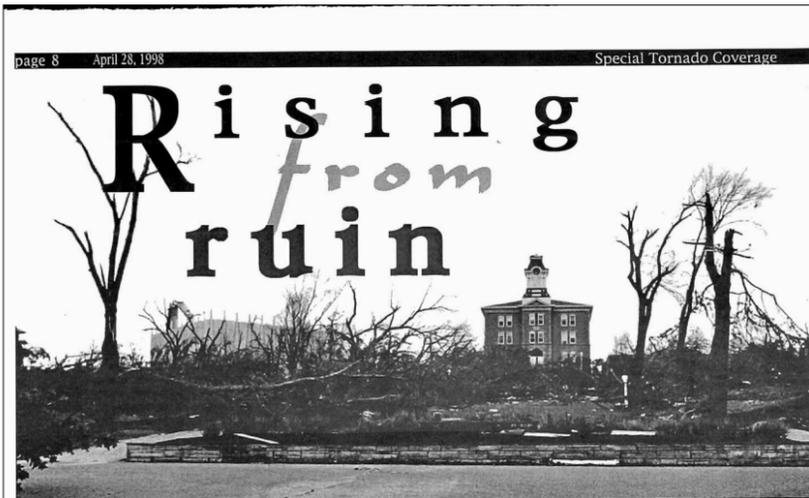
Volunteers, employees, and students all ended their days of hard work with a prayer in the Chapel, thankful for the efforts of the community.

Today, students and staff mourn the destruction and celebrate the building of a greater Gustavus.

"This deep connection we have for this institution, for this place, for the people, that's the enduring legacy of all of this," Kranking said.

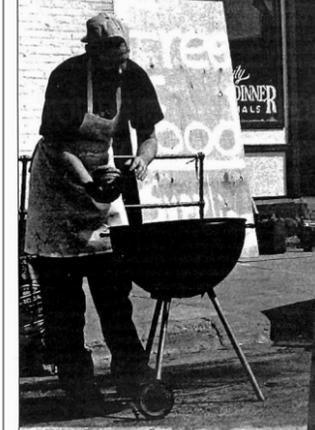
Kranking also mentioned how for years before the tornado, people at Gustavus felt there wasn't a sense of community and were working towards that as their end goal.

"[When] the tornado happened, it revealed that really there was this very strong sense of community all along... we might have lost trees, we might have lost buildings and homes, but [our] bond is even stronger," Kranking said.



Unseasonable tornado redefines community, brings Gusties together despite tearing apart the campus

THE GUSTAVUS COMMUNITY CHANGED considerably in two minutes and 11 seconds, bringing the campus into the national spotlight.



The Sunday, March 29 tornado touched down in St. Peter at approximately 5:30 p.m. The funnel stretched a record 1.2 miles wide with wind gusts of 200 mph. The tornado left in its wake 1700 damaged households initially, 156 of which were completely destroyed. As the cleanup continues, the amount of damage initially assessed continues to rise.

At Gustavus, every building was damaged, with over 80 percent of the campus windows broken. Six student houses were destroyed; Johnson and Rundstrom Halls sustained major damage. However students were able to move back into Rundstrom on Sunday, April 26.

Sentiments thankful that the majority of students were away from campus because of spring break echoed throughout the Gustavus community. The campus remained closed an extra two weeks until Sunday, April 19 to allow for the cleanup. The tornado disrupted the academic schedule with five academic buildings remaining temporarily closed, leaving 45 classrooms available. The class schedule had to be reorganized to allow for the limited number of classrooms.

The college administration's immediate priority was to have classes resume as soon as possible following the tornado.

"We want to give [the students] a quality education," said President Axel Steuer. "We want our seniors to graduate on time."

Cleanup of the campus began in the hours following the storm by contacting construction contractors, insurance agents and college employees.

At the same time, media crews were rolling into town to broadcast the devastation, notifying students, alumni and community friends of the tragedy. Dramatic photos of a broken Christ Chapel graced the pages of many of America's leading



In one of the many acts of community spirit found in St. Peter, Patrick's served free food for the tornado victims. The National Guard Armory and the Salvation Army also fed many residents.

Photographic exposition by Glenn Eric Kranking and Michael Strong

Original news story once tornado touched down at Gustavus Adolphus College.

Chinese Department at risk of being abolished

Students and faculty respond in a multitude of ways, including social media, in response to Chinese program possibly being cut

Monali Bhakta
News Editor

A core component of a Gustavus education is for students to be exposed to a wide variety of classes that cover many disciplines across the world.

Students have the chance to pick from a multitude of courses that fuel their interests in a learning environment where this knowledge is available.

This has been the philosophy of the modern languages, literatures, and cultures department which gives students the opportunity to choose and learn a language from different areas around the globe.

As of now, Gustavus offers the following languages: Spanish, Japanese, Russian, French, Russian, and Mandarin Chinese.

However, the Provost Office has issued that there will possibly be a cut to the Chinese program in the curriculum next year.

This is mainly due to a budget cut as there is a good chance

that the college will no longer allocate its money to fund for the Chinese program.

As news of this decision has spread all over campus several passionate students have decided to take a stance against it.

First-year Kyle Krippner, who is currently taking Mandarin II, expressed his concern through social media by publishing a passionate plea on the Overhead at Gustavus Facebook group.

In his post, Krippner explains how he has had the chance to learn and experience the exquisite Chinese culture and why it is important for Gustavus to preserve this tradition instead of abolishing it.

He also attaches a link to a petition where he encourages fellow Gusties to sign in order to show the amount of support being received by the student body and faculty.

The petition argues that Chinese is an essential language that is spoken by one fifth of the global population, so "it will be easier for students to communicate with the locals and cover a

fair bit of the whole world by learning the language"...for those who desire to improve their competitive edge in the job market, a Chinese course will give them an advantage."

In addition, the petition mentions how Chinese is able to push forth the college's agenda by adding to the diversity across campus, as it attracts students who want to learn more about Asian culture.

Besides Krippner, other students have also spoken out about their discontent with this decision. "Chinese is extremely important to me. Being an adopted Chinese-American, I have always struggled with figuring out who I am and how I fit into society. Learning the Chinese language and learning about culture is what has made me discover the role my ethnicity has in my life and how proud I am to be Chinese," said First-year, Kristie Olsen.

Considering that the Asian population is already as low as it is, many students want Chinese to be kept because it is the only East Asian language

being offered.

Getting rid of Chinese could also lead to the loss of GCC, short for the Global China Connection, because the Chinese Department is the only one that sponsors it.

While there are valid financial reasons for this decision, "there are better ways to go about changing the program instead of getting rid of the course all together...they could send teachers to international training sessions for teachers and professors. If you look at class records, there use to be more students when there was more levels," Olson continues.

Aside from students, faculty in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, have taken a more modest approach on addressing this issue.

The MLLC Department has already made it clear that it did not make this decision.

It had instead gotten word from the Provost Office which has reassured that the administration is planning to bring the language back eventually.

Nan Li, the Visiting Assistant Professor in Chinese, believes that it was the students who mainly attracted her to come teach at Gustavus.

"Teaching Chinese here, personally, is also a way I share my heritage with my students...I learn so much from them...the overall impression is that students know they need to put time and effort. I would say, generally speaking, they enjoy that...in my teaching evaluations, some of them say, 'yes, it's challenging,' but they also like the part to learn about the Chinese culture, and they know that this is a competitive language for them to learn."

With that incentive in their minds, students who do have a strong appreciation for the language, are trying their best to raise awareness by reaching out to the Diversity Leadership Council and Student Senate. As of now, the fate of the Chinese Department remains unclear.

CAB plans to have comedian, Andrew Sleighter, in Courtyard Cafe

Elsa Beise
Staff Writer

The Campus Activities Board is known for bringing entertaining performers, hypnotists, and comedians to campus.

It is planning to bring comedian, Andrew Sleighter, when students get back from Spring Break.

Sleighter has appeared on the prank show, *Money From Strangers*, on MTV, wrote comedy sketches for Comedy Central and premiered his late night stand up comedy routine on Conan.

Sleighter is a renowned comedian and The Campus Activities Board (CAB) is excited to host this campus event and hope that it will be a positive experience for Gustavus students.

"We saw him perform in a showcase [at a] regional Campus Activities conference last spring and were enthralled by his style, comedy, and delivery. He's hilarious," Co-President of CAB, Senior Connor Myhre said.

Coffeehouse Executive and Senior Anna Johnson, who is in charge of organizing and running CAB events that take place in the Courtyard Cafe, was given the opportunity to attend this conference and see Sleighter perform live.

She thought he would be a great fit for Gustavus students.

"We found Andrew Sleighter at this conference and really enjoyed his performance, so we

decided to bring him to campus," Johnson said.

Sleighter's performance jumped out at the CAB representatives at the conference and made himself seem like a perfect fit for the Gustavus campus and its students.

The idea of a comedian came about after certain members of CAB wanted to give Gustavus students the chance to relax and laugh a little.

"Gusties deserve the chance to take a break and enjoy a good laugh. They work super hard, and we know that laughing is one of the best ways to relieve stress," Myhre said.

Other members didn't worry about the act itself, they simply were intrigued by Sleighter's dynamic.

"It wasn't really a question of what his act was, we just thought he was good," Johnson said.

Students are encouraged to attend this event to see a big name comedian and to just simply enjoy themselves.

"[Students] will get to see a hilarious stand up comedian who has seen much larger stages than Gustavus, but is coming to share his talents with us. He is hilarious and will keep you laughing all night," Johnson said.

Not only will students be able to laugh, but it will offer a creative way to relieve stress and kick off their week.

"If Gusties are looking to decompress and cap off their

Monday, good stand up is the key. It's the perfect way to do it," Myhre said.

The campus will also be able to change it's always on-the-go energy with a fun and comedic dynamic for a period of time.

"It's always so much to spend time laughing, and [comedy performances] create a great energy for the campus," Senior and CAB Co-President, Megan Kallestad said.

Sleighter's show will be a unique CAB event in which the Gustavus campus can come together.

It will also be a different event for CAB, who has typically hired musical guests.

"CAB tries to appeal to a wide range of student interests across campus, and bringing in performers like this is one of the ways we do that," Johnson said.

This event is one of the many ranges of shows CAB puts together for Gustavus students.

"[CAB] want[s] to provide programming on all levels: big, small, educational, entertaining, you name it so this fits with our mission and diversifies the kinds of entertainment we bring," Myhre said.

This performance can also help to boost student morale right before a big exam time.

"Students should attend this event because it is a great way to de-stress a little right before midterms.

One hour out of an evening will help them take a break, relax, and be able to get back into a



Submitted

Andrew Sleighter will be performing live at Gustavus.

studying mindset after laughing with friends," Kallestad said.

Taking a small amount of time to attend this CAB event can help students to take some time for themselves in a period of the year that can be stressful.

If students are interested in being a part of CAB for the

next academic school year, applications are available at the information desk in the Jackson Campus Center.

On Monday, March 26 comedian Andrew Sleighter is performing a comedy show in the Courtyard Cafe from 7-9 P.M.

Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement planning to host "Tomorrow Made Possible Day"

Monali Bhakta
News Editor

One of the goals of a liberal arts education is to provide access to countless opportunities and resources to receive a valuable education.

As the price of higher education keeps skyrocketing each year, many families run into issue paying the full price, especially when there is limited financial aid to go around.

Not only does this affect the student's inability to pursue their interests, but schools also suffer when they are unable to obtain the funding for classes, faculty, organizations, events, etc.

This results in a domino effect because there could be a decrease in enrollment.

There is a common misconception that private colleges are more expensive, as the sticker price generally appears higher than public colleges.

However, this does not show that there are many generous donors who give their own

money, so students have a chance to succeed at a quality institution.

It turns out that many of the funds at Gustavus are paid for by these established individuals who have the desire to give back.

"These donors are making tomorrow possible for the next generation of Gusties and it's important that we recognize the impact that their gifts make in our day to day lives," Assistant Director of the Gustavus Fund in Advancement Benjamin Miller '03 said.

Donors always look forward to hearing Gusties' inspirational stories, along with what they are doing outside the classroom.

They see Gusties in a positive light as individuals who go on to achieve remarkable accomplishments later in life, making them believe it is in their best interest to contribute.

This year, the Alumni and Parent Engagement Office is preparing to host an event called "Tomorrow Made Possible Day" that will happen on Thursday, April 12th outside

Evelyn Dining Hall.

There will be a huge "Thank You" poster that students will be encouraged to sign as a way of expressing gratitude for the tremendous gifts donors bring.

As an extra incentive, there will be free cake so people can enjoy a sweet treat while learning about the importance of the event.

They will also have cute stickers, and drawing to win awesome prizes.

"We want to celebrate the fact that while a large portion of the academic year's operating costs are covered by the family/student investment, a portion of the costs are also covered by donors to the College," Miller said.

"This is an opportunity for us to thank those donors for giving back to this wonderful place."

The purpose is to show that the funds associated with running a college come from multiple sources instead of only one.

Many oblivious people do not realize that money comes from alumni, parents, and friends of the college.

A "42% of gifts given to the

Gustavus Fund are between \$25 and \$100... donating to the college at any level, helps ensure a Gustavus education for future students.

Current students have access to several opportunities and amazing faculty because of the generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure given by our donors," Assistant Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement, Marissa Henry '16 said.

Students should watch for promotional outreach through flyers, emails, and Facebook updates leading up to the big event.

The office is also making an infographic that will include startling statistics related to donors and financial aid, among other expenses.

"In 2017, it cost roughly \$221,954.55 a day to run the college, which breaks down to \$154.14 a minute, or \$2.57 a second," Henry said.

These numbers show people just how much money makes Gustavus function, providing an adequate breakdown of where that money comes from.

Students feel so overburdened when the cost of tuition is lingering at the top of their mind that they are unable to realize that there are so many others who help pay for their education.

Angela Erickson '01, Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement, states that "while students are the reason we're all here and we keep their needs front and center, much of what Gustavus is all about truly would not be possible without the support of our donors.

It's so amazing the stories they share; we're grateful that they reflect on the way Gustavus has impacted their lives and make a choice to contribute to making that a reality for others.

I hope the event also teaches students that "donors" aren't just a few really wealthy individuals cutting \$40 million checks.

The majority of the gifts we receive to Gustavus every year are LESS than \$100, and together we all make a great impact on the student experience."

GUSTIE of the WEEK

Liza Johnson

Anna Duong-Topp
Staff Writer

While it might take some students years beyond graduation to understand what it means to be a Gustie, first-year Liza Johnson has already mastered the craft in her first year.

Hailing from Roseville, Minnesota, this ball of sunshine knows no bounds in the sheer reach of her influence on this campus.

In true Gustie form, Liza has transformed her passions into a vehicle for meaningful impact on the Gustavus platform for the sake of her dreams and the service of those around her.

Liza is majoring in political science and minoring in peace, justice, conflict studies, but not for the reasons you might expect.

"I think it would be cool to work in an embassy or a consulate helping people with immigration services or getting new visas or green cards," Liza said.

"I think it's a really neat way to help people at a point where they really need help."

In this case especially, Liza has taken some of the more difficult parts of her life and used them as motivation for helping others, referencing her back-

ground as an internationally adopted child.

"As a person who was born in another country, [it's] definitely something that draws me to that aspect of life... Of where people want to live, where people feel they need to belong," Liza said.

"Liza has been a great addition to the Gustavus community. She is thoughtful, kind-hearted, and embodies the Gustie spirit."

—Katie Peroutka

Liza's political science professor, Dr. Mimi Gerstbauer, can see Liza's motivation in the classroom.

"Liza is an eager student and has jumped right in as a first year," Gerstbauer said.

"In and out of the classroom I have observed her openness, sense of humor, and leadership skills... [She] also has interest in Sweden, Ireland, diplomacy, politics and more. I can't wait to see how these passions continue to develop and change during her time at Gustavus."

Like many Gusties, Liza's decision to enroll at Gustavus

was multifaceted, a journey that began with the recognition of the importance of a liberal arts education.

"It's good to be well-rounded, and I definitely like that aspect of [Gustavus]... Without realizing it, so many different subjects can affect you," Liza said.

But what drew her to Gustavus went much deeper than its liberal arts curriculum. "I applied originally to be a music ed major. Gustavus has an insane music program—and fine arts program in general," Liza said.

She credits her switch in majors to her love of music. "There's too much worry in me that [music] would become unenjoyable once I make it a job," Liza said.

Thankfully, the strength of Gustavus' liberal arts curriculum provides for an array of programs, one that includes both music and political science.

Additionally, Liza's Swedish background played a motivational role in her interest for Gustavus.

"I'm very close to my Swedish heritage, and this is a Swedish college. I just love that there are little hints of Sweden everywhere... It makes me feel like I'm at home," Liza said.

Liza also notes the unique kindness that permeates the



Abby Anderson

Liza Johnson is a first-year political science major and PCS minor.

Gustavus campus—an inclusiveness that goes beyond the Minnesota Nice we may be familiar with to a sort of Gustavus Nice.

"The community here is fun because you can be in different kinds of groups but still be friends with everyone," Liza said.

Among Liza's many extracurricular involvements, her participation in the Gustavus music community is one of the most prominent.

Liza is in the Gustavus Choir with Dr. Aune, continues practicing as a piano accompanist, and is involved in hand bells with Dr. Winterfeldt, all within these first seven months of her college career. Winterfeldt, the Cantor of Christ Chapel and Adjunct Professor of organ, handbells, and keyboard, is one among many to notice Liza's influence.

"Liza is a very positive, energetic, outgoing, and—this is not the Minnesotan use of the word, but—interesting person," Winterfeldt said.

"She's got a lot of fascinating influences in her life. And she's a storyteller; she just has all of these fascinating stories of influences of her grandmother... She comes from a lot of places. And [she's] so active and willing to be involved," Winterfeldt said.

Within her Gustavus career so far, Liza feels her music experiences have created the most impactful memories for her. "Going on G-choir tour and bonding with the [choir] and Dr. A, feeling like we were really spreading the joy of music that Gustavus holds [was] a really ethereal experience for me," Liza said.

"And walking into that first day of [Christmas in Christ Chapel] ... Realizing I was

there, standing between two ridiculously tall guys—I just remember beaming. [Knowing] we were all there to [share] the gift that is music, [that's] a big memory for me."

In addition to the slew of impressive involvements Liza has cultivated in the music department, she is also in the Gustavus division of Colleges Against Cancer. "We're starting [fundraising] and getting the word out for Relay for Life," Liza said.

She notes that there's an unfortunately low amount of involvement in Colleges Against Cancer right now at Gustavus. "Our numbers are pretty bad right now. I'm really hoping that [next] year we can really amp it up more," Liza said.

Evidently, Liza's commitment to cultivating positivity and change on this campus is a force that impacts herself, the greater Gustavus community, and the individuals influence by her reach.

"Liza has been a great addition to the Gustavus community. She is thoughtful, kind-hearted, and embodies the Gustie spirit," Senior Katie Peroutka said.

Liza Johnson has internalized the virtue of Gustavus involvement in astounding fashion, contributing to a larger mission of campus unity with flying colors.

Her passions manifest in outright acts of generosity and kindness, to the appreciation and admiration of her professors and peers alike.

She has already influenced a massive amount of good on this campus in a matter of months. If one thing is for certain, it's that her coming years at Gustavus will harbor greater change for the better.



Abby Anderson

Heavily involved in music on campus, Liza is in G Choir, a piano accompanist, and in handbells.

Orchestra Concert features Competition Winner

Elsa Beise
Staff Writer

This spring concert will showcase many talents and skills of Gustavus musicians and faculty and staff members.

It is a chance for the musicians to present what they have been working on throughout this academic school year.

The concert will also feature a high school student who has won a competition intended to help introduce young musicians to the collegiate music scene.

Conducting the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Justin Knoepfel has high praise for this concert.

"[The concert is] featuring the winner of the second annual Concerto/Aria Competition for High Schoolers," Knoepfel said.

The winner is student Kirill Nazarov. "[He is] a sophomore pianist from Shattuck-Saint Mary's in Owatonna [Minnesota]. He is fantastic."

This concert offers a wide range of composers and pieces, offering a selection for a variety of audience members and a riveting entrance for the new season.

"This concert is a wonderful blend of Finnish, French and Swedish composing giants. Not too often do you get to hear Cesar Franck's Symphony in



The Symphony Orchestra concert features high school pianist Kirill Nazarov on Grieg's Concerto. Submitted

D minor and Finlandia by Jean Sibelius in the same program.

"It'll be a wonderful way to kick off the arrival of spring," Knoepfel said.

Student musicians are excited to showcase their talents and returning members of the orchestra are eager to return to the hall they know and love.

"As a Senior, I have performed numerous times in Bjorling Recital Hall. The pieces [we are] playing are fun and enjoyable to listen to," Morgan Evenson, percussionist, said.

Evenson is looking forward to the incredible pieces played by Nazarov, the high school

pianist.

"This concert is unique in that it features an outstanding high school pianist...[he is playing] Grieg's Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in A minor.

"Being able to execute this piece is quite impressive coming from a high school sophomore," Evenson said.

Senior violin player Olivia Niles promises, "the audience will get a chance to hear the crowd pleasers. We will also do one lesser known piece that has some really interesting moments and ridiculously catchy themes, it's *Symphony in D minor* by Franck".

Participants in the show are just as intent on listening to the pieces they are not playing in just as much as they are eager to perform.

"Besides playing, my favorite part of the concert is listening. I love being able to close my eyes, just listen, and feel the music," Evenson said.

It's a rewarding feeling for the participants in the performance to be able to hear the final product of everything they have been working on.

Knoepfel is especially excited for his brass players, who often don't get to have the limelight in a lot of pieces, in these

specific selections.

"This program is a brass player's dream, especially on the Sibelius. The rest of the orchestra has plenty to do as well," Knoepfel said.

Niles echoed this sentiment about the brass players getting a chance to show off their talent.

"The beginning of Sibelius has a massive brass and timpani part. It's so fun to hear them show off a little and it never happens enough," Niles said.

Knoepfel is looking forward to the performance so that he can share his pride for the Gustavus students who have put in tireless efforts rehearsing and perfecting these pieces.

"[My favorite part is] the opportunity to work with these fine students. They work hard and have fun. We're delighted to share this program with the Gustavus community," Knoepfel said.

The students are equally as excited to showcase their peers' hardwork and skills after rehearsing and working with each other throughout the academic year.

"The symphony Orchestra has a lot of talented musicians and this is a wonderful moment to share with the school some really fun pieces," Niles said.

At 1:30p.m. on Sunday March 25, the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra will perform their Spring concert in the Bjorling Recital Hall.

Vespers with the Gustavus Choir

Casey Miller
Staff Writer

Here at Gustavus, we have many different services to help students grow in their faith and experience different faiths or types of worship they may not have seen before.

We have modern worship services, bible studies, daily chapel, and Sunday services.

Another function we have here, less frequently, is Vespers and we are lucky to have several different services put on throughout the year.

Also commonly known as Evensong, Vespers is an evening prayer service, found in many different Christian traditions including: Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Eastern Catholic, Anglican, and Lutheran.

"Students can come to worship and experience a different kind of stupe of worship..."

—Dr. Greg Aune

It traditionally takes place as dusk begins to fall and is used to give thanks for the day as well as serving as an evening sacrifice to God.

We have already had two



The Gustavus Choir will sing along with the Vespers service Sunday night in Christ Chapel. Submitted

Vespers services on campus, one in the fall and one in the spring. These have been hosted by students and featured the Vespers band.

Along with worship music they also conducted different prayer, scripture, and service stations throughout Christ Chapel.

On March 25 will have our next Vespers service, although it will be different from the ones held earlier in the year.

It will again be hosted in Christ Chapel, however, this service will be put on by the Chaplain's office and will include music from the Gustavus Choir.

Dr. Chad Winterfeldt, the cantor of Christ Chapel, explained that this service is in the Anglican tradition, meaning, "it is a service of evening prayer with music from English composers and using the prayerbook of the Anglican church."

Winterfeldt said this type of service is incredibly popular in England and the music performed in it is also performed in many famous collegiate chapel choirs, including Oxford and Cambridge.

Besides providing music from composers such as Stanford, William Byrd, and Herbert Howells, the ceremony will also include Bible readings and for-

mal prayers.

It will also include a sermon by Rev. Dr. Thomas Harries from the local Episcopal church.

Another way this service is different from the other services on campus is that it is a choral service and places a high emphasis on music.

The music will be provided by the Gustavus Choir. The Gustavus Choir is the touring choir and is known for its quality performances and unique interpretations of chorale literature.

They will perform seven separate chorale works that are appropriate for the liturgy of the Anglican tradition.

Dr. Gregory Aune, conduc-

tor of the Gustavus Choir, explained that the liturgy used in the Anglican Vespers is not used here at Gustavus, so it will provide a unique experience for anyone who decides to attend.

Winterfeldt will also be accompanying on the organ as well as performing a few solo organ pieces. It is an excellent opportunity to see a service that would typically be held at English Universities and often broadcasted by BBC.

Winterfeldt encourages students to come and experience the choir and organ pieces and hear how musicians use the two in a dramatic and exciting way.

"English composers of the nineteenth century wrote many settings of the 'Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis' which is a central part of the Vespers service and used the voices and organ in an almost cinematic way," Winterfeldt said.

Aune also encourages students to participate, saying "students can come to worship and experience a different kind or style of worship service than they might know, say if they are Lutheran, Methodist, Roman Catholic, etc."

He also said that anyone who attends will have the opportunity to listen to pieces that "reflect the heritage and specific composers of the English Anglican tradition."

Tales from Abroad

Courtney Erickson
Guest Writer

Our journey started with a 14 hour flight from Chicago to Beijing. We landed at night and since Beijing is home to almost 22 million people, it was still lively as ever.

Peking duck is the most famous food throughout all of Beijing, so it was only fitting that it was the first meal that we had once we arrived.

The next day we all woke up as refreshed as we could be, considering the 13 hour time difference from home, and were ready for our full first day exploring China.

We kicked off our trip by visiting Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City which was the former Chinese palace, a Hutong village where we enjoyed authentic Chinese and went on Rickshaw rides.

We ended our day by visiting the Temple of Heaven where the emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties worshipped for the entire nation for good harvests and blessings for their people.

The following day we drove an hour to hike the Great Wall of China. Knowing the mortar was constructed out of sticky rice, egg whites, and lime, made it that much more surreal to be there. It stretched for what seemed like miles and the view was incredible.

We spent our last day in Beijing touring the Water Cube, Birds Nest, the Summer Palace, and Imperial gardens.

This was our first encounter with an Olympic site and lived up to our expectations.

Following this tour we made our way to the train station to board our sleeper train to Xi'an, which was quite the experience.

We were welcomed to Xi'an by beautiful, thick snowflakes that made us feel at home. We were later led to the city wall for a long walk on top of it.

We ended up having a snowball fight with some local children and our walk turned more into some friendly competition rather than exercise.

As a group we made the spontaneous decision to get Chinese "foot massages" but it was really a full body massage that is used to relieve tension.

We finished our day at a dinner theater with a 12 course meal of only dumplings, followed by a traditional Chinese dance show. The next day we visited the Terracotta warriors, and to our surprise, saw the French President and his wife.

These warriors were life sized figures meant to protect emperor Qin in his afterlife.

Our next stop was inside Pagoda park where we had a TaiChi class from a local master and after that we explored the Pagoda's history, a mosque, and the Muslim Street Market.

On our last full day in China we got the opportunity to visit a preschool/ kindergarten and play with the kids.

There were around 300 young kids and it fun to interact with them. This was a first hand experience showing how universal a smile is.

Next, we landed in Seoul and were welcomed by the fastest internet in the world.

In Seoul we first toured the 1988 Summer Olympics



Students were able to check off items on their bucket list, including walking part of the Great Wall of China. Submitted

Stadium and met with the site manager who told us the history of the games, political implications, and notable competitors.

We were then able to go out onto the track and take pictures, which was very memorable.

From the stadium, we took the bus over to the Olympic park and the Seoul Olympic Museum, where we learned about the '88 games and saw artifacts from different years.

The next morning we left Seoul for Pyeongchang and Gangneung, both of which held Olympic venues for the recent Winter Games.

One of our last stops of the day was at a Buddhist temple in the hills. The area was home to many monks, including some people who are not full time monks and they come to this shrine and pay a small fee to dress and behave like monks for as long as they keep paying.

We started our next day by heading to an Olympic Exhibition Hall in Gangneung; inside was a card from the IOC that revealed PyeongChang as the site of the 2018 Winter Olym-

pics, replica of the torch, and examples of the medals.

We then drove to see the Olympic ice sports stadiums and walked around the outside of the Hockey Centre, Ice Arena, and the Gangneung Oval.

Our last excursion took us to Anmok Beach where one side of the street was coffee shops and the ocean on the other.

The last full day in South Korea was spent in Seoul, some had the opportunity to witness the torch relay first hand and they said the atmosphere was unlike anything they had ever experienced before.

The next day we made our way to the airport to catch our flight to Tokyo and after waiting almost two hours and stressing about missing our flight, it ended up getting delayed another hour which gave us a chance to witness the Vikings Minneapolis Miracle all the way from South Korea.

We visited the Tokyo Dome and then rode the subway and ventured to watch the Sumo Grand Tournament which was quite the experience.

The next day we took a six-hour bus ride to Nagano, Japan, home of the 1998 Winter Olympics.

While we were here some took the opportunity to ski or snowboard in Hakuba, others ventured up the ski jump used during the Olympics, used an Onsen, and then shopped and spent time in the little ski town.

As we made our way back towards Tokyo we stopped at the Snow Monkey Park. The park has been open since 1964 and gives visitors a rare opportunity to see wild monkeys in their natural habitat.

Our final day in Japan was spent doing a variety of different things. Some continued to explore the city while others took the opportunity to visit Tokyo Disneyland which was the first international Disney.

To end our trip there was a freak snow storm so our flight was delayed until the next day.

We ended up staying in the Tokyo Airport with about 1,000 other people overnight before we were finally able to board our flight back to the USA.



The J-term course, "Olympic Quest", took students and professors to Korea, Japan and China, on an adventure to discover past Olympic sites. Submitted

Look back twenty years at the St. Peter tornado



Old Main

submitted



Christ Chapel

Glenn Kranking



Gus Young Court

Glenn Kranking



College View

Glenn Kranking



Swedish House

Glenn Kranking



Swedish House

Glenn Kranking



Swanson Tennis Center

Glenn Kranking



Borgeson Cabin

Glenn Kranking



Johnson Hall

Glenn Kranking