

## N • Grieving from afar

As social distancing measures are implemented statewide to curb the spread of the coronavirus, funerals in Syracuse have taken on a distant form.

Page 3

## O • Low standard

Liberal columnist Patrick McCarthy argues Democratic voters should reject Syracuse University alumnus Joe Biden as their presidential nominee.

Page 7

## P • Making masks

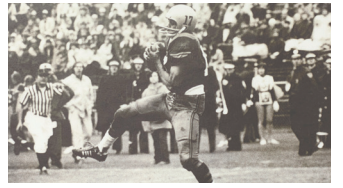
Community members involved in The Syracuse Mask Project sew and deliver cloth masks to local hospitals and health centers that need them.

Page 9

## S • Looking back

Fifty years after boycotting spring football practice, the Syracuse 8 believe they helped lay the groundwork for athlete activism for years to come.

Page 24



# Diplomas and doubts



ILLUSTRATION BY **MAGGIE SULLIVAN** CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

## As the coronavirus hurts the economy, SU seniors fear for post-grad job prospects

By **Chris Hippensteel**

ASST. NEWS EDITOR

**I**n the midst of a historic public health crisis, Khenyan Wilcox, a senior public health major at Syracuse University, is struggling to find a job.

Wilcox planned to enter public health administration after graduating from SU in May. Since the coronavirus outbreak struck the United States, the health industry has directed its hiring efforts toward specialists equipped to address the virus, he said, leaving him hard-pressed to find employment.

“During a public health crisis, there’s a huge emphasis on addressing whatever the crisis is,” Wilcox said. “So, most health institutions, health clinics or health departments, anything like that — they’re hiring for the crisis at hand and not for other systems or other jobs.”

Wilcox is one of thousands of SU seniors entering a job market that the coronavirus pandemic has thrown into chaos. As businesses across the county implement hiring freezes, cut down expenses and reduce staff, soon-to-be college graduates find their careers, and their futures, increasingly in doubt.

States across the county have implemented strict social distancing measures and ordered the closure of nonessential businesses to curb the spread

SEE **SENIORS** PAGE 4

## CORONAVIRUS

# Incoming freshmen unsure about 1st semester at SU

By **Maggie Hicks**

ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Morgan Perry planned to visit Syracuse University’s campus for the first time during her high school’s springbreak.

Weeks before the planned visit, SU canceled on-campus classes and transitioned to virtual learning for the remainder of the semester due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Perry, who is from Evans, Geor-

gia, plans to attend SU in the fall as a first-year musical theater student. After the university moved classes online, she soon realized she’d have to make her college decision based solely on pictures and videos of the campus that she found online.

“Starting out this experience online has been really weird simply because when you get accepted to a college, you’re (supposed) to be able to go and visit, you’re going to be



**We need to keep in mind from now on that I might not be able to come back**

**Mariana Peréz**

INCOMING NUTRITIONAL STUDIES  
MAJOR FROM PUERTO RICO

able to see everything up close and personal,” Perry said.

Incoming freshmen told The Daily Orange that the pandemic has affected their college selection process. While they understand the need for health and safety precautions, they are also nervous about what their first semester at SU will look like.

SU has suspended campus visits, student-led tours and admissions programming through

at least May 1, instead hosting online programs and a virtual campus tour for admitted students. Faculty and current students have also held virtual information sessions for incoming freshmen admitted to their respective school or college.

While Shakira Santos knew she would attend SU if admitted, her family worried about paying her \$500 enrollment deposit.

SEE **FRESHMEN** PAGE 5





## Quiet campus

As finals week begins, few students can be seen on and near Syracuse University's campus. The university on March 16 announced it would suspend on-campus classes and transition to online learning for the remainder of the semester due to the coronavirus pandemic. University officials asked students to leave Syracuse by March 22, if possible.

EMMA FOLTS NEWS EDITOR

### CORONAVIRUS

# Funeral homes adjust arrangements

By Marnie Muñoz  
ASST. COPY EDITOR

As the threat of transmitting the coronavirus transforms social gatherings, funerals in Syracuse have taken on a different, distant form.

Families seeking final arrangements for relatives who have died during this time may receive gloves and masks upon entering funeral homes. Other families unwilling or unable to meet in person simply call to make arrangements over the phone.

Community members face a new reality of separation from loved ones both living and deceased. The shift challenges

every part of the funeral industry, with its workers now placed on the frontlines of the city's battle with the coronavirus, said John Forbes, a managing funeral director at Delaney Greabell Adydan Funeral Home.

"Usually when people come in we shake their hands, we offer a shoulder to cry on," Forbes said. "But we can't do that anymore."

Cities like Syracuse have come to a near standstill as people stay home to curb the virus' spread, but work hasn't stopped for essential workers in the funeral industry.

Funeral directors in Syracuse have continued to offer their services and provide comfort to fami-

lies of the deceased, regardless of whether their deaths were related to COVID-19.

"Death is happening all the time," said Eric Gang, a funeral director and the CEO of Gang Memorial Chapel. "It's just that this aspect is more of a focal point this time."

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced an executive order March 20 that halted all funeral operations. The state relaxed its restrictions one day later to allow immediate family to attend services.

Charles Garland, a funeral director and manager of Garland Brothers Funeral Home, would

explain the state's guidelines to grieving families multiple times, only to frustratedly find the recommendations had changed again days later, he said.

"You're explaining one thing to the family then the next day it's another change," Garland said. "There's just all this uncertainty. And fear."

Some families opt for small, brief graveside services, standing six feet apart from one another in the cemetery. If desired, a religious speaker will also attend and say a few words. No one is allowed to touch the body, according to guidelines from the Centers for Disease

SEE **FUNERALS** PAGE 5

### STUDENT ASSOCIATION

# Hastings, Golden prioritize SA accountability

By Chris Hippensteel  
and Maggie Hicks  
THE DAILY ORANGE

Justine Hastings and Ryan Golden's first priority as president and vice president of Syracuse University's Student Association is to work on accountability and communication within the organization.

The pair was elected shortly after midnight on April 17 and will be sworn into their respective positions on Monday. They ran against two other pairs of candidates: Morgan Eaton and David Williams on one ballot and Sadia Ahmed and Yanan Wang on another.

"Communication, outreach, that's on us," Hastings said. "So that's one of the biggest things that could be done."

Hastings and Golden's campaign centered on five platforms: support for marginalized communities, campus accessibility, financial accessibility, SA accountability and student voice. They plan to immediately start working with SU administration and members of SA to reach these goals, they said.

The pair campaigned for including students' preferred names on university identification cards. Their goal is to ensure SU makes this change before the start of the fall semester, Golden said.

Sharing the minutes from all SA meetings with students via email is another priority of their administration, Hastings said. The duo will also begin working to implement Callisto, a third-

party sexual assault reporting system, Golden said.

"Our first steps will be starting conversations surrounding issues," Golden said. "We want to make sure we start the ball rolling early."

Over the summer, Hastings and Golden plan to help address the concerns of students that the coronavirus pandemic has affected, they said.

The decision to resume on-campus classes in the fall will be based on guidance from local, state and federal health officials, Chancellor Kent Syverud said in a press release April 16.

"Now that we are in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic, what's going to have to take priority (is) what students need," Hastings said.

Hastings and Golden plan to

have their cabinet filled by the first Assembly meeting of the fall semester. They will look for passion, experience and diversity in each of their cabinet members, they said.

"Because a lot of our platforms are going to be ambitious and take a lot of time to implement, passion is a big deal for me," Hastings said.

Hastings, a member of #NotAgainSU, said she and Golden would also like to make members of the movement aware of SA's influence and encourage them to take part in the organization.

#NotAgainSU, a movement led by Black students, has protested SU's response to a series of over 32 racist, anti-Semitic and homophobic incidents that have occurred on or near campus since November.

SEE **SA** PAGE 4

### CORONAVIRUS

# Essential workers adapt to COVID-19

By Michael Sessa  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Before the coronavirus pandemic, Syracuse University planned to give T-shirts to students and alumni as part of its 150th anniversary celebration. Instead, the university distributed the shirts to its essential workers with instructions for turning them into protective masks.

The plan is just one example of how SU and other employers in the Syracuse area are trying to protect their workers during the coronavirus crisis.

New York state Gov. Andrew Cuomo has issued an executive order that will keep all nonessential businesses closed until at least May 15. Essential businesses — including maintenance and utility services, health care operations and grocery stores — can remain open as long as they comply with public health guidance.

Essential workers and their union representatives told The Daily Orange that working amid the pandemic has caused anxiety and stress, but in many cases, employers have taken initiative to keep workers safe and deliver the support they need.

"(SU has) been creative in creating limited schedules and providing training opportunities from home to keep folks gainfully employed and keeping their benefits intact," said Doug McClure, a representative for Syracuse University Service Employees' International Union Local 200 United.

SEIU represents service, maintenance and library technicians at SU, which includes workers from Bird Library, Food Services and maintenance departments. The university's leadership team and administrators have been "top notch," McClure said.

While some essential employees fear what the future holds for them and their coworkers, they also hope the challenges that the outbreak has exposed — difficulty accessing child care, maintaining benefits and staying healthy — will lead to greater support for workers.

With kids home from school and new schedules at work, daily life has changed, said Craig Powers, union chair of SEIU Local 200. Powers' wife is a registered nurse. The couple has two young children.

"The university allowed many of our members to adjust their schedules to accommodate their conflicts with child or elder care," Powers said. "Most of my morning is spent in my newfound kindergarten teacher role and labor management calls from work."

Powers is one of over 850 SEIU Local 200 employees adjusting to new hours, roles and responsibilities during the pandemic. Some of the union's members live

SEE **WORKERS** PAGE 5



FROM PAGE 1

## SENIORS

of the virus. As a result, businesses -- particularly those in the service industry -- have had to reduce staff to keep their operations afloat.

The disruption to economic activity that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused bears many hallmarks of a recession, said Alfonso Flores-Lagunes, a professor of economics at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. A decrease in consumer spending has led to less demand for labor, triggering high unemployment, he said.

Industries that can't function under social distancing guidelines will face the harshest fallout from the pandemic, Flores-Lagunes said. For students like Lindsay Eastwood, whose career depends on large crowds and human interaction, that means fewer post-graduation opportunities.

Eastwood, a hockey player and a television, radio and film graduate student, remained at SU for a fifth year to take advantage of her final season of NCAA eligibility. After Eastwood graduates with her master's degree in May, she plans to pursue a career in professional sports, either on the ice as an athlete or off it in broadcasting.

The shutdown of professional sports has put those plans on hold, as empty stadiums and postponed seasons bring about hiring freezes and lost opportunities, Eastwood said.

"I'm kind of at a standstill right now," Eastwood said. "I probably won't get a job or an internship until sports come back. So, that's kind of my biggest thing right now, just waiting it out."

An international student from Ottawa, Canada, Eastwood hopes to move to New York City for work after graduation. But her ability to return to the U.S. is contingent upon her finding a job, she said.

Eastwood's student visa guarantees her one year to find work in the U.S. after graduating, she said. If she stays any longer, she'll need an employer to sponsor her.

"If I can't find a job in New York, then I'll come back to Canada to try to find a job here," Eastwood said. "I'll make the most of any situation."

Emilia Smart-Denson, a theater management major graduating in May, is also trying to break into an entertainment industry hit hard by the pandemic.

Smart-Denson had hoped to find an apprenticeship or fellowship program at a nonprofit theater after graduating. But with nonprofit theaters across the county canceling shows and laying off large portions of their staffs, those opportunities have largely dried up, she said.

"A lot of places I applied, or was thinking about applying, have canceled their programs," Smart-Denson said. "Right now, I'm sort of just waiting to hear back from the places I did apply, and if those don't come through, I'll start looking for real jobs."

While the COVID-19 outbreak has disrupted the economy and forced many businesses to lay off staff, the long-term consequences may not be as severe as past U.S. recessions, Flores-Lagunes said.

Unlike the last U.S. recession, which destroyed much of the country's economic resources, the COVID-19 pandemic has left most pieces of the U.S. economy intact, Flores-Lagunes said. The labor market could recover relatively quickly if businesses are able to reopen after social distancing measures are lifted, he said.

"All the economic factors that help us produce goods and services are still out there, and we could use them," Flores-Lagunes said. "But we face kind of a situation in which, in the short run, the solution is basically not using those economic means."

On the other hand, the recession could become more severe if a large number of businesses close during the outbreak, Flores-Lagunes said. The government could prevent such an outcome by helping businesses outlast the pandemic, either by investing in COVID-19 research and testing or by providing funds to businesses in danger of closing, Flores-Lagunes said.

Not all types of labor will become scarce during the COVID-19 pandemic, Flores-Lagunes said. Jobs that can continue to function remotely, or those that are not easily replaceable, may fare better than others, he said.

Alyson Weber's job offer at General Mills has remained secure, she said. Weber, a supply chain management major in the Martin J. Whitman School of Management, has found her skillset to be more in demand as companies scramble to fix supply chains disrupted amid the outbreak, she said.

"My job offer hasn't been rescinded. It's still stable in terms of that, because of the stable nature of the industry right now," Weber said. "The only kind of uncertain thing is whether I'll be working remotely."

Tyler Smith, a human development and family science major in the David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics, also managed to secure a job before the pandemic struck the U.S. She accepted a full-time teaching position in January at an elementary school in Denver.

Although her position is safe, Smith said she's unsure what the start of her teaching career will look like.

"It's a pretty big possibility that I will be starting my teaching career virtual," Smith said. "Being a new teacher, it's really important and crucial that you make those really impactful relationships with your students. I think it

would be a lot more stressful for me."

The pandemic has also made it difficult for Smith and Weber to shop for apartments because social distancing guidelines prevent them from touring the buildings in person, they said.

Both Smith and Weber said they feel fortunate to have found a job, especially since they know friends and roommates who are entering industries impacted by the outbreak.

Seniors reluctant to enter the job market during the pandemic should consider continuing their education, Flores-Lagunes said. Students who pursue higher degrees and expand their skillset during the economic downturn will be in a better position to find employment later on, he said.

"For people who are graduating a year from now, maybe even two years from now, this would be the right time to invest even more in their human capital, their education," Flores-Lagunes said.

Schools across the county are providing incentives for undergraduate students to continue their education, Flores-Lagunes said. SU established the Forever Orange Scholarship on April 13 to cover half the tuition cost of any senior who remains at the university next fall to pursue a graduate education.

As for Wilcox, he's hoping the pandemic will create lasting change in the health industry and will increase demand for aspiring public health administrators like himself. Those jobs, he believes, won't come until the COVID-19 outbreak is on its downslope.

For now, he's waiting.

"I feel like I'm in the Twilight Zone," Wilcox said. "It's kind of a weird place right now where I don't have a job, and more than likely the job I think I'll have doesn't even exist yet."

*cjhippen@syr.edu*

FROM PAGE 3

## SA

Hastings and Golden both support the movement's demands.

"A lot of the core organizers are my friends, so it's always weird talking about (#NotAgainSU) as

a separate entity," Hastings said.

#NotAgainSU has called for the resignations of several university officials, including Syverud and the Department of Public Safety Chief Bobby Maldonado. Hastings and Golden have said they support the movement's calls for Syverud's resignation.

Hastings wants to use her platform to hold the university accountable, not act as an appendage to SU administration. She and Golden are considering different ways to pressure the administration if it does not take their platforms seriously, she said.

"As of right now, I know that Chancellor

Syverud, he's extremely stubborn and adamant about not wanting to resign," Hastings said. "Ryan and I actually felt like we could be ambitious with our platforms because the university administration is at a place where they need to prove themselves."

*news@dailyorange.com*

# PARCC

## Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration

The Summer Institute is a series of workshop-style 3-credit courses designed to enable participants to manage disputes and differences collaboratively in both professional and personal settings.

Note: Courses will be held online for the summer session.

For more information, please visit the PARCC website.

Current SU students can register through MySlice.

Non-matriculated students should register through University College.

**Syracuse University**

Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs

Program for the Advancement of Research

on Conflict and Collaboration

400 Eggers Hall 315.443.2367

email: [parcc@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:parcc@maxwell.syr.edu)

Registration begins  
March 18

PARCC SUMMER INSTITUTE

FROM PAGE 1

## FRESHMEN

Santos, who is from Syracuse and plans to major in music industry, decided to attend SU around the same time both of her parents lost their jobs due to the virus. Although her parents were able to pay the deposit, Santos said it was the worst part of the enrollment process.

“I’m glad we did come up with money in the middle of all of this, (but) my parents still aren’t working right now, so that’s the difficult part,” she said.

Some students who live further from SU said they worry about how the distance from home will affect their college experience.

Giana DiTolla, from Irvine, California, plans to enroll undecided in the College of Arts and Sciences. She was unable to visit any of the schools for which she applied.

“It’s really nerve-wracking because one of the things my counselor told me is you really have to set foot on campus if you actually are a good fit there,” DiTolla said. “You get a whole different feeling if you’re actually there versus the tours that you watch.”

DiTolla ultimately decided to attend SU after researching the university on websites like College Confidential and watching online videos from current students. She also watched the university’s virtual tours.

Taking a plane to Syracuse in the fall if the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing is a concern for Mariana Pérez, an incoming nutrition studies major from Puerto Rico.

“We need to keep in mind from now on that I might not be able to come back,” Pérez said. “I will be moving across an ocean. It’ll be really, really hard.”

Many incoming freshmen said they’re uncertain of whether they’ll begin their first year of college on campus.

SU intends to resume on-campus classes in the fall, but the decision will be based on guidance from local, state and federal health officials, Chancellor Kent Syverud said April 16. Administrators, faculty and staff are developing multiple scenarios for beginning the fall semester, he said.

Ryan Hodges, an incoming mechanical engineering major from Spencer, New York, is nervous about how well his courses would translate to online learning.

The virtual information sessions the College of Engineering and Computer Science hosted were just as helpful as they would’ve been if offered in-person, Hodges said. He’s concerned about being in a virtual academic setting, though.

Since Hope Fischer’s high school in Lebanon, Pennsylvania transitioned to online learning amid the pandemic, she’s been worried about the possibility of taking her first college courses online.

“Not knowing the people, not knowing the professor, will be kind of off for me,” said Fischer, who plans to study inclusive elementary and special education.

Students also said they’re nervous about adjusting socially if they can’t meet their future classmates in person.

While he has been connecting with other incoming freshmen through a Facebook group for the Class of 2024, Jeremy Shinder is still nervous about not being able to meet his classmates on campus, he said. Shinder, from Bergen County, New Jersey, intends to study film in the College of Visual and Performing Arts.



ILLUSTRATION BY JACY COLA CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

“Even the simplest things such as orientation or a club fair — I’ve heard from so many people, and I really do believe it — that you make your closest friends during your first two weeks freshman year,” Shinder said. “Facebook’s great, but there’s nothing like meeting up with people.”

SU’s fall classes are set to begin Aug. 31. Despite uncertainty about their first year of

college, many incoming freshmen said the online admissions programs have been helpful. They are still excited to begin their four years at SU, they said.

“Even though it is a very stressful time, once all of this is over, we will have a fresh start, something new,” Pérez said. “I’m excited for college so I want to have that view.”

***mehicks@syr.edu***

FROM PAGE 3

## FUNERALS

Control and Prevention.

Some funeral homes are offering private, live-streamed services to accommodate families that wanted more people to attend. Other families have postponed services, choosing instead to cremate loved ones now and hold memorials later when social gathering restrictions are lifted.

Restrictions on social gatherings may disrupt grieving processes for families, who have lost the ability to say goodbye in-person to loved ones dying in hospitals now closed to visitors, Gang said. Waiting for the crisis to pass before holding services could further stifle healing, he said.

“By postponing it, they’re not grieving right away,” Gang said. “To stretch it out like that, it puts families — again, we don’t have a choice — but it puts families through a double trauma.”

Funeral homes are doing what they can to provide the best service possible, though some now operate with a smaller staff size to avoid putting older workers at risk, Gang said. None of the staff in Garland’s funeral home have tested positive for COVID-19.

“Right now we’re lucky. But of course that can change,” Garland said.

Joel Friedman comes into Birnbaum Funeral Service Inc. in the morning, where he stays on-call as a funeral director 24/7. When a call does arrive, Friedman brings a mask and

gloves to wear over his suit while he goes to pick up the body of the deceased.

Death care workers must wear disposable gloves and transport the body in a sealed covering, per the CDC’s guidelines. Not knowing whether it’s possible to get COVID-19 by touching a body is a point of concern for many funeral directors, Garland said.

Conscious of his own exposure, Friedman sits across the room at a different table with each family he meets. He doesn’t reuse any pens or materials the families come in contact with. After the families leave the funeral home, Friedman disinfects the building.

“You always have to have (risk) in the back of your mind,” said Friedman. “It makes you think twice about everything.”

Accessing personal protective equipment is a major concern for funeral directors, said Ellen McBrayer, a spokesperson for the National Funeral Directors Association. Some suppliers may consider death care workers to have less need for the supplies compared to health care workers, she said.

“To our industry and medical professionals, it would be just like asking a doctor to perform surgery without gloves on,” she said.

Funeral directors especially lack enough medical gowns, gloves, N-95 masks and cleaning supplies, McBrayer said. The U.S. is also experiencing a shortage of body bags, which the CDC requires for transporting people who have died from COVID-19.

Suppliers could take months to ship out

orders for protective equipment because of the shortages, Forbes said. Garland, who ordered more masks two months ago, doesn’t expect his shipment to arrive until late May or early June.

Kevin Mathewson, a funeral director and owner of Mathewson-Forani Funeral Home Inc, didn’t have any N-95 masks left in his supply by April 14, forcing him to borrow from another funeral director. As funeral directors’ associations continue to petition federal officials, communication with suppliers has been difficult, he said.

“We can’t get it anywhere,” he said. “When you ask the state, they say get it from the county. When you ask the county, they say get it from the state. So nobody really knows what to do and where to go at this point.”

Other funeral homes have yet to experience the shortage. Friedman and Gang still have enough backup supply to last for now, they said.

Officials have confirmed 263,460 cases in New York State, where more than 15,700 have died from the virus.

More densely populated metropolitan areas like New York City have become overwhelmed with deaths from COVID-19, and funeral homes have been stretched thin by the number of bodies still awaiting burial, Mathewson said.

To compensate for the unavailability of crematoriums, some funeral directors in other parts of the state have helped cremate bodies in their local crematoriums, Mathewson said.

time it’s really hard to do their job. I see them as heroes every day.”

Cuomo on April 20 proposed a 50% bonus for medical personnel, mass transit employees and other essential workers on the frontlines of the pandemic. The economy only shut down for people who have the luxury of staying at home, Cuomo said.

Jen Reid, who works for the Onondaga County Health Department’s Special Children Services, worries if employers will keep up with social distancing guidelines and other health protocols once the pandemic starts to subside.

Special Children Services provides evaluations, education and therapy for children up to age five who have a developmental delay or disability. The department does a considerable amount of fieldwork where employees are present in clients’ homes, Reid said.

“I don’t know if my employer, and a lot of the employers in the area, really grasp the safety issues going forward,” Reid said. “Things are starting to plateau a little bit here, but most people have still never been

exposed to this virus.”

Easing safety protocols too early could lead to new cases of the virus, she said.

Reid also worries about the financial stability of her unit, she said. The county is beginning to create plans for the upcoming months, but the effects of the pandemic will be long-lasting, she said.

“We’re already operating pretty close to the bone, and I think down the road from this, I can see them laying off people,” Reid said. “I can see pensions and wages being affected.”

The best way to address concerns about the pandemic is to speak openly about the challenges it presents workers, Spadafore said. Sharing stories brings about change, he said.

“A lot of times we do focus on the struggles in the labor movement,” Spadafore said. “And I think that we have to understand what brings us together and the good things that can come out of this. Our strength is when we come together, and we need to do it with joy.”

***msessa@syr.edu***  
***@MichaelSessa3***



# Behind the mask



**NANCY GAUS** created The Syracuse Mask Project to help first responders in the community during the pandemic. **COURTESY OF MAGGIE GAUS**

## The Syracuse Mask Project provides cloth masks for health workers

**By Sydney Bergan**  
ASST. COPY EDITOR

When Nancy Gaus started researching which kind of masks that Syracuse area hospitals needed to battle the COVID-19 outbreak, she couldn't find anything. Gaus — who recently retired from a 12-year career as a seamstress — knew that she could put her skills to use.

"I thought, you know, I have a lot of friends that want to sew — that would like to sew masks, that would like to contribute to this effort," she said.

This led her to establish The Syracuse Mask Project, a website that connects people sewing masks in Syracuse to local health institutions. Hospitals and other institutions can request masks through the site, stating how many they need and which design they are accepting. It then shows these requests to locals who sew so they know where to drop the masks off.

Gaus spent about five days creating the website before launching it in late March. She is constantly updating the website with the most accurate information on making hospital-approved masks, sewing tips and local organizations that are forming sewing initiatives.

Since the website's release, requests have poured in from places like Upstate University Hospital and Cayuga Health. Gaus said she doesn't personally fulfill orders to individual clients and only donates them where they are needed the most.

"Anybody who sews in Syracuse can sew by themselves and donate by themselves in a bubble in their protected house," Gaus said. "Or, they can reach out to a sewing group that already exists if they want to be part of more of a team."

During her initial research, Gaus found some clarity once she discovered Syracuse local Beth Eischen's Facebook video, which

SEE **MASKS** PAGE 10

### CORONAVIRUS

## Students update final show formats

**By Mandy Kraynak**  
ASST. FEATURE EDITOR

Anna Molinari and three other fashion design students were gathered in a living room with their sewing machines when they found out that the Senior Fashion Show, where they would display their collections, was canceled. The four students — Molinari, two of her roommates and a downstairs neighbor — were working on their pieces for the critique that was set to happen the next day.

"And then when we found out, everybody just kind of sat there for a second and hysterically laughed. And then, of course, there was a lot of tears," Molinari said.

In addition to Syracuse University's Senior Fashion Show, other showcases and exhibits such as the Newhouse Photography Annual and the Communications Design Senior Portfolio Show have been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many students whose work was supposed to be displayed in these exhibits have adapted to virtual ways of showcasing their work.

The Senior Fashion Show, originally scheduled for April 3, was going to feature the collections of senior fashion design majors. The 12 senior students in the fashion design program are in a class taught by Todd Conover, an assistant professor in the fashion design program.

Molinari said that the students have a close relationship. In their Zoom classes with Conover, the students have vented their feelings and discussed progress on their websites.

When they found out about the show's cancellation, Molinari said that students had hope for a make-shift fashion show at a later date. But now, the students have shifted their focus to showcasing their collections through their websites and portfolios.

Dana Croutier, another fashion design senior, said that she still wants to showcase the looks in her portfolio and hopes to eventually have a photoshoot. She added that though the cancellation of the show is sad, the work the students put into the collections was still worth it.

"Show or no show, we still created all these amazing things. And a show is not the main reason why we do everything," Croutier said.

Hannah Frankel said she was excited to have a photo displayed at Light Work for the first time through the Newhouse Photography Annual. The 2020 Newhouse Photography Annual was set to run at Light Work Gallery on campus from March 23 until July 23 before Light Work closed its doors to the public on March 13 due to COVID-19 concerns.

The exhibit included over 30 photographs from students in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, and images will now be featured on Light Work's website.

For the photo Frankel took for a story about Loop Grill, the second

SEE **SHOWCASES** PAGE 10

### SLICE OF LIFE

## Old, new traditions mark 150 years of SU history

**By Morgan Tucker and Sydney Bergan**  
THE DAILY ORANGE

Annual Syracuse University traditions have evolved over its 150 years of existence, an anniversary the university celebrated on March 24. While some have faded away, all are part of its history.

"[Traditions] reinforce our values such as community spirit and solidarity and sharing and hard work and diversity," said Meg Mason, university archivist and curator of the 150 Years of Tradition at Syracuse University. "There's so many different people on the campus. We come from all different places and backgrounds,

and having these traditions unite us."

Mackenzie Sammeth, a member of the U100, said these traditions change as the campus expands. The addition of the Carrier Dome in 1979 has created many traditions, like the Dome Stomp, she said.

"Regardless as to if it's a positive memory or something that's been a little more traumatic in our history, I think being able to have things that are uniquely Syracuse has ultimately made us more protective and more invested in these traditions and continuing them in the future," Sammeth said.

Here are some of the traditions that have remained, evolved or disappeared over SU's 150 years, found in SU's university archives.

### Water Fight

In the mid-1900s, beginning signs of spring meant one thing: water fight. At night, hundreds of students would swarm part of campus as they lugged backpacks, buckets, tubs, balloons and other containers full of water to the streets for a water battle against other students.

"None of the students indicated any particular reason for taking to the streets other than a combination of tradition and a celebration of warm weather," wrote the Post-Standard in April 1968.

The pre-finals week tradition quickly escalated some years, as students were reported attempting to tip cars, soaking police officers and strangers with water, interrupting

traffic and opening fire hydrants.

### Freshmen Beanies

Throughout their first semester at SU, freshmen were obligated to wear green or orange beanies around campus. A marker to separate themselves from upperclassmen, the beanies were enforced by the Goon Squad, an organization that now helps first-year students move into dorms.

Starting in the 1890s and dying out by the 1960s, this tradition was a means to build class unity while showing respect to the upperclassmen. When upperclassmen told them to "tip it, frosh," freshmen were required to tip their hats, according to the

SEE **TRADITIONS** PAGE 10



FROM PAGE 9

## MASKS

showed viewers how to make the rectangular masks hospitals needed.

Eischen, a molecular biologist and biology professor at Onondaga Community College, also runs a women’s clothing and accessories business called Lilipad Creations. In order to combat COVID-19, she has turned her art studio in Delavan Center into a mask-making operation.

Using her knowledge of biology, Eischen brainstormed with health professionals to develop the most protective masks possible. The result was her rectangular mask lined with surgical sheeting.

“This is the field that I teach in, and it was just very clear to me that this shortage in masks was going to be very dire,” Eischen said. “It was going to be very dire for health personnel, essential personnels, people on the frontlines and any essential workers, so I really felt driven

to get these masks done and get them in the hands of those who didn’t have them.”

Eischen said she was featured on News Channel 9 for her work making masks on March 25. After her segment on the news, she said her business Facebook page “blew up” with requests for masks from health center supervisors. She stopped counting how many masks she had made at 500, but said she thinks she has made well over 1,000.

Others in the Syracuse area, such as Nancy Volk, are focused on making masks to meet the needs of the Salvation Army of Syracuse. With help from members of the community, Volk has provided about 150 masks to the local organization, where she is a volunteer.

Volk is trying to provide masks to those working at shelters, food distribution and day-care centers run by the Salvation Army. She is also making masks for the children who frequent the Salvation Army operations with their families by adjusting the mask size so they stay

secure on smaller faces.

“Sometimes people see, I think, the health care workers’ needs pretty easily, and I think we can forget that there are other people out there that also have needs, too,” Volk said. “And I’ve sort of thought if we can keep our frontline workers in protective gear of some type, then our masks like the N95 can be saved for health care workers.”

Susan Coots, director of the Family Planning Service of Onondaga County, also requested masks through the Syracuse Mask Project and social media, and has had 200 donations from members of the community. The health care organization, which provides reproductive and sexual health services to low-income individuals — has stayed open during the pandemic.

It has changed the way it operates, though, screening patients over the phone for COVID-19 symptoms and when they arrive at the facility for an appointment.

FPS has enough surgical masks for its medical staff and is taking mask donations to give to

the patients that come into the office. Coots said that the mask donations have come from both her social media post and the listing she made on the Syracuse Mask Project.

Gaus wants to make sure people are using caution “when interacting with other members of this fabulous sewing community,” she wrote on her website. She encourages people to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for social distancing and hygiene protocol.

Gaus said that after Gov. Andrew Cuomo requested that everyone should wear masks in public, she received an influx of inquiries from government agencies for masks for their essential workers.

“Once we get through this difficult period, the site may not be needed anymore so it would be time to take it down,” Gaus said. “But for right now it’s my intent to grow this and make sure it’s serving the people that need the information.”

*sabergan@syr.edu*

FROM PAGE 9

## SHOWCASES

oldest bar in Syracuse, she received an honorable mention at the exhibit. Frankel said that she was pretty disappointed about the cancellation of the Newhouse Photography Annual, but understood why it was canceled.

Maranie Staab, a graduate student whose photo won Best in Show in the Newhouse Photography Annual exhibit said she was grateful for the recognition of Best in Show, but this was not the reason she took the photo. Staab’s photo depicts a Yazidi bride in a makeshift beauty parlor at a displacement camp in Iraqi Kurdistan.

The Communications Design Portfolio Show was also canceled. Each year, SU seniors in the communications design program participate in a portfolio showcase. This year’s show was scheduled for April 27 at the Nancy Cantor Warehouse. The students’ portfolio books are then displayed at a two-day showcase at the Fisher Center in New York City.

Nicole Stallings-Blanche, a senior in the communications design program, said that she and other students in the program have

had to restructure an entire section of how they would build their portfolios.

“More than anything, we’ve just had to be resourceful and just look at different ways of going about it,” Stallings-Blanche said. “What we’re doing is we’ve kind of refocused our energy on really pushing forward with our websites because that’s going to be the way that most people will view our portfolios.”

Stallings-Blanche said that there has been a shift in the way that the portfolios will be shown. There will now be a drop date for the students’ websites and a possible virtual event.

The senior said she felt that she was in a privileged situation because she had access to the resources needed to complete her portfolio from home, such as access to a printer and photographer at her home. She also said her experiences may not reflect those of others in the communications design program.

“There may be a shift,” Stallings-Blanche said. “But we’re fighters, and we’ll get through this. And we still have the same skill sets that make us competitive.”

*ackrayna@syr.edu*

FROM PAGE 9

## TRADITIONS

150 Years of Tradition at Syracuse University digital exhibition. If students were seen without beanies on multiple occasions, they faced public humiliation at the Penn State Pep Rally.

### Calculus Burial

Sophomores in the College of Liberal Arts, now the College of Arts and Sciences, were all required to take calculus, which most despised taking, Mason said. At the end of the semester, the calculus students personified “Calculus” and gave it a funeral service.

They wrote and prepared eulogies, dirges and programs. The services varied, including burials, cremations, letting a balloon go into the sky or preparing a little coffin to put in a local lake. This tradition began in 1873 and ended before the 20th century.

### May Queen, Women’s Day

To celebrate women students and alumni,

the Senior Women’s Honorary Society, Eta Pi Upsilon, founded the May Queen crowning in 1914 as part of Women’s Day.

“She was basically voted as probably the best of the senior class,” Mason said.

Women’s Day evolved into May Day and over time, May Day turned into Spring Weekend. A May Queen was always crowned, and other activities included the strawberry breakfast, maypole dancing, parades and a lantern ceremony. Spring Weekend traditions ended in the 1960s.

### Split Day

One day each semester, a bar called 44’s Tavern would hand out small drinks called “splits” to people early in the morning, according to the University Archives. Documents in the archives said that the tradition began as a competition between 44’s Tavern and a bar at Penn State University to see who could drink more splits. 44’s Tavern closed in spring 2000 and became Konrad’s Sports Bar, The Daily Orange reported.

*mctucker@syr.edu*

*sabergan@syr.edu*

Keep soaring to new heights as you dive into the next adventure of life. We are so very proud of you and love you so much!

Mom, Dad, Caroline, Mamama and Dadada



COMING  
DOWNTOWN



SYRACUSE  
COOPERATIVE  
Market

OUR SECOND LOCATION!

OPENING SPRING  
2021 IN THE SALT  
CITY MARKET

A new full-service grocery store in the heart  
of downtown Syracuse > 484 South Salina St



WESTCOTT LOCATION > ONLY 1 MILE FROM SU!

OPEN DAILY  
TO THE PUBLIC

8 TO 9  
AM PM

618 Kensington Road  
Syracuse, NY 13210

syracuse.coop



From the  
**STAGE**

**PULP**

DAILYORANGE.COM @DAILYORANGE APRIL 27, 2020 • **PAGE 11**

# ARK-IVED



The Ark, a popular underground performance venue, is shutting down after two years in operation. Local artists, such as NONEWFRIENDS and The Brazen Youth, have performed at the house.

**KATIE REAHL** STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**By Christopher Cicchiello**  
ASST. FEATURE EDITOR

**T**he Ark’s farewell was supposed to be memorable.

The underground music venue, run by Syracuse University students, is shutting its doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When SU announced it would move classes online for the rest of the semester, organizers planned to meet with houses on Lancaster Avenue to organize a multi-house festival with bands performing all day long.

That meeting couldn’t happen. But to preserve the memories of good times at The Ark, the student staff has focused their efforts on developing an online archival platform: The Ark Collections. The free website, which will feature track recordings of concerts, photographs and profiles on influential artists, is the brainchild of founding member and senior Noah Steinberg.

“The Ark has become the perfect opportunity to develop a multimedia storytelling platform,” Steinberg said. “One that draws influence from the vast number of archived underground media that exists, but adapting it to a modern platform, something that’s more interactive and more accessible to people.”

Steinberg became obsessed with archived underground media and received a source grant from the university to study it all over the world. For him, this is a way to give back to the community that defined his own college experience.

“It’s a community that we’ve unintentionally become a part of that has really become the cornerstones of our lives,” Steinberg said. “There are so many relationships that people have made through The Ark, so many connections with artists, collaborations, friends, loved ones.”

The Ark Collections will also serve as a tool for new music venues to see the inner workings of The Ark, said founding member and senior Ryan McKeown. He hopes the concerts become intertwined with student organizations to expand “this little micro scene at Syracuse.”

## An online platform will feature audio and video from past concerts at The Ark

Throughout the recent history of SU’s underground music scene, most music venues have not lasted longer than two years, McKeown said. In-fighting and external stressors ultimately break down the bonds of friendship between roommates who struggle to throw concerts weekend after weekend, he added.

“They have their shine and then they fall apart,” McKeown said.

The Ark was on the path to closure when it first shut down last August, Steinberg said. That is, until the Syracuse music community responded.

“We quickly discovered that The Ark wasn’t our operation, but it was the community that developed from our events,” Steinberg said. “When the Ark dissolved, the community reacted pretty strongly and came to our support. And so, from there, we really couldn’t deprive people of the experience that they had developed and earned, so we reopened The Ark.”

But after a resurgent year for The Ark — one defined by large audience turnout, more press, more art and a dedication to improving concert production — the COVID-19 pandemic forced an end to its existence. The founding members announced April 10 that they would halt operations on May 10.

During its two years of operation, The Ark hosted 41 events at its 917 Lancaster Ave. house, according to a press release. On average, shows and events would garner crowds of 150 to 200 patrons, depending on the night, Steinberg said.

Former strategic coordinator Benji Wittman, a music industry master’s student, was one of more than a dozen individuals who were central

to the operations of The Ark. Above all, professionalism was a priority, McKeown said. That meant detailed written plans in case of an emergency, professional recordings of each show and a professional artist booking system.

Rory Stanley, a rising senior and booking agent for the venue, never anticipated the Syracuse music scene to have such a wide variety. Stanley was tasked with finding talent among local and touring bands including Settle for Sadler, NONEWFRIENDS., Joe Morgan and The Brazen Youth.

“All of our music was very diverse,” Stanley said. “We didn’t just stick to one genre all the time, and I think that’s what kind of made The Ark.”

The Ark was in the process of hosting more university-sponsored shows, which included a performance from Stanley’s band The Weather Channel, Wittman said.

Stanley is determined to preserve underground music in the community. During the spring semester, she helped launch The Deli, a music house known for leaving a trail of sliced bread on sidewalks to guide people to the shows. Even so, she remains doubtful.

“Now with The Ark gone, and especially with all the stuff going on with (the COVID-19 pandemic), the DIY scene is completely dead at the moment,” Stanley said. “There are no house shows going on at all.”

Meanwhile, McKeown remains confident that the underground music scene will continue to expand. He trusts the cyclical process of music houses making their mark and then dissolving. Before The Ark, there was Space Camp and The End, McKeown said.

Looking back on his time with The Ark, Steinberg said this is the first of many projects both him and McKeown as they “dissolve The Ark back into the community in which it arose from.”

“We’re far from done in this work,” Steinberg said. “The Ark was always ever considered the first step in this journey and for me archival work, both as a study and a practice, is a way to reconvene what has happened and adapt it to the modern time.”

**cmcicchi@syr.edu**