

# Shot blocker gets his shot



photo by Christopher Palanuk / photojournalist

**Titan Kylor Kelley** makes a slam dunk against the Devils defense during the first game in the Dale J. Bates Invitational on Dec. 8. Kelly, a 7'0 redshirt sophomore from Gervais, OR, injured himself on the landing and didn't return to the game. The Lane Titans lost to the Lower Columbia Devils in overtime 85-94 and are currently 5-2 in their overall record.

## *Kylor Kelley signs with the Oregon State Beavers to play basketball*



**NOAH NOTEBOOM**  
REPORTER

According to the NCAA, only two percent of high school athletes are awarded scholarships to compete in college athletics. The 7-foot Kylor Kelley became part of that two percent on Oct. 16, 2017 when he signed his letter of intent to take his talents to Corvallis and play for the Division 1 Oregon State Beavers.

"It feels amazing, it's been my dream to play Division 1 basketball ever since I could hold a ball," said Kelley.

Kelley, who is the no. 26 Junior College player in the nation, was one of the three front court signings for Beavers head coach Wayne Tinkle in October. Kelley joins 7'1" center Jack Wilson from San Mateo, Cal. and 6'11" forward Warren Washington from San Marcos, Cal.

"Kylor is a player who is just scratching the surface of his potential," said Tinkle on Kelley's future at Oregon State.

Kelley played high school basketball in Gervais, Oregon where he earned 2015 PacWest Player of the Year honors. He averaged 15 points, 11 rebounds and seven blocks per game his senior year. His high level of play attracted Northwest Christian University head coach Luke Jackson to recruit

him. Jackson, a former NBA player and University of Oregon standout, convinced Kelley to play his freshman year at NCU. The red-shirt freshman played 10 games for the Deacons averaging 8 points, almost nine rebounds and more than five blocks per game.

After one year at NCU, Kelley transferred to Lane Community College to continue his education and bolster his basketball resume.

At one point last spring, Kelley had decommitted from OSU to see if any other schools would offer him a scholarship. He took official visits to Utah, Utah State and Washington State over the summer, but decided to sign back with the Beavers after he visited Corvallis and spent time with Tinkle and other members of the team.

"It felt good to finally sign the papers," said Kelley.

Tinkle spoke very highly of the versatile center after his visit to OSU.

"Kylor's size, skill and athleticism make him unique in that he is versatile and can play multiple positions on both ends of the court," Tinkle said.

"We're hoping for instant impact from Kylor next year," Tinkle commented on where he sees Kelley fitting into the team.

Due to a recent foot injury, Kelley has played in just five games this year but is averaging 11 points, seven rebounds, and over three blocks per game for head coach Bruce Chavka and the Lane Titans.

"You better box out or else you're going to get dunked on," Chavka said on what Kylor brings to the team.

Kelley will join the Beavers as a redshirt junior next fall.



photo by Jeffery K. Osborns / Editor in Chief

**Second year Titan Kylor Kelley** protects the basketball from his teammate in a practice drill.



## OPINION

## theTorch

THE INDEPENDENT  
STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF  
LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Whats in  
a name?

photo by Diana Baker / photo editor

## County name does not represent us

JEFFERY K. OSBORN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



To many, Lane County is known for inclusiveness, acceptance and progressiveness. I would tend to agree. A lot has changed in Lane County since its founding in 1851, however there's much more progress to be made.

What's in a name? Lane County was named after politician, soldier and slave owner Joseph Lane. Thought of as a Mexican War hero, Lane was the first governor of the newly formed Oregon Territory in 1851. According to Oregon Encyclopedia, Lane was a controversial defender of slavery and secession. Lane served his constituents by marshalling federal funding dedicated to defense against Indians. His conviction for slaveholders' right to bring slaves into any territory was well known, perhaps due to his Southern background. In 1859, when Oregon achieved statehood, Lane was elected to the U.S. Senate.

Even as abolition gained momentum in Oregon, Lane refused to abandon his pro-slavery stance. Acts were passed to exclude blacks and mulattoes from Oregon in 1844.

"The infamous 'Lash Law' required that blacks in Oregon — 'be they free or slave — be whipped twice a year until he or she shall quit the territory,'" according to the City of Portland's official website.

Lane continued to defend slavery, rejecting compromise and defending separation, alienating a growing number of Oregonians, resulting in the denial of his reelection, according to Oregon Encyclopedia.

For his work, a large county in Oregon was named after him; Lane Community College was named after him; middle schools were named after him along with naming jails and correctional facilities. That doesn't feel right, does it?

How can Lane County be inclusive and accepting if there are constant reminders of how things were back then? Our community deserves better. Everywhere I go, I see Lane's name attached to everything. Even my associate degree has Lane on it. I wonder what he'd say about me, person of color, graduating from a school that is his namesake.

I come from a mixed background, my mother being white and my father being black. "Best of both worlds," some have told me. But I do not identify as white. I've never been looked at or treated white in my life. I've lived in Lane County for three quarters of my life, and have been assured how lucky I am not to have to deal with racism or prejudice. How can that be so?

Oregon has deep ties to segregation and race conflicts. I see constant reminders of a time in which one's privilege to freedom and the true pursuit of happiness depended on the hue of one's skin.

For a community that some say is inclusive and welcoming to all, I see very few people that look like myself. According to Statistical Atlas, Lane County is comprised of 84 percent whites, and only .8 percent blacks.

According the city of Portland's official website, there have been numerous examples of racial conflict in our communities.

- **2008** - Medford, Ore. man had a cross and the letters KKK burned into his family's lawn.
- **2008** - four George Fox University students hung an effigy of President Barack Obama from a tree with a sign saying "Act Six Reject," which is a scholarship program for minority students in Portland.
- **2008** - Oregon School Activities Association lists 16 high schools with mascots that many Indians feel disrespect their heritage.
- **2016** - a sign that read "House 4 Sale" and "Whites Only," was found in front of a West Eugene home.

So what is the call to action? Confederate flags and other monuments, no longer considered a symbol of inclusiveness, have been removed across the country — particularly in the South.

Lane County has made strides to be more attentive to racial conflict but still fall short of accomplishment. In 2017, a residence hall at the University of Oregon, Dunn Hall, named after a Ku Klux Klan leader, has been renamed, which showed progress but lacks consistency. After debates, UO decided to retain the name of Deady Hall, also named after pro-slavery advocate, according to Oregon Public Broadcasting.

I say it's time for our community to remove our symbols of exclusion and racism. Allow everyone in our county to enjoy the true meaning of community; inclusiveness, acceptance and progressiveness. It's time for us as a community to leave the name Lane in the past.



## NEWS

# Board endorses Measure 101

*The measure aims to fill Medicaid deficit*



**DYLAN PLUMMER**  
NEWS DIRECTOR

This past December, the Lane Community College board of directors endorsed Measure 101, a bill to maintain the special taxes on hospitals, insurers and coordinated care organizers to help fund Medicaid in Oregon. The Oregon branch of Medicaid, known as the Oregon Health Plan, covers approximately a million people, including 400,000 children.

Last year was the first year in which federal dollars did not make up all of the funding for the expanded Medicaid program catalyzed by the Affordable Care Act. In an attempt to maintain the current Medicaid program, Democrats in the Oregon Legislature pushed a bill that would temporarily maintain funding for the expanded program by allowing the levying of special taxes on hospitals, insurers and coordinated care organizers.

Oregon Republicans Julie Parish, Cedric Hayden and Sal Esquivel pushed back on the legislation by forcing it to a public vote, letting voters decide on parts of the bill. This is why Measure 101 is now on the ballot for the Jan. 23 Oregon special election.

According to proponents for Measure 101, the special taxes that are enforced under the law not only help to provide funding for Oregon's Medicaid program, but also to keep

health care prices down. In an Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services report, it is estimated that the current expanded Medicaid program is keeping individual health insurance rates six percent lower than they would be pre-ACA.

The LCC board of directors unanimously voted to endorse Measure 101 on Dec. 12, citing concerns about Lane students losing insurance as well as the impact that Medicaid budget cuts will have on other budgets in the state.

"Oregon's public schools have been on a financial starvation diet for too long," LCC Board Chair Rosie Pryor stated. "Last year we had to close a \$10 million gap in LCC's budget. If Measure 101 fails, it's estimated that over 350,000 Oregonians could lose their access to health care. But it will also have a domino effect on other budgets—including Lane's.

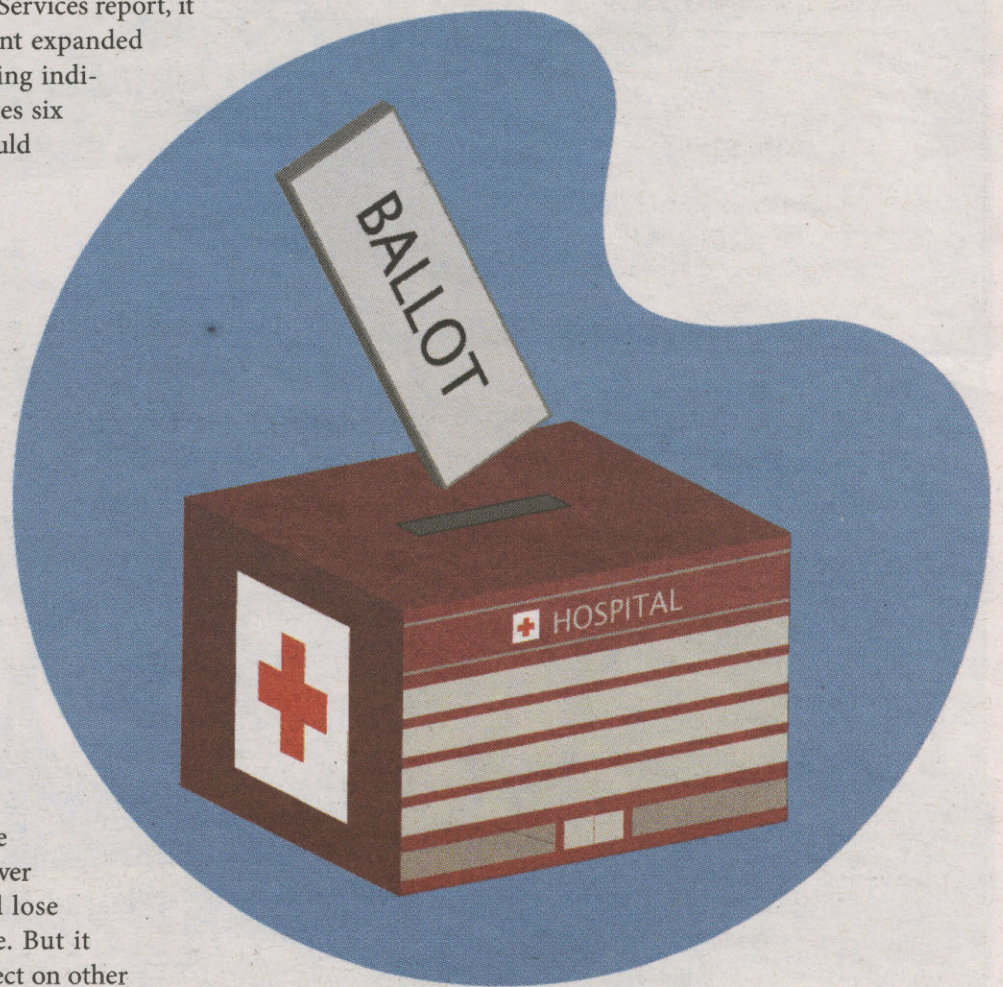


Illustration by Diana Baker / photo editor

## Practice what you teach



*Lane CPR instructor helped stop a man from choking*

**SABRINA PICCOLO**  
REPORTER

On the night of Dec. 8, Lane Community College health and physical education instructor Grady O'Connor used his skills in first aid to stop a man from choking. He performed first aid procedures on the man in the Egan Warming Center, a location on campus that provides meals, bathrooms, showers and bedding to anyone in need on cold nights.

According to O'Connor, a male guest at the warming center "was having a warm meal and started choking on a piece of bread." O'Connor encouraged the man to continue coughing while he delivered "five back blows and five abdominal thrusts" on the victim.

The latter five thrusts are often referred to as the Heimlich Maneuver.

O'Connor said that during the finals week that preceded the incident in the warming center, he had given an exam for his three-credit class that involved American Red Cross response and first aid techniques, including the Heimlich Maneuver. Before Dec. 8, O'Connor said, he had never had to act so quickly and instinctively to potentially save a life. "I guess my training kicked in," O'Connor said. Eugene's emergency medical services soon arrived.

O'Connor has been an instructor at Lane for over 20 years but returned to the college after a three-year hiatus from teaching.

He said that his experience on Dec. 8 highlights the importance of first aid response in the community.

The National Safety Council, a nonprofit organization that aims to educate people in the U.S. on health and safety, states on its website that 5,051 people died from choking in 2015. Food is a common cause of choking, which the website lists as "the fourth leading cause of unintentional injury death" in the U.S.

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## NEWS



photos by Jeffery K. Osborns / Editor in Chief

**Building 18** features two production studios. The Media Arts new cyclo wall is located in Studio A. Cyclo walls are used for a variety of purposes within the photography, and video production



### *Renovations on Building 18 completed*

JEFFERY K. OSBORNS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The home of Lane Community College Media Arts has officially moved from Building 17 to the renovated Building 18 in an attempt to satisfy students' growing needs in an expanding industry.

The renovation of Building 18 was part of two voter-approved 15-year bond measures amounting to \$120 million that also built the LCC Downtown Center, remodeled the

main campus Center Building and helped fund other infrastructure projects. Building 18 is the final project to be funded by the bond measures.

Building 18 is an upgrade from Building 17, which had worn-out infrastructure and faulty circuits and has withstood regular flooding.

Building 17 is an original building from when LCC opened in 1963. The building has not been updated in its 55-year existence, rather simply repurposed multiple times. It used to house KLCC studios until they moved to the current downtown location, as well as broadcast studios from when there was a broadcast degree at LCC.

"In short, [Building 17] was an old, funky, repurposed dinosaur, and created all kinds of teaching and learning challenges,' media arts faculty coordinator Jefferson Goolsby said.



## NEWS



**Multimedia students meet in** the Student Resource Center in Building 18. The space is intended for students to collaborate with peers and faculty.



**Building 18** opened for students use on Jan. 8 and includes a audio suite with a foley pit.



**New classrooms in Building 18** feature Mac stations and three large flat screen monitors for instructing. Students can sit anywhere in the classroom and have a clear view of the teacher's instructions.

Now, media arts students will have access to state-of-the-art learning spaces, two production studios for video and photography and the Student Resource Center for students to collaborate with peers and faculty.

"The whole building is outfitted with new furniture and improved working spaces," Art and Applied Design Instruction Specialist Terry Holloway said. "Our equipment check-out is doubled in size and centered in our new floor plan as the 'heart' of the program." "We worked with some fantastic architects on the project, Lana Sadler and Carl Sherwood, of Robertson Sherwood Architects," Goolsby said. "They really helped us create a beautiful and practical facility for students to learn in. We were so fortunate to have them leading the project."

Even with the new addition to the program, media arts remains spread throughout

campus. Multimedia design students will likely have classes in Buildings 2, 11 and 16, along with the Center Building.

"There wasn't enough square footage in the Building 18 remodel to move all of Media Arts," Goolsby said. "We'll still be using the second floor of Building 17 for needed learning and office spaces."

According to the National Endowment for the Arts official website, media arts is one of the fastest growing areas in the U.S. economy. Having updated facilities that mirror what the industry uses lets students learn in a real-world environment. It moves some of LCC's instructional spaces closer to real-world best practices instruction models.

"We'll always be adapting to where the industries are going," Goolsby said, adding, "Building 18 helps keep us in the forefront with that challenge."



## NEWS



photo via of www.NinaTurner.org

**National political leader Nina Turner** is the keynote speaker at Lane Community College's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on Jan. 17. Turner is president of a political action organization called Our Revolution.

## Activist to honor King's legacy of love

*Nina Turner to speak at Lane for MLK Celebration*

MAREK BELKA  
REPORTER

National political leader Nina Turner, a prominent advocate for Bernie Sanders during his 2016 presidential run, is the keynote speaker at Lane Community College's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. The event is on Jan. 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the Center for Meeting and Learning.

Turner is president of Our Revolution, a political action organization founded in the wake of Sanders' 2016 presidential campaign. She is also a political analyst who has appeared on programs such as "Real Time With Bill Maher" and CNN's "State of the Union with Jake Tapper." Turner was a member of the Ohio State Senate from 2008 to 2014 and a Cleveland City Council member prior to that.

Turner has also made a name for herself as a motivational speaker, covering topics from the legacy of the Civil Rights movement to gender equality in politics and business. "She is amazing, inspirational and she really knows how to get people excited and engaged," James Barber, chairman of Lane County's chapter of Our Revolution, said.

"She's the real deal," LCC President Margaret Hamilton said in a news release, adding, "It's an honor to welcome her to our community."

The event has taken place every year since Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day became a federal holiday in 1986. Past speakers include actors Giancarlo Esposito and Holly Robinson-Peete, journalist April Ryan and poet-activist duo Climbing Poetree.

The event takes place on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 5:30 p.m. at the Center for Meeting and Learning in Building 19, and is free and open to the public. Turner will also be appearing at the University of Oregon's MLK ceremony and luncheon earlier that day.

## A hazy future for marijuana



*US Attorney General rescinds legal weed protections*

DYLAN PLUMMER  
NEWS DIRECTOR

In his first act of 2018, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions rescinded the Cole Memorandum, which functioned as a roadmap for how the federal government dealt with individual states with legalized recreational and medical marijuana. The memorandum prevented marijuana growers, distributors and users in states with legal status from being arrested and prosecuted under federal law. This move has been widely anticipated since last year when Sessions, a long-time opponent of legal marijuana, was appointed.

The rescindment is being made despite repeated promises from President Donald Trump and his administration over the last two years to uphold statewide marijuana laws. According to a Pew Research Survey, 61 percent of Americans favor federal legalization of the plant.

A number of legal-marijuana advocates see this as the first step in a larger campaign to outlawing recreational marijuana, a product that has created over 19,000 jobs in the state, according to a statement by Oregon Governor Kate Brown. Oregon politicians have responded overwhelmingly with resistance to the move, with U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley describing the decision as "destructive" and a "huge step backwards."

"Reports that Attorney General Jeff Sessions will roll back federal marijuana policies are deeply concerning and disruptive to our state's economy," Brown said in a statement on Thursday, vowing to fight the potential campaign. "The federal government must keep its promise to states that relied on its guidance."

"We will continue working with our federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement partners to pursue shared public safety objectives," Oregon Attorney General Billy Williams said in response to the move. "[Placing] an emphasis on stemming the overproduction



photo via PEXELS.com / Noridah Yazid

of marijuana and the diversion of marijuana out of state, dismantling criminal organizations and thwarting violent crime in our communities."

"The move by Sessions will generate temporary confusion — particularly for institutions [such as] investors, banks [and] insurance [providers] who are considering participation in the industry. For those already participating it will be more difficult to access investment money and services, so the industry will probably grow a bit slower than it would otherwise," a representative of Cottage Grove-based marijuana seed company, New Breed Seed, said. "I doubt, however, that the US Attorney in states with legal cannabis will take action against state-legal businesses or the state as a whole. In a best-case scenario, the move may force legislation to protect the industry, at least at the state level."

While the rescindment of the Cole Memorandum leaves the future for the marijuana industry ambiguous, business continues for dispensaries and grow operations here in Lane County.



## NEWS

# Former Titan decorated as war hero



### Past aviation student earns Bronze Star in Afghanistan

DONNY MORRISON  
REPORTER

On Nov. 4, 2017, Former Titan Garron Dahle was awarded the Bronze Star for his accomplishments while engaged in combat operations in Afghanistan. Dahle is a combat control craftsman for the 125th Special Tactics Squadron in the Oregon National Guard.

Technical Sergeant Dahle participated in Lane's aviation academy before deciding to join the military.

"I started flying when I was young. My intention was to get a degree in Aeronautical Science and become a pilot. I discovered this special operations career field and knew I had to do it so I left college," Dahle said.

Dahle had been a part of special tactics operations from Sept. 1 to Nov. 15, 2017. During this time, he is credited for having helped restore order to volatile regions of Afghanistan.

According to the American War Library, the Bronze Star is awarded to "any person who distinguishes himself or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement, not involving participation in aerial flight."

Sam Evans is a current LCC student who spent 26 years in the air-force.

"It's not everyday that someone gets an award like that," Evans Said.

According to Wartime Awards Statistics, only 2,056 individuals have received the Bronze Star Medal for Valor since its inception in 1944.

According to the citation that accompanied the Bronze Star Medal, Dahle helped participate in "the most significant raid against Al Qaeda in the past 15 years," and was involved in over 30 special operations that included the participation of at least 300 American and Afghan special forces.

Dahle is currently back at home with his wife, preferring to remain private about his time overseas.

"I'm not a fan of talking about this stuff publicly. It's just what I do for a living."



photo via U.S. Air Force / Corey Parrish

# Sticking to art



### Lane professor displays art at Post-it note show

JANELLE DUTTON  
REPORTER

Damian McDonald, Media Arts Instructor at Lane Community College, recently displayed his art at the 13th annual Post-it Show in Los Angeles. The show featured roughly 400 artists including Matt Groening, creator of the Simpsons.

Although this was his first year to feature his work at the Post-It Show, McDonald has been creating art for almost 20 years.

"There was so much amazing art on the walls (just under 3000 Post-Its total)," McDonald said, "It was truly not possible to see it all or take it all in."

McDonald advises students who want to follow in his footsteps to persevere through the difficulties that often accompany such a career.

"Find others who create similar art and find ways to connect with them," he added, "Start local in your hometown or city and also branch out to other places by visiting galleries or shows or connecting on social media ... Lastly, put your work out there. Today with the internet and social media sites like Instagram there are so many ways to show your work all over the world without having to spend very much money at all."

All artists featured at the show are invited to come back each year. McDonald looks forward to presenting his work to the public again.

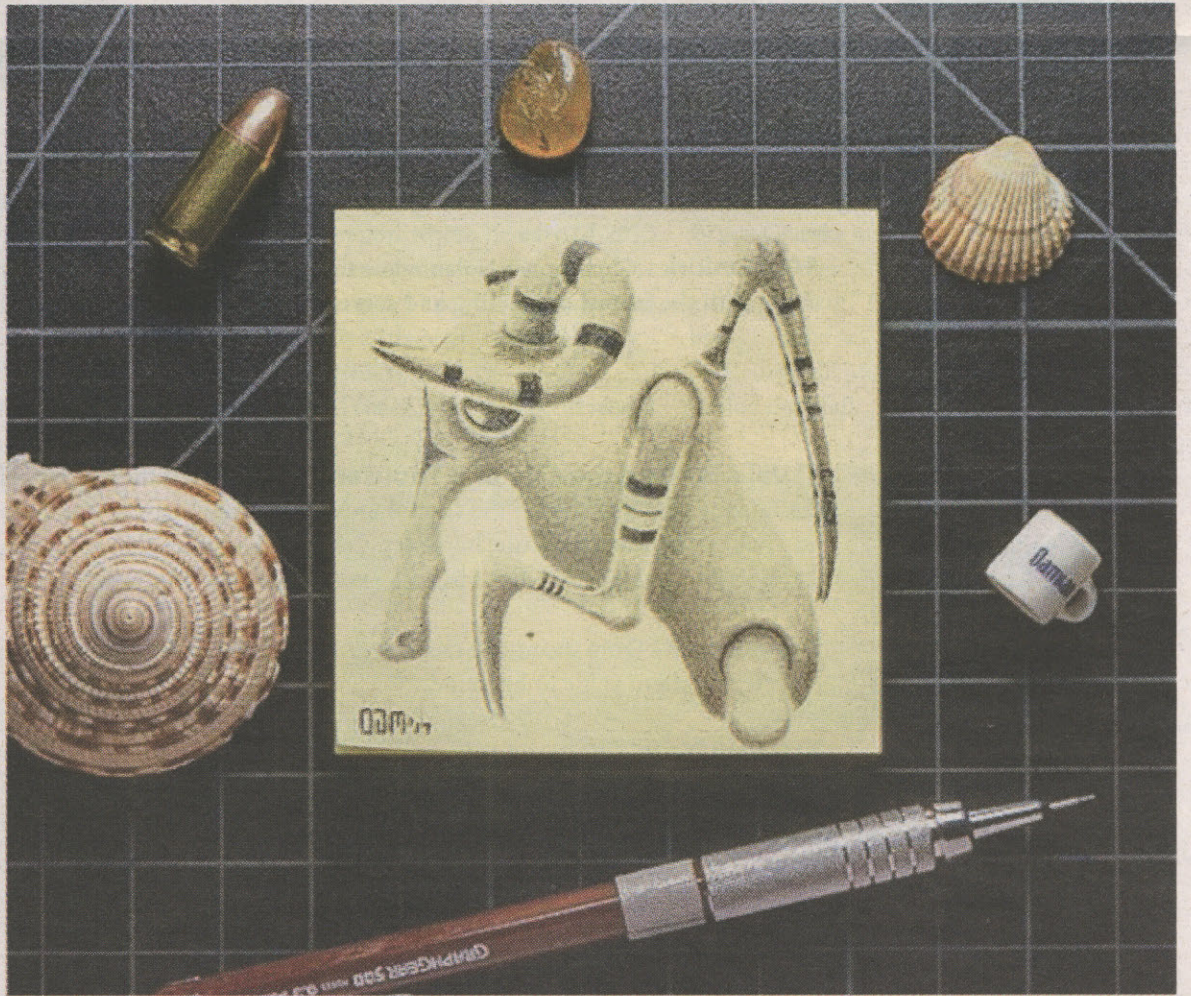
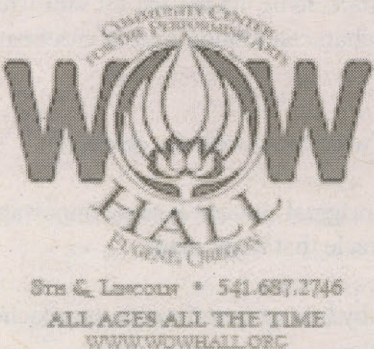


photo courtesy of Damien McDonald

**Damian McDonald**, Media Arts Instructor at Lane Community College, recently displayed his art at the 13th annual Post-it Show in Los Angeles. This was McDonald's first year to feature his work at the Post-It Show.



WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 10

VOLUNTEER  
ORIENTATION  
7:00 PM

THURSDAY  
JANUARY 11

FOREVERLAND  
(A Tribute to michael jackson)  
POWER OF TOWER

FRIDAY  
JANUARY 12

TEASE  
BURLESQUE  
18 & OVER PLEASE  
PARTLY SEATED SHOW

TUESDAY  
JANUARY 16

IRISH MUSIC  
WORKSHOP  
4:30 - 5:30 PM

FRIDAY  
JANUARY 19

ONE DOLLAR  
CHECK  
RESINATORS  
CHIEFED



## FEATURES

## Best and Worst films of 2017

LIST BY HUNTER RULAND  
CRITIC

BEST

**1) Blade Runner 2049** - Director Denis Villeneuve and Cinematographer Roger Deakins constructed a world that pops off the screen. Even if the film portrays a bleak look into the future, the craft that went into the script, acting, costume design, visual effects, soundtrack and more are enough to put a smile on your face and inspire you about film-making as an art form.

**2) The Shape of Water** - This is the film that Guillermo del Toro was born to make. A compelling film featuring people who don't feel complete in life and the strangest romance ever put on film that works beautifully.

**3) Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri** - Martin McDonagh is a master of writing and directing dramas that are sprinkled with dark humor. With career-defining performances by Frances McDormand and Sam Rockwell, quotable dialogue that holds no punches and a setting that feels oddly familiar, this film will bring viewers through a spectrum of emotions.

**4) IT: Chapter One** - What makes this film so good is that past the haunted house-like thrills and the deliciously sinister portrayal of Pennywise, there are characters that you connect with. You could even make the argument that this film is more drama than horror due to the great writing and performances by the child actors.

**5) Good Time** - With an amazing performance by Robert Pattinson, a heart-racing score and a stressful fast pace, this film is one of the most original crime dramas in recent memory.

**6) Baby Driver** - Edgar Wright strikes gold once again by directing a slick and cool feature with fantastic car stunts, witty dialogue, snappy editing and a killer soundtrack. It's hard to watch this film and not smile by how immersive the style is.

**7) Star Wars: The Last Jedi** - Rian Johnson delivers yet another exciting entry to one of the most beloved franchises of all time and brings a unique voice to the table.

**8) Logan/Wonder Woman** - Both these films deliver more compelling drama and character development in a genre so focused on mindless spectacle.

**9) Get Out** - If it weren't widely publicized that this film was the directorial debut of comedian Jordan Peele, you wouldn't have guessed that this was made by a first-time writer/director. "Get Out" is a brilliant social satire of liberal racism in a genre that rarely produces anything smart.

**10) Dunkirk** - Christopher Nolan made the excellent choice of making this film more of a suspense film than a standard war film. This approach, along with the fantastic directing and score, does a much better job at engaging the audience.



Blade Runner, 2049

photo via Warner Bros. Pictures

WORST

**1) Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets** - If there exists a fan-edit that removes the human characters from the film, then we'd probably have a film that could be considered watchable. The leads have no chemistry, there are plot lines that go nowhere, awkward cameos and horrible dialogue. It's just a painful experience best left unwatched.

**2) Flatliners** - From the idiotic characters and writing to the awkward stylistic direction, there's no entertainment value to be found.

**3) Death Note** - While not as bad as "Dragonball: Evolution" or "The Last Airbender," Netflix's dreaded adaptation of "Death Note" is insulting to the original source material. There were several parts to this film where it's impossible not to wonder if this is some cruel joke.

**4) Power Rangers** - Cringe-inducing product placement, annoying teenage angst and tired exposition cliches prevent this from being anything more than yet another desperate attempt to kickstart a franchise.

**5) The Mummy** - An embarrassing attempt to bring the iconic Universal Monsters franchise back into the spotlight and another stinker by Tom Cruise.

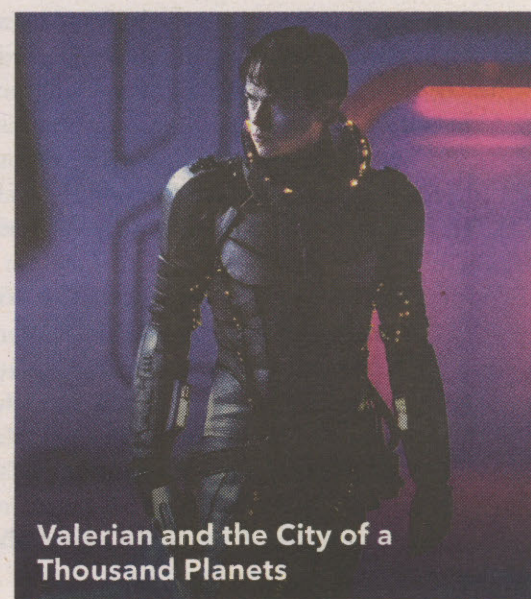
**6) Kong: Skull Island** - Bad editing, cheesy writing and boring characters prevent this film from creating any excitement for the upcoming crossover with Godzilla.

**7) War Machine** - There's nothing more awkward than trying to watch a film that fails at every genre it attempts to be. It's too flat for satire, too serious for comedy and too bland for drama. In the end, what is it? A boring film where Brad Pitt is a cartoon character among a sea of cardboard boxes.

**8) Thor: Ragnarok** - A disappointing conclusion to the "Thor" trilogy that proves that Marvel had no clue what to do with the character.

**9) The Book of Henry** - While any attempt at making an original film should be noted, the execution of an original concept is more important. Despite the decent performances, the actual plot is so bizarre and confused in tone that it's somewhat of a miracle that it got made.

**10) Ghost in the Shell** - While the film does have impressive visual effects and score, this adaptation fails by having questionable approaches towards the racial commentary and a dull retelling of an iconic story.



Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets

photo via STXfilms/EuropaCorp Distribution