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2-14-2013

## Sandspur, Vol 119, No 12, February 14, 2013

Rollins College

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### STARS Citation

Rollins College, "Sandspur, Vol 119, No 12, February 14, 2013" (2013). *The Rollins Sandspur*. 1964.  
<https://stars.library.ucf.edu/cfm-sandspur/1964>

# *The* **Sandspur**



**HEY GIRL,**

SORRY YOU  
LOST YOUR

**R-CARD**

*Here, take my V-CARD*

Unrequited love, page 6

V-Day's great expectations, page 5





# The Sandspur

Florida's Oldest  
College Newspaper

Established in 1894  
with the following editorial:

"Unassuming yet almighty sharp, and pointed, well rounded yet many sided, assiduously tenacious, victorious in single combat, and therefore without a peer, wonderfully attractive and extensive in circulation; all these will be found upon investigation to be among the extraordinary qualities of *The Sandspur*."

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The Sandspur is published weekly on Thursdays and maintains a circulation of 1,200 print copies. The views expressed in The Sandspur in no way reflect those of Rollins College or its Board of Trustees.

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The Sandspur Editorial Staff extends an invitation to all readers to attend weekly article assignment meetings every Monday at 6 p.m. and sign up to submit letters and articles. In order to be considered for publication, the name of the author must be included.

In considering a submission for publication, The Sandspur reserves the right to edit letters and articles.

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# NEWS

## SPOTLIGHT ON AWARDS & SERVICE



## PLANTING AN IMPACT

JUMP sponsored a beach clean-up through a non-profit, the Surfrider Foundation. The environmental organization campaigns the purification of oceans and prevention of off-shore drilling. Volunteers aided the cause early Saturday morning, planting sea oat plants to prevent erosion and preserve dunes.



Photos by Dustin Englehardt

# Beauty & brains

Stephanie Garcia

Assistant Section Editor

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) honors three recipients annually with the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. Along with the ACRL, Yankee Book Peddler (YBP) sponsors the prize—recognizing the accomplishments of libraries at the college, university, and community college level.

The winners of 2013 were the Walla Walla Community College in Washington, the Villanova University Falvey Memorial Library in Pennsylvania, and our very own—Olin Library.

Honoring institutions since 2000, past recipients of the award include Cornell University and Wellesley College. This prestigious award is bestowed upon academic libraries with a commitment to student learning, innovation, and integration within their community.

"The real significance is that our peer librarians have

recognized the changes and improvements in library services at Rollins over the years. I am so proud of all that the staff of the Olin Library, and our partners in IT and now TJ's, have been able to achieve. This is a really big deal in academic libraries. Someone called it the Oscars for librarians," said Library Director Jonathan Miller.

Olin Library was recognized for its renovations and centrality to campus. The selection committee was impressed by its extensive integration into academic programs—its organizational relationship with the Tutoring & Writing Center, the establishment of the Center for Creativity multimedia lab, and introduction of a digital preservation program. Furthermore, the renovated space was commended for its design, comfort, and sense of community.

This is the second year Olin Library has applied for this award. The submission process consisted of an essay where applicants demonstrate how their staff "furthered the educational

mission of its parent institution." Dorothy Mays, the Head of Public Services, who works closely with INB and Crummer business students and faculty, wrote the essay with input from people throughout the library.

Receiving an Excellence in Academic Libraries Award shines a national spotlight on a library for extending the educational mission of their institution and its staff for providing exemplary services. Furthermore, YBP provides each of the winning libraries with \$3000 and a plaque—to be presented during an on-campus award ceremony.

The ceremony will take place on Thursday, April 25 at 11 a.m. on Olin Library Lawn. In regards to the cash prize, the Olin staff is currently voting on alternatives and wishing to make a meaningful statement with the award.

"Some past recipients have donated it to a local organization; others have bought something really great for the library. We want to do something that

has some impact. If students have cool ideas about how to use that money, please let me know. We will certainly let everyone know what we decide to spend it on," Miller said.

Miller feels the greatest aspect of Olin Library is its interaction with the Rollins Community and commitment towards accommodating the academic environment. Through renovations, improving programs and establishing services, Olin has truly created a comfortable, beneficial, and indispensable haven for its institution. The 24/7 access to the main floor, the huge growth in access to online journals and digital content, the improvements in interlibrary loan, and the expanded coffee shop are all great examples of this.

"We spend a lot of time listening to students and faculty about what they want; most recently with the LibQual Survey last fall. So the space, collections, and services are designed to serve your needs, not ours," Miller said.



# Prom déjà vu

Keeley O'Connor

Writer

This semester JUMP is once again changing people's lives; key among their projects is the partnering with the Paragon School in Central Florida. Opened in 2007, the Paragon School was approved in 2011 by the Florida Kindergarten Council.

What makes the Paragon School so special is that it's a direct response to the lack of schools that specialize in helping educate children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Asperger's Syndrome. The school provides a program of academic instruction centered on social skills development, brain-based learning methods and Christian values education.

By giving the children dancing lessons through the upcoming months, JUMP will be giving the children of the Paragon School an opportunity

to host their very own prom. JUMP student coordinator Melissa Looby '14 recalls: "If there is one thing I cherish most from my high school years, it's the nostalgia from my junior and senior proms. If I had missed out on the opportunity to celebrate with my closest friends, my experience wouldn't have been as memorable. This prom will be an incredible experience for the students of the Paragon School. I encourage all students and faculty of Rollins to join us in making this night truly a night to remember for these extraordinary students."

Personally knowing Melissa, I can assure readers that this will be an amazing experience for the students of the Paragon School, who, without JUMP and the help of the Rollins community, might not have had the opportunity of going and having such a memorable night.

If you want to get involved with this great event there are

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several opportunities. You can volunteer at the actual event by emailing Taylor Wejksznier at [twejksznier@rollins.edu](mailto:twejksznier@rollins.edu) with the subject line of 'Paragon Prom Volunteer.' Another opportunity to volunteer is by

participating in JUMP's Five-Minute Difference on April 4th, in which you will be contributing your five minutes to make a special decoration for the event. Remember that it is only five minutes out of your day around

lunchtime, and we realize how busy everyone is during classes, but remember that in those five minutes you will be personally contributing to this experience, an impact that will last in the students' hearts forever.

## OPINION

# Indefensible intellect

Scott Novak

Assistant Section Editor

As an atheist, I was looking forward to attending Marcus Borg's talk in Knowles Memorial Chapel on Feb. 6, entitled "The Truth and Limits of Contemporary Atheism."

But although Marcus Borg spoke eloquently and had a pleasant delivery style, his talk did not convince me of what exactly the limits of atheism were supposed to be, primarily because he didn't criticize atheism much at all. He actually agreed with the majority of atheism's critique on religion.

For instance, Borg stated that the notion of an interventionist God is intellectually indefensible. He said, "If you think that God intervenes, then he is responsible for all the times that he doesn't." He also agreed with the fact that the Bible is not an inerrant source of God's holy wisdom and that some horrible reprehensible deeds have been committed in the name of re-

ligion. For someone who calls himself a Christian, Borg was shockingly open in his support of atheism and for that he deserves some credit.

Yet of course, Borg still believed in some sort of God. The idea of God that Borg put forth was that "God is everywhere." He called this belief pantheism, stating that the universe is not separate from God, but rather, the universe is in God.

And now this is where things got fuzzy. The majority of Borg's statements turned out to be deepities, a made-up word which here means "ideas that sound pretty cool when you say them out loud but hold little, if any, actual meaning." Saying that "God is everywhere" is an example of a deepity, especially when one does not clearly define what one means by "God."

For Borg, "God" meant some sort of noninterventionist invisible force. He criticized atheists for not dealing with this idea of God and instead only focusing on the interventionist

God. But why would atheism care about Borg's pantheism?

Personally, the only reason I'm invested in religion is that it shapes so much of what people think and do, and not always for the better. With pantheism, I guess there's a God, but if this God is invisible and does not deal with worldly affairs in any way, then this God might as well not exist without further elaboration or detail.

Pantheism seems like a pointless belief when practically applied to the world, and extremely few people are pantheists, so it wouldn't make sense to spend a great amount of time attacking pantheism. There are more important gods to debunk, like the ones that dictate that Adam and Eve lived among the dinosaurs, or that blowing yourself up is a good idea.

That atheism doesn't deal with pantheism much is not a limit of atheism, but rather, a demonstration of atheists' time management skills.



Hongjin Du

**RELIGIOUS ATHEIST.** Despite his Christian background, Marcus Borg discusses his view of atheism alongside his fascination with religion's impact on society.



# Too gay to lead?

Discriminatory membership policy to be amended, providing an all-inclusive organization.

Ed Leffler

Staff Writer

This last week the Boy Scouts of America considered amending their policy on the ineligibility of gay scouts and leaders to serve as part of the organization. The push to change the policy came from the development of support for gay scouts and several petitions to end the discriminatory policy. Former and current leaders and scouts delivered approximately 1.4 million signatures to the Boy Scouts national headquarters in Texas last week. With this action, the BSA announced that it would begin considering modifying its stated policy on gay scouts and leaders.

During an initial investigation of the story, I was able to obtain comments from our own

Spectrum President, Sabrina Kent '15. She said, "I think it is safe to say that the time has finally come for the Boy Scouts to end the anti-gay ban. Over the years, numerous LGBT children and parents have been discriminated against from participating in the organization." With the prospects of ending the ban in sight she continued, "at this point, after over 1.4 million people have petitioned for the change in policy, it's in the Boy Scouts' best interest to become an all-inclusive organization." So this week, after the BSA deliberated behind closed doors, the American public expected to receive a decision about the policy from the Boy Scouts of America HQ. Sadly, that wasn't the case.

The BSA seems to have taken a leaf from our politi-

cians' book and punted the decision down the field until the BSA National Council Meeting this May. The lack of a decision most likely comes from the financial forces at play behind the BSA -most religious and fundamentalist financial sponsors oppose an end to the ban on gay scouts. Some, like Herndon Graddick, President of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), were dismayed by the news and believe that the Boy Scouts of America have "choos[en] to ignore the cries of millions, including religious institutions, current scouting families, and corporate spon-

sors, but these cries will not be silenced." Others, however, believe that the BSA is merely moving to make sure that when

Jonathan Capehart writes, "At first blush, it appeared that the BSA was taking a page out of the playbook used by President Obama during 'don't ask, don't tell.'"

The President wanted to prove to advocates and naysayers alike that the impact of the repeal of DADT was inconsequential to the force. Capehart clarifies further, saying, "Obama took a more deliberate and ultimately successful path [...] The study took months. But the results were what the administration and advocates had hoped. Letting gays serve openly was no big deal." So will the Boys Scouts of America let go of its (called by some) "archaic" policy, or will they kick the can even further down the road? The nation will know for certain come this May.

**"Will the Boy Scouts of America let go of its (called by some) 'archaic' policy, or will they kick the can even further down the road?"**

the ban is lifted, the transition will be smooth.

The Washington Post's

## An open letter to Beyoncé

As unflattering photos of Sasha Fierce go viral, Beyoncé's publicist frantically pleads to limit the circulation.

Melanie Weitzner

Production Manager

Can I call you Bey? Anyway, I just wanted to let you know that it's going to be okay.

I know the feeling: you go online the morning after a big event and can't wait to see what cute pics you've been tagged in, only to find yourself face-to-face with a severely unflattering image of yourself that you hope no one ever lays eyes on. It's okay; just click untag and go on with your life.

Or, in your case, have your PR team contact AP and Reuters to take down some not-so-cute shots their photographers snapped during your Super Bowl halftime show performance. During your fierce dance routines and vocal performances, there were bound to be some shots that didn't catch your good side or give you that coveted skinny arm. All those news sites should just take down any pictures that didn't do Queen Bey justice. Except that didn't quite work out, did

it?

The Internet is an unforgiving place, Bey. Sure, it's chock-full of cute kitty pictures and endless funny GIFs, but when you try to tamper with it, the consequences aren't pretty. I'm sure by now you've realized that those photos you and your PR team deemed "unflattering" have now proliferated and reached all corners of the Internet realm, taking the form of laugh-worthy memes (have you seen the one where they Photoshopped you green to look like the Incredible Hulk?) and GIFs. This phenomena, known modernly as the "Streisand effect" after Barbara Streisand tried to block photographs of her house on the Internet, is proof that when you place attention on something you don't want brought to attention, failure is imminent. But the truth is that you brought this upon yourself.

**The Internet is an unforgiving place, Bey.**

Bey, you're a diva. And a diva, besides being the female version of a "hustla," is a confident female. What kind of message are you sending out to your fans when you expose your insecurities and inadvertently

redirect a massive amount of attention on images that reveal glimpses of your actual humanity? So what if some shots of you with a double chin or funny facial expressions are out there for the world to see? These are evidence that you are a human like the rest of us; though you are extremely talented, at the end of the day, you are normal. Everyone has these kinds of photos sometimes and it's alright to be slightly embarrassed by them. People are going to rub these pictures in your face for a bit because you are so well known for being a flawless woman. So take it in stride and own these snapshots of your humanity, which doesn't always have to be glamorous.



Photo Courtesy of utexas.edu



# Unconventional love cards

by Breiland Springer



## V-Day's great expectations

Valentine's Day's bloody history proves that the ancient and present are not too different.

Jamie Pizzi

Head Designer

Valentine's Day: the supposed "Hallmark holiday" that we either love, or love to hate. The truth is, however, most people haven't the slightest idea where the gushy, romance-laced holiday got its start. Believe it or not, Valentine's Day did not begin as a brilliant marketing ploy by the card, flower, chocolate, or even lingerie industry. It evolved, rather, from an early Roman tradition that included a celebratory feast, canine sacrifice, and incredibly graphic fertility ritual. Many of the traditions don't fall that far from a typical American Valentine's Day; okay, maybe sans the canine sacrifice.

During the Roman Empire on Feb. 14 each year, Lupercalia Day was celebrated as a way to cleanse the city of negative energy and ensure a fertile and healthy spring. The holiday was partly devised as a way to honor, Lupa, the she wolf that suckled Romulus and Remus from infancy and raised them to be the strong legendary founders of Rome. The celebration began by sacrificing two male goats and a dog - the excess blood was then used to anoint two lucky boys on the forehead, who were expected to smile and laugh in return (presumably).

Next was the sacrificial feast, where many guests would

dress in nothing but the blood-drained animal skins of the recently sacrificed beasts. The ritual was kind of like some sort of morbid costume party. Perhaps the most noted portion of the festivities was when young men would run through the streets of the city, bleeding pieces of meat in hand, as the young

...Everyone is hoping for something and feels unfulfilled on this day if they don't receive it.

women lined up to be spanked by said pieces of meat. It was believed that being slapped with the meat would not only ensure fertility, but a smooth delivery to boot. Getting slapped with a piece of bleeding raw meat was the ultimate Lupercalia Day accomplishment.

In the present day, a typical Valentine's Day for those in a relationship tends to be something along the lines of dinner and a movie (plus a heart shaped box of chocolate and a dozen roses, if you're lucky). For all the single ladies (and gentlemen) out there, the holiday serves as a constant reminder that you are alone on a day where any "sane and attractive person" would surely not be. At least that is what the me-



Jamie

dia tells us. In order to fill this empty hole, we attempt to find a valentine. If you think about it, we have each been searching for a valentine since we were children, when we painstakingly decorated little boxes for our classmates to place cards into. For girls, at least, it would have been devastating to not receive a plethora of colored cards from your classmates, and it would have been even more heart wrenching to not get one from your crush.

Valentine's Day is all about expectations. Whether you are one of the lucky ones who already has a valentine, or still in search of one, everyone is hoping for something and feels unfulfilled on this day if they don't receive it. Much like the hordes of women, who filled the streets of Rome in desperate desire to be slapped with a piece of bleeding flesh, we all yearn to receive that heart shaped box of chocolates on February 14, despite it being known that the price of chocolate will be reduced by 75% on the 15th. That bleeding flesh and heart shaped box of chocolates represent something that is more important to us than we would like to admit; that something may be slightly different to everyone, but it is still special nonetheless. However, if you don't obtain that special something, or someone this Valentine's Day, just be thankful that this is 2013 and PETA would never let women be slapped with bleeding pieces of meat.









# UNREQUITTED LOVE

by Amir M. Sadeh

Unrequited love: A feeling of love that is not returned or reciprocated. Some call it selfless and romantic. To others, it's just seen as an excuse for stalking and moping. We have seen it in a countless number of times in literature, movies and in culture as a whole: Quasimodo in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, Duckie in *Pretty in Pink*, and Cyrano in *Cyrano de Bergerac*. However, one of my favorite examples of unrequited love is that of one Charlie Brown of the *Peanuts* comic strips.

Charlie Brown's infatuation with the Little Red Haired Girl is portrayed as endearing to some, while to others, heart-breaking. We all, during one point or another in our lives, have felt such great passion and affection for someone who sadly does not feel the same way, or for someone we were too afraid to ask and never gained closure. Mention of their name gives you the strength of a thousand bulls, yet the sound of their voice makes you smaller than a bug in an instant. Sometimes his love comes close to idolatry-proportions. In one strip, he finds a pencil the Little Red-Haired Girl had dropped in the hallway, and upon picking it up and inspecting it with love, exclaims, "She nibbles on her pencil! SHE'S HUMAN!" It's a sweet moment.

At the same time, Charlie Brown plays into every "nice guys finish last" stereotype under the sun. He laments, "The amazing thing is that I know I'm the sort of person she'd like. I mean I'm not rough, crude, or anything. I'm not the greatest person who ever lived, of course. But after all, who is. I'm just a nice sort of a guy, who never gets to meet red-haired girls." When hearing this, you initially feel for the guy. Why can't he just find that special someone? Why can't that Little Red Haired Girl notice him already and realize how wonderful he really is. But... is he so wonderful?

I hate to be the one to say it, but... Charlie Brown is a "fraidy-cat." He's a wuss, and frankly, a bit of a Debby Downer. Now granted, it doesn't help when all your "friends" treat you like a leper and are the butt of everyone's jokes, but let's just look at it through the

lens of someone never knowing the guy or his background, much as if you were going on a blind date with the guy. He's a depressive loner, whose self-deprecation has no bounds and a personality so bland it makes bread look like sushi. No one wants to share a romantic night out with that.

Sometimes, his actions (or lack thereof) are just down right pathetic. For instance, he sees the Little Red Haired Girl getting pushed down off into the distance by a bully, and instead of going there and protecting her or at least doing something, ANYTHING of substance, he wails and moans about how he isn't tough enough and how he wishes he weren't so scared. Instead, Linus goes with his trusty blanket and diffuses the situation, with Brown replying, "It's very comforting. I'm the friend of a hero." Oh come on Charlie Brown! Grow a pair! I'm not saying become Dirty Harry, but give me a break.

This is unrequited love at its core. While some characters use their undying passions to make immense and selfless sacrifices for the one's they love, the great majority have stood in the background, grabbed their rattle, and cried, "Woe is me." Sadness breeds sadness and such energy is likely to attract no one, especially the significant other you want to hold in your arms.

"Wouldn't it be something if that Little Red-Haired Girl came over and gave me a kiss? I'd say 'Thank you. What was that for?' And wouldn't it be something if she said 'Because I've always loved you?' Then I'd give her a big hug and she'd kiss me again. Wouldn't that be something? And wouldn't it be something if it turned out that French fries were good for you," Charlie daydreams.

I guess the point is this... you can always chase the Little Red-Haired Girl. You can write her love poems. You can promise to lasso the moon for her. You can stand with her on a mountain and bathe in the sea. But if you don't do anything... you'll never know. You'll always be a Charlie. This classic unrequited love is misrepresented. It makes a good story, but it's truly a tragedy for those looking for a happy ending.



# Raising the dead and raising debate

Arianna Woicekowski

Writer

Sitting in comfortable armchairs, a scene reminiscent of a fireside chat, guests Dr. Marcus Borg and Rev. Charlie Holt held a discussion on Thursday, Feb. 7, titled "Believing in the Resurrection: Was Jesus Actually Raised from the Dead?" A few students were in the audience, but the majority was composed of well-to-do older men with furrowed brows, crossing and uncrossing their arms and nodding thoughtfully in response to the speakers.

Dr. Borg, a leading liberal theologian and retired professor from Oregon State University, was seated on the audience's left; Borg advocated for the proposition that Jesus' resurrection should be taken metaphorically. Rev. Holt, a rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, was positioned on the right with the stance that Jesus' resurrection should be taken literally. The entire discussion can be broken into two different paradigms: Dr. Borg advocated for a metaphorical interpretation of the Bible, giving the individual an opportunity to find meaning in the text, while Rev. Holt called for a literalist interpretation, and belief, in Scripture.

Dr. Borg is an older gentleman, dressed primly in a conservative sweater vest, paired with a pinstripe, anchor-blue button-down. His voice was filled with wisdom and sincerity, speaking with care as he took time to articulate his

thoughts fully. Rev. Holt was a charming forty-something man who seemed to be used to both a sense of superiority and being well-liked by others; he had the eye-sparkle of someone who felt spiritually connected and flashed a grin that was clearly well-practiced.

The premise of the discussion was a question presented by Dr. Thomas Moore of the Physics department: if one believes in the spiritual resurrection, is it necessary to believe in the physical one? Dr. Borg was the first to speak; as he adjusted the microphone, he opened with the line: "I sound a little bit like the voice of God to myself." Dr. Borg cited New Testament passages that called for reconsideration of the physical assumption of Jesus' resurrection. Noting how the Bible reads that Jesus appeared in a vision, Dr. Borg suggested to the audience, and to Rev. Holt, that perhaps Jesus' resurrection was a spiritual one: Jesus was experienced in the presence and not just as a distant memory.

He drew the parallel to the modern day in that Jesus lives in the heart of people who have felt a connection to God through Jesus; he noted that much of the Bible was not to be taken literally. Giving examples of various parables, Borg stated that it was the meaning, not the confirmation of the story, which made it significant and worthwhile.

Rev. Holt opened on a personal note, sharing with the audience his journey to Christianity, or, what Christians

refer to as, a testimony. He recalled that, when he was a young boy, he attended a school that advocated for a more metaphorical interpretation of the Bible; it was not until later in life that Holt considered the resurrection to be an actual historical event. Rev. Holt fully accepted the Christian faith. Operating on the premise of "if it's just a story, then why does it matter," Dr. Borg responded with the idea that stories are important because we, as individuals, give them meaning.

Many are used to hearing what Rev. Holt had to say as it is the predominate Christian message that permeates the news; it is the classic "the Bible is the Word and Jesus is the way and any naysayers are doomed to a fiery Hell, no exceptions, the end" that so many find unsavory. The extreme and unwavering absolutism seems to be a characteristic of various religions, and some of their respective followers are willing to lose friends or die for their beliefs.

The conversation regarding the resurrection of Jesus presented two distinct perspectives: Dr. Borg's position seemed to operate in the realm of spirituality, self-fulfillment, and peace through connection to a higher power: God. Rev. Holt advocated such a reality as well, with the addition that Christianity is the only path. Rev. Holt's belief stemmed from the idea that what is in the Bible was true, factual, verified, and historical.

This stance becomes



Annamarie Carlson

**SPEAKING ON SCRIPTURE.** Dr. Marcus Borg (left) and Rev. Charlie Holt (right) debate the resurrection of Jesus. The visiting guests offered audiences two distinct perspectives on biblical interpretation.

problematic when considering the modern day, 2013 human beings: it is difficult for us to accept assumptions without verification. It seems that some parties, including the one that Rev. Holt vouches for, get too caught up in the "factual" and "historical" elements of the Bible instead of looking at the overarching message. Dr. Borg encouraged the audience to consider this approach.

At the heart of religion is the potential for an individual to feel a connection to something greater: a Oneness, the Universe, a Life Force, God. The connection is remarkably powerful and profound, but it seems that religions get tied up in the fine details: what is the right way to make that connection?

We will never know if Jesus Christ is the only way to the Great

Divine, unless, of course, fire and brimstone rain down upon us and all the descriptions in the Book of Revelation manifest in the sky. But even then, such events could be interpreted in other ways. In essence, the only truths are the ones that we, as individuals, consider to be real and legitimate, and we can dismiss anything that contradicts our beliefs. It seems that, all too often, individuals fall prey to the egocentric desire of being right and lose focus on the overarching themes that they believed in initially. The discussion served as a powerful example of how two different realities can be crafted from a single theme. Whatever preconceived beliefs the audience held prior, a good portion of them likely left with a different perspective and, consequently, a different reality.

## Something borrowed, something blue and gold

Find out how to get married in the chapel – just in case Valentine's Day has you thinking ahead.

Carina Shubert

Writer

Up to seventy couples a year marry at Rollins' Knowles Memorial Chapel. Couples can bring their own minister or priest and must pay \$750 for the use of the chapel. The bride or groom must be Rollins alumni, Rollins faculty, or the child of one to be eligible to use the chapel. "They did discuss it with the president as to open it up and he said no," Administrative Assistant of the chapel Joanne Granberry says. "And most alum like that idea."

"As soon as we got engaged I knew that the Knowles Cha-

pel was the place for me," says Andrea Farrell, who graduated from Rollins in 1998. "It is nice to think about something which has been around for so many years and designed in that European style and I was so proud of graduating from Rollins. Then I thought it's something only few people can do. So it was perfect."

Farrell married her husband James in April 2002 after having been together for ten years. "It was very easy," Farrell says. "We called and they had the date available, the time we wanted, they sent the paperwork and we filled it out." She would definitely choose the

historical Memorial Knowles Chapel again if she had to. "The only thing I would change is maybe the dress."

"I would definitely book as far out as possible that you can get the date and the time you want," Farrell recommends. But the rumor that couples have to book four years in advance is definitely not true: "We don't book more than a year in advance because I have to get the college schedule first," says Granberry.

"I wish they would talk to me first," she says about students spreading the rumor. "I said to one girl: 'You still going to be with him in three years?'"

Granberry says and laughs. The chapel is quite traditional and doesn't allow extraordinary ceremonies. For example: the music has to be classical music. "One couple asked me if they can take their little dog down in a wagon," Granberry says. "I said no. You want to have that at the reception - go crazy, but not at the ceremony."

But the chapel does allow all kinds of mixture weddings and customs. They have already had Catholic-Protestant, Baha'i, Jewish, Christian, and Seventh-Day Adventist weddings. "We had a gentleman who played 'Amazing Grace' on the bagpipes," Farrell says. "It was just

absolutely beautiful."

Granberry helps at the rehearsals and represents Rollins at the ceremonies. Granberry, who calls herself a wedding coordinator, has assisted in several hundred weddings in the past 35 years. She has experienced all kinds of last minute cancellations, panic moments and family issues. According to her, the average age of the couples marrying at the chapel is about 27. Most fall under the category of alumni. The majority of weddings take place from April to July and from October to November. Three weddings per day is the maximum Rollins will hold.



# Cure for the Common Cause

Sehar Noor

Writer

Wednesday evening Bob Edgar, President and CEO of Common Cause and the nation's largest citizen's advocacy group, spoke in the Galloway Room about the growing necessity of ensuring the accountability and transparency of government. Founded in the 1970s as a watchdog organization, Common Cause has worked to expose corrupt practices in Washington D.C. that taint the political process and neglect public interest. It functions to regulate the political system and ensure that power does not overstep its boundaries.

The student turnout was unfortunately in the single digits, perhaps an indicator of the need for a resurgence of youth awareness in the post-election political scene. The evening began with former congresswoman Patricia Schroeder introducing Edgar, remarking on his commitment to upholding fairness and justice in the American political system and his service in the United States Congress representing the seventh congressional district of Pennsylvania from 1975 to 1987. Schroeder has also had a notable run in Washington; she was

the first woman elected to Congress from Colorado and ran for president in 1988.

Edgar began with a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., evoking the urgency and fervor of activism during the civil rights era and the Vietnam War. He encouraged citizens, especially youth, to become aware of the issues and unjust practices that are allowing corporate greed and private interest groups to sway the political interest of the public.

"Money is corroding our system; democracy is at risk when a handful of people decide who wins and who loses," said Bob Edgar, emphasizing the danger of corporate funding driving elections. In his recent years, Common Cause has focused on the influence of special interest groups during election periods. The daunting six billion dollars spent on the 2012 election reflects the extent of corporate interest manipulation in politics and the need to highlight the undisclosed sources that fund the elaborate campaigns for both parties.

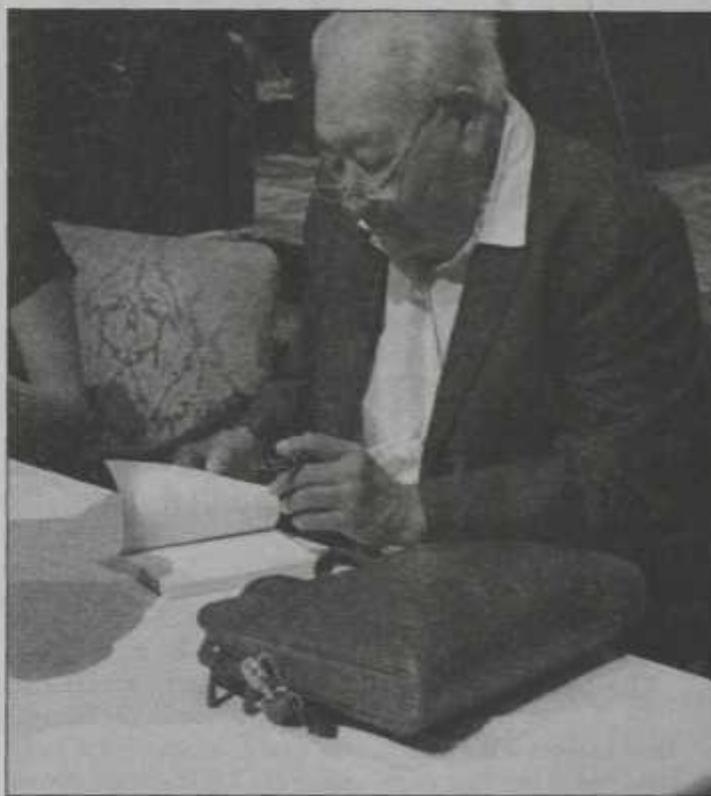
Common Cause has also been working to end filibusters in Congress that allow minority interest to stall the passage of bills. In May of 2012, Common Cause filed a federal lawsuit al-

leging that filibusters are unconstitutional. Edgar also emphasized on manipulation tactics used to trick voters of the opposite party from casting their ballots or registering to vote. Common Cause has taken initiatives to combat this strategy by pushing for the passage of the Voter Empowerment Act, an act that would make it easier for eligible citizens to register and vote.

It is unquestionable that in recent elections youth interest and involvement in politics has surged in ages 18 to 29, representing 19% of all who voted on Tuesday, according to the early National Exit Poll by Edison Research. Obama's victory can be easily correlated to the 60% national youth vote that he secured. With the revolutionary role of social media, the voice of youth is that much louder and that much harder to ignore by politicians.

Now that the youth demographic is just as important as more traditional voting demographics to politicians, the momentum from the 2012 election needs to be sustained. With popular support, the vital issues highlighted by Common Cause can be echoed by a younger audience to garner enough attention on the political platform to provoke action.

# Once upon a time



Annamarie Carlson

**PROLIFIC POET.** After a master class, N. Scott Momaday reads a selection of his poetry to an audience in Knowles Chapel. The Pulitzer Prize for Fiction recipient abides by the rhythm and imagery of oral tradition when crafting his poetry.

Lauren Silvestri

Writer

"Stories are holy things, they enable us to transcend ourselves," said N. Scott Momaday during his reading last Thursday night at Knowles Chapel. His reading is the first of five for the annual Winter with the Writers. Earlier, during a master class with Rollins student writers, he remarked, "I feel rusty," but at seventy-eight years old, Momaday surprised audiences with his distinctive voice, wry humor, and his overall powerful presence.

In his long and extensive literary career, Momaday has published sixteen works, including poetry collections, novels, and one memoir. However, he considers himself mainly a poet. His poems are "songs in Indian tradition" in his opinion. During the reading, Momaday read some of his "prose poems" such as *A Poet in Love* and some "syllabic poetry" like *Snow Mare* and *To an Aged Bear*.

His voice was quite remarkable; it reverberated through the packed pews of the chapel. Many of his poems shared the overarching themes of aging and mortality, including *Benign Self Portrait*. For instance, in *To an Aged Bear*, Momaday spoke, "mortality is your shadow and shade." Momaday also read aloud passages from his

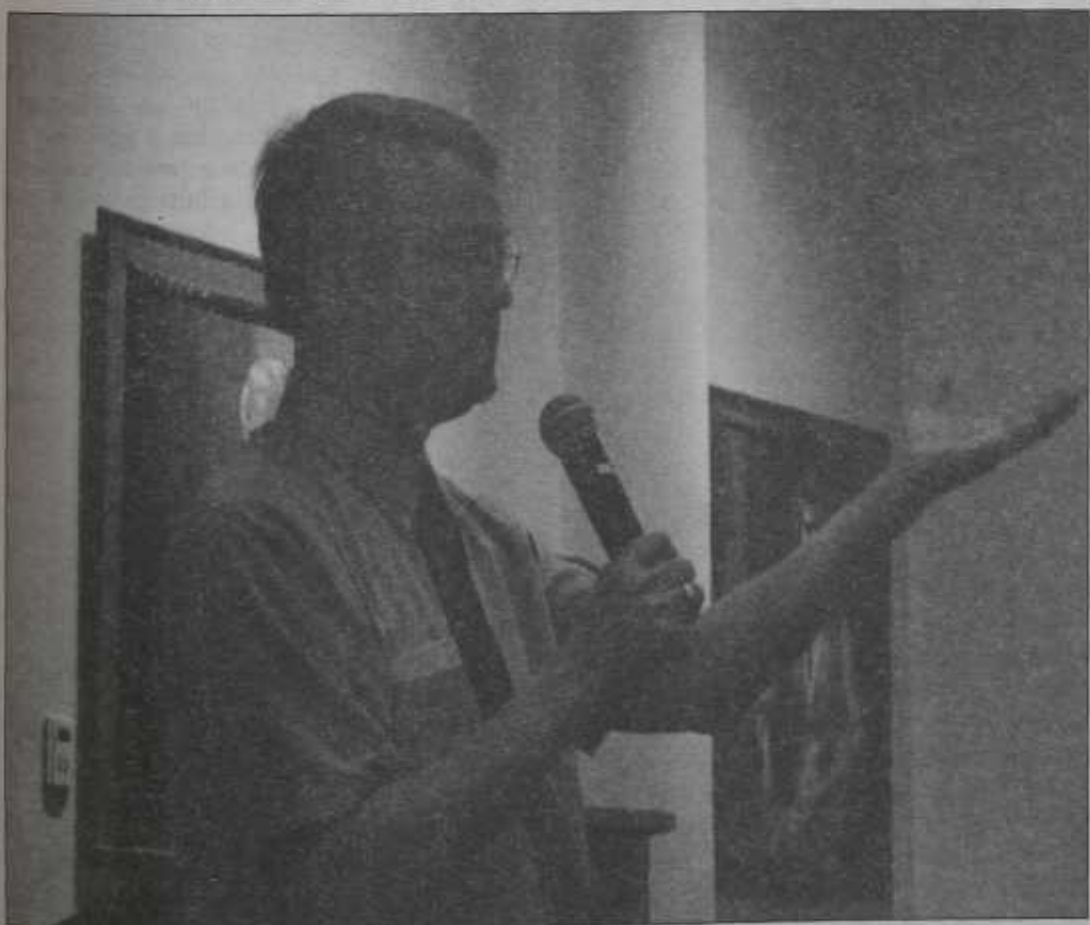
memoir, *The Names*, published in 1976.

He chose an excerpt that describes the 1960's, a turbulent and changing decade, a decade that Momaday still refers to as "the most dynamic period of the century." "Were any of you there?" he jokingly asked the audience full of students.

At the end of his reading, Momaday received a standing ovation from the audience. A brief period was allotted for question and answer, where Momaday spoke more in-depth about his Native American heritage and childhood on the reservations.

Momaday explained that rhythm, repetition, and imagery are the fundamentals of Native American oral tradition; one cannot spare any useless words in oral poetry. Currently, he is working on his latest memoir and has been experimenting with the haiku, which he calls "a marvelous way to exercise the mind."

Momaday also founded the Buffalo Trust, a nonprofit organization for the preservation and return of Native American cultural heritage. While he believes that, for a time, American poetry was greatly threatened, he said that there is a "kind of revival" occurring, and I think he proved that night that he contributes to the rebirth.



Hongjin Du

**I WANT 'YOUTH' TO VOTE.** Bob Edgar, President and CEO of Common Cause, urges youth to be more aware of political trickery. The nation's largest citizen's advocacy group, Common Cause was found in the 1970's as a watchdog organization.



# Simply Film

simplyfilm.org

A Weekly Review of New Movie Releases

Thinking of catching a movie this weekend?  
Albert lets you know whether or not that  
\$10 movie ticket is worth it.

Albert Cantu

Staff Writer

## The Impossible

Here's a word to the wise: If for some reason you find yourself in an emotionally compromised state of mind and find the pressures of work and school overwhelming, it is ill advised to sit through *The Impossible*. A friend of mine proposed that the movie be renamed to Everything That Makes Me Cry so that the title could have more accurately represented the content. With this depressing sentiment in mind, let us prepare for the waterworks.

Although *The Impossible* is in English, it is technically a Spanish disaster movie helmed by writer-director duo Sergio G. Sanchez and Juan Antonio Bayona, respectively; they are the same team behind the critically praised Spanish horror flick *The Orphanage* (2007). Solid though not necessarily exceptional direction makes the most of the natural beauty of both Spain and Thailand where the film was shot. The nature of the wide spread destruction which constitutes the context of the conflict is reminiscent of the infamous "Peter Jackson landscape sweeps."

Starring Naomi Watts as Maria Bennet and Jedi Master Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor) as husband Henry Bennett, a natural and engrossing chemistry between the two is established, driving the plot. Complementing Watts and McGregor is the 13 year old Tom Holland as elder son Lucas Bennett. Surprisingly, Holland's performance may be the standout in this affair, as his character arc shifts from helplessness to leadership to maturity, and

he deftly succeeds in capturing the essence of each stage of development. In many ways, Lucas's character is the one that we, as an audience, can relate to the most as he attempts to make sense of a world entirely devoid of all normality in the face of unmitigated chaos.

One of the main issues that I have with this film is that is so thematically unchallenging.

Granted, emotionally dead though I am, it was indeed heart-wrenching to see this family challenged and the bonds of kinship tested, and that's all well and good if you're satisfied with feasting on such low-hanging fruit, so to speak. It would have increased the scope of the film even more though had the director explored some more subtle themes which were so flagrantly on display right under his nose.

For example, it seems as though the Thai community are the real heroes of the story as they disregard whatever harm came to their own property and instead focus on rescuing any survivors, foreigners though they may be. Likewise, a commentary might have been made on the disparity of wealth between the super-rich tourists and the relative poverty of the Thai people, and indeed, how arbitrary wealth seems when one is faced with death. Perhaps such a move would have shifted focus away from the plight of the individual characters, but it's not as though we haven't seen layering and thematic expansion enrich the characterization instead of detract from it before (*There Will Be Blood* is fresh in my mind right now and serves as an admirable example of such a feat). Instead, we're left with a barebones disaster movie which leaves me hungering for

something more.

Still, such a fault can be overlooked because the film still does so many things right. Chilling, and more importantly relevant and tasteful, scenes of gore add a welcome sense of weight to the production and attention to detail as far as set pieces are concerned is impressive. Also, keep your eye on Tom Holland, who may be one of the finest child actors in recent memory.

*The Impossible* may have striven valiantly to tell a touching story a family reunited, and in many respects it succeeds, but the fact remains that this film could have been truly epic in scope and instead sticks with the safer route of a very character driven narrative. Fortune favors the bold, as they say, and *The Impossible* is anything but. With the film's already widespread success in American markets, however, it is likely that the Sanchez/Bayona duo will live to fight another day.



## Broken City

The social atmosphere in which *Broken City* finds itself upon release is one marked by a general antipathy towards the political sphere with the presidential elections in the US having recently concluded. The raw animosity and bitterness among politicians is, in some respects, infectious, especially after having been subjected to nearly an entire year of campaigning. It seems only natural that a film which centers around political conflict may wish to capitalize on American sensibilities during such a time. The denunciation of the whole "it's legal if you don't get caught" attitude

of politicians is, although painfully safe, a sentiment that the vast majority of moviegoers can get behind.

Rejoining the cinematic fray after three years of inactivity is *Book of Eli* director Alan Hughes. Direction is, for the most part, solid, though nothing to write home about, with tight action sequences worthy of *Taken* or one of the *Bourne* movies. Worthy of note, however, is that Hughes and company seem to be focusing much more on the drama aspect of this crime-drama, to the point where it becomes more reminiscent a courthouse drama on television than the cinematic crime-dramas, usually bursting at the seams with action that we've been accustomed to.

The film stars Mark Wahlberg, in the same type-cast role viewers have come to expect, as the rough-around-the-edges but ultimately lovable everyman Billy Taggart, as well as Russell Crowe as deliciously punchable baddie Mayor Hostetler. Thankfully, Crowe proves he is just as solid as ever after his role in *Les Misérables* (whom many took issue with but I found to be perfectly serviceable) and steals every scene he's in, even against Wahlberg's own adequate but frankly bland performance. Blandness, in many ways, kills this otherwise quality production and holds the power to make a potentially decent film bad and a potentially great film pretentious.

Historically, Hughes has struggled enormously with the concept of incorporating subtlety into his films. In *The Book of Eli*, for instance, the "Macguffin-device" purported to have the power to save civilization from the brink of collapse amid the post-apocalyptic ruin

turns out to be a literal copy of the Bible. Any particular message you were trying to drive home there, sir? Likewise, the two-party election which serves as the backdrop for most of the conflict in *Broken City* is so heavy-handed that the audience is beaten mercilessly over the head over what side we're supposed to be on. Now, this isn't such a bad thing in itself, but when the only other positive thing the film has going for it is Crowe's Koch-esque, villainous swagger, I start to worry.

Additionally, the plot point that eventually contributed to the film's downfall is Taggart's motivation for not getting the hell out of Dodge, so to speak. As the situation gradually worsens, Taggart is left with literally no reason to stay in the city as he no longer has relationship obligations nor professional interests aside from professional curiosity, which can really only take you so far when people are shooting at you. Are we supposed to simply chalk it up to sheer obstinate stupidity? When the protagonist can just as easily make himself care without any real stakes, something has gone wrong.

I understand what Hughes was trying to do by shaking up the contemporary view of a crime-drama, it's just that it was a general failure. For all the things that the film does right, mainly with casting, I can't invest myself in the struggle onscreen when character motivation, which would have realistically added the necessary drama, are so muddled and incomprehensible. In the end, my faith in Crowe and Wahlberg remains justified, though my faith in Hughes' team does not.





# Close, and a (Cuban) cigar!

Ed Leffler

Staff Writer

This last week Nilo Cruz's *Anna in the Tropics* opened up on the Annie Russell stage. The story opens up in historic Ybor City, Tampa Bay - a hub of cigar production in 1929.

An excellent job of casting and direction by Dr. David Charles, Professor of Theatre, lends itself to amazing performances. The set is a remarkable work of picturesque art showcasing the talents of "Artist in Residence" Lisa Cody-Rapport and student Assistant Technical Director Christopher Pepe '14, as well as Assistant Scenic Designer Rebecca Kleinman '15. Getting down to the nitty-gritty, the cast is elevated to new heights with amazing makeup and costumes. Costume design from Wayne Folks '04 and Crysta Vickers '15 shows that excruciating detail was taken to construct the perfect rendering

of late 1920s dress.

The cast itself - the show features a diverse and enthusiastic ensemble; newcomers to the stage consist of Michael Gallace '13, Joshua Medina '15, and Alexios Venieris '16, playing Palomo, Santiago, and Cheché respectively, all of whom stand out for their Annie Russell Theatre debut. The most kudos has to go to Alexandra Feliciano '15 for her seamless acting and dexterous performance as Ofelia.

The themes of the show run deep and are intertwined with Leo Tolstoy's famed *Anna Karenina*. The cast are workers in a cigar rolling factory where their lector has recently passed. It was traditional in that era for a lector, or learned man, to read to the factory workers during the day to entertain them while they undertook the task of rolling the cigars. A new lector appears on the scene in the form of Zach Zebrowski's '15 charismatic and handsome Juan

Julian. Enrapturing the cast and audience with his honeyed reading of Tolstoy's work, Juan Julian catches the eye of the married worker Conchita, played by the beautiful Katherine Waddell '15, and the young and naïve Marela, played brilliantly by Lalitha Kasal '15. The love story emerges from Conchita's desire to take on a lover, despite her husband, Palomo. She finds this lover in Juan Julian and culminates her affair in a dramatic and realistic love-making scene on stage with the suave lector.

Alongside the love story is the eternal battle of change pitted against tradition. Cheché, continues to leverage shares of the cigar factory from its owner and his brother, Santiago. Cheché tries to introduce machinery into the factory and suggests getting rid of the newly hired Juan Julian, seeing him as a waste of money. Cheché is joined in his enmity of Juan Julian by Palomo, who is aware of his wife's



Courtesy of Olivia Haine  
JAMMIN'. Michael Gallace '13 (left), Zach Zebrowski '15, and Katherine Waddell '15, pose in character. The show's ensemble encapsulated the feel for the 1920s.

adulterous relationship with the fetching lector. Cheché's hatred for the man grows as his reading of *Anna Karenina* reminds him of his former wife, who left him years ago for a lector. The hatred within Cheché grows so powerful that he assaults and then rapes the young Marela, a symbol of youth and innocence being destroyed by a symbol of modernity and industrialization. Nearing the end of the play, the climax reveals a dramatic murder in factory of Juan Julian by Cheché. The final scene opens with a deafening silence,

only to be filled by Ofelia's request for someone to fill the hole left by Juan Julian. Palomo takes up the mantle and begins reading from the last place and the play closes with the sadness of the lector's untimely death.

A wonderful production with excellent actors, scenic work, *Anna in the Tropics* will have you gripping your seat with its drama, love, and enthusiasm and then leaving satisfied with having seen such a wonderful story portrayed so well by our very own Rollins students.

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Barry Law students (L-R)  
Brian Kozlowski,  
Leanne Palmer, John Berry

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# Love for Literacy

English honor society Sigma Tau Delta hosted Love Letters for Literacy, benefiting the Adult Literacy League. Members sold personalized Valentine poems for the charity on Feb. 12.



Photos by Annamarie Carlson

V-DAY CHARITY. Students Mackenzie Gill '14 (top left) and Chelsea Cutchens '13 assist at this year's Love Letters for Literacy fundraiser on Tuesday Feb. 12.



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## TRIBUTE

The Sandspur wishes to acknowledge and pay tribute to beloved Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts & Dance

**Kevin Gray**

We send our condolences to his family, friends, and all who considered him a mentor and an inspiration.

## WEEK PREVIEW

### THURS.

Feb. 14, 2013

-12:30 PM, One Billion Rising, Mills Lawn

-7:30 PM, Winter with the Writers: Karen Russell Reading, Knowles Chapel

-8:00 PM, *Anna in the Tropics*, Annie Russell Theatre

### FRI.

Feb. 15, 2013

-6:00 PM, Ola Fest- Latin American Film and Heritage Festival, Bush Executive Center

-8:00 PM, *Anna in the Tropics*, Annie Russell Theatre

### SAT.

Feb. 16, 2013

-8:45 AM, Habitat for Humanity, Tars Plaza

-2:00 PM & 8:00 PM, *Anna in the Tropics*, Annie Russell Theatre

### SUN.

Feb. 17, 2013

-11:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service, Knowles Chapel

-8:30 p.m. Catholic Mass



### MON.

Feb. 18, 2013

Washington's Birthday

-3:30 PM, President's Day BBQ, Mills Lawn

-6:00 PM, Sandspur Student Newspaper General Meeting, Mills Memorial Hall

### TUES.

Feb. 19, 2013

-3:00 PM, Resume Writing Workshop, Fairbanks Building

-7:00 PM, Ricardo Pau-Llosa-Living with Art, Cornell Fine Arts Museum

### WED.

Feb. 20, 2013

-11:30 AM, How to Be Fashionable at Work, Suntrust Auditorium

-2:00 PM, Senior Success: Start Your Job Search, Fairbanks Building