

Hancher Executive Director Chuck Swanson to retire

Swanson, who has been Hancher's executive director since 2002, will retire after almost 40 years with the theater.

Parker Jones
Arts Editor

After almost two decades acting as Hancher Auditorium's executive

director, Chuck Swanson is retiring from the position. In an email sent the morning of Feb. 1, Swanson addressed Hancher Partners members in a

video message and announced his retirement plans so far.

Swanson, who has been with the theater for almost 40 years, became

the theater's executive director in 2002 after serving as its business manager since 1985.

As executive director, Swanson led the estab-

lishment through many notable events over the past 20 years, including the 2008 flood and its destruction, as well as Hancher's sub-

sequent reopening in 2016. During COVID-19, he led Hancher through its majorly online transition at the very

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Giving prospective students a choice

After the state Board of Regents voted to retire the ACT/SAT admissions requirement, the University of Iowa is letting prospective students decide whether to submit test scores.



Photo illustration by Larry Phan

Kate Perez
News Reporter

The state Board of Regents has decided to make test-optional policies permanent for admission to Iowa's public universities,

and some incoming students say the stress of application season is lessening slightly.

On Jan. 12, the regents voted to make the standardized testing requirement optional, including the ACT and SAT, for university admission of first-time undergraduates.

Traditionally, those applying had to submit either their SAT or ACT score to be evaluated and considered. Because of COVID-19 and testing facility cancellations, however, regent institutions adopted emergency test-optional policies for those who

were unable to complete an SAT or ACT test in the fall 2020.

UI Director of Admissions Kirk Kluever said adopting the then-emergency test-optional policy was the correct thing to do.

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INSIDE



AMPLIFY: Translating diversity into representation

Dana Dominguez, associate director of operations and communication at the Pomerantz Career Center, was recently elected to the West Liberty City Council — the first Latino-majority city council in Iowa.

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80 HOURS: Grants open up for local artists in latest round

The Iowa City Public Art Program has opened applications for the latest round of matching grants, offering up to \$3,000 to Iowa City artists.

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DITV

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'Zoombombing': a virtual avenue for racism

The pandemic shifted life to a virtual platform, while simultaneously creating a gateway for racism into legislative and public meetings statewide.



Illustration by Marandah Mangra-Dutcher

Arabia Parkey
News Reporter

Two years into the pandemic, much of life continues to exist on virtual platforms, including some legislative and government meetings across Iowa. From Iowa Democratic Black Caucus meetings to Facebook virtual legislative forums, Black Iowa lawmakers have become increasingly subject to racism in a surge of "Zoombombing."

Racist Zoombombing incidents are not uncommon. In 2021, during February alone, Public Source reported 30 Black History Month events held on Zoom were attacked by unknown users who yelled racist slurs and showed graphic images.

Most recently, a meeting of Black Iowa legislators and party leaders in January was interrupted by a Zoombomber shouting racial slurs and drawing offensive messages on the screen.

Defining Zoombombing

Rep. Ako Abdul-Samad, D-Des Moines, has experienced multiple instances of virtual legislative meetings being disrupted by racist and vulgar outbursts, including a February 2021 legislative forum with Rep. Marti Anderson, Rep. Jo Oldson, and Sen. Janet Petersen — all Democrats representing Des

ZOOMBOMBING | Page 2

UI Dance Marathon navigates virtual Big Event

For the second year in a row, Dance Marathon 28 will take place virtually.

Marandah Mangra-Dutcher
News Reporter

The University of Iowa's Dance Marathon is preparing for its 28th "Big Event" this week, which the leaders of the organization opted to move online on Jan. 12.

"We just had to make the decision that it's not safe for us to have a gathering of that size," Anna Dodge, executive director of Dance Marathon 28, said.

She said the original plan was to have the event in person. But with the spike in omicron COVID-19 cases, it just wasn't worth the risk.

"We made the announcement public on our Instagram and let our families know, our sponsors know, and our community partners," she said. "Just so that everyone could make that pivot as cleanly as possible."

2022 is the second year Dance Marathon will be held virtually, Dodge said, and in general, Dance Marathon's numbers are declining due to the virtual events.

"You look at our tote board, and it is lower than previous in-person years," she said. "I think that not only reflects the virtual landscape of the event, but also just the past two years have been incredibly difficult for people to take on extra things."

Dodge said there are approximately 1,200 participants this year for the big event. There will be hybrid options for specific groups during the event, she said.

"We have a couple of different opportu-

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ACT

Continued from Front

“We had students come to us early on, I signed up six times for the SAT or the ACT, and it got canceled,” Klüber said. “As a result, when all these testing cancellations are happening, the board granted the three regent institutions the authority to review student applications, and then we could admit those students we believe are academically qualified.”

For many years, the regent institutions have used the Regent Admission Index, or RAI, to calculate admission for applicants. Students are automatically admitted to schools with an RAI score of at least 245 based on high school GPA, the number of core college prep courses taken, and ACT score.

Now, regent institutions evaluate students for admission with or without submitting their ACT or SAT scores. Those who opt out of submitting test scores may be required to submit additional academic documents, transcripts, or a personal statement to receive an admission decision, the UI admissions website said.

The RAI index will remain the same for those who apply and submit their score, Klüber said.

“The RAI is unchanged. Even in the early pandemic when testing was limited, 60 percent of our applicants submitted a test score,” Klüber said. “RAI is still there and achievable for students who submit a score.”

Leah Puttin, an incoming first-year in the UI class of 2026 from Batavia, Illinois, said when she applied, the test-optional admissions process helped her.

“I was super relieved that Iowa was test-optional, as I’ve never been the best standardized test-taker,” Puttin said.



The ACT building sign is seen on Nov. 2, 2021.

Daniel McGregor-Huyer/The Daily Iowan

er,” Puttin said. “My grades have always been awesome, and I knew my well-roundedness would help me earn acceptance, because a number should never define a student.”

Puttin said she enjoyed the test-optional policy, as it helped highlight other aspects of herself as a student.

“I loved that it was test-optional, because I knew my scores weren’t the best and that my GPA and involvement in my school would benefit me and make me stand out,” Puttin said.

With this new policy, the UI is the fourth Big Ten university to adopt test-optional policies permanently. Throughout the country, more institutions are moving to become test-optional.

Janet Godwin, chief executive officer of the ACT, said she has seen many of schools extend their policies.

“I think schools that have adopted test-optional policies, like the regents in the state of Iowa, are going to stay with test-optional policies and find a way to really refine them, but then also use longitudinal data re-

views to determine whether the test-optional policies are working,” Godwin said.

While more schools are moving to test-optional policies, the ACT is looking to help higher education institutions in whatever way they can, Godwin said. ACT’s headquarters are in Iowa City.

“Institutions will make the right choices for their needs and for their students’ needs, and my goal here leading ACT is to be right alongside the post-secondary institutions to support them,” Godwin said. “That’s what we’ve always done and that’s what we’ll continue to do. As their needs change, we’ll adapt and adopt new processes at ACT to support students and institutions.”

Godwin said she feels the ACT exam is still helpful for the students to take, but she understands that the test-optional policies relieve anxiety surrounding admissions and control over what they want to send into schools.

“Test-optional is one way to put more agency in the hands of students,” Godwin said. “I do think students

will benefit from continuing to take the ACT to see how they’re doing on a national standardized college readiness scale. Giving that power to individual students to make the decision of what they include in their admissions portfolio is a good thing.”

Klüber said he thinks students enjoy the test-optional policies specifically at the UI because they can be reviewed, and then they can send in a score at a later point in time.

“I think students really love the aspects, I can apply test-optional to Iowa. I can be reviewed initially. Once they have admitted me, I can then later submit a score and meet the RAI threshold,” Klüber said.

While part of the policy is changing, Klüber said he recommends students continue to take standardized tests if they are able and submit their scores, as it can help with scholarships.

“We would strongly encourage [students] to still plan on taking the ACT or SAT. When it comes time for that student to apply for admission, they’ll have

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Send address changes to:

The Daily Iowan,
100 Adler Journalism Building,
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BUSINESS STAFF

Business Manager | 335-5786

Debra Plath

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Heidi Owen

a choice,” Klüber said. “I think it can limit their opportunities if they choose not to take the ACT. The encouragement is: Take the test, submit the score, and

then when it comes time to apply, you have an option to include it.”

katharine-perez@uiowa.edu

ZOOBOMBING

Continued from Front

Moines — hosted on Facebook Live.

“Zoombombing is an act where individuals purposely disrupt a meeting with vulgar language, racist statements, and the goal is to try to see that individuals on a Zoom call cannot proceed with businesses and the purpose of the call,” Abdul-Samad said.

Al Womble, chair of the Iowa Democratic Black Caucus, said Zoom has created increased accessibility for state and national meetings.

When attempting to reach new people, the goal is to see new participants in legislative meetings, so it can be difficult to recognize Zoombombers based on the names that they use to attend meetings, Womble said.

“Zoom has been a blessing and a curse,”

Womble said. “We have now been able to coordinate with individuals all across the United States of America, in order to conduct meetings, get information, and have different speakers, which has been wonderful.”

Disrupting the community

Womble described Zoombombing as an act of “mental terrorism,” an attempt to scare Black legislators from organizing and informing their communities.

“These individuals want to do anything they can to disrupt our community to prevent us from organizing, to prevent us from participating in the democratic process, but also running as candidates and becoming a lot of the leaders ourselves,” Womble said.

On Jan. 7, the Des Moines People’s Condition of the State, attended by multiple

Black legislators discussing legislative priorities for the 2022 session and hosted by Womble, was Zoombombed with racial slurs and violent threats.

Rep. Phyllis Thede, D-Bettendorf, said she was in the middle of her speech during the forum when she was interrupted by outbursts of racial slurs, inappropriate language, as well as racist depictions drawn on the Powerpoint and typed in the meeting’s chat.

“We seem to be seeing lots of things like this where people feel emboldened to call somebody the n-word,” Thede said. “So, unfortunately, I believe it’s the sign of the times and we have to do something to change that.”

Womble said, after each incident of Zoombombing, the police are notified and given a recording of the meeting, as well as any other information that may help in tracking

down the Zoombombers. When state representatives are involved, the Department of Criminal Investigations is notified as well.

The solutions

To prevent these racist incidents, Womble said Iowa Democratic Black Caucus meetings now require advance registration and the meetings will have waiting rooms so that the host can see who is attempting to enter.

This still offers difficulties, as Zoombombers often use fake names and profile pictures, he added.

Members of local and state law enforcement agencies will also be attending meetings incognito to further deter Zoombombers and offer a more immediate response to incidents, Womble said.

Ty Coleman, Iowa City media production services

coordinator, recommends

“We cannot let them take us off our square, our path, take our eyes off the prize.”

though Zoombombings are disruptive, they do not af-

— Rep. Ako Abdul-Samad

prevention of disruptive outbursts in legislative meetings.

Webinars allow for view-only participation from attendees, unless unmuted by the meeting host. Attendees still have the ability to participate via the meeting chat, Q&As, or polls.

“What we ultimately ended up determining was that webinar mode in Zoom, gives you the most control for kind of controlling the gateways that people come through to where they might have an opportunity to Zoombomb,” Coleman said.

Abdul-Samad said that,

fect his work, as the meetings continue despite any interruptions.

He said he is thankful in a way that incidents of Zoombombing have happened because he utilizes the racist outbursts as teaching moments for meeting attendees that have never witnessed racism firsthand.

“We do not have the luxury to allow individuals of that caliber to prevent us from doing the work we do,” Abdul-Samad said. “And we cannot let them take us off our square, our path, take our eyes off the prize.”

arabia-parkey@uiowa.edu

MARATHON

Continued from Front

nities for small groups to attend the Iowa Memorial Union to attend different portions of the big event,” Dodge said.

She said the dancers involved in the hybrid options will be chosen based on their interactions throughout the year, their fundraising dollars and how much they have participated.

There will also be leadership in the IMU throughout the event, Dodge said.

“Some members of leadership come in for a little bit just to do their different tasks to make the online event happen,” she said.

In an email to *The Daily Iowan* Senior Associate Director of Event and Facility Operations at the Iowa Memorial Union Cory Lockwood wrote the capacity limit was decided by multiple groups including Dance Marathon.

“Dance Marathon student leaders worked with leaders in the Division of Student Life and UHC to determine a capacity in the Iowa Memorial Union for the Dance Marathon 28 Big Event,” he wrote.

“Considering that this group works in support of a vulnerable population, they chose to limit the number of individuals who would be in person at any given time over the course of the event, moving the

majority of participation to a virtual format.”

Dodge said they limited attendance to 100 people throughout the whole IMU.

“We’re allowed to have about 100 people in the whole space,” she said. “So we’ve actually got different leadership members on the third floor, putting on Zoom calls and on the second floor, interacting with dancers and our camera people and stuff on the mainstage.”

Dodge said she doesn’t know what the final total will look like this year but people are still fundraising.

“I don’t know exactly how it will look,” she said. “I know that people are still fundraising, money is still

coming in, and we’re still really working on those fundraising efforts. It just kind of depends on how our last week goes and everything like that. But, we’re obviously still pushing for donations and still actively seeking donations.”

While the decision to move online was difficult, Dodge said Dance Marathon is still excited for the Big Event.

“Everyone’s really stepped up and decided

that no matter how this event puts on, they’re still excited to support our families because that’s

what they need,” she said.

marandah-mangra-dutcher@uiowa.edu



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

UI sophomores (from left) Casey Fridner, Katie Vlakeley, Brayden Boche, and Christian Frankl sit in a dorm room in Currier Hall to watch the livestream of Dance Marathon 27 on Feb. 26, 2021. Vlakeley was a lime captain for the event.

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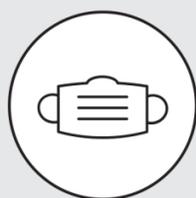


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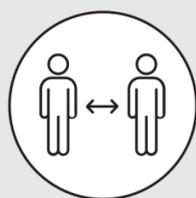
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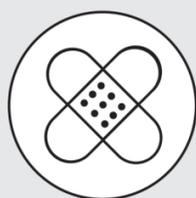
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Opinions

COLUMN

Iowa should legalize recreational cannabis

Legalizing cannabis products can help Iowa's criminal justice system, economy, and mental health practices.



Yasmina Sahir
Opinions Columnist

If voters and legislators want to help build a brighter future for Iowa, they should legalize cannabis. When all sides are considered, such as economic benefits and criminal justice reform, the scale tips deeper into the pro-legalization side.

Iowa Sens. Joe Bolcom, D-Iowa City, Sarah Trone Garriott, D-Windsor Heights, and Janet Petersen,

D-Des Moines, are proposing a constitutional amendment to legalize recreational marijuana in Iowa.

The proposed amendment would allow the sale of cannabis to those 21 and older and would establish a 20-percent state tax rate on sales and allow local governments to establish up to a 2-percent tax rates on sales.

Legalizing cannabis is not an unpopular proposal among Iowans. A 2021 *Des Moines Register*/Medi-

acom Poll showed that 31 percent of Republicans, 71 percent of Democrats, and 59 percent of independents supported the legalization of recreational cannabis use in the state.

According to a U.S. News article published in January, 18 states in the U.S. have legalized recreational cannabis products. These laws vary by legal amounts to possess, whether sale of product is allowed, if product can be grown in residential homes, and if res-

idents of other states can purchase while visiting.

For safety considerations, several states also have explicit laws in place for public order purposes. Similar to alcohol use, being under the influence of cannabis products in public is widely considered a crime, as is operating vehicles while under the influence of the substance.

Iowa's prisons are operating over capacity, in part due to the over policing of drug use. A report

from the Iowa Department of Human Rights found that prisons in Iowa are overcrowded by 9.2 percent. Of the 3,085 new admissions to Iowa's prisons in 2020, 24 percent (or approximately 740) of these admissions were for drug offenses.

Overcrowding of prisons is more than a "too many bodies in a single space" issue. It leads to overuse of resources, disproportional demand compared to staff, and creates opportunity for bias to become racial discrimination.

Across all criminal cases, people of color in Iowa — specifically Black residents — are more likely to be sentenced with prison time than their white peers. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Iowa's overall population is 4.1 percent Black as of July 2021. Comparably, data from the Iowa Department of Human Rights shows that Black folks equal 25.5 percent of Iowa's entire incarcerated population.

There are also economic benefits to legalizing the sale and use of cannabis products. It is currently projected that every dollar of cannabis sold leads to \$2.13 to \$2.40 generation in economic activity.

If the costs of regulating cannabis use through police and other criminal justice actors is negated from state and local budgets, that unused money could be put toward proven

methods — including social services — to encourage safe drug use or negate drug use entirely.

One counterargument to the legalization of cannabis use for those over 21 years of age is the potential damage to the environment. Of highest concern is the amount of water cannabis plants consume during the growing and cultivation process.

However, one scientist from California notes that legalization could be used as an avenue to combat environmental concerns related to mass cannabis growth.

Jennifer Carah, a doctor quoted in JSTOR's Daily news publication, hypothesizes that legalization could convince more growers to become state-approved cannabis farmers and stores. Practices that cause environmental concerns could then be government regulated.

The conversation cannot end with legalization of cannabis products. To truly achieve justice, we must release all persons currently affected by cannabis-related charges.

To quote screenwriter Aaron Covington from May 2019 on Twitter: "When the dispensary looks and operates like an Apple Store, it's time to release a lot of incarcerated human beings. A lot, a lot."

yasmina-sahir@uiowa.edu

DOCTOR IS IN

Antibiotics in the world of bacterial resistance

Antibiotics are powerful medications that treat bacterial infections, but can be rendered useless/harmful if they are not taken appropriately.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 2.8 million infections are caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the U.S. every year. Antibiotic resistance happens when bacteria navigate around the drugs that were intended to kill them.

In essence, this means that the bacteria are not killed and continue to grow. These resistant strains of bacteria can emerge due to several factors such as taking an antibiotic for viral infections and not taking a full course of an antibiotic, among many other reasons. This article is going to provide a broad overview about what antibiotics are and why they should be taken as prescribed.

What are antibiotics used for?

Antibiotics are medications that fight bacterial infections by killing the bacteria and/or making it difficult for the bacteria to multiply. There are different classes of antibiotics based on what types of bacteria are causing the infection. Importantly, antibiotics will not treat any viral infections including: the common cold, flu, bronchitis, and stomach flu.

If you feel better, you shouldn't need any more medicine, right? Not so fast...

While it is certainly tempting to stop taking antibiotics as soon as you feel better, the full treatment is necessary to stop/kill the bacteria. Even if you are feeling better after taking antibiotics for a few days, there could be bacteria that have not been killed off by the antibiotics.

Taking a partial course of an antibiotic can result in the need to resume treatment later or even pursue more expensive treatments. This can also promote antibiotic resistance among disease-causing bacteria.

Why shouldn't I take antibiotics for a viral infection?

According to the CDC, 33 to 50 percent of antibiotics are used/prescribed inappropriately. Much of this is due to antibiotics that are being used for viral infections. If you take an antibiotic when you have a viral infection, the antibiotic attacks bacteria in your body that are either beneficial or not causing disease. This ill-advised "treatment" can promote antibiotic-resistant properties and can replace beneficial bacteria with harmful bacteria.

Why is antibiotic resistance a concern?

According to the Infectious Disease Society of America, antibiotic resistant infections cost the U.S.

healthcare system between \$21 to \$34 billion each year. Antibiotic-resistant infections also produce over 8 million additional hospital stays annually. Despite these alarming statistics, there are steps that you can take to reduce the inappropriate prescription of antibiotics.

1. Take the full course of antibiotics, as prescribed, even after symptoms have resolved

2. Avoid asking your clinician for antibiotics. Instead, ask their opinion on how to best treat your condition

3. Do not take old or expired antibiotics

4. Practice good hygiene to avoid contracting a bacterial infection. Wash your hands, cook foods thoroughly, and avoid expired foods

It is best to take your antibiotics as prescribed by your healthcare provider. As always, if you have any questions/concerns about the use of antibiotics for treating an infection talk to your local pharmacist and/or provider.

- Spencer Heggen, second-year pharmacy student, Class of 2024

- Riley Mohr, fourth-year pharmacy student, Class of 2022

- Vijayvardhan Kamalumpundi, second-year medical student, Class of 2024

COLUMN

Campus radio station is worth a listen

The University of Iowa's radio station offers both a journalistic and creative outlet for students.



Signe Nettum
Opinions Contributor

Due to a very bad case of homesickness, I spent most of my freshman year trying anything and everything I could find on campus to see if there was somewhere I belonged. Thanks to my Resident Assistant, I stumbled upon the campus radio: KRUI, 89.7. I fell in love, instantly, despite hating being in front of an audience.

KRUI gave me an opportunity to express myself and my creativity that I did not know existed before. More students should either listen to all the diverse shows we have on campus, or even try creating one of their own while they are on campus.

Before I created my specialty show *Overbooked*, which airs at 9:30 a.m. on Thursdays, I shadowed other radio shows and worked for an hour in what was called "general rotation." I had an hour to play music, but only music that fit the certain parameters KRUI had in place.

KRUI is a campus, alternative-themed radio station. A creative rule is that we cannot play any song that has appeared in any top 100 hits list in the last twenty years. We can now play the 90's, but my joy of pop rock songs will have to wait a little longer. This gave me the opportunity to explore the countless cabinets of CDs the studio contained, along with finding new artists on other streaming services.

Once your shadowing stint is over and

you have proven your worth to know the soundboard properly, you are given the choice to develop either your own specialty show, or join one of the main shows — the KRUI News Show at five. The opportunities are endless. You just need an idea that others should hear over the radio.

For example, a now retired show, *Rainbow Hour*, spent an hour talking about all things LGBTQ+. The show included everything from queer-coding villains, awareness weeks, or about the latest news involving an LGBTQ+ actor or athlete. There are many niches to fill on the radio.

As for those who wish to listen instead of perform on the radio waves, there are many benefits to college radio that typical stations do not offer. Because of KRUI's alternative title, there are new songs played by unknown artists and upcoming hits. There is specifically a page dedicated to submitted works — including student bands.

Many artists had their songs playing on college radio before moving up in the music industry. I remember one of my first spins included Lizzo right before she took off, and I felt a part of something big because I played her music.

Alongside a different array of music, KRUI offers written pieces by students about the music scene. Because of its origins, KRUI focuses on all aspects of their station — including ads — for Iowa City residents. A major benefit is that it gives students an opportunity to test out their broadcasting skills before they move through life and other careers — including KRUI alum Diablo Cody, who won an Oscar for writing the screenplay for *Juno*.

So please, give the radio a chance, whether as a listener or a contributor. Radio is not dying. Not now, not ever. It just needs a little love from creative students.

signe-nettum@uiowa.edu

STAFF

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Hannah Pinski, Opinions Editor

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UI professors finalists for National Book Critic Circle Award

University of Iowa Professors Donika Kelly and Melissa Febos are finalists for the National Book Critics Circle Awards for their books, *The Renunciations: Poems* and *Girlhood*.



Grace Smith/The Daily Iowan

Authors Melissa Febos (left) and Donika Kelly (right) pose for a portrait holding each other's books in the English Philosophy Building at the University of Iowa on Thursday, Jan. 27. Both Kelly and Febos have been named finalists in the 2022 National Book Critics Awards for the books. Febos' book, *Girlhood*, explores the narrative women are taught on what it means to be female. *The Renunciations*, by Kelly, is a series of poems about the journey of one's self during trauma.

Cooper Worth
News Reporter

Writers and partners Donika Kelly and Melissa Febos are finalists for the 2021 National Book Critics Circle Awards.

Kelly and Febos, University of Iowa assistant and associate professors of English, are nominated for their books *The Renunciations: Poems* and *Girlhood*, respectively, under the Poetry and Criticism categories. The awards will be presented on March 17 in a virtual ceremony, free and open to the public.

Since 1974, the National Book Critics Circle has presented awards recognizing the best books published in six categories: fiction,

nonfiction, biography, autobiography, poetry, and criticism.

Kelly and Febos will compete against five other authors in their respective categories.

The National Book Critics Circle is made up of 800 members consisting of critics, authors, literary bloggers, book publishing professionals, and more. Finalists and awards are chosen by the organization's members, according to its website.

Febos said it is an honor

to be recognized as a finalist for the award alongside Kelly.

"The idea that both of us would be finalists in the same year just seems so far-fetched. We just stood in the hallway and sort of laughed when we found out, and then did a little dance," she said. "I feel so lucky to be able to write for a living and talk about writing with my students for a living."

Febos said the process of writing *Girlhood* started back in 2017, as

she went back through childhood journals for research on an essay. She discovered that a younger version of herself had rewritten experiences differently from how she remembers them now.

The experience prompted Febos to interview other women with similar experiences to see how their growth as a woman had played out later in life through systemic values.

"These were sort of really fraught experiences of bullying in particular that I sort of rewrote the narrative in a way that would be more digestible to me psychologically," she said. "I became curious about unearthing other narratives

that I had rewritten in order to make them less burdensome of which might be worth a reexploration."

Kelly said engaging with her students has been instrumental in how she approaches her work and it has helped her develop a language for thinking about poetry differently.

"Teaching absolutely feeds my work. In the poetry workshops I teach, we read a lot, and the conversations that come out of those readings are just so fun and so helpful," she said. "The students here are so great at reading and being open to the experience of a poem."

Kelly said she started working on her poetry col-

"Poems are a space for me to process what I'm thinking and how I'm thinking to investigate how I came to the stories that have defined so much of my life," she said. "It feels like an investigatory practice that's been really vital for both my life as a writer and a teacher."

Loren Glass, UI English department executive officer and professor, said writers like Febos and Kelly demonstrate the direction in which the department is heading.

"It shows that we are the English department of the future," he said. "We're going to have folks who are both critics and content producers, folks exactly like Melissa and Donika who

"Poems are a space for me to process what I'm thinking and how I'm thinking to investigate how I came to the stories that have defined so much of my life.

— Donika Kelly, assistant professor of English

lection during her time living near Buffalo, New York. She said she had recently moved to the area, and didn't have much pulling her attention elsewhere, so she began writing.

"I was making a lot of observations, feeling a lot of feelings, and the place where all of that went was in two poems," Kelly said.

The poems in *The Renunciations* tell the story of how someone's perspective of themselves can be altered after experiencing trauma, with Kelly touching on themes of love, resilience, and survival.

Even though she does not necessarily write her poems for other people, Kelly said it's exciting to share her work with readers who recognize it as art.

have really combined being an artist and a critic in a way that we haven't seen as much in the English department."

Febos said if there is ever a time that she thinks about the audience who would enjoy her work, she thinks of one reader specifically and said she feels grateful that so many have related to *Girlhood*.

"If I'm ever thinking of any kind of reader in particular it is of a slightly younger version of myself, or whatever kind of reader that has shared my experience and needs some company in that process," she said. "This book, that has touched so many people, has been incredibly rewarding."

cooper-worth@uiowa.edu

The Daily Break

The New York Times
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1229

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- Across**
- 1 Like court arguments
 - 5 What travels on sound waves?
 - 9 Heart's home
 - 14 Kind of bread
 - 15 Part of the foot
 - 16 Saddlebacks, tumps, knolls and the like
 - 17 Lettered awards show host?
 - 19 "Not a problem"
 - 20 Celebrity dog trainer Millan
 - 21 Articles of exercise equipment
 - 23 Buster
 - 26 Bonobo, for one
 - 27 It's a little longer than a foot
 - 30 Lettered adversary in a battle of wits?
 - 36 Bit of bar food
 - 37 "You ready?"
 - 38 Pulitzer winner Harper
 - 39 The end
 - 41 ___eared
 - 42 Retail figure
 - 44 Bega who sang "Mambo No. 5"
 - 45 Barack Obama's "A Promised Land," e.g.
 - 48 Confirmation or quinceañera
 - 49 Lettered home on the range when no one's home?
 - 51 Pickle
 - 52 ___ milk
 - 53 Rigging support

- Down**
- 1 International grp. founded in Baghdad in 1960
 - 2 Fog-induced frost
 - 3 NCR devices
 - 4 Fail miserably, unless you're a chicken
 - 5 [Kapow!]
 - 6 "The Lord of the Rings" brute
 - 7 ___deucy
 - 8 Van Gogh's art dealer brother
 - 9 1980s fad items advertised as "the gift that grows"
 - 10 Ice pack?
 - 11 Lohengrin's love
 - 12 Parking meter opening
 - 13 Clicks that chide
 - 18 Historically significant period
 - 22 Singer known as the "Prince of Motown"

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Puzzles provided by sudokusolver.com

Puzzle solutions on page 2A

UI cheer, dance retain recruitment changes after COVID-19 pause

After returning from the COVID-19 shutdown, the University of Iowa's cheer and dance teams are keeping some of the changes they made earlier in the pandemic, including online tryouts.



Ayrton Breckenridge/The Daily Iowan

A member of the Iowa Spirit Squad performs during a football game between No. 17 Iowa and Illinois at Kinnick Stadium on Nov. 20, 2021. The Hawkeyes defeated Illinois 33-23 at the last Iowa home game of the season.

Marandah Mangra-Dutcher
News Reporter

The University of Iowa's cheer and dance teams experienced changes to their programs since the beginning of the pandemic, some of which will remain for future seasons.

The dance team had a pretty normal season when COVID-19 started in 2020, UI dance coach

Jenny Eustice said. "We got to have the majority of our 2019-2020 season," she said. "The only thing that was abnormal there, was we didn't have postseason basketball and we had to do our banquet virtually." Eustice said the 2020-2021 season was the most heavily impacted season in terms of COVID-19 because of the uncertainty around sports.

"We actually were able to come back as a team the first week of November, five months after we would have normally started our season," she said. The dancers still talk about how difficult it was to come back and get to know each other after that five-month delay, Eustice said. The cheerleaders had an even longer delay

to their season, spirit squad coordinator and head cheer coach Gregg Niemiec said. The cheer team resumed in August 2021. "It was a 16-month break for the cheerleaders," he said. Eustice said the dancers came back before the cheerleaders because of the differences between the sports. "It just has to do with

the nature of our sport," she said. "Cheerleading, there's a lot more contact because of the stunting, the basket tosses and things of that nature. Dancing, we were able to social distance and we're not stunting." The cheer team also faced a disconnect between its members making the return to cheering more challenging, said Taylor Tenaglio, one of the captains of the UI cheer team. "It was hard to really understand who our teammates were," she said. "Then it was just almost awkward coming in for the first time and being like 'Yeah, I know what you look like in a little box on my computer screen. But I don't know who you are as a person.'" Niemiec said the COVID-19 break gave the teams time to reassess their recruitment process. "We've been looking at recruiting for a while and then the pandemic hit and actually worked out to be a benefit to us because we've been looking into the system of recruiting," he said. The system was originally an in-person tryout on campus, Niemiec said, but it is now all digitally driven. "Now, it's videos and back and forth a little bit between the possible

incoming students, so that has helped us a lot for cheer and dance," he said. Eustice said the new recruitment model is being used in other big schools. "I think a lot more bigger schools, your Division One FBS schools, Big Ten schools, are going way more towards this recruiting model," she said. The new model allows for more time for incoming students to change their college plans if needed, Eustice said. "We wanted to do something that could move that process a little bit earlier," she said. "So that if Iowa isn't the place for a dancer or a cheerleader, then they would have the opportunity to look elsewhere without already being tied into a certain place." Niemiec said all the UI spirit squads were able to attend nationals this season except for the cheer team. Eustice said the dance team competed in three different categories. "We competed in game day and then pom and jazz," she said. "[In game day] we got third place, so we brought home the bronze medal, in pom we placed eighth and in jazz we placed at 14th."

marandah-mangra-dutcher@uiowa.edu

SWANSON

Continued from Front

start of the pandemic. In the video, recorded in his home in front of a wall of photos of his Hancher-related experiences, Swanson recounted several memorable moments of his career. "These memories are so precious, they mean so much," Swanson said in the video, referring to the wall of photos. "I always love hearing people's Hancher stories." Swanson went on to express his gratitude toward Hancher's sponsors as well as its audience members, especially during the tumultuous time after the

theater's funding cuts in July 2020, which would eventually see the \$1.5 million General Education Fund cut to zero by the theater's 50th anniversary season during the 2022-2023 year. Swanson said he is ultimately retiring so that someone new can help Hancher reinvent itself, although it will not be an easy challenge. He did not name any potential candidates. "I really feel that the best decision is for fresh eyes to take a look at what is needed in order for Hancher to continue being a leading presenter, along with facing this new budget situation,"

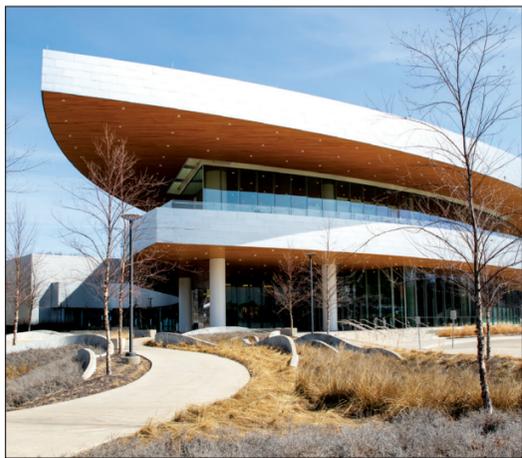
Swanson said. Although there is not a set date for his retirement yet, Swanson has planned a farewell trip to New

York for Hancher Partners from June 9-13. His final message in the video expressed his appreciation for Hancher, its partners,

and its audiences from over the years. "I just want to say it's been a great ride, because of all of you," Swanson

said. "I love you all very much, and can't thank you enough."

parker-jones@uiowa.edu



Katie Goodale/The Daily Iowan

Hancher Auditorium is seen on April 1, 2019.



Ben Allen Smith/The Daily Iowan

Chuck Swanson, executive director of Hancher Auditorium, stands inside the atrium of Hancher on Mar. 2, 2018. Swanson has been the executive director since 2002.



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BASKETBALL

Continued from Page 8

to a subpar team. Quadrant wins and losses are broken up as follows:

- Quadrant 1: Home 1-30, neutral 1-50, away 1-75.
- Quadrant 2: Home 31-75, neutral 51-100, away 76-135.
- Quadrant 3: Home 76-160, neutral 101-200, away 135-240.
- Quadrant 4: Home 161-353, neutral 201-353, away 241-353.

Iowa is 2-5 in Quadrant 1 games this season, with wins over Indiana at home and Utah State at a neutral location. The Hawkeyes are 2-1 in Quadrant 2 games and a combined 11-0 in Quadrant 3/4 games. These records are subject to change, as a team could rise or fall in the rankings, which would impact which quadrant a win or loss against that team would fall into.

Iowa is ranked 23rd by KenPom.com, which ranks Iowa as the eighth-most efficient offense and 103rd most efficient defense in the nation.

“We have what it takes to get it done,” Iowa guard Jordan Bohannon said. “I think we have the group that can make a deep run in the NCAA Tournament. Right now, we just have to keep building things one

game at a time.”

What the experts are saying

In his most recent tournament projection, which was released on Jan. 28, ESPN bracketology guru Joe Lunardi had Iowa as a No. 7 seed in the NCAA Tournament. The Hawkeyes were facing St. Mary’s in San Diego in the South Region as part of Lunardi’s projection. March Madness reporter Andy Katz also had Iowa as a seven seed in his most recent projections, which were released on Jan. 20 — before Iowa’s back-to-back losses.

The Athletic’s Brian Bennett had Iowa as a No. 8 seed in his projections released on Jan. 28. Bennett’s bracket had Iowa playing Oklahoma in Portland as part of the West Region.

Tim Krueger of Stadium marked Iowa down as a No. 9 seed in his bracket projection, which was released on Monday. Krueger had Iowa playing Wake Forest in Greenville, North Carolina, as part of the Midwest region.

CBS’s Jerry Palm saw Iowa as a No. 12 seed in his Monday projections. Palm had Iowa playing Creighton in one of the First Four games in his



Grace Smith/The Daily Iowan

The Iowa bench celebrates during a basketball game between Iowa and No. 6 Purdue at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City on Jan. 27.

latest bracket.

Where Iowa goes from here

Ten games, all against Big Ten teams, remain for Iowa in the regular season.

Five of them will be played at Carver-Hawkeye Arena, while the other five will be played on the

road. The Hawkeyes are 1-4 on the road against conference teams this season and winless overall against ranked teams. Three of Iowa’s last 10 games will be against teams that are currently ranked, while five of them will be against teams that are in the bottom four of the Big Ten standings.

The Hawkeyes are currently in ninth place in the 14-team conference. The combined record of Iowa’s remaining regular season opponents is 105-87 (54.7 winning percentage).

Nine Big Ten teams made the men’s tournament last season, including Michigan State — who

went 15-13 overall and 9-11 in Big Ten play — as an 11 seed.

Iowa would automatically clinch a berth to the NCAA Tournament by winning the Big Ten Tournament. Otherwise, there are 37 at-large bids to the “Big Dance.”

robert-read@uiowa.edu

BOWL

Continued from Page 8

2020. He amassed 15 total tackles in 11 games played last year.

This season, Daniels has competed in just two contests. He’s picked up two tackles on the year.

Daniels has been in the

NFL since 2012, when he was selected in the fourth round of the league draft by the Green Bay Packers. Daniels was a Packer from 2012-18. The 6-foot,

310-pound 32-year-old was signed by the Detroit Lions for a year in 2019.

Daniels has racked up 230 tackles, 30 sacks, one interception, and five pass deflections in 124 career NFL games. Daniels has started in 86 NFL matches over the last 10 years.

Technically, the Bengals do have another Hawkeye on their roster. He just won’t be competing for a Super Bowl Feb. 13.

Cincinnati signed former Hawkeye offensive lineman Riley Reiff last offseason. Reiff started twelve games for the Ben-

gals this year before he sustained a season-ending ankle injury.

Reiff has played 147 games over the course of his 10-year NFL career. He was picked 23rd in the first round of the 2012 NFL Draft by the Detroit Lions.

The 6-foot-5, 313-pound now-33-year-old played for the Lions until 2016. From 2017-20, he was a Viking.

The Bengals placed Reiff on Injured Reserve on Dec. 16.

Reiff signed a one-year contract with the Bengals before the 2021-22 season began. So, he’ll be a

free agent this offseason — barring any extension offers Cincinnati might throw at him.

Reiff and Daniels were teammates at the UI. Reiff played under Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz from 2008-11. Daniels did so from 2007-11.

Super Bowl LVI will air live on NBC this year. Al Michaels will handle play-by-play duties and Cris Collinsworth will provide color commentary.

NBC’s Super Bowl pre-game show will begin at noon on Feb. 13.

austin-hanson@uiowa.edu



Kareem Elgazzar/Imagn Content Services

Cincinnati Bengals defensive tackle Mike Daniels tackles Los Angeles Chargers running back Justin Jackson in the first quarter during a Week 1 NFL football game against the Los Angeles Chargers, Sept. 13, 2020, at Paul Brown Stadium in Cincinnati.

PCP

Continued from Page 8



Austin Hanson Sports Editor

Alex Marinelli

Before the 2021-22 season began, senior 125-pounder Spencer Lee was clearly the Iowa men’s wrestling team’s most valuable athlete.

Lee is a three-time national champion, two-time Hodge Trophy winner, four-time All-American,

and two-time Big Ten Champion.

The Pennsylvanian announced Jan. 1 that he’d be having season-ending surgery to repair torn ACLs in his right and left knees.

With Lee out of the Hawkeyes’ lineup, who is Iowa’s new most valuable wrestler?

For me, the answer to that question is obviously senior 165-pounder Alex Marinelli. “The Bull” has been pulling the Hawkeyes’ cart all season long.

On the mat, Marinelli is 14-1 this year. Ohio State’s Carson Kharchla dealt Marinelli his only loss of the season in Columbus on Jan. 21. Kharchla was rated seventh in the nation when he beat Marinelli. He’s since risen in Intermat’s individual rankings.

Marinelli has earned bonus points in seven of his matches this year. He’s

registered two falls, three technical falls, and two wins via major decision.

Off the mat, Marinelli has been a leader for his team. He’s spoken to reporters on an almost-weekly basis this season.

When true freshman Drake Ayala picked up his first dual win at Carver-Hawkeye Arena, Marinelli took the post-match press conference podium with him. Before Jan. 9, Ayala had never participated in a formal press conference at the University of Iowa.

Marinelli can also frequently be spotted giving his teammates council before and after matches and practices.

Because of his success on the mat and his leadership off it, I believe Marinelli is Iowa’s most valuable wrestler this season.

austin-hanson@uiowa.edu



Jerod Ringwald/ The Daily Iowan

Iowa’s No. 2 174-pound and Pennsylvania native Michael Kemerer grapples with Penn State’s No. 1 Carter Starocci during a wrestling meet between No. 2 Iowa and No. 1 Penn State in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 28.

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HAWKEYE UPDATES

Iowa softball schedules media day

The University of Iowa softball team will host its annual media day on Feb. 4 at 12:15 p.m. Hawkeye head coach Renee Gillispie, who is entering her fourth season with Iowa, and her student-athletes will be available for interviews.

Reporters are invited to watch the Hawkeyes scrimmage when media day concludes.

Daily Iowan sports reporters Ben Palya and Dawson Moore will both attend the event. Follow them on Twitter @RealDawsonMoore and @Benpalya2 for live coverage.

Dailyiowan.com will have ancillary coverage of Iowa softball media day throughout next week.

Iowa softball will kick off its 2022 campaign on Feb. 11-13. The Hawkeyes will take on a bevy of opponents at the Northern Lights, Southern Nights Invitational in Leesburg, Florida.

Iowa's first home game is slated for March 25. The Hawkeyes will face the Wisconsin Badgers at Bob Pearl Field at 5 p.m.

Iowa went 26-18 a year ago. The overall record was the best the Hawkeyes have had in the Gillispie era.

Michigan's Naz Hillmon named Big Ten Women's Basketball Player of the Week

Michigan senior forward Naz Hillmon was named the Big Ten Women's Basketball Player of the Week on Monday, breaking Iowa sophomore point guard Caitlin Clark's four-week streak of obtaining the honor.

Hillmon averaged 26 points and 12 rebounds in two games against then-No. 22 Ohio State and Purdue. She also shot 79 percent from the field in those two games.

This is Hillmon's third player of the week honor in 2021-22.

In two games against Penn State and Northwestern last week, Clark averaged 24 points, 11.5 assists, and nine rebounds.

Clark also set the Big Ten Conference's single-contest assists record in a league game with 18 against Penn State. She has earned the player of the week award five times in 2021-22.

Clark and Hillmon are two frontrunners for the conference's player of the year honor. Hillmon nabbed the award in 2020-21, while Clark was the Big Ten Conference's Freshman of the Year.

The duo also appeared on the John Wooden Award Midseason Top 25 Watchlist released on Jan. 5. The Wooden Award is given annually to the best women's and men's college basketball players in the nation.

Defensive back DeShaun Lee commits to Iowa football

Iowa football has landed three-star defensive back DeShaun Lee. The five-foot-11, 175-pounder is a member of the recruiting class of 2022.

Lee was recruited by the Hawkeyes' defensive coordinator Phil Parker, per 24/7 Sports. Lee verbally committed to the UI following a weekend campus visit.

Lee is currently attending Belleville High School in Michigan. Kaevon Merriweather, a defensive back that's already on Iowa's roster, also went to Belleville.

During the recruiting process, Lee received scholarship offers from Kentucky, Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Akron, Bowling Green, Central Michigan, and Eastern Illinois, per Rivals' Blair Sanderson.

Lee is the third Michigan-based defensive back to commit to Iowa this recruiting cycle, joining Koen Entringer and Orlando Trader, per The Des Moines Register's Kennington Smith.

Associated Press Top 25 (WBB)

1. South Carolina (20-1)
2. Stanford (16-3)
3. NC State (19-2)
4. Louisville (18-2)
5. Indiana (14-2)
6. Michigan (18-2)
7. Tennessee (18-2)
8. Arizona (15-3)
9. Baylor (15-4)
10. UConn (13-4)
11. Iowa State (18-3)
- ...
17. Maryland (15-6)
21. Iowa (14-4)
23. Ohio State (15-4)

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We are who we are because that's who we are."

— Iowa men's wrestling coach Tom Brands on his personality.

STAT OF THE DAY

199

Former Iowa football players in the NFL since 1999

Iowa in tournament trouble?

Back-to-back losses by the Iowa men's basketball team have the Hawkeyes inching closer to the postseason bubble.



Iowa forwards Kris and Keegan Murray talk during a break in the play at a men's basketball game between Iowa and Indiana at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 13.

Robert Read Pregame Editor

Iowa men's basketball coach Fran McCaffery wanted nothing to do with any postseason discussions during a mid-January press conference.

"I just think, to be honest with you, it's just crazy to look at that stuff right now," McCaffery said in response to a question about Iowa's NET (NCAA Evaluation Tool) ranking at the time. "It's senseless. You know what's

coming. We have a ton of monster games coming up. I said it last year, you look at this league from top to bottom, and it was the best it had been since I've been here. It might be better this year in terms of strength of teams top to bottom."

Well, Tuesday marked the start of February, meaning March Madness is only a month away.

And Iowa's most recent game is pushing the Hawkeyes closer to the tournament bubble. De-

spite a buzzer-beating tip-in at the end of regulation by sophomore forward Keegan Murray, the Hawkeyes lost to Penn State, 90-86, in double overtime on Monday. Iowa stands at 14-7 overall and 4-6 in Big Ten play with 10 games to go in the regular season.

The Daily Iowan analyzed Iowa's postseason resume and sifted through NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament projections midway through the conference schedule.

Here is where the Hawkeyes stand with March Madness as February gets underway.

Metrics like the Hawkeyes

In the most recent NET rankings, which were released on Sunday, Iowa came in at No. 23 in the country. The NET is the NCAA's primary evaluation tool for sorting teams. These rankings, per the NCAA website, "play an important role in estab-

lishing a team's resume."

This system takes into account game results, strength of schedule, game location, scoring margin, net offensive and defensive efficiency, and the quality of wins and losses. The NET also ties into the quadrant system, which organizes wins and losses based on location and NET ranking. A Quadrant 1 win means beating elite competition, while a Quadrant 4 loss means losing

BASKETBALL | Page 7A

Three Hawkeyes to play in Super Bowl LVI

Alaric Jackson, Jake Gervase, and Mike Daniels will all have a chance to play in the big game on Feb. 13.



Los Angeles Rams' Johnny Hekker (6) and Jake Gervase (43) celebrate after a special teams play against the Arizona Cardinals during the second quarter of the NFC Wild Card playoff game on Jan. 17.

Austin Hanson Sports Editor

The stage is set for Super Bow LVI. The AFC's Cincinnati Bengals will take on the NFC's Los Angeles Rams at SoFi Stadium in LA on Feb. 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Three former Iowa football players will have an opportunity to compete in the big game in about two weeks: Defensive back Jake Gervase, defensive lineman Mike Daniels, and offensive lineman Alaric Jackson.

Gervase and Jackson are on the Rams' roster.

Gervase played at University of Iowa from 2014-18. Gervase amassed 153 tackles and seven interceptions as a Hawkeye.

The now-26-year-old led Iowa with 89 tackles in 2018. His efforts earned him an All-Big Ten honorable mention.

Gervase has been with the Rams since 2019. He's only made two career regu-

lar-season tackles — both of which came this year. Gervase recorded one tackle against the San Francisco 49ers at Levi's Stadium in the Bay Area on Nov. 15. Then, he registered another against San Francisco at SoFi Stadium on Jan.

Jackson played at the University of Iowa from 2016-20. In 2018 and 2019, the 6-foot-7, 285-pound, now-23-year-old earned All-Big Ten honors from league coaches and media.

This season is Jackson's first in the NFL. He's competed in four regular season games against the Minnesota Vikings, Seattle Seahawks, Arizona Cardinals, and Houston Texans. The Rams have won every game Jackson has partaken in.

Both Gervase and Jackson signed with the Rams as undrafted free agents.

Daniels has been with the Bengals since

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Who is Iowa's MVP

Two DI staffers debate which wrestler is most valuable to the Hawkeyes.



Michael Kemerer

Senior 174-pounder Michael Kemerer has been the Iowa men's wrestling team's most valuable asset this season.

Kemerer, who is ranked second in the nation at his weight, is 5-1 on the season. He sat out the Hawkeyes' first few duals of

the season — presumably to nurse some injuries. Kemerer was undefeated in 2021-22 before he fell to Penn State's Carter Starocci, 2-1 in overtime on Jan. 28.

"Grandpa Mike" is 1-2 all-time against Starocci. Kemerer beat Starocci in the 2021 Big Ten Championship Finals. Then, Starocci got the better of Kemerer in the 2021 NCAA Championship Finals.

If all goes according to plan this season, Starocci and Kemerer will meet twice in March.

Looking ahead to the postseason, Kemerer could be the Hawkeyes' leading point-scorer at both the Big Ten and NCAA championships, especially if he beats Starocci twice.

Kemerer has been a valuable piece of the 2021-22 Hawkeyes off the mat too. With seven years of collegiate wrestling experience under his belt, the leadership and wisdom he can provide Iowa with is invaluable.

I believe an old-timer like Kemerer can guide the Hawkeyes to another national championship this season.

— Chris Werner

Kemerer's won national and Big Ten championships with the Hawkeyes before. He's also experienced what it's like to miss significant time with an injury, as he sat out the entire 2018-19 season with knee and shoulder injuries.

Kemerer is the most seasoned athlete on the Hawkeyes' roster at 25 years of age. I believe an old-timer like Kemerer can guide the Hawkeyes to another national championship this season.

christopher-werner@uiowa.edu

BOWL | Page 7A

PCP | Page 7A

Arts & Culture

80 hours

New round of public art matching grants open for applications

Overseen by the Public Art Advisory Committee, the Iowa City Public Art Program has opened applications for the latest round of public art matching grants, which will offer up to \$3,000 for Iowa City artists.



Gabby Drees /The Daily Iowan

The "Campfire Stories" mural is seen near the Pedestrial Mall in Iowa City on Jan. 30. Artist Drew Etienne created the mural in 2020.

Parker Jones
Arts Editor

Up to \$3,000 in grants will be available to eligible artists following the announcement of a new round of public art matching funds.

Open to any artists looking to pursue publicly accessible visual, audio, or performance-based projects locally, the Iowa City Public Art Program's matching funds program, started in 2015, was initially designed to increase the total number of smaller or temporary public art projects.

Marcia Bollinger, public art coordinator and the representative for the city's Public Art Advisory Committee, said the smaller scale allows the committee to fund many projects, big and small, rather than spending limited funding on only a few large projects.

Individual artists and organizations can apply. Both are expected to match the amount they are allotted by the advisory committee, using their own funding to cover the rest of the project.

"It allows our funding to go further when it's being matched by the artist," Bollinger said.

The Public Art Program holds two funding rounds each year, unless there is still money available after the second round, in which a third round would be held.

Andrea Truitt, a member of the Public Art Advisory Committee as well as the community relations manager at Summer of the Arts, wrote in an email to *The Daily Iowan* that the primary goal of the matching grants is to help artists bring their work to fruition, and to allow the community to interact with the art.

"These grants are a key way in which the Public Art Advisory Committee

can help to encourage arts access in our area for both makers and viewers," Truitt wrote.

One organization that has received matching funds in the past is Public Space One, which is helping some individual artists gain funding again this year.

John Englebrecht, executive director of Public Space One and a former member of the Public Art Advisory Committee, said Public Space One's mission coincides with that of the Iowa City's Public Art Program.

He noted that the matching funds help accomplish this, mainly by

expanding the local audience for art in general, in a way that efficiently utilizes limited funding.

"For Iowa City to have

"I think this program does a really good way of leveraging what are pretty small resources in a broad way."

"I think this program does a really good way of leveraging what are pretty small resources in a broad way."

— John Englebrecht, executive director of Public Space One

these matching funds, I think it's a really good way to leverage all the creative projects that are happening in the city, with their current capacity as a public art program," Englebrecht said.

Submissions are being taken until Feb. 25. A list of eligibility requirements can be found on the Public Art Program website.

parker-jones@uiowa.edu

A look inside Riverside's new home

After officially opening its new space last week, Riverside Theatre's future looks promising — as do the arts in downtown Iowa City.

Parker Jones
Arts Editor

Riverside Theatre has officially moved into the heart of downtown Iowa City.

The new space, located at 105 College St. in the Ped Mall's Crescent Building, occupies three floors. Riverside plans to make use of all three levels once renovations are finalized.

The theater's interior is a modernized take on the century-old building's structure, with exposed brick walls and original flooring from the 1950s, balanced out by updated amenities and design.

After entering on the first floor, the unexpectedly spacious interior greets audiences with original staircases that lead up to the second and third floors, which feature backstage areas and the lobby and theater respectively.

Aaron Stonerook, actor and development director of Riverside, said the biggest difference between the new location and Riverside's previous home of 30 years on Gilbert Street is the flexibility that a

larger location allows for.

"I think, from an artistic standpoint, that's what really stands out to me — is having the ability to really shift around what we want to do in terms of staging, lighting, sound, everything — just having that space," Stonerook said.

The new space features an entire floor for production members, with a green room for performers fitted with a kitchenette and laundry machines, as well as a backstage area and tech booth for crew.

Adam Knight, producing artistic director of Riverside, emphasized that the new location is also tailored to be accessible, inclusive, and comfortable for audiences and staff. He noted that the third-floor lobby is a place where audiences will be able to congregate before and after shows, purchase concessions, and even where Riverside can host smaller events or discussions.

"The size of the lobby is super important to how this space works — it's this space for folks to come early and stay late,"

Knight said. "We wanted a place that would inspire discussion; we want the effects of the show to kind of linger long after the lights come back on. So the lobby is a key part of that."

Knight said the lobby and extra space allow the theater to build community more than the company was able to in its previous location.

"We can have more opportunities for artists, more opportunities for new play development, and really kind of create this cohesive patron experience," Knight said. "When people come in, the experience doesn't start when the lights go down, the experience starts from the moment they enter this interesting building."

The theater held its inaugural performance in the new location on Jan. 27, exactly 40 years after its first ever performance in 1982. Although a few details of the new space are not finalized, such as some of the furnishings, Knight said that Riverside is audience-ready, and the theater has a full perfor-



Braden Ernst/The Daily Iowan

Adam Knight, producing artistic director of Riverside Theatre, poses in front of the main stage on Jan. 28.

mance roster for its current season.

Knight said the theater ultimately chose to relocate to the Ped Mall because it is an epicenter of arts and culture in Iowa City, and that Riverside's new space will allow it

to further contribute to the arts movement in addition to furthering its mission.

"This is becoming a bonafide arts district in the 'greatest small city for the arts,' and what was missing was a place

for serious-minded performance," Knight said. "We thought that Riverside Theatre would be the missing piece to make that kind of a critical mass happen."

parker-jones@uiowa.edu

Weekend Events

3

THURSDAY

FILM
- ON THESE GROUNDS
 6:30 P.M., FILMSCENE @ THE CHAUNCEY, 404 E COLLEGE ST.

MISC
- IOWA HISTORY BOOK CLUB: STORM LAKE
 7 P.M., ONLINE

MUSIC
- MILL CREEK BAN
 5:30 P.M., TAVERN BLUE, 805 2ND ST.

THEATER
- IOWA DIRECTORS FESTIVAL
 8 P.M., UNIVERSITY OF IOWA THEATRE BUILDING, DAVID THAYER THEATRE, 200 N RIVERSIDE DR.

4

FRIDAY

ART
- ART & WRITE NIGHT
 6 P.M., MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 17 N CLINTON ST.

MISC
- FRIDAY FORUM COMEDY SHOWCASE
 9:30 P.M., WILLOW CREEK THEATRE COMPANY, 327 S GILBERT ST.

- LET ME BE MYSELF: ANNE FRANK EXHIBIT
 10 A.M., OLD CAPITOL MUSEUM, 1 N CLINTON ST.

MUSIC
- ANAIS MITCHEL W/ BONNY LIGHT HORSEMAN
 7:30 P.M., THE ENGLERT THEATRE, 221 E WASHINGTON ST.

5

SATURDAY

MISC
- LET ME BE MYSELF: ANNE FRANK EXHIBIT
 10 A.M., OLD CAPITOL MUSEUM
- FOILED AGAIN! WORKSHOP
 1 P.M., ARTS IOWA CITY, 120 N DUBUQUE ST.

MUSIC
- SCOTTISH HIGHLAND BAGPIPE EXHIBIT
 10 A.M., UI ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME, 2425 PRAIRIE MEADOW DR.

THEATER
- EDEN PRAIRIE, 1971
 7:30 P.M., RIVERSIDE THEATRE, 119 E COLLEGE ST.

6

SUNDAY

LITERATURE
- LAN SAMANTHA CHANG
 2 P.M., THE ENGLERT THEATRE

- WRITERS OPEN MIC
 4 P.M., IOWA CITY POETRY, ONLINE

MISC
- WE ARE HAWKEYES: CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF STUDENT LIFE
 1 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY GALLERY, 125 W WASHINGTON ST.



ASK THE AUTHOR:

Ana Merino



Photo via Nina Cochran

Olivia Augustine
Arts Reporter

Ana Merino is a professor of Hispanic studies at the University of Iowa who founded the UI's Spanish MFA Program. In 2010, she created an outreach program called the Spanish Creative Literacy Program (SCLP) which functions through UI's Spanish MFA and the undergraduate Spanish Creative Writing initiative at the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. She has published nine poetry books, four plays, two academic books, one novel, and a children's story album. Several of which were written in Spanish. Merino's second novel, *Amigo*, will be available on Feb. 16 to the Spanish-speaking population. She was also the curator and editor of *Illustrating Spain in the US by Fantagraphics* — a collection of comics and essays by Spanish authors — which was released last week.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

DI: In *Illustrating Spain in the US*, what are the benefits of having both essays and comics?

Merino: In this book, comic artists and scholars established a productive dialogue about history. At the same time, the artists developed their creativity giving an interpretation of different aspects of the themes they were confronting. A comic of each theme was the final product. The essays bring historical knowledge and complement the artistic creations. It's a book with seven themes and beautiful comics: Missions and The Camino Real that means the colonial period between 1535 and 1821, the Revolutionary War with the figure of Bernardo de Gálvez, Immigration touching on the 1868 to 1945 period, the Hispanism and Spanish Philological and Literary legacy, the Spanish Scientists, Art and Cinema. On the other hand, the image of the cover is also a creative piece, with a very symbolic way to put both flags together and people from different times.

DI: What has been the most rewarding part of *Illustrating Spain in the US*?

Merino: Working with comic artists and seeing the creative process and the interaction with scholars. It is a book that brings knowledge and creativity — I like both sides. I also enjoy that it is a team effort. It was developed during the pandemic times when everyone was home, confronting a very scary time, but creative passion and imagination make things easier, and in the worst of the pandemic we managed to make a creative collective piece full of knowledge.

DI: What is the inspiration for your novel, *Amigo*?

Merino: *Amigo* is a three-part novel with a fictional main character called Inés Sánchez Cruz, a Mexican poet in her early 50s who travels to Spain in October

2019. After a lapse of several decades, Inés is back in Madrid to present the collection of her poetic oeuvre and to teach a short poetry workshop at a cultural institution. The trip takes her back to the memories of the 90s when she was in Madrid doing her PhD but also helps her to refocus on her present life and the possibilities of new research. At the onset of the novel, the Mexican poet is faced with remembering some difficult, personal events. Meanwhile, she receives support to work on a new project in Madrid doing research on the family archive of Joaquín Amigo. Joaquín Amigo is a real person, and the family archive is very interesting. He was a catholic philosopher and very close friend of the poet Federico García Lorca. Unfortunately, both were killed by opposing forces, a week and a half apart, at the start of the Spanish Civil war in August of 1936. My character Inés, afraid of the obsessive thoughts from her past, will try to focus on the research project of Joaquín Amigo's archive. The novel focuses on Amigo's life and his reflections on friendship and faith, with parallels to Inés and her life and the understanding of her own friendships. To look at the past we also need to understand the present; Inés represents the present and the way we try to find a dialogue with our own past.

DI: What are you most looking forward to regarding *Amigo* being out in the world?

Merino: This novel combines the narrative fiction of a campus novel with intense emotions and the trepidant plot around the character of Inés doing research, with the real archive of Joaquín Amigo and very important data that I was able to analyze. Combining literary fiction with the experience of a new archival discovery is a very rewarding and inspiring experience.

olivia-augustine@uiowa.edu

STREAMING HIGHLIGHT: **PAM & TOMMY**



Illustration by Molly Milder

Parker Jones
Arts Editor

The highly publicized and divisive 1990s relationship between Tommy Lee and Pamela Anderson is still relevant, according to the new Hulu series *Pam & Tommy*.

The biographical miniseries will debut on the streaming site on Feb. 2 to tell the story of the Mötley Crüe drummer and actress in a dramatic, dark, and occasionally comedic eight-episode series. It will depict the fallout resulting from the couple's infamous unauthorized sextape, and the tumultuous marriage that followed.

Pam & Tommy was developed by actor Seth Rogan and screenwriter Evan Goldberg, and directed by Craig Gillespie, who previously directed the biographical film *I, Tonya*. The series features a star-studded cast, with Lily James and Sebastian Stan starring as Anderson and Lee, respectively. Additional cast members include Nick Offerman as Uncle Miltie, a well-known pornographic filmmaker at the time, as well as *Orange Is the New Black* actress Taylor Schilling and Seth Rogan as Erica and Rand Gauthier.

In addition to its main debut on Hulu in the U.S., which will release the first three episodes simultaneously, *Pam & Tommy* will also premiere on Star+ in Latin America and on Disney+ internationally. New episodes will then follow weekly.

If the public was captivated by the turbulent relationship back in the 90s, the attention is sure to continue when it comes to the modernized revisit of the pop culture drama with *Pam & Tommy*.

parker-jones@uiowa.edu

Playlist
Calming Chords

- Sweet Tea
Peachy!
- Flowers
In Love With a Ghost
- Instrumental
dodie
- River Flows In You
Yiruma
- Wildest Dreams
Duomo
- In A Sentimental Mood
Duke Ellington, John Coltrana
- Jupiter
Sleeping At Last
- The Path of the Wind
Cat Trumpet
- Claire de lune
Claude Debussy, Alexis Weissenberg
- Hit Me Up
Omar Apollo, Dominic Fike, Kenny Beats
- willow
Taylor Swift
- Neon Roses
The Technicolors
- affection
BETWEEN FRIENDS
- Trouble
Cage the Elephant

style guide: Frozen fashion

It's difficult trying to dress up that giant winter coat. Here's a style guide to stay cute and comfy in sub-zero weather.

Ari Lessard
Arts Reporter

Since returning from winter break, I've encountered a conflict with my wardrobe. How does one "look cute" while trying to dress for sub-zero weather?

As someone who isn't originally from the midwest, dealing with the winter cold isn't something I'm used to, let alone dressing for it. Preventing frostbite on my walk to class has become my number one priority, although I have come to realize by watching my midwestern classmates that warmth and fashion aren't mutually exclusive.

To begin with, a good flannel is an essential midwestern winter staple. Whether that flannel is the thick and insulated kind that can double as a kind of coat, or the thin and paper-like ones that litter fast fashion, a flannel is a non-negotiable layer found in every midwesterner's wardrobe.

That being said, the thick and insulated kind of flannel is surely preferable to the thin and paper-like ones in this weather. You can find a high-quality flannel at Costco, Target, or Aerie (among many others).

As previously mentioned, layers are essential. If possible, the best way to pull off a layered look is by keeping all of the clothes within the same color family. Put neutrals with neutrals, browns with browns, reds with yellows and oranges, and blues with purples or greens. All-black or all-white are always safe options as well.



Black and white is another classic color combination you could execute, and you could even throw a bit of color in by picking an accent color and matching your accessories accordingly. This includes hats, gloves, coats, fleeces, snow boots, wool socks, and any other cozy item you should be wearing in order to prevent frostbite on the way to class. If you

have winter garments in exclusively bright colors, perhaps allow these colors to dictate the color palette of your outfit underneath.

With the number of garments that effective layering requires, you could pick a color scheme of up to three colors, and still tie together a matching and manicured outfit.

Maybe even use contrasting colors like green and pink or purple and yellow, although I'd advise muted tones of the

colors, and allowing one to be a sidekick to the other. I'd also advise using black or white or even a neutral brown as a base, and the contrasting colors as accessories.

On the note of tone, you can select a color group like pastels, neutrals, or even neons, and use that as a starting place for your color palette.

Feel free to experiment with patterns like plaid, cheetah, florals, or tie-dye, but if you use multiple, be purposeful

— especially when layering. That isn't to say that you can't wear all tie-dye or several different florals, or any plethora of creative combinations. Ultimately, it is important to be aware of what you want people to see in your outfit, and what you really want to stand out.

In simpler terms, if you wear a lot of different patterns, people won't notice each individual garment as much because it's visually

overwhelming. This may sound appealing, but it can be distracting — It could be hard for someone's eye to remain on the individual's face because you have presented them with so much to look at.

Even if your first priority should be staying warm, it's not necessary to sacrifice warmth for fashion. You can protect yourself from the cold, and still look hot.

ariana-lessard@uiowa.edu



Daily Iowan arts reporter Ari Lessard poses for a portrait on Tuesday.

Braden Ernst / The Daily Iowan



MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP
PEPPERLAND



CASTALIAN STRING QUARTET



A TRIBUTE TO ARETHA FRANKLIN:
THE QUEEN OF SOUL



10 TONY AWARDS INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL

THE
BAND'S VISIT

HANCHER AUDITORIUM SPRING 2022 SEASON

Mark Morris Dance Group, *Pepperland* February 18

Mark Morris meets The Beatles! *Pepperland* is replete with Morris's blend of wit, musicality, and ingenuity.

Castalian String Quartet February 20

Here's your chance to catch a rising star. The quartet was named the 2019 Royal Philharmonic Society Young Artist of the Year.

The Philadelphia Orchestra March 9

The Philadelphia Orchestra is among the world's preeminent ensembles—and a Hancher favorite.

A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: *The Queen of Soul* March 10

Featuring Damien Sneed and special guest Karen Clark Sheard

A multi-media tribute performance by created by Damien Sneed—who toured with Franklin—and featuring Gospel music legend Karen Clark Sheard.

Danish String Quartet April 1

Hancher welcomes perhaps the most in-demand string quartet in the world today.

The Band's Visit April 6-7

The winner of the 2018 Tony Award winner for Best Musical (along with nine additional Tonys).

Steve Kroft, *Off the Record: How News Works* April 13

Few journalists have achieved the impact and recognition that Kroft has generated on *60 Minutes*.

KIDS CLUB HANCHER

Jazz at Lincoln Center Quintet, *Let Freedom Swing* April 23

Get the kids to the club for a celebration of America's music that highlights its connection to American democracy.

Kronos Quartet, *At War With Ourselves—400 Years of You*

April 30

This powerful new work for string quartet, narrator, and chorus explores race relations, social justice, and civil rights in 21st century America.

Las Cafeteras May 7

Committed to a creative combination of musical heritages—and to social justice—this band from East LA is a Hancher favorite.

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IOWA

Amplify

West Liberty: Translating diversity to representation

West Liberty, Iowa's first Latino and Hispanic-majority town, now has a Latino-majority city council.



Hannah Pinski
Amplify Editor

Dana Dominguez comes from a family of firsts.

Her aunt served as the first Latina Alderman in Moline, Iowa, and her dad was the first Latino police officer in West Liberty, Iowa. This year, Dominguez followed in her family's footsteps when she was elected to the West Liberty City Council — the first Latino-majority city council in Iowa.

West Liberty became Iowa's first Latino and Hispanic-majority town about 10 years ago. The Muscatine County city is not the first place to challenge the idea of a homogenous white rural America — the eastern Iowa town is one of thousands of majority-minority rural communities in the U.S. In 2020, 58.3 percent of the population identified as

Hispanic, followed by 37.7 percent who identified as white, and 1.7 percent as Asian.

But it wasn't until this year that West Liberty's Latino-majority population was represented by a Latino-majority city council. Alongside Dominguez, Omar Martinez, Jose Zacarias, Cara McFerren, and Diane Beranek serve on the council, along with Mayor Katie McCullough.

Dominguez, associate director of operations and communication at the University of Iowa Pomerantz Career Center, grew up in West Liberty and comes from a family of immigrants. Her great-grandfather immigrated from Coahuila, Mexico, to Del Rio, Texas.

Years later, Dominguez's father followed her aunts and uncles to Iowa because

he needed work, and the state offered jobs at a meat-packing plant.

At first, Dominguez, a single mother, didn't notice the lack of representation on the City Council. But as she grew up, she noticed that there was diverse representation in many areas of the town, like on school boards. But a lack of representation persisted in one key area — the City Council.

Dominguez said she decided to throw her name on the ballot because she had seen communities of color hit hard because of a lack of government policy and wanted to make a difference. Over the years, social justice came to the forefront of Dominguez's campaign, she said. She participated in immigration rallies and sat on the UI Latinx Council.

"The Latinx culture and

heritage is so different and unique and diverse, and there's certain issues where we're all affected," Dominguez said.

She said the diversity has a powerful impact because community members feel more trusting and comfortable coming to City Council members.

One reason that Dominguez was motivated to run was to fight for excluded and essential workers left out of COVID-19 relief funds, such as undocumented immigrants. Now that she's on the council, Dominguez said she hopes these workers feel optimistic when approaching the council because it has a diverse representation of Latino and Hispanic people.

"Just having representation, and not having representation, but having a diverse variety of representation

among the Latino community just between us four is really powerful and can allow people to feel more comfortable coming to the city when they need support," Dominguez said.

Dominguez aims to be more transparent and provide more communication from the council to community members. One of her first actions was to write to the City Clerk and obtain translators to talk to families in their language.

Other priorities for Dominguez include translating meeting minutes into multiple languages, including Spanish, and strengthening the budget system by partnering with organizations who provide grants.

Now, she hopes that young students can see themselves as leaders. The day after she was elected, Dominguez was recognized by a student at the Latinx Youth Summit at the Iowa Memorial Union.

"I presented with one of my staff members, and as soon as a couple of them trickled in, and it was a full house, one of them recognized me from West Liberty and went 'Hey, you're that councilwoman who won last night,'" Dominguez said.

Dominguez said she hopes that having repre-

sentation on the council will encourage more people to run in the future. She noted she believes that people from Hispanic and Latino backgrounds sometimes work six to seven days per week, preventing them from stepping into leadership positions.

But Dominguez said she has seen Latino networks not just in Iowa, but across the Midwest, become empowered and wanting to make a difference by taking service positions.

"When you have this lifestyle where all you know is work, you don't really think about things that affect you on the city level or that I can do something," Dominguez said. "Through the years, there have been some Lati-

cause we wanted backyard chickens, and then it very quickly became quite serious," McCullough said. "It evolved from wanting chickens to actually wanting to help people and seeing the needs that were in our community and knowing we were bright and excited to help bring the community together."

Though McCullough said she is an extroverted person, the most difficult part of the campaign was still getting signatures for the ballot. As part of her campaign, she would go to events and talk to 25 to 30 people and hear their stories, which opened her eyes to opinions about how the town was being run.

McCullough didn't know that she was the first female mayor until she was elected. She said there's not enough women in



leadership positions and hopes this will lead to more young women taking a seat at the table.

McCullough believes women have been bogged down by "invisible and unpaid labor" during the pandemic, such as when taking care of their children, which presents financial barriers for women to run for these positions.

"We don't necessarily see ourselves in these positions, so we don't know it's a possibility for us," McCullough said. "As females, we do it all."

As mayor, McCullough sees herself as a listener for the community and someone who helps fit the pieces. One of her goals is to create a health center for the community and population growth to highlight the diversity the town has to offer.

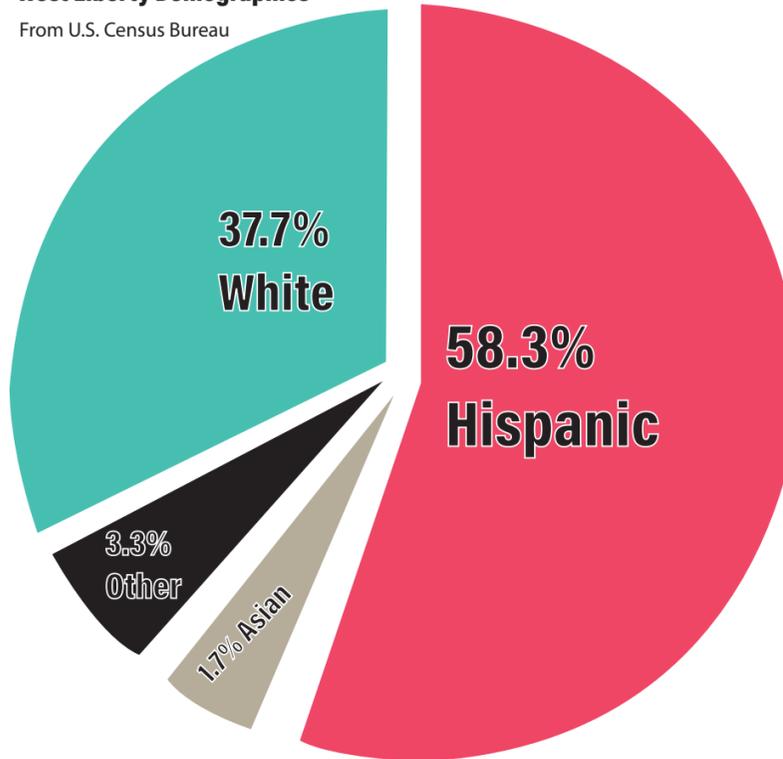
"I would love for us to become the next North Liberty or Tiffin," McCullough said. "We have so many cool cultures represented in our town that I feel we could really showcase that."

hannah-pinski@uiowa.edu

Left: Dana Dominguez (contributed). Right: Katie McCullough (contributed via West Liberty city website).

West Liberty Demographics

From U.S. Census Bureau



Infographic by Marandah Mangra-Dutcher

Calendar

Community Events on Campus

Thursday, Feb. 3 7 p.m. Lunar New Year Celebration, Virtual

Wednesday, Feb. 9 12 p.m.: Exhibition Spotlight: Anne Frank (PT 1), Virtual

Thursday, Feb. 10 8:30 a.m.: Iowa City Better Bridges Institute Supplemental Session #2: Socially Just Customer Service, University Capitol Centre

Monday, Feb. 14 1 p.m. BUILD: Understanding and Deconstructing Media Representation, Virtual

Tuesday, Feb. 15 9 a.m. BUILD: Ageism and Adulthood, Virtual

Stay tuned for more Amplify sections and community chats in 2022.