

SEP
27
2021

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE



THE RETURN

»BIANCA KREUSEL/CHRONICLE

Campus, page 7
**President Kim “emotional” for
unique year**

Metro, page 12
Buddy Guy’s Legends reopens

Arts & Culture, page 13
Artists self-organize gallery

Opinions, page 14
**Changing the way we eat could
prevent a future pandemic**

Editors' Note: At last, we're back **»staff**

» CAMRYN CUTINELLO
» NOAH JENNINGS
CO-EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

AFTER 18 MONTHS spent largely online, Columbia's campus is now bustling with students, resembling something closer to normalcy.

As for the Chronicle, when the world went online in March 2020, so did we. Now, we are proud to make our return to print.

Our "Return" issue aims to showcase what Columbia offers to students as they come back and, for many, arrive on campus for the first time.

This year the college recognizes the transition of first-year students, but also many second-year students who are having their first experience on campus.

And just as this return only resembles slight normalcy for the entire college, the same is true for the Chronicle as we enter a new chapter.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chronicle was printing an issue every week. During remote work, we released an e-edition every other week, covering topics such as faculty promotions, security data breaches and alumni success. At the same time, we kept our website up-to-date, publishing fresh stories, photos and graphics several times a week.

We also kept our readers informed on issues ranging from COVID-19-related updates, staff and faculty news and the protest movement across the city through our email newsletter, published Monday through Friday.

We will continue our robust online presence, but we're also excited to continue our print tradition. The Chronicle that you can hold in your hands is back.

The "Return" issue is the first of four thematic issues that will be released throughout the school year. An end-of-the-year recap and holiday issue will come out on Dec. 6, our iconic "Sex Issue" will be released on Feb. 14 and our "Creatives" issue will be on newsstands on May 2, just in time for Manifest.

The way we produce our content has changed as well. In the years prior to the pandemic, it was required that Chronicle staff complete all their work in the office, aside from interviews and covering events. Now we use a hybrid approach, with the office open

to employees who wish to use it, but allowing staff members the option to work from home as well.

Our office—still the hub of our operation—continues to buzz with excitement, even while we have infused new technology into our process, such as Slack to produce our content, similar to what is now happening in professional newsrooms across the country.

Being able to see the office, as well as each other, was an incredibly exciting experience for all when we arrived for training last month, especially when considering that just three members of our staff had any experience working in our office prior to the pandemic.

This is a return that has been long awaited, as a print version of the Chronicle has been a staple of the Columbia campus since 1978, with the campus' first student newspaper, the CC Writer, arriving five years prior.

As we begin this new era of the Chronicle, we thank the people who allowed us to get here. The work of former editors-in-chief Alexandra Yetter, Mari Devereaux, Kendall Polidori and Brooklyn Kiosow and countless other staffers helped navigate the initial transition to this new reality we see today.

The four most recent EICs are part of a larger group of Chronicle alumni who did not get to make the return to the office they longed for before graduating. But even when facing uncertainty and the likelihood of never working in the Chronicle office again, they pressed on to serve the Columbia community in a time of need.

This group of alumni motivates us, and they inspire us to serve our readers as best we can.

As the new co-editors-in-chief of The Columbia Chronicle, we welcome our new on-campus readers and thank our existing readers for sticking with us.

We are excited to be printing again, and we feel the Chronicle is as strong as ever. It takes more than a global pandemic to stop us from serving the Columbia community.

CCUTINELLO@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM
NJENNINGS@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

Editors-in-Chief

Managing Editor

Senior Editor

Directors of Photography

Deputy Director of Photography

Sales Manager

Lead Graphic Designer

Lead Page Designer

Staff Reporters

Photojournalists

Producer/Director

Graphic Designers

Copy Editors

Faculty Adviser

General Manager

MANAGEMENT

Camryn Cutinello

Noah Jennings

Anna Busalacchi

Summer Hoagland-Abernathy

Zachary Clingenpeel

Sofia Felino

K'Von Jackson

Cale Holder

Ryan Brumback

Colleen Hogan

REPORTERS

Samaher AbuRabah

Seanice Batchman

Olivia Cohen

Amaris Edwards

Kristen Gesicki

Irvin Ibarra

Rachel Patel

Jordan Perkins

Abra Richardson

Amina Sergazina

Nathan Sirkin

Robin Sluzas

MULTIMEDIA

Jared Callaway

Bianca Kreusel

Peter Midwa

Valentina Pucarelli

Shane Verkest

Jackie Elliott

GRAPHICS

Vivian Jones

Lucas Martinez

COPY

Gabby Bach

Amanda Burris

Justice Lewis

ADVISERS

Curtis Lawrence

Travis Truitt

VOL. 57, ISSUE 1

The Columbia Chronicle is a student-produced publication of Columbia College Chicago and does not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, the views of college administrators, faculty or students.

All text, photos and graphics are the property of The Columbia Chronicle and may not be reproduced or published without written permission.

Editorials are the opinions of the Editorial Board of The Columbia Chronicle. Columns are the opinions of the author(s).

Views expressed in this publication are those of the writer and are not the opinions of The Columbia Chronicle, Columbia's Communication Department or Columbia College Chicago. Letters to the editor must include full name, year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff should include their job title. Alumni should include year of graduation, or attendance, and major. Other readers should note their city of residence and occupation or employer, if related to the letter's subject matter.

All letters are edited for grammar and may be cut due to a limit of space.

The Columbia Chronicle holds the right to limit any one person's submissions to three per semester.

Columbia removes iconic 'Moose Bubblegum Bubble'— but not for long

» ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL
CO-DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

THE BRIGHT BLUE, brown and pink of one of Columbia's most iconic pieces of street art has finally met its match: the whirl, hum and pounding of necessary routine maintenance.

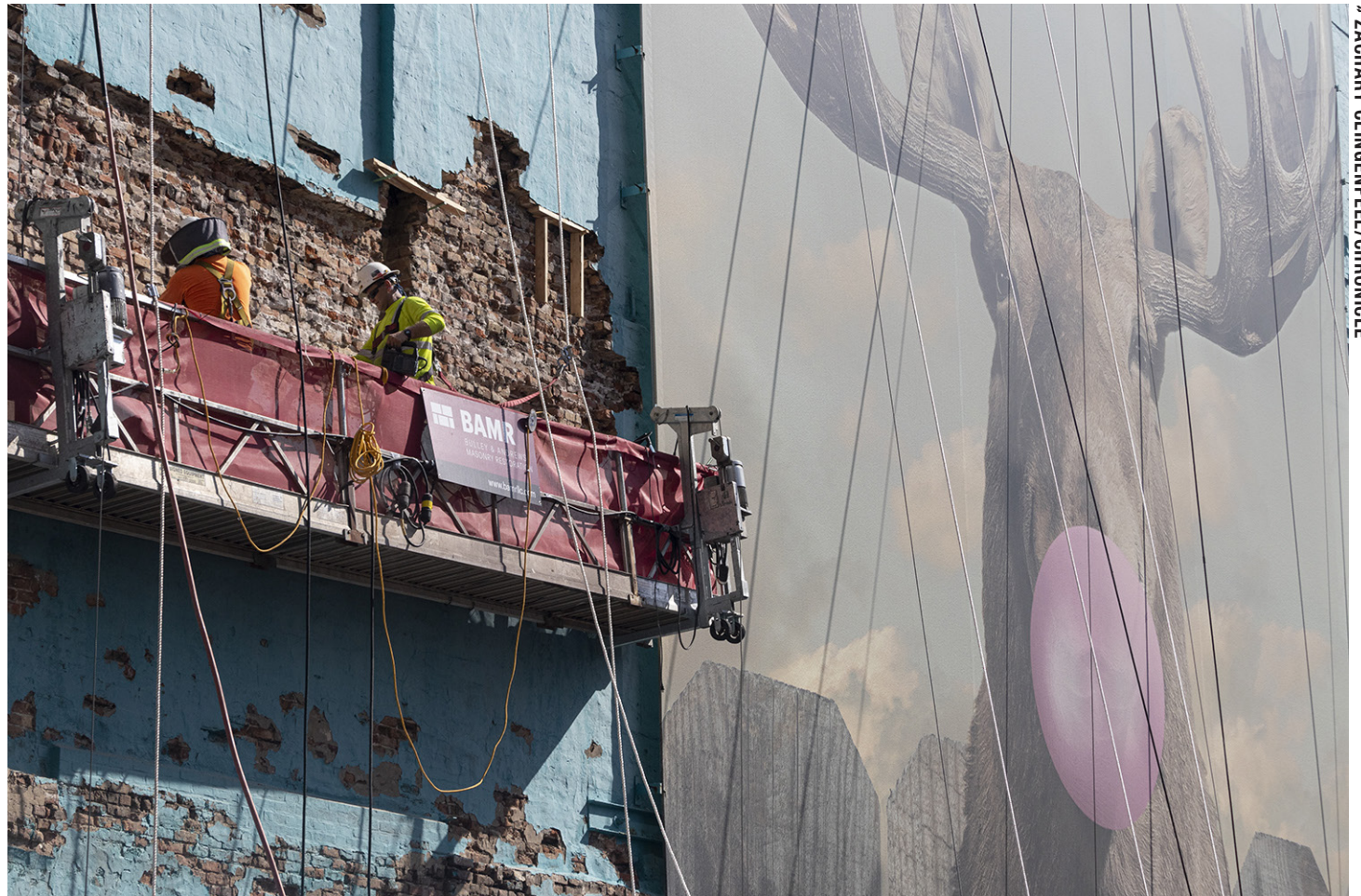
But the Moose will return. In an Aug. 24 email to students, Columbia Facilities and Construction announced it would be temporarily removing the art piece to accommodate for construction being done to the 33 E. Ida B. Wells Drive building.

The grout of the brick wall that the art piece once laid on was eroding, according to Meg Duguid, chief curator of the Wabash Arts Corridor and director of Exhibitions at Columbia. The construction on the wall is meant to alleviate this problem, which is common in older brick buildings.

"It is really shocking to see that wall as blank as it is," Duguid said. "It just feels like such a significant change after a lot of us haven't been downtown regularly for a year."

"Moose Bubblegum Bubble" was made by digital artist Jacob Watts, who graduated from Columbia in 2012. Watts made the original image by compositing several photographs he made. The bubblegum in the moose's mouth was made digitally in Photoshop.

The massive banner was among the first



» ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL/CHRONICLE

CONSTRUCTION CREWS RE-POINT THE SOUTHERN BRICK WALL OF THE 33 E. IDA B. WELLS DRIVE BUILDING NEXT TO THE ICONIC "MOOSE BUBBLEGUM BUBBLE" BANNER ON TUESDAY, AUG. 24.



» K'VON JACKSON/CHRONICLE

A MURALIST PAINTS A NEW MURAL ON THE WALL OF THE 33 E. IDA B. WELLS DRIVE BUILDING THAT IS YET TO BE COMPLETED.

two art pieces erected by the Wabash Arts Corridor, a public arts program that has covered the South Loop landscape in murals and banners like "Moose Bubblegum Bubble" since 2013.

"It's really been a dream to have some artwork that you make just go up 50 feet on a giant building," Watts said.

The mural was pulled down on Aug. 26. According to Duguid, the art piece should return by Oct. 15—the start of Columbia Weekend when many parents visit the college—so long as COVID-19 and the weather do not halt the construction process.

WAC will also be placing a new mural entitled "On The Wings of Change" commissioned by artist Jasmina Cazacu on the same wall and a text-based mural titled "Speak Up" by Dorian Sylvain on the adjacent wall. The two new murals honor women suffragists.

The school's Facilities and Operations Department could not yet comment on the cost of the project to repair the wall holding the mural. However, according to Duguid, the WAC has raised approximately \$96,000 in outside funding for murals and wall repair at the 33 E. Ida B. Wells Drive location and for mural work at the University Center.

"While there was some irritation about not having my name up on it and stuff like that, overall I just couldn't have been more thrilled to have it up on there," said Watts, who was happy his name will adorn the mural when it returns. "I really do want to push how exciting it is. I hope it's up there for as long as it can be before people get sick of it."

ZCLINGENPEEL@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

Columbia's Jewish community balances Holy Days with start of fall semester

»OLIVIA COHEN
STAFF REPORTER

GRACE BLOOM, a sophomore cinema and television arts major, breathed a sigh of relief when finding out she only had a morning class on the first day back to school, as it doubled as one of the most important days in the Jewish calendar.

Tuesday, Sept. 7 — the first day of the Fall 2021 semester — fell on Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish holiday that marks the beginning of the Jewish New Year. Bloom said she was faced with a tough choice, as doing any kind of work on a holiday goes against her Jewish identity.

“This has always been a thing I’ve had to deal with growing up in different academic institutions, but I think I’m lucky because I have a morning class,” Bloom said. “It’s an important thing to our religion to fulfill certain traditions on a certain date, especially during the evening, like Rosh Hashanah.”

Bloom said she typically observes Rosh Hashanah with her family in Cleveland, where they attend services, have dinner together and engage in rituals to celebrate the holiday. Instead, Bloom observed in Evanston with her grandmother’s sister and attended religious services via Zoom.

Despite the timing of the holiday, Senior Vice President and Provost Marcella David and Registrar Keri Walters were aware of the issue and sent an email to faculty and staff on July 15 addressing it.

The email reemphasized the school’s policy saying that faculty should “make every effort to accommodate students who miss scheduled class meetings due to the observance of a religious holiday” and included a calendar of upcoming religious holidays and observances.

“Columbia College Chicago respects the right of and encourages all students, faculty, and staff to observe the religious holidays associated with their faith,” the email stated. “We are writing to encourage you to be especially sensitive and accommodating to those who may be absent from school or work during these first two days of the semester in order to honor this important holiday.”

Ames Hawkins, associate provost for Faculty Research and Development, said the email from the registrar’s office was sent out on behalf of Columbia making space for those who observe High Holy Days, including both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, to practice their faith, rather than students, faculty and staff bringing up the dates to the administration first. Hawkins said Columbia “totally and 1000%” took the first initiative.

Yom Kippur, which signals the end of the Jewish High Holidays and is the holiest day in the Jewish year, began at sunset on Wednesday, Sept. 15 and ended at nightfall the next day.

To accommodate Columbia’s Jewish population, some professors who had a class on these holidays sent their students emails, making note of their support and

understanding of people who did not attend their classes during the first days of school.

Hawkins, who is also a professor in the English and Creative Writing Department, was one of these professors.

Charles Cohen, executive director of Metro Chicago Hillel — a collection of Jewish communities and young adults — has worked with college students in Chicago addressing their concerns about observing the holiday,

an obstacle for participating in your campus community, whatever that looks like, it’s really hard,” Cohen said. “It makes you feel excluded, makes you feel like you have a disadvantage.”

To help create space for Jewish life on campus, Columbia’s Hillel chapter hosts various events over Jewish holidays, with the High Holy Days being no exception.

“Looking at our registration list, seeing where Columbia students are, it looks like most people are choosing evening dinners



»LUCAS MARTINEZ/CHRONICLE

while not falling behind in their classes.

Cohen said he had a student reach out to him over the summer expressing concern over the timing of the semester and acknowledged how difficult the situation is for Jewish students.

“Anytime your personal identity becomes

and things like that,” Cohen said. “Part of it is when students are available and part of it is our foresight and preparation to make sure that there are opportunities to have a variety of experiences that can connect [students] to the spirit of the season.”

COHEN@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

Staff union enters contract negotiations with possible first strike vote looming

»CAMRYN CUTINELLO
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

FOR THE FIRST time since the union’s inception in 2006, the United Staff of Columbia College is tentatively planning to hold a strike vote as the union’s bargaining team reenters negotiations on a new contract.

Still working under the last negotiated agreement for more than three years, the United Staff of Columbia College bargaining team and the college’s representatives met Sept. 17 to begin discussions on terms for a new contract. The previous contract expired on Aug. 31, 2018, and the staff has continued to operate under the terms of that contract since.

Matthew Rillie, coordinator of Student Support and Engagement for Student Diversity and Inclusion and membership chair of USofCC, is on the bargaining team.

They said given the college’s financial situation due to COVID-19, the staff negotiators temporarily refrained from asking for a salary increase. Now, the team’s focus is back on pay.

“Our staff have not seen any sort of raise in over four years,” Rillie said. “And since that time, especially the past year and a half, [the cost] of living has gone up a lot.”

Staff contracts are negotiated in three year increments. Rillie said the bargaining team is looking to make up for the four years the staff has not seen a raise, plus plan for the next three years. The bargaining team’s initial proposal “considers how far behind [the] cost of living staff at Columbia have become.” The union did not specify the percentage hike they are seeking in wages due to the fluidity of current talks.

Rillie said if the bargaining team does not see “significant movement” being made toward negotiating a new contract, the team

will call for a strike vote.

In an interview with the Chronicle and other members of the administration Sept. 9, President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim’s Chief of Staff Laurent Pernot said there are many aspects to a contract negotiation, with pay being one of them.

“I think both sides are striving in good faith to move things forward,” Pernot said. “And we hope it is brought to fruition with a contract that helps advance the goals of the college.”

The bargaining team announced to union members earlier this month the intent to call for a strike vote in order to give members time to plan and ask questions. If the team does not see progress being made toward a new contract, they will then call for a strike vote in October, with the potential strike taking place in November.

“For many folks here, this is their first unionized job,” Rillie said. “I wish that was not the case; I wish folks had more union

jobs. But for a lot of folks who are here, this is their first one. So we have to do a lot of one-on-one talks about ‘What does this mean?’ And, ‘What does our future look like if we do not take stronger, more radical action to demand equity at the college?’”

In an email to the Chronicle following the Sept. 17 meeting, Rillie said the college will present an economic proposal for the union bargaining team to review at the next meeting on Oct. 4. They said they look forward to more “substantial” bargaining sessions.

“Conditions that we work in are conditions that students learn in, and as every staff [member] here says how much they care about the students and the school, staff are starting to really respond in a way that says, ‘I am worth the fight because this college is worth the fight,’” Rillie said.

CCUTINELLO@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

New scheduling system could threaten staff jobs, union says

»CAMRYN CUTINELLO
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A NEW SCHEDULING system consisting of four academic scheduler positions—as opposed to 17 staffers who now take part in the process—will change the way the school handles academic scheduling. The proposed system has been met with some backlash, as the change could potentially lead to staff cutbacks.

In an email to staff and faculty, Senior Vice President and Provost Marcella David announced that Columbia would begin using a “shared model of scheduling.” The letter states that four academic scheduler positions will be created.

Two of these will be housed in the School of Fine and Performing Arts, one in the School of Media Arts and one in the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Alongside these four positions, an assistant registrar academic scheduling position and an academic scheduling support specialist position will be created in the Registrar’s office.

According to Registrar Keri Walters, the new system will begin when scheduling starts for the Summer and Fall 2022 semesters.

Walters said the college hired the American

Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers in 2015 to help develop a new model for student registration. She said she did not know the cost of the project.

Walters said the current system schedules on a department-by-department basis. The new model was recommended by AACRAO to create a centralized process of scheduling.

AACRAO also expressed security concerns and said with the centralized scheduling model, the data is more secure.

“That’s part of what AACRAO noted in their review of our process: that having that many people working simultaneously means that there are lots of opportunities for mistakes,” said Nathan Bakkum, senior associate provost and associate professor. “Our schedulers are great. They are. They’re really good at what they do, but mistakes happen.”

According to Craig Sigele, academic manager in the Communication Department and president of the United Staff of Columbia College, the current 17 employees have not been informed of what will happen to their jobs following this change. Sigele handles scheduling for the Communication Department.

“There has been no direct communication

to any of these staff members,” Sigele said in a Sept. 13 interview with the Chronicle. “All communication has gone through the chairs.”

Bakkum said the Academic Personnel team and associate deans have met repeatedly with department chairs.

“The department chairs really have been the key members of the administration that have been communicating with department schedulers,” Bakkum said. “We’ve also had opportunities for the [current] schedulers to ask questions of the associate deans and of the department chairs throughout that process.”

During a Faculty Senate meeting Sept. 10, Bakkum said this change is about making the scheduling process more efficient, and not about eliminating positions.

Bakkum said once the new positions are filled, the administration will look at the needs of each department and then determine which of the current 17 positions will still be needed based on workload.

“We could very well get to the end of this, though, and have reorganized positions and the same number of staff that are currently serving,” Bakkum said during the meeting.

The 17 current staff members were each given a survey to “gain insight into the roles and responsibilities of employees.”

The email from the provost said surveys were analyzed with each chair, associate dean and dean “to consider what, if any, consolidation or realignment of existing roles and responsibilities will be needed once the new positions are filled.”

“For a school that says it has no money, and it can’t give a raise to the staff, or the faculty, it’s hard for me to believe they’re just gonna hire six new positions and keep all the other people,” Sigele said.

Walters said the administration will follow Human Resources protocol and post positions internally, and all qualified candidates will be interviewed. Candidates will be chosen by November.

Walters said with the new system the school hopes to improve the scheduling process for students. Along with the new scheduling system, Walters said there are also plans to add a waitlist option for classes that are full.

“We really want to do a better job predicting student wants and needs and making sure that we have enough seats for students,” Walters said, “and it’s not so difficult for students to register for the course sections that they need.”

CCUTINELLO@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

The Grail Cafe

715 S. Dearborn ST. Chicago, IL ,60605

Food – Coffee - Pastries – Tea – Small Bites – Wine - Beer

www.thegrailcafe.com

P. 312-756-8977 Insta:@thegrail.cafe Facebook:@Grailcafe

Students come together for Convocation in Grant Park, first major in-person campus event in 18 months

»NATHAN SIRKIN
STAFF REPORTER

COLUMBIA FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS invaded Grant Park earlier this month for New Student Convocation— dancing, laughing, bumping elbows — seeking the camaraderie, spirit and touch they have been without for more than a year.

This annual event featured speeches from Columbia President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim, student leaders, musical performances and more.

Kim gave his first in-person address in 18 months to the crowd of new students.

“Our differences, and there are many, make us stronger, make us better [and] make us more valuable,” Kim said. “The core principle of being part of this institution is the idea of embracing difference. And I hope you will join us in that.”

Kim advised students to explore themselves both creatively and personally and suggested that students “take advantage of everything [the college] has to offer.”

“Get to know your faculty, explore the facilities, meet as many of your colleagues as you can,” Kim said. “That’s how you’re going to squeeze the full value out of Columbia and make it yours.”

In an interview with the Chronicle, Kim said Convocation is a sign the college is “back” and looking forward to the future.

“The next phase for Columbia is building a creative community and being a place where young creatives come to explore and test what it means to be authentic in the world,” Kim said. “For me, this is really about rebuilding our community. We’ve all been under wraps for 18 months.”

Students were also treated to performances from fellow Columbia students such as T Star Verse, Natalie Finfer, Zorila and more.

Finfer, better known as Finger Beats, is a senior audio design and production major. Coming off a performance at the Lyrical Lemonade Summer Smash Festival in June, Finfer shared her excitement about performing at Convocation for the first time.

“I like being able to share an environment with people, especially after these crazy times to just watch their eyes light up to see that it’s okay to move around,” Finfer said. “Knowing that it’s okay to dance with people. It’s okay to talk to people. It’s just a really heartwarming feeling.”

Finfer shared her feelings on being a senior and how returning to on-campus learning after around 18 months has impacted her.

“It’s weird, because I feel like I kind of ... spiritually graduated,” Finfer said. “I feel like I was like, ‘OK, I did college, I had that.’ But now coming back I feel like I’m going in a portal back, and I’m happy because I still never got my full college experience.”

Finfer, who has an upcoming show at Subterranean and also performs at Empty Bottle, is hopeful and excited for the return to campus.

“I’m excited to come back and do more, but it’s also just weird because a part of me thought I was done with that,” Finfer said. “And now I’m back, and I’m stoked about it. It’s just crazy.”

NSIRKIN@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM



TANDREA HAWKINS, ALSO KNOWN AS “T STAR VERSE,” PERFORMS ON STAGE FOR THE INCOMING STUDENTS AHEAD OF THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR.

»BIANCA KREUSEL/CHRONICLE



STUDENTS DURING COVOCATION CONGREGATE ON THE HILL TO MINGLE AND CELEBRATE THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR.

»K'VON JACKSON/CHRONICLE



»ABRA RICHARDSON/CHRONICLE

STUDENTS DANCE TO FINGER BEATS AS IT BEGINS TO SPRINKLE.



»K'VON JACKSON/CHRONICLE

COLUMBIA PRESIDENT AND CEO KWANG-WU KIM AND CHIEF OF STAFF LAURENT PERNOT SHARE A MOMENT AWAY FROM THE CROWD AT THE NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION SEPT. 3.

Amid lingering deficit, President Kim, administration search for optimism: ‘We believe in this institution’

» CAMRYN CUTINELLO
» NOAH JENNINGS
CO-EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO, Columbia faced a new reality when the COVID-19 pandemic forced classes to go remote. Now, the college is facing another new reality: bringing the campus back together.

The Chronicle sat down with President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim and other key members of the administration to discuss their thoughts on the college’s status with a unique year ahead.

COVID-19 AND THE RETURN TO CAMPUS

During the interview on Sept. 9, Kim said seeing students’ faces again has made his return to campus “emotional.”

“I felt like my whole energy base was missing [last year],” Kim said. “Even just seeing students at Convocation for me was just very thrilling.”

Kim said he is pleased by the COVID-19 vaccination rate on campus, and it gives him hope for the year ahead.

“We’re coming into this year with the advantage as a community of an extraordinarily high level of [vaccinations],” Kim said.

The Columbia community has a total vaccination rate of 97%, numbers that Chief of Staff Laurent Pernot said give him confidence in a smooth year ahead.

“We are one of the most vaccinated places, frankly, anywhere on the planet,” Pernot said.

Because of this and the masking rules, Pernot said the college does not have any threshold of positive cases set for campus regulations to change. Instead, the COVID-19 task force will continue to work with Rush Medical Center to determine the best path forward.

Senior Vice President and Provost Marcella David said the Columbia community as a whole cares about being socially responsible and staying healthy, adding that the COVID-19 regulations at Columbia do not carry the same “political ramifications” as they would at other schools.

“We’re an institution where the students, the faculty and the staff are all working together to make this a safe environment,” David said.

BUDGET

This fiscal year, Columbia is working with an expected deficit of \$27.5 million. Jerry Tarrer, senior vice president of Business Affairs and chief financial officer, said due to federal funding the college predicts the deficit this year will ultimately end up lower, but it is still basing the budget off of the projected numbers.

Kim said a large part of the deficit comes from a change in recruitment strategies. Traditionally, Columbia did not discount tuition as much as other schools, but attempted to present the lowest tuition rate possible. The college found that prospective students reacted more positively toward higher discounts and started giving more discounts to students through financial aid, but this change added to the deficit.

Kim said despite the deficit, Columbia

to student housing. Columbia leases space in four residence halls, which the college had to pay for last year, even when most students were learning from home.

“The college has several dormitories for which we have long-term lease commitments,” Tarrer said. “So we’re, in essence, on the hook to pay for those dorms, whether we have students occupying them or not. So having that in-person experience meets the student needs and provides them an opportunity to live on campus and to engage. But it also helps the college’s bottom line.”

ENROLLMENT

During a Faculty Senate meeting Sept. 10, Michael Joseph, vice president of Enrollment Management, shared the latest enrollment numbers, showing a slight decrease this year from the number of students registered on

“One of the things that was challenging this last year was we didn’t get to use our most effective recruitment tools.”

Two years ago, the college began a five-year plan with increased spending to ultimately bring enrollment to 8,500 students. Pernot said they have now “reset the clock” on that same plan due to COVID-19.

MOVING FORWARD

Kim said the administration started planning last spring for new students’ arrival in the fall, which this year included both the freshman and sophomore classes.

“I had a very specific experience — we were doing taping on campus, and one of the students who was being filmed was a sophomore and was saying that they were very excited, because it was the first time they’ve been on campus. That just made this real to me, someone who had been a student for a whole year who had never been on campus,” Kim said.

Sharon Wilson-Taylor, vice president for Student Affairs, said the plan for sophomores is called Engage 2.0. The events planned included socials for sophomores to meet fellow classmates in person and services to teach students about campus resources.

“Engage 2.0 — all the things that we did with the freshman that the sophomore missed out on — we’re going to go back and do it with avenues, because they’re a little bit more mature,” Wilson-Taylor said.

Tarrer said he wants students to know the administration is dedicated to providing the best education possible.

“We believe in this institution... we believe in our students,” Tarrer said. “We’re really, really dedicated to ensuring that you all as students have everything you need to get the kind of education you want to receive.”

David said seeing every student work through a form of adversity in the past year gives her pride.

“I’m really proud of our students,” David said. “I’m really thankful for the trust the students have put in us to launch their careers.”

As another unprecedented year begins, Pernot said to remember community.

“We’re all in this together,” Pernot said.



» K'VON JACKSON/CHRONICLE

PRESIDENT AND CEO KWANG-WU KIM EXPLAINS HOW THE COLLEGE HAS ADAPTED TO CREATE SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR STUDENTS THIS FALL.

is still investing in “key priorities,” such as faculty hires and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work, with the hope that these investments, along with the updated recruitment model, will have a positive impact on the budget in the future.

“There’s a difference between a deficit that surprises you, which is really the worst scenario, versus a deficit that you’ve planned out,” Kim said. “And so where we are right now is that we’ve made a conscious decision to allocate more money this way, believing that over the course of the next number of years, it’s going to even out and we’ll be back in balance.”

The return to campus also means a return

opening day last year, going from 6,854 in Fall 2020 to 6,746 in Fall 2021.

The numbers will not be finalized until census day on Sept. 28. During the meeting, Pernot shared that the numbers are expected to go up due to students who previously had their schedule canceled due to not getting vaccinated. In total, 71 students were able to re-enroll in time to be counted toward the total first-day enrollment.

Kim said he is content with where the numbers are given the circumstances but would like to see enrollment grow in the coming semesters.

“Obviously we’d like to have more students, but we feel pretty good about it,” Kim said.

CCUTINELLO@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM
NJENNINGS@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

POST MALONE PERFORMS HIS HIT BALLAD "BETTER NOW" JULY 31.

»SOFIA FELINO/CHRONICLE



LIVE AGAIN: CHICAGO MUSIC RETURNS

»SOFIA FELINO/CHRONICLE



PITCHFORK MUSIC FESTIVAL ATTENDEES WITH EXCLUSIVE FESTIVAL GROUNDS ACCESS PEEK OVER A FENCE TO LISTEN TO PERFORMERS AT PITCHFORK'S BLUE STAGE.



»ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL/CHRONICLE

» ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL
CO-DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

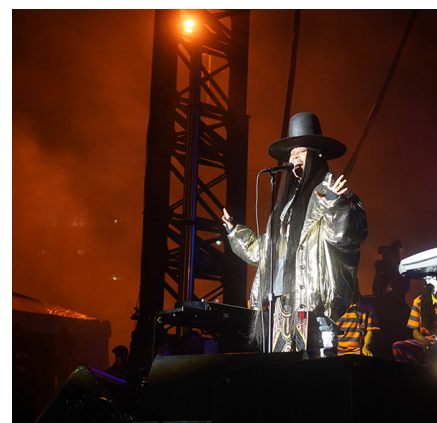
LAST YEAR, CHICAGO'S booming music festival scene was brought to an abrupt halt by the pandemic. Chicago mainstays like Lollapalooza, Pitchfork and Riot Fest took COVID-induced hiatuses.

This year, concerts and festivals came back with a bang, some reeling in tens of thousands of fans each day, with Lollapalooza drawing an estimated 385,000 people over four days.

This summer, Chronicle reporters and photojournalists covered several of these concerts and music festivals around the city, as live music adapted to the pandemic.

ZCLINGENPEEL@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

»ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL/CHRONICLE



»JARED CALLAWAY/CHRONICLE



FANS CLAP ALONG TO WEEZER AT WRIGLEY FIELD DURING THEIR PERFORMANCE FOR THE HELLA MEGA TOUR CONCERT AUG. 15.

»SOFIA FELINO/CHRONICLE



FESTIVALGOERS LINE UP FOR A SWEET TREAT DURING AN UNEXPECTED RAIN SHOWER AT RIOT FEST SEPT. 18.

PITCHFORK MUSIC FESTIVAL HEADLINER ERYKAH BADU CLOSES OUT THE FESTIVAL WITH A PERFORMANCE ON THE MAIN STAGE SEPT. 12.



TYLER, THE CREATOR PERFORMS "WUSYANAME," THE BREAKOUT TRACK FROM HIS NEW ALBUM "CALL ME IF YOU GET LOST," AT LOLLAPALOOZA JUL. 30.

FEVER 333 VOCALIST JASON AALAN BUTLER DOUSES HIMSELF IN WATER DURING THE BAND'S RIOT FEST SET SEPT. 19.



»SOFIA FELINO/CHRONICLE

»ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL/CHRONICLE



PRINCESS NOKIA CROWD SURFS DURING HER LOLLAPALOOZA SET AUG. 1.

»SOFIA FELINO/CHRONICLE



MORGAN SIMPSON, DRUMMER FOR BLACK MIDI, PERFORMS WITH HIS BAND AT THE PITCHFORK MUSIC FESTIVAL SEPT. 10.

THE ASHLAND PINK LINE TRAIN STATION EXPERIENCES LARGE AMOUNTS OF LOOP-BOUND TRAFFIC ON THE LAST DAY OF THE PITCHFORK MUSIC FESTIVAL SEPT. 12.



»ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL/CHRONICLE

SGA's new executive board strives to bring Columbia back together again



»VALENTINA PUCARELLI/CHRONICLE

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SPEAKS AT NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION AT GRANT PARK SEPT. 3

»JORDAN PERKINS
STAFF REPORTER

FOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT Association President Reese Givens, the 2021-2022 academic year signals a fresh start as Columbia transitions back to in-person instruction.

Givens, a junior cinema and television arts major, said Columbia's new students and some of the school's returning students have limited familiarity with the campus due to COVID-19. Givens said a smooth transition is part of SGA's general goals for the year.

"We're trying to pull the community we've worked so hard [to create] online back in

person and making sure that everyone feels comfortable," Givens said. "There's just so many little things that feel natural to students who have been here for years, but weird to newer students, so anything to make that easier is our number one goal."

The five student board members also expressed personal goals for their time win SGA.

Executive Vice President Olivia Coelho Porto, a junior acting major, said her goal with SGA is to increase the communication between the school and the students, especially in any decision-making.

Porto said during her time as the international student senator, listening to her

friends talk about different issues concerning the school made her want to run for the vice president position.

Executive Vice President of Communications Easton Dippel said his inspiration to run for SGA was noticing confusion among the freshman class regarding transportation to campus during the 2020-2021 academic year and feeling more could be done to help first-year students integrate into Columbia.

Dippel, a sophomore theatre design and technology major, said his biggest goal as the vice president of communications is to educate Columbia students on what the campus has to offer and use social media to

show students the different campus buildings and events.

"I think there's a lot of things this campus has that a lot of people don't know about," Dippel said, referring to buildings, resources and activities.

Julianna Lakomski, the executive vice president of finance, said ultimately her goal for her time in the SGA is to be a good role model for students.

Lakomski, a senior English major, first served as the transfer senator for SGA and said she ran for the executive position because of the impact the executive board had on her while she was a senator, and she hopes to make that same impact in her new role.

Ben Jossi, the student representative to the Board of Trustees, said his position is one that always appealed to him because he represents many students. Jossi said the new role feels like a continuation of his previous positions as a first- and second-year student senator.

As for his personal goals, Jossi, a junior music composition and production major, said he wants to represent students' beliefs when it comes to any decisions made by the Board of Trustees and address the student feedback to the board in a way that is sensible to them.

As the academic year kicks off, the executive board of SGA is excited to be on campus again and has noticed the excitement from students.

"There's a lot of pent-up enthusiasm and people wanting to get involved," Givens said.

Porto said she missed being in the SGA room because it was easier building relationships with people in person rather than online.

"I wasn't on campus for a year and a half, and that was really difficult, so I am so happy to be back," Lakomski said.

JPERKINS@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM



»VALENTINA PUCARELLI/CHRONICLE

REESE GIVENS, SGA PRESIDENT



»VALENTINA PUCARELLI/CHRONICLE

OLIVIA COELHO PORTO, SGA VICE PRESIDENT



»VALENTINA PUCARELLI/CHRONICLE

BEN JOSSI, SGA STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



»VALENTINA PUCARELLI/CHRONICLE

JULIANNA LAKOMSKI, SGA VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE



»VALENTINA PUCARELLI/CHRONICLE

EASTON DIPPEL, SGA VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

'I vote because of the promise of progress': Stacey Abrams takes on voter suppression, reproductive rights at Chicago luncheon

» OLIVIA COHEN
STAFF REPORTER

ALL EYES WERE on voting rights activist and former Georgia state legislator Stacey Abrams at a Chicago luncheon Sept. 14 as she tapped into attendees' sense of patriotism, delivering a message of empowerment against a backdrop of voter suppression happening in parts of the country.

"We are yoked together by our citizenship, by our residency, but we should also be yoked together by our patriotism," Abrams said. "I am here because I believe in this mission. I don't vote because of the act of voting, I vote because of the promise of progress. I vote because when we do so, when we elect people who see us, serve us, value us, we write the next page of our history."

The Chicago Foundation for Women's 36th annual luncheon, with a theme of "Rise Up, Disrupt," was held in a hybrid format at the Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave. Abrams' address touched on many topics, including voter suppression, several states stripping reproductive choice from their constituents, as well as the ways political activism and change have been ingrained within her, as Abrams' parents were both heavily involved in voting rights.

"When you break democracy for anyone,

you break it for everyone," Abrams said when speaking on protecting the right to vote. "Invest not in winning, but invest in succeeding."

Ann Marie Wright, board of directors chair for the Chicago Foundation for Women, attended the event and said she was excited to witness Abrams' words firsthand.

"[Having Abrams here] is exciting," Wright said. "I think that is highly appropriate [that Abrams spoke], especially given the fact that our organization is focused on making sure that everything is equitable for women and girls, and as we know what's happened in the last few weeks, with the Texas law ... we're here to make sure to stand up for women and girls."

Jessi Moon, senior director of development for the Chicago Foundation for Women, agreed with Wright.

"At CFW, we want to empower women and girls as catalysts for communities. We think that if you invest in women and girls, you're investing in full communities," Moon said. "I think [Abrams] is someone who everyone in this room looks up to, and that's what we're

looking to do here in Chicago, to rise up and disrupt, and build better systems for women and girls. She's a sterling example."

women in numerous ways, such as providing COVID-19 aid.

In addition to Abrams, co-founders Sunny Fischer and Iris J. Krieg spoke to kick off the event and were followed by the CFW's president and CEO Felicia Davis.

In her speech, Davis called on the Chicago community, Illinois policymakers, local business leaders and philanthropists to join their coalition by merely listening to the experiences and needs of women, particularly women of color.

"The reality is that these issues are not just women's issues, they impact every one of us, and it will take all of us to move forward, together; the

time is now to reshape the systems that hold women and the communities of color down," Davis said.

OCOHEN@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM



» IRVIN IBARRA/CHRONICLE

FORMER GEORGIA STATE LEGISLATOR STACEY ABRAMS GETS A WELCOMING ROUND OF APPLAUSE FROM THE CROWD AT THE ANNUAL CFW LUNCHEON.

The Chicago Foundation for Women works to create opportunities and resources for women, women of color, adolescents, as well as trans and nonbinary Chicagoans. The organization hones in on women's access to work and economic security, freedom from violence and expanding access to healthcare. This year, CFW launched their "SheCovary" program, which will work to invest in Chicago

Mexican Independence Day 2021: Chicagoans celebrate across the city

» IRVIN IBARRA
STAFF REPORTER

FLAGS OF MANY Latin American countries, a majority of which were Mexican, filled the streets of Chicago this past week leading up

to the start of Hispanic Heritage Month.

The warm-up to Mexican Independence Day — "El Grito De Dolores," which translates to "The Cry of Dolores" and is sometimes referred to as "El Grito" for short — is celebrated annually on Sept. 15, the eve of Mexican Independence Day.

Since the Aug. 16 announcement of the Mexican Independence Day parade cancellation in Little Village, local residents created alternative plans for celebrating their countries' independence day.

In Little Village, 26th Street was packed with residents sitting on top of their cars, waving their countries' flags. Many drivers held down their car horns, some even beeping to the tune of "Viva México," or "Long Live Mexico."

The scent of tire rubber burnt out on the asphalt of the streets and its smoke filled the area as residents walking down the road cheered alongside those in their cars.

On South Pulaski Street in Archer Heights,

vendors stood on opposite sides of the street selling Latin American flags in all sizes on the day of "El Grito."

Juan Manuel Cazadero was one of those who stood on South Pulaski Street selling flags.

"They're our roots," Cazadero said in Spanish. "So that people don't lose their roots [about] their independence."

"El Grito" refers to the first cry for independence by Miguel Hidalgo, a Catholic priest from Guanajuato, Mexico, against the Spanish colonial government on Sept. 16, 1810.

The 15th of September is not only "El Grito de Dolores," it is also Central American Independence Day, with El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala each declaring their independence against Spain on the same day. Chile celebrates its independence on Sept. 18.

IIBARRA@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM



» K'VON JACKSON/CHRONICLE

HUNDREDS OF CARS POUR ONTO MICHIGAN AVENUE TO SHUT DOWN TRAFFIC AND CELEBRATE MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE.

South Loop blues club Buddy Guy's Legends reopens its doors after 17 months

» VALENTINA PUCARELLI
PHOTOJOURNALIST
» ABRA RICHARDSON
STAFF REPORTER

BUDDY GUY'S LEGENDS feels quieter than usual, but with precautions in place, it's finally back to having almost daily blues performances and dancing patrons after a year and a half of darkness.

Buddy Guy's Legends, 700 S. Wabash Ave., had its grand reopening on Aug. 20 with NuBlu Band featuring Carlise Guy, plus an appearance from blues legend and owner Buddy Guy.

In an interview with the Chronicle Sept. 15, Charlotte Nunn, director of operations at Buddy Guy's Legends, said COVID-19 restrictions for Chicago bars prohibited them from opening sooner.

Nunn said reopening with 25% capacity would have been a financial disaster for them.

"I have to be able to sustain myself, and that means that I have to have enough customers in here to maintain and [make] payroll with the staff, as well as keep my lights and gas and pay bills," Nunn said.

Jim DeRogatis, music critic and associate professor of instruction in the English and Creative Writing Department, said many music venues were facing an existential crisis after being closed for a year and a half.

DeRogatis said government aid was slow in reaching art and music venues and theaters.

"We're lucky they survived, because Chicago without places like Buddy Guy's

or Metro or Thalia Hall would be a very different and much poorer city in terms of the arts," DeRogatis said.

Linda Janota, a bartender who has been working at Buddy Guy's Legends for almost 17 years, said learning the bar was going to close in March 2020 due to COVID-19 felt surreal.

"You never thought you'd come into work one day and they say you have to close because there's some virus going around, and we don't know when you can reopen," Janota said.

Janota said the mask mandate returned the

same weekend as their reopening on Aug. 20, so the event wasn't as big as they would have hoped for.

"The most important thing is we got the doors open; we got people in here; the bar was serving again," Janota said.

Janota said she noticed people are more cautious, and the bar is quieter now in comparison to before the pandemic.

Brother John Kattke, Marty Binder, Paul Streff and Doug Corcoran have been playing as a group at Buddy Guy's Legends since its opening in 1989.

Kattke, their lead singer, guitarist and keyboardist, said playing at Buddy Guy's Legends after 17 months felt unusual, even though they had been playing at outdoor venues since May 2020.

Binder, their drummer, said not being able to play at Buddy Guy's Legends for so long was a big loss, as he used to play there four or five times a month before the pandemic hit.

"We've missed Buddy's club in particular, a great supporter for local blues musicians," Binder said.



KEYBOARDIST DOUG CORCORAN PERFORMS AT BROTHER JOHN'S SESSION.

Brother John is back hosting "Jam Night" every other week on Wednesday evenings.

"We just want the people back. We had good people; we had happy people; we had international people," Nunn said. "As soon as the world opens back up, and people are more comfortable to travel, we'll get back; we'll get back there."

VPUCARELLI@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM
ARICHARDSON@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM



DOUG CORCORAN PLAYS THE SAXOPHONE AT BUDDY GUY'S LEGENDS, 700 S. WABASH AVE., ON SEPT. 15.



BREEZY RODIO PERFORMS AT BUDDY GUY'S LEGENDS AS THE ICONIC BLUES CLUB RETURNED TO LIFE.



WHILE INTERVIEWING PERFORMERS AND STAFF FOR THIS STORY, CHRONICLE JOURNALISTS ABRA RICHARDSON (LEFT) AND VALENTINA PUCARELLI (RIGHT) HAD A CHANCE ENCOUNTER WITH THE CLUB'S NAMESAKE, BLUES LEGEND BUDDY GUY.

For artists, by artists: How Chicago-based artists self-organize in spite of the pandemic

» IRVIN IBARRA
STAFF REPORTER

FOR YOUNG AND new artists, finding art shows in existing and established art galleries can be difficult and unprofitable, which is why Chicago-based art curator LizAnne Cook took up the mantle to curate their own art event in spite of the pandemic this past summer.

For the past two years, Ludlow Liquor has been the venue where curators Cook and artist Diego “Bird Milk” Aguilar have hosted their pop-up art exhibitions called the “Dope Art Show.” Artists and eventgoers got together for the most recent exhibition on the patio of the small bar in Avondale last month.

The show is sustained mainly by donations from patrons, and artists make 100% of the proceeds for artwork they sell.

“Young artists and new artists don’t get those same opportunities,” Cook said. “It is a very community-driven show. It is something that, to us, is very, very special.”

Since its inception in 2019, turnout has grown for the Dope Art Show with roughly 300 people attending each show this summer alone, and at least one exhibition has been held every month since May.

“Everything they’re doing is really amazing,” said Alejandro “Underseagravyart” Martell, senior illustration major at Columbia and artist exhibited at the Dope Art Show. “At Columbia, we really don’t get the opportunities [to] even exhibit our work or even have moments where we have public exhibitions ... so when we finally get that opportunity, it’s pretty monumental.”

These same artists also attend a studio space in Logan Square called AnySquared Projects with an attendance of 50 to 100 regulars at their open studio days on Wednesdays.

“Our foundation is built upon the idea that we can do anything as long as we do it together,” said Tracy Kostenbader, artist, art curator and creator of AnySquared Projects. “We make things ourselves, we do it ourselves, we create spaces for us as a whole group.”

AnySquared was heavily impacted during the early months of the pandemic when one of their own shows, LIP 20/20, shut down in early March 2020. Since the Chicago reopening on June 11 of this year,

open studio days have returned to some in-person sessions with masks, Zoom meetings with artists and art talks, and future art events planned for this fall.

In comparison to the creative spaces AnySquared and the Dope Art Show provide, both Martell and Matthew “Mapsketchbook” Petrovich, a senior illustration major, criticized the college for a lack of genuine spaces for artists to organize shows and miscommunication to artists when they do.

This disconnection they feel led to these artists connecting outside of Columbia.

“This whole idea of art shows that are put together by just individual artists... is extremely important,” Petrovich said. “As a way to build community, as a way to connect these artists with each other.”

IBARRA@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM



PATRONS OF THE ART EVENT ENJOY WATCHING THE VARIETY OF PETS THAT SHOW UP, PETTING THEM AND TAKING PHOTOS WITH THEM — A STAPLE OF THE SHOW.



TO PREVENT THE EVENT FROM GETTING OVERCROWDED, ATTENDEES CIRCULATE BASED ON THEIR RESERVATION TO ENSURE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND ALLOW MORE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPACE.

» IRVIN IBARRA / CHRONICLE

» IRVIN IBARRA / CHRONICLE

The key to preventing a future pandemic is in changing the way we treat animals

»VALENTINA PUCARELLI
PHOTOJOURNALIST

IT IS STILL unclear whether humans first contracted COVID-19 in a lab or in the wildlife trade market in China.

What we do know is COVID-19 has zoonotic origins, meaning that if we weren't using animals for research or as food, we might not be where we are today.

This is not only true for COVID-19, but also many other zoonotic diseases — diseases with animal origins — in the world such as Ebola, bird flu, swine flu, salmonella and E. coli, among others.

Dr. Aysha Akhtar is a public health specialist and CEO of the Center for Contemporary Sciences. Akhtar said she predicted this pandemic in 2014.

"I wasn't the only one, many other scientists and doctors have been saying for quite some time ... that our relationship with other animals is increasing our risk for infectious diseases and will likely be the cause of the next pandemic," Akhtar said.

A study conducted by the National Center for Biotechnology Information reviewed workshops conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention between 2014 and 2016, before the COVID-19 pandemic. The study found up to 75% of new or emerging infectious diseases came from animals.

Akhtar said one of the reasons the risk of infectious diseases is so high among humans is because of how animals are treated in factory farms and the wildlife trade market.

According to Akhtar, animals are being jammed into very small spaces in extreme temperatures and are put under very stressful conditions, which weakens their immune systems, leading to diseases that are easily caught and spread.

"The only way we're really going to end factory farming though, is if the demand for meat, eggs and dairy goes down, and that means that each of us has to make a decision about who or what we choose to eat," Akhtar said.

According to Dr. Michael Klaper, an

internationally-recognized doctor and educator, going vegan is also one of the most effective decisions we can make to prevent ourselves from getting seriously ill. He also credited a vegan lifestyle with reducing the risk of getting the vast majority of degenerative and fatal diseases like cancer, diabetes, heart attacks and more that can result from a Western style of eating.

A study conducted by the BMJ Nutrition Prevention & Health found that people who follow a plant-based diet have a 73% less chance of experiencing a moderate-to-severe case of COVID-19, compared to participants who did not follow a plant-based diet.

Some of the biggest misconceptions about being vegan are that people are not getting enough nutrients and that a plant-based diet is expensive.

I personally have been vegan for seven months for all reasons: the animals, the environment, my genetically high cholesterol, and more recently, because I do not want another pandemic. I have not spent any extra money on food, and am probably saving

money as I am cooking more, eating out less and not buying as many processed foods.

According to Klaper, with the exception of vitamin B-12, a whole food, plant-based diet can provide all the necessary nutrients needed.

Foods like beans, chickpeas, lentils, rice, peanuts, sunflower seeds, pasta, fruits and vegetables that can provide a balanced vegan diet can be found for a low cost at stores like Aldi and Walmart and local urban farms offering "pay what you can" programs and CSA boxes.

The COVID-19 pandemic has not been fun for anyone, so I doubt there is anyone who would want to go through it again. The good thing is, by changing the way we eat, we can actually help reduce the risk of another one, plus improve our individual and public health.

"A lot of the power is really in our hands, so if we choose one plate of food over another, we could significantly reduce our risk for the next pandemic," Akhtar said.

VPUCARELLI@COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

INTERESTED IN PLANNING CAMPUS-WIDE EVENTS?



JOIN

the STUDENT PROGRAMMING BOARD

**WEEKLY MONDAY MEETINGS AT
5 P.M. IN HAUS (623 S. WABASH)**

**ALL GRADE LEVELS AND
MAJORS ARE WELCOMED!**

[@SPBCOLUMBIA](#)   

Are you 17 or under, interested in HIV prevention, and assigned male at birth?

You may be eligible for our study

- Free & confidential HIV/STI testing
- Up to \$1800 compensation
- Referral bonus when applicable

if you or someone you know is interested, learn more:

www.inject2protect.org
rmcpherson@cookcountyhhs.org
 phone: 708-362-0483



HPTN

083-01

Prevention for Teens

» ABRA RICHARDSON



1 The Grail Cafe - This is the best independent cafe in the area! It has amazing coffee and food, as well as a comfortable seating area.

2 Grant Park - Duh, it's literally right there. Enjoy it while the weather is still bearable.

3 Buddy Guy's Legends - It's finally open again, and people under 21 are allowed in until 8 p.m.! Enjoy some free live music and look around at all of the incredible memorabilia.

4 Exile in Bookville - I highly recommend looking through all of the used books for a good read!

5 Target - Let's be real, here. There's always something to do at Target

» K'VON JACKSON



1 Milton Lee Olive Park - I love this place. It's hidden away next to Navy Pier and has a gorgeous view of the John Hancock Center.

2 31st Street Harbor - Hidden away on the Near South Side, this beach has great views of the skyline and usually has live music at the venue.

3 Ping Tom Memorial Park - In a secluded spot in Chinatown, this park has beautiful natural scenery and a free water taxi that takes you downtown.

4 Dearborn Park - Behind the infamous Dearborn Station is a quiet park for students to sit and relax and watch squirrels.

5 Art Institute of Chicago's North Garden - Sitting next to the the Art Institute of Chicago is a cute little park with captivating sculptures.

» KRISTEN GESICKI



1 The Student Center - I love to go there to get homework done and make some friends, even when I'm sweaty from the gym!

2 Insomnia Cookies - Getting a warm, fresh cookie after a night class is my favorite stop on my way back to my apartment.

3 Sandmeyer's Bookstore - I'm a total book nerd and love how friendly the staff is to suggest new books to read!

4 Millennium Park - Who doesn't love to pretend to be a tourist? You can't go wrong with getting another selfie with the famous Bean.

5 Quartino Ristorante - I am a sucker for homemade Italian food. When I'm craving the best fettuccine alfredo, this is the place.

» VALENTINA PUCARELLI



1 Native Foods - This vegan food spot never fails me when I'm hungry. It's also never packed, so it's a good place to hang out and get some work done.

2 Trader Joe's - It could be the deals, the vegan options, the nice workers or the endorphins from knowing I'm going to eat soon, but I always leave happy.

3 Museum Campus - It's never crowded when I want to relax, and there's always bunnies running around.

4 Cafecito - With its "Sabor Imposible" sandwich and Latin music playing, it gives me enough energy to make it through the rest of the day.

5 Second Floor of 33 E. Ida B. Wells Drive - I spend a lot of time there working on my stories for the Chronicle and homework for my classes.

What the Constitution Means to Me



A Play by
Heidi Schreck

Directed by
Oliver Butler

Starring
Cassie Beck

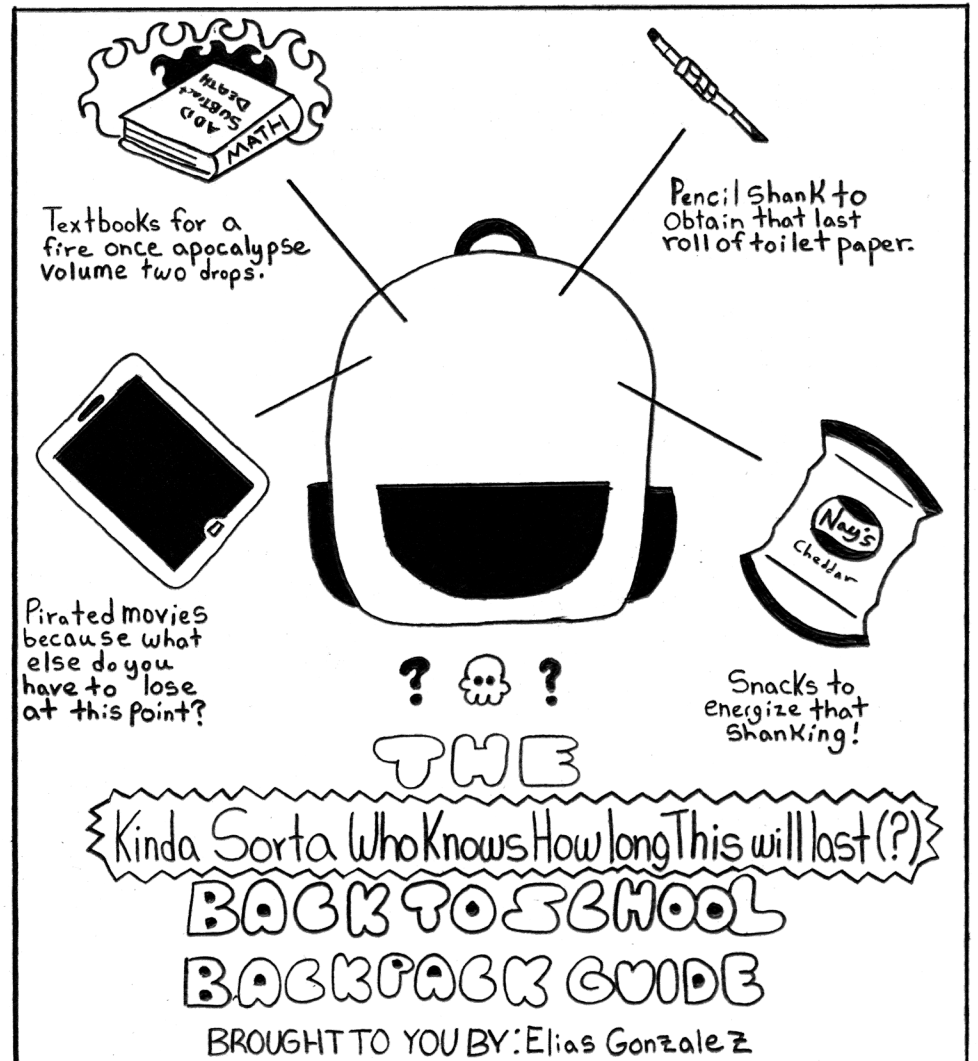
OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 21

BROADWAY
PLAYHOUSE
AT WAYNE TOWER PLACE

BROADWAY IN CHICAGO.COM

800-775-2000 | Groups 10+: 312-977-1710 | Tickets available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices

Audience members are all required to be masked and show proof of vaccination. For those with exemptions, proof of a negative COVID 19 test is required. For the latest health and safety procedures and guidelines visit BroadwayInChicago.com/COVID19





**THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO
PRESENTS A RESIDENCY CONCERT FEATURING:**

ALUM AND GRAMMY AWARD WINNING ARTIST

JONATHAN McREYNOLDS

November 12, 7 p.m

**Music Center Concert Hall
1014 S. Michigan Ave.**

\$20 General admission

\$10 Staff, faculty, and family of performers

\$5 Students with ID

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

For tickets, visit

colum.edu/jonathanmcreynolds