

International Festival celebrates culture, diversity



Members of the International Cultures Club

Parker Tewes

News

Building Bridges... Page 4

WEEKLYScan

A preview of this week's top news and more

Entertainment

Singin' In the Rain... Page 13

Variety

Dance Team... Page 5

Features

Women's History.. Pages 8-9

Opinion

Academic Grifting... Page 12

Sports

Women's basketball... Page 16

The Gustavian Weekly Staff

Grace Kearney Editor-in-Chief
 Grace Kearney News Editor
 Taite Stevens Aldrich Variety Editor
 Kyra Stepan Opinion Editor
 Will Sorg Entertainment Editor
 Brady Boie Sports & Fitness Editor
 David Eide Web & Media Manager
 Britta Blanding Photography Editor
 Lukas Lennartson Features & Graphics Editor

Brady Chisholm Lead Copy Editor
 Ingrid Duncan Copy Editor
 Willa Brown Copy Editor
 Ellison Heyerdahl Copy Editor
 Grace Kearney Business & Advertising Manager
 Sun Hee Lee Adviser

Published weekly on Fridays, except during academic breaks, by the students of Gustavus Adolphus College. Subscriptions are available from THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY for \$50 per year.

Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the institution or of its student body. The editors assume full responsibility for editorial and unsigned material.

Letters to the Editor can be sent to lettertotheeditor@gustavus.edu.

If interested in publishing an ad, please contact our advertisement manager, at admanager@gustavus.edu.



50¢ First copy free

EMAIL weekly@gustavus.edu

WEBSITE weekly.blog.gustavus.edu

Events Calendar

Gustavus Jazz Jamboree Concert

March 3 8:00-9:30 a.m.
 Björling Recital Hall

Building Bridges

March 4 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
 Alumni Hall

Blood Drive

March 6 12:30-6:30 p.m.
 March 7 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
 Alumni Hall

Inversity Module 5

March 8 1:30-2:30 p.m.
 President's Dining Room

#booktalk Trivia

March 9 7:00-9:00 p.m.
 Courtyard Cafe

Chili Cook-Off and Dessert Pie-Off

March 10 5:00-7:00
 Interpretive Center

Daily Sabbath Calendar

Academic Convocation:
 Tuesdays (Christ Chapel)
 10 - 10:20

Morning Praise:
 Wednesdays (Christ Chapel)
 10 - 10:20

Holy Communion:
 Thursdays (Christ Chapel)
 10 - 10:20

Musical Showcase:
 Fridays (Christ Chapel)
 10 - 10:20

Sunday Worship Community:
 Sundays (Christ Chapel)

FIRETHORNE SUBMISSIONS

are now open!



SUBMIT BY MARCH 17TH, 2023

Campus Safety Report

Friday, February 17, 2023

- On Friday, February 17, 2023, Campus Safety responded to a report of lost property at the Swanson Tennis Complex

Sunday, February 19, 2023

- On Sunday, February 19, 2023, Campus Safety found Gustavus property damage in Uhler Hall.

Monday, February 20, 2023

- On Monday, February 20, 2023, Campus Safety was notified of 2 lost iPads on campus. Campus Safety was able to recover the iPads.

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

- On Tuesday, February 21, Campus Safety responded to a report of underage alcohol consumption in Norelius Hall.

When driving in snowy and icy conditions:

- Make sure to increase your following distance from the car in front of you so you have more time to stop.
- Turn slowly and wide
- Don't hit the brakes when you feel your car sliding on ice, but keep control of the wheel.
- Don't use cruise control when driving on slippery surfaces, such as ice and snow

Contact the Campus Safety office 24 hours a day at 507-933-8888.

Diversity Means Inclusion: International Week

Katie Samek
Staff Writer

International Culture Club would like to formally invite the student body to attend its annual International Festival on Friday, March 10 in Alumni Hall from 7-9 p.m.. A follow-up dance will be held downstairs in the Dive after the Festival from 9:30-11 p.m.

This event will feature both student-made and catered food inspired by Asian and Indian cultures, a multicultural fashion show, student performances, a surprise off-campus professional performance, and several games and challenges with opportunities to win prizes. Returning again for this year's festival will be the Spicy Ramen Challenge, in which students can sign up to compete to finish a bowl of spicy ramen and then blow up a balloon. The first contestant to finish their ramen and suc-

cessfully inflate their balloon wins.

This event is one of several that will be taking place during International Week, which runs from March 6-10. There are plans for an inter-organization event on March 7, as well as a movie night to be held in the Dive on March 8. Details for both of these events are forthcoming and will be formally announced at a later date. The week sums up with the Festival on March 10.

International Culture Club has been hosting the International Festival for several years now, with existing campus records dating back to 2001; likely even further back than that. The last event of this kind that was pre-COVID was hosted in 2019 with great success before being shut down for two years due to the pandemic. 2021 saw

the return of the event with a mini-festival, while the first full International Festival post-pandemic was hosted last year in 2022.

"The hope behind hosting the mini-festival in 2021 was to reignite interest in International Cultures Club," co-president of International Cultures Club and Junior Christina Sirbu said. "What we didn't anticipate was just how much interest it would generate. Over 300 students attended the International Festival in 2022 - so many that we ran out of our catered food long before the event was over. We have a better gauge on student attendance now, so hopefully, that doesn't happen again this year."

International Cultures Club has collaborated with several other student organizations to

help make this event possible, in particular the fashion walk. Pan-African Student Organization (PASO) and Organization for Latinx American Students (OLAS) have both assisted in running this aspect of the event in years past, and several students from various other cultural organizations on campus have served both as performers and as assistants for the event as well. However, International Cultures Club treasurer and Junior Celeste Thalhammer encourages students of all cultural backgrounds to attend the event.

"It gives everyone an opportunity to share their own culture and heritage."

"I joined ICC because I at-

tended one of their events in the past, and loved it so much that I wanted to help continue the tradition," Thalhammer said. "Even if the majority of students that attend these events are students of color, this truly is an international event. It gives everyone an opportunity to share their own culture and heritage with the rest of the student body, just like it gave me the chance to show how I was international in my own way."

International Cultures Club co-president and Senior Ana Martinez believes that the International Festival is an opportunity for all students to share their heritage, regardless of where they're from.

"The International Festival is a way for students from all backgrounds to feel proud of where they come from, not just international students. It's a good chance to get to know other students and make connections not just with other cultures, but your own as well," Martinez said.

"Everyone has a place at the International Festival"

Sirbu acknowledges that many students, especially white students, may feel out of place, or that they somehow 'don't belong' at an event like this. However, she believes that everyone has a place at the International Festival, and invites everyone to attend to celebrate Gustavus' diverse student community.

"The International Festival is a space which welcomes all. Diversity means inclusion, and events like this allow us to show off just how diverse our student body really is. It's a time to leave your worries at the door and have fun - we're all united and unique in our own ways, and events like this are a perfect way to share our own experiences with the world," Sirbu said.



Gustavus students perform a dance at the 2010 International Festival

Submitted

Building Bridges: Unseen Passages

Elliot Steeves
Staff Writer

On March 4, 2023, Building Bridges will hold its 28th annual conference. This year's topic is *Unseen Passages: Refugees and the Collective Fight for Vitality*.

True to its name, the conference focuses on refugees and asylum seekers. On the Gustavus Adolphus website, Building Bridges co-chairs Senior Ashley Ley and Junior Tessa Yaeger wrote that "there is not enough recognition nor education surrounding the hardships that refugees face." They further emphasized the "importance of advocacy," for refugees and asylum seekers who are in need of policy action to better their conditions.

Two different keynote sessions are planned. One is by Alicia Vazquez-Crede, the Associate Director for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services in Texas, who will talk about her experience working at the border in the state. Another is by Saymoukda Duangphouxay Vongsay, a former Laos refugee who has done work writing both children's books and a play focusing on Southeast Asian voices.

In addition to the conference, the Complement, Advocacy, Impact, and Reflection session will be held on March 6. Per the event poster, this session is, "a workshop...that spotlights and amplifies the impact of innovative activism to address pressing issues in society."

The inaugural edition of the session will feature two different lectures from members of the Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota-Refugee Services. One is by Senior Director of Refugee Services Karen Blythe, and the second is by Volunteer Program Coordinator Lynn Mullin. Following this, there is a Coffee and Tea session in conjunction with the Chaplain's Office.

Crucial to the event is an opportunity to discuss community-building around ways to advocate for refugees, as well as discussing solutions around the global refugee crisis. The names among this discussion are as follows, per Professor Lai Sze Tso: Gustavus Career Development, Alpha Kappa Delta (the international sociology honor society), Gustavus Nursing, the Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies, the Department of Peace, Justice, and

Conflict Studies, the Department of Scandinavian Studies, LALACS, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Chaplains, the Vice President's Office of Equity and Inclusion, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, the Sociologists of Minnesota, and Gustavus First Forward.

Tso, the developer and organizer of the inaugural CAIR session, shows a high level of commitment and enthusiasm for the launch of the program.

"When I worked in Oslo, I could see that the tide was turning for normally supportive countries [who were] turning their backs. They were forcing [out] people who thought they had a resettlement, and were being told they needed to leave," Tso emphasized regarding her own experience witnessing the global refugee crisis.

Tso also has an extremely high amount of optimism regarding what students would get out of the CAIR session.

"It's not just networking," she stated. "If people are excited about this topic, they can have real synergies about steps forward...Who do we want to be as a campus? What can we contribute?

How do we deal with the hardships that already happened?"

Tso further discussed the Participatory Action Planning Booklet she and the other groups involved with the session put together towards this goal. The booklet gives readers a chance to see various refugee populations, as well as steps for advocacy.

"People who feel in their interest or capacity that they have a contribution to share can share a resource," said Tso of the booklet, and also added that, "students have been able to find work and internship opportunities through the booklet."

The booklet can be found in a Gustavus-L email on the link for Building Bridges if students are interested.

Building Bridges held promotional events for the conference earlier this week, including a board game event and a bracelet-making event.

The board game event was a chance to see the group in a more relaxed environment, free of the hefty work that goes into planning the conference. Games that were played included Spoons and Codenames. Similar was the bracelet-making event, where Building Bridges

assembled different colored threads to make bracelets.

At the Courtyard Cafe event, Sophomore Alex Dylan had high praise for the efforts to promote both Building Bridges as a group, as well as the conference.

"I do enjoy putting on events. I think it shows that building bridges doesn't only do educational activities," Dylan said, commenting on the normal perception of the group.

Yaeger commented on how rewarding the conference was to put on: "That's one of the things that keeps Ashley and I going. It's a lot of really hard work. The fact that we get to go to the conference, see the speakers, [it] keeps us going, especially since we are super busy," Yaeger quoted on the reward of getting to work with renowned speakers on the Refugee Crisis.

Yaeger also talked about how important the theme concerning refugees was, especially in light of current events around the globe.

"With the ongoing crisis in Ukraine...it was a really good time. The refugee crisis isn't always something that gets talked about," Yaeger said on the aptly-timed nature of this

year's topic. Yaeger also noted how it meshed with other issues such as, "racism within refugees," and geopolitical examples like, "why Poland isn't accepting refugees of color."

Ley, the fellow co-director along with Yaeger, discussed attending the immigration conference in 2019 as a senior in high school, and how it played into this year's topic.

"We wanted to approach the experience that refugees and asylum seekers have," said Ley on how the group narrowed the focus of the conference down. "We wanted to give people an idea of what it means to be a refugee; how hard it is to never go back home."

Building Bridges is described on the college website as a "student organization at Gustavus Adolphus College that focuses on educating and informing community members on issues relating to social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion." It was founded by students in 1985, and the first edition of the conference was in 2013, concerning Mass Incarceration.



Students play Spoons at the BB games night

Katie Doolittle

Gustavus Dance Team take on nationals, yet again

Katie Doolittle
Staff Writer

On Feb. 25 and 26, the Gustavus competitive dance team made their mark at the USA Dance Nationals in Anaheim, California. The team placed fourth amongst their fellow competitors.

The team performed a jazz dance to "Separate Ways" by Journey twice on the big stage; once on the 25th for the preliminary round and the second time on the 26th for the final round. While the team was able to earn a commendable score, the group was more proud of their memories and progress they made along the way.

Following their routine, the team's energy consisted of a joyous release. "Nothing can beat the feeling of walking off the floor knowing that you and your team just gave it your all. We were able to watch our performance and none of us could stop smiling," said Senior Ellie Wigham.

"Nothing can beat the feeling of walking off the floor knowing that you and your team just gave it your all."

The overwhelming variety of emotions wasn't just experienced by Wigham, but by the whole team. "It feels incredible to showcase all of the hard work we put into our practices and into perfecting our routine. As soon as we walked off the floor following our finals performance, we all were screaming, crying, and hugging each other out of pure joy and pride," said Wigham.

"It feels incredible to showcase all of the hard work we put into our practices and into perfecting our routine."

Captain and Senior Sydney Timm believed the music choice was an ideal way to close this chapter on her life with her beloved teammates. "For me, the dance really meant that while the team may be go-



The Gustavus Dance Team poses with their trophy from nationals.

Submitted.

ing 'separate ways' as seniors graduate, we will always be a team and love each other and dancing together no matter how far apart we are," said Timm.

The love song embodies the feeling of saying goodbye to the ones you love the most. "One quote from the song that sums up its meaning to me is 'You know I still love you, though we touched and went our separate ways.' While this was our last time performing with this exact team, we know that the love we have for one another will continue," said Wigham.

Timm and Wigham are especially sentimental for this sport that offered some of the most meaningful experiences. "Most of my fondest memories come from the time spent with my teammates. All of the laughs shared, games played, food eaten, and bonds strengthened. We truly became like a family this year, loving and enjoying each and every moment spent with one another," said Wigham.

Dancing at Gustavus has

been deeply meaningful for these two seniors. "I joined the Gustavus dance team because I love to dance and I knew that I didn't want to stop dancing after high school. Being a part of the Gustavus dance team has been one of the greatest experiences of my life," said Wigham.

As the captain, Timm feels especially proud of her time in the Gustavus dance team. "I am so proud to have led such a dedicated and loyal team the past two years, and I can not wait to see the amazing things they accomplish both as a team and as individuals. No team has ever made me feel so welcome, so seen, and so safe, and the lessons I have learned from them are ones that I will hold close to my heart for the rest of my life," said Timm.

The competitive aspect of dancing is just one of the many reasons why these Gusties are drawn to this sport. "I love dancing because it is an opportunity for me to express myself and challenge myself by combining

athleticism, technique, musicality, and resilience. My favorite part of the dance team is the empowering and inclusive community we have created where dancers of all backgrounds can come together and relate over our love of dance," said Timm.

"My favorite part of the dance team is the empowering and inclusive community we have created..."

The communal dynamic that dance creates is something that has been part of these Gusties lives from a young age. "I've been dancing since I was three, so it is something that I have always turned to as an outlet. One of the biggest things about dance that brings me joy is the community. Dance requires each person to be exactly in sync with one another which requires you to spend a lot of time practicing with your

teammates," said Wigham.

Due to their time and dedication, these competitive dancers would encourage people to recognize this activity as a sport. "I want more people to see that the two minutes we have at the end of the season is just as important as every single game that other sports have. That dance is art AND a sport," said Sophomore Emma Stock.

"Dance is hard and takes immense strength and endurance as well as flexibility and technique. We have to throw our bodies around and execute difficult skills in sync with one another while having a smile on our face and making it look easy," agreed Wigham.

Timm adds that the Gustie Dancers are the epitome of Gustavus athletics. "The dancers on the team are some of the most highly involved people I have ever met, as they juggle their classes, extracurriculars, employment, and social lives. They are the epitome of what makes a Gustie athlete so amazing!"

GUSTIE of the WEEK

Anthony Hernandez

Emma Kelsey
Staff Writer

This week's Gustie of the Week is Senior Anthony Hernandez, a Spanish and psychology double major. He is involved in the Gustavus Wind Symphony, where he plays the saxophone, as well as OLAS (organization for Latinx American students), and he works at the Lund Center. His favorite space on campus? The information desk.

Senior Jay Baldus met Hernandez while they were training for their on-campus jobs in the Lund Center. They soon became friends, discovering that they shared interests and had similar personalities. "Everyone loves Anthony...he is just such a nice and great friend," Baldus said.

"Everyone loves Anthony...he is just such a nice and great friend,"

Baldus shares that it is Hernandez's positive attitude that stands out the most to him. "Every time I or someone else is talking to him, I always see a big smile on his or the other person's face. Anthony lights up every room he walks into, which is something that I greatly admire about him," Baldus said.

Faculty member Maria Kalbermatten, Associate Professor in Spanish, LALACS, and Modern Languages, Literature, and Cultures, has known Hernandez for two years now as a student in her Spanish 102 and

Spanish 250 courses, and as his advisor for his Spanish major. Kalbermatten speaks highly of Hernandez as a student and a Gustie. She describes him as warm, friendly, personable, mature, responsible, reliable, and someone who connects well with his classmates.

Kalbermatten shares that Hernandez has shown extraordinary devotion and efforts to connect with his Hispanic roots. "When Anthony took my Spanish 102 class, he expressed his desire to become fluent in Spanish to be able to communicate with his relatives in México. At that time, I was so impressed by his strong determination to do a major in Spanish when he was just taking a low level class in

the language."

"I was so impressed by his strong determination to do a major in Spanish when he was just taking a low level class in the language."

To major in Spanish, Hernandez had to take Spanish classes during the summer in order to fit in all the required courses into his four year schedule. Hernandez is now taking an advanced level Spanish class with Kalbermatten. "I'm impressed

how much his proficiency level in the language has grown. His classmates are impressed as well, and he has inspired many of them to also be more interested in their own family backgrounds," Kalbermatten said.

For his senior year, Hernandez is excited to put on an amazing Latinx Night, an OLAS event, and plans to continue his education after graduating from Gustavus by going on to get a master's degree.

Do you have a suggestion for a Gustavus student, professor, or staff member who could be our next Gustie of the Week?

If so, send their name, position on campus, and a short description of why you think they should be recognized to

cparamor@gustavus.edu
for a chance to be featured!

A representative from the Gustavian Weekly will be in contact with you via email if your suggestion is chosen to be featured in an issue of the paper.



Gustie of the Week Anthony Hernandez

Soren Sackreiter

Art students submit work to the 410 Project

Michaela Woodward
Staff Writer

Gustavus students, Junior Monse Barrios and Seniors Hannah Jones, Sage Kiefer and Oleander Meierhoff, are having their art displayed at the 410 Gallery in Mankato for their Annual Juried Exhibition.

Artists were able to submit up to three pieces to display, and the show contains work from over 80 artists. All art that was submitted was accepted for display and there were jurors who awarded first, second, and third place as well as honorable mentions.

"It is the biggest show that I have been a part of. It is also the first show I have been in that doesn't give a significant amount of space between the works, it was more of a maximalist gallery setup. This style of hanging is my favorite. It is so fun to see my pieces nestled into others' outstanding works," Kiefer said.

"It is the biggest show that I have been a part of... It is so fun to see my pieces nestled into others' outstanding works,

Kiefer submitted art from her fall capstone.

"I am showing two pieces from my capstone this fall, one titled That of Celestial Detonation which is acrylic on canvas and This too Shall Pass which is acrylic on paint swatches displayed on a wood board. This series is meant to capture intense and fleeting ephemeral moments through color, movement, and light. The other work I am exhibiting is called metamorphosis, which is an abstract figurative piece that I created over J-term and employs neon colors contrasted with a phthalocyanine," Kiefer said.

Meierhoff's pieces are ceramic sculptures.

"I am showing three ceramic pieces- one pinch-pot, a coil-built cylinder, and a slab-rolled cylinder. Two of the pieces con-

tain fake teeth, while the third piece is covered in holes. These pieces are intended to depict some of my personal feelings influenced by living with OCD and how it has created an exaggerated fear of germs/contagion," Meierhoff said.

While all the seniors in the show are art majors, Barrios has recently discovered her passion for art and her desire to shape her future plans around it.

"I never thought that this year I was going to declare a minor in art, far less submit any of my current artwork to the 410 project community gallery," Barrios said.

"Before this past year, I did not have any academic experience with art. My journey has been very wild, with ups and downs. It has definitely been worth it though, I can no longer live without art," Barrios said.

Barrios has an acrylic painting and two mixed media pieces in the show.

"I still do not have a specific media I prefer working with. I very much love working with various mediums," Barrios said.

The variety of works in the gallery and working with the

larger artistic community outside of Gustavus was a highlight for these students featured.

"I had a lot of fun seeing everyone's art at the opening. The submissions were extremely diverse in both medium and skill level. Some were professionally-trained artists, while others primarily did art as a hobby. All of the work was gorgeous and I loved the diversity in mediums and subject matter," Meierhoff said.

"I had a lot of fun seeing everyone's art at the opening....All of the work was gorgeous and I loved the diversity in mediums and subject matter."

"During the opening exhibition, we met so many wonderful artists within the community, and this was one of the first opportunities post-Covid to interact with other artists outside the Gustavus community. I had so many intriguing conversations, both with artists that

submitted works and also just the public that was viewing the exhibition. Overall, it really was about the community that was my favorite part of the overall experience, so many wonderful thinkers and creatives all together in the same room to celebrate art," Kiefer said.

"...it really was about the community that was my favorite part of the overall experience."

This gallery shows that there is always room for more art in the world and that everyone is capable of creating it.

"If you know you are passionate about art and love it, what are you waiting for? Is never too late to create art. Follow what makes you happy and passionate within this mysterious world. The only thing you need is a mind with infinite possibilities and hopeful imagination," Barrios said.



Work submitted for the annual juried exhibit at the 410 Project covers the gallery walls.

Submitted