AUGSBURG UNIVERSITY
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THE PROMISING FUTURES CAMPAIGN AND WHAT FUTURE AUGSBURG PROMISES

Klaus Solko co-executive editor



Photo of the Hagfors Center, taken by user MC2211 on Jan. 22, 2018, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

On Oct. 2, Augsburg University hosted the "Promising Futures" Gala. This gala was held for the "Promising Futures" campaign and to celebrate Paul Pribbenow's 21st and last year of presidency. The gala was attended by over 940 people, including Attorney General Keith Ellison. Over 81 companies and sponsors were at the Gala too, such as the Minnesota Vikings.

The "Promising Futures" campaign was started in 2023 with the goal "to raise $25,000,000 to support innovative academic programming, build on our vibrant reputation and secure our financial future," as stated on the Augsburg webpage about Promising Futures. There has been some confusion around the gala and the fundraising done at it among Augsburg's student body as of recent, with many students being under the impression that the gala was fundraising to tear down the old Science Hall.

Science Hall had been made practically irrelevant since the construction of Hagfors in 2019. The building is still used for a few Augsburg offices such as payroll, study abroad and the share shop in the basement, along with hosting the occasional class. Many students have been excited about the prospect of the almost abandoned building being gone.

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However, the rumor of the gala being held to fund the demolition is not true.

Aidan Wippich, president of Augsburg Day Student Government and the student representative on the University Council, provided the Echo with some clarification on the Gala and Augsburg donor funding. The information that Wippich shared was from the University Council chaired by Pribbenow. Information regarding University Council meetings is public, with the meeting summaries being published after the following meeting.

The gala raised $2.2 million towards the "Promising Futures" campaign. This moved the total amount of money raised in the campaign to $32.5 million, with $24 million on hand. The difference between the on-hand money and the total is that "on-hand" refers to money that Augsburg currently has, while roughly $8.5 million of the total sum has been willed to Augsburg. Meaning that when those donors 'pass on,' the money they have willed to Augsburg will be released to the school. Donors get to decide what the money they have donated goes towards. The current breakdown of the money raised for the "Promising Futures" campaign is as follows. $15 million is going towards "Academic Innovations," which includes professors, programs, classes and product keys, along with more. $8 million is dedicated to "Vibrant Reputation," which is for Augsburg's brand both locally and globally, attracting more donors and recruiting incoming students. Similarly, $6 million is set to help with plans for securing and fostering the future of Augsburg. And lastly, $4 million of it is for campus upgrades.

However, none of that $4 million for campus upgrades is for the demolition of Science Hall. That project is independent from "Promising Futures." That does not mean however, that Science Hall is going to stay where it is forever; Augsburg has also been fundraising to tear it down. The price estimate for the demolition is about $5 million, and so far $3.3 million has been raised. On the topic of donor support for the Science Hall project, Wippich shared, "One of our board members hates that building so much that she has donated over a million dollars specifically to get it demolished."

Augsburg will not be taking out any loans to fund the Science Hall project, so the project will not start until the money needed is raised. The reason the cost estimate is so high is that there are water, sewage, electrical and gas lines that run through the building. These lines would need to be moved elsewhere as a part of the construction process. They also must consider that currently the elevator that is used for Sverdrup is a part of Science Hall, so a choice must be made about whether that small section will be kept or where they should put a new elevator.

The goal for the demolition of Old Science Hall is June, before Pribbenow leaves, but Wippich does admit that the goal is optimistic.

UPCOMING EVENTS

-ABWA Unpopular Opinions

Student Lounge, Nov. 17 @ 4:00 p.m.

-Tie Blanket Making with APPAC!

Hagfors 106, Nov. 18 @ 12:00 p.m.

-Friendsgiving

Hoversten Chapel, Nov. 18 @ 7:00 p.m.

-SNF 3rd Large Gathering: Mental Health Awareness

Hagfors 150A, Nov. 19 @ 4:00 p.m.

-Global Trivia Competition

Marshall Room, Nov. 19 @ 4:00 p.m.

-Biology Club Research Symposium

Hagfors 150B, Nov. 19 @ 5:30 p.m.

-Chicken Curry Food Lab

Augsburg University Hagfors Center, Nov. 19 @ 4:00 p.m.

-COLLAGE + ZINE

OREN GATEWAY CENTER LOBBY (white long table), Nov. 21 @ 2:00 p.m.

SPORTING EVENTS

-Women's Wrestling vs. Buena Vista

Si Melby Hall, Nov. 20 @ 5:00 p.m.

-Women's Hockey vs. Saint Mary's

Ed Saugestad Rink, Nov. 20 @ 6:00 p.m.

-Men's Wrestling Augsburg invitational

Si Melby Hall, Nov. 21 @ 9:00 a.m.

-Men's Hockey vs. Saint Mary's

Ed Saugestad Rink, Nov. 21 @ 7:00 p.m.

2026 Midterms and What the Results Mean for Americans

Finn Murdock contributor

The 2026 U.S. midterm election saw unprecedented voter turnout, the second highest for a midterm election, and significant shifts in favor of the democratic party. As of Nov. 11, the Senate sits at 55 democratic seats and 44 republican seats, with one race that has not yet been called. The House has 12 races left to call, but the democratic party also holds the majority with 255 seats compared to the republican party's 168 seats. This means that the Congress that begins work in January will look considerably different from the majority Republican Senate, House, and executive branch that has led policy changes since January 2025.



Photo of hundreds of I VOTED stickers on the Alex Pretti memorial, taken by Chad Davis on Nov. 6, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

Both U.S. politicians and their constituents have multiple opinions as to why the Republican Party had such widespread losses. During an interview with CBS News, President Donald Trump was asked what he believed caused republican candidates to struggle in the midterms. Trump said, "Well, number one, I was not on the ballot... I think if I was on the ballot, it would have been a very different situation." Other members of the Republican Party have attributed the results to the unpopular U.S. war with Iran, as well as tariffs, due to their negative economic impact on voters.

Here in Minnesota, some have a different opinion. When discussing why Republicans lost in Minnesota, Augsburg student Laura Martinez-Martinez said, "Minnesota was very targeted during the metro surge [...] for a lot of Minnesotans it is hard to move past that and turn a blind eye, especially since people here care about their neighbors and communities." Minnesota cities and suburbs had a notable increase in voter turnout compared to the 2024 presidential election, according to Minneapolis early voting data. The data is mentionable due to American voting trends invariably exhibiting higher voter participation in presidential elections than in midterm elections. The neighborhoods where Renée Good and Alex Pretti were killed by federal agents also saw an increase in voters. Dozens of Minnesota voters placed their "I Voted" stickers at the memorial sites for both Renee Good and Alex Pretti on Election Day. Areas of Minneapolis with thriving immigrant communities like East Lake Street and Cedar-Riverside also saw stronger voter turnout in the 2026 midterm election compared to the last presidential election.

Looking ahead, the newly elected lawmakers have multiple economic and political priorities lined up for the 2027 federal legislative sessions. Many provisions related to healthcare from Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) begin to take effect in January of 2027. Democrats want to reverse cuts to healthcare from the OBBBA that would affect the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid, and Medicare, causing millions of Americans to lose medical coverage. Additionally, the Democratic Party is in near total-agreement on some foreign policy priorities, including forcing an end to the U.S. war with Iran and working towards repealing and reducing the Trump administration's widespread tariffs. While the Democratic Party will hold the majority in Congress in January, the presidential veto will make it challenging for them to achieve the changes they want. Democrat-elect Michigan Senator Abdul El-Sayed said, "I want us to get to the work of passing legislation; if Trump vetoes that, it's on him. But I think you're going to see a whole lot of Republicans thinking twice about whether they want these Medicaid cuts, for example, to go through."

Team Trips Foster Connection and Closeness for Men's Basketball

Macaria Person contributor



Photo of the men's basketball team at Pikes Place Market in Seattle, taken by Aaron Griess on Nov. 7

The Augsburg men's basketball team recently traveled to Seattle, and the trip was about more than just a set of competitive games. While competing on the court was important, the trip also gave players a chance to spend time together, make memories and strengthen their connection as teammates.

Traveling together gives players more opportunities to get to know each other away from the game. Coach Aaron Greiss said, "When you get people outside their normal routines and put people around each other for 24 hours a day, you get a different perspective and start to have deeper conversations." Some of the most memorable moments happen away from basketball.

Along with building friendships, traveling together gives players the opportunity to improve their communication skills. Communication is something the Augsburg basketball program emphasizes, not only to help players become better athletes but also to help them grow as individuals. As Greiss said, "We try to show people the importance of communication and help them become better communicators throughout their college years." These skills carry over into basketball, where clear communication can make a difference during practices and games.

Competing on the road also brings excitement and challenges that require players to step up for one another. Playing away from home means adjusting to different environments, handling difficult moments and finding ways to stay focused as a team. Junior guard Hanif Muhammad said, "Better teams are player-led more so than coach-led. When players are able to step up, it helps everyone come together in times of adversity." Experiences like these allow players to take responsibility, show leadership and learn how to respond when things do not go as planned.

The connections built throughout these trips can also give Augsburg an advantage when competing against other teams. Having strong chemistry allows players to feed off each other's energy and stay motivated, especially during challenging moments in a game. Junior guard David Perkins Jr. said, "We never run out of energy because everyone is able to feed off each other. We're able to bring each other up; we overcome adversity and lean on our teammates." That energy makes a difference on the court, helping players remain confident and push through difficult situations. While the games are an important part of traveling, the friendships, leadership and team chemistry developed along the way can have an impact long after the trip is over.

One of the best parts of team travel is the memories everyone takes home. The Seattle trip gave teammates stories and experiences they can look back on long after the games. It also gave them more reasons to laugh, connect and build friendships with the people they spend so much time with during the basketball season. As both Hanif and David said, "We have a lot of great laughs." The Augsburg men's basketball team's trip to Seattle was about more than the final scores; it was an opportunity to grow as teammates, enjoy time together and create memories outside the gym. As the season continues, the friendships and chemistry built during the trip can help the Auggies bring even more energy, confidence and support to the court.

Women's Hockey Season Starts Slow, But It Has Only Just Begun

Kaia Anderson online publishing coordinator

Augsburg's women's ice hockey team has a lot to live up to this season, having accomplished regular-season championships, playoff championships, and division III third place in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) within the last two years, among other accolades. Elizabeth Bauer is the current coach of the women's hockey team. This will be her third year as head coach here at Augsburg.



Photo of Augsburg vs. Aurora W Hockey, taken by Kevin Healy on Nov. 7

The season has just begun, with only four games having been played. The first two, against St. Olaf and the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, were both exhibition games, with the first two regular games being against Wisconsin River-Falls and Aurora University. The game against Wisconsin River-Falls ended with Augsburg losing in a 3-4 game. Their most recent game, played on Nov. 7, was a win, with Augsburg triumphing over Aurora University in a 5-1 game. They are currently ranked 7th in major National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III polls.

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls are the current NCAA Division III champions. They played the Auggies on Nov. 5 at the Hunt Arena in River Falls. The first goal for the Auggies was scored in the first period by junior forward Jenna Allen, who tied the game 1-1; however, the period ended with a score of 1-2. Unfortunately, the Auggies were unable to catch up with the Falcons and finished the second period 4-2. The second-period goal was scored by junior forward Kelsi Ries. Junior forward Ruby Eskin scored Augsburg's last goal of the game during the third period, ending the game 3-4. During the game, junior goalie Kayla Simonson made a total of 38 saves.

The Aurora-Augsburg game was played here on campus at the Ed Saugestad Rink. The opening goal was made in the first period by Auggie senior forward Emma Abrahamson. The Aurora Spartans answered later in the period and tied the score 1-1; this would be the only goal allowed by Simonson, who made 11 saves in total. The next goal was scored during the second period by Ries. In the third period, senior forward Annika Mielke, first year defense Kennedy Meier and Abrahamson scored three goals for the Auggies.

The team plays their next game on Nov. 20th against Saint Mary's University, who are currently 0-3-0 in their season. This will be a home game, so get out and support the women's hockey team on Friday! Their games are always a good time, with high action, quick plays and great energy. The Augsburg pep band will also be playing to provide some extra energy for the crowd and the players.

Puck drops at 7 pm, there will also be a live stream for those who are unable to make it to the ice rink in person. Wish our girls the best of luck for their season!

10/26 ARTICLE CORRECTION

In the original version of the article "New Men's Hockey Coach Zach Stepan Focuses on Player Confidence," we referred to the coach as Zach Stephan. This is inaccurate as the correct spelling is Zach Stepan. The article has been edited to reflect this.

Review: "Much Ado About Nothing: A Fantasia" Profoundly Misses the Mark

Kaia Anderson online publishing coordinator



Photo of MJ Kinsey, Calypso Lewis and Nox GebbenGreen performing in "Much Ado About Nothing: A Fantasia," taken by Klaus Solko on Nov. 11

"Much Ado About Nothing: A Fantasia" is a 90s high school adaptation of Shakespeare's play "Much Ado About Nothing," where Claudio and Hero, and Benedick and Beatrice attempt to fall in love despite high school drama and rumors causing conflict and mayhem. Alex Barreto Hathaway, the director of the show, describes it as 90s rom-com, college sports, and Shakespeare. The show runs from Nov. 12-14 and 19-22. I had the opportunity to see the show on Nov. 11, their final rehearsal before opening night.

The show began with the introduction of our cast and setting up the romantic tensions between our couples. Claudio sets his sights on Hero, while Beatrice and Benedick start their war of wit. Enunciation was certainly a problem, especially at the beginning. There were several moments throughout the whole show where I had no clue what the actors were saying. However, as the play continued, it certainly became less of an issue.

Graedyn Wendt, who portrayed Benedick, was an absolute delight to watch. They completely embodied Benedick. It was easy to understand what their intentions were, and they not only charmed Beatrice but the audience as well. Their chemistry with Nox GebbenGreen sold their will-they, won't-they dynamic. GebbenGreen didn't fail to shine in scenes separate from Wendt either. GebbenGreen got more than a few laughs at their outrageous and confident physicality.

Prakash Landis and MJ Kinsey portrayed the other romantic pair, Claudio and Hero. Landis' Claudio is a romantic who falls quickly for Hero. Kinsey's Hero, however, is quick to kick him to the curb when the relationship goes south. She "don't want no scrub" after all. Throughout the misunderstanding and heartbreak, you cannot help but root for the young lovers to finally be happy, which is definitely in no small part due to Landis' and Kinsey's acting and chemistry.

Klaus Solko, who also went to the viewing, had this to say, "I'm not really a fan of Shakespeare adaptations and I wasn't necessarily looking forward to this show, but the energy that the actors brought turned me around. The physical comedy that Graedyn and Nox brought was hilarious, I don't think I have ever laughed that much during a show. I'm still not 100% convinced about all the choices or the adaptation itself but the clear commitment and work that everyone put in shines on stage. The actors really made the show."

For this modern adaptation, music and dance were heavily used. During scene transitions, live instrumentals were played by SuperNegative, who were also featured in the show as the Watch - a group in charge of patrolling the halls and who help uncover the villain's plot. There were also live vocals, where the characters like Wendt, Drew Bechay as Coach, and Kyle Chang as Balthasar would sing during the scene. This is when diction once again became a problem, with raps becoming unintelligible. Simple choreography was also poorly executed, with a few actors struggling to keep up with the steps.

According to cast members, that night was their first full run-through. This lack of preparation unfortunately showed through with actors forgetting, not being fully confident, and one seemingly reading their lines off a clipboard. Ad-libs also proved to be distracting, with characters switching from Shakespearean to modern English. During notes, Barreto Hathaway even noted that actors were still learning cues.

If you want to read the rest of this article, you can find it on our website augsburgecho.com!

Highly Anticipated Art Classes to Consider for Your Spring Schedule

Micah George contributor

Augsburg has so many amazing art courses offered every semester. With registration happening for all students, I just wanted to break down five interesting courses for students to look out for. I will be looking at one course from each of five disciplines: film, creative writing, music, visual art and design and theater.

The best course in my eyes for music is Music Theory II (MUS 102). This is a fundamental follow-up course to Music Theory I and acts as a class where students can understand how music is structured and written. This class is a good choice for students because it builds musical comprehension that will be drawn upon in upper-level music classes.

This semester, there are unfortunately not that many film courses offered, but the best class in my eyes is Film Sight and Sound (FLM 180). Two things stand out about that class that make it a must-take course. Firstly, students have the chance to make their own films and documentaries, and secondly, this course helps film students start to focus on the small details of film that make films stand out, such as color, lighting, and sound design. This class also offers students the equipment to make their own films.

The theater class that is most interesting to me is Black Theater (THR 271). This is a class where students can learn about black theater history and current productions. This class has students learn about African American theater from the 19th century all the way to today. It's a really exciting class that is not offered every semester, so students should definitely take it now.



Photo of student ceramic creations from the visual arts and design department, taken by Micah George on Nov. 9

Next, when it comes to visual art and design, Arts in the Twin Cities and Beyond (ART 227) looks to be a popular and locally focused class. It is a course where students can learn and step into communities where artists practice all over the Twin Cities. Not only does this class focus on cultural values, but it also guides students in learning the responsibilities of both artist and audience. This is a great course for students to take who are interested in starting artistic careers in the Twin Cities post-graduation.

The last art discipline to talk about is creative writing. Writing Workshop 1 (CRW 300) is the creative writing class that speaks to me most. This is because it teaches students how to succeed as professional writers by building the fundamental writing skills that students will need going forward. Students receive strong feedback on their work to help grow their writing skills.

At the end of the day, for spring 2027, Augsburg offers a wide variety of art courses that students should look into. I want to make it clear that this article only talks about a few courses, as this article does not have time to cover the full variety of classes offered. Students interested in taking any of these courses should definitely talk to their advisors to learn more before signing up.

"[Writing Workshop 1 (CRW 300)] teaches students how to succeed as professional writers by building the fundamental writing skills that students will need going forward."

- Micah George

Laura Loomer's Posting Practices are Pissing Me Off

Emerson Pieper staff writer

There is something that is truly contradictory about claiming to defend the American Dream whilst treating the presence of Muslim Americans in American politics as 'proof' that the American Dream is dead. This is the exact contradiction that I see in Laura Loomer's recent posts, and it is one of the reasons I find her rhetoric so alarming.

Following the midterm elections, Loomer took to X to express her dissatisfaction with the results. In one post, she had declared that America itself was over, claiming that "communists and jihadists are going to open our borders and replace our votes with votes from illegal aliens." She also criticized representatives for their alleged support of Sharia law and their supposed hatred of America. Rather than acknowledging the election— in which Americans exercised their right to vote— as reality, Loomer is pinning the results as a threat to the country's existence.

What really stands out to me is how frequently she connects Islam, immigration and political extremism as though they are interchangeable threats. Being Muslim does not make someone a jihadist, and being an immigrant does not make someone a threat to democracy; I fear that is common knowledge. Still, Loomer's language repeatedly argues against it and encourages suspicion toward entire communities rather than addressing individual political standings.

Her reaction to Muslim candidates winning the elections spoke volumes to me. Loomer described America as a "failed state" after the announcement that Ilhan Omar was reelected, then posted, "I hope everyone is learning Arabic." In another post, she responded to the election results by stating again that the country is "cooked," but "people will get what they deserve." I find it incredibly difficult to understand how someone can claim to value American democracy while simultaneously treating the democratic participation of Muslim Americans as a death sentence for the country.

"I find it incredibly difficult to understand how someone can claim to value American democracy while simultaneously treating the democratic participation of Muslim Americans as a death sentence for the country."

- Emerson Pieper

In an investigation in August, Al Jazeera documented an anti-Muslim campaign targeting Michigan Senator Abdul El-Sayed, following his primary victory. Loomer was among the people amplifying attacks against him, including calling his candidacy disgusting. Her recent statements have since followed a similar pattern. Rather than focusing on candidates' policies, their religion became a central reason for her to think it's okay to argue against their place in American politics. There is such a striking hypocrisy in her repeated appeals to the patriotism of it all. The United States is built around the idea that citizens have the right to participate in democracy, regardless of their religious beliefs or backgrounds. That belief does not disappear when the people elected are different from those someone personally supports. Democracy cannot simply mean accepting election results when they produce a desirable outcome. Loomer does not seem to understand that, nor does she want to.

I do not agree with Loomer's characterization of America, nor do I think her repeated generalizations about Muslims and immigrants contribute anything meaningful to political discussion. Criticism of candidates and their policies is perfectly reasonable and everyone does it. Loomer takes a step further and suggests that entire communities represent the downfall of a country, which is something entirely different.

America does not become less American because its representatives speak a different language, practice different religions or come from immigrant backgrounds. If the American Dream is supposed to represent opportunity and freedom, those ideals cannot reasonably be reserved for people who fit one particular image of what an American dream should look like.

The Blue Wave, Identity Politics and Nihilism

Teyah Parent features editor

It's incredibly frustrating watching people on the internet claim that the current political progress is meaningless just because it isn't their ideal version of political revolution. Every time something good happens, there is an impulse among corners of the left to explain why it is insufficient. At what point does political consciousness become so consumed by ideological purity that it loses the ability to recognize actual, tangible improvement in people's lives?

Where does the belief that voting for Democrats is pointless come from? When did participating in a broken system make you complicit in everything wrong with it? What is the alternative? Where is the revolution?

"Where does the belief that voting for Democrats is pointless come from? When did participating in a broken system make you complicit in everything wrong with it? What is the alternative? Where is the revolution?"

- Teyah Parent

If your entire political philosophy consists of telling others that voting is insufficient while contributing absolutely nothing to the alternative, then I genuinely can't care about your political philosophy. You cannot insist that people should abandon the existing political system without offering a viable alternative pathway. You cannot dismantle a political system when you cannot engage with the immediate political realities of that system. How are we supposed to believe that refusing to participate in the available political process is somehow a meaningful step toward replacing it, despite having no organized alternative taking its place? That is posturing.

This is why I find so much post-2024 political discourse infuriating. There were people who refused to vote for Harris because they disagreed with a few of her positions. Those concerns were not unreasonable, but there is a difference between criticizing a candidate and refusing to acknowledge the consequences of your political decisions. Refusing to vote or casting a protest vote for a third-party candidate with no electoral pathway did not bring the country closer to a progressive political future.

Now, we get a win during the midterm and people are rushing to explain why we should not be celebrating. Texas is blue. That is something worth celebrating, along with so many firsts. But congratulations, you have identified that an election did not single-handedly resolve every structural problem in the country. Would you like a fucking medal?

The same frustration applies to the bizarre insistence that we should stop acknowledging the identities of elected officials. Whenever someone celebrates the election of a queer person, a Black politician, or an Indigenous representative, somebody appears to ask why we cannot just refer to them by their name. Why does their identity have to matter? Why can't we just treat everyone equally?

Because we fucking don't. We do not live in that world. We live in a country where people's identities are actively weaponized against them. We have politicians running campaigns built around demonizing transgender people, immigrants, racial minorities and religious communities. We have advertisements explicitly designed to make voters afraid of people based on their gender or the color of their skin. The election of these representatives is meaningful precisely because minorities have historically been excluded, marginalized and discouraged from participating in public life. These achievements deserve recognition because the circumstances that made them exceptional deserve scrutiny.

I am not going to let somebody on the internet convince me that a political victory is worthless. I am much more interested in actually getting somewhere than I am in winning an ideological pissing contest with people who seem to think being perpetually disappointed is a political accomplishment.

First Friday Lecture Series Tackles Artists in a World of Crisis

Kaia Anderson online publishing coordinator



Photo of Kyle Tran Myhre speaking as part of their First Friday Lecture, taken by Kaia Anderson on Nov. 6

On Nov. 6, the Schwartz School of Art hosted their third and final first Friday lecture of the semester. The first Friday lectures have been an ongoing lecture series throughout the start of the school year. This month's speaker was Kyle "Guante" Tran Myhre, a narrative artist and slam poet. The theme of all three lectures has been creative resilience, with Myhre focusing on the question: what is the role of an artist in a world that is in crisis?

The lecture began with both Myhre and the audience creating a list of political art that had been made in the last year, the list including pieces such as the rebel loon, Bruce Springsteen's song "Streets of Minneapolis," and Bad Bunny's Super Bowl performance. Myhre then went into what defined narrative art and the importance of being able to spot the counter-narrative.

Narrative art is art that can tell a story. Like poetry, theater, and even still images. Narrative with an uppercase 'N' is the easy-to-spot message: what is the common narrative surrounding this thing? Narrative with a lowercase 'n' is the counter-narrative: what can we understand about this thing by looking closer or examining it from a different perspective? As an example, Narrative: political art only has value if it is super subtle. Counter narrative: there is value in straightforward work. You just say the thing, and there is still imagery and metaphor in it. Another example, people in power have all of the power. Versus the counter narrative: regular people have the power and take care of each other. Both of these examples tied in to the overall topics of the lecture. How do people create political art? How is that art used and how does art bring communities together during hardship?

Throughout this last year, Minneapolis communities have banded together in support of their immigrant neighbors in the face of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). There have been marches, organizations and art all to showcase that Minneapolis is furious.

Myhre strongly believes that art is the most important thing that organizers can use to bring the community together. "Art and culture is vital and can propel movements [...] art's job is about inspiration [...] moving resources around, and bringing people together."

> ***"Art and culture is vital and can propel movements [...] art's job is about inspiration [...] moving resources around, and bringing people together."***
>
> *- Kyle "Guante" Tran Myhre*

Myhre also read one of his poems, "Let Your Heart be a Whistle." This piece took a quote from JD Vance, "It is totally reasonable and acceptable for American citizens to look at their next-door neighbors and say, 'I want to live next to people who I have something in common with. I don't want to live next to four families of strangers." Myhre then took this poem and broke it down by relating it to his own family and other immigrant families he knew and lived by. He focused on their strength and how welcoming they were to their own neighbors. Instead of focusing on otherness, this poem tells us to go meet our neighbors and welcome them regardless of race, language or immigration status.

While this is the last lecture for this semester, there are three more planned for next semester, starting in February.

Poetry Collection: “decay”

Elliot Hilden co-executive editor

inevitable

it comes for us all,
in stolen moments, in shaking hands.
in the beep...
beep...
beep of the hospital
drawl. you can’t run,
you can’t hide. you are merely a
plaything for the shadow
known as death.

no fear can save you, no
strength can protect you.
there is an end
to all who walk the earth in the hopes of more.
there is an end
to all who walk the earth.
there is an end
to all.
there is an end.

no one makes it out of death
alive.

rot

one day, i will rot.
i will shrivel into the earth and
become one with the soil.

and in this moment, when my bones
have made a home in the form of dirt and
family in the form of worms,
a beautiful garden will bloom.

my rotted remains will craft
the most vibrant florals and enticing aromas
and then, only then,
will i truly find peace.

there is beauty in pain and
pain in beauty and
what an honor it is to be
given the grace to grow.

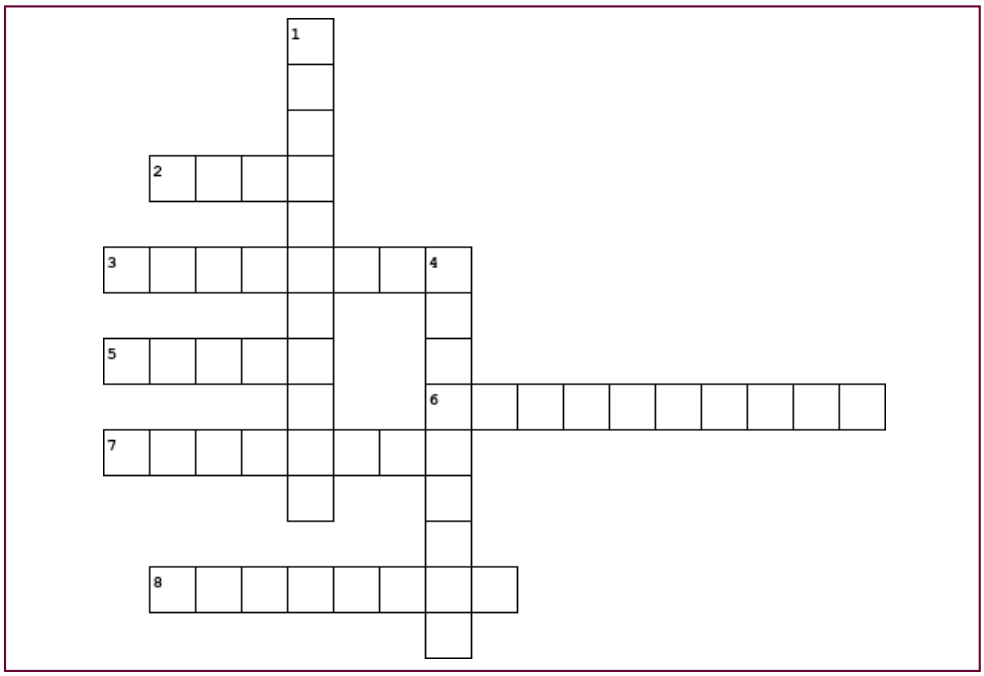
If you want to read more from this collection, you can find it on our website augsburgecho.com!

WE’RE LOOKING FOR...

ARTIST SPOTLIGHTS!

Are you an Augsburg artist that wants to promote your work and get PAID to do it? Submit an Artist Spotlight! Each submission should include 3-5 pieces, a picture of yourself, and a short bio about you. Artist Spotlights are paid $15 for their submissions. All submissions can be sent to our Arts & Culture Editor, Avery Cheeseman, at cheesema@augsburg.edu.

TV Ad Quotes Crossword



Last Week's Answers:

1. Washington
2.Andrew Jackson
3. Jefferson
4. FDR
5 Across. Theodore Roosevelt
5 Down. Taft
6. Obama
7. Lincoln

Across

2. "JUST DO IT!"
3. "Taste the rainbow"
5. "15 minutes could save you 15% or more on car insurance"
6. "How many licks does it take to get to the center of a -?"
7. "I SAWED THIS BOAT IN HALF!"
8. "You're not you when you're hungry"

Down

1. (Sung) "I have a structured settlement and I need cash now! Call-"
4. "What are you wearing Jake from -?"

11/9 ARTICLE CORRECTION

In the original version of the article "Blue Wave Rolls Across America in General Election," we referred to Minnesota Senator Peggy Flanagan as "Penny Flanagan." The article has been edited to reflect this correction.

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Contributors & Artist Spotlights: $15 / article

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